

Transcriber Manual

Januari 2, 2017

Version 3.0.9

Platforms: Windows and Mac

www.VideoToolShed.com

Changes since 3.0.8

Fixed a bug on reading some BWF files

Changes since 3.0.4

LTC and IRIG files now get rendered to a new file

Sometimes a clip would not load if there was a space in the pathname. That is fixed.

QT TC now reads correct.

Other bugfixes.

Sometimes the pitch could shift after a seek (pausing / play is seek also), and/or the LTC could leak trough. This should be fixed.

Changes since 3.0.2

Added an option in the preferences to show elapsed / remaining time in the TC window

Fixed a bug, TC window now sets font sizes better.

Fixed a bug that you would not see 'green light' on re-opening a file, where in fact TC was found.

Changes since 3.0.1

Added an option in the preferences to keep the pitch on speedchange or not.

Changes since 2.7.5

For Windows: Removed all dependencies of Quicktime.

Thus, Quicktime is no longer a requirement.

Added pitch shift, when you speed up or down a speaker, the pitch of the sound will still be the same.

Removed the 'load last job' menu item. It now always loads the last file.

'Open entire folder' now creates a playlist instead of a long clip.

You'll see the current playing file in the Transcriber window top, and optionally in the TC window.

The slomo buttons do no longer exist.

Next to the Reverse / Pause / Play buttons there are now two buttons for Previous and Next in playlist.

(They only work if you have loaded an entire folder)

1 General remarks

1.1 Purpose

Typing out digital audio / video content.

If you need to type out an audio or video file, the last thing you want is to have to switch between your media player and your text editor. That takes way too much time. Also, you don't want to type in Timecodes yourself. It takes time and leaves room for errors.

Transcriber can be controlled without switching applications, and can insert Timecode in your document with just one keystroke.

1.2 File formats and timecodes supported

You can work with

- Quicktime (.mov) files. (even if Quicktime is not installed.)
- MXF
- BWF / Wave: (BWF is a Wave file, with the '.wav' extension but contains timecode.)
- Mp3
- Mp4

All these formats support timecode. (Although Mp4 must be created with a VideoToolshed product.)

But timecode can come in multiple forms:

- QuickTime timecode: A separate track in the file
- Sound Devices / MakeTranscriberFiles style: Metadata normally used for Album / Artist. If you make these columns visible in a folder, you can see the TC.
- XML: a XML file INSIDE the file. You can't see it yourself. If you have Mp3 (or perhaps other) files created with Adobe Premiere or Adobe Prelude, this might be your option.
- LTC: Funny although annoying beeps on one of the channels.
- IRIG: Other funny beeps, not often used in the video industry.

For LTC and IRIG: No worries, you won't hear the TC noise in Transcriber.

1.3 Who should use this?

Anyone who needs to type out digital audio or video content.

1.4 What knowledge do you need to have before you use Transcriber?

Some basic knowledge about digital audio and video formats, and how to set up a text editor.

1.4.1 Please read the manual before you start.

A lot of questions you might have will be answered here.

To make this manual easier to read:

on the left side of your PDF viewer there is probably a button that gives you an interactive table of contents while scrolling. Or, enable 'bookmarks' in your PDF viewer.

If you run into trouble, do check the [Errors chapter](#).

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3 Installation

All VideoToolShed products come without an installer.
Nothing gets changed to your operating system!

3.1 Installing for Mac

Drag the entire folder to your applications folder on your harddisk.

You can make shortcuts on your desktop / toolbar if you like, just drag the main application there.

DO NOT try to run the application from within the Disk Image, this will probably NOT work!

Quicktime must be installed, but this is the case on almost any Mac. If you get a warning about Quicktime, download it from Apple. (It's free.)

3.2 Installing for Windows

Drag the entire folder to your hard disk. Avoid long path names, so you could make a directory called 'videotoolshed' and put the application directory in there.

Make sure you run the application as Administrator!

