

Release Notes - XENA Version 2.6



General

If you are installing for the first time please read the “ReadMeFirst.PDF” located on the installation CD. This software release adds new features and improves functionality of the XENA LS/LSe, LH/LHe, and 2K/2Ke cards from AJA.

High Priority Notes

- Some new features in XENA 2.6 may require users of previous XENA versions to reset some of their Preferences in Premiere Pro. Preferences in the XENA Device control settings will likely need to be reset. In some cases, users who have moved from an older version of the XENA software to version 2.6 will experience some instability in Premiere Pro. This can be easily remedied by resetting the Premiere Pro Preferences file. Do this by holding down the ctrl+shift keys while Premiere Pro is starting up.

Requirements

- QuickTime™ 7.1.3 or higher must be installed on the workstation for proper XENA operation.

New Features

- ‘Preview YUV Matrix’ feature has been added in the XENA Playback options for Premiere Pro. This uses different YUV matrices that are more efficient, but slightly less accurate for the DESKTOP playback. It will not affect the playback output from the XENA card.
- Static Graphic Overlay features have been added in Machina. In both the ‘Play’ and ‘Capture’ tabs of Machina, there is a new ‘Overlay Options’ menu that can be selected using the menu selector on the right side of the user interface. This menu can be used to load the graphic and tweak the settings. Loading a graphic in the Capture tab will not allow the user to capture the graphic into a file on disk, but will allow the user to add the graphic to the video stream on pass-through to the

output of the card. This feature is on XENA 2K only.

- 12 Bit SDI Support has been added. This can be used by selecting Quicktime capture and using the 16 bit 'b48r' codec, or by using TIFF capture and selecting one of the 16 bit formats. These 16 bit files will contain 12 bits of color precision. This can only be used for 1920x1080 23.98/24 capture/output. This is on the XENA 2K only. It applies only for Dual-Link input and output. LUTs, color space conversions, and up/down/cross conversions cannot be applied when using this feature.
- There is a new 'Output Safe Titles' feature in the XENA Playback options in Premiere Pro. Users can choose to output safe margins lines to the XENA card, or not. To use this, the user must first turn on the standard 'Safe Margins' control in Premiere Pro, then turn on the 'Output Safe Titles' control in the XENA Premiere Pro playback options.
- Users can enable or disable certain functions of the XENA importer in Premiere Pro. By default, the XENA importer will import bitmaps, targas and tiffs. These importer features can be disabled, allowing the Premiere Pro importer to import these files instead. This function can be useful for importing still images rather than file sequences.
- Time code Offset control has been added in the XENA device control options in Premiere Pro. Users should use this control to do time code offsets, and leave the native Premiere Pro time code offset control set to zero.
- New 6.3 hardware drivers for the XENA board are being used. The main advantage of this is that there are new color space conversion coefficients that are more accurate than in the previous driver

Resolved Issues

- Header of every file in a sequence is now read during playback
- Quicktime Audio+Video file muxing is now faster at the end of a capture.
- Single frames may now be imported into Premier Pro as a still image. Previously the XENA Premiere Pro importer would always import these file types as video sequences of one frame duration. This is dependent on the file being alone in naming convention in the directory where it resides. The XENA importer will look for other files with the same naming convention in the given directory. If it finds other files with the same naming convention it will import all the files as a video sequence rather than importing the single file as a still image.
- Some users experienced slow performance switching between Premiere Pro and

other applications when a XENA project was open in Premiere. This issue has been addressed with this version of the XENA plug-ins.

- There is now 32 bit Alpha Channel Support in XENA projects in Premiere Pro. Previously, files with alpha channels were not having their alpha observed in Premiere Pro. Users must use 8 bit bra files for this to work.
- Fixed issues with time code capture in PAL

Known Issues

- Time code is not stored in crash captured clips when the time code source is RS-422. If this is required, use embedded time code instead of RS-422 time code.
- Jog functionality may behave abnormally with some Sony decks.
- Capture settings in Premiere Pro cannot be changed from the Project Settings window and must be altered from the capture window.
- AJA Real-Time cropping effects in Premiere Pro are not supported for sequential file formats written bottom to top. Rendering will be required.
- In Premiere Pro playback settings, checking or un-checking “render RT files of different resolutions” will not take effect immediately. To workaround, save project, close project, and then reopen it. The new settings will take effect.
- Variable frame rates (VFR) with pull down added are not adjusted for time code.
- *Crash capture* and *Print to Video* will work on pull down frame rates, but insert edit, in/out capture, and batch capture, will not.



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