Episode® 6.5

Affordable transcoding for
individuals and workgroups

Multiformat encoding software with
uncompromising quality, speed and control.

The Episode Product Guide is designed to provide an overview of the features and functions of Telestream's Episode products. This guide also provides product information, helpful encoding scenarios and other relevant information to assist in the product review process. Please review this document along with the associated Episode User Guide, which provides complete product details.

Telestream provides this guide for informational purposes only; it is not a product specification. The information in this document is subject to change at any time.

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EPISODE OVERVIEW

Episode multiformat encoding software provides the highest quality video transcoding for the entire digital post-production workflow – from camera to delivery – with remarkable speed, powerful controls and cross-platform scalability at an affordable price.

The ability to preserve your high quality content through the entire production workflow through distribution to an ever-growing number of digital media formats can be both challenging and time-consuming. Episode – available for PC and Mac– offers extensive video and audio file format support, plus scalability, quality and ultra-fast encoding for distribution to web, mobile devices, DVD, broadcast and more.

The Episode family of products includes Episode, Episode Pro and Episode Engine

Episode ($495 USD)

Episode is ideal for individuals who need to process one job at a time.
- Highest quality transcoding: picture-perfect quality at any resolution
- Extensive format support: new media, web, post-production, DVD/Blu-ray, and more
- Ease of use: intuitive graphical user interface and workflow builder
- Hands-on control: extensive set of presets and high-quality filters to fine tune media encoding
- Built-in file-sharing: enables collaboration between machines, PC or Mac
- One-click clustering™: Create ad hoc clusters for sharing transcoding across networked computers
- Delivery: FTP, SMB, automatic publishing to YouTube
- Unlimited batch processing
- Fully automated workflows

Episode Pro ($995 USD)

Episode Pro is perfect for individuals with professional needs or for workgroups.
Includes all Episode features PLUS:
- More format support: MXF, GXF, MPEG-2/4 Transport Streams, Image sequences & multi-bitrate streaming formats
- Parallel encoding: enables parallel encoding of two encoding jobs

Episode Engine ($4995 USD)

Ideal for the high-volume, time-critical needs.
Episode Engine saturates multi-core machines or workgroup clusters with unlimited parallel processing for high-volume throughput at maximum speed. Episode Engine is optimized for performance and speed.

Includes all Episode Pro features PLUS:
- Distributed encoding: Telestream's exclusive Split-and-Stitch® technology allows Episode Engine to take full advantage of all available CPU power, whether on a single machine or across multiple machines for truly remarkable speed
- Unlimited parallel encoding: with the power of parallel processing, Episode Engine can create multiple output files simultaneously, saving valuable time.

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KEY BENEFITS

Affordable transcoding for workgroups

The scalability of Episode makes it a perfect choice for workgroups: a single software application for both PCs and Macs that supports desktop to workstation, single user to multi-user environments. It's easy and affordable to add encoding nodes or cluster machines for faster encoding when needed.

Equally at home on a laptop, in the field, or working as part of a cluster of dedicated machines, Episode can be configured quickly and easily to meet the needs of the day, or the hour. Episode's unique one-click clustering and file sharing capabilities make "prep and submit" encoding workflows easy.

Collaboration and clustering are at the core of Episode's design. Easily join multiple machines together, both Mac and PC, and share encoding work among workstations. There is no need for costly add-ons or IT assistance. Episode's built-in file sharing system makes offloading work from one machine to another a snap. Simply prep your encoding work, send it off to the cluster and get it back when it's done.

Highest Quality

Best-in-class video processing, a 10-bit encoding engine and fine-tuning compression combine to allow you to generate pristine picture quality. Episode produces brilliant "true to the original" results for simple transcoding jobs as well as more complex encoding jobs such as standards conversion. In addition bumpers, trailers and watermarks can also be added to enhance and protect your video content.

Unrivaled Speed

Episode's multi-threaded encoding engine is capable of utilizing the full power of multi-core workstations. In high volume workflows, Episode Engine maximizes throughput with unlimited simultaneous encodes. When encoding speed is critical, Episode can meet the demand with its unique Split-and-Stitch® distributed encoding.

Split-and-Stitch technology, available in Episode Engine, enables distributed and segmented encoding for any supported format, taking advantage of all available CPU power. Whether on a single workstation or across a cluster of machines, Split-and-Stitch is able to achieve truly remarkable encoding speeds.

