Tech Tuesdays

FlipVideo

Technology Tuesdays
Faculty Training Workshop
Instructional Development Center
Heartland Community College
http://www.heartland.edu/idc/
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1. What is FlipVideo?

FlipVideo is a small hand-held video recording device. The model we have in the IDC can hold up to 60 minutes of video in the internal solid state memory. After that the video would have to be transferred off of the device to free up recording space.

After recording your project you can do basic video editing with software that comes on the FlipVideo camera. Simply plug in the USB connection that “flips” out from the side of the camera and the software will install itself on your computer.

You can find out more about FlipVideo recorders by visiting the FlipVideo web site at http://www.theflip.com
II. Why use FlipVideo?

The benefits of using the FlipVideo to produce video:

You can record your small lecture once on a topic, deliver it on DVD or over the web on YouTube to students and spend more class time diving deeper into concepts, more student interaction, projects, student presentations and other learning events.

Using FlipVideo in a course...
· increases the number of learning modalities,
· increases the number of repetitions allowing students to review the material easily,
· encourages learning away from the classroom,
· gives a human touch to an online course environment.
a. Beginning a Project

To begin a project, set up the FlipVideo camera onto a desktop or tripod (it has standard tripod mounting capability).

The on/off button is on the side of the FlipVideo. Slide that down and let go and the device will turn on. The screen will show Ready is green at the top left and the Time left out of the 60 minutes you have to record.

There is a built in microphone in the front of the FlipVideo camera. You can also slightly zoom in and out using the plus and minus buttons on the back of the device.

To record simply line up your subject and hit the large red button in the middle of the back of the FlipVideo recorder.
b. Loading a Video onto Your Computer

Once you have your video shot, you can click the red button to stop recording and shut the power down by pulling down on the on/off button again.

Then pull down on the button on the other side of the FlipVideo device to flip out the USB connection. Insert the USB into your computer and the software will automatically load onto your computer allowing you to perform editing and saving of the video. The FlipVideo software will only need to install itself once per computer you are using.

If you want to preview what you can recorded you can click the play button on the back left of the FlipVideo and if you want to delete video footage off of the camera you click the trash can icon to the right on the back of the FlipVideo recorder.
c. Options for Editing, Sharing and Creating

You will see a screen like the one shown below. This is the main interface for editing, sharing and creating your videos. The top shows the familiar File, Edit, View menus similar to Microsoft and other software. The left of the screen shows what videos are on the FlipVideo, or have been transferred to your computer. The middle portion shows a thumbnail of your video allowing you to preview the video and the bottom of the screen has main options for viewing, sharing and creating videos. You will want to transfer the video from the FlipVideo camera to your computer after you hook up the device and see this screen.
III. How Do I Use FlipVideo?

d. Trimming Video

If you want to trim your video down to a certain length or if you have too much footage on the front and back of the video you can do so by selecting the Edit menu (top row) and clicking Trim.

Then you can drag the start and end points to the exact time you want your video to begin and end (shown below left).

Once this editing is finished you can choose Save As and save this new edited version of your video to the computer (shown below right).
d. Trimming Video (continued)

After trimming the video you will see two versions of your video in the interface. The thumbnail video to the left is the original and the right side video is the new “trimmed” version.

You can then shoot more video footage using the FlipVideo and each time you can add the videos to your folder onto your computer. All of your videos will be shown as thumbnails in the main interface when copied to your computer.
III. How Do I Use FlipVideo?

e. Placing Multiple Videos, Adding Titles and Credits

When you click on Create Movie from the bottom of the main FlipVideo interface screen you can arrange all of your video clips into a sequence by dragging the thumbnails into the order you want them to appear into the screen shown below left. The Preview along the right of this screen will allow you to see what your finished movie will look like. Click Next to go to step 2.

Step 2 (shown below right) allows you to add a Title to appear at the beginning and Closing Credits to appear at the end of your movie. Click Next to move to step 3.
f. Including Background Music and Naming Your Movie

Step 3 (shown below left) allows you to add background music to your video (more appropriate for videos with no sound such as nature scenes). You can add music from the FlipVideo selection or add your own Mp3 music from a file on your computer.

And finally in step 4 you name your movie and click Create Movie. This will combine all of the sequencing, titles, credits, and background music into one file and create your movie.
III. How Do I Use FlipVideo?

g. Sharing your Video through email

You can share your videos through email by choosing Share Email from the bottom of the main interface screen.

Then you will be asked to provide your name, email, the email addresses of the recipients, a subject line and a message to include within the body of the email. Once this is filled out click on Share to send out your video through email.
h. Sharing your Video as a Greeting Card

When you choose Share Greeting Card you can “embed” your video into a greeting card graphic. First choose a category for your greeting card and then choose the specific theme. Step two allows you to add multiple video clips to the card and step three asks for your name, email, the email addresses of the recipients, a subject line and a message to include with the greeting card in the body of the email. Once this is filled out click on Share to send out your video greeting card.
III. How Do I Use FlipVideo?

i. Sharing your Video on YouTube and other web services

When you choose Share Online from the bottom of the main interface screen you are presented with a few options of web services to share your video on. If you have an account with YouTube you can select that option, provide your username and password to your YouTube account (step 2 shown below left), and choose public or private video sharing. Once these steps are complete click Share and your video will upload to YouTube. You will be provided with a link to where your video is stored so you can easily share the link with others.
j. Save out a Snapshot from Your Video

A Snapshot or still image from the video can be saved by clicking the Create Snapshot button at the bottom of the main screen.

You will be allowed to place the playhead at any position in the video by dragging the horizontal slider along the timeline. Once you’ve found the spot you like click on Save snapshot and you’ll be asked for a location and name to save your image file to. Snapshots are saved as JPG files.
III. How Do I Use FlipVideo?

k. Save Videos to Desktop for DVD Burning

When you click on Create DVD on the main screen the FlipVideo software will prepare the video to be saved on DVD and it will create the appropriate folder structure for you to save your video out to DVD. The FlipVideo software only creates the file/folder structure for you but doesn’t actually save the video to a DVD so you have to have DVD burning software on your computer to create a DVD video off of the FlipVideo.

Another option presented is to order a Professionally-produced DVD which will be mailed to you at a specific pricing.
Flip Video Recording

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