



# Scripted

## Post-Production Guidelines

Episode Delivery Procedures

2023

V2

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## 2 TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS & ON-AIR BROADCAST STANDARDS

### 2.1 INTRODUCTION

This document provides guidelines for internal and external productions to deliver episodic content digitally to Paramount. The document will walk you through audio, video, paperwork, and supplemental delivery specifications. All deliveries must conform to the specifications within this document. *Any failure to comply will result in complete redelivery at the show's expense.*

**Paramount Network Post Production Operations (NPPO)** will initiate calls at the following milestones:

- When the initial budget and production schedule are approved
  - This discussion will include overall delivery specifications and expectations
- Roughly 1 week prior to Production
  - The official Post Production Kickoff call will include discussions of show format, delivery specifications, and introductions to various Paramount teams involved with the receipt and QC of your assets
- One week prior to first episode delivery
  - A final check-in to review delivery process in full detail and expected deliverables

The episode delivery process must follow the steps below:

- Production receives greenlight
- NPPO sets up post-production kickoff call
  - NPPO/Paramount determine how many versions may need to be created of each episode
  - After call, NPPO provides detailed recap and access to paperwork templates, in addition to DSIDs and delivery portal access
  - NPPO will provide production access to MediaSilo for review and approval workflows
- 3 weeks before first episode delivery, production completes a delivery test via the delivery portal
- 1 week before first episode delivery, NPPO checks in with production
- First episode and supplemental files deliver, receive Paramount QC and ingest upon pass
  - Production sends delivery emails, including list of all materials delivering, and with subject line including full show name and DSID
- Episode is delivered to Paramount Network Operations Center (NOC) and is prepared for air
- Before season wrap, production delivers source materials to Paramount for archive

Once in production, any changes to the post calendar must be communicated within 1 business day

Many of the resources mentioned in this document can be found on the NPPO website: <https://bit.ly/NPPOGuidelines>

### 2.2 DELIVERY DEADLINES

- Linear Episodes: 4 weeks prior to premiere
- Paramount+ Episodes: 5 weeks prior to premiere
- Paramount+ Episodes launching globally on the same day: 12 weeks prior to premiere
  - ***NOTE: Production groups may request work-in-progress materials at any time for promotional use prior to series launch, depending on promotional schedule and network needs. Materials must have near-final picture, color correction and final dialogue; split track audio is preferred.***

## 2.3 PROGRAM SPECIFICATIONS

Acceptance of delivered files requires strict adherence to the specifications listed in this document. This will require QC and output testing by the productions before final delivery to Paramount.

Only .mov wrappers will be accepted. Paramount does not accept delivery of .mxr files.

Do not upconvert masters before delivery. We only accept files in their native format and frame rate.

If a production decides to create an HDR graded master, an SDR master must also be delivered. Both HDR and SDR masters are required as Paramount is currently unable to convert HDR to SDR, and an automatic conversion would affect the creative look of a program.

### Frame Rate

- **Required shooting frame rate is 23.976 fps.** Alternative frame rates may be approved on an individual basis.

### Raster Size for Delivery

- 3840x2160 (UHD)
- 1920x1080 (HD)

### Aspect Ratio

- 1.78:1 (16:9)

### Recording Formats

- HD SDR – Use proper codec settings - Minimum 10bit 4:2:2
- UHD SDR – Use approved camera and proper codec settings – Minimum 10bit 4:2:2
- UHD HDR – Use approved camera and proper codec settings – Minimum 16bit 4:4:4:4

### Audio Recording Formats

- Uncompressed (i.e. PCM, WAV, AIFF)
- Minimum 24bit @ 48KHz

(Note: Audio edit master delivery format is PCM 24bit @ 48KHz)

### Color Space for Delivery

- For SDR material – REC 709
- For HDR material – REC 2020

### 2.3.1 Approved UHD Cameras

- For all Scripted UHD projects, cameras must have true 4K sensors (native 4096x2160 pixel resolution or greater).

Camera	Sensor	Codec
ARRI Alexa LF	4.5K: 4448 x 3096	ARRIRAW / ProRes 4444 XQ
ARRI Alexa Mini LF	4.5K: 4448 x 3096	ARRIRAW / ProRes 4444 XQ
ARRI Alexa 35*	4.6K: 4608 x 3164	ARRIRAW / ProRes 4444 XQ
ARRI Alexa 65	6K: 6560 x 3100	ARRIRAW
Sony PXW-FS7M2	4K: 4096 x 2160	RAW / XAVC-I/L (DCI 4K)
Sony PMW-F55	4K: 4096 x 2160	F55RAW / XAVC
Sony F65	4K: 4096 x 2160	F65RAW / F65RAW-LITE / XAVC (DCI 4K)
Sony Venice	6K: 6048 x 2534	XAVC / SONY RAW / XOCN XT
Sony Venice 2	8.6K: 8640x5760	X-OCN/ SONY RAW/ ProRes 4444 XQ
Sony F5	4K: 4096 x 2160	XAVC (4k)
Sony FX6	4K: 4096 x 2160	XAVC (4k)
Sony FS7	4K: 4096 x 2160	XAVC (4k)
Sony FS7 II	4K: 4096 x 2160	XAVC (4k)
Sony FX9	4K: 4096 x 2160	XAVC (4k)
Sony FR7	4K: 4096 x 2160	XAVC-I (4k)
Sony 5500	4K: 3840 x 2160	XAVC QFHD
Canon C300 Mark II	4K: 4096 x 2160	Canon RAW / XF-AVC (4K)
Canon C300 Mark III	4K: 4096 x 2160	Cinema RAW Light / XF-AVC (4K)
Canon C500	4K: 4096 x 2160	Canon RAW
Canon C500 Mark II	4K: 4096 x 2160	Canon RAW / XF-AVC (4K)
Canon C700	4K: 4096 x 2160 4.5K: 4512 x 2376	Canon RAW / XF-AVC (4K) / ProRes HQ (4K)
Canon C700FF	5.9K: 5952 x 3140	Canon RAW / XF-AVC (4K) / ProRes HQ (4K)
Canon EOS C70	4K: 4096 x 2160	XF-AVC (4K)
Panasonic S1H	4K: 4096 x 2160	AVC-Intra4K
Panasonic BGH1	4K: 4096 x 2160	AVC-Intra4K
Panasonic VariCam 35	4K: 4096 x 2160	V-RAW / AVC-Intra4K
Panasonic VariCam LT	4K: 4096 x 2160	V-RAW / AVC-Intra4K
Panasonic VariCam Pure	4K: 4096 x 2160	V-RAW / AVC-Intra4K
Panavision DXL	8k: 8192 x 4320	REDCODE RAW (Up to 8:1)
Panavision DXL2	8k: 8192 x 4320	REDCODE RAW (Up to 8:1)
RED Dragon-X	6K: 6144 x 3160	REDCODE RAW (Up to 8:1)
RED DSMC3 V-Raptor 8K W	8K: 8192 x 4320	REDCODE RAW (Up to 8:1)
RED DSMC2 Epic w/ Gemini 5K S35	5K: 5120 x 3000	REDCODE RAW (up to 8:1)
RED DSMC2 Gemini 5K S35	5K: 5120 x 2700	REDCODE RAW (Up to 8:1)
RED DSMC2 Monstro 8K W	8K: 8192 x 4320	REDCODE RAW (Up to 8:1)
RED DSMC2 Weapon Helium 8K S35	8K: 8192 x 4320	REDCODE RAW (Up to 8:1)
RED Epic Dragon	6K: 6144 x 3160	REDCODE RAW (up to 6:1)
RED Epic w/ Helium	8K: 8192 x 4320	REDCODE RAW (up to 8:1)

RED Komodo 6K S35	6K: 6144 x 3240	REDCODE RAW (HQ or MQ)
RED Ranger	5K: 5120 x 3000	REDCODE RAW (up to 8:1)
RED Ranger Gemini	5K: 5120 x 3000	REDCODE RAW (up to 8:1)
RED Ranger Helium	8K: 8192 x 4320	REDCODE RAW (up to 8:1)
RED Ranger Monstro	8K: 8192 x 4320	REDCODE RAW (up to 8:1)
RED Raven	4.5K: 4608 x 2160	REDCODE RAW (up to 6:1)
RED Scarlet w/ Dragon	5K: 5120 x 2700	REDCODE RAW (up to 6:1)
RED Weapon Dragon	6K: 6144 x 3160	REDCODE RAW (up to 6:1)
RED Weapon Dragon	8K: 8192 x 4320	REDCODE RAW (up to 6:1)
RED Weapon Monstro	8K: 8192 x 4320	REDCODE RAW (Up to 8:1)
Blackmagic URSA Mini 4.6K	4.6K: 4608 x 2592	CinemaDNG RAW (Up to 4:1)
Blackmagic URSA Mini Pro 4.6K	4.6K: 4608 x 2592	Blackmagic RAW (Up to 5:1)
Blackmagic Pocket Cinema Camera 4K	4K: 4096 x 2160	Blackmagic RAW (Up to 12:1) / ProRes 422 HQ
Blackmagic Pocket Cinema Camera 6K	6K: 6144 x 3456	Blackmagic RAW (Up to 12:1) / ProRes 422 HQ
Phantom Flex4K	4K: 4096 x 2034	Cine RAW / ProRes

## 2.4 FILE SPECIFICATIONS – ALL FORMATS

All content delivered to Paramount must adhere to the specifications below, regardless of frame rate. Particulars for various frame rates and formats are detailed beginning on the next page.