Broadest Format Support

Episode supports the widest range of [formats](#) in its class. Episode transcodes to all major Web, DVD authoring, mobile and portable device formats, including Flash 8/9 (VP6), WM9, Web M, QT, H.264, VC-1, 3GPP, MPEG-1/2/4 and more. Episode Pro adds transcoding to high-end broadcast and professional formats such as MXF, GXF, MPEG transport streams, and more. The Pro Audio option that can be added to any of the Episode family (Episode, Episode Pro or Episode Engine,) provides additional audio support for AC3, AAC HE and AMR. Telestream provides frequent updates to ensure that Episode stays current with evolving formats. Whatever your encoding needs may be, Episode can handle them.

Flexible Workflows

Episode was made with the creative professional in mind. Extensive control of codec and filtration parameters, along with a real-time preview, gives you complete hands-on control. In file-based workflows, automated and shared transcoding are a must and Episode can easily be configured to automatically pick up and deliver files to network shares and FTP servers. Episode can also be easily integrated into larger workflows via its command line and XML-RPC interfaces.

FEATURES

Highest quality

- **Best-in-class video processing**

  10-bit encoding engine and fine-tuning compression combine to allow you to generate pristine picture quality. Brilliant "true to the original" results for simple transcoding jobs as well as more complex encoding jobs such as standards conversion. In addition bumpers, trailers and watermarks can also be added to enhance and protect your video content.

- **Fine-tuning controls**

  Extensive control of codec and filtration parameters, along with a real-time preview, gives you complete hands-on control. The ability to fine-tune the video, with frame-by-frame video preview, allows you to quickly and easily adjust your encoding and preprocessing settings.

- **Fully configurable pre-processing filters & control**

  High quality filters including motion compensated deinterlacing and frame-rate conversion enable complex standards conversion. Filters also include black and white restoration, HSV and gamma correction, noise removal, image sharpening for video, and normalize, balance, fade in/out for audio.

All the formats you need

- **Extensive format support**

  Episode supports the widest range of formats in its class including all the major input output formats for web, streaming, VOD, production, broadcast and more. Whatever your encoding needs may be, Episode can handle them. New in version 6.5, Episode adds support for formats including HEVC, XAVC, VP9, and MXF AS-11. See a complete list of [supported formats](#).

- **Pro Audio Option**

  For $395, add encode and decode support for:
  - Dolby Digital (AC3) – contains up to six discrete channels of sound.
  - AAC HE – High-Efficiency Advanced Audio Coding, a lossy data compression scheme for digital audio defined as a MPEG-4 Audio profile in ISO/IEC 14496-3.
  - AAC LC – Low Complexity Advanced Audio Coding optimized for low-bitrate applications such as streaming audio.

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- o AMR – Adaptive Multi-Rate audio codec, an audio data compression scheme optimized for speech coding.

- **Hundreds of presets**

  Episode has hundreds of presets to choose from, including presets for Apple devices, streaming, broadcast applications and many, many more. These preset templates are designed to make your videos look great with just a click. But, all the presets are customizable and parameters that you can adjust further if you want more fine-tuning controls.

- **Closed caption support**

  Episode 6.5 enables caption insertion with encoding and pass-through options, and supports CEA-608 and CEA-708 captioning standards as well as MCC and SCC caption formats. With federal regulations mandating captioning, this will enable post-production workflows to handle embedded captions easily.

- **Multi-bitrate streaming support**   (Pro and Engine only)

  Multi-bitrate streaming improves a viewer's experience by letting users deliver videos in the resolution and bit rate that best matches viewers' connection speeds. With version 6.5, users will be able to easily encode and create packages for Apple HLS (HTTP Live Streaming), Microsoft Smooth Streaming, and MPEG-DASH with a click of a button.

- **Image sequence support**   (Pro and Engine only)

  Image sequences are now available directly from the Episode UI, which provides an easy way to manage thousands of frames for 3D animation and compositing for visual effects. Users can step through the sequence frame by frame with the highest possible quality. It's also possible to add multiple files from different sequences for multiple encode tasks.

Flexible workflows

- **Hands-on control**

  Each codec and preset has hundreds of options that can be adjusted for fine-tuning. This, along with a real-time preview, gives editors complete hands-on control of all their media.

- **Automated workflows**

  In file-based workflows, automated and shared transcoding are a must and Episode can easily be configured to automatically pick up and deliver files to local folders, network shares and FTP servers. Episode can also be easily integrated into larger workflows with an easy to use API.

- **Enhancement Filters**

  Episode includes streamlined, professional enhancement filters for complete control. Users can clean up noisy video, increase lightness, brightness or contrast; add bumpers, trailers, watermarks; overlay timecode; add closed captions, or even perform advanced conversions such as NTSC-PAL standards conversion and telecine insertion and removal.

