

The International Film School Sydney

Equipment Proficiency Test
Panasonic
AG-DVC30 Video Camera

February 2007

National Provider No. 91143
CRICOS Registration No. 02660C

Ring

27 Rosebery Avenue
Rosebery, NSW 2018
(02) 9663 3789 • james@internationalfilmschool.com.au
www.internationalfilmschool.com.au
Equipment Proficiency Test Developed by James Hall

Contents

- 1. Description of Equipment Tripod, Camera and Sound – Overview**
 - 1.1. Tripod – Miller DS10 Solo Carbon Fibre System
 - 1.2. Camera AG – DVC30
 - 1.3. Sound – Rode NTG-2
 - 1.4. Test Requirements – Setup of Tripod, DVC30 Camera and Mic
- 2. Description of DVC30's Manual Functionality**
 - 2.1. Test Requirements – Executing those Functions
- 3. Description of DVC30's Digital Functionality**
 - 3.1. Test Requirements – Executing those Functions
- 4. Descriptions of DVC30's Sound Functionality**
 - 4.1. Test Requirements – Executing those Functions
- 5. Media Output – Setup and Charging**
 - 5.1. Test Requirements – Executing those Functions

1. Description of Equipment Tripod, Camera and Sound - Overview

Baseline of what equipment we are using highlighting its functionality:

1.1 TRIPOD – Miller DS10 Solo Carbon Fibre System

- Ultralight, ultra rigid carbon fibre
- Versatile DS10 75mm ball levelling head
- Selectable counterbalance
- True fluid pan and tilt and drag
- Height range 8" – 63"
- Quick Release slide plating
- Suits DVCAM, MiniDV, PD150 or Cannon XL-1

1.2 CAMERA - AG-DVC30

- Worlds First Professional DV Camcorder
- Infrared recording mode (SNS – Super Night Shooting - B&W)
- CineGamma & Frame mode for Cinematic look
- Slow Shutter function – motion lag effects (Syncro Scan 1/60.3 ~ 1/250 Sec)
- Wide Angle, extraordinarily quiet 16x high speed optical zoom Leica Dicomar lens – reducing flare.
- Wide range of zoom speeds 1 secs (sports) – slow 100 secs (drama)
- 2 Type Zoom x24 or x160 range with no degradation
- 410,000 pixel 1/4-inch 3-CCD for class leading picture quality and sensitivity
- Removable handle and XLR Audio input
- F = 1.6, f=4.1 to 65.6mm [f= 39.5mm to 632mm]
- Lightweight (2.4lbs) and well balanced
- 16:9 recording set to Letterbox or Squeeze modes

1.3 SOUND – RODE NTG-2

- Broadcast sound quality
- Condenser microphone transducer
- Weighing 161 grams
- Low noise circuitry
- Low handling noise
- XLR connection

1.4 Test Requirements - Set up of Tripod, DVC30 Camera and Mic

What is to be examined:

- Setup and lock of the legs of the tripod.
- Balance the tripod using the spirit level.
- Set the tripod to dial 2 for a smoother transition.
- Attach the handle to the tripod and lock it off.

- Attach the battery to the camera.
- Attach the Camera to the tripod – place and tighten the plate to the base of the Camera; Slide the plate with Camera onto the tripod; Lock of the plate.
- Adjust the tilt dial to the desired position and lock off.
- Adjust the pan dial to the desired position.
- Insert a Mini DV Tape.
- Switch the power to the ON mode.

2. Description of DVC30'S Manual Functionality

Baseline of the camera's manual features:

- Focus Ring used for manual zoom or iris adjustment.
- White balance allows you to adjust the lighting conditions to your natural surroundings including presets of indoors and outdoors.
- Exposure/Aperture set manually to adjust the amount light to be let in between f1.6 – f16.
- Shutter Speed can be set between 1/60 – 1/8000 lower speeds for slow movement of subject higher speeds for quicker movement of subject.
- Gain Selection 0 – 18db.
- ✕ • Eyepiece fully adjustable for each individual cinematographer.

2.1 Test Requirements – Executing those functions

What is to be examined:

- Adjust the DVC30's to the manual setting.
- Focus the eyepiece/viewfinder to your eye.
- Adjust the exposure/aperture (iris)
 - push button twice, move the dial.
- Adjust the shutter speed (Shutter)
 - Push button once, move the dial.
- Adjust the gain by opening the iris and moving the dial to the appropriate db level.
- Adjust the white balance – focusing the camera on a white piece of paper.
- Adjust the focus manually clicking on the focus button and rotating the focus ring.
- Adjust the zoom manually changing the focus ring to a zoom ring
 - Push menu button
 - Navigate to SW Mode – Focus ring – Zoom then push menu to set

3. Description of DVC30's Digital functionality

Baseline of the camera's digital features:

- The SMPTE standard color bars can be used to display and record on tape before every shoot.
- Zebra Patterns uses a striped pattern to indicate areas of the frame where there is overexposure.

