iEye Captain User's Manual

Current as of version 1.0.6.3

Last Updated March 2007

1.0.6.3 manual changes:

- minor corrections
- revised System Requirements with Leopard notes
- expanded infrared setup instructions
- added "Force Video Input" tool notes

THERE ARE A TABLE OF CONTENTS, LIST OF MENUS, INDEX OF SCREENSHOTS, CONTACT INFO, AND OTHER HANDY REFERENCES AT THE END OF THIS MANUAL.

iEye Captain character courtesy of Jonny Gorden at Zero Gravity Entertainment. If you're in Australia (or anywhere else) and need 3D services, check out his work, at http://www.zerogravity.com.au , or phone at +61 408 733 375.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Welcome to iEye Captain, the Swiss army knife for your EyeTV. If you own an EyeTV product, you are already in an elite league--- someone who has invested in the power of a Macintosh, and who has high standards and expectations for your video media. You won't be disappointed in iEye Captain; well on the contrary, you will find it opens doors for you that you won't be able to live without! If you're eager to get started, you may want to jump ahead to section 2. If you want the "Big Picture," please read on!

1A. FOREWORD: The Story of iEye Captain...

I'm a self-confessed taping junkie. I work professionally as a prime-time television writer/editor, and love recording content for later study or entertainment. I got an EyeTV for Christmas in 2004, and was hooked from the beginning. I taped a 22 hour Stargate marathon and a 4-hour Battlestar Galactica miniseries back to back, and when I discovered that I was able to edit out commercials on one show while another was exporting and yet another was recording... I was hooked!

But pretty soon I realized that there were many things I wanted to do with the software, that it couldn't do. Why couldn't I control my digital cable box from EyeTV? Use a second hard drive when the first was full? Export the schedule data to a database to print DVD labels? I sent several long lists of suggestions to Elgato. They were very helpful, but I couldn't wait to get more functionality out of my unit.

So I thought... Why don't I write an Applescript to export multiple schedules at once? To export the schedule data to Filemaker, and iCal? To get data on the file sizes so I know what will fit on a DVD? There must be a way to automate my digital cable box through infrared... Then it hit me... There were lots of other people who needed this stuff too. Why don't I put a handy interface on all of this?

So I put together a list of all the features I had suggested to Elgato and things I had seen other people post, and got to work! I contacted StudioZee and IRTrans, and they sent me evaluation units of their infrared devices. Elgato has bent over backwards to help, introducing new elements under the hood that have greatly enhanced the communication between the applications.

And the response has been overwhelming. People from all over the world – from Finland to Australia to my own backyard (Toronto, Canada) have been responding in droves. I hope you enjoy this program as much as I do! And I hope it gives new life to the already incredible EyeTV.

2. GETTING STARTED

2A. SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

- G4 with a speed of at least 500 MHz, a G5 Power Macintosh, or any Intel Mac.
- Mac OS X v10.3.x or v10.4.x; **Mac OS X v10.5 (Leopard) is NOT YET SUPPORTED** -- expect Leopard support a few weeks after it is released to the public.
- EyeTV 1.8.5 software or higher, including 2.x (non-EyeTV hardware supported).
- Quicktime 6.5.2 or higher (Mpeg-2 Playback Component suggested. Some export features such as H.264 require Quicktime 7).
- iCal 1.5.5 is necessary for full reminder & infrared functionality.
- Roxio Toast Titanium 6.1.1 or higher required for DVD burning features.
- ZephIR USB with Beta 2.1b13 software or IRTrans with iRed 1.3 for infrared support.
- Color display with 800x600 minimum resolution, 1024x768 recommended.

TIP: *Some features require EyeTV 2, and I highly recommend the combination of Roxio's Toast 8 and EyeTV 2 if you can afford them. For a comparison of what is improved: http://www.elgato.com/index.php?file=products_eyetvmain_improved*

2B. REGISTRATION

When you first open iEye Captain, a registration reminder will pop up. You have a 30-day fully unlimited trial in which to make your decision to purchase. At any point you can register right from within the program, which will:

- disable the registration reminders,
- entitle you to support on the program, and
- help fuel future updates.

To do so, select "Purchase…" under the "iEye Captain" menu, and follow the instructions to use the integrated eSeller (powered by eSellerate). You must have an internet connection to make this initial purchase. If you are installing on only one computer, you don't even have to enter a serial number; iEye Captain will automatically register the trial version once you make your purchase.

iEye Captain comes as a family/household license – to register iEye Captain on any other Macs in your home, you will need to wait for a confirmation email from eSellerate, which will contain your serial number. Please keep this for your records, as you may need it to re-install later on. You may want to print a copy for safekeeping. Once you receive the email, you simply launch the software and choose "Enter Serial Number…" under the "iEye Captain" menu. Copying and pasting may not work, but you may drag and drop the serial number from your confirmation email.

2C. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN EYETV AND iEYE CAPTAIN

When you launch iEye Captain, EyeTV opens automatically if it wasn't already open (also, it launches a little faster if EyeTV is already open). As a helper application, iEye Captain talks regularly with EyeTV. For the most part, you can use them interchangeably; most of EyeTV's menus and functions are also inside of iEye Captain so you don't have to jump back and forth. You may use iEye Captain as a tool box you go to when you need a special tool, or you can use it full-time as an alternate interface for EyeTV. Even if you leave it in the background, it can be helpful to leave running, especially if you use it to control your cable box or satellite via infrared.

The things you can ONLY do from inside EyeTV are:

1. Changing EyeTV's device settings and preferences;
2. Viewing recordings (see below);
3. Using the Editor to edit & compact recordings; and
4. Accessing program guides such as TitanTV.

All of these may be initiated from iEye Captain, and iEye will automatically switch over to EyeTV for you.

If you have a dual-monitor setup or a large monitor, you may find it handy to have the EyeTV viewer play in the background, and use the play controls in iEye Captain or on your remote control to control playback. You can customize the toolbar to add a full set of play controls if you wish: simply click on the "Customize" toolbar button and drag desired items onto the toolbar, or free up space by dragging unneeded items off of the toolbar.

If you make changes to the schedules or recordings from within EyeTV (including new recordings that have been made since you launched iEye Captain), iEye Captain must re-load the data. This is done automatically by default, or it can be disabled with the "Auto-Reload" preference (Tools menu). Leaving this enabled allows iEye Captain to be up to date with whatever has changed in EyeTV.

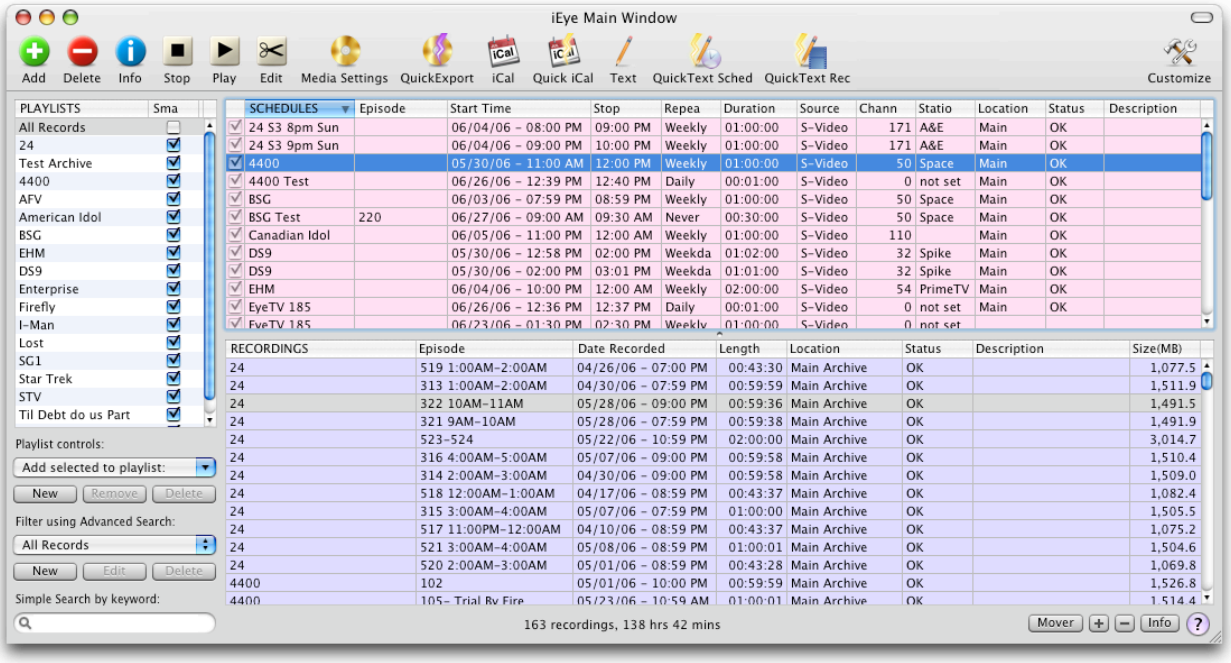
When you make changes from within iEye Captain's "info drawer," both iEye Captain and EyeTV automatically update (except when changing record locations – see Simple Method for Multiple Archives, on page 43). You may wish to use the EPG (program guide) in EyeTV to set up your schedules, but you may find you hop over to iEye Captain for finer control or more detailed browsing. Try leaving the Info drawer open and clicking from recording to recording!

Something you may not notice right away is that iEye Captain fixes a bug in EyeTV 1.8's date sorting… Before running iEye Captain, sorting by date in EyeTV's Programs window may show repeating schedules out of order, because it sorts based on when the schedule was initially made, not when it will be recording next. iEye Captain changes the dates of the schedules so that they sort properly based on when they will record NEXT, which is much more helpful information. You can disable this if you wish (Tools menu>Enable Repeat Date Fixing).

You will notice that occasionally iEye Captain will open other applications automatically, like iCal or iRed (for IRTrans users). This is normal, so iEye can co-ordinate behind the scenes.

3. THE INTERFACE

iEye Captain has been designed to give more information than EyeTV provides, but with a versatile interface reminiscent of Apple's "iTunes," letting you focus on the information you need at the moment. The main window is broken into three sections, with a divider that can be easily moved to give more space to schedules or recordings.



iEye Captain's Main Window

3A. Top Right – SCHEDULES PANE

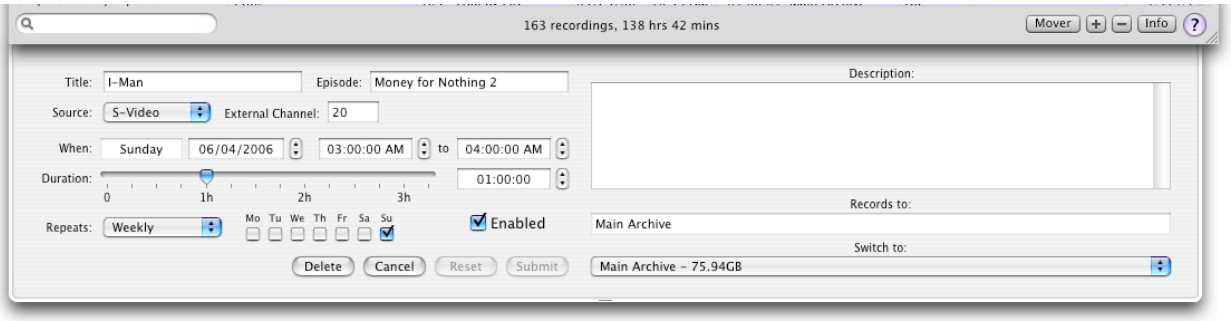
On the top right are your EyeTV schedules (programs). You may change the size of the columns by dragging the edges, re-order the columns by clicking the header and dragging, or sort by clicking the column headings. If you don't have enough space to see everything you want to see, you can drag the scroll bars to pan across the information, or you can drag the divider between the upper and lower panes to allot more space to the Schedules pane.

You can select more than one schedule at once by shift-clicking or command-clicking--- this is very handy if you want to set up a text or iCal export of only a few items, or you can delete a range of schedules by selecting them and hitting the Delete button (Option-click to bypass the warning dialog).

3B. SCHEDULE INFO DRAWER

To create a new schedule: ensure you are in the "All Records" playlist and that the Saved Search popup button is set to "All Records." Then, you can click the "+" button on the bottom right of the main window, the "+" button in the toolbar, or choose "New Schedule" in the File menu.

To view a schedule in more detail or make changes: click the schedule to select it, and click the "Info" button on the bottom left of the window, the "Info" button in the toolbar, or choose "Show Info" from the File Menu. This opens a drawer at the bottom, in which you may see the schedule information in greater detail, and make whatever changes you need to make. If you have not made any changes, you can click different items in the Schedules pane or Recordings pane and see the info drawer update with the new item. Once you have made a change, you must save the changes, reset, or cancel in order to continue.



"Schedules" Info Drawer

Clicking on the "Submit" button in the drawer both sends your changes to EyeTV, and saves them in iEye Captain. Similarly, you can click on the "Add" button to create a new schedule, and when you hit "Submit" your new schedule will be created in EyeTV. At any point you can hit "Cancel" to close the drawer without saving changes, or "Reset" will reset all of the values but leave the drawer open. Also, you can delete the schedule in both iEye Captain and EyeTV by clicking the "Delete" button.

TIP: *Holding down the Option key while pressing many buttons (like the Delete button) bypasses warning dialogs that would otherwise appear.*

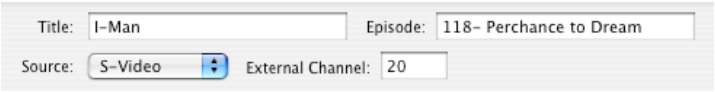
3.B.1 "RECORDS TO" MAKES SHARING DISKS EASY

You can decide right when you create a schedule that you would like it to record to a different hard drive or folder. If you have set up alternate storage locations already, simply choose your desired location from the "Switch to" popup menu. If you need to set locations up, you do so from the "Set Storage Locations" menu item of the Tools menu.

When you submit your changes, iEye Captain will add an item to the Batch, which is a queue of items to be moved. For more information, please see the chapter on Multiple Archives.

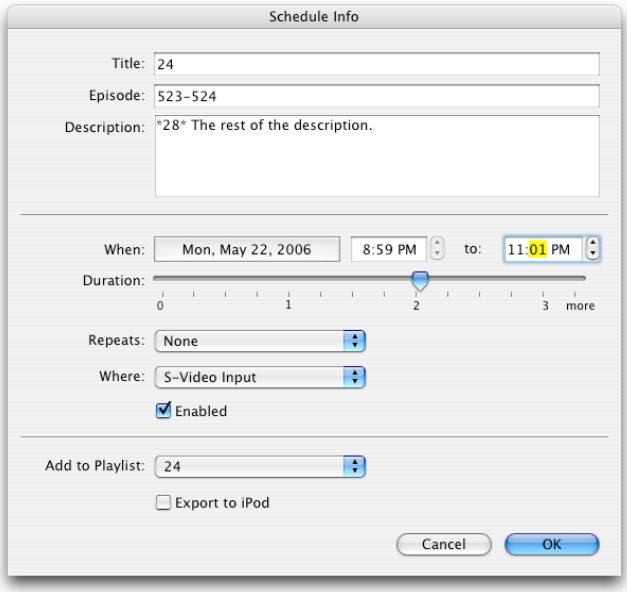
3.B.2 EXTERNAL CHANNELS METHOD

You will notice in the info drawer that if you set the input source to Composite or S-Video, you have the option of setting an "external channel," which can be automatically placed in iCal reminders to help you remember to change an external digital cable box or satellite controller. Or, more excitingly, if you own a StudioZee ZephIR or IRTrans infrared device, you can easily set up iEye Captain to automatically change the channel for you on your external device. See the chapter section on Infrared Exporting on page 37 for more information about this.



Top of Schedules Info Drawer (looks this way when Tuner is not selected)

IMPORTANT: iEye Captain uses a workaround to let this external channel information pass between itself and EyeTV. If you wish to set an external channel while in EyeTV's interface, type the channel number between two asterisks at the beginning of the "Description" field (eg. *323* with no spaces or any other characters before or within the asterisks). Or, if you prefer, you may type the station name (must be typed exactly) between two "#" symbols – in other words, you would type #BBC_One# for the station "BBC_One" (you must first set up the External Channel Map – see next page). Then, when you open iEye Captain, you will see the external channel appropriately displayed. It is very important that you do not delete or alter this in any way, or iEye Captain will not be able to keep track of the channels. You can still place a description after this number, and it will display properly in iEye Captain and any text exports you make from it. Of course, if you enter the channels from within iEye Captain, you will not need to use this method. However, once you go back to EyeTV, you should not delete the *xx* numbers that iEye Captain places in the Description field, or iEye Captain will not know what channel to set the external device to.



