



MEETING NOTES

12th August 2004

Tony Luha

Everything you wanted to know about stills in Vegas but were afraid to ask would be an appropriate subtitle for Tony's demonstration this month with an in depth look at pixel aspect ratio, screen output modes and all things in between. My favourite quote from Tony during another excellent presentation was "it's important not to make young ladies appear wider than they are by getting the pixel aspect ratio wrong".

Tony will continue his stills tutorial next month as he delves into keyframing pan and crop and track motion to give your stills some added interest.

Don't forget to download his excellent tutorial notes from the website if you don't have them.

Peter Wright gave us a great demonstration of DVD Architect 2 with an in depth look at the interface plus end actions to control the path through a DVD. Scene selection menus, dropping markers into Vegas, or directly into DVDA 2 to make chapter points plus using the themes in DVDA2 to give your productions a really polished feel.

Peter then took us through some new features in Vegas 5 which included the use of transition progress envelopes which allow full control over stock transitions. Peter's example involved a controlled reveal of a map of Tasmania using 2 copies of the same map one with a red line drawn on it and one without then using the transition progress envelope to reveal the red line over time simulating a journey.

If you recall from a few months ago, Roger achieved a similar look using the cookie cutter and track motion. Once again this shows the versatility of Vegas..

Peter also showed some veg files available on the internet showing the use of Bezier curves and keyframing to simulate running characters etc. I hope we will have more on Bezier curves in future meetings.

Roger Watson presented the Vegas 3 tutorials that used to be available from Sonic Foundry. I thought these were a great idea but sadly SOFO / Sony have chosen not to continue to provide these for Vegas 4 and 5. However the techniques that they show can be carried forward to later versions with great effect. Roger kindly made these available provided you had a blank CD with you. If you missed out then just let me know and I will arrange to make copies available at the next meeting.

VASST – I gave a wrap up of my experiences in Sydney spending the day with Douglas Spotted Eagle as he took us through all things Vegas. Wow



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would sum up my feelings and the feelings of the majority of people there who watched with amazement as Spot made the program sing.

All the new features were shown with some great examples of workflow enhancements.

The Q&A sessions at the end of each topic were as informative as his main presentation and he delivered answer after answer without missing a beat.

If you want to see some of the new features or gain Spot's training on DVD so you can watch it over and over again then check out www.VASST.com and give your credit card a work out.

Finally I wrapped the meeting up with a request for further topics for future meetings plus a quick straw poll for those who had upgraded from Vegas 4 to 5.

The group present appeared 50 / 50 split on Vegas 4 and 5 ownership, so the mix of topics will continue to reflect both versions of the program.

Next month's meeting is already shaping up to be another great use of \$2 so come along and enjoy yourself. I know I do.

Best wishes
Dave Pettitt