(Right click, and select 'Run as Administrator')

For faster access the next time:

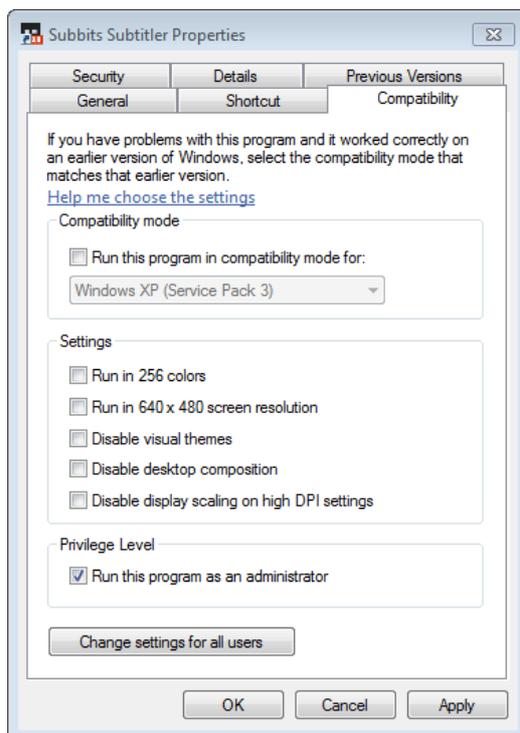
Right click the application, and select either 'pin to task bar', or 'pin to Start menu'.

Alternatively, you can drag the icon to your task bar or start menu.

When you've created a shortcut, also make sure you run it as Administrator.

To do so: Right click the shortcut, and select 'Properties'.

Go to the 'Compatibility' tab, and check the 'Run as Administrator' checkbox.



Also, inside the Essential folder is a directory called 'Mplayer', inside there is Mplayer.exe. This must also run as admin, same goes for FFmpeg.exe that lives in the Xtras directory inside the essential directory.

3.3 Registration

Choose 'Register' from the file menu. A new window opens. If you have bought the program, you've got a mail with a serial number. Copy / paste the serial number in the Register window, and press 'done'. Transcriber will now run for as long as you like.

3.4 Uninstalling

Just delete the entire application folder. That's it.

4 Introduction

Transcriber is an easy to use Media player with capability of reading a lot of different file formats and timecodes.

Main use is for transcribing audio or video files.

You can use your favorite text editor to transcribe, and use this application to control the audio or video file, while having the current timecode with one keystroke in your text.

(including modifier keys or other operations (Eg TAB to auto jump to the next cell).)

It is intended to run in the background while it still can be controlled either by keyboard or a foot pedal.

It can decode AUX TC (Irc, the funny beeps) as well as Quicktime TC, Mp3 or QT metadata and BWF (broadcast Wave Files).

4.1 Before you start

Make sure your settings are correct for the file you are going to open.

Under 'Prefs' in the menubar, choose 'Preferences'.

A new window opens. Under Framerate, click the one you want to use.

Next, choose the kind of timecode that should be in the file.

If you are unsure, ask your client!

More about timecode is in [Appendix B](#)

More about the other options is in the [Preferences](#) chapter

4.2 Getting started

Make sure you've understood the [Keyboard Shortcuts](#) part.

Assign at least PlayNormal, goBackAbit, insertTC and Pause. (Probably to some function keys like F4, F5, F6).

Open a file and see if you can control the file with the keyboard. (The mouse won't be a problem, but that's not what you want.) For now, only test playNormal and Pause.

If that works, switch to your text editor, and see if it still works. If not, [check out the part how to fix that](#).

Next is to check if Transcriber also can insert your TC.

Assign more functions to keys if you want to.

5 The interface

If you run the application, You'll see two windows.

One is the main application, the other is the Timecode window, displaying the current timecode and filename of the current file.

5.1 The Menu functions

On Windows, the Menu is on the top of the Transcriber window.

On Mac, the File menu is on top of your screen, if Transcriber is the active application. (Click on it to make it the active application.)