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- **3rd party Integration**

  Episode integrates with a growing number of third party applications and systems. For creative facilities, Episode allows editors and artists to easily offload encoding tasks to other systems or to centralize functions on an encoding cluster. Integrations include Autodesk Smoke and Flame, axle video media management, Levels Beyond and [Adobe Premiere Pro](#).

- **Support for multi-track audio**

  Featuring improved performance and stability, Episode 6.5 adds presets and filters to easily map multi-track audio channels -- rearrange audio tracks, change speaker assignments, and change audio formats and sample rates.

- **Clustering**

  Easily join multiple machines together, both Mac and PC, and share encoding work among workstations. Episode's includes a built-in file sharing system to make offloading work from one machine to another easy.

- **Free API available for all versions**

  Episode is easy to integrate into your workflow with its free, easy to use API. Includes both a Command Line interface and an XML RPC interface. Find code samples and documentation in the [resources section](#).

Fast encoding speeds

- **Unlimited batch processing**

  Prioritize encoding and add files and settings to the batch while running; create bookmarks to source folders.

- **Parallel encoding**   (Pro and Engine only)

  Episode's multi-threaded encoding engine is capable of utilizing the full power of multi-core workstations. In high volume workflows, Episode Pro and Episode Engine can speed up encoding even more by allowing multiple jobs to be processed in parallel. Episode Pro enables two concurrent jobs; Episode Engine supports an unlimited number of parallel jobs, optimizing the processing power of multi-core machines.

- **Split and Stitch**   (Engine only)

  When encoding speed is critical, Episode can meet the demand with its unique Split-and-Stitch® distributed encoding. Split-and-Stitch technology, available in Episode Engine, enables distributed and segmented encoding for any supported format, taking advantage of all available CPU power. Whether on a single workstation or across a cluster of machines, Split-and-Stitch is able to achieve truly remarkable encoding speeds.

- **Easy to use interface**

  Episode's visual workflow builder simplifies the encoding process and helps identify functions being performed and the status of work in progress.

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NEW IN EPISODE 6.5

Closed caption support

Episode 6.5 enables caption insertion with encoding and pass-through options, and supports CEA-608 and CEA-708 captioning standards as well as MCC and SCC caption formats. With federal regulations mandating captioning, this will enable post-production workflows to handle embedded captions easily.

Support for more formats

Episode supports the widest range of formats in its class, allowing users to repurpose media for websites, mobile devices, television, archive, disk authoring and more. With version 6.5, Episode adds support for formats including HEVC, XAVC, VP9, and MXF AS-11.

Multi-bitrate streaming support

Multi-bitrate streaming improves a viewer's experience by letting users deliver videos in the resolution and bit rate that best matches viewers' connection speeds. With version 6.5, users will be able to easily encode and create packages for Apple HLS (HTTP Live Streaming), Microsoft Smooth Streaming, and MPEG-DASH with a click of a button.

Support for multi-track audio

Featuring improved performance and stability, Episode 6.5 adds presets and filters to easily map multi-track audio channels – rearrange audio tracks, change speaker assignments, and change audio formats and sample rates.

Image sequence support

Image sequences are now available directly from the Episode UI, which provides an easy way to manage thousands of frames for 3D animation and compositing for visual effects. Users can step through the sequence frame by frame with the highest possible quality. It's also possible to add multiple files from different sequences for multiple encode tasks.

TYPICAL CUSTOMER WORKFLOW SCENARIOS

Web

A film production company uses Episode to batch encode an average of 30 two-minute films each day from QuickTime to Flash for uploading to the web. The user selected Episode for its breadth of input and output formats plus its ability to customize encoding settings.

A group of broadcasters capture stories from their newscasts and then use Episode to convert them to Flash and Windows Media for delivery to web servers for viewing on the stations' websites.

Mobile and Portable Devices

A mobile content delivery provider uses Episode to transcode content from broadcast and cable television networks and major music labels to 3GPP, WMV, MPEG-4, AMR and AAC formats for viewing by millions of users on mobile phones.

A major mobile services provider uses Episode for its ability to handle a wide range of input sources and ability to deliver top quality video in a variety of output file formats for mobile customers and end users.

Broadcast and Professional

A broadcast news team outfits its photographers, field producers and reporters with Episode software loaded on laptops along with editing software – to allow them to shoot, edit and create news clips from remote locations. Episode allows them to quickly and easily produce high-quality output for broadcast, web and mobile viewing devices.