### Video Levels

- Luminance must not exceed 714mv (100 IRE units).
- Chrominance levels in the Y/Pr/Pb domain must not exceed 785mv (110 IRE).
- Chrominance signals must remain within the legal 0-700mV range when measured in the RGB domain on a calibrated digital broadcast waveform monitor. A diamond waveform display or equivalent should be used to avoid gamut errors and prevent illegal colors during production.
- Chrominance levels created in an RGB color space must result in a valid signal when transformed to Y'PrPb (709) color space in accordance with ITU-R Rec 709 for HDTV video.
- Black level must be at zero IRE units as measured in the component digital domain.

### Audio Standard

- Audio content must be delivered as 24-bit uncompressed (PCM) digital audio at 48khz sample rate.
- Audio must be free from distortion and dropouts.

### Audio Levels

- The level of normally-spoken dialog within the mix should be -24 LKFS (+/- 2), as measured on a meter compliant with ITU B.S.1770-3. The measurement shall be integrated over the duration of the program segment as defined in ATSC A/85:2013 (or future revision) Recommended Practice for Audio Loudness.
- If LKFS measurement of the dialog within the mix is not possible, then the integrated LKFS audio level of the entire program audio track of each segment must be -24 LKFS (+/- 2), as measured on a ITU B.S.1770-3 meter.
- Peak audio levels must not exceed -2dB True Peak as measured using a meter compliant with ITU BS-1770-3.
- Music & Effects audio tracks should retain the same levels as the stereo mix.
- In accordance with federal regulations (the "CALM Act") and ATSC A/85:2013 (or future revisions), the level of any program segment content will be corrected to an average level of -24 LKFS +/-2.
  - The purpose of dialog normalization is to provide consistent audio level between programs, commercial spots, interstitials, and other broadcast/cable channels. Please be advised that program audio loudness level will be automatically conformed to this level during broadcast transmission.
    - A copy of the ATSC A/85 document can be found here: <http://atsc.org/recommended-practice/a85-techniques-for-establishing-and-maintaining-audio-loudness-for-digital-television/>
    - For the best results when complying with these requirements, it is recommended that you:
      - Use an audio decoder to approximate the sound experience in viewer homes.
      - Use dialog as the anchor to your mix.
      - Pay particular attention to levels at the beginning and end of each segment.
    - NOTE: Scripted genre programs may be required to submit test audio files during the mix phase and prior to show delivery, in order to confirm the mix is CALM compliant, adheres to the Paramount technical specifications, and ensures that the creative mix will broadcast as it was intended. Please contact NPPO to confirm if this test is applicable.
  - Dolby-E and Dolby Digital Audio are not accepted.



## 2.4.1 SDR Specifications – UHD & HD – 23.98 fps

### Video Standard

- HD Video content must be delivered at 23.98 frames per second (fps).
- Resolution: 3840x2160 (UHD) / 1920x1080 (HD)
- Aspect Ratio: 16x9
- Scan Type: Progressive
- Video Range: Head Range
- 10-bit 4:2:2 component digital video in accordance with ITU-R BT.709 part 2 standard.
  - For SDR Projects, up to 12-bit 4:4:4 component digital video is acceptable
- All episode content must be free of video and audio dropouts and flash frames
- Acceptable .mov file codecs:
  - ProRes4444
  - ProRes422(HQ)
  - HD project only: DNxHD175x or DNxHD HQX
- No video content or clips shorter than 5 seconds will be accepted for air.
- Audio tracks must match the video track duration even if there is no audio.
- NOTE: Paramount utilizes the industry standard 8-bit, 4:2:0, 29.97 interlaced, MPEG 4 statistical multiplexed (satellite uplink compression) environment. Scripted programs, and/or programs utilizing special effects, should take the broadcast chain into account throughout the entire production and post process.

### Timecode

- QuickTime file must have Timecode Track with Non-drop Frame Timecode.

## 2.4.2 HD Specification – 29.97 fps (If 29.97 fps is approved for SDR delivery)

### Video Standard

- HD Video content must be delivered at 29.97 frames per second (fps) (59.94 fields per second for Interlaced).
- Resolution: 1920x1080
- Aspect Ratio: 16x9
- Scan Type: Progressive or Interlaced, Upper Field First
- Video Range: Head Range
- 10-bit 4:2:2 component digital video in accordance with ITU-R BT.709 part 2 standard.
- Acceptable .mov file codecs:
  - ProRes4444
  - ProRes422(HQ)
  - DNxHD220x or DNxHD HQX
- All episode content must be free of video and audio dropouts and flash frames
- No video content or clip shorter than 5 seconds will be accepted for air.
- Audio tracks must match the video track duration even if there is no audio.
- NOTE: Paramount utilizes the industry standard 8-bit, 4:2:0, 29.97 interlaced, MPEG 4 statistical multiplexed (satellite uplink compression) environment. Scripted programs, and/or programs utilizing special effects, should take the broadcast chain into account throughout the entire production and post process.

### Timecode

- QuickTime file must have Timecode Track with Drop Frame Timecode.

### 2.4.3 HD Specification – 25 fps (If 25.00 fps is approved for SDR delivery)

#### Video Standard

- HD Video content must be delivered at 25 frames per second (fps) (50 fields per second for Interlaced).
- Resolution: 1920x1080
- Aspect Ratio: 16x9
- Scan Type: Progressive or Interlaced, Upper Field First
- Video Range: Head Range
- 10-bit 4:2:2 component digital video in accordance with ITU BT.709.
- Acceptable .mov file codecs:
  - ProRes422(HQ)
  - DNxHD185x or DNxHD HQX
- All episode content must be free of video and audio dropouts and flash frames
- No video content or clips shorter than 5 seconds will be accepted for air.
- Audio tracks must match the video track duration even if there is no audio.
- NOTE: Paramount utilizes the industry standard 8-bit, 4:2:0, 29.97 interlaced, MPEG 4 statistical multiplexed (satellite uplink compression) environment. Scripted programs, and/or programs utilizing special effects, should take the broadcast chain into account throughout the entire production and post process.

#### Timecode

- QuickTime file must have Timecode Track with Non-drop Frame Timecode.

### 2.4.4 HDR Specification – UHD – 23.98 fps

#### Video Standard

- Video content must be delivered at 23.98 frames per second (fps).
- Resolution: 3840x2160
- Aspect Ratio: 16x9
- Scan Type: Progressive
- Bit Depth: HDR10 – 10-bit minimum; Dolby Vision – 12-bit
- Required .mov file codec: ProRes4444(XQ)
- Chroma Sampling: 4:4:4 RGB
- Video Range: Full Range
- All episode content must be free of video and audio dropouts and flash frames
- No video content or clips shorter than 5 seconds will be accepted for air.
- Audio tracks must match the video track duration even if there is no audio.
- NOTE: Paramount utilizes the industry standard 8-bit, 4:2:0, 29.97 interlaced, MPEG 4 statistical multiplexed (satellite uplink compression) environment. Scripted programs, and/or programs utilizing special effects, should take the broadcast chain into account throughout the entire production and post process.

#### Timecode

QuickTime file must have Timecode Track with Non-drop Frame Timecode.