5.2 Menu 'file'

- Open sound or video:

to pick any file you want to work on. Note, Transcriber shows you ALL files, but is not able to import all. So, do NOT select a text file or something, Transcriber only likes video and audio files.

- Open and convert video:

To pick a video file that is created in a way Transcriber does not like very much. A new file will be created next to the original, named filename_Transcriber.mov

- Open an entire folder:

Pick a folder with multiple files.

NOTE, Transcriber assumes all files have the same format. The first file it finds with a known extension will be used. So, if you have both Mp3 and MOV files, only one of the file types will be used!

The application will scan all files for TC (this might take some time) and create a playlist.

- Work from DVD

Transcriber will try to load the current DVD in your computer.

- Work from Video_TS

Pick a Video_TS directory, Transcriber will try to load it as a DVD

- Open last job.

Transcriber will load the last file you've worked on, and jump to the position where you have left it.

- Set Correct TC

Use this AFTER you have loaded a file. You can now override the found Timecode, or set a Timecode if there is none. This is the same function that you can assign in [Keyboard Shortcuts](#) with 'SetCorrectTC'.

- Register

Choose this if you have bought a licence. A new window opens. You've got a mail with a serial number. Copy / paste the serial number in the Register window, and press 'done'. Transcriber will now run for as long as you like.

- Exit with settings

To quit the application and save your settings, and make Transcriber remember what file you have been working on.

5.3 Menu 'Prefs'

- Jump over silence

Enable or disable this to your liking. If it's on, Transcriber will not play silent parts. In some cases this can be a huge timesaver. Note, this does NOT work on combined files.

- Preferences

Opens the Preferences window (See [here](#))

- Keyboard Shortcuts (See [here](#))

Opens the Keyboard Shortcuts and VEC pedal window

- Set Working App

Opens the Set Working application window (See [here](#))

5.4 Menu "Windows'

- Timecode: If you have closed the Timecode display, you can get it back here
- Video: If you have closed the Video display, you can get it back here

5.5 Menu "Help'

- Open Help: Shows this manual
- About: Shows the version of Transcriber you are running

5.6 The graphical interface

If you have opened a file, you can drag the CTI around. CTI stands for Current Time Indicator, it's the small triangle on the top in the Transcriber window.

Note that if 'Jump over silence' is turned on, and you drag the CTI to a location where there is silence, it will jump to the first part where there is no silence.

Although you see play/pause buttons, you will probably not use them in normal operation.

Just under the play / pause buttons is a slider. This defines how fast PlayNormal is.

If you have a slow speaker that you can easily keep up with, you might want to drag it to the right to play back faster. On the other hand, if you have a fast speaker, you might want to slow him down to keep up without having to pause too much.

If you doubleclick on the slider's triangle, it will reset to normal speed. Right next to the play / pause buttons is a light. This can be grey (no file loaded), green (file loaded correctly) or red (file not loaded correctly, or no TC was found).

Do NOT start to work if the light is red! Your timecode will be meaningless!

(If you do not need timecode there is of course no problem.)

5.7 Text Before / Text After

The InsertTC function can do a few tricks extra:

Left and right of the Timecode display in the main Transcriber window you have two textfields.

Here you can type in text to be send before and after the Timecode

So if you put '[' in the before field, and ']' in the After field, you'll get something as [12:33:14:21] .

(Avid Scriptsync uses this format.)

You can also send a TAB command, using {TAB} (Note the curly brackets)

This can be handy if you work in Excel and want to auto-jump to the next field.

More on what this can do in [Appendix C](#).

6 Setting it up

You probably want to work in a way you're used to.

Transcriber is very flexible in how to use, but for that, you need to tell it a few things.

6.1 Preferences

In the menubar, choose 'Prefs' and then 'Preferences'

Here you can tell the application about what kind of Timecode you files have, and how it behaves.

On the left side you see the framerate and TC options.

The framerate will be checked, so if you choose the wrong one, you'll either get the choice to choose, or it will be set correctly for you.

