

Casablanca Prestige, DV Editor with DVD burner – One of a Kind A MacroSystem Product

I have tried other DV editing software, like the Taiwanese U_____ and another German product P_____ that comes with a capture card. They are both computer-based, meaning that a computer with Windows XP or NT is a prerequisite. The major problem with computer-based digital editing software and hardware is that it is completely time-consuming (not to say time-wasting) in setting up, and if crashes are encountered, re-setting up everything and studying the manual to learn to use it.

I have been completely free of computer hassles after I came across the Prestige and have been in love with it ever since. Prestige is the mid model in a range of DV editors by MacroSystem, a German invention. Avio is the entry level and Kron Plus being the top end. Now (2008) I am waiting for my new generation HD S-4000.

As an amateur in DV production (shooting video and editing the footage and everything), I find that the Prestige is the most user-friendly and easy to work with. First, I don't have to do a lot of research as to which computer with P4 CPU and DDR Ram etc to choose. Nor do I have to pay for licensed Window or Mac software and also the DV software. Come to think of it in terms of costs. When adding up computer and peripherals, Window and editing software and add-on, the total cost will be the same if not exceeding that for the Prestige. Second, I don't have to spend an enormous length of time in setting up, installing the computer and studying the manuals of the DV software before I can actually work on it. You will know what I mean if you don't have the skills in setting up a computer yourself. With a little coaching or reading up on the basics, I can start using the Prestige in less than an hour. All I need is a TV as a monitor and the Prestige with a trackball mouse to begin editing. The ease with which I can connect the camcorder (either DV or analogue) to input footage to the Prestige is fantastic. The whole process is simple and straightforward – plug and play in its truest sense. Prestige uses the SmartEdit software which employs the storyboard method for editing. The automatic scene splitting of the video footage to create the scenes for the storyboard is practically amazing, fast and reliable. It helps me a great deal in sequencing the scenes logically as well as trimming them as required. Of course, there are the special effects and transitions etc which are easy and handy to use, depending entirely on how creative one can be. They even have Chinese fonts (simplified version only) to work with. The audio edit is equally very professional thanks to Prestige's sophisticated yet simple approach in editing the audio and/or inputting sound from CD via its DVD burner.

I can go on and on about the user-friendliness and simplicity in using the Prestige but in a word, I would say that the Prestige is the best hardware on the market so far for amateurs and professionals alike. It is also excellent for schools to start multi-media projects and companies to make corporate video for training and business purposes. Since acquiring the Prestige in 2003 summer, I have edited close to a hundred DV tapes and burnt almost a similar amount of DVDs for distribution among friends. Had I lingered on with the P_____ or U_____, I might still be languishing in reading the manuals instead of actually producing DVDs that have earned me quite a lot of applause! Apart from all these, the after-sale services and technical support by the local dealer is first-class. Thumbs up for Casablanca Prestige. Now have the Casablanca Solitaire Plus, and waiting for new generation Casablanca S-4000!

So, if you are tired of being enslaved by the computer-based DV editing, you should turn to Casablanca for any of its three models for instant success and satisfaction in getting jobs done, and most important of all, getting good results.

CK Cho
Hong Kong
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Hong Kong's Nightly Laser Show