#### HDR Metadata:

- Dolby Vision and HDR10 accepted, depending upon premiering platform requirements.
  - A separate XML file is required to deliver alongside any Dolby Vision HDR Masters and must include all of the following information. Please see page **41** for naming convention.
- Paramount expects values for Master Display Primaries (DCI P3), White Point (D65), Peak Luminance (1000 nit), Maximum Content Light Level (MaxCLL) and Maximum Frame Average Light Level (MaxFALL). If no metadata is delivered, default values will be assumed.
- Values for Master Display Primaries, White Point & Peak Luminance describe the grading display
- MaxCLL & MaxFALL are generated by analyzing the final program.
- Example: xR: 0.680, yR: 0.320, xG: 0.265, yG: 0.690, xB: 0.150, yB: 0.060, xW: 0.3127, yW: 0.3290.
- Max Luminance: 1000, Min Luminance: 0, MaxCLL: 1000, MaxFALL: 400

## 2.4.5 Video & Audio Levels Summary

Note: Waveform monitor must read video levels as Y'PbPr (YUV)

Video Level Type	Acceptable Level
Luminance	Do not exceed 714mV (100 IRE)
Chrominance	Do not exceed 785mV (110 IRE) Must be valid to produce a 0-700mV signal in the RGB domain
Black Level	Must be at Zero IRE units as measured in the component digital domain

Audio Level Type*	Acceptable Level
Average Audio Levels	Must be referenced to -24 LKFS (+/- 2) on a meter compliant with ITU B.S.1770-3
Peak Audio Levels	Do not exceed -2dB True Peak

\*Audio must be free from distortion, dropouts, aliasing, clipping and other artifacts

## 2.5 REQUIRED AUDIO LAYOUT

Audio Setting – 5.1 Surround	Audio Setting – Stereo 4 Channel
Channel 1: Stereo Left	Channel 1: Stereo Left
Channel 2: Stereo Right	Channel 2: Stereo Right
Channel 3: Stereo Music & Effects Left	Channel 3: Music & Effects Left
Channel 4: Stereo Music & Effects Right	Channel 4: Music & Effects Right
Channel 5: Full Mix Left Front	
Channel 6: Full Mix Right Front	
Channel 7: Full Mix Center	
Channel 8: Full Mix Low Frequency / Effects (LFE)	
Channel 9: Full Mix Left Rear	
Channel 10: Full Mix Right Rear	
Channel 11: Music & Effects Left Front	
Channel 12: Music & Effects Right Front	
Channel 13: Music & Effects Center	
Channel 14: Music & Effects LFE	
Channel 15: Music & Effects Left Rear	
Channel 16: Music & Effects Right Rear	

If delivering 5.1 Surround audio:

- the Stereo Full Mix to be a proper down mix of the 5.1 Surround:
  - LT/RT - default: Downmixes from 5.1 to Stereo using the coefficients:
    - $LT = L + (-3 \text{ dB} \times C) + (-3 \text{ dB} \times Ls)$
    - $RT = R + (-3 \text{ dB} \times C) + (-3 \text{ dB} \times Rs)$
- the LFE audio channel must only contain low end tones not exceeding 120 Hz. The presence of a full audio mix on the LFE channel is subject to QC failure.

Uncensored Masters require the same audio layout as Primary Masters but Mix and Dialogue channels must be Uncensored.

## 2.6 MUSIC & EFFECTS REQUIREMENTS

- An acceptable music and effects (M&E) track is comprised of all music beds, ambient sounds, Foley work, and sound effects as well as laughter and applause where applicable – minus any dialogue.
- All scripted series/episodes must deliver with 5.1 audio and have fully filled Foley M&E.
  - If an episode is QC'd and found to be missing Foley, that episode will have to be revised & redelivered in its entirety.
- The M&E should mirror that of the original production's full mix – minus dialogue.
- A proper M&E track necessitates filling all sounds prior to being delivered. This process includes spotting the master to determine where effects are necessary prior to entering a Foley session to recreate sounds that are required to produce a full mix for foreign languages.
- The Foley session should then enhance the effects that the producers selected as part of the original production, mixed with the music to the correct audio levels of the originals, and placed appropriate tracks of the delivery master file.
  - E.g. all door slams, shifting chairs, glass shattering, car engines, telephones etc.
  - E.g. explosion in a chemistry lab, laughter and applause.
- All songs that are intrinsic parts of the episode should be placed on the M&E tracks – minus all vocals. The dubbing studio will be able to utilize the stereo tracks if they decide not to dub the song.
  - Vocals should be separated for all original music created for program or music performed by cast members.
  - Licensed and popular music performed on screen by their original artist for the episode should have separated vocals unless dubbing the song poses a copyright or licensing issue
  - Background music with vocals underneath dialogue does not need to be separated
- If there is consecutive singing done by certain characters, this dialogue track should be delivered as optional audio stems on the Pro Tools for the option to keep the characters' vocals for that song. This should be approved by the Post Supervisor prior to proceeding.
  - E.g. Maddie from *Nashville* singing 'In Love' in an episode.
- All English language words and performer-intrinsic non-English vocal efforts made by the actors must reside in the dialogue tracks.
  - This includes any dialogue spoken while music is playing

### 2.6.1 Audio Stems Example Guide

Please see the below guide outlining where certain audio should be placed on the audio stems. See page [36](#) for more information on audio stems.

Audio Type	Audio Stem
Naturally occurring sounds (coughs, grunts, screams, whistling, etc.) made by an identifiable actor	Dialogue Stems
Naturally occurring sounds (coughs, grunts, screams, whistling, etc.) <u>not</u> made by an identifiable actor	SFX and M&E Stems
Laughs (part of character dialogue)	Dialogue Stems
Laughs (part of background)	SFX and M&E Stems
Profanity Bleeps	Censored Dialogue Stems
Background airport announcements, television/radio broadcasts, etc.	Walla w/ English
Discernible crowd noises/background chatter/offscreen whispers	Walla w/ English
Indiscernible crowd noises/background chatter/offscreen whispers	SFX and M&E Stems
Foreign dialogue	Dialogue Stems
Licensed clips	SOT/Film Clips Stem
Vocals from original music made for the program/licensed music sung onscreen by the original artist with no dubbing restrictions	Music Vocals ISO

## 2.7 SUBMISSION MASTER FILE LAYOUT

Files are delivered as continuous elements containing all program segments separated by blacks.

The required layout is described below

- Title Slate (00:59:50:00-00:59:55:00)

The following information must be contained in the slate text:

- Network/Channel Name
- Name of production facility / location
- Program Title
- Episode Number and Title
  - Please note that all episodes must have titles distinct from their assigned number (i.e. not "Episode 101")
- Export Date OR Record date (when applicable)
- DSID
- Version Name (i.e. Primary Master)
- Revision Number (when applicable)
- Number of Segments
- Total Program Running Time in Native Frame Rate (excluding black/slate)
- Delivery Codec
- Native Frame Rate
- Indication of Aspect Ratio of Active Picture
- Texted or Textless
- Audio Channel configuration
- Length of each segment in Native Frame Rate (including segment DSID)

Blank and Example Slates can be found on the NPPO website (<https://bit.ly/NPPOSupportingDocs>)

- Black/Silence (00:59:55:00-01:00:00:00)
- First Program Segment (01:00:00:00) e.g. cold open, title sequence, or Act 1
- It is strongly preferred that audio close completely with first frame of black at the start and end of all content segments. However, if audio ring-outs are approved by the network, then they must be accounted for in all segment timings.
- All program breaks are to be built into the file as **2 seconds of black, no slates**
- Full screen end credits must be included as their own segment
- There must be **4 seconds of black** at the end of the file
- A project-specific file layout summary will be provided by your NPPO representative

### File Layout Summary – Generic

Segment	Timecode
Slate	00:59:50:00 – 00:59:55:00
Black	00:59:55:00 – 01:00:00:00
Program	01:00:00:00
Program Breaks	2 seconds of black, no slate
Program End	2 seconds of black, no slate
Full Screen End Credits	4 seconds of black

### 2.7.1 File Export

Once the video and audio are locked and test file delivery is approved, the final export can be initiated. It is essential that final file delivery conforms to all specifications within this document.

- All files must have a consistent, single codec and frame rate at final export
- Video and audio track lengths must match exactly, down to the frame

### 2.8 CLOSED CAPTIONING

**All series are required to deliver complete closed captioning files with all versions of their episode deliveries.**

- Send a low-res proxy to your caption vendor once the program is at audio lock
- The caption vendor will create the caption file in the .SCC format
- The caption vendor should send the file back to your production group to include along with final episode delivery.
- Files should always be authored at 29.97 in one of the following formats:
  - **23.98 Native Shows:** Scenarist SCC v1.0 with Non-Drop Frame Timecode
  - **29.97 Native Shows:** Scenarist SCC V1.0 with Drop Frame Timecode
    - .SCC files should always be authored at 29.97
- Captions need to have the same start time as the master file and account for all slates, logos, segment breaks, and any other blank space that might be on the master.
- Captioning must mirror the audio content and show timings exactly. If a word is censored in audio, the word must be censored in closed captioning.
- Caption files must span all segments on a delivered file, including the Full Screen Credits segment.