Entering an external channel in EyeTV's "Info" window

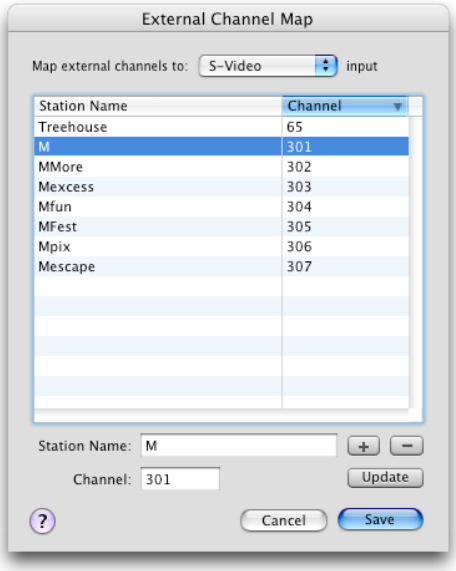
For station names that are also duplicates of tuner channels (for instance, if your digital cable offers the same stations that your analog cable offers in the sub-100 range), or for channels that you have indicated station names for in EyeTV, iEye Captain will automatically display the correct station name for you.

If you use a digital cable or satellite set-top box in conjunction with EyeTV's analog inputs, there may be many channels that you wish to indicate station names for, and EyeTV does not give you a means to do this. Luckily, iEye Captain has an "External Channel Map" feature, that not only keeps track of station names, but may fix certain situations where program guides record incorrect settings.

3.B.3 "EXTERNAL CHANNEL MAP" FOR STATION NAMES

You access the External Channel Map from the Tools menu. The window looks like the one on the left.

First, indicate which input you record from at the top.



External Channel Map

To add a new channel / station name pair, enter them in the fields at the bottom, and then click the "+" button.

To edit a pair, click the row of the pair you wish to edit, and the station name and channel will appear in the fields at the bottom. Make your changes, and be sure to hit the "Update" button.

To delete a channel pair, first select them in the table, and then click the "–" key.

When you are finished, click the "Save" button to save your changes, or if you would like to leave without saving, click "Cancel."

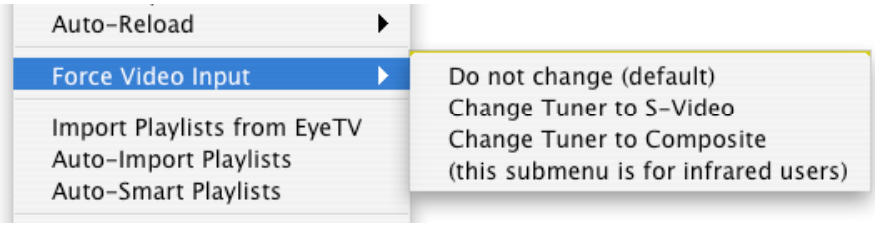
As pictured above, once these channels are entered, iEye Captain will be able to fill in missing information. If you enter "305" as a channel, iEye Captain will display "MFest" as the station name. If you enter "MFest" as the channel, iEye Captain will know you mean channel 305.

Some program guides incorrectly assign the channel, input, or station name (currently TVTV is known to do this in the UK). iEye Captain provides a handy way to work around this issue, and a necessary means to record the proper information for iCal reminders or infrared triggers.

3.B.4 "FORCE VIDEO INPUT" MENU ITEM (1.0.6.2 and later)

If you have digital cable, and you never use your EyeTV's internal tuner, you may find it helpful to "force" the input to S-Video or Composite. This takes schedules that are set up for your internal tuner (like the ones automatically generated by EyeTV's program guide), changes them to the correct input for your cable box, and records the channel in the description field for you.

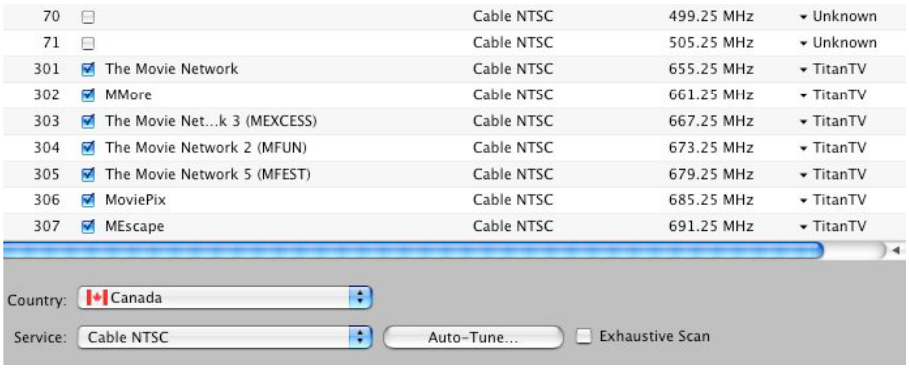
IMPORTANT: this will only be helpful if your digital cable or satellite channels are exactly the same as the internal tuner channels. In other words, if PBS is on channel 65 on analog cable, but channel 32 in digital cable, then you should NOT use this option.



"Force Video Input" sub-menu of Tools menu

Under the "Tools" menu, there is now an option to "Force Video Input" — select "S-Video" or "Composite," depending on what you use for your digital cable set-top box. Then, you can use EyeTV's integrated program guide to set up a schedule, and no longer worry about the "*123*" method. EyeTV will first set up a schedule using the internal tuner as the input. As long as you have auto-reloading and auto-infrared enabled in iEye Captain, iEye Captain will automatically change the input to "S-Video" or "Composite," and will change the channel to external and set the "*123*" in the description field for you.

For channels that are outside of the internal tuner's range, it may be possible to manually map your EyeTV's EPG to pretend that these channels exist. First make sure that you enable the desired channels on your Titan/Zap2it/TVTV lineup (through the appropriate web interface). Then, open the "Channels" view in EyeTV, choose an empty channel, control click it, and select "Assign EPG Channel." Select the desired channel from the window that appears. For instance, I have mapped channels 301-307 to tuner channels that I was not using:



Unused analog channels remapped to digital-only channels

In the screen shot above, you see that I could do the same to channels 70 and 71, as I am not using them. *PLEASE NOTE: I can not provide support for doing this on your system.*

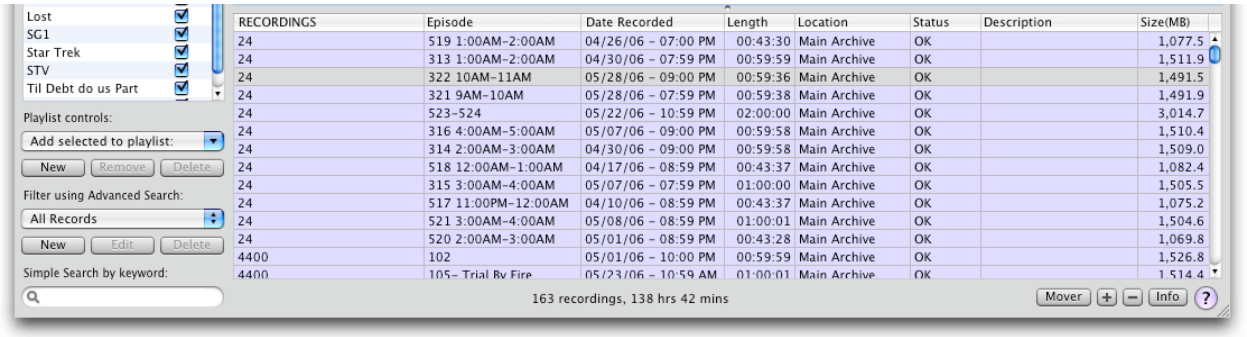
Once you do this, you can see these channels in the program guide, select them for scheduling, and iEye Captain will change the input for you and export the appropriate trigger calendar.

3.B.5 "DUPLICATE SCHEDULE(S)" MENU ITEM

There may be times you wish to duplicate a schedule – for instance, there may be a syndicated show that airs more than once per day on the same channel. You can set up a schedule for the first one, duplicate it, and then just change the time.

To do so, select the schedule you wish to duplicate in the Schedules pane, and choose "Duplicate Schedule(s)" from the Edit menu. An identical copy of the schedule will be made, except that it will be disabled (if it were enabled, it would cause a schedule conflict). Now, simply open the disabled copy in the Info drawer, change the start time, enable it, and then hit "Submit."

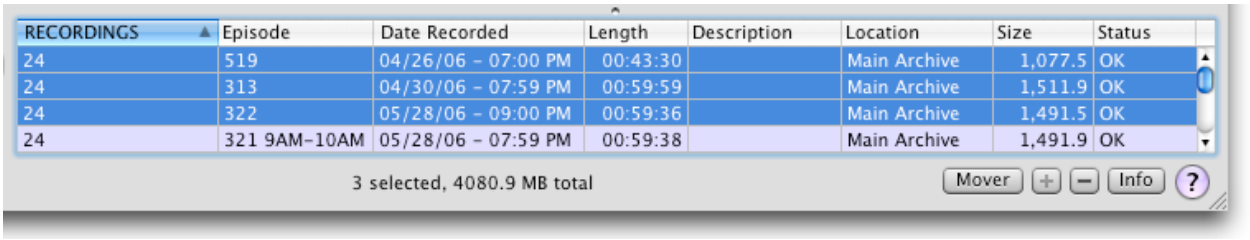
3.C Bottom Right – RECORDINGS PANE



Recordings pane of main window

Very similar to the schedules pane, on the bottom right of the main window are your EyeTV recordings. You may again change the size of the columns by dragging the edges, re-order the columns by clicking the header and dragging, or sort by clicking the column headings. If you don't have enough space to see everything you want to see, you can drag the scroll bars to pan across the information, or drag the dividers between the panes to allot more space to the recordings pane.

3.C.1 QUICK ADDING OF SIZES



Recordings Pane showing quick adding of sizes (in summary at bottom)

If you select more than one recording in the recordings pane (by shift-clicking or command-clicking), iEye Captain adds the sizes for you and displays them at the bottom of the window--- a very quick and handy way to see what will fit on a DVD! Once you have them selected, you can export them all using the same settings by using the QuickExport feature (on page 23) or delete a range of recordings at once by selecting them and hitting the Delete button (Option-click to bypass the warning dialog).

3.C.2 "CREATE SCHEDULE FROM RECORDING" MENU ITEM

What happens if you are watching live TV, and come across a show you like? You hit "Record" just in time. Once you have recorded the show, you decide you would like to record it next week. No problem: just select the recording in the Recordings pane of the main window, and choose "Create Schedule from Recording" from the "Recordings" menu. You will see a new weekly schedule created with the information from this recording. At this point, you should check to verify that the start time and duration are what you need them to be.

3.C.3 "ENABLE REPEAT DATE FIXING" MENU ITEM

As mentioned in the section "The Relationship Between EyeTV and iEye Captain," there is an issue with EyeTV 1.8's date sorting that iEye Captain fixes by default. Before running iEye Captain, sorting by date in EyeTV's Programs window may show repeating schedules out of order, because it sorts based on when the schedule was initially made, not when it will be recording next. iEye Captain changes the dates of the schedules so that they sort properly based on when they will record NEXT, which is much more helpful information. You can disable or enable this by toggling the "Enable Repeat Date Fixing" item in the "Tools" menu.

3.C.4 "ALLOW MULTIPLE EYETVs" MENU ITEM

As brave users have discovered, EyeTV has an undocumented (and unsupported) feature: you can actually connect more than one EyeTV hardware device to your Mac, and the EyeTV software will let you record to more than one at once.

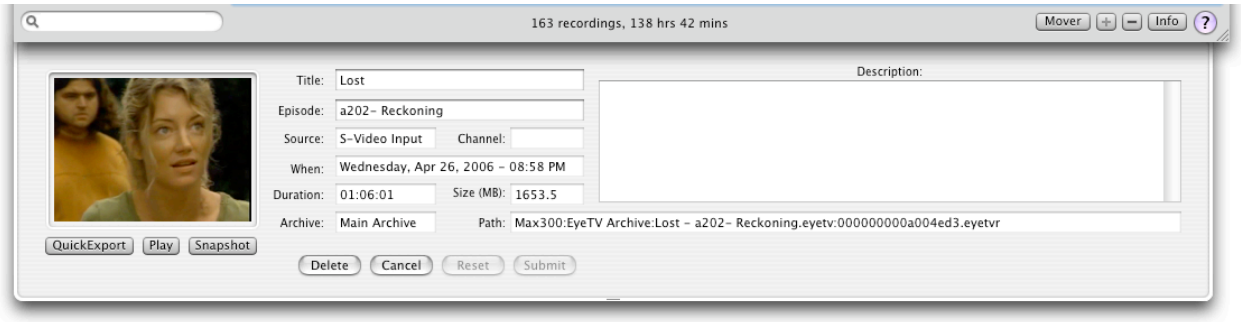
DISCLAIMER: It is outside the scope of this manual to explain how this is done and what the limitations are. Also, VidCan Media Solutions does not condone this practise, and can not accept responsibility for anyone who attempts to do this and causes damage to their hardware or software.

That said, users with multiple EyeTVs have reported that they connect them safely and reliably, and they have requested that I include an option to disable checking for schedule conflicts. As you can understand, if you try to schedule two shows to tape at the same time, that would ordinarily cause a warning to appear.

To disable iEye Captain's checking for schedule conflicts, enable the "Allow Multiple EyeTVs" menu item in the "Tools" menu.

3.D RECORDINGS INFO DRAWER

When you click on a recording to select it and hit the "Info" button (same shortcuts as for the Schedules drawer), you'll see something really exciting… a huge preview window! If you click from recording to recording in the Recordings Pane, you will see the preview update for each one. Hitting the "Play" button below the preview begins playing the recording in EyeTV… when you return, the preview automatically updates to the last frame you were at. If you want, you can also hit the "Snapshot" button to take a full sized (640x480) snapshot of the current frame and iEye Captain will open it in Preview, or save it to the location you have indicated in the Snapshot Settings (in the "Recordings" menu-- more info on page 27). Also, hitting the Export button below the preview immediately exports the recording using the export settings you have selected in QuickMedia Settings ("File" menu)… a very quick way of initiating an export.



Recordings Info Drawer

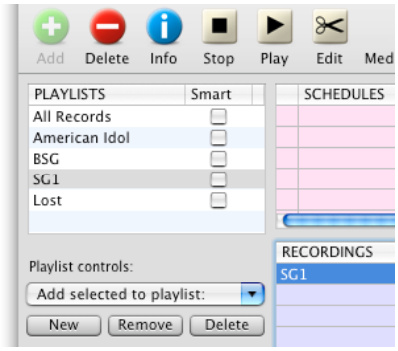
As in the Schedules drawer, any changes you make to the title, episode, or description can be saved to iEye Captain and EyeTV by hitting the "Submit" button. You can exit without saving and close the drawer by hitting "Cancel," or "Reset" will reset the information but leave the drawer open. Lastly, you can delete the recording with the "Delete" button (hold down Option if you would like to bypass the warning dialog).

3.E PLAYLISTS PANE

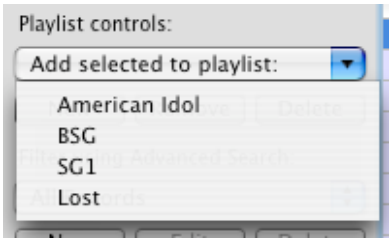
Playlists are an exciting feature to simplify the navigation of your expanding library, and iEye Captain's playlists are especially useful if you can't afford the upgrade to EyeTV 2. If you do have EyeTV 2, iEye Captain can import the playlist data either manually, or automatically every time you make a change in EyeTV (see Auto-Playlist, below).

You can have an unlimited number of playlists, which you can rename by double-clicking in the Playlists pane. To add schedules and/or recordings, just select the schedules and recordings you wish to add, and choose the playlist you want to add them to from the "Add selected items to playlist…" popup button. From this section, you can also click the "Remove" button to remove selected items from the current playlist, click the "Clear" button to completely clear the current playlist, Also, you can use the "Delete" button to delete a playlist. For these last three options, holding down the option key will prevent the confirmation dialog.