Note for BWF files it is VERY IMPORTANT you set the correct framerate, or your timecode might be off. Some files include a framerate, some don't, and even when they do, it's not guaranteed it's correct! In doubt, always ask your client!

If you have LTC or IRIG timecode, it's also VERY IMPORTANT you set the correct framerate!

Note, for IRIG, you cannot choose 23,976 or NTSC NDF.

More in depth info about Timecode and framerate is in [Appendix B](#)

6.1.1 General options

On the right side of the Preferences window you see a list of checkboxes.

You can switch these options On or Off to you liking.

- Do not send frames: If you use InsertTC, the frames are not inserted. Normally you turn this on.
- Show foldername in TC window: shows the folder your file is located. Normally you leave this off
- Show filename in TC window: shows the current file. Might be handy to know what file you're working on, especially if you have loaded an entire folder.
- Send filename before timecode: Sends the filename to your document. Some clients might ask for this.
- Send foldername before timecode: Sends the foldername and TC to your document. Some clients might ask for this.
- Show Elapsed and Remaining in TC window: Shows (hours:minutes:seconds) the time elapsed and time remaining for the current file.
- Video window always on top: Makes the video window (if present) in a way it's always visible, other applications cannot cover it. Normally you turn this on.
- Copy TC to clipboard: When you hit "insert TC", it sends the current timecode to the clipboard instead of typing it for you. So, you can use Control V (windows) or CMD V (Mac) to insert it in your document. Normally you turn this off.
- Use Wscript: (Windows only.) If you are on Windows 7 or higher, you need to have this on to use the InsertTC function. On XP you can leave this off. If you have turned this on, normally the application will find Wscript by itself. If that fails you'll have the option to locate it yourself with the 'find manually' button.
- Keep pitch on speedchange: Turn this ON if you like the pitch to stay the same, no matter the speed. Turn it OFF if you don't want this (thus ending up with high pitch voices on speeded up sound.)

6.1.2 Silence Detection

If you want to use the 'jump over silence' function you can define here how that will behave. Change the numbers to your liking.

Transcriber will consider a piece of sound silence if two criteria are met:

The volume needs to be lower than a certain volume, AND it must stay that way for at least X seconds.

'Silence if volume is lower than -40 dB'

-90 means that it has to be really, really quiet before Transcriber considers it silence.

-20 means that soft voices might be considered silence as well.

'And silence gap is longer than: 5 seconds"

Fill in how long a silence must be for Transcriber to make the jump.

Normally a value of -40 dB and gap of 5 seconds is good.

Note, if you already have loaded a file, you must re-load it after changing these numbers!

6.1.3 GoBack A bit and Go back on PlayNormal

Fill in how far back you want to go if you use the GoBackABit and PlayNormal function.

Note, this is in Milliseconds. So to go back 4 seconds, enter 4000.

6.1.4 Characters for TC, and their delimiter

If you have a keyboard that is non-US, you might have problems sending Timecode to your text editor.

Eg, a Czech keyboard has the digits mapped under SHIFT.

So, if you do not see the digits right, check the " + shift for TC chars" checkbox.

If you do not see the TC delimiter (most of the time noted as a Colon, :), you should set the " + shift" checkbox.

If you do so, do NOT use the Shift key to set the character if that DID work!