All Caption Files must be delivered as separate files (not embedded) and named as follows:

- DSID\_ShowTitle\_Captions\_Date
  - For example, Yellowstone Episode 402 Caption File
    - UHDYELL402A\_Yellowstone\_Captions\_102821.scc

Audio Description (also known as Descriptive Video Service/DVS) files are required to deliver with all versions of episode deliveries.

- Caption vendors that also provide final Audio Description files are noted below.
  - Additional details can be found on page **38**

#### 2.8.1 Required Closed Caption Vendors

Use one of the following vendors to create your final caption files, all of which have Paramount preferred rates:

##### **3Play Media (Formerly Captionmax)**

Main Contacts:

Sandy Robeck <[srobeck@3playmedia.com](mailto:srobeck@3playmedia.com)>

Donna Horn <[dhorn@3playmedia.com](mailto:dhorn@3playmedia.com)>

[RealtimeServices@captionmax.com](mailto:RealtimeServices@captionmax.com)

[Scheduling@captionmax.com](mailto:Scheduling@captionmax.com)

- 3Play is also an approved vendor for Audio Description Files

##### **BTI Studios**

Main Contacts:

Aprille Dahl-Olsen <[Aprille.Dahl-Olsen@iyunomg.com](mailto:Aprille.Dahl-Olsen@iyunomg.com)>

##### **CMG (Caption Media Group)**

Main Contacts:

Eric Whitt <[Businessdevelopment@cmgusa.net](mailto:Businessdevelopment@cmgusa.net)>

Dario Fuenmayor <[OP1@cmgusa.net](mailto:OP1@cmgusa.net)>

Jennifer Saume <[JSaume@cmgusa.net](mailto:JSaume@cmgusa.net)>

- CMG is also an approved vendor for Audio Description Files

##### **IDC Digital**

Main Contacts:

Mort Roghanchi <[Mroghanchi@idcdigital.com](mailto:Mroghanchi@idcdigital.com)>

Robyn Albohn <[Robyn.Albohn@idcdigital.com](mailto:Robyn.Albohn@idcdigital.com)>

- IDC is also an approved vendor for Audio Description Files

## LADB

Main Contacts:

Elissa Sarna <[Elissa.Sarna@ladb.com](mailto:Elissa.Sarna@ladb.com)>

Stephanie Gray <[Stephanie.Gray@ladb.com](mailto:Stephanie.Gray@ladb.com)>

- LADB is also an approved vendor for Audio Description Files

## Yangaroo / DMS (Digital Media Services)

Main Contacts:

Trevor Boelter: <[Trevor.Boelter@yangaroo.com](mailto:Trevor.Boelter@yangaroo.com)>

<[clientservices@yangaroo.com](mailto:clientservices@yangaroo.com)>

### 2.8.2 Subtitle Files

If content was originally produced in PAL / 25fps format or in a language other than English, an EBU .STL subtitle file delivery for all available languages is also required.

- **23.98 / 29.97 Native Shows:** STL EBU 30 fps
  - Paramount cannot accept disk codes of 23.98 or 29.97
- **25 Native Shows:** STL EBU 25 fps

General Subtitle File Specifications	Required Value
<b>Text Spec</b>	Font, Effects, Edging, Italics N/A if Closed
Font	Arial Narrow Build
Font Size	Depends on system used, applied on playout
Effects	N/A
Edging	2 pixel black edging on white font
<b>File Requirements</b>	
Zero Subtitle Required?	No
Timing	From 00:00:00:00 to 00:00:00:08
Empty Sub at End?	Yes
Company / Translator Credits	No
File Naming	DSID_fr-FR.stl (using French as an example)
File Language Convention	Language – Country (i.e. French – France)
EBU Character Code Table Used	850



### 2.8.3 Domestic Caption & Subtitle File Specifications

Please ensure the following specifications are provided to your closed caption vendor.

<b>TIMED TEXT STYLE</b>	Pop-On / White text over black background / Mixed Case / Center Justified Two lines maximum per event when possible. An event is defined as every new occurrence of pop-on text
<b>CHARACTER LIMITATION</b>	Closed Captions: 32 characters per line / Subtitles: 42 characters per line Spaces and punctuation are included in the character count.
<b>ADULT READING SPEED</b>	200 words per minute/17 characters per second Up to 30 characters per second acceptable for unscripted, rapid-fire dialogue Reading speed can be adjusted to accommodate character and line limitations.
<b>MINIMUM &amp; MAXIMUM DURATION</b>	Minimum: 20 Frames per event Maximum: 5 Seconds per event
<b>TIMED TEXT PLACEMENT</b>	Captions and subtitles should move to the top of the screen if there is text present in lower thirds (e.g., identifiers, locaters, on-screen text/graphics, or forced narratives), only for the duration of the lower thirds text. Crucial information or action should not be blocked. Subtitle text must be placed in active picture. Descenders (y, j, g, q, p) should remain four pixels above the Letterbox matte line to avoid nearing, touching or crossing the matte line.
<b>CAPTIONS STANDARD</b>	Closed captioned files must adhere to <u>both</u> CEA-608 and CEA-708.
<b>MUSIC LYRICS</b>	<u>Music lyrics</u> and <u>lyrics sang</u> by characters must be captioned and italicized throughout program and through end credits, unless the lyrics interfere with dialogue. Be sensitive to over-captioning music lyrics in-between dialogue as it may distract from the prominent dialogue and/or tone of the scene. Lyrics should never end with a period. Quotation marks and exclamation points may be used as the songwriter intended. One musical eighth note (♪) should be placed at the beginning and end of each lyric line. Use an uppercase letter at the beginning of each line of lyric: <i>♪Ground Control to Major Tom♪</i> <i>♪You've really made the grade♪</i> If a lyric line needs to be split due to character limitations, the line of lyrics must be two lines with a musical note beginning and ending the event. The second line will not receive capitalization. <i>♪Take your protein pills and put your helmet on♪</i> Use ellipses when a song continues in background but is no longer captioned to give precedence to dialogue: <i>♪Commencing countdown, engines on...♪</i>
<b>SOUND EFFECTS</b>	Do not caption every <u>on-screen</u> sound effect. Only caption plot relevant audio/visual cues that happen on-screen for dramatic effect: [tea kettle bubbling]; [labored breathing]; [choking, gasping] Any <u>off-screen</u> sound effect relevant to plot should be captioned: [indistinct whispering]; [birds caw] If a major plot-relevant sound effect occurs <u>off-screen</u> during a song lyric, the effect must be transcribed. Lyric interruption should be shown with ellipses. <i>♪Check ignition...[loud boom]... and may God's love be with you♪</i>
<b>DIEGETIC SOUND</b>	When source-motivated music is playing in a scene, the music style and source should be identified as a sound effect with lyrics/musical notes included where applicable: [smooth R&B plays on TV] <i>♪Let's get in on, sugar♪</i>
<b>NON-DIEGETIC SOUND</b>	When non source-motivated music is playing, the music cue should be identified like music lyrics and bookended with musical notes in the following instances: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In a scene that begins or ends <u>without</u> dialogue</li> <li>• In a scene prior to the start of dialogue</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intentionally interrupting a scene</li> <li>• Intentionally playing during an interlude between dialogue</li> <li>• When the music cue's tone/tempo changes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♪disorienting suspenseful music♪</li> <li>♪upbeat pop music plays♪</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>SCORE/ INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC</b>	For score or music that doesn't contain lyrics, add a three musical note event (♪♪♪) as diegetic or non-diegetic music plays uninterrupted through a scene.
<b>ITALICS</b>	<p>Italics should be used (when possible) for narration, voiceovers, and characters not physically present in the scene. [Note: Some devices can't display italics and show italics "styling tags"]</p> <p>Examples of when italics <b>should be</b> used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phone conversations</li> <li>• Voice(s) in someone's head</li> <li>• Character(s) singing lyrics</li> <li>• Music lyrics</li> <li>• Electronic media audio (e.g., TV, radio)</li> <li>• Names/titles of literary works, films, TV shows, magazines, newspapers, etc.</li> <li>• When transcribing foreign dialogue (unless the foreign dialogue is frequently used in English dialect (e.g., bon appétit, rendezvous, ciao)</li> <li>• When noting a non-English dialogue is being spoken but not intended to be understood (e.g., speaking Russian)</li> </ul> <p>Examples of when italics should <b>not</b> be used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Someone talking in another room or outside the door</li> <li>• Sound effects</li> </ul> <p>Italics can sparingly be used to express emphasis on a word when punctuation cannot convey the emphasis: You <i>must</i> acquit.</p>
<b>BRACKETS</b>	<p>Brackets are used to denote character dialogue or pertinent sound effects that are off-screen or cannot be visually identified. On-screen sound effects should only be captioned in plot-relevant circumstances.</p> <p>Examples of when brackets <b>should be</b> used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Futuristic ball is making a humming noise, signifying it will explode = [humming]</li> <li>• A close-up of a hand gently knocking on a door = [soft knocking]</li> <li>• Door closes in another room signifying someone has left = [back door closes]</li> <li>• Workshop where sewing machines add tension = [sewing machines whirring]</li> <li>• To add emphasis to a character's line delivery = [deep voice] Don't tell anybody.</li> <li>• Audible whispered dialogue = [whispers] This is a secret.</li> <li>• Inaudible whispered dialogue = [indistinct whispering]</li> <li>• If someone mouths words without saying or whispering them = [silently mouths words]</li> </ul> <p>Use lower case letters for bracketed sound effects / improper nouns - e.g. [whirring]; [woman]. Use mixed case letters for proper nouns / names - e.g. [White House Press Secretary]; [Brando].</p>
<b>PARAPHRASING</b>	Paraphrasing is only allowed during rapid-fire dialogue, but is acceptable in pre-2011 content.
<b>MULTIPLE SPEAKERS/ SOUND EFFECTS</b>	<p>When more than one speaker is on screen, captions should identify who is speaking if not otherwise clear.</p> <p><u>For offline captions:</u> Captions should be stacked (new line for each change of speaker), denoted by a hyphen:</p> <p>-Hello, how are you? -Hi! Great, thank you!</p> <p>For offline captions, also use new line with a hyphen to denote layered sound effects:</p> <p>-[bird caws] placed on line 1 -[baby cries] placed on line 2</p> <p><u>For real-time captions:</u> Captions do not need to be stacked, and speakers should be identified with a sideways forward facing double chevron (&gt;&gt;). Identifying speakers by name is not necessary unless otherwise unclear, but is preferable:</p>

