

HD PRODUCTION: AGENCY PRODUCER'S CHECK LIST

When a production company recommends shooting with a file-based camera (P2, RED, Phantom, Viper, D20), how will it impact the shooting process? How will it impact the post production process?

Why shoot with a file-based camera? What are the benefits? What are the cost and process implications in production AND post.

CHECK LIST: Questions for the production company:

- How will you shoot this job and why? Film, Tape, File-based?
- If not film, what are the advantages over a traditional film shoot?
- What are the cost implications versus a traditional film shoot?

- What type of camera(s)/media will you use?
 - Film: 16mm, Super 16, 35mm 4-perf, 35mm 3-perf?
 - Tape: HDCam, HDCamSR, DV?
 - File-based: P2, RED, Phantom, Viper, D20

- Can you shoot 16:9 and protect for 4:3? Guaranteed?
- Will your tech people discuss the job with the editorial company before the shoot?

- Will you shoot with more than one camera?
- Will you slate each scene on each camera?
- Will you provide script notes for each camera?
- How many hours of footage do you intend to shoot?

CHECK LIST: Questions to answer before bidding the job:

- Will the post schedule be manageable?
- Will there be sufficient time to load the footage and/or media between the shoot and the beginning of editing?

- Will the production company supply dailies and upfront color correct?
- Can the files the production company delivers to editorial be ingested into Avid or FCP without further processing? Have you tested this or checked with the editorial house?
- If you are shooting with a file-based camera (P2, RED, Phantom, Viper, D20) have you budgeted for transcoding?
- Have you budgeted for backing up the files in triplicate?
- Have you budgeted for color correcting the dailies?
- How will you handle sound? Record in camera? Separate recording device?
- Will the production company backup the media files in case of corruption?
- What is the plan for archiving the original digital footage?
- Will the production company be responsible for any file corruption?
- Will the production company work with editorial company dailies specs?
- Will the production company provide a backup set of dailies on tape (D5, HD Cam, HD Cam SR, DigiBeta)?