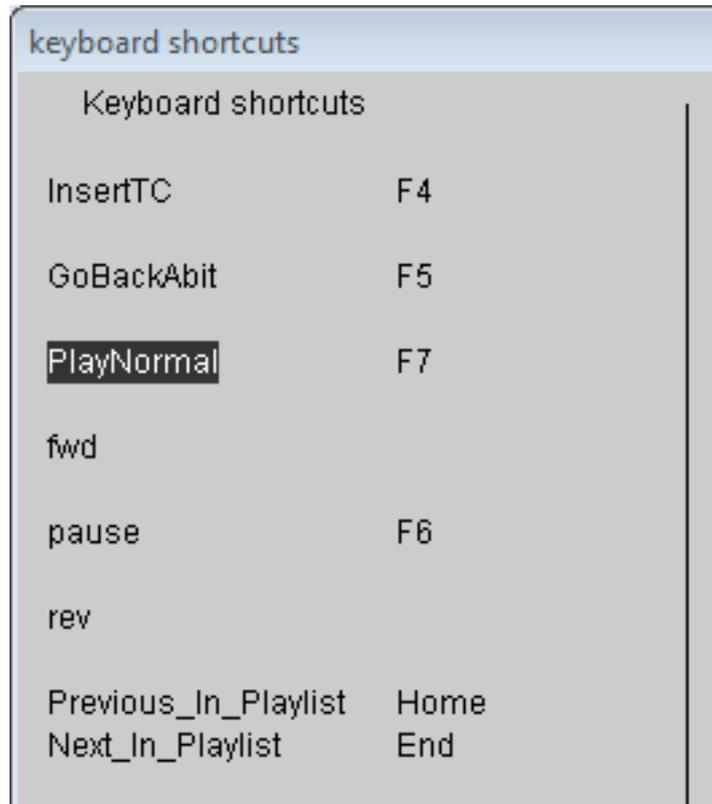
Thus, if you want a Colon (:) for your TC separator, and that is under Shift Period on your keyboard, enter just the period (.) and check the checkbox.

The application then will send Shift + Period, resulting in a properly formatted Timecode.

6.2 Setting up keyboard shortcuts

In the menubar, choose 'Prefs' and then 'Keyboard shortcuts'

A new window opens. Here you can assign keyboard keys to functions.



Note that the application WILL NOT do anything else when the keyboard shortcut window is open.

To assign a key to a function:

Click with your mouse on the function you want. The function gets highlighted.

(In the image you can see the 'PlayNormal' function highlighted.)

Then, press the key on your keyboard you would like to use for that function. Do so for all the functions you want to use.

If you want, you can also use Control in combination with the key.

To assign a function to a key in combination with Control, hold down the Control key while pressing the key of your liking.

If you want to remove a key from a function, click on it, then click on the 'delete' button.

The same for keys you've assigned with Control, hold down Control, and click the 'delete' button.

Do NOT press 'backspace', that will only assign the backspace key to that function.

If satisfied, press 'done'

During transcribing you need to have access to at least some of these functions

A list of all functions and their meaning is in [Appendix A](#)

Note that the keys you use, must NOT be in use in the application you work in. (Eg Excel or Word)

You can learn more about that in [chapter 8](#)

6.3 Setting up a VEC pedal

If you have a VEC pedal:

In the menubar, choose 'Prefs' and then 'Keyboard shortcuts'

A new window opens. Here you can assign some of the functions to your pedal.



Click on one of the squares on the right side of the window to assign functions.

In the example above, you can see that InsertTC is set to LeftDown, PlayNormal is set to CenterUp, and pause is set to CenterDown.

A list of the functions you can assign to keys and the VEC pedal is in [Appendix A](#).

6.4 Set up the Working Application

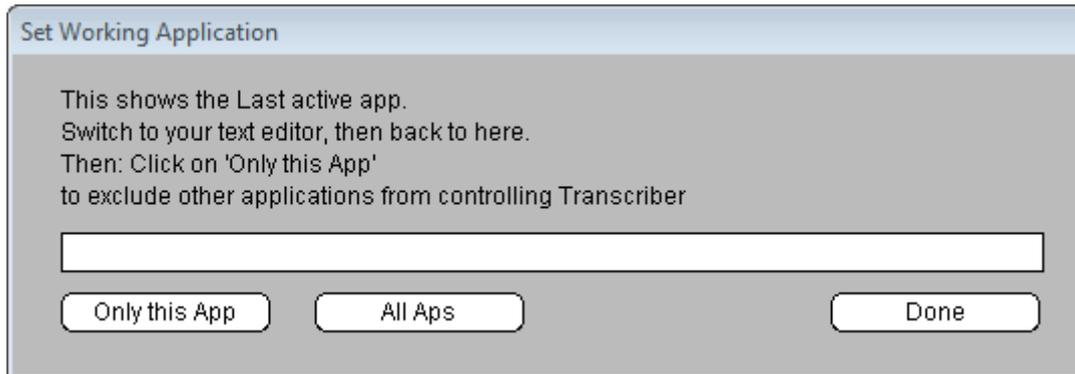
If you have a lot of custom commands assigned to keys, it might bite you if you switch applications. (Eg, Page Up / Down can be in use to walk through your inserted TC's. But you do not want that function to kick in when you are in an Internet browser)