IMPORTANT: ALL selected items will be added – if you are adding recordings and do NOT want schedules to be added too, you must ensure that you deselect any selected schedules, either by Command-clicking, or clicking anywhere in the empty area beneath the schedules. The same applies if you are adding schedules and do not want the selected recordings to be added too.



Playlist pane, controls and "Add Items to Playlist" popup menu



3.E.1 SMART PLAYLISTS

If you have more than one recording or schedule with the same name (like recordings of a repeating schedule), you only need to add one into your playlist… If you then hit the "Smart" checkbox for that playlist, iEye Captain will automatically find all other items with the same name and add them to the found set.

3.E.2 "AUTO-SMART" OPTION

If you use the Auto-Playlist option with EyeTV 2 (see below), you will find it very handy to enable "Auto-Smart" in the Tools menu. Auto-Smart turns the "Smart" checkbox on by default when you import your playlists from EyeTV 2. You'll see the difference right away--- your schedules with the same name will appear, even though EyeTV 2 doesn't allow you to group schedules in playlists.

3.E.3 SMART PLAYLIST TUTORIAL (EyeTV 1.8.x only)

Say you record daily syndicated reruns of Stargate on one schedule, and you have another schedule set up for a weekly time slot that features new episodes. You also tape Battlestar Galactica and Star Trek every week. You want to create a Sci-Fi playlist.

1. First, click the "New" button to add a new playlist.
2. Double-click to highlight the playlist's name, and change the name to "Sci-Fi."
3. Select "All Records" both in the Playlists pane and the Saved Searches popup menu, to display all data (or select "All Records" in the Playlists pane but use the Advanced Search or Simple Search to help you find what you want to add to the playlist).
4. If the Info drawer is open, save your changes or cancel to close the window. This allows you to make multiple selections.
5. In the Schedules pane, if the two Stargate schedules have the exact same name, select just one of them. If one has a different name (like Stargate Season 8) then command-click to select both of them. Now command-click to select the Galactica and Star Trek schedules.
6. If you don't rename your recording titles after they have recorded, go on to step 7. If you do rename recording titles, select each unique title by command clicking in the Recordings pane.
7. Click the Add Items to Playlist popup button, and choose the "Sci-Fi" playlist you just created, to add these items to your playlist.
8. Click the "Smart" checkbox beside your Sci-Fi playlist, and voila! All schedules and recordings that match these names are shown. When you click this playlist to activate it, future recordings that have the same name will also appear.

IMPORTANT: To remove items from a Smart Playlist, you must first deselect the "Smart" checkbox, select the items you wish to remove, and click the "Remove" button. Holding down the option key will prevent the confirmation dialog.

3.E.4 IMPORTING EYETV 2 PLAYLISTS AND AUTO-PLAYLIST

If you have EyeTV 2, the ideal way to work is NOT to use iEye Captain for playlist changes, but rather to use the very handy "Add to Playlist" popup menu in EyeTV's Info window for the schedules you set up. This automatically adds recordings to a certain playlist after they have recorded, and saves adding them later.

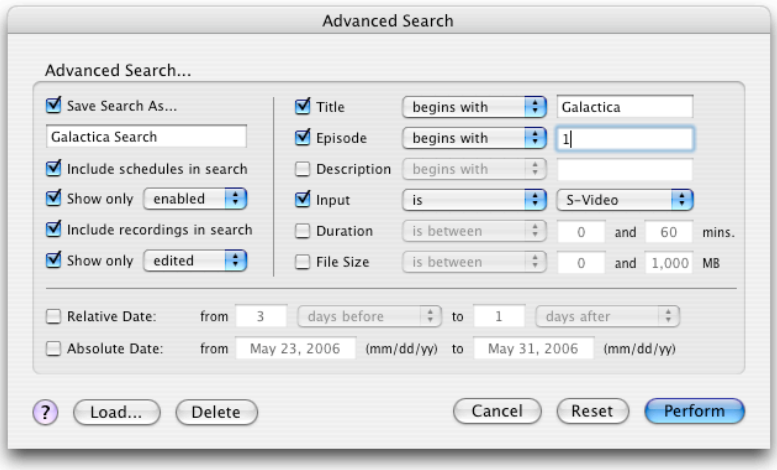
Knowing this, I have set up iEye Captain's playlists to be a "slave" to EyeTV's playlists. You can choose at any time to import EyeTV's playlists (Tools menu), and they will completely over-write any changes you have made in iEye Captain.

The best way to work with EyeTV 2 is with the "Auto-Playlist" feature (Tools menu). When this is enabled, iEye Captain will automatically sense if any changes have been made to EyeTV's playlists (even re-ordering them), and will seamlessly import them. I suggest you enable both this and "Auto-Smart," and make all your playlist changes in EyeTV.

3.F SAVED SEARCHES / ADVANCED SEARCH

Another powerful feature is the combination of advanced searching abilities, and the option to save them in a handy popup menu on the bottom left of the main window.

First the Advanced Search window: you can create a temporary search by hitting COMMAND-F or selecting "Advanced Search…" from the Edit menu. Alternatively, you can create a new named search by selecting "New Search" from the File menu, or by clicking the "New" button beneath the "Saved Searches" popup menu. The following window will appear:



Advanced Search window

There are many possibilities! As you will see, you don't need to have a large library to make them useful.

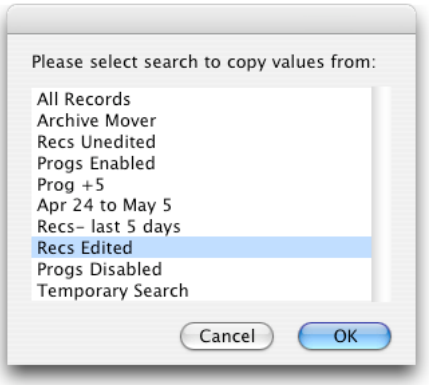
The most important section to keep an eye on is at the upper left. There, you find controls that let you decide a name for your search, and whether you will include Schedules, Recordings, or both in your search (if you don't select to search one of them, it will be as if "All Records" was selected for that category).

For every search field you wish to add, you first click the check-box to the left to enable searching of that type, and then indicate the criterion. You can search based on as many criteria as you wish.

At any time, you may hit "Cancel" to close the window without initiating a search, or hit "Reset" to reset all of the fields to blank. If you click the "Delete" button while you are viewing an existing saved search, that search will be deleted and the window will close.

Some ideas for helpful searches:

- Show only edited recordings – helps to see what is ready for burning.
- Show only unedited recordings – helps to see what you need to edit.
- Show only enabled schedules – so you know exactly what is going to record.
- Non-tuner input – so you know which schedules need channel-change reminders.



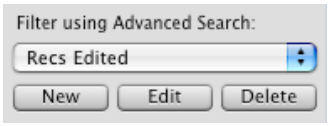
If you have another search you have set up that you would like to duplicate and slightly modify, you may find it handy to click to "Load…" button on bottom of the Advanced Search window, and select from your existing searches.

<-- "Load Search" window

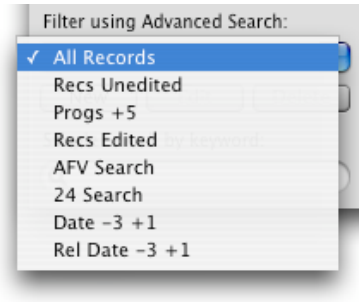
After hitting the "Load" button in the Advanced Search window, a window like this will appear, allowing you to copy criteria from another search.

When you are finished setting up your search, press the "Perform" button to close the window and initiate the search.

If you named your search, it will appear in the "Saved Searches" popup button, ready to initiate at any time. If you would like to change the name or any of the settings, click the "Edit" button to call up the Advanced Search window again.

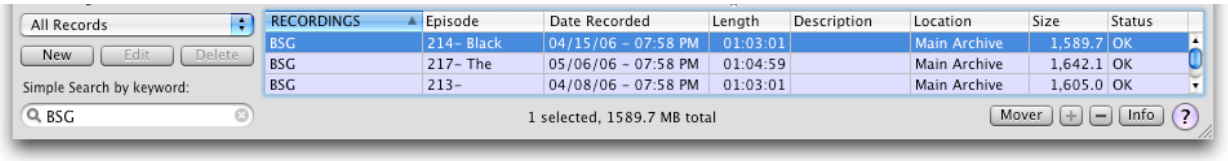


Saved Searches controls and popup menu



If you did not select to name your search, it will appear in the Saved Searches popup menu as "Temporary Search." If you decide you would like to keep this search, simply click the "Edit" button, click the "Save Search As…" button, and enter the name you wish to assign to the search. Otherwise, the temporary search will be deleted when you initiate a new search or choose "All Records."

3.G SIMPLE SEARCH



Lower part of Main Window, showing "Simple Search" field on left

At the bottom left of the main window, you will notice a "Simple Search" field. This field applies an additional filter to whatever playlist and saved search you have active. For most cases, you will probably find this the most convenient way to quickly access your data.

The Simple Search does a "Contains" search of the title & episode information of both the schedules and recordings. For instance, typing "BSG" calls up both the "BSG" and "BSG Orig" shows in the above example – this happens whether these are show titles or episode titles.

To initiate a Simple Search, simply type your search term in the search field and hit "Return" on your keyboard.

IMPORTANT: To clear a search, you must not only delete the search term, but also hit "Return" on your keyboard to clear the filter.

3.H UNDERSTANDING SEARCH ORDER

iEye Captain conducts searches in the following order, which is also how they appear in the main window:

PLAYLISTS -> SAVED SEARCHES -> SIMPLE SEARCH

It makes sense if you think of it this way… Playlists are your starting point. For instance, you may want to have one playlist for yourself, and one for your spouse. Your spouse may want to do an Advanced Search based on a certain date range, but she is not interested in seeing your recordings from that date range, only hers.

Once you have limited the criteria somewhat with an Advanced Search, the Simple Search will help you get closer to what you need. For instance, say you want to burn a DVD. You have your playlist selected, and you click a Saved Search you set up to show only recordings that have already been edited. 30 shows appear… Hmm, maybe you have enough Stargates edited to make a full DVD? Enter "star" in the Simple Search field and you have the shows you need.

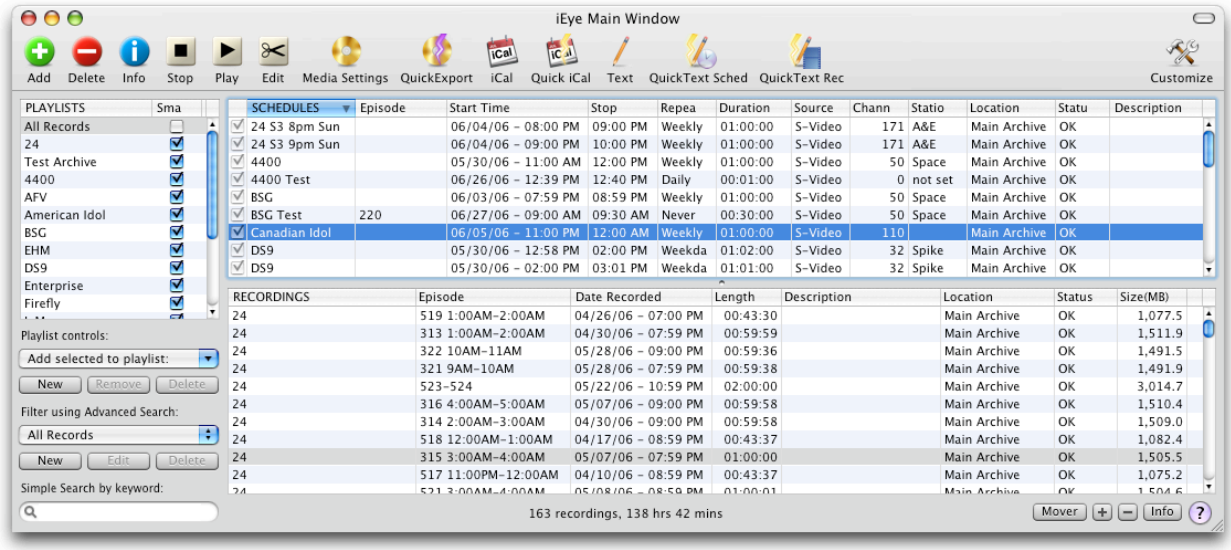
For smaller libraries or simpler purposes you may find it is enough to have Playlists and Saved Searches set to "All Records," and primarily use the Simple Search field. But you will find as your library grows the other search functions become more and more indispensable!

3.1 CUSTOMIZING COLORS

iEye Captain has been designed with similar colors to the EyeTV interface, to make it an easier transition to go from one to the other. However, you may prefer alternating row colors to make it easier to differentiate between different rows of information, or you may wish to choose alternate background colors for the Schedules Pane or Recordings Pane of the main window.

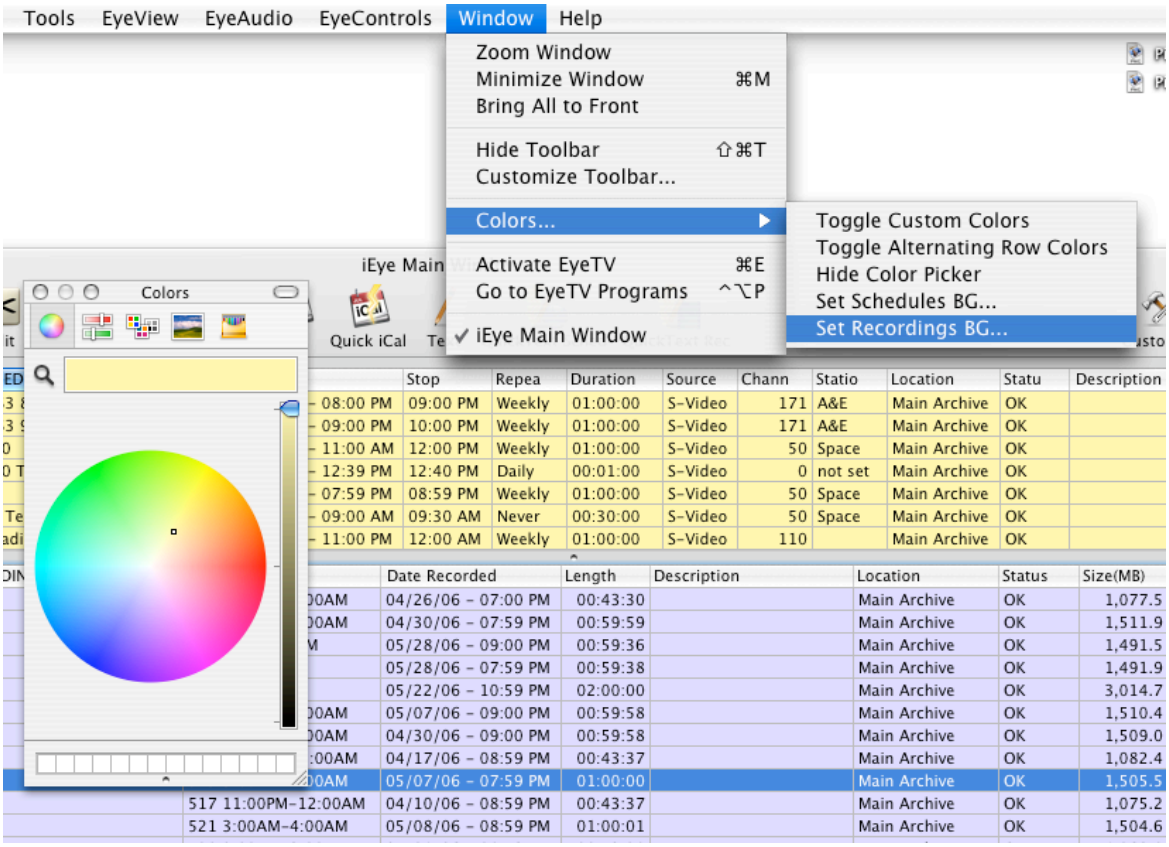
Colors sub-menu under Windows menu

ALTERNATING ROW COLORS: To toggle alternating row colors on or off, simply choose "Toggle Alternating Row Colors" from the "Colors…" sub-menu of the Windows menu.



Alternating row colors example

CUSTOM BACKGROUND COLORS: In order to customize the background colors, you must first open up the Color Picker, by choosing "Show Color Picker" from the "Colors…" sub-menu of the Windows menu. You will be greeted with a standard Macintosh color picker, with which to choose a preferred color. To set either the Schedules Pane or the Recordings Pane to this color, simply choose "Set Schedules BG…" or "Set Recordings BG…" from the same Customize Colors sub-menu.



