

FireStore™



Instruction Manual Addendum 2.3

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INTRODUCTION

This manual addendum describes functionality of FireStore units that have firmware version 2.2 or above. In order to determine what version of firmware you are using, hold down

the (MODE)  button for two

seconds until the setup menu appears. Scroll to the menu item that reads: "VERSION:". The version of firmware should be 2.2. or later. If you have an earlier firmware version and would like to update to 2.2, contact your dealer or distributor. Customers in the U. S. A. and Canada may contact the FOCUS Enhancements technical support department at:

www.FOCUSinfo.com

E-mail: support@focusinfo.com

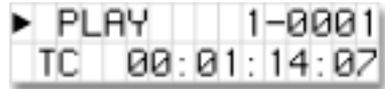
Telephone: 408-370-9963. 8 am-5 pm, Monday to Friday, Pacific time.
(Hint: Mondays tend to be the busiest.)

Fax: 408-866-4859.

1.0 USER INTERFACE UPDATES

1.1 Track Number Update

Previously, the display featured a four-digit track display.



This has been updated to a three-digit track display. This is the new display;



1.2 Delete Clip Update

FireStore features a new delete clip display screen. To delete, select the particular track to delete and hold down the (SHIFT/ALT)

 button for two seconds followed by the (MODE)  button. Answer yes to delete the clip by pressing the (PLAY) 

button to initiate the delete process. FireStore will display the base file name of the particular file that is being deleted.



Once the delete process is complete, the LCD display will display "STOP" and show the track previous to what was just deleted.

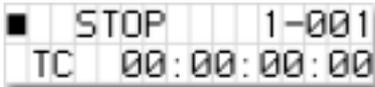
1.3 Loop Mode Update

It is now possible to identify different loop and play modes when FireStore is in STOP mode. To enter loop playback mode when FireStore is stopped, hold down the

(SHIFT/ALT)  button for two seconds (the button will flash once in this mode).

Then press the (STOP)  button and you will be able to cycle between the following loop modes:

NORMAL PLAY



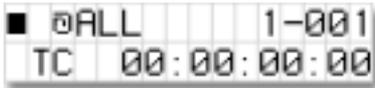
In this mode, FireStore will play the selected clip and pause at the end.

LOOP CLIP



In this mode, FireStore will loop the selected clip continually.

LOOP ALL



In this mode, FireStore will loop all the clips on the attached disk drive(s) continuously, in order.

PLAY ALL

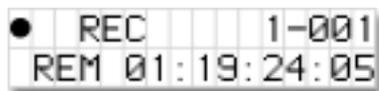


In this mode, FireStore will play through all the clips on the attached disk drive(s) sequentially then pause at the end.

1.4 Record Time Remaining Update

It is now possible to monitor the record time remaining on a disk drive while in record mode. Time is listed in hours, minutes, seconds and frames. To do this, put FireStore into record mode,

and simply press the (MODE)  button. The display will now read:



1.5 Timecode Update

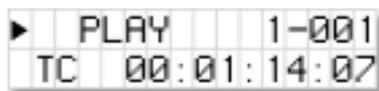
There are now four different ways to display timecode on FireStore: Standard Timecode (TC), Remaining Timecode (REM), Source Timecode (DV) and Absolute Timecode (ABS).

In order to switch between the different timecode displays, press FireStore's (MODE)

 button. It is possible to switch between these modes during record or playback. Each is described below.

Standard Timecode (TC)

FireStore will count from zero through the duration of each individual clip in hours, minutes, seconds and frames (00:00:00:00) while recording. During playback, FireStore will count up the duration of each clip.



Remaining Timecode (REM)

FireStore will display the remaining time on a disk in hours, minutes, seconds and frames while in record mode. In playback mode, FireStore will count down the remaining time of the particular clip being played.



Source Timecode (DV)

FireStore will display the incoming source timecode from the source DV device when in record mode. In playback mode, FireStore will display the embedded timecode from the DV stream.



Absolute Timecode (ABS)

FireStore will display the absolute or total sum of the timecode for a particular recording session. For instance, if the first clip began with a timecode of 00:00:00:00 and ended with a timecode of 00:00:14:21, the first frame of the next clip will start at 00:00:14:22. If playing back a disk in play all mode, FireStore will play the sum of all of the clips as an absolute counter.