	>> James: HOW WAS YOUR WEEKEND? >> Reggie: FANTASTIC! >> James: MINE TOO >> Reporter: PRESIDENT BIDEN, WHAT IS YOUR REACTION? >> Biden: WE CAN ALL BE VERY PROUD OF THIS BIPARTISAN AGREEMENT.
<b>OFF-SCREEN SPEAKERS/SOUND EFFECTS</b>	When a speaker is not on the screen, identification of that individual in the caption text should be provided if viewers not using captions are able, from the program's audio content, to discern the speaker's identity.
<b>QUOTING</b>	When quoting, use one quotation mark at the front of the quote and one at the end of the quote. Do not use a front quotation mark at every event. Periods and commas precede closing quotation marks. Question marks and exclamation points follow end quotation marks unless they are part of a quoted text: Was it Homer who said, "Just see how mortal men always put the blame on us gods!"? Quotation marks should be used for episode names of television series and song titles: "All My Loving" Quotations within quotations should use single quotes: She said to me, "'All My Loving' was played by The Beatles on <i>The Ed Sullivan Show</i> in 1964."
<b>PUNCTUATION</b>	Ellipses can be punctuated with a period or question/exclamation point when appropriate. Trailing off or mid-sentence pick-up dialogue is noted with an ellipsis: Hello...are you there...? Dialogue interruptions should be noted with two hyphens: I didn't mean to— Yes! You did!
<b>METRICS</b>	Subtitles should never convert measurements from their original/native metric.
<b>NUMBERS</b>	Numbers from 1-10 should always be spelled out: I have three children. Any number greater than 10 should <u>not</u> be spelled out <u>unless</u> when beginning a sentence or when telling time with "o'clock": Twelve years ago, I had a child. / It's twelve o'clock in the morning. Percentages should <u>not</u> be spelled out: They need 4% more to meet their goal. / I scored 100% on my math test.
<b>CURRENCY</b>	Currency should always be represented with the proper currency symbol followed by the amount. \$1 million dollars <u>Subtitles should never convert money amounts from its original/native currency.</u>
<b>TIMES OF DAY</b>	Use lowercase a.m. (ante meridiem) and p.m. (post meridiem) when mentioned in dialogue. Use numerals when exact times are stated (e.g., "Our meeting is at 9:30 a.m."). Spell out words/phrases that do not include actual numbers: midnight, noon, quarter of, etc. When "o'clock" is mentioned in dialogue, always spell out the number Dates are to be captioned with the month written and numbers for the day and year: December 15, 2018 Military time should be captioned as "0100 hours".
<b>SONG LYRICS</b>	<u>Never translate song lyrics into another language.</u>
<b>REAL-TIME CAPTIONS</b>	The accuracy rate for live captions should be at least 98.6%.
<b>CREDITS</b>	Do not include Company or Captioner Credits

#### 2.8.4 Caption Proxy Specifications

- Acceptable containers are .mov or .mp4.
- Preferred video frame size is 640x360, with a bit rate of 1.0 Mbits/second.
- Audio should include English (or Primary Language) Stereo Mix on channels 1 & 2 when available
  - If stereo is not available, a mono mix is acceptable.
- Audio Bit rate should be between 100 – 300 Kbit/second, with a sample rate of 48kHz.
- Locked proxies uploaded ahead of the final master must have:
  - Frame rate and continuous burn-in time code matching the master video.
  - Same durations of breaks (2 seconds) as the final master.
  - Cursing not approved by Paramount's Standards and Practices team should be bleeped/ censored.
- If any of the above changes between when the locked proxy is uploaded to the vendor and your final delivery, a new proxy needs to be sent to address said changes.
- If there are any changes not encompassed above that alter the audio or duration of the episode (scene cut, additional censorship, etc), a new proxy will also need to be sent to account for the edits.
- If a show is known to be delivering too late to deliver a locked proxy and live captioning needs to be arranged, we still ask that a proxy be uploaded (in this case, it would be sent at the time of the final master delivery) as live captioning is not fit for distribution needs and will cause those assets to fail with our partners.
- When communicating to the vendor that a proxy has been sent, please let them know the exact day and time it is due back. This lets them balance the workload on their end but also manages expectations, and, should they not be able to meet the deadlines, a contingency can be planned.
- Paramount requires captions to be returned the day before delivery.

Proxy files sent to the caption vendor also require locked Stereo LT on Ch.1 & Stereo RT on Ch.2 that matches the exact length and segment formatting of your final delivery files for creation of Audio Description files.

## 3 SHOW FORMAT REQUIREMENTS

### 3.1 PARAMOUNT PROGRAM STANDARDS

Paramount is committed to presenting its viewing public with programming of the highest quality and standards. The Standards and Practices department has responsibility for a specific area of that commitment, ensuring that programming presented meets standards of good taste and community acceptability. Paramount Media Networks present and promote programming designed to entertain as well as to meet the network's standards of social responsibility and high-quality programming. Accordingly, Paramount has adopted the following program content requirements:

- Programming that endorses or condones illegal drug use or alcohol abuse will not be aired. Narcotic addiction and alcohol abuse will only be depicted as self-destructive, antisocial behavior. Programming aired will not promote, glamorize, or show as socially acceptable the use of illegal drugs or the abuse of legal drugs.
- Paramount will not air programming containing explicit, graphic, or excessive sexual activity. When sexual themes are key to the concept or plot of a video or program, they must be depicted with consistent regard for commonly accepted standards of taste and propriety.
- Language will be evaluated based on context and societal acceptability. All flagged language must be clearly audio dropped or bleeped. For CMT productions, no portion of the word being censored should be audible. Closed Captioning must reflect bleeped/dropped words.
- BLEEPING EXPLETIVES VS DROPPING AUDIO: Please confirm the network's preference with your Executive and Operations contact
- Derogatory characterizations of any ethnic, racial, sexual, or religious groups will be avoided.
- Programming containing gratuitous violence is unacceptable. Violence, if depicted, must be essential to the development of a theme, plot, or concept in a video or program. Violence may not be used to stimulate the audience or to invite imitation, nor may it be shown or offered as an acceptable solution to problem or conflict. Exceptional care must be taken in instances where women and children are victims of, or are threatened by, acts of violence.
- United States federal law prohibits the transmission of the Emergency Alert System (EAS) and Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) tones and simulations of those tones or sound-alike tones (i.e., the tones used in announcements regarding severe weather or other emergencies). You may not deliver a program that includes EAS or WEA tones, tones that simulate EAS or WEA tones, or tones that are substantially similar to EAS or WEA tones. When in question, elevate to your Executive in Charge or NPPO contact.