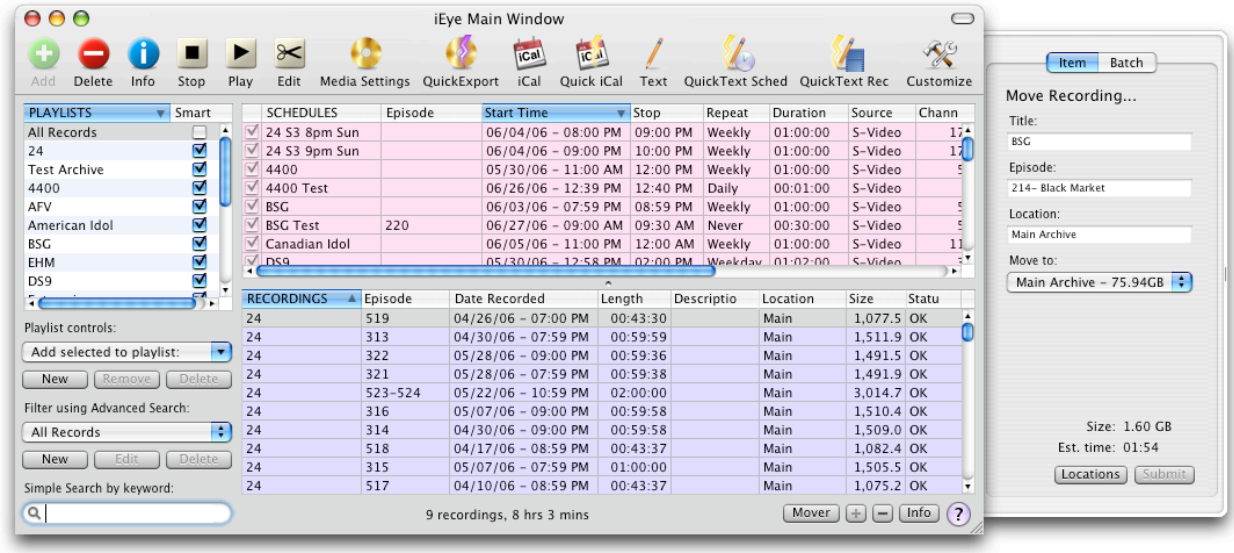
Color Picker and custom colors example

TO RESET EYETV COLORS: In order to reset to the standard EyeTV colors, simply choose "Toggle Custom Colors" from the "Colors…" sub-menu of the Windows menu.

3.J NEW ARCHIVE MOVER / BATCH QUEUE

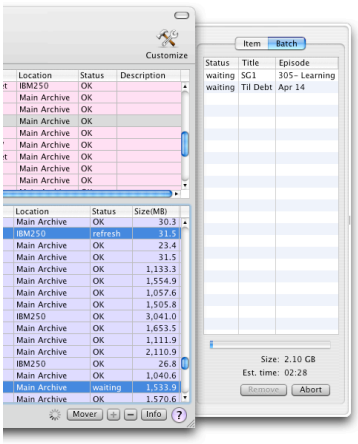
iEye Captain was the first to introduce using multiple hard drives actively within EyeTV. Now it is easier than ever! To open the newly redesigned Archive Mover, simply click on the "Mover" button on the bottom right of the interface. The Archive Mover drawer will open.

From here, you still have access to all of your playlists and saved searches… Once you find the items you wish to move, select either one or multiple (using shift-clicking for a range of items, or command clicking items that are not together). Then, select the desired location from the "Move to" popup menu. If you want to set up other locations, simply choose the "Locations" button.



New Archive Mover drawer

When you are ready, hit "Submit." All of the items you selected will be submitted to the "Batch" for processing. You can continue to do other things in iEye Captain or EyeTV, and the batch will continue moving items in the background.



Batch moving in progress

You can toggle between the "Add Item" view and the "Batch" view by clicking the blue tab indicators. In the Batch view, you may select items to remove and then click the "Remove" button, or click "Abort" to abort the current batch. Please note that the currently moving item must finish moving before the batch can be fully aborted.

Once the move is complete, iEye Captain may need to reload its data or re-launch EyeTV. If it does, it will wait for a safe time to do so. In the meantime, the "Status" column will indicate which items are currently locked and awaiting a relaunch. While "locked," you can not edit or delete a schedule or recording's information.

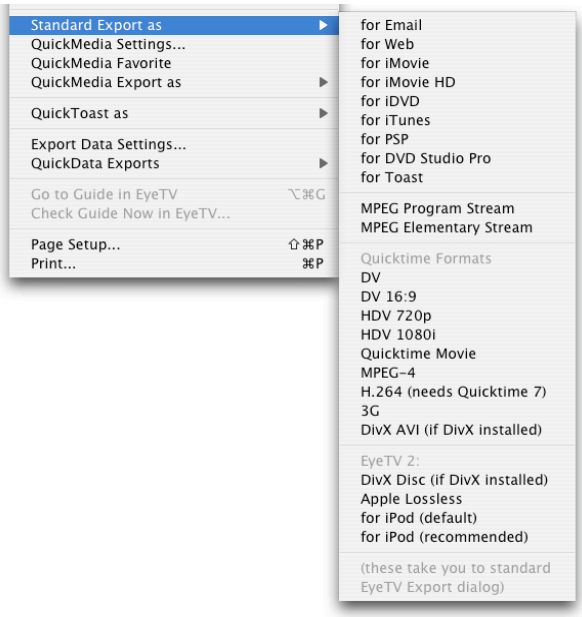
4. EXPORTING

The toolbar stacked with export functions

iEye Captain has very versatile export features to meet a wide range of needs. Here are some of the handy things you can do:

- Select a number of recordings and export them all at once (EyeTV 1.8 only lets you initiate one export at a time) – even start Toast with all exported recordings set up on a DVD, VCD, or SVCD, and movie thumbnails set to the last viewed frame.
- Pre-select a folder you always want your exports to go to, and QuickExport lets you avoid dialogs. You could export 10 shows with a single click.
- Click one button, and all your schedules show up in iCal – complete with reminders, helping you remember when to watch a show or when to change the satellite channel.
- Export all your schedule and recording data as a tab-delimited text file, which you can easily import into spreadsheets like Excel or databases like Filemaker Pro for managing large libraries or just printing DVD labels.
- Created named aliases of all of your mpeg recording files, if you need a handy way of accessing the actual files on disk for use with viewers like Virtual DVHS or VLC, or with utilities like MPEG2Works.
- Control your satellite channel changer or digital cable set-top box via infrared, including setting up automatic schedules so the channel is always changed on time! Please note that this requires a compatible infrared device such as the ZephIR USB or IRTrans.

4A. MEDIA EXPORTING - STANDARD



Even standard media exporting is a little handier with iEye Captain…

Firstly, you can select a number of recordings and initiate them all at once (improvement over EyeTV 1.8).

Secondly, you can choose the export type right from the File menu, and when the EyeTV export dialog comes up, the export type is already selected for you.

<-- *Standard Export Settings (File Menu)*

4B. MEDIA EXPORTING – QUICK EXPORT

Where iEye Captain starts to make your life easier is where "Quick" is part of the name… Whether it is QuickExport (media), Quick iCal, or QuickAlias, the Quick means that one button or menu selection initiates the action with no further intervention required, or the level of intervention that you specify.

To open the Quick Media Export settings, either click on the "Export" toolbar icon, or choose "QuickMedia Settings…" from the File menu. The following window will appear:

Quick Media Export Settings window

The Quick Media Export settings default to settings that can be used right away, but you may want to customize them.

Initially, the default location is set to the Movies folder inside the Home folder of the current user. You can change this default export location by clicking the "Browse…" button and using the browser to choose a folder.

The ideal way to use QuickExport is to let it always select the location for you--- if so, leave the "Use default location" button checked. If you have space constraints, you may find it helpful to select "Prompt for location each time." Because this defeats the purpose of a Quick Export in some ways, it may be preferable to use one default folder for a while, and then change it to another default folder when the first location is running short on space. Or, you can leave one location selected, and use the "Standard Export" feature (above) when you need an alternate location. It's up to you.

Another default setting, as indicated in the snapshot above, is for iEye Captain to create a new subfolder for each export. Together with the "Quick Adding of Sizes" in the Recordings pane of the main window, this makes it very easy to see what will fit on a DVD, make your selections, and then export just those selections into a folder that is immediately identifiable. You can do several exports this way, and when you are ready to burn, all of the files are neatly grouped together.

The default is set up for iEye Captain to name these subfolders for you – after all, it is a Quick Export! You have the option to auto-create based on the title of the first exported schedule and an abbreviated date & time, or just the date & time. Or, if you choose the third option, "Prompt for name," you will be prompted for the name of the subfolder each time.

On the left, there is a popup menu where you can select your favorite export type. This is the export type that will be used when you hit the QuickMedia toolbar button, if you select the "QuickMedia Favorite" menu item in the File menu, or if you hit the "Export" button from within the Quick Media Export Settings window.

You can bypass this export type easily later on, keeping all of the other Quick Export settings, by selecting the desired alternate export type from the "QuickMedia Export as…" submenu of the File menu.

Below the export type you have an option to replace files of the same name. By default, this is NOT selected. iEye Captain will not prompt you if there is a duplicate, but will rather use –1, -2, -3, etc. after the file name to guarantee that a file will not be replaced. If you do select this checkbox, files that have the same name will be automatically replaced.

Lastly, on the bottom left, you can choose to let iEye Captain automatically name the individual export files, or to prompt you for each file name. Auto-naming is based on Title + Episode if there is an episode name, or Title + Abbreviated Date if there is no episode name.

To perform a QuickMedia Favorite Export, do one of the following:

- click the QuickMedia toolbar button,
- click the "QuickMedia" button in the Recording Info Drawer,
- click the Export button from within the QuickMedia Settings window, or
- choose QuickMedia Favorite from the File menu.

4C. MEDIA EXPORTING – QuickToast

EyeTV automates the process of burning to VCD or DVD, but there are several limitations to the method that is used.

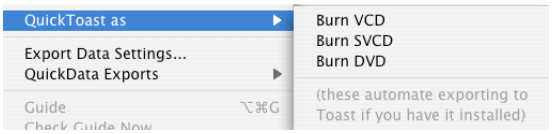
4.C.1 LIMITATIONS OF EYETV TOAST BURNING:

- EyeTV 1.8: Only for a single recording
- First frame of recording is set as thumbnail – rarely the one you want.
- Toast's rudimentary scrubber for thumbnail images makes it very difficult to fine-tune exactly which frame you want.
- Only works for DVD, not VCD or SVCD (can be changed later, but is an extra step)

Continuing in the fashion of making your life easier… iEye Captain expands on these capabilities by offering "QuickToast," which provides some important advantages.

4.C.2 ADVANTAGES OF iEYE CAPTAIN QuickToast BURNING:

- Over EyeTV 1.8: Select multiple recordings, and iEye Captain will export all of them in one step, importing every one of them into Toast for you
- The thumbnail image is set to the MOST RECENT frame viewed, rather than the first one. This allows you to play each clip in EyeTV (or using iEye Captain's play controls) to fine-tune exactly which frame you wish to appear in the DVD menu. *(Please note that due to an Mpeg encoder issue, the frame may be off by as much as a second or two, but it is still a finer control than the Toast scrubber).*
- Available for VCD, SVCD, and DVD.



QuickToast sub-menu of File menu

To perform a QuickToast, simply select one or more recordings in the Recordings Pane of the main window, using the handy size calculator at the bottom of the window to see if how close you are getting to the capacity of the CD or DVD. Once you have the selection you wish, select DVD, SVCD, or VCD from the QuickToast submenu of the File menu.

Please see the next section, "Why you should upgrade to Toast 7 or 8" if you have Toast 7.

If you have Toast 6, QuickToast will create a sub-folder inside the default export folder that you have indicated in the QuickExport settings. Each recording will be exported into this subfolder, and a little script is also placed into the subfolder to manage the burning process. When the export is complete, this script will wait until Toast is free (if it has been occupied burning something), and then open Toast, import the items, and set up the menu for you. When you are

ready to burn the disc, simply click on the red “burn” button, and follow the instructions in Toast to burn your disc.

Once the burn has finished and you have tested your disc, you may safely delete the entire subfolder of the export, including the script file. If for any reason Toast was not able to burn the disc, you may double-click this script and it will set up the disc for you just as if the process was initiated from iEye Captain.

It is important to note that you can continue working in iEye Captain and/or EyeTV after QuickToast has been initiated. Even though you may see a spinning black & white indicator ball, just click anywhere in the main window to continue working.

4.C.3 WHY YOU SHOULD UPGRADE TO TOAST 7 or 8

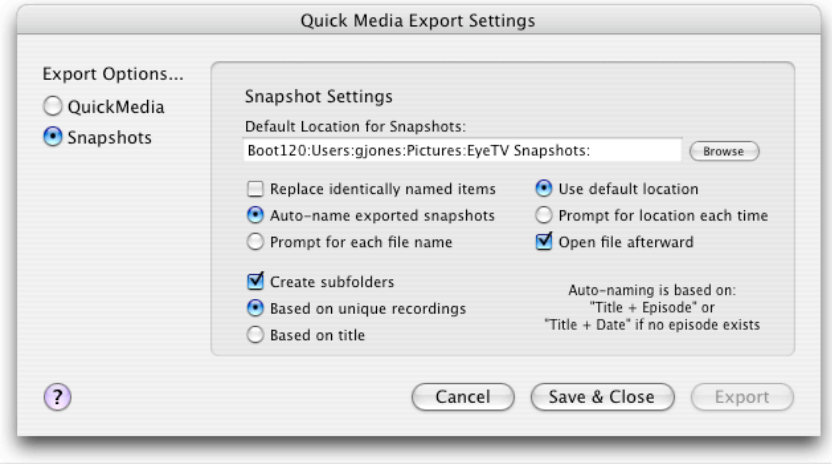
Aside from the myriad of advertised improvements and new features, such as DIVX exporting, and a choice of greatly improved DVD menus, Toast 7 offers a HUGE enhancement over Toast 6 when it comes to EyeTV: you don’t have to do a time-consuming media export before burning a disc. All you have to do is drag recordings from your EyeTV Programs window over to Toast, or choose them from Toast 7’s new media library.

iEye Captain takes these improvements to heart – when you do a QuickToast, if iEye Captain senses Toast 7 is installed, it will immediately set up a disc for you, rather than performing media exports as described in the previous section.

It’s even easier to fine tune movie thumbnails this way – because you don’t have to go through a time-consuming media exporting step, if you don’t like the frame that iEye Captain provides, and you can’t get to the one you want with Toast’s scrubber, just clear the disc, hop back to EyeTV to play the video and fine-tune the frame you wish. Once you have paused on that frame or closed the window, hop over to iEye Captain and do a fresh QuickToast.

4D. MEDIA EXPORTING – SNAPSHOTS

The options available for snapshot settings are very similar to media exporting… this provides a much handier way of grabbing multiple screen snaps from recordings. You can choose options for where you want to save them, and rapid-fire dozens of snapshots if you wish--- iEye Captain will name them & place them in a folder for you, depending on your chosen settings.



Snapshot Settings in the Quick Media Export window

When you first open the snapshot settings, you will notice that iEye Captain has chosen the "Pictures" folder inside the current user's home folder as the default location for snapshots. If you would like to change this, simply click on the "Browse" button and navigate to your preferred folder.

For most uses, the default settings as pictured above will be enough. If you would like to customize the options, you can do so as follows:

"Use Default Location" will cause iEye Captain to automatically export to the default location that you have pre-selected. If you like, you can choose "Prompt for location each time," which will cause a "save" panel to open up every time you take a snapshot. While this may be helpful for some specific uses, it is less conducive to easy firing of snapshots.

"Replace identically named items" – if you leave this de-selected, iEye Captain will automatically add a unique number to the end of the filename to prevent deleting any snapshots. If you select the check-box (not recommended), similarly named snapshots will be replaced. The result of this would be that each recording could only have one snapshot, unless you disable auto-naming (below).

"Auto-name exported snapshots" provides a way of rapid-firing snapshots – these snapshots are automatically given a name by iEye Captain, based on "Title – Episode" or "Title – Date" if there is no episode title, and an incrementing numeric suffix. If you like, you may choose "Prompt for each filename" instead, and a dialog box will appear each time you take a snapshot, to let you type in a custom name.