2.0 SLOW MOTION MODES

FireStore allows you to play clips at slower than real time speeds. It is possible to playback NTSC clips at 15 frames per second (FPS), 10 FPS, 6FPS, 5FPS, 3FPS, 2FPS and 1 FPS. PAL clips can be played back at 12FPS, 6FPS, 5FPS, 4FPS, 3FPS, 2FPS and 1FPS. To access the slow motion mode, select the particular clip you would like to play (it is also possible to play a loop all, loop clip or play all sequence at slower than real time speeds). Start playback by pressing

FireStore's (PLAY)  button. Once

playing, hold down the (SHIFT/ALT) 

button for two seconds (the button will flash when in ALT mode). Then press the RW button once. You will notice the display updates to:



By continually pressing the RW button, playback will slow down playback by the increments mentioned above until it reaches 1FPS. It is possible at any time to increase the playback speed by pressing the FF button. It will increase by one increment forward (e.g. if you are at 6FPS, playback will increase to 10FPS).

To exit this mode, simply press FF until playback reaches normal play again or exit by pressing the SHIFT/ALT mode button once (the button will stop flashing when exited) and press the Play button again.

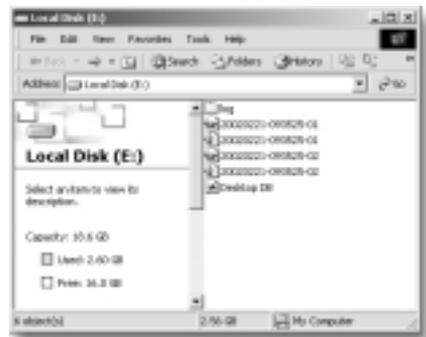
3.0 NEW FILE FORMATS

FireStore now features three new file formats, Matrox, QuickTime and Avid DV OMF. To set either of these formats (as well as others), hold down the

(MODE)  button for two seconds and the setup screen will appear. By pressing the (MODE)  button, cycle through until you see the "REC FILE TYPE" screen. The different file formats that are available are : RawDV, AVI Type 1, AVI Type 2, AVI Type 2C (Canopus), Matrox AVI, QuickTime and Avid DV OMF. Select the file format you wish to use. Once set, that file format will remain until it is changed, even if the power is cycled.

3.1 Matrox

The Matrox file format is designed for use with the Matrox RT2000, RT2500, DigiSuite DTV and DigiSuite LX applications with Adobe Premiere. The Matrox file format is unique on FireStore in that it creates two files simultaneously; an AVI2 video file and a separate .WAV audio file. On the computer's desktop, the file will look like this...

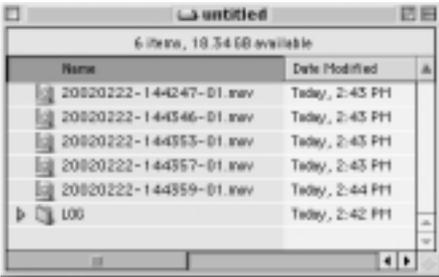


On FireStore, both the video file (AVI2) and the audio file (.WAV) appear as one track. If you delete a Matrox file, FireStore will delete both the audio and video portion at the same time.

NOTE: The Matrox file format is not for use with the Matrox RTMac. Use either AVI 2 or QuickTime for Matrox RTMac based applications.

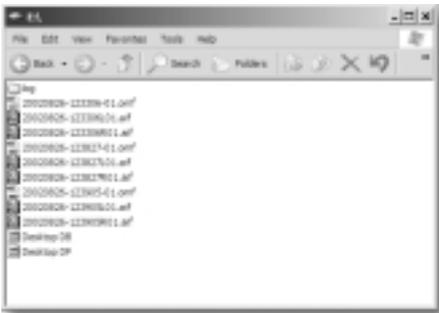
3.2 QuickTime

The QuickTime file format was developed for better integration for Apple Macintosh users. QuickTime files are designed to be used on Adobe Premiere, iMovie and Apple Final Cut Pro on the Macintosh. They can also be used with the Matrox RTMac versions of both Premiere and Final Cut Pro. When the QuickTime file format is used, FireStore creates a .mov file. This single file includes an audio, a video and a timecode track. On the computer's desktop, the file will look like this...