The review process demands complicated subjective judgments that reflect sensitivity and concern for our core audience. Our requirements provide an appropriate balance between responsibility to our viewers and the needs of creative artists to explore new and innovative ideas. Standards and Practices maintain a liaison with, but remain independent of, other company departments to achieve this balance. It is supervised by the Senior Vice President of Standards and Practices. In every instance, the results must conform to the principles expressed in the requirements set forth by Paramount Networks. Creative spirit and expression exist in tandem with the integrity of our programming.

## 3.2 FILE LAYOUT SUMMARY

All master episode files are composed of several elements, called segments. Unless instructed otherwise, all segments must be isolated on the master file.

### 3.2.1 Segment Definitions

- **Segment** – any element of an episode, including, but not limited to, all defined below
- **Act** – main program content
- **Title Sequence** – commonly known as main title, a short introduction including show name and music
- **Generic Intro** – a non-title sequence introduction to the show that is the same across all episodes
- **Cold Open** – An opening scene of a show that occurs before the title sequence
- **Disclaimer (aka Advisory Board)** – a warning of sensitive content in the program to come
- **Bumpers In/Out** – a 3-5 second logo animation at top or tail of act, typically consisting of show logo
- **This Season (aka Supertease)** – a sequence that previews content in the season to come
- **Previous Season** – a sequence that recaps content from earlier seasons of the series
- **Previously On (aka Previous Episode)** – a sequence that recaps relevant information from earlier eps
- **This Episode** – a sequence teasing content to come
- **Next On (aka Next Episode)** – a sequence that previews content to come in the following episode
- **Coming Up After the Break** – a sequence that previews content to come in the following act
- **Before the Break** – a sequence that recaps content in the previous act
- **Integration** – an act with a previously-agreed upon commercial placement that will air for a limited time
- **Full Screen Credits** – a 30 second segment that features all personnel who worked on an episode
- **Production End Page (aka Billboard)** – a full screen production logo or tax-credit logo that airs at the tail of a credit segment

### 3.2.2 Segment Parameters and Allowances

- All final timings must be calculated in 29.97 Drop Frame frame rate.
- Title Sequences must be consistently :30 throughout the series. Any overage must be approved by Programming prior to the start of the series.
  - Production must deliver a :30 title sequence or a :15 title sequence.
  - Title Sequences should be delivered as a separate segment within the master file.
- Cold Opens, title sequences, acts and end credits are all included in the total running time of each program, e.g. the program length.
- Paramount Media Networks will maintain the flexibility to remove any program break for the purpose of airing cold opens, title sequences, and/or program segments back-to-back. All segments should be produced to allow for this seamless transition.
- If applicable, previously and/or next on segments must be delivered as a separate segment and should never be married to any other elements, including the title sequence and first or last act. A previously and/or next on segment runtime should be either 25 or 30 seconds (i.e. end on a round number), and be consistent throughout the series.

**\*\*All show clocks are located at <https://bit.ly/NPPOClocks>. Please refer to the clock that matches your content\*\***

### **3.2.3 File Layout Summary - BET**

#### 30:00 Program (Four Acts)

- Total program length is 20:30 including credits

#### 60:00 Program (Five Acts)

- Total program length is 40:30 including credits
- A minimum length of 12 minutes is required for Act 1

### **3.2.4 File Layout Summary – BET +**

- Program TRTs may be full length and variable
  - There are no segment length restrictions
  - NOTE: Since linear versions will also be created, we recommend TRTs be as close to the network linear clock as possible to streamline post deliverables and process.

#### 30:00 Program (Four Acts)

- Total program length can be up to 30 minutes long with credits formatted as a separate segment
- The top/bottom of segments must be edited in such a way that segments can air seamlessly or with commercial breaks.
- NOTE: linear version total program length is 22:30 (inclusive of credits segment)

#### 60:00 Program (Five Acts)

- Total program length can be up to 60 minutes long with credits formatted as a separate segment
- The top/bottom of segments must be edited in such a way that segments can air seamlessly or with commercial breaks.
- NOTE: linear version total program length is 42:30 (inclusive of credits segment)

### **3.2.5 File Layout Summary – CMT**

#### **CMT Series**

#### 30:00 Program (Four Acts)

- Total program length is 20:30 including credits
- Act 2 must be a minimum of 4:00
- Act 3 must be a minimum of 4:00
- Act 4 must be a minimum of 2:00

#### 60:00 Program (Six Acts)

- Total program length is 40:30 including credits
- Act 2 must be a minimum of 5:00
- Act 3 must be a minimum of 5:00
- Act 4 must be a minimum of 5:00
- Act 5 must be a minimum of 5:00
- Act 6 must be a minimum of 2:00

#### **CMT Specials**

#### 30:00 Program (Four Acts)

- Total program length is 20:00 including credits
- Act 2 must be a minimum of 4:00
- Act 3 must be a minimum of 4:00
- Act 4 must be a minimum of 2:00

#### 60:00 Program (Five Acts)

- Total program length is 40:00 including credits
- Act 1 should be the longest act
- Acts 1-3 must be longer than 30:00
- Act 5 should be the shortest act, with a minimum of 2:00

### **3.2.6 File Layout Summary - Comedy Central**

#### 30:00 Program (Four Acts)

- Total program length is 21:30 including credits
- Act 1 must be between 6:00 and 8:30, with ideal length 7:15
- Act 2 must be between 5:15 and 7:45, with ideal length 6:15
- Act 3 must be between 4:45 and 7:15, with ideal length 5:45
- Act 4 must be between 1:00 and 3:30, with ideal length 2:00
- Total program length for TV-MA version is 21:25 including credits
  - Act 2 for TV-MA version must be between 5:10 and 7:40, with ideal length 6:10

### **3.2.7 File Layout Summary - MTV**

#### 30:00 Program (Four Acts)

- Total program length is 21:20 including credits
- All Acts should be a minimum of 4:00, except the final act, which must be a minimum of 2:00

#### 60:00 Program (Seven Acts)

- Total program length is 41:50 including credits
- All Acts should be a minimum of 4:00, except the final act, which must be a minimum of 2:00

### **3.2.8 File Layout Summary - Paramount Network**

#### 30:00 Program (Four Acts)

- Total program length is 23:00 including credits
- Act 1 must be between 7:00 and 9:00, with ideal length 8:00
- Act 2 must be between 5:30 and 7:30, with ideal length 6:30
- Act 3 must be between 5:00 and 7:00, with ideal length 6:00
- Act 4 must be between 1:00 and 3:00, with ideal length 2:00
- Season Premiere Episodes may extend Act 1 by up to 1:30, bringing total program length to 24:30
  - If longer version is approved, an additional cut-to-time version will be required

#### 60:00 Program (Five Acts)

- Total program length is 47:00 including credits
- Act 1 must be between 13:00 and 15:00, with ideal length 14:00
- Act 2 must be between 9:00 and 11:00, with ideal length 10:00
- Act 3 must be between 7:00 and 9:00, with ideal length 8:00
- Act 4 must be between 7:30 and 9:30, with ideal length 8:30
- Act 5 must be between 5:00 and 7:00, with ideal length 6:00
- Season Premiere Episodes may extend Act 1 by up to 2:30, bringing total program length to 49:30
  - If longer version is approved, an additional cut-to-time version will be required



### 3.2.9 File Layout Summary – Paramount+

- Ad break will appear before end credits
  - Program TRTs may be full length and variable
    - NOTE: If linear versions are to be created, we recommend TRTs be as close to the network linear clock as possible to streamline post deliverables and process.
  - There are no segment length restrictions
- Commercial breaks on Paramount+ are no longer than 90 seconds in length
  - Premium viewers will instead see 2 second black breaks in between segments
  - When in doubt, producers should lean toward the best creative experience for the Premium / Commercial-Free viewers, as they are paying a higher price point for the content
- Previously and Next On segments are preferred for series that roll out weekly and are not required for a binge drop rollout