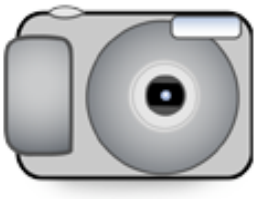
"Create subfolders" is a handy way to group your snapshots… If selected, a subfolder will be created within the snapshots export folder, into which the snapshots will be placed. You have two options for this: If you choose "Based on unique recordings," iEye Captain will use the naming system mentioned above to name the subfolder, and only snapshots from that unique recording will be placed inside. If you choose "Based on title," iEye Captain will name the subfolder based on the title only, which will cause snapshots from multiple episodes of the same TV show to be placed in the same folder. Snapshots from Live TV will be placed in a folder named "Live TV".

Lastly, "Open File Afterwards" will cause iEye Captain to immediately open the snapshot in the Preview application once it is taken.

When you have finished with the snapshot settings, you may click "Save & Close" to save your settings and close the window, "Cancel" to close the window without saving, or you may click the "QuickMedia" radio button on the left to adjust the QuickMedia export settings.

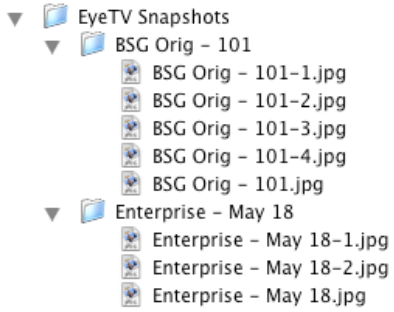
Before you initiate a snapshot, you must indicate what you want to take a picture of. If you wish to take a snapshot of an existing recording, you must make sure to either select the recording in iEye Captain and play it, or make sure no recordings are selected if you wish to take snapshots of a live TV window.

IMPORTANT: If you have a recording selected in the Recordings pane, it will take precedence over a live TV window or other recordings that are playing in EyeTV, even if the recording that is selected is not actually playing.



TO INITIATE A SNAPSHOT:

- Click the "Snapshot" toolbar button (camera)
- Press the Command-T keyboard shortcut
- Choose "Snapshot" from the Recordings menu
- Click the "Snapshot" button below the preview picture in the Recordings info drawer.



EyeTV Snapshots folder after a few snaps

4E. DATA EXPORTING – TEXT WITH DELIMITERS

Text exporting is a perfect compliment to a burgeoning media library. You can export all types of information as delimited text files, which can then be easily imported into Filemaker Pro, Microsoft Excel, or virtually any other database, word processor, or spreadsheet program.

First, you will need to set up your preferences, and choose which fields or information you wish to export. To do this, open the "Data Export Settings" from the File menu, or "Export Text" from the Tools menu. If you choose "Export Text," you will need to click on the "Schedules Text Fields" or "Recordings Text Fields" radio buttons on the left to access the fields you wish to export.

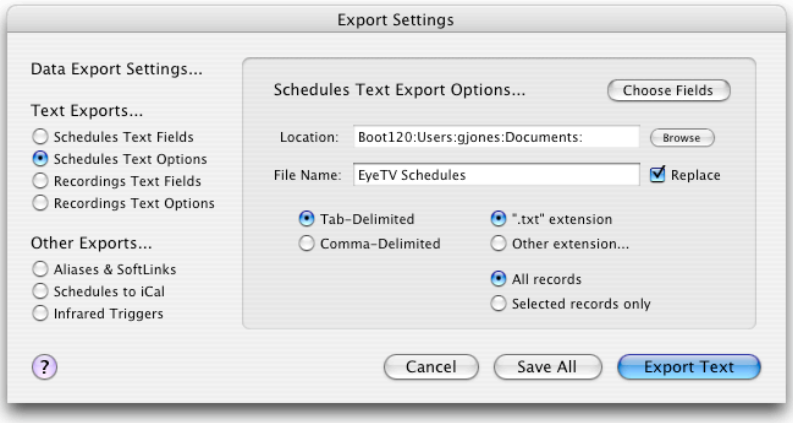
The following screens will appear, letting you check whichever fields you wish to export:

Choose "Schedules" Fields in the Data Export Settings window

Choose "Recordings" Fields in the Data Export Settings window

In both of the above two screens, you can click the "Reset Defaults" button to return to the default selection of fields (as pictured above), choose "Select None" to set all the checkboxes to de-selected, or "Select All" to select all checkboxes.

Once you have selected the fields you wish to export, you can click “Save All” to save your settings and return to iEye Captain’s main menu, or you can click either of the “Text Options” radio buttons in the Export Options on the left to set up the rest of the text export settings.



Schedules Text Options settings in the Data Export Settings window

Recordings Text Options settings in the Data Export Settings window

The options for text exporting are very straightforward. For most of us, the default values as pictured above will be pretty close to what we need.

LOCATION: The location defaults to the Documents folder inside the Home folder of the current user. If you wish to change this, simply click on the “Browse” button and browse to select an alternate location.

FILE NAME: A default name is provided for you; you may choose to change this name by typing in this field (do not add the extension here). Clicking the “Replace” check-box will replace any previous export with the same name. If you leave it un-checked, you will be prompted to abort an export rather than over-write an existing file.

DELIMITERS: A “tab-delimited” text file is the most standard way of exporting fields of data. For some specific needs, you may wish to change this to “comma-delimited.” An example of this might be if you wish to preserve “tab” characters in the exported output. Again, for most applications just leave this radio button set to “Tab-Delimited.”

EXTENSION: The second radio button pair lets you choose a “.txt” extension, which will indicate to other applications (and the Finder) that this is a text file. You may wish to change this extension to one that will be better received by your database program, or to prompt a different application to open the file when it is double-clicked in the Finder. To do this, simply select “Other extension” and a field will appear to let you type in any extension you wish.

WHICH RECORDS: The last set of radio buttons in the lower right corner let you indicate whether you wish to export text information for every record, or whether you just wish to export text for what is currently selected in the main window.

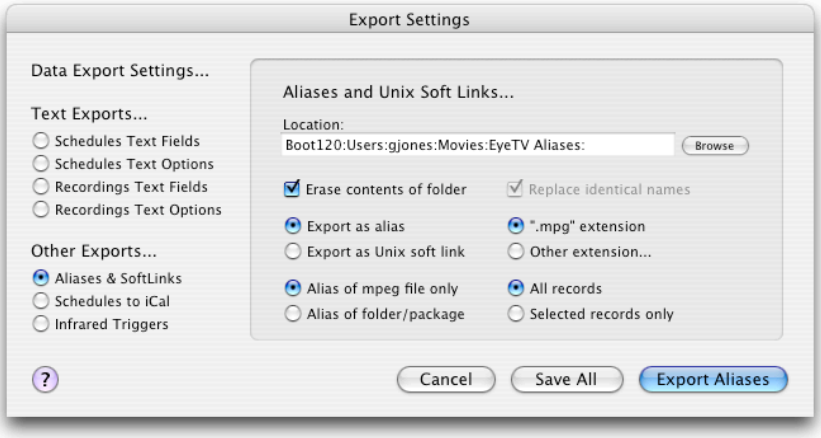
Once you have set up these settings, you have several choices of what you can do next:

1. You can click on the other data export settings, and continue to set your preferences for various data export types.

2. Click the "Save All" button, which will save all of your export preferences without performing an export. When you are ready to export, simply choose "QuickText Sched" (for schedules) or "QuickText Rec" (for recordings) from the toolbar or from the File menu --> QuickData Exports submenu --> Schedules Text with Delimiters or File menu --> QuickData Exports submenu --> Recordings Text with Delimiters.

3. Or, if you would like to perform an export immediately, choose the "Export Text" button. This will save all your export preferences, and then perform a text export.

4F. DATA EXPORTING – ALIASES & UNIX SOFT LINKS



Aliases & Unix Soft Links in the Data Export Settings window

Aliases and Unix soft links (or "symbolic links") are mainly for advanced users, who wish an easier way to access the actual mpeg recording files made by EyeTV. With the very cryptic numeric naming scheme used by EyeTV 1.8 in the EyeTV Archive folder, and inside EyeTV 2's packages, having aliases named after the recording titles can be a lifesaver when you wish to play or manipulate the files with any of a number of third party utilities or media players.

There are various options to set – for EyeTV 2, the default settings pictured above will be the most useful.

NAMING SCHEME: iEye Captain uses a standard pre-set naming scheme to help prevent multiple files having the same name. If a recording has an episode title, the alias will be named according to "title - episode.mpg" and if there is no episode title, the file will be named according to the date it was recorded, according to the format "title - Mar 27". You may wish to use the "episode" field for custom notes if you wish this information to appear in the file names.

Location: Click the "Browse" button if you wish to change where you would like the aliases saved to.

Erase Contents of Folder will delete the entire folder first (if it exists), and create a new folder before exporting. If you choose to leave this unchecked, the following option becomes available:

Replace Identical Names: If selected, iEye Captain will erase over any files with the same name. This is usually the best, because iEye's naming scheme should prevent duplicates. If you leave this option de-selected, iEye Captain will add a numeric suffix ("-1" or "-2") to the end of the file name to prevent over-writing an existing file. Be careful with this option, because multiple exports can fill your folder very quickly!

Export as Alias: Again, this is the standard format. If you don't know what Unix soft links are or why you would need them, just leave the "Export as alias" box selected.

Export as Unix soft link: While soft links are very similar to aliases, there are specific purposes where they are more desirable than aliases. Explaining why is not within the scope of this manual. If you need them, make sure this radio button is selected.

REGARDING EXTENSIONS: Because EyeTV records in different formats (such as AVI or Mpeg), it is highly recommended that you specify "same extension" here. If you do this, iEye Captain will ensure that the same extension that is on the original recording file is also applied to the alias. If you select "Other extension..." a text field will appear allowing you to specify an alternate extension. This may be helpful to ensure the alias will be opened by a desired alternate application to the default, or that it is understood correctly by the alternate application. Just be aware that the extension is applied to every alias, regardless of the type of original recording. *(Note: this feature will be implemented before release—currently in build 0922 you can choose between ".mpg" and a custom extension. However, if you choose "Alias of folder/package," iEye Captain will create the correct double-clickable ".eyetv" package format for the aliases)*

"Alias of mpeg file only" is a popular option for streaming devices. This allows you aliases of the actual Mpeg files but with descriptive names.

"Alias of folder/package" creates an alias to the parent folder or package that contains the recording in question. THIS IS THE ONE YOU WANT FOR EYETV 2, as it will properly create a double-clickable alias the new ".eyetv" package format. It does NOT rename the mpeg files, so with EyeTV 1.8 it may be of limited use to you.

Lastly, as with the other export options, you can choose whether to export aliases for "All Records," which makes aliases for every recording in your archive, or if you choose "Selected records only" iEye will only export aliases for recordings that are currently selected (highlighted) in the Recordings pane of the main window.

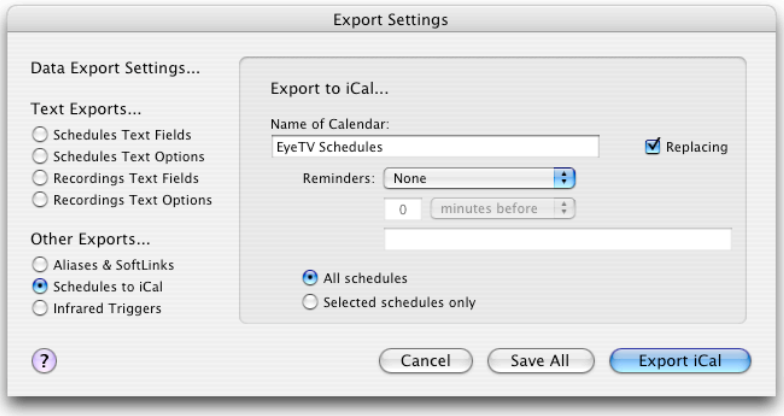
Once you have set up these settings, you have several choices of what you can do next:

1. You can click on the other data export settings, and continue to set your preferences for various data export types.

2. Click the "Save All" button, which will save all of your export preferences without performing an export. When you are ready to export, simply choose "QuickAlias" from the toolbar or from the File menu --> QuickData submenu --> QuickAlias.

3. Or, if you would like to perform an export immediately, choose the "Export Alias" button. This will save all your export preferences, and then perform an Alias export.

4G. DATA EXPORTING – iCAL EXPORT



iCal Export settings in the Data Export Settings window

For those of us with busy lives – which probably means most of us – it can be hard to keep tabs on every thing that is supposed to happen in our day. iCal reminders can become a very essential part of your EyeTV experience, whether it's just letting you know when your show is on so you don't miss it, letting you know when it's time to change the channel on the digital cable or satellite controller, or simply being able to view "what's on" in a handy printable daily, weekly, or monthly view. Even using the default settings, you may wish to perform an export (Click the "Export iCal" button) and then go to iCal to see how handy it can be!

It is very simple to customize the options:

- First choose a name for your calendar. You may wish to have one calendar set up for one type of reminder, and another set up for a different type of reminder.

- Check the "Replacing" check box if you would like iEye Captain to over-write this calendar each time. This is usually the easiest, but leave this unchecked if you wish to be prompted before replacing an existing calendar.

- At the bottom, choose "All schedules" if you wish for every schedule to be represented in your iCal calendar, or choose "Selected schedules only" if you wish to only include schedules that are currently selected (highlighted) in the Schedules pane of the main window.

- "Schedule recurrences up to 'x' days" lets you indicate how for ahead to schedule recurring schedules. For instance, if you have a weekly show scheduled, and set this to 30 days, there will be 4 occurrences in the calendar, ending one month from now.

At this point you could already perform an export, and it would plot your schedules into iCal, for handy Daily, Weekly, or Monthly printable views of what's on. Or, you can get even greater functionality by setting up reminders:

To set up reminders, simple pull the "reminders" popup menu to any of the following:

- Message - will simply display an iCal popup reminder with no sound.
- Message with Sound - displays a popup reminder with a chosen alert sound.
- Email - sends an email to the default email address on your system (indicated by the "me" VCard in your Address Book application) every time a show is about to record.
- Open File - Lets you indicate a movie, sound, script, or application to be opened when the show is about to record. You may wish to target the EyeTV application (this is the default) -- this is a handy way to get EyeTV to jump to the foreground when a show is about to begin.

If you choose a reminder, various fields will become enabled, letting you choose the time frame for the reminder -- from 0 minutes before to as many days as you wish. The "Message with Sound" reminders will let you choose which sound to use, and the "Open File" reminders show you which file will be opened, and a "browse" button which lets you choose an alternate file or application.

PLEASE NOTE: It is not suggested that you make changes to these reminders from within iCal, as they will be erased the next time you perform an export.

Once you have set up these settings, you have several choices of what you can do next:

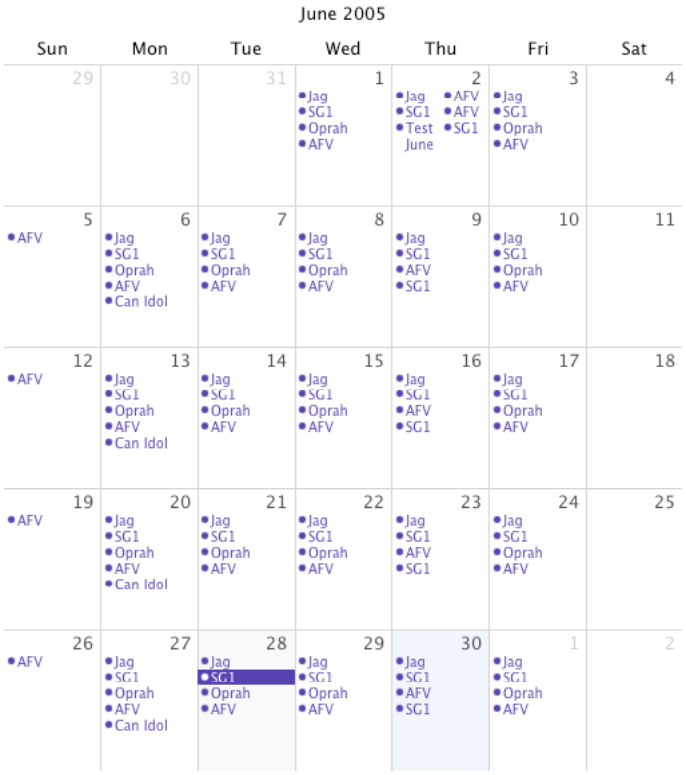
1. You can click on the other data export settings, and continue to set your preferences for various data export types.

