

Video Industry Technical Terms

Please use this guide for spelling, capitalization and style for all Canopus documents.

A

analog-to-digital converter — need hyphens in “analog-to-digital” because it is a compound modifier to “converter”

antialias, antialiasing, antialiased

AVI, AVI2

B

Betacam, Betacam SP

bitrate — this is always one word and should never be written as “bit rate”

Blu-ray

C

chroma key — proper spelling of chroma key. When used as a general term, chroma key is always lower case. It is only capitalized if you are referring to the specific name of a filter, i.e. the Chroma Key filter or the Chroma Key and Luma Key filters. Do not use chromakey, Chroma key, chroma-key or Chroma-Key.

CD-ROM, CD-RW, CD-R

codec — this word is not capitalized.

colorspace — one word

composite

D

Digital8 — Sony Trademark

display sizes — should written without spaces, i.e. 1024x768 or 800x600.

DV, DVCAM

DVD/DVD-R/DVD-RW

DDR Memory

D1

DAT — abbreviation for digital audio tape

DVC

DVCPRO, DVCPRO 50, DVCPRO HD

DVE — abbreviation digital video effects

DVI

E

EDL

F

fps — proper abbreviation for frames per second

frame rate

FireWire — Apple’s IEEE 1394 technology. The “W” is always capitalized.

G

GHz — abbreviation for GigaHertz.

GigaHertz

H

HDCAM

HDTV — abbreviation High-Definition Television

HDV

HD-DVD

Hi8

Hz — abbreviation for measurements in Hertz.

I

IEEE 1394 — technical name for FireWire or i.LINK

i.LINK — Sony’s IEEE 1394 technology

K

keyframe, keyframable — keyframe is one word and is not hyphenated. Do not key frame, key-frame, key-framable

KB/sec — proper abbreviation for kilobytes per second. Never used for kilobits per second (kbps). Contradicts the abbreviation for kilobits

per second, but is consistent for megabytes per second. See also **MB/sec**.

kbps — proper abbreviation for kilobits per second. Never used for kilobytes per second (KB/sec).

kHz — abbreviation for kilohertz. NOT khz.

kilobits

kilobytes

L

luma key — proper spelling of luma key. When used as a general term, luma key is always lower case. It is only capitalized if you are referring to the specific name of a filter, i.e. the Luma Key filter. Do not use lumakey, Luma key, luma-key, or Luma-key

M

MB/sec — proper abbreviation for megabytes per second. Never used for megabits per second (mbps). Contradicts the abbreviation for megabits per second, but is consistent for kilobytes per second. See also **KB/sec**.

Mbps — proper abbreviation for megabits per second. Never used for megabytes per second (MB/sec).

megabits

megabytes

MHz — proper abbreviation for megaHertz, NOT Mhz.

MegaHertz

miniDIN

MPEG-1 — Always use hyphen. Do not use MPEG1, MPEG 1, Mpeg1, Mpeg 1

MPEG-2 — Always use hyphen. Do not use MPEG2, MPEG 2, Mpeg 1, Mpeg 2

MPEG Layer II Audio

nonlinear editing — nonlinear is not hyphenated

N

NTSC

O

OHCI

P

P2 — Panasonic's disk-based video storage format

PCM

PAL

PCI

Plug and Play — an industry-wide standard for add-in hardware that requires the hardware be capable of identifying itself, on demand, in a standard fashion. Plug and Play is not hyphenated when referring to the Plug and Play standard.

R

realtime — one word. Do not use real time, real-time, Real-Time

S

Scalable Technology Architecture — Scalable Technology is always capitalized. On first reference, always refer to it as Scalable Technology Architecture. On subsequent references, it is acceptable to refer to it as Scalable Technology, but the capitals must remain.

S-VHS

S-Video — Capitalize the **V** after the hyphen.

SMPTE

SCSI

Super VideoCD

SVCD

U

Ultra 160 SCSI

Ultra ATA/66, Ultra ATA/100, Ultra ATA/133

Universal Plug and Play — Plug and Play is not hyphenated when referring to Plug and Play. See also Plug and Play.

V

VariCam

VCD

VHS

VideoCD

W

WAV

X

XDCAM

Y

Y/C