#### 30:00 Program (Three Acts)

- Total program length can be up to 30 minutes long, plus credits formatted as a separate segment

#### 60:00 Program (Four Acts)

- Total program length can be up to 60 minutes long, plus credits formatted as a separate segment

#### 90:00 Program (Six or Seven Acts)

- Total program length can be up to 90 minutes long, plus credits formatted as a separate segment
- Number of acts is flexible

#### 120:00 Program (Eight, Nine, or Ten Acts)

- Total program length can be up to 120 minutes long, plus credits formatted as a separate segment
- Number of acts is flexible

#### Original Movies

- No commercial breaks are needed

### 3.2.10 File Layout Summary - VH1

#### 30:00 Program (Four Acts)

- Total program length is 21:00 including credits

#### 60:00 Program (Six Acts)

- Total program length is 41:50 including credits

#### 90:00 Program (Eight Acts)

- Total program length is 1:02:50 including credits

### 3.3 ON-SCREEN GRAPHICS GUIDELINES

- Each network has specific rules regarding episode graphics into order to avoid any overlap with network programmed bugs and graphics. Network-specific screen real estate guidelines can be found on the NPPO website.
  - Any episodes with graphics that violate the screen real estate guidelines will be required to re-deliver at the show's expense.
- Please see page **39** for guidelines on textless element delivery.
- A graphic rundown is required of every episode for all graphics including credits and main title.

### 3.4 CREDIT GUIDELINES

Paramount requires three types of credits as part of each episode delivery:

- A full credit list documenting all front and end credits, using the template provided by the Paramount On-Screen Credits department.
- A formatted end credits document utilized for broadcast, which allows the network to dynamically produce a lower third credits graphic airing either over the end of the final act or Next On segment of the program.
  - This graphic is generated by the NOC and allows for a seamless transition from one program to the next, aiding in viewer retention.
  - Please see page **45** for formatted end credits document instructions.
- A full screen :30 separate credit segment, delivered as part of the master file delivery and utilized for multiplatform and online use when the formatted end credits cannot be broadcasted.
  - Please see below for full screen credit details.

Contact your legal, production management, and programming points of contact with questions or concerns regarding credit guidelines.

- The Executive in Charge of Production must approve all credit lists prior to final delivery.
- Paramount Media Networks will mandate how credits will air for each Network.

**PLEASE DO NOT BURN IN CREDITS OVER PICTURE. PARAMOUNT WILL PROVIDE THIS SERVICE**

#### 3.4.1 Full Screen End Credit Guidelines

- Full Screen credits must be a separate segment following the end of the program.
  - Credits should be presented in a paging format, with white text on black background and center-justified within title-safe, unless an exception is requested to and granted by your NPPO representative.
- Additional episodic content should not be included within the credits since it will not appear on-air due to the credit reformatting process
- The total running time for show end credits must be 30 seconds and remain the same length throughout the series. All exceptions must be approved by Programming.
- Cleared audio must be present during the credits. The absence of audio during the credits will result in an automatic QC failure.
- Audio must completely close with first frame of black on all dips and fades.
- Production End Pages must be three seconds or less. The length of the End Pages are included in the 30 seconds of the end credits total running time.
- The use of URLs or websites is prohibited in the Production End Pages and credits.
- A Network End Page may be required following Production End Pages.
- Additionally, a Paramount End Page may be required at the tail of all Full Screen End Credits.
  - Please confirm with your NPPO representative if a Network and/or Paramount End Page will be required for your show.
  - The lengths of these End Pages are also included in the 30 seconds of running time
  - Network and Paramount End Pages can be found on the NPPO website
- Contact your legal contact regarding the use of the Network and Paramount End Pages for acquisitions or co-productions.

### 3.4.2 Copyright and Trademark Lines

All original productions should include the following trademark and copyright notices if the production is owned by Paramount. If there are any questions concerning ownership or this language, contact the Network-assigned **Business and Legal Affairs** (BALA) representative and Matthew Howard (matthew.howard@viacomcbs.com).

#### Copyright

- The copyright date should reference the year content is set to premiere or is first “Published” (not the year it was produced). Best efforts must be made to estimate the premiere year.
- The line should appear at the end of the credit bed before the production logos.
- Note: © is correct, (c) is NOT CORRECT.

#### Trademark

- TM should be attached to the show's logo.

#### Language

One of the following trademark lines should appear at the end of the credit crawl, depending on network:

- **AwesomenessTV**
  - © 2023 Awesomenesstv Holdings, LLC. All Rights Reserved. AwesomenessTV, [Show Title], and all related titles, logos and characters are trademarks of Awesomenesstv Holdings, LLC.
- **BET**
  - © 2023 Black Entertainment Television LLC. All Rights Reserved. BET, [Show Title], and all related titles, logos and characters are trademarks of Black Entertainment Television LLC.
- **CMT**
  - © 2023 Country Music Television, Inc. All Rights Reserved. CMT, [Show Title], and all related titles, logos and characters are trademarks of Country Music Television, Inc.
- **Comedy Central**
  - © 2023 Comedy Partners. All Rights Reserved. Comedy Central, [Show Title], and all related titles, logos and characters are trademarks of Comedy Partners.
- **Logo**
  - © 2023 Viacom International Inc. All Rights Reserved. Logo, [Show Title], and all related titles, logos and characters are trademarks of Viacom International Inc.
- **MTV**
  - © 2023 Viacom International Inc. All Rights Reserved. MTV, [Show Title], and all related titles, logos and characters are trademarks of Viacom International Inc.
- **Paramount+**
  - © 2023 Viacom International Inc. All Rights Reserved. [Show Title] and all related titles, logos and characters are trademarks of Viacom International Inc. Paramount+ is a trademark of Paramount Pictures Corporation.
    - Please confirm with your Paramount+ program's Paramount BALA representative prior to use

- **Paramount Network**

- © 2023 Spike Cable Networks Inc. All Rights Reserved. Paramount Network, [Show Title], and all related titles, logos and characters is a trademark of Paramount Pictures Corporation.

- **VH1**

- © 2023 Viacom International Inc. All Rights Reserved. VH1, [Show Title], and all related titles, logos and characters are trademarks of Viacom International Inc.

### **3.4.3 Tax Credit Obligation**

If the show or series qualifies for a Tax Credit, please contact your Production Management and NPPO contacts to receive appropriate logos/tags and placement rules/instructions. All rules/instructions on placement, audio, length, etc. must be strictly adhered to in order to qualify. It is Paramount's preference for all tax credit logos to be placed within the end credits. However, if mandated to air the logo full screen (ex: Georgia), please provide as a separate program segment at the end of the Submission file.

### **3.5 UNION AND GUILD REQUIREMENTS**

Please contact your Production Management representative for union and guild requirements

## 4 EPISODE DELIVERY PROCESS

### 4.1 EPISODE DELIVERY OVERVIEW

Unless otherwise approved by NPPO or Programming, all deliveries must follow this process in its entirety:

- A Post Calendar must be submitted to NPPO as soon as available and updated to address any subsequent changes
- Before a new series or season begins delivery, a test file must be sent to **Global Media Operations (GMO)**.
- At audio lock, a proxy is created for closed captioning and sent to a caption vendor or international caption vendor (when needed). Proxy must be formatted according to specifications on page **15**.
- Production exports the final program.
- The final export is QC'd by production prior to delivery.
- The final program, textless split track master, audio and graphics deliverables, UGIs, and Audio Description file are delivered via Signiant Media Shuttle. Supporting paperwork and closed-captioned SCC files are sent via email at the time of upload. All deliverables must include a complete DSID in the file/folder names.
- The files are QC'd by GMO and either ingested or rejected.
- The submission master file is made available in Paramount Digital Library for distribution.
- The SCC and Audio Description files are inserted into the program and applied to the broadcast file(s).
- The broadcast file(s) is sent to the NOC (Network Operations Center) for air or to the appropriate streaming service platform for SVOD distribution.

Once the test delivery has been cleared by Global Media Operations and episodes are locked, productions can begin episode delivery. NPPO requires all episode deliverables to be sent at the time of episode delivery.

***Please note that approval must be obtained from the following Paramount departments before delivery can begin: Development, NPPO, Standards & Practices, and Legal.***

### 4.2 MEDIASILO – APPROVAL CUTS & MEDIA

Due to online related security and content ownership issues, use of applications like Vimeo, DropBox and YouSendIt is not permitted by Paramount. In order to protect and keep our show content secure, **MediaSilo (formerly known as The Bin or Shift)** has been chosen as the company-wide solution for the cuts/dailies review and approval process. All charges for the service will be paid for by the Network. You should be able to access all Paramount Media Networks shows and projects using the standard MediaSilo login url (<https://app.shift.io/login>). This should be used in lieu of all other content sharing applications.