A post-production boutique, that provides creative services for television and film, uses Episode to transcode and manage all the files that are repurposed for web, mobile and client review. The workflow is primarily from ProRes to various flavors of H.264 for client review and web, plus encoding to WMV and 3GP for mobile.

An editorial house uses Episode for its ability to meet the needs of its diverse clientele by accepting any format and providing high-quality encoding to any format, including Flash, H.264, MPEG-4 and more.

Cloud-based Transcoding Services

A media asset management platform provider selected Episode Engine as the transcoding module for its cloud service platform. Episode Engine was chosen because of the breadth of its format support, the ease of integrating Episode's XML-based settings and command line interface with its own systems, and because Episode Engine offers scalability with the service provider's clustered servers.

DVD Authoring and more

A production company, primarily involved in TV commercial production and corporate documentary films, uses Episode to compress content to formats that can be used for client

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review and for final distribution via web or DVD. The user converts from a variety of editing applications to MPEG-2 (for DVD), Windows Media and MPEG-4 (for web review), H264 (for iphone/ipod review), and Flash (for final web distribution) as well as MP3.

A video compressionist uses Episode to transcode video for web streaming or download – primarily from QuickTime (DV and ProRes) to Flash VP6, H.264 and occasionally to MPEG-4, MPEG-2 and WMV. A favorite feature is Episode's fast, high-quality H.264 compression and motion-compensated deinterlacing.

A digital media enthusiast uses Episode for the production of personal movies. Using Final Cut Express the user exports the finished movie using Apple Intermediate Codec (to eliminate quality loss), then uses Episode to create a custom H.264 high profile encoding setting for video and AAC for audio.

A Canadian university installed Episode on each computer in its new technical lab to train students to become multimedia technicians in a real-life post-production/broadcast environment. Episode is used to familiarize student with different formats and help them learn media encoding.

INPUT FORMATS

Web:
- Flash 8 (VP6s, VP6e)
- Flash 9 (H.264)
- H.264
- MPEG-1
- QuickTime
- Windows Media 9 (VC-1, WMA Pro, WMV)

Streaming / Mobile:
- 3GPP, 3GPP2, MP4 (MPEG-4, H.264, AAC)
- MP4
- Windows Media 9

IPTV / Video On Demand:
- H.264, MPEG-2 Transport Streams

DVD and Blu-ray:
- VOB

Production:
- Autodesk Native RGB
- AVC-Intra
- AVI
- Avid DNxHD®
- DV, DVCPRO HD
- HDV
- HEVC[1]
- IMX
- Motion JPEG[2]
- ProRes
- QuickTime
- Sony XAVC[1]
- XDCAM HD

Image Sequences:
- DPX
- TGA
- TIFF

Audio only:
- AAC
- AC-3 (optional)
- AIFF
- Dolby AAC
- Dolby AC-3
- M4A
- MP3
- MPEG-2 Audio
- PCM
- WAVE
- WMA

Broadcast:
- AES[2]
- BWF[2]
- GXF
- MPEG-2 Program Streams
- MPEG-2 Transport Streams
- MXF (OP1a, AS-11)

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OUTPUT FORMATS

Web:

- Flash 8 (VP6s, VP6e)
- Flash 9 (H.264)
- H.264
- MPEG-1
- QuickTime
- WebM
- Windows Media 9 (VC-1, WMA Pro, WMV)

Streaming / Mobile:

- 3GPP, 3GPP2, MP4 (MPEG-4, H.264, AAC)
- MP4
- Windows Media 9

IPTV / Video On Demand:

- H.264, MPEG-2 Transport Streams[2]

Production:

- AVC-Intra (MXF[2] & MOV)

- AVI
- Avid DNxHD®
- DV (25, 50)
- DVCPro HD
- HDV[2]
- HEVC[1]
- IMX[2]
- Motion JPEG
- ProRes[3]
- QuickTime
- Sony XAVC[1]
- XDCAM HD[2]

Adaptive Bitrate:

- Apple HLS[4]
- Microsoft Smooth Streaming[4]

Apple Devices:

Apple TV

- H.264

iPad, iPod, iPhone

- H.264, MPEG-4, AAC

DVD and Blu-ray:

- H.264 Transport Streams

- MPEG-2

Audio only:

- AAC
- AC-3 (optional)
- AIFF
- Dolby AAC
- Dolby AC-3
- M4A
- MP3
- MPEG-2 Audio
- OGG Vorbis
- PCM
- WAVE
- WMA

Broadcast:

- AES[2]
- BWF[2]
- GXF[2]
- MPEG-2 Program Streams
- MPEG-2 Transport Streams
- MXF[2] (OP1a, AS-11, OPAtom)

