



# New Features in Compressor 2

There are a number of new features, enhancements, and changes in this version of Compressor, the most significant of which are introduced below. See the *Compressor 2 User Manual* and the *Distributed Processing Setup* guide for details on these features.

## Distributed Processing

Compressor 2 can now accelerate processing by distributing the work to multiple computers that have been chosen to provide more processing power. All you need is access to more than one computer, and Compressor 2 installed with either DVD Studio Pro 4 or Final Cut Studio. Compressor 2 and its Apple Qmaster 2 distributed processing system handle all the work distribution and processing for you, behind the scenes. They subdivide the work for speed, route the work to the computers with the most available computing power, and direct the processing.

## Dolby Digital Professional (AC-3) Audio Encoding and Surround Sound

Compressor now offers integrated Dolby Digital Professional encoding on computers that have DVD Studio Pro 4 or Final Cut Studio installed. The Dolby Digital Professional format (also known as AC-3) is a very common compressed audio format for DVD-Video discs. Now you can create several different kinds of Dolby-certified AC-3 encoded files (either 5.1 surround, stereo, or mono) from single-channel or multi-channel source files.

With Compressor 2, it's no longer necessary to use an additional tool for AC-3 encoding. For a DVD project, for example, you can now process both the video files and the AC-3-encoded audio files in a single batch. Compressor 2 can now also support any kind of source files that contain surround sound, simplifying the workflow when encoding to surround sound for such files. Compressor 2 can also create surround sound QuickTime movies from surround groups.

## Advanced Image Analysis

Compressor now offers high-quality transcoding from many different source formats to many different target formats using advanced image analysis. That means you can now do any of the following at levels of quality that were previously only available through expensive hardware solutions:

- Convert video files between international television standards such as PAL to NTSC, or NTSC to PAL.
- Downconvert high definition (HD) video sources to standard definition (SD), or upconvert SD to HD.
- Convert a progressive stream to an interlaced one, or interlaced to progressive.

Compressor 2 ships with completely new set of Apple presets, representing a wide variety of workflows such as the standards conversions described here, as well as web delivery, mobile devices, SD DVD, HD-based DVD, professional audio, and motion graphics.

## H.264 and HD MPEG-2

Compressor 2 offers full support of the new H.264 codec, as well as enhanced MPEG-2 options for high definition video:

- Compressor 2 adds output for H.264, also known as MPEG-4 Part 10. This ultra-efficient, fully scalable video technology produces higher quality video at lower data rates for everything from mobile phones to High Definition (HD). H.264 is currently mandatory in both new high definition DVD specifications (HD DVD and Blu-Ray) and functionally included in hundreds of new electronics products.
- Compressor 2 provides support for the new HDV format and enhanced MPEG-2 options for HD-resolution video formats up to 1920 x 1080, with bit rates up to 29 Mbps. This includes full support for HDV files edited in Final Cut Pro.

## High Resolution Audio

Compressor 2 now supports high resolution audio up to 64 bits per sample (floating point) and sample rates up to 192 kHz:

## Command Line Features

If you are accustomed to doing your work from Terminal shells, and need or prefer to run Compressor from the command line with minimal use of application interfaces, this is now possible in Compressor 2. You now have a number of command-line options for submitting jobs, enabling and disabling service node and cluster controlling services, and monitoring batches.

## New Look and Feel

Compressor 2 has visual consistency with the Final Cut Studio suite of professional media creation tools, as well as numerous interface enhancements, including:

- A new process for installing and managing Apple and customized presets
- A new Inspector window
- A new Presets window

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