

Case Study

Henninger Uses Ukon™ Platform in Virtual Telecine Environment



Snell's universal conversion platform allows standard definition video to be integrated into high-definition productions.

The Customer

Henninger Media Services, serving clients throughout the Mid-Atlantic region of the U.S., delivers concept-through-delivery solutions for all forms of electronic media. Since 1983 Henninger, headquartered in Washington, D.C., has been a leader in new technologies including high-definition video, 35mm film, DVD and the Internet.

The Challenge

To integrate-in a seamless way-standard definition video material into high-definition programming, whether it be secondary DV video footage or vintage archival material.

The Snell Solution

Ukon, Snell's universal conversion platform, can be configured to provide upconversion, downconversion, and crossconversion (SD-to-SD or HD-to-HD) either singly or in any combination. The

system handles different frame rates, image sizes, and aspect ratios, as well as AES and compressed audio formats. Because it also carries out timecode conversion from any SD or HD format to any HD or SD format with exact frame mapping, Ukon is ideally suited for applications in which precise lip-sync and time-code integrity are important considerations.

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Sam Crawford
Chief engineer
Henninger's Arlington,
Va., facility.



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The Results

Henninger Media Services is using Ukon in a virtual telecine environment to enable SD video footage to be integrated seamlessly into finished HD productions. Ukon was installed in a multi-standard finishing suite along with a da Vinci 2K color correction system to deliver highquality HD onlines to clients such as Discovery Channel and A&E's History Channel.

"We selected the Ukon for our conversion suite because it's the best converter available today," said Sam Crawford, chief engineer for Henninger's Arlington, Va. facility. "It understands every HD format out there and has a setting for each one. Because it recognizes different formats and can tell the difference between interlaced and progressive, Ukon is able to identify exactly the right kind of processing to get the best conversion."

"It does an unbelievable job of upconverting to HD, and as a result we can leverage both clients' SD and HD media resources without compromising quality," Crawford concluded.