You can set up Transcriber only to listen to keys if your text editor, or Transcriber is the current active application.

To do so:

Go to the Setup menu, and choose 'Set Working App.'

A new window opens, looking like this:



Now, with this window open, switch to your text editor and back to this window.

It now shows you the name of the application of your text editor.

If that's correct, click on the 'Only this App' button. Then click on Done.

(Click on 'All Apps' if you want Transcriber always to listen to keys.)

When done, Transcriber will only listen to keys if your text editor is active, or Transcriber is on the foreground itself.

Note, sending TC will never work when Transcriber is the foreground application!

7 Errors

In case you run into trouble, first things to check:

7.1 Transcriber will not start or behaves strange.

On Mac, if your language is set to Russian, the application might not start. Switch to another language.

Make sure you run the application with Admin rights. The application needs Read / Write permissions in it's own folder, and subfolder. The same goes for Mplayer.exe, that lives in 'essential\Mplayer.
(Right click on the folder and choose 'properties', it should be set to Read and Write.)

7.2 If Transcriber seems to hang.

Sometimes a key does not 'release' itself.

If you see 'input blocked' in the main window, just below the timecode field, press the same button again to 'release' it. To avoid this behavior, it's best to press your keyboard button slightly longer.

7.3 Video searching does not work properly.

You need to use the 'MakeTranscriberFiles' application, or use the 'convert and open video' function.

Do read the part about video in [Appendix D](#).

7.4 Timecode window shows 'Not Active'.

Make sure that the '[Set Working Application](#)' is correct for your current text editor.

7.5 If 'insertTC' does not work.

Turn ON 'use Wscript' in the preferences.

If that does not help, AND you are on Windows XP, you can avoid using the Wscript method:

But, Sending TC to your application may not work if UAC settings are too protective.

If it does not work, go to Control Panels, there pick System and Security.

In there, under 'action center', you'll find Change User Account Control settings.

Click on that, and move the slider all the way down. After that, you need to restart Windows.

Make sure that the '[Set Working Application](#)' is correct for your current text editor!

7.6 If you cannot control Transcriber from within your text editor / spreadsheet.

First: Make sure that the '[Set Working Application](#)' is correct for your current text editor!

Most text editors use a lot of keys for shortcuts. Since the Transcriber application is in the background, the text editor must let "pass" the keys.

If the keys you have assigned to control Transcriber are also in use in the text editor, there is a huge chance they will never get passed to Transcriber.

But even when the text editor will let them pass, it may also perform an action that is probably unwanted.

The solution:

Pick another editor that allows you to use the keys.

WordPad has a lot of keys that are no in use, but Word uses almost all.

Either choose keys that are not in use, or remove the short key functions from the text editor.

7.6.1 How to remove a keyboard shortcut from Word:

Let's say you want F5 for Insert TC'. Now Word by default uses F5 for something else, so if you press it, the keypress will be handled by Word, and not be passed to Transcriber.

If you want to kill this, so Transcriber can use F5, do the following:

In Word, go to the "Tools" menu, and choose "Customize" 'keyboard', go to 'categories' (in the left top), scroll down and select 'all commands'

First you have to find out what exactly Word is using the key for.

Pick ANY command, highlight the 'press new shortcut key' and press F5

Word will tell you to what command it's currently assigned.