2. Click the "Save All" button, which will save all of your export preferences without performing an export. When you are ready to export, simply choose "Quick iCal" from the toolbar or from the File menu --> QuickData submenu --> Quick iCal.

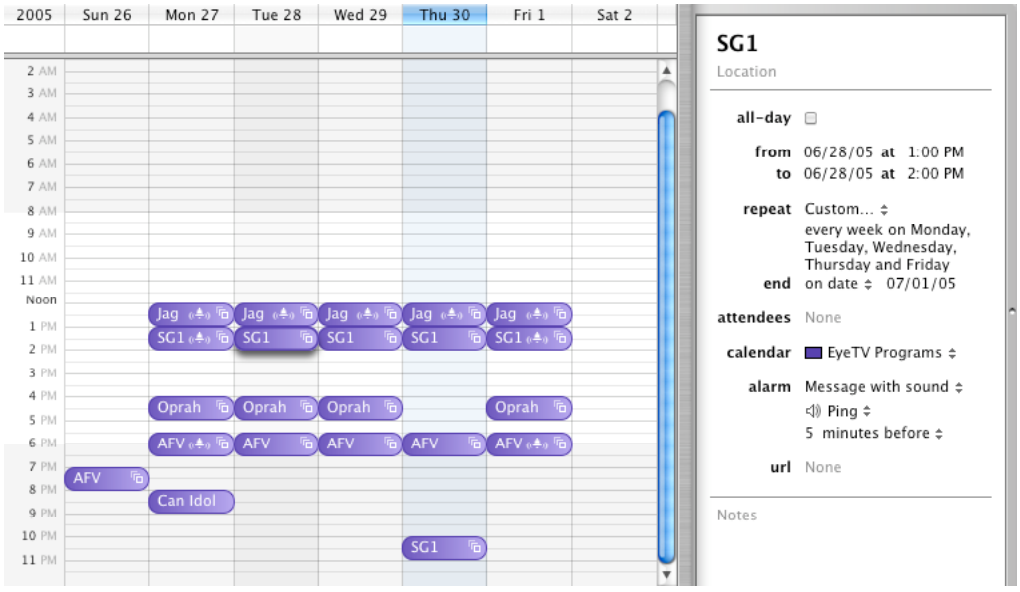
3. Or, if you would like to perform an export immediately, choose the "Export iCal" button. This will save all your export preferences, and then perform an iCal export.

Check out the following page for an idea of how handy the iCal calendar views can be!

4.G.1 Sample iCal Calendar Views



iCal showing full month view



iCal showing week view

Quite a handy way to know what's on! And notice on the right that the reminders have been activated…

4H. DATA EXPORTING – INFRARED EXPORT

EyeTV works perfectly when used with its internal tuner, changing the channel for you at the appropriate time. But what if you have a digital cable or satellite TV set-top box, and you wish a greater range of channels and a higher quality image? Analog EyeTV units allow you to hook up these devices via the S-Video or Composite inputs. However, there is no way to automate changing the channel, to schedule the shows you wish to record… that is, unless you have iEye Captain and either the ZephIR or IRTrans USB infrared transceivers.

With the ZephIR or IRTrans, you can control your digital cable or satellite set-top box just as if it were the internal tuner. You can time automated channel changes to the second, with perfect reliability. The amazing thing is how easy it is!

4.H.1 PHYSICAL CONNECTIONS TO SET TOP BOX:

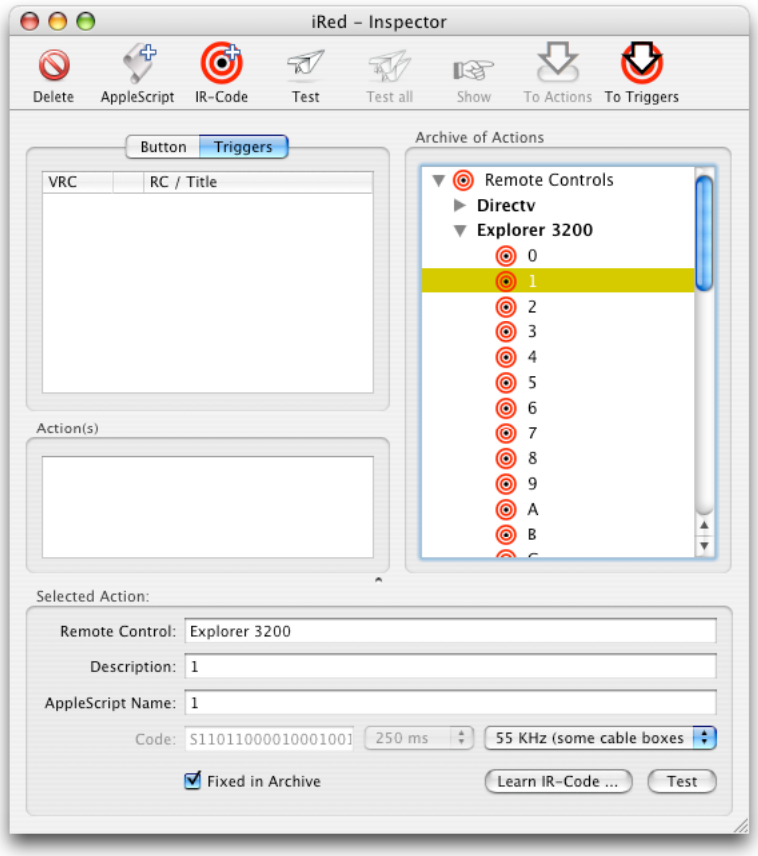
- If you haven't already, follow the directions to connect your EyeTV to your Mac. If you have analog cable, use a 75-ohm coaxial cable (screw-on) to connect this to your EyeTV. You will NOT use this cable to connect your digital cable or satellite set top box.
- Hook up your digital cable or satellite set-top box to your EyeTV. You will need a stereo RCA male-male audio cable (red/white) for the audio. If possible, use a 4-pin (S-Video) connection for the video. This will give you the highest quality, and iEye Captain is optimized for this input. If you do not have a 4-pin connection on your set-top box, I suggest you use the yellow (Composite) connection for the video and red & white audio connections for the audio. **Using the 75-ohm coaxial (screw-on) connection gives you the lowest quality, and is not supported for infrared control**.

Samples of audio and video cables

- Now, turn on the set top box, open EyeTV, and under the "Controls" menu select "Composite" or "S-Video" depending on your setup. Use your set top box's remote to change channels, and verify that your EyeTV is receiving the audio and video.

4.H.2 SETTING UP YOUR INFRARED DEVICE:

- First, you must make sure you have the latest software and drivers installed for your infrared device. ZephIR Station 2b12, iRed 1.4 or higher are recommended.
- Secondly, follow the directions that came with your infrared device, to connect the infrared device to your Mac. Usually it will be via a USB cable, though some IRTrans models are connected via Ethernet.
- Next, create a new "Component" in the infrared software, and you must ensure that the numbers 0-9 and the "Enter" or "Select" button from your set-top box's remote control are programmed into the infrared software (you may need to consult the directions that came with your device). Please make sure that the numbers 0-9 are named with just a single numeric digit, and test them all to make sure they fire properly from the infrared software. **If there is no "Enter" button, it is advisable to create a button named "enter" with no code attached.**
- **IMPORTANT NOTE FOR IRTRANS/iRED: You must also set identical Applescript names for these buttons… For example, the digit "1" should have an Applescript name of "1" (no quotes).**
- Quit the infrared software (and iEye Captain if it was open) to ensure the preferences are saved.
- After any infrared software updates, it is important that you launch the infrared software at least once to initialize your settings, before launching iEye Captain.

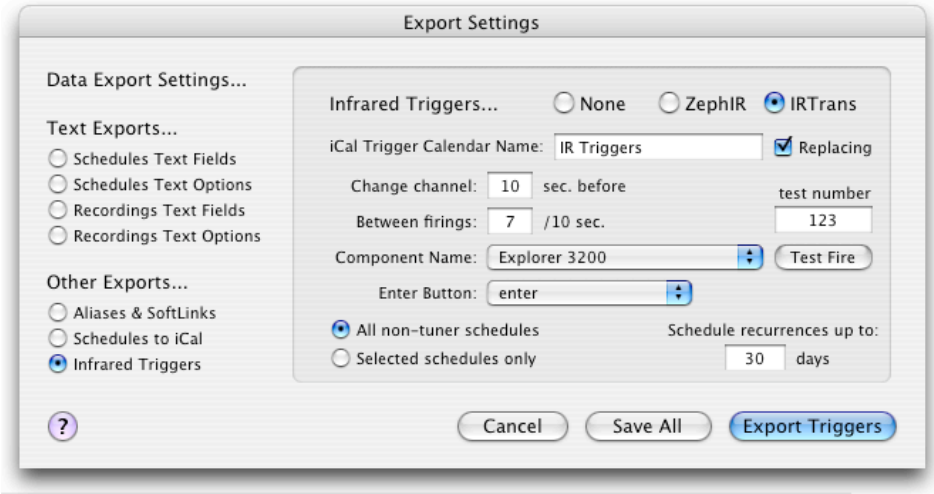


iRed Inspector showing Applescript Name

4.H.3 INFRARED SETTINGS IN iEYE CAPTAIN:

Once you have set up your infrared software and tested the hardware, launch iEye Captain. If Auto-reloading is not enabled, go to the Tools>Auto-Reload submenu and choose "Auto-Reload when EyeTV changes." This will synchronize iEye Captain with EyeTV but allow manual control of the infrared scheduling.

Now go to the Tools menu to select "Infrared Settings." The following window should appear:



Infrared Trigger settings in the Data Export Settings window

OPEN SETTINGS: IEye Captain should automatically detect your infrared software, and the ZephIR / IRTrans selector at the top should automatically be set to the appropriate device. If you only have one such device, this option will be grayed out. If you have both an IRTrans and a ZephIR (as above), this selector allows you to choose between them.

TRIGGER CALENDAR: Firstly, ensure that you are happy with the name of the Trigger Calendar. This is a calendar in iCal (separate from any reminder calendar you may have already set up) that keeps track of the scripts that trigger the channel changes. It is very important that you do not make changes to this calendar within iCal – if you need to make any changes, please do this within iEye Captain. The scripts that control the channel changes are located in the Preferences folder within the Library folder in the root directory of your startup drive.

SELECT A COMPONENT: The next step is to select a component. All of the components that you have set up in your infrared software should appear in the "Component Name" popup menu. If for any reason your component does not appear, you may need to quit out of iEye Captain, open your infrared software, and verify that everything is set up properly there. Be sure to quit the infrared software before re-opening iEye Captain so your preferences are saved.

SELECT "ENTER" BUTTON: Once you select a component, the "Enter" button popup menu should be populated with all of the codes available on the component you have set. If you already have a code set up with the name "enter" or "select," iEye Captain will set it for you. Otherwise, click on the "enter button" popup menu and drag to select the proper "enter" button.

IMPORTANT: If your set top box does not need to have an “enter” button pressed, and you do not have one programmed, it is important that you still have a button on the component that you can designate as the “enter” button. In this case, you may create this empty button with no code.

TEST FIRE: Once you have set the component and “enter” button, it is important for you to test the setup. Please ensure that your hardware device is connected, and click the “Test Fire” button to send the digits from the Test Fire field to your device. It will only work with numeric digits, but it is suggested that you test 123, 456, 789, and 890 to ensure all the buttons are working properly.

“BETWEEN FIRINGS” may need to be adjusted if you find your device is missing one of the digits in the sequence. For instance, “123” is set, but when you hit “test fire,” your set top box turns the channel to “13.” This is similar to the “ticks” setting on some infrared software. It instructs the trigger script to delay between individual codes sent to the remote – the number indicated will be the number of tenths of a second delayed in between firings. It is recommended that you use a value of 7 or higher – experiment to make sure the test fire is successful every time, and then add at least 2 to the value, to compensate for times that your computer may be busy, or something is preventing a clear transmitted signal. If you make the number 15 or higher and digits are still being missed, try moving the infrared device closer to the set top box, or re-programming the remote control codes.

The last three settings relate to the calendar and trigger scripts that are created.

“CHANGE CHANNEL X SECONDS BEFORE” lets you indicate how many seconds before a schedule that the script will trigger the channel change. Because it may take a 5 or 6 seconds for the script to change the channel, you may want to indicate a value of 6-10 seconds. You probably want to experiment with a test schedule to ensure the settings will not cause the previous show to be cut off, and yet will change the channel in time.
CHOOSE WHICH SCHEDULES: You can select either “All non-tuner schedules” or “Selected schedules only.” The first option will create a trigger event for every enabled schedule with an input source of “Composite” or “S-Video” that has a channel other than zero. This is the most reliable option, as hitting “QuickIR” at any time will create a fresh calendar with all your infrared triggers. If you wish, the second option will let you select one or more recordings in the Schedules Pane and just make triggers for those schedules only. Please keep in mind that unless you choose a different calendar name each time, this option will cause all previous triggers to be deleted.

Once you have set up these settings, you have several choices of what you can do next:

1. You can click on the other data export settings, and continue to set your preferences for various data export types.

2. Click the "Save All" button, which will save all of your export preferences without performing an export. When you are ready to export, simply choose "QuickIR" from the toolbar or from the File menu --> QuickData submenu --> Infrared Triggers.

3. Or, if you would like to perform an export immediately, choose the "Export Triggers" button. This will save all your export preferences, and then perform an iCal export.

The first time you do this, you should set up a short 1 minute test schedule, at least 6-7 minutes from the current time. The iCal infrared scripts need at least 2 minutes leeway to execute, and this will give you enough time to get through the instructions.

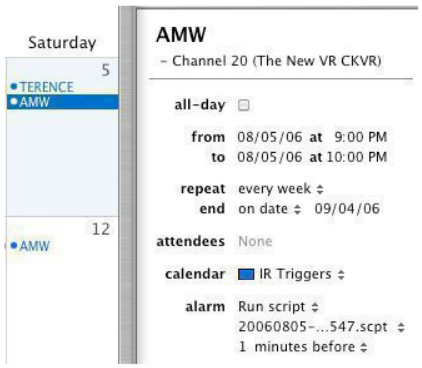
- if setting up a schedule in EyeTV, you must choose "S-Video" as the input (or “Composite” if you are using the yellow video input), and enter the channel number between two asterisks in the "Description" field. For instance, for channel 123 you would enter *123* in the description field.

- if setting up a schedule in iEye Captain, choose "S-Video" as the input (or “Composite” if you are using the yellow video input), and enter the channel number in the "external channel" field. Check in EyeTV to ensure it appears correctly: double click the schedule and you should see the channel between two asterisks in the description field. For example, the following show is scheduled to record on channel 20:

EyeTV info window showing external channel

Now that you have done this, you must go to iEye Captain and export the infrared trigger calendar. Do this by choosing the File>Quick Data Exports>Infrared Triggers menu item.

You should see iCal open up, and it will create a new calendar, with any shows you have scheduled with external channels. For instance, the schedule from above appears in my iCal as follows:

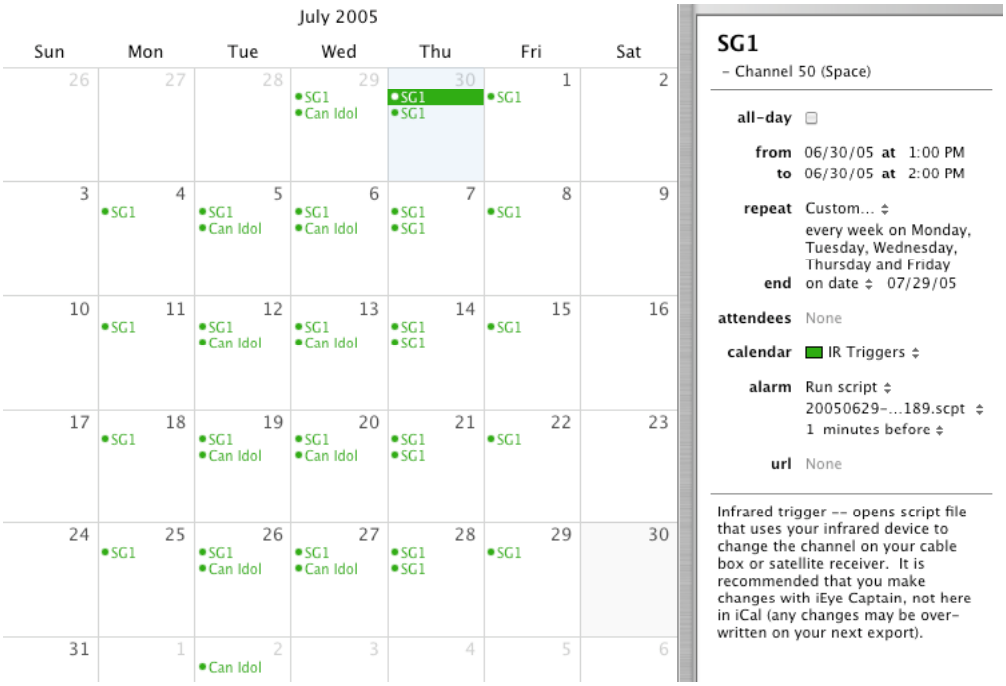


In iCal, click on the test schedule you have created. If the “Info” drawer is not open, click on the “i” button on the bottom left of the iCal window. Ensure the info drawer looks similar to the one that appears here.

