



STORAGE VISIONS® 2011

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Tony Cahill, Chief Engineer, CET Universe
Digital Workflow and Archive for 'The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo'

ABSTRACT

How to Manage Critical Tapeless Workflow for a Major Motion Picture.

David Fincher, renowned director of such technically demanding films as 'The Curious Case of Benjamin Button,' 'Zodiac,' 'Fight Club,' and 'The Social Network,' has set a new bar for on-set digital dailies and workflow. A new system for data management was developed for 'The Social Network' that has been expanded for his remake of 'The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo,' based on Stieg Larsson's best-selling book.

CET Universe, the former technology group of Media Distributors, developed a safe, simple archive system using its Archive Station™ R-2 that the production's most critical media, creating an innovative tapeless workflow that saved time and money, while providing safe LTO-4 backup of Red Camera media files.

Originally introduced at NAB 2009, Archive Station is specifically designed as a media archive and asset management system for tapeless productions. This Mac-based system provides secure LTO-4 back-up, powerful media conversion capability and rapid access to archived and disk-based video content.

Working with Joe Wolcott, technical director for Fincher, CET Universe's chief engineer, Tony Cahill, created a workflow that allowed Fincher to shoot on multiple Red One cameras, archive the media quickly and safely to duplicate LTO-4 tapes, and process the files in real time to Apple's ProRes for Angus Wall and Kirk Baxter, David Fincher's long-time editors. The solution needed to be portable, powerful and stable.

This session will discuss the process and challenges of capturing, duplicating, and archiving RED data, using the Constellation VCM™ asset and storage management software, which lies at the heart of the Archive Station system.

Using the CET Universe system, Wolcott's team managed ingest, cloning, processing, picture QC and all off-line editorial, as well as split-screen with camera motion control, all managed by a single person.

Hear the latest in high-end film workflow from David Fincher, as presented by Tony Cahill, chief engineer of CET Universe.

BIOGRAPHY

Tony Cahill is the chief engineer of CET Universe, a leading provider of services, systems, and products for professional audio and video production. He manages a team of experienced technology specialists that provide design, installation, sales, and service support for integrated workflow solutions within the post-production and broadcast industries. He oversees solutions delivery for HD/2K/4K workflows; telecine; facility bould-outs, and network-based solutions for the company's expanding line of shared storage solutions. Tony also manages a team that provides support for CET Universe's line of Apple products.

Prior to joining CET Universe, Tony was a regional business development manager with Intermec Technologies Corporation.

He holds a B.S. degree from Marquette University.