3.3 Avid DV OMF

The Avid DV OMF file format was developed for use with Avid Xpress DV version 3.0 or latter on Windows 2000, Windows XP or Mac OS10. The Avid DV OMF file format creates three files simultaneously; an OMF video file and two separate AIF audio files. On the computer's desktop, the files will look like this...

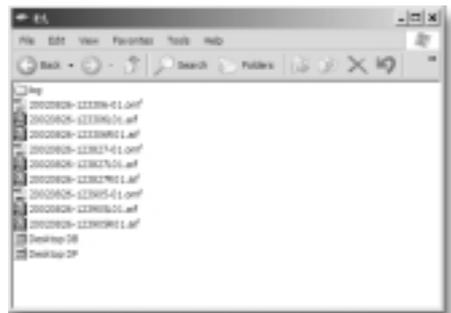


NOTE: The following pictures in this section show a WindowsXP interface. Pictures will look slightly different on a Mac OS10 interface.

On FireStore, the video file (OMF) and the audio files (AIF) appear as one track. If you delete an Avid DV OMF file, FireStore will delete the audio and video portions at the same time.

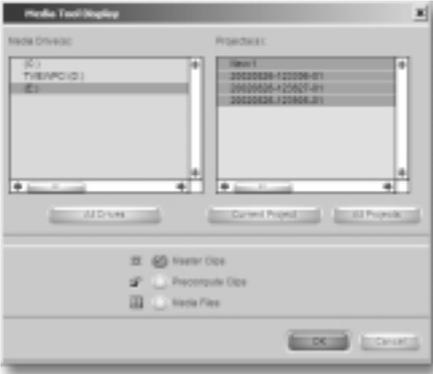
In order to use the FireStore recorded Avid DV OMF files on your Avid Xpress DV system from the external FireWire drive, you must do the following...

1. Locate the external FireWire drive on your computer. (If you have trouble, you can locate the name of the external drive by selecting *My Computer* on a Windows system. On a Mac, the FireWire drive should appear on the desktop).
2. Open the FireWire drive when you have found it and create a new folder named "OMFI MediaFiles". To do this on Windows, select *File -> New -> Folder* from the pull down menu. On Mac, select *File -> New Folder*. It is important that "OMFI MediaFiles" is typed correctly in order for Avid to see the disk drive. Drag all the OMF and AIF files into the new folder (do not drag in the files titled Desktop DB or Desktop DF).



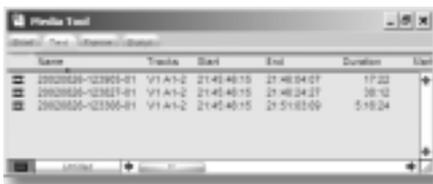
FireStore

3. Launch Xpress DV. Once you have opened the desired project or created a new project, select *Tools -> MediaTool*. The following window will appear:

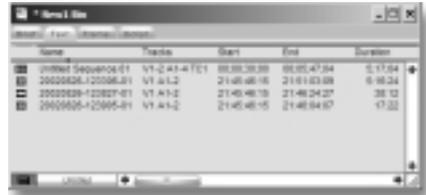


4. Locate and select the external FireWire drive under Media Drive(s). (NOTE: If the drive does not appear, check that you have created the OMFI MediaFiles folder correctly with proper case and spacing. Also, check to see that the drive is properly connected and recognized by the computer).

Under Project(s), select *All Projects* (This will highlight all items in the Project(s) window). Ensure *Master Clips* is checked then press OK. The following Media Tools Window will appear:



5. Create a new bin (select *File -> New Bin*) or open an existing bin in Xpress DV. Once opened, select all items in the Media Tools window (select *Edit-> Select All*). Drag the contents of the Media Tools Window into the bin. It is now possible to use these clips in the Avid Xpress DV timeline.



It is also possible to import the FireStore recorded files onto your Avid system's media drives. To do this, select *File -> Import*. Find the external FireWire drive and import the file(s) onto the media drive. This may take time as it is copying the file over to the media drive. For instant editing, it is recommended that you edit directly from the FireWire drive.

