

MC-20PRO II “Quick Tutorial” – Working with Adobe Premiere Pro

Overview

FutureVideo’s new MC-20PRO II is a powerful, flexible multi-function professional Jog and Shuttle Control surface designed to make your audio and video editing easier, faster, and much more comfortable. The MC-20PRO II has been designed to work with both PC and Mac application software, and most popular audio and video editing packages such as Adobe Premiere Studio,

The MC-20PRO II connects to the Mac through the USB port, and optionally directly to an RS-422A controlled VTR or DVR. After a quick setup procedure so that the MC-20PRO II appears as a USB keyboard device to your PC (see MC-20 Series QuickStart Guide instructions), you’re ready to start editing with Adobe Production Studio. The MC-20PRO II also comes with other pre-defined key maps for other professional editing applications which may be loaded into its flash memory via the included KeyAssigner program using a Windows based OS.

Working with Adobe Premiere Pro

In this application, we will illustrate how to create an edited program quickly and effortlessly using the MC-20PRO II.

The MC-20PRO controls may be mapped into 4 tasks that are commonly used in Adobe’s Production Studio application software:

- Capturing (Premiere Pro)
- Video Editing (Premiere Pro)
- Audio Recording/mixing (Audition)
- Output to DVD (Encore)

For each task an overlay template label has been provided of the keys that have been mapped to various functions in each task. The MC-20PRO II factory fresh unit has all the key maps pre-installed into its flash memory for each of the above 4 tasks. If you would like to change the default key assignments, then use the supplied Window’s based KeyAssigner software to make your own key maps or changes, and Install the new key maps to the MC-20PRO II from a PC. (See the “MC-20 Series Installation and Setup Manual” for more details on how this is done). Keep in mind, there is no “right” way to assign the keys, as each user may have a particular liking. The KeyAssigner program allows users to customize the layout and choice of functions in any way they may prefer.

The MC-20PRO II has its own built-in RS-422A VTR control port. There are two possible conditions under which this direct control can be used for optimal logging and clip capture:

- 1) If you wish to log and capture multiple clips and the VTR has both an RS-422A port and firewire port, which can also be controlled together by the MC-20PRO II and FCP system, or
- 2) If you wish to capture all or part of a tape as one clip and use only the MC-20 **Capture Now** (or there is no RS-422A device interface or firewire available that can be controlled by the FCP system.)

If any of the above is the way you will be using the system, then connect both the USB and RS-422A VTR to the MC-20PRO II. Otherwise, connect only the USB cable to the MC-20PRO II and connect the VTR to the Mac system via RS-422A or Firewire cable.

If you are using (1) or (2) above, then install the keymap “Adobe Production Studio (PRO II) VTR-A (RS-422) Shuttle.jst” found on the KeyAssigner CD. Otherwise, the default keymap Adobe Production Studio (PRO II).jst has already been installed, and no action is necessary.

Logging and Capturing Clips

For this example, we will concentrate on the log and Capture tasks using batch clip capture method.

In the next section we will create a simple movie by adding some clips to the timeline, adding transitions, and rendering.

Note: MC-20's Alt-1 and Alt-2 functions are set to "auto release" so that its action for that key will occur only once after each press of another non-Alt key.

The colors and the type in this example (*italicized*) were purposely chosen to identify MC-20 Alt-1 functions (*blue = press Alt key once*), Alt-2 functions (*green = press Alt key twice*), Shift (*orange = press MC20 shift key once*) or normal (do not press Alt or Shift keys prior to pressing the key) which are non-italicized (**black**) key names.

Try out the Log and Capture mode task, via the following procedure (ensure the "Log/Capture" template label is applied):

- Press the MC-20 **Capture** mode button on the top row and observe the Log and Capture window opens.
- Use the **STOP**, **RW**, **PLAY**, **FF**, and Jog/Shuttle controls to find the clip to capture.
- Use the **Set In** and **Set Out** keys to mark the clip. *At the time this was written, Premiere Pro did not have a short-cut key for the Capture In-Out, so for now click on the on screen button.*
- Press the MC-20 **Capture** key to start, press again to stop capture.
- A clip may be logged by pressing the **Log Clip** key, and a dialog box will come up to allow you to enter a description.
- Use the MC-20 **Enter/OK** key to accept the default clip name.

