

Glossary of Terms

AVI	Audio Video Interleave. AVI is a video file format.
Codec	Compression / Decompression Module
Component	An analog YUV video-only connection. Good quality but some data loss due to the analog connection.
DV	Digital Video. Related to DVC Pro and DVCam. Collectively known as DV25, for their 25 Mbps rate.
DVI	Digital Video Input. A digital video-only connection with a maximum horizontal resolution of 1,600 pixels.
GOP	Group Of Pictures. A GOP contains several different types of compressed frames, I frames and P & B frames.
HDMI	High Definition Multimedia Interface. Can handle uncompressed digital HD, as well as several channels of sound.
HDSDI	HD version of SDI, which is the professional standard for moving uncompressed SD video around a studio.
HDV	High Definition Digital Video
HVD	High-clarity Video Disk. HVD is a Chinese technology that comes in the form of a very low cost player capable of playing back high-definition material recorded onto a DVD-R disk. The compression used is MPEG-2, just like HDV. A viable short-term alternative for displaying HD video.
HQ Codec	A codec developed by Canopus to compress HDV into an editable format. This reduces the overhead required to decode the file for playback and editing while still maintaining the true HDV quality.
I Frames	I frames are compressed frames that do not depend on any frames around them.
Interlaced Video	Interlaced video is scanned from right to left, top to bottom, in the same way as progressive scan video. The difference, though, is that every sixtieth of a second, every other line making up the complete frame is scanned. Then, a sixtieth of a second later, the lines in-between the lines already scanned are captured. Effectively, half the picture's vertical resolution is sent in the first sixtieth of a second, and the second half is sent in the second sixtieth of a second. When the video is played back, the whole thing happens in reverse, giving the appearance of a complete frame. Each of these "halves" of a frame is called a "field".
Mbps	Megabits per second. Usually refers to a transfer rate.
MPEG	MPEG (pronounced M-peg), which stands for Moving Picture Experts Group , is the name of family of standards used for coding audio-visual information (e.g., movies, video, music) in a digital compressed format.
MPEG-2 Long-GOP Compression	The standard used to compress footage shot in HDV into a storable format.
NTSC	National Television Standards Committee. Refers to the standard format of broadcast video in the US. The European equivalent is PAL.
OHCI	Open Host Controller Interface. Refers to the standardized interface through which OHCI-compliant devices can talk to each other, regardless of brand or device type.
P and B Frames	P and B frames are predicted from the content of adjacent frames. You can't decompress an isolated P or B frame because of their dependency on other frames.
PAL	Phase Alternation Line. Refers to the standard format of broadcast video in Europe. The US equivalent is NTSC.
Progressive Scan Video	Progressive scan video is scanned from right to left, top to bottom up to the end of the frame.
SD	Standard Definition. Refers to non-HD video.
VGA	Video Graphics Array. A computer standard for connecting computers to analog display screens. A decent way to get HD video from a computer to the screen. The connection is video-only.
WMV	Windows Media Video. WMV is a video file format with a relatively high compression rate.
YUV	Luminance - Bandwidth - Chrominance. Output through component video cables.