4.0 AV/C CONTROL

It is now possible to control FireStore from external FireWire devices utilizing AV/C control protocol. With this feature, it is possible to control various FireStore functions such as play, stop, pause, rewind and fast forward via FireStore's 4-pin "DV In/Out" port. Devices that can control FireStore via AV/C include non-linear editing systems, VTRs and camcorders.

To initiate AV/C control, hold down the (MODE)  button for two seconds.

Once in the setup menu, scroll through to select the "SLAVE MODE" display by pressing the (MODE)  button over

and over. Once you get to this menu item, press the (FORWARD INDEX)  twice

to select "CONTROLLED". Then hold down (MODE)  again for two seconds.

Now connect FireStore to an AV/C controlling device via FireStore's 4-pin "DV In/Out" port (if it is an NLE system, usually the application must not be open when you connect FireStore).

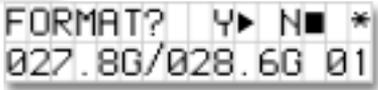
In all cases, check your device's operating manual to understand how it controls external devices. In most cases, FireStore will act and appear as a VTR.

Note: FireStore's AV/C control is intended to be used with a single file type. Therefore, it is important that you select only one type of file (e.g. Matrox, AVI Type 2 etc.) when attempting to use AV/C control.

5.0 FRESH DISK FORMAT

If you have a brand new disk drive that does not contain any existing partition(s), it is possible to create a FAT32 volume utilizing FireStore. Simply connect the FireWire drive to FireStore's "To HDD" port and power up both FireStore and the disk drive. The display will read "NO DISK". Simply hold down the

(SHIFT/ALT)  button for two seconds (until it flashes) and then press the (HDD)

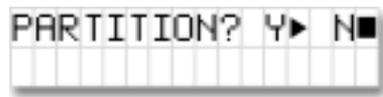
 button. You will be asked...


Answer "Yes" by pressing the (PLAY)  button. **WARNING: Formatting a drive will delete all information.** Back up any material you may wish to keep before formatting. **FORMATTING IS NOT UNDOABLE!** If you are unable to format the drive, see section 6.0 of this document.

6.0 NON-FAT 32 DISK PARTITION & FORMAT

If you have a disk drive that contains a non-FAT32 partition (such as NTFS, Mac OS Standard, Mac OS Extended, UNIX etc.), it is possible to partition this drive using FireStore. Simply connect the FireWire disk drive to FireStore and wait until you see the "NO FORMAT" or "NO PARTITION" display on the FireStore LCD. Simply hold down the

(SHIFT/ALT)  button for two seconds (until it flashes) and then press the (HDD)  button for two seconds. You will be asked...



Answer "Yes" by pressing the (PLAY)  button. **WARNING: Formatting a drive will delete all information.** Back up any material you may wish to keep before formatting. **FORMATTING IS NOT UNDOABLE!** The LCD will display "PARTITIONING...*" during the process. When finished, the default STOP display will appear. Re-boot FireStore before using.

7.0 DEFINABLE SPLASH SCREEN

It is now possible to replace FireStore's default gray splash screen, the frame that appears when FireStore is in STOP mode, with a user definable splash screen. This is useful to replace the gray screen with black for projected presentations or to display your company logo or call letters.

At boot-up, FireStore looks in the top level directory of any partitions that it mounts. If it sees a file named (case sensitive, all lower case)... "splash.dv", FireStore will read the first frame of that file. FS assumes that it is a RawDV (.dv) file. Therefore, it is necessary that the file is recorded as such in the first place. It doesn't matter if splash.dv is greater than 1 frame in length, FS just reads the first frame from the file.

To change the name of a file, simply mount the FireWire drive onto a computer and change its numeric file name to "splash.dv".

8.0 SYSTEM SOFTWARE BOOT FROM HARDWARE

PLEASE NOTE: This functionality is for advanced users only and participants in the FireStore beta program.