Once the capture task has been completed, press the *Close Window* key on the MC-20 which will close the capture window.

You'll notice that the Jog dial uses the "smooth" mode, so that it averages the rotational speed of turning the knob and outputs a speed value corresponding to the deck command to move the tape at a specific speed. This is a better way to assign the jog, because most tape devices cannot accept a series of step commands, nor can the application software do so without creating a long queue of commands which will run when you want the deck to stop.

Video Editing

Try out the Edit mode task, via the following procedure (ensure the "Edit" template label is applied).

The colors and the type in this example (*italicized*) were purposely chosen to identify MC-20 Alt-1 functions (*blue*), Alt-2 functions (*green*), Shift (*orange*) or normal non-italicized (**black**) key names.

- Select the video Edit mode by pressing the MC-20 **EDIT** key on the top row
- Press the MC-20 **Project** key to make the Project window the active window

To import some additional clips into the project window at this time (or you may skip this step):

- Press the MC-20 *Import Clip* function (Alt 2 + Import clip)

Ensure the Project window is the active window:

- Use the **jog dial** to scroll up or down among the clips in the project window.
- Press the MC-20 **Play/Pause** key to play the clip, if desired in the project window.

With the mouse, either double click on the highlighted clip name or drag the desired clip from the project window into the source side of the monitor window. [Note: Premiere re-selects the last loaded clip in the window each time Source<-> Program toggle is pressed]

- When the clip is in the source monitor window, use the MC-20 **jog and shuttle** dials to locate the "In" point and press the MC-20 **Set In** key.
- Locate the "Out" point in the same fashion, then press the MC-20 **Set Out** key.
- Press the MC-20 **Insert Source** key to add the clip to the timeline.
- Repeat the above 3 steps with the same clip using different In and Out points, or select another clip from the Project window until you've added all the segments to the timeline.

Once several such clips have been inserted into the timeline:

- Press the **Toggle Monitor** key to toggle to the program side of the monitor window.
- Press the **Play In-> Out** key to review the clips added to the timeline.
- Use the **Prev Edit** or **Next Edit** keys (or **Goto In** or **Goto Out**) to locate the point at which to add a default transition.

For example, go to the start of the timeline to add a fade up from black:

- Press the MC-20 **Apply Video Transition** key (Alt 2 + Video Transition).
- Apply at the same point an Audio Fade in by pressing the MC-20 **Audio Transition** key (Alt 2 + Audio Transition).
- Use the **Next Edit** key, to locate the next edit point to add your next video or audio transitions. In this case, this will add a dissolve as the default transition.

*Tip: You can directly insert clips into the timeline with the default audio/video transition from either the project window or source window by pressing the **Insert w/AV Trans** key – a useful macro we pre-defined.*

- When you're done, press the MC-20 **Preview/Render** key and you have quickly created an edited program.

*Hint: You can also re-define one of the MC-20 keys as the “**Export Movie**” (Ctrl+M) function and then produce the output desired.*

Trimming Clips in the Timeline

You may also trim an edit in the Trim monitor window by doing the following:

- Pressing the MC-20 **Trim Edit** key, which will bring up the trim monitor window
- Press the **Trim On/Off** key to switch the command keys and the left and right round keys to the trim functions (**-5 frames, -1 frame, Trim Play, + 1 frame, + 5 frame, Trim Outgoing, Trim Incoming**).

*Note that the Red LED below the **Trim On/Off** key will go on when these keys are trim function keys. You can also use the **jog dial** or **+/-1 Trim** keys for trimming.*

- When the trim window is first opened, both incoming and outgoing are selected, so you can change this by pressing either the **Trim Outgoing** or **Trim Incoming** keys.
- Once trimming is complete, press the MC-20 Trim On/Off button so the LED goes off and then close the window

*[Note: When the trim window is closed, Premiere makes the Project window the active window – so use the MC-20 **Program** or **Timeline** key to make the program side active again.*

Other Editing Functions

Try the other keys as well, such as **Goto In/Goto Start, Goto Out/Goto End, Clear In, Clear Out, Clear clip/TL Marker, Extract, Add Edit, Lift, Overlay source**, etc.

This has been a brief tutorial of how to the MC-20PRO with Adobe Premiere Pro and how to make the best of it to improve your efficiency and comfort while editing projects.