

## Case Study

# Archangel Ph.C-HD Restoration Adds WOW Factor to Helicopter Extreme Environment Video Capture



**Aerial Filmworks integrates Archangel Ph.C-HD into daily production workflow.**

### The Customer

Aerial Filmworks provides experienced full-time camera operators, and the gyro-stabilized Cineflex HD camera systems for entertainment, advertising and corporate clients. The company's extensive helicopter filming experience, in-house Cineflex camera operators, technical support and years of location work deliver successful projects in extreme environments.

Aerial Filmworks deliver a one-stop turnkey package including the Cineflex V14HD gimbal, helicopter brackets, HD LCD monitors, generators, air-to-ground radios, and much more. The company's recording options include both tape and digital file-based formats: Sony CineAlta SRW-1 HDCAM SR, Sony HDW-S280, Panasonic AJ-HPM200 P2, AJA KiPro, and Convergent-Design NanoFlash units.

With 25 years of helicopter and location experience, Aerial Filmworks will manage the logistics and flight planning required for a successful project. It has worked all over the USA on projects, whilst international projects include Brazil, Chile, Canada, Morocco, Guyana, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Samoa, Kuwait, Oman and Taiwan.

Clients include Disney, Discovery Channel, BBC, History Channel, and National Geographic.

### The Challenge

The challenge was to attain the desired image quality using a workflow that was practical in terms of time and cost.

“Our clients crave the highest quality possible,” comments Susan Dempster, senior video editor at Aerial Filmworks. “The investment in helicopter time, plus the Cineflex, makes for a high production cost. When possible, we now run all our footage through a restoration system since everything tends to look better.”

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### The Snell Solution

After extensive evaluation of various systems available, Aerial Filmworks selected Snell's Archangel Ph.C – HD real-time video restoration system. Powered by Snell's patented Ph.C motion compensation technology, Archangel Ph.C – HD allows Aerial Filmworks to meet the highest quality demands of customers who require a combination of the stunning aerial pictures that helicopter shooting offers but without any of the characteristics that one associates with this extreme shooting environment.

Archangel Ph.C-HD is an advanced SD and HD restoration system with real-time dirt, dust, grain, noise, scratch, instability and flicker removal. Archangel Ph.C-HD unlocks the value of existing assets, ensuring that SD and HD content can be distributed in superb quality. The restoration system also brings significant improvements to users' workflows by maximizing the amount of restoration that can be completed in real time. Available at a price point considerably lower than frame-by-frame restoration, Archangel Ph.C-HD enables virtually any content to be cost-effectively treated.

### Key Archangel Ph.C - HD Features

- The ability to remove defects from video content in real-time.
- Gain value from existing content assets, at whatever quality you need.
- Clean up archive content to use in new programming.
- Timeline control for precise scene-by-scene repair.
- SD and HD support including integrated up/down conversion to enable multiple deliverables from one source.
- On-screen condition meters to support rapid restoration only where it is needed.

### The Results:

Aerial Filmworks is delighted with the results of its Archangel Ph.C-HD system across a diversity of projects. "We have found that virtually all footage can benefit from the Archangel - not just footage that 'needs' restoration," Dempster explained. "From DSLR to our Cineflex Camera Systems, we process everything using the noise reduction filter - it is by far one of the most useful and practical features the Archangel has to offer".

"Archangel is incredibly versatile in that it addresses common issues like noise and unsteadiness as well as very specific problems such as tramlines and dropouts. Many restoration systems only address certain issues, whereas the Archangel does it all... and does it faster!"

"The technicians at Snell have been incredible - from training and troubleshooting, to researching new ways that their systems can improve and repair footage. Snell has taken customer suggestions to heart and provided thoughtful improvements in software updates as well.

"It's hard to imagine improving the Archangel, but that appears to be exactly what the innovative folks at Snell are doing. I am confident that Archangel Ph.C-HD is not just the leader in the industry today, but will continue to be the leader in the future," Susan Dempster concluded.



"Before we were introduced to the Archangel system, we tried numerous plug-ins for NLEs as well as stand-alone applications and other restoration systems," explained Susan Dempster. "Either the results were marginal or the processing was painfully slow. Only the Archangel produced the high quality result we were looking for, and the fact that it works in REAL time simply eliminated all other methods of restoration. When we tested it, we knew the Archangel was exactly what we had been looking for."