It is possible for FireStore to boot from an external FireWire disk drive. During boot up, FireStore will look for a particular .bin file on the attached drive. If one is found, it will boot from the disk drive. You will need to be using FireStore ROM version number 2.20.062002 or later to do this. Version number is displayed in the FireStore Setup Menu. To setup your FireStore to boot from an external disk drive, do the following:

- 1 Clear and format your FireWire drive, then connect it to your computer system.
- 2 Contact the FOCUS Enhancements Technical Support Group for the location of the FireStore .bin file for download. Copy this new version to your FireWire drive. Next, re-name this file **ww.bin**.
- 3 Disconnect the drive from the computer and connect it to FireStore. Hold the (SHIFT/ALT)  button until it blinks. Next, press the (MODE)  button to get to the main menu. Cycle the different selections until you find "Boot from HD". Once there, use the FF index key to select "Yes". Next, push the (MODE)  button to exit this menu area.
- 4 Now, re-start FireStore using the on/off switch from the back of the unit. The new software version (ww.bin) from your FireWire drive will now operate FireStore.
- 5 To confirm this new software; hold the (MODE)  button to get back to the main menu. Cycle the different selections until you find a new software version number. Once you confirm this update, you're now ready to use the new FireStore software.

9.0 AUDIO CORRECTION MODES

PLEASE NOTE: Audio Correction Modes is an advanced feature of FireStore. It is recommended that you use the factory default settings for most operations.

Audio Correction Mode allows you to alter the performance of the audio error corrector while recording. It is useful when recording to FireStore from tapes with lots of audio dropouts. Error correction will only effect AVI 2, AVI 2C, Matrox AVI and QuickTime record file types. It does not effect RawDV or AVI 1.

To access the Audio Correction mode, hold

the (SHIFT/ALT)  button until it

blinks. Next, press the (MODE)  button to

get to the main menu. Cycle the different selections until you find "Audio Correction". The FireStore display will show the default setting.



FireStore Audio Correction has the following three modes:

MEDIUM 1: For "normal" clean tape played back on a good VTR with very occasional very short audio mutes.

MEDIUM 2: For cases where dropouts are noticeable as short mutes (couple of frames) in the audio in playback from the camera or VTR.

MAXIMUM: For cases where there are visible picture disturbances, and likely long audio dropouts (1/2 sec and up).

10.0 DIAGNOSTICS MODE

Diagnostics Mode enables diagnostic information to be passed out of FireStore's serial (GPI) port to a terminal. This is primarily intended for FireStore beta users and some technical support activities. It is generally recommended that Diagnostics is always set to "NO". Enabling Diagnostics Mode will also disable the GPI function.

To access Diagnostics Mode, hold the

(SHIFT/ALT)  button until it blinks.

Next, press the (MODE)  button to

get to the main menu. Cycle the different selections until you find "Use Diagnostics". The FireStore display will show the default setting.



To enable Diagnostics, press the (FORWARD

INDEX)  button to select "Yes". To exit,

select Diagnostics back to "No".

NOTE: Setting FireStore to Diagnostics Mode will set Record File Type to AVI Type 2.

11.0 FACTORY RESET

Factory Reset sets all of FireStore's variables to their factory default settings. To access

Factory Reset, hold the (SHIFT/ALT)  button until it blinks. Next, press the (MODE)

 button to get to the main menu.

Cycle the different selections until you find "Factory Reset". The FireStore display will show the default setting.



To reset FireStore to its default factory settings, press the (FORWARD INDEX) button. The bottom line of the display will read "Reset Complete". FireStore has now returned to its default settings.

12.0 UPDATED COMPUTER OPERATING SYSTEM SUPPORT

12.1 Microsoft Windows XP

It is now possible to use FireStore recorded clips on applications running on Windows XP. Its operation with mounting drives to the desktop is virtually identical to that of other Windows environments (see page 40 of the FireStore Instruction Manual for more information).

12.2 Apple Macintosh OS 10

It is now possible to use FireStore recorded clips on applications running on Mac OS 10.1.3 or later. Its operation with mounting drives to the desktop is virtually identical to that of other Macintosh environments (see page 43 of the FireStore Instruction Manual for more information). If you have trouble mounting FireWire disk drives, contact your dealer or distributor. Customers in the U. S. A. and Canada may contact the Focus Enhancements technical support department at:

E-mail: support@focusinfo.com

Telephone: 408-370-9963. 8 am-5 pm, Monday to Friday, Pacific time.
(Hint: Mondays tend to be the busiest.)

Fax: 408-866-4859.

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