Now that this iCal trigger event is set up, the channel should change at the proper time.

← *iCal info drawer showing infrared trigger*

Here is a bigger view of the trigger calendar in iCal:



Sample infrared trigger calendar in iCal

4.H.4 AUTO-INFRARED:

Once you export a trigger calendar to test it, and you know that it works, you can enable the "Auto-reload and export infrared" option in the "Auto-Reload" sub menu of the "Tools" menu. This will synchronize iEye Captain with EyeTV and also export a fresh trigger calendar to iCal whenever any external channel schedule changes or is created.

IMPORTANT: If you make your schedule changes in EyeTV while iEye Captain is not running, you must launch iEye Captain for the trigger calendar to be exported. If you do not have Auto-Infrared enabled, you must manually export the trigger calendar after any schedule change.

For more information about infrared, please check out the online help, and also the iEye Captain web site.

5. MULTIPLE ARCHIVES

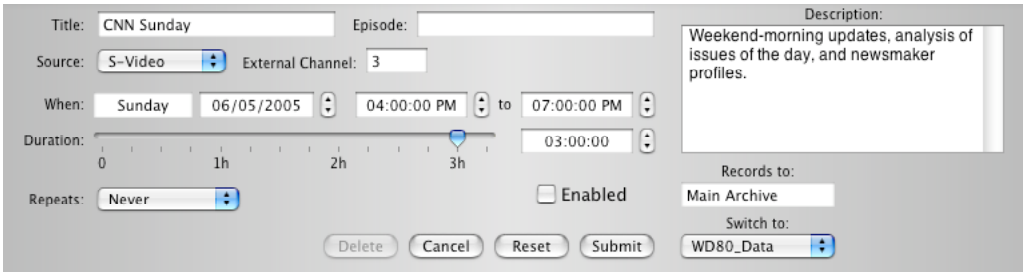
One of the biggest limitations to EyeTV is its inability to access from or record to multiple hard disks. Especially if you tape repeating syndicated shows or high definition material, you will find that even the biggest hard drives on the market fill quickly.

iEye Captain provides many powerful (and safe) solutions to this problem, allowing you to not only record to and play from an unlimited number of hard drives, but to be able to see them all in the EyeTV application as well, just as if all schedules and recordings resided on the same hard drive.

IMPORTANT: While these methods are safe when performed properly, and have been established with the cooperation of Elgato Systems, it is strongly suggested that you fully read and understand this section of the manual before attempting to join your archives together. There are different ways to accomplish the same goals, and not all of them may fit your particular workflow or needs. In any case, VidCan Media Solutions and Elgato Systems are not responsible for any schedules or recordings that are lost as a result of misusing the tools provided.

5.A SIMPLE METHOD FOR MULTIPLE ARCHIVES:

The easiest method to using multiple hard drives in EyeTV is to actually record to the drive you wish the recording to end up on, rather than recording to one drive and then moving the recording later. If your main archive is filling up, select a repeating schedule in iEye Captain, and click the "Info" button to open up the Info Drawer. "Records to" will tell you the current location of this schedule. To begin recording to another hard drive, select a storage location from the popup menu, and hit "Submit." If you don't see the drive you wish to record to in the popup menu, you may need to select "Archive Locations" from the "Tools" menu to set up a new location.



Info Drawer showing "Switch to" on bottom right

For details on what happens next, please see section 3.J on the new Archive Mover and Batch Queue.

5.B LINKING IN OF PREVIOUSLY MOVED ITEMS

Without iEye Captain, many users juggle archives on other disks by selecting them in EyeTV's preferences, quitting, and re-launching to make them active. This way you can use a second disk, but can not see, record to, or access the first disk's archive while you are connected to the second disk's archive. As these archives expand, they can become very difficult to manage, because EyeTV can not switch archives while it is busy recording or showing live TV.

These archives may be easily and safely integrated together, using iEye Captain's unique "Link Items to EyeTV Archive" feature. In seconds, you will have permanent access to all of these secondary archives… Once finished, EyeTV will think that they are all on the same disk.

You will have no problems managing all your hard drives from one location with iEye Captain after using this feature, and the best news is that you will have full functionality in EyeTV as well! It is suggested that once you use this feature that you do not go back to switching archives manually.

LINKING OTHER ARCHIVE FOLDERS:

These are the steps to follow to link archives together. It is suggested that you do this procedure when your EyeTV is not currently recording.

1. Pick which archive will be your main archive. This will usually be the disk with the most usable space. After you have linked the archives, this main archive will be the one that you always leave selected in EyeTV's preferences.
2. One by one, select each secondary archive in EyeTV's preferences, quit, re-launch, and disable or delete any scheduled programs that will conflict with schedules in your main archive. If you have duplicate recordings for any reason, it would be a good idea to delete these as well.
3. Once you have completed step 2 for every archive other than the main archive, select the main archive in EyeTV's preferences, quit, and re-launch.
4. Launch iEye Captain. If you haven't registered the program, you will need to do so before accessing this feature.
5. Choose Tools -> Link Items to EyeTV Archive. You will be prompted to browse to select an EyeTV Archive Folder (it must be named this way, and be a valid archive). Linking only takes a few seconds – iEye Captain will inform you how many schedule folders were moved, and if there were any problems, how many were not moved. This is usually because of a folder that has been copied from one archive to another, and was not deleted in the original location. In this case, you will need to manually locate the folders with the same names and consolidate their contents.
6. Repeat step #5 once for each secondary archive.
7. You will need to "Re-launch" EyeTV using the "Re-launch EyeTV" item in the Tools menu, or activate EyeTV, quit, and re-launch, for the linking to be complete. If EyeTV is active recording, you will need to wait until the recording is complete before quitting and re-launching.

Voila! EyeTV will now be able to see all of your schedules and recordings on every disk… You can record, play, edit, compact, and export within EyeTV as if everything were sitting on the same disk. Inside iEye Captain, you also will have other information and controls, letting you manage your content even further. One of the first things that you will notice is that the location of a recording or schedule is indicated in panes of the main window, and in the info drawer. Inside the Schedule Info drawer, you also have controls for switching where a schedule records to — a very handy feature when one hard drive is getting full.

THE FOLLOWING SECTION DEALS WITH EYETV 2 & ABOVE

5.E BIG IMPROVEMENTS IN HOW EYETV 2 SAVES ITS FILES:

EyeTV 2 has a lot of changes over the hood, but also a lot under the hood, making it an upgrade worth seriously looking at. Its new clickable named package format is a HUGE improvement over the cryptic folder names of EyeTV 1.8.

SOME OTHER IMPROVEMENTS YOU MAY NOT BE AWARE OF:

- Repeating schedules no longer record together inside the parent schedule folder. Each new recording is placed in the root of the EyeTV Archive, or in the same folder that the parent schedule is located. This makes moving single recordings around much safer and simpler.
- Schedules and recordings can be manually moved in and out of the EyeTV Archive, and EyeTV will recognize and adapt to whatever is currently in the archive.
- **BIG NEWS: if you move a schedule package to another location, and simply create a Finder alias back into the main archive, EyeTV will recognize it and record to the new location-- even across a network!**
- **BIG NEWS: if you move a recording to another location, and simply create a Finder alias back into the main archive, EyeTV will recognize it and you will have full functionality.**
- EyeTV 2 is smart about missing recordings… if one is missing (for instance, if it was on a networked volume that is no longer available), it will not cause problems or crashes.

5.F HOW DOES iEYE CAPTAIN HELP MULTIPLE ARCHIVES IN EYETV 2?

LINK ITEMS TO EYETV ARCHIVE (EyeTV 2)

If you have manually moved recordings away from your EyeTV Archive, iEye Captain's unique "Link Items to EyeTV Archive" feature can link them back in. Just choose it from the Tools menu, and it will ask you to locate the "secondary" location – i.e. the folder to which you have moved the recordings or schedules. It will then link them back into your main archive, and re-launch EyeTV for you. This can be done any number of times… if iEye Captain sees items that have already been linked, it will ignore them.

"RECORDS TO" POPUP IN INFO DRAWER

It is still a great habit to actually set up a schedule in the location you wish the recordings to be made to, rather than recording them to the main archive and then moving them. All you have to do is choose a different location in the "Records to" popup in the Info Drawer.

SEE LOCATIONS EASILY IN THE MAIN WINDOW

With EyeTV 2, it is great that you can drag aliases around manually to achieve multiple archives. However, once you have linked a few it can be very hard to track which schedules and recordings are where. The only way within the EyeTV 2 interface to find out where an item is located is by choosing "Reveal in Finder" individually for each one.

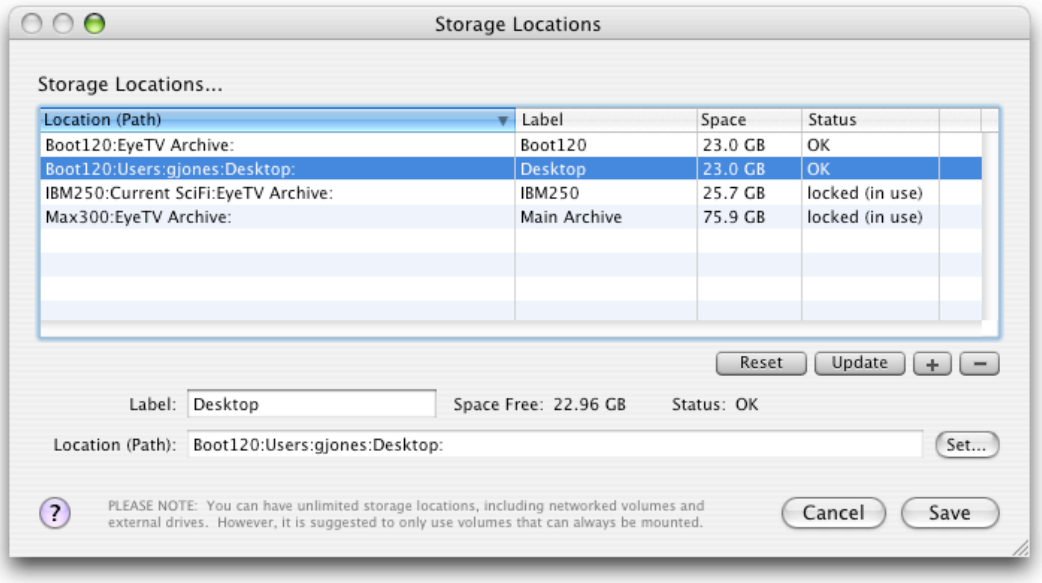
With iEye Captain, the location for every schedule or recording is displayed clearly in the main window.

IMPROVED ARCHIVE MOVER AND BATCH QUEUE

Please see section 3.J for more details about the easy new Archive Mover drawer and Batch Queue.

5.G SETTING STORAGE LOCATIONS

To access and/or add to your chosen archive locations (you can have an unlimited number, including networked volumes, but it is suggested you keep to volumes that can always be mounted), click the "Storage Locations" menu item in the Tools menu, or click "Set locations" in the Archive Mover window. The following window will appear:



Storage Locations window

You may notice some locations have been automatically entered for you. If you have used the "Link Items to EyeTV Archive" feature to join multiple archives, you should see all of those secondary locations already added for you. You may change a label for one of these, but you may not delete a location if you see "Locked (in use)" in the "Status" column.

To add a new location, simply click the "Set…" button and use the browser to select a folder. It is suggested that you have only one folder per disk, as you can access a maximum of six extra folders in addition to your main EyeTV Archive. If you have more than one folder on a disk, you will limit your expansion options later. Then, type in a custom label or leave the one that was pre-entered, and hit the "+" button to add it.

To edit an existing location, select it in the table, and then either hit the "Set" button to change the location, or type a new label. When you are finished editing, you must hit the "Update" button to update the item in the table.

To remove a location (you can only do this if it is not in use), select the location in the table, and hit the "–" button.

Finally, to save your changes, click the "Save" button, or if you would like to close without saving, hit the "Cancel" button.

5.G.1 IMPORTANT NOTES ON USING EXTERNAL HARD DRIVES:

While these methods work perfectly and grant full functionality, it must be acknowledged that they are temporary workarounds until Elgato adds multiple drive support to EyeTV. As workarounds, there are limitations that must be recognized. The most significant is that it is HIGHLY RECOMMENDED that you always mount volumes that contain EyeTV storage locations before using either program. If you link schedules and/or recordings from external drives or network volumes and then try to use EyeTV or iEye Captain when they are not mounted, it may cause errors.

This only applies to the "master" archive, and to schedules and recordings you wish to remain visible in EyeTV – For instance, you could have an iMac in your home office that does all the recording and archiving. If you choose to record to or keep recordings on a firewire drive, that drive should remain connected to the iMac and turned on. You may export compacted recordings to a third drive--- this you could disconnect when needed. Then, you could have a Mac Mini in your living room (with no EyeTV) connected to the iMac over the network, and set the EyeTV preferences on the Mini to pretend that the iMac's main archive is also the Mini's archive. The Mini could access all the recordings in the archives, and yet you could disconnect it and turn it off, without affecting anything on the master iMac.

Particularly with EyeTV 1.x, if you must maintain archives on external drives that you disconnect, you may wish to develop a naming scheme that will make it apparent in the EyeTV Programs window which schedules and recordings belong to dismounted volumes. It is possible that you may be able to operate by making sure you never try to play or access these schedules or recordings while the volume is disconnected, but this method is unsupported and not recommended. EyeTV 2 is a lot smarter about handling missing files -- if you choose this workflow, I suggest you consider upgrading.

Hard drives for larger archive space, and fast DVD burners and media have never been cheaper; there is no substitute for frequent editing, archiving & unloading of media.

6. MENUS, WINDOWS, TOOLBAR, AND KEYBOARD SHORTCUTS

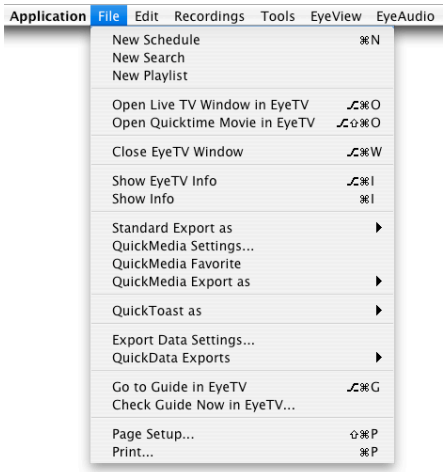
iEye Captain has been designed to have something for everyone, but this means that the interface and options can be a lot more complicated than EyeTV. As such, it is helpful to have a guide to navigate the different menus, windows, toolbar items, and keyboard shortcuts. For examples of windows, including default and/or recommended settings, please see section 6.B for a handy index. For the other interface elements, you can see other helpful guides in this section.

6.A BREAKDOWN OF MENUS & KEYBOARD SHORTCUTS

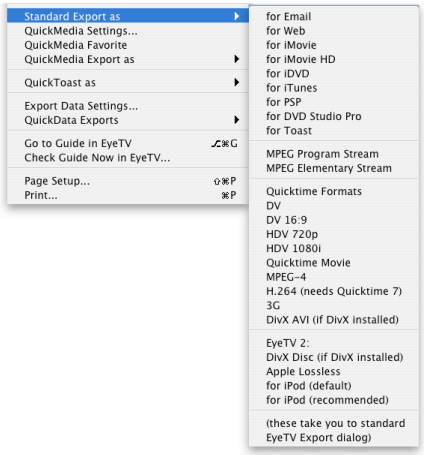
As with other Macintosh applications, the menus are a handy guide to keyboard shortcuts. It should be mentioned that three of the menus have been designed to parallel the menus in EyeTV, so you can have familiar access to many EyeTV functions without leaving iEye Captain. This can be especially helpful in a setup with more than one monitor. For "most" EyeTV keyboard shortcuts, adding the Option key will give you the iEye Captain equivalent.