[1]Results may be limited due to memory restrictions.
[2]Available in Episode Pro & Episode Engine
[3]Available on all Mac versions, and on Episode Engine for Windows on Windows Server 2012
[4]Available with Episode API

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FEATURE CHART

Quality	Episode	Episode Pro	Episode Engine
Best in class video processing	X	X	X
Hands-on control of codec and filter settings, real time preview	X	X	X
High quality filters including motion compensated deinterlacing and frame-rate conversion	X	X	X
Formats			
Extensive format support up to super high resolutions for new media, web, post-production, DVD/Blu-ray and more	X	X	X
New! Caption support - CEA-608 and CEA-708 captioning standards as well as MCC and SCC caption format support	X	X	X
New! Support for HEVC, XAVC, VP9, and MXF AS-11	X	X	X
Native ProRes encoding (Mac only for Episode/Episode Pro; Mac & Windows for Engine)	X	X	X
Pro Audio option – $395		Option	
Added support for professional formats (MXF, GXF, MPEG-2/4 Transport Streams & more)		X	X
New! Multi-bitrate streaming support for Apple HLS, Microsoft Smooth Streaming, MPEG DASH		X	X
New! Added support for Image Sequences		X	X
Flexible workflows			
Choose from many professional templates or flexible custom settings	X	X	X
One-Click Clustering with built-in file sharing	X	X	X
Monitors and Automatic file deployment	X	X	X
New! Support for multi-track audio – presets and filters to easily map multi-track audio channels	X	X	X
Integrations: Autodesk Wiretap, axle video media management, Levels Beyond, Adobe Premiere Pro	X	X	X
Speed			
Unlimited batch processing	X	X	X
Parallel encoding		2 Jobs	Unlimited
Split-and-Stitch® distributed encoding			X
Premium Support¹	**$99/year**	**$199/year**	**$999/year**
Priority response, telephone support, free software upgrades, Remote Access services	X	X	X

*1st year Premium Support required and included in the purchase of Episode, Episode Pro and Episode Engine

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TRIAL VERSION AVAILABLE

A free watermarked trial version of Episode is available that allows users to try Episode products before they buy them. The trial version is fully functional and includes support for all features and formats up to Episode Engine, although the encoded output file is watermarked. For audio only files, the encoded files are limited to a length of 30 seconds or half the length of the source file. More information is available at http://www.telestream.net/episode/overview.htm.

TECH SPECS

Mac OS X

- Intel-based Mac
- Mac OS X 10.9 and higher
- Minimum 4 GB RAM
- 20 GB hard drive
- QuickTime 7 or higher
- Quartz Extreme compatible graphics card and display required for preview
- Online Help Browsers Requirements:
  ◊ Safari

Windows

- Windows 8.1: 1.5 GHz 32-bit (x86), 4 GB RAM, 40 GB hard drive, or;
- Windows 7: 1.5 GHz 32-bit (x86), 4 GB RAM, 40 GB hard drive, or;
- Windows Server 2012: 1.5 GHz 32-bit (x86), 4 GB RAM, 40 GB hard drive
- QuickTime 7.6.2 or later
- Bonjour Print Services for Windows v2.0.2
- .NET Framework 3.5 SP1
- .NET Framework 4.0
- Online Help Browsers Requirements:
  ◊ Internet Explorer: Version 8 or later
  ◊ Firefox: Version 6 or later

DOCUMENTATION & TUTORIALS

Getting Started
- Coming soon

User Guides
- Coming soon

LOGO

CONTACT INFORMATION

Product Information

http://www.telestream.net/episode/overview.htm

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COMPANY OVERVIEW

Telestream® provides world-class live and on-demand digital video tools and workflow solutions that allow consumers and businesses to transform video on the desktop and across the enterprise. Many of the world's most demanding media and entertainment companies such as CBS, BBC, CNN, FOX, CBC, Comcast, Direct TV, Time Warner, MTV, Discovery, and Lifetime, as well as a growing number of users in a broad range of business environments, rely on Telestream products to streamline operations, reach broader audiences and generate more revenue from their media. These companies choose to work with Telestream as they know they will get a trusted and highly skilled technical partner.

Telestream products span the entire digital media lifecycle, including video capture and ingest; live and on-demand encoding and transcoding; playout, delivery, and live streaming; as well as management and automation of the entire workflow. The company also partners closely with the industry's leading digital media companies across the entire digital media lifecycle, from consumer to enterprise. Telestream corporate headquarters are located in Nevada City, California

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