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Handling New Media
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Fall 2006

Assignment #2

FILE/ENCODING FORMAT – MPEG2

File Format Name: (Formal name) ISO/IEC 13818, Generic coding of moving pictures and associated audio information; (common name) MPEG-2

File Extension(s): .mpg, .mpeg

Date Introduced: First approval in 1994

Dates in Use: 1994 to present

Variations: MPEG-2 Simple Profile; MPEG-2 Main Profile; MPEG-2 4:2:2 Profile; MPEG-2 SNR Scaleable Profile; Spatially Scaleable Profile

Developers: MPEG, Motion Pictures Expert Group

Open Source/Proprietary: Open Source

Associated Operating Systems: Windows, Mac OS, Linux/Unix

Associated Application(s): Associated audio encoding such as MP3 Encoding; AAC MPEG-2

Associated Media: Primarily DVD (also DVD-ROM, DVD-R, DVD-RAM), hard-drives and servers

Compression: Lossy

Primary Usage: Moving image recording, editing, rendering and storage, including DVD authoring; digital broadcasting and distribution

Risk Assessment: Widely adopted for filmmaking, DVDs and other applications; Industry standard for digital distribution and consumer DVD formats; however, MPEG-2's lossy compression do not make it ideal for long-term archival storage

Conservation Actions: Library of Congress prefers MPEG-2 422 within the MPEG family. In general, uncompressed or losslessly compressed files are

preferred.

Sources

[Sustainability of Digital Formats: Planning for Library of Congress Collections](#)

Pinnacle Technical Documentation, "MPEG-2 White Paper" accessed at <<http://www.pinnaclesys.com/files/MainPage/Professional/TopTabItems/products/dc1000/WhitePapers/DC1000-DVD1000MPEG2whitepaper.pdf>>

[Jan Ozer](#). "MPEG-2 and you." [E Media Professional](#). Wilton: [Jun 1997](#). Vol. 10, Iss. 6; pg. 34, 14 pgs, accessed at <<http://ezproxy.library.nyu.edu:2082/pqdweb?index=0&did=12314059&SrchMode=1&sid=5&Fmt=4&VInst=PROD&VType=PQD&RQT=309&VName=PQD&TS=1161470305&clientId=9269>>

"Digital Video Preservation Reformatting Project" by the Dance Heritage Coalition, Inc. accessed at <<http://www.danceheritage.org/preservation/DigitalVideoPreservation1.pdf>>