DO NOT press 'assign' , but find that command in the Commands list and highlight it.

It will show you that F5 is indeed used for this command. Highlight F5 and press 'remove'

Repeat this for all keys you need to control the Transcriber app.

7.7 If opening of files does not work

Importing of files might fail if:

They have very long names.

They contain special characters (Like ð, ç, ¿)

Importing of files with a very long pathname (meaning, folder names are long, or the file lives in a folder inside a folder inside a folder and so on).

8 Appendix A, Functions with keyboard shortcuts

A short description of what they do if you have assigned them to a key.

Main control functions:

- InsertTC: put the current timecode in your document, including a custom text before and after. (could be reelnames or such). Depending on your settings, the filename can also be send.
- GoBackAbit: Rewinds the sound or video a bit and start playNormal
- PlayNormal: Sets the sound or video in the playspeed set by the playSpeed slider.
- Fwd: Makes the sound or video go faster by 100%. Thus, if you are in pause and press Fwd, it will start playing normally. Press it again and the playspeed will be x 2, again x 3 etc...
- Pause: Pauses the playback.
- Rev: Play backwards. Tab it more and the reverse speed increases.
- Previous_In_Playlist: If an entire folder is loaded, go to the previous clip.
- Next_In_Playlist: If an entire folder is loaded, go to the next clip.
- SetCorrectTC: To manually set the current TC. If you use this, the Transcriber application will try to switch itself to the foreground. The TC window becomes yellow. Type in hours, minutes, seconds and frames, and press Enter (Eg, type 12360900, hit Enter, and the TC will become 12:36:09:00). Note that this goes for the CURRENT position. So if you do the above example in the middle of the file, the TC of the first frame will be lower.

Smart search functions:

Markers: If you have already used Insert TC, you can jump between the markers. Both audio/video in Transcriber AND your text document will jump to that position.

- Back_1_Marker: Go to the previous inserted TC
- Forward_1_Marker: Go to the next inserted TC
- Back_10_Markers: Go back 10 inserted TC's
- Forward_10_Markers: Go forward 10 inserted TC's

What happens:

Everytime you do an 'InsertTC', a marker is placed in the timeline. If you hit one of these keys:

- Transcriber makes the audio/video jump to that marker.
- Transcriber sends Control F (find) to your text editor, types in the TC, and sends 'Enter'

Thus, your text editor will do a search for the point where you inserted your TC.

- FindSelectedTC: When a TC is highlighted in your document, this function will make the audio/video go there. Note that you can be a bit sloppy and select slightly more than the TC.

Note: Do NOT use a key that would move the cursor, (Like PageUp or Home), as that will remove the selection before Transcriber has seen it.

What happens: If you hit the button, Transcriber sends a copy command to your text editor. Then it analyzes the TC and will jump to the correct position and start playing. It's smart enough to only look at digits, and will know if you have choosen NOT to send frames.

Classic search functions:

- GoTo: the timecode window becomes editable. Enter a (partial) TC and press return to go there. (if you are at 02:00:00:00 and want to go to 02:40:00:00, just press 400000 and return. The period (.) key on the numeric pad acts as double zero. If you do not want to assign this function to a button, double-clicking on the Timecode window will also give you the possibility to enter a TC direct. (handy if you have left a project half finished and you want to jump where you left off.)
- GoTo: enter an exact TC you want to go to. You MUST include frames.
- Add: enter a TC amount you want to go Forward. You MUST include frames.
- Subtract: enter a TC you want to go Back. You Must include frames.

9 Appendix B, Timecodes explained

Normal TC:

Check 'use QT tc' if you have .Mov files that do not have LTC.

Check 'use Mp3 / SoundDevices / MakeTranscriberfiles tc' if you have Mp3 files in this style

Check 'use Adobe XML tc' if you suspect files if other options do not give you Timecode.

Check BWF if you have Broadcast Wave files. These files have a .wav extension, not .bwf !

Then you have the option to set the TC manual.