6.A.1 "iEYE CAPTAIN" MENU

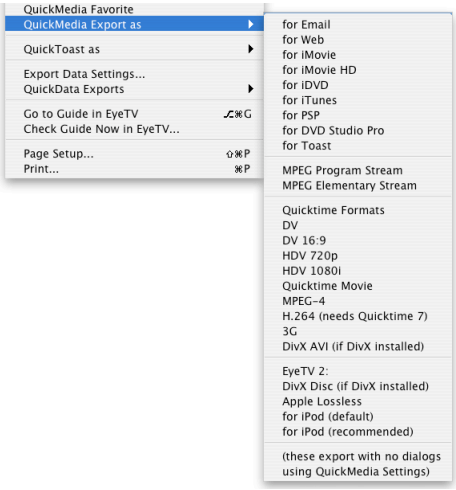
6.A.2 FILE MENU



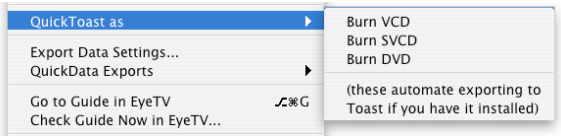
6.A.3 FILE > STANDARD EXPORT



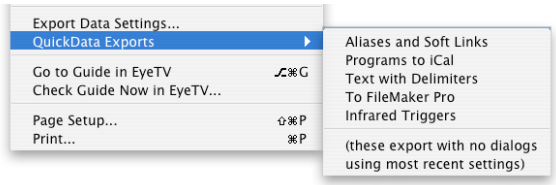
6.A.4 FILE > QUICK MEDIA EXPORT



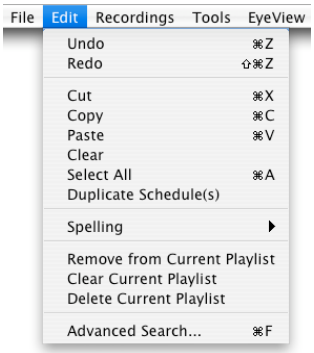
6.A.5 FILE > QUICK TOAST



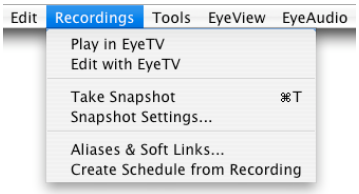
6.A.6 FILE > QUICK DATA EXPORTS



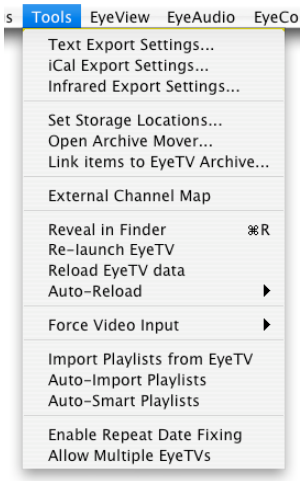
6.A.7 EDIT MENU



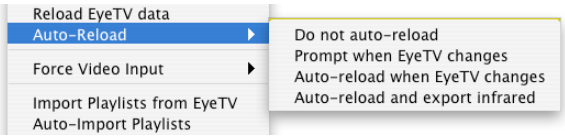
6.A.8 RECORDINGS MENU



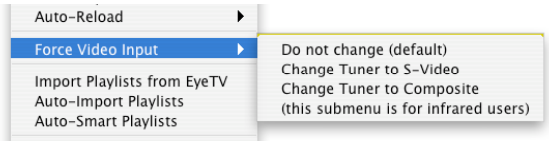
6.A.9 TOOLS MENU



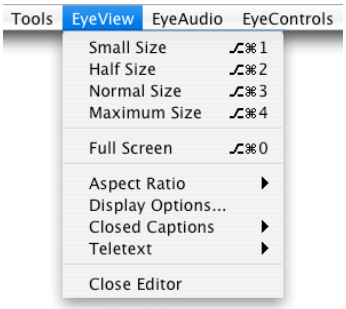
6.A.10 TOOLS > AUTO-RELOAD



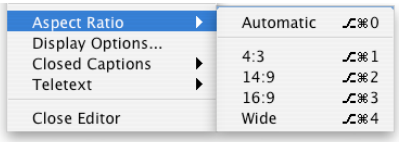
6.A.11 TOOLS > FORCE VIDEO INPUT



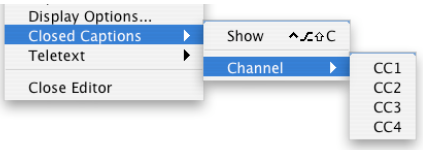
6.A.11 EyeVIEW MENU



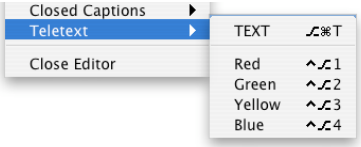
6.A.12 EyeVIEW > ASPECT RATIO



6.A.13 EyeVIEW > CLOSED CAPTIONS

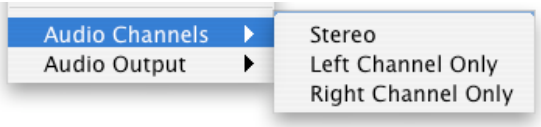


6.A.14 EyeVIEW > TELETEXT

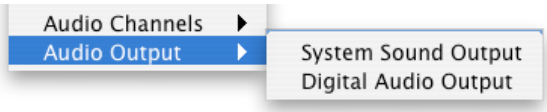


6.A.15 EyeAUDIO MENU

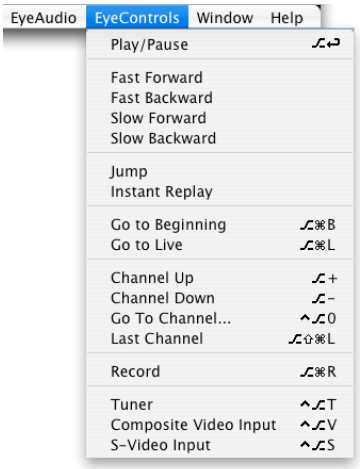
6.A.16 EyeAUDIO > AUDIO CHANNELS



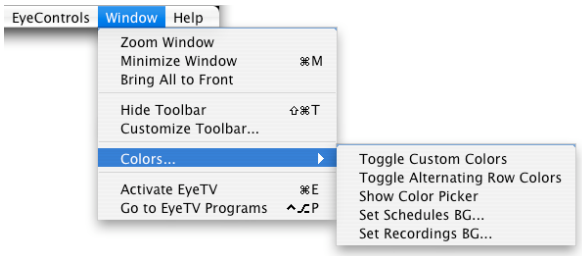
6.A.17 EyeAUDIO > AUDIO OUTPUT



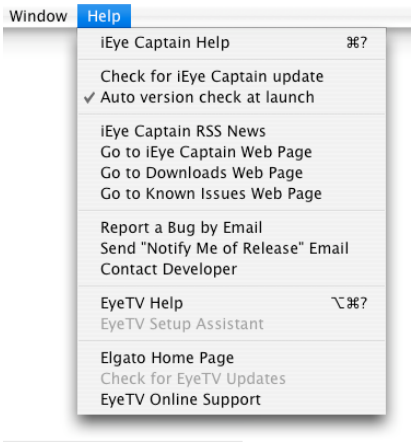
6.A.18 EyeCONTROLS MENU



6.A.19 WINDOW MENU



6.A.20 HELP MENU



6.B INDEX OF WINDOW SCREENSHOTS

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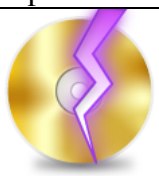
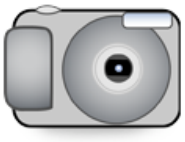
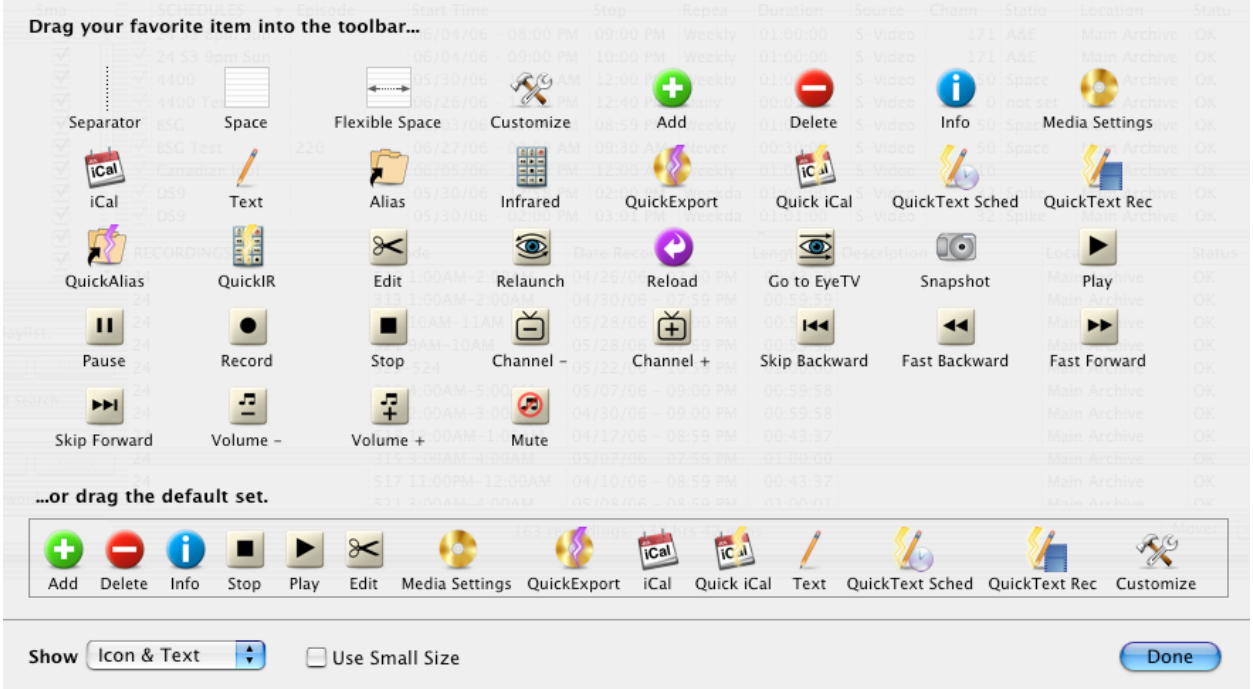
6.C CUSTOMIZABLE TOOLBAR

Unlike the EyeTV toolbar, iEye Captain features a customizable toolbar offering over 30 different functions, that you can tailor according to your needs. If you like, you can use small icons with no text to free up space for more icons (tool tips will appear if you hover an icon, just in case you forget its purpose), and another handy function is to set up a full range of EyeTV play controls, that can act like a custom remote for your EyeTV.

Export Alias	Export Media	Export iCal	Export Infrared	Export Text
QuickAlias	 QuickMedia	Quick iCal	QuickIR	QuickText Sched
Add	Remove/Delete	Info	Re-launch EyeTV	Reload
Edit in EyeTV	Channel Down	Channel Up	Stop	Record
Skip Reverse	Fast Reverse	Play	Fast Forward	Skip Forward
Volume Down	Volume Mute	Volume Up	Pause	 Snapshot

Large view of most of the toolbar icons

To customize the toolbar, simply click the “Customize” button on the right of the toolbar, or select “Customize Toolbar…” from the Window menu. The following sheet will appear:



“Customize Toolbar” window showing toolbar items

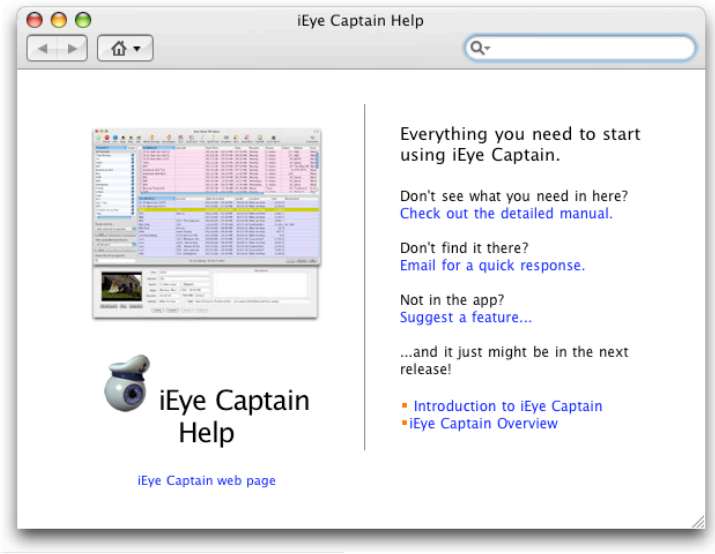
As with other Macintosh applications, you can drag any items onto or off of the toolbar, or drag to re-arrange them. If you like, you can click on the “default set” at the bottom and drag it to the toolbar to reset the items.

If screen real estate is of the essence, clicking the transparent button at the top right of the main window (above the “Customize” toolbar icon) will show and hide the toolbar.

7. GETTING HELP

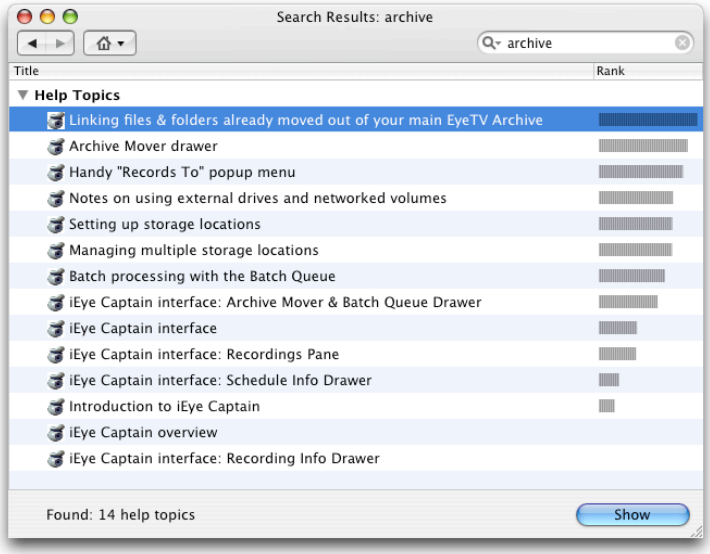
iEye Captain comes with a full searchable online help system. On most layouts, there is a Help button in the corner, which you can click to activate the help system, or you can choose "iEye Captain Help" from the Help menu.

The following title page will appear:



"iEye Captain Help" title page

From there, you can follow the links, or type a search term in the search field at the top. A search window will appear with the results:



"iEye Captain Help" search results window

HELPFUL WEB LINKS:

iEye Captain main web page:	http://www.vidcan.com/Software/iEyeCaptain.html
iEye Captain FAQ:	http://www.vidcan.com/Software/FAQ.html
iEye Captain Downloads:	http://www.vidcan.com/Software/Downloads.html

(you can get the latest version of this manual at the iEye Captain Downloads link, above)

iEye Captain RSS News:	feed://www.vidcan.com/iEye/news.xml
iEye Captain Web Store:	http://store.eSellerate.net/s.asp?s=STR7854316728
Known Issues:	http://www.vidcan.com/iEye/known_issues.html
Helpful Web Links:	http://www.vidcan.com/Links.html
Recent Downloads:	http://www.vidcan.com/iEye/download_history.html

SOFTWARE SUPPORT:	info@vidcan.com
PURCHASE SUPPORT:	http://www.esellerate.net/

For sales info, tech support, and feature requests, please contact me by email. For anything related to your purchase transaction, billing, registration numbers, etc. please contact eSellerate.

TIP: *Many of these links, as well as a bug report email pre-formatter, can be accessed in the "Help" menu right inside the iEye Captain application.*

Please read this manual section appropriate to your question fully, and consult the FAQ before asking questions. Registered users will be given support priority. In any event, I will attempt to provide answers to emails within two business days, holidays excepted.

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