

Upgraded version of Kodak Look Manager System introduced

Kodak has recently introduced an upgraded version of its Look Manager System software. Known as version 2.0, the system enables cinematographers to pre visualize, create, communicate and manage subtle nuances in film looks from pre-production through post-production.

"We designed this system to provide a practical way for cinematographers to communicate their intentions for 'looks' to everyone involved in the workflow during post-production," says Kim Snyder, general manager, Worldwide Image Origination Products, and vice president for Kodak's Entertainment Imaging. "It enables cinematographers to experiment with looks using a calibrated system, ensuring that everyone sees the same images. This new version offers a number of improved features and more functionality."

Kodak Look Manager Version 2.0 includes a user-friendly interface with an enhanced project-oriented approach. Cinematographers can now import and organize images on a per scene or per date basis, assign metadata and basic looks that can then be further color-corrected, viewed and compared on calibrated monitors with other system users. This assists in the communication of the entire vision of a project with collaborators. The new screen view also provides a larger area for imagery and the ability to work with multiple images simultaneously.

Additionally, for the first time, 3-D look up tables (LUTs) can be applied to images and exported, giving post facilities a scientific reference and communications component to eliminate guesswork involved with recreating visuals as intended by the creator. Snyder notes that this feature embeds important visual information using Kodak color science, resulting in more accurate dailies throughout the workflow.

The new version also features more intuitive functions, including multi-level undo/redo and set/reset utilities, and extended drag and drop capabilities. Other enhancements include quicker run speeds and a "recipe" summary of the looks in a tool tip or on a photographic print.

Kodak Look Manager System Version 2.0 is compatible with both Mac and Windows operating systems. It includes Kodak Display Manager System v4.0, which consists of calibration hardware and proprietary software that uses Kodak color science to adjust electronic display devices that accurately emulate print film.

What Cinematographers are saying about Kodak Look Manager System

Steve Mason, ASC, ACS
(*Harsh Times, Venom*):

"Film terms often no longer apply when dealing with labs and colorists, which makes the communication offered by KLMS all the more important. It gives you access to the language and allows you to become precise."

"I love getting in there at night and timing all the stills. It really teaches me, especially these days, when you don't get film dailies. This gives you a chance to study your shots, work out what you're doing, and time the image."

"I know exactly what I'm getting now (when using KLMS), so I take greater risks and underexpose much more than I otherwise would. It makes you a more courageous cinematographer, a better one."

Stephen Goldblatt, ASC, BSC
(*Rent, Closer*):

"It (KLMS) gave everyone a true indication of our intentions for the look. With this system you are manipulating color in film legal rather than video space. You can alter colors and density, but the contrast has got to be there in your original photography." ■



Top: Kodak Look Manager System V2.0 enables cinematographers to previsualize, create, communicate and manage subtle nuances in film looks from preproduction through postproduction.

Above: Cinematographers can import and organize images on a per scene or per date basis.