If you have files without TC, but know what it 'should' be, you can use the 'set tc manual' option. After loading, you have to set the correct TC yourself.

Ltc (Longitudinal Time Code)

You can recognize this if you listen to the file. If it has a high pitch noise, it's probably LTC.

Click on the either 'left' or 'right' button.

(No worries, if you pick the wrong one the app. will find out and set it correctly.)

ONLY check the 'and expect TC breaks' if you have a long file made out of different takes. Otherwise it won't do anything except taking time!

Third option is IRIG.

If you have a file with funny noise and it's not LTC, it might be IRIG timecode.

(Note, this is very uncommon in the video world, but can happen in forensic / logged communication.)

If you think you have IRIG on one of the channels, pick the channel with the noise here.

10 Appendix C, mini-macros in the Before and After field

You can make mini-macros in the 'before' and 'after' field that get executed when you use the 'insertTC' function.

`^C` -- sends Control C

`~x` --sends X (shift plus key, whatever that is on your keyboard)

`{F1}` -- sends the F1 key –Note, function keys cannot be send on Mac

`{ENTER}` -- sends Enter

Notes: The string sent can contain any alphanumeric character.

Use "@" for the Alt key, "~" for the Shift key, "^" for the Control key, and "#" for the Macintosh Command key. If you need to send these actual keys, use a combination of Shift and the required letter eg to send "@" use "~2".

Other special keys can be sent as follows: (include the curly brackets)

`{F1}`, `{F2}`, etc to `{F12}`

`{INSERT}`

`{DELETE}`

`{HOME}`

`{END}`

`{PGUP}`

`{PGDN}`

`{TAB}`

`{ENTER}`

`{BKSP}`

`{PRTSC}`

`{ESCAPE}`

`{LEFT}`

`{RIGHT}`

`{UP}`

`{DOWN}`

(Sending function keys is not supported on Macintosh.)

Note: Do NOT type anything else than shown here between curly brackets!
That will give you an error on sending TC.

11 Appendix D, work with video

Modern video is often created to make it as small as possible, without sacrificing too much quality.

Now this is nice, but it comes with a big drawback, it's very hard to navigate properly.

Ever tried finding a specific frame on YouTube? It's close to impossible. But moving to a specific spot is exactly what you'll want while transcribing.

There are two ways to get around this problem.

The easiest way is just to use the 'Convert and load video' routine. It can convert a wide variety of formats (including DVD VOB files, FLV files, AVI etc.) to a format that is nice with Transcriber.

The conversion is quite fast, and you only have to do it once, but of course there will be some waiting.

If you want to create Transcriber friendly files outside Transcriber, do read the following, or send his piece of text to the company that is going to provide you with the video:

Long GOP should be avoided. Although they are nice looking and small in size, they cost a tremendous amount of computer power to decode, thus making it hard for Transcriber to work on them.

Best to use is a small GOP size, between 12 and 30 frames. (Higher GOP size makes the file smaller, but also more difficult to search.)

12 Appendix E, DVD

Transcriber MUST have access to an installed DVD player. If you do not have a compatible DVDplayer installed, the 'work from DVD' will give you a video window with a red cross instead of an image.

It cannot do any harm to try if the current DVD player you have is compatible, just pop in a DVD, close the DVD player you have if it comes up, and run Transcriber. If it works, great!

But it can happen that it will not work....

First, check if not another application is trying to access the DVD. If so, close it!

In that does not help, uninstall your old DVD software and install one of the following DVD software players

WinDVD (any version from 4 and up should do the trick)

WinDVD is now from Corel, you can download a free 30 demo.

<http://apps.corel.com/lp/ivi/index.html>

PowerDVD

or ATI DVD decoder

Also, you need to have DirectX 8.1 or higher installed.

To check your DirectX version, choose Start, Run and enter DxDiag. (Most modern computers have a higher version)

DVD's with an interactive menu must be operated by the mouse.

There is no way to read Timecode from the DVD. Thus, you have to set Timecode manually for each segment.