- Digital Aspect Ratio has 3 settings Normal (4:3), Letter Box (16:9) and Squeeze (16:9) on 16:9 Display only to avoid distortion.
- Zoom mode has 3 settings Normal, Fast and Slow for variable zoom control.
- Digital Zoom has two settings 24x and 160x for micro and macro zoom control.
- Rec Speed has two settings LP extends the duration of the tape but lowers image quality and SP reduces duration of the tape but increase image quality.
- Time Stamp function allows the cinematographer to put the date and time on the image useful for interrogation videos.
- TGC function allows the cinematographer to Time code the tape for easy data transfer to media.

3.1 Test Requirements – Executing those functions

What is to be examined:

- Toggle the colour bars function.
- Toggle the zebra pattern function – set to 90%:
 - Push Menu button.
 - Navigate to Display setup – Zebra Detect – 90%.
- In Camera setup set the aspect conversion to letterbox:
 - Push Menu button.
 - Navigate to Camera setup and change the aspect conv.
- Set Zoom mode to normal:
 - Push Menu button.
 - Navigate to SW Mode – Zoom mode – Normal.
- Set Digital Zoom to 24x:
 - Push Menu button.
 - Navigate to SW Mode – Digital Zoom – 24x.
- Set Rec Speed to SP (Slow Play):
 - Push Menu button.
 - Navigate to Recording Setup – Rec Speed – SP.
- Set Time Stamp to No Record:
 - Push Menu button.
 - Navigate to Recording Setup – Time Stamp – No Rec.
- Set TGC to Record Run:
 - Push Menu button.
 - Navigate to Recording Setup – TGC – Record Run.

4. Description of DVC30's Sound functionality

Baseline of the camera's sound features:

- Boom pole has 3 sections allowing short, medium and long extension
- Durable rubber connector allows secure hold of directional Mic
- Wind socket reduces the unwanted noise when recording Audio
- The Directional Mic allows the Sound Recorder to pickup Audio in the Direction that the Mic is facing
- The 3 pin XLR cord allows the Directional Mic to attach to the camera for 16bit quality sound
- The DVC30 Camera has 2 Audio Stereo sound channels, allowing Mic or Line input.

- The Channel Selector captures both CH1 and CH2 sound input or just CH2 input
- The manual adjustment of sound levels can be easily done using the sound dials for Channels 1 and 2
- Mono 32k (12 Bit) and Stereo 48k (16Bit) quality sound can be recorded on the camera dependent on your preference
- Wind Cut function reduces noise reduction remove unwanted noise on the Camera
- Headphone jack allows Stereo quality headphones to monitor sound levels

4.1 Test Requirements – Executing those functions

What will be examined:

- Extend the boom pole to the desired position lock each section off
- Attach the connector to the top of the boom pole
- Attach a wind socket to the Directional Mic
- Attach the Directional Mic to the connector making sure it is firmly in place
- Attach the XLR cord to the directional Mic
- Attach the other end of the XLR cord to the Audio Input Channel 2 in the Camera
- Make sure the Audio Channels are set to Line not Mic
- Make sure the Audio Channels are set to ON for input 2
- Set Channel Select to CH2
- Adjust the Volume level to the desired position
- On the Camera set Audio Recording to 48k(16bit)
 - Push Menu button
 - Navigate to Recording Setup - Audio Record – 48k(16bit)
- Set Wind Cut to On for outdoor locations
 - Push Menu button
 - Navigate to Recording Setup – Wind Cut - On
- Connect the Headphones to the headphone jack
- Monitor the audio on the camera
 - Hold down the menu button
 - Adjust the monitor levels accordingly

5. Media Output – Setup and charging

Baseline of the camera's output to media features:

- Large easy to use buttons are definitely a convenience when playing back a tape in the camcorder.
- A 4 pin Firewire cable can be used to transfer media rapidly to a computer using the 1394 IEEE standard.
- AV input/output cables allows the cinematographer to connect the camera to a TV or Monitor for playback.
- Batteries usually last for 1 hr record time and can be placed in the recharger to be used again at a later time.

5.1 Test Requirements – Executing those functions

What will be examined:

- Toggle the VCR/playback camera mode
 - Show where the playback controls are
- Show where the DV/Firewire output device is
 - Connect the Firewire cable to a computer
- Show where the AV input/output is
 - Connect the AV input/output to a monitor
- Power down and pack away the DVC30 Camera/Tripod and Sound Kit
- Remove the battery and place it in the charger for recharging