After the delivery kickoff meeting, NPPO will create a show project on MediaSilo to start the cuts/dailies review and approval process. NPPO will link production and all network executives to their show's project and add all additionally requested users. The Post Supervisor will then be responsible for managing the day-to-day workflow and project media management. Once a project has been created, additional folders can be added for organizational purposes.

Please request a separate account for each member of the production/post team that will need access. Do not share accounts as that may lead to security and/or access issues.

To upload a file to MediaSilo:

- While on the in your show's project, click the **Add New** button at the top right of the page, then select **Upload Files**.
  - You can also drag and drop files from your computer to the MediaSilo project.
- Select the files from your computer/hard drive.
  - Your file name cannot contain any special characters or the upload will fail
- The upload progress will appear in the bottom right. When completed, your MediaSilo project should automatically refresh to display the new files.

To send individual or grouped files via link:

- Select the three dots located on the far-right side of the file entry.
- Click **Share > Review Link**.
  - From here you can add additional files by selecting the **Files** tab.
- Under the **Link** tab, select the dropdown labeled **Who can view these files?**
  - Select **anyone with a link and password**, and add a password in the line below.
- Next to **Link Settings**, make sure **expires** is selected and the expiration date had been adjusted.
- Below that, you can adjust if the link is downloadable by checking/unchecking **Download enabled**

- Select **Get Link**, copy the provided link, and select **Save**
- Email the link to the appropriate distro. Send the password in a separate email, per Paramount security procedure.
- To delete a link, go your **Feed** (top left mail icon), find the link in question and click the gear icon (bottom right of the screener) and select **Edit Settings**. Navigate to the **Files** tab and click the **x** icon for each video you want removed from the link.
  - Don't forget to hit **Save** before exiting when removing or editing links

Additionally, there are two resources available for learning how to navigate MediaSilo, accessible from within the website:

1. **MediaSilo Video Tutorials** contain short videos with guides on how to perform basic tasks on MediaSilo, such as login/navigation, upload, sending Quicklinks, access via an iOS device, etc. It can be accessed by clicking on the question mark **Help** icon (bottom left) and selecting **Product Videos** or going to <https://info.shift.io/learn>.
2. **MediaSilo Help Search** can be used to perform web searches on the vast library of shift tutorials and articles. It can be accessed by clicking on the question mark **Help** icon (bottom left) and selecting **Search for Help**.

For any additional questions regarding MediaSilo, please reach out to [shiftadmin@viacomcbs.com](mailto:shiftadmin@viacomcbs.com) and copy your NPPO representative.

### 4.3 DSIDs

Every asset that is delivered to Paramount is assigned a **Digital Server Identification Number (DSID)**. Additionally, a unique DSID is assigned to each segment (show act, title sequence, credits etc.) included in a master file. Server IDs are a universal content identifier for internal tracking and scheduling systems.

**Every file submitted to Paramount, regardless of type, must start with the full DSID in its file name.**

DSIDs consist of the following:

- A 2-3 letter prefix denoting the content's resolution (HD or UHD)
- A series of letters representing the series
- The episode number
- The version letter
- The segment number
- For example, the DSID for Yellowstone episode 402 is UHDYELL402A
  - The segments are UDHYELL402A1, UHDYELL402A2, UHDYELL402A3 etc.

**NPPO will provide DSIDs for all content.**

#### 4.3.1 File Naming Conventions

All file deliveries must follow the naming convention below to ensure proper tracking during the delivery process.

The file name consists of the following information: Digital Server ID, Series Name (shortened if necessary), File Contents, Version Name, and Delivery Date (MMDDYY). *Please do not include any special characters in file names.*

- DSID\_Series\_VersionName\_AssetType\_Date.mov
  - For example, Yellowstone Episode 402 Program Master
    - UHDYELL402A\_Yellowstone\_PrimaryMaster\_Master\_102821.mov

#### 4.4 EPISODE VERSIONING GUIDELINES

You may be required to deliver multiple versions of each episode for reasons that include, but are not limited to, Standards & Practices notes, clock requirements, licensing rights, and creative direction. Upon confirmation, NPPO will notify Production of the required versions and their corresponding DSID naming conventions.

##### 4.4.1 Version Types

- **Primary Master** – the linear broadcast master, all day parts, cut to time
- **Song ID Master** – a master with Song ID graphics
- **Ad Card Master** – a master with Music Ad Cards
- **Evergreen Master** – if the primary master contains limited-term material such as music, a master with all material cleared worldwide in perpetuity is needed as well
- **Extended Master** – a master that is longer than the Network clock. Requires pre-approval from Development and Programming
- **Post 10pm Master** – a master with material approved to air only after 10pm
- **Primary Uncensored Evergreen Master** – an uncensored version of the primary master, with all material cleared worldwide in perpetuity
- **Secondary Uncensored Master** – Mirrors either the Song ID, Ad Card, or Popular Music Version, but with uncensored audio
- **Multiplatform Uncensored Master** – an uncensored master for multiplatform use
- **Theatrical Uncensored Master** – an uncensored master without segment breaks, for theatrical use
- **Limited Commercial Interruption** – a master created for limited commercial airings, typically contains extended content or fewer act breaks.
- **Semi-Texted Master** – a master with forced narrative subtitles removed for international use. Please see page [40](#) for more information.

Please note that any burned-in subtitles used in an episode must match the censorship of the version (i.e. censored subtitles in a Primary Master and uncensored subtitles in a Primary Uncensored Evergreen Master)

*Below you will find a list of all possible versions by network*

##### 4.4.2 BET Version Types

Primary Master  
Evergreen Master  
Extended Master  
Primary Uncensored Evergreen Master  
Secondary Uncensored Master  
Semi-Texted Master

##### 4.4.3 Comedy Central Version Types

###### Stand Up Specials:

Primary Master  
Post 10pm Master  
Limited Commercial Interruption  
Multiplatform Uncensored Master  
Uncensored Master  
Semi-Texted Master

###### Variety & Scripted Series:

Primary Master  
Post 10pm Master  
Uncensored Master  
Semi-Texted Master

#### **4.4.4 CMT Version Types**

Primary Master  
Evergreen Master  
Extended Master  
Uncensored Master  
Semi-Texted Master

#### **4.4.5 MTV Version Types**

Primary Master  
Song ID Master  
Ad Card Master  
Extended Master  
Evergreen Master  
Primary Uncensored Evergreen Master  
Secondary Uncensored Master  
Semi-Texted Master

#### **4.4.6 Paramount Network Version Types**

Primary Master  
Evergreen Master  
Extended Master  
Uncensored Master  
Semi-Texted Master

#### **4.4.7 Paramount+ Version Types**

Multiplatform Uncensored Version  
Primary Master  
Uncensored Master  
Semi-Texted Master

#### **4.4.8 VH1 Version Types**

Primary Master  
Ad Card Master  
Extended Master  
Evergreen Master  
Uncensored Master  
Semi-Texted Master



#### 4.5 SIGNIANT DELIVERY VIA MEDIA SHUTTLE

- A Signiant Media Shuttle link must be set up for your production; specifics will be determined during the delivery kickoff call and a link will be sent out for your use shortly after.
- The Media Shuttle package should contain only the materials being delivered.
  - **Upload all files at the same time, labeling each file leading with the full DSID and delivery date**

#### 4.6 QC PROCEDURES

##### 4.6.1 Production QC Overview

Productions are required to internally QC all material prior to delivery. The video and audio QC specifications must be reviewed on the final program output. **QC performed on the editing sequence will not produce accurate results.**

All QC must be done on calibrated hardware waveform and broadcast audio monitors. Software monitors are not sufficient for this application. The use of a third-party QC is highly recommended.

A commonly occurring QC issue is the presence of black bars, often only a few pixels wide, on the edges of the video, typically caused by image reframing. NPPO recommends placing a bright opaque layer on the bottommost video track in the file's edit timeline prior to export – this layer will show through during the resulting export more clearly than any black bars would, allowing these gaps to be identified and repaired prior to final delivery.

##### 4.6.2 Harding / PSE Tests

In certain key territories, all programming must legally meet specific photosensitive epilepsy (PSE) criteria, normally measured as exceeding 2 flashes per second. The process for determining PSE compliance is called a Harding Test.

If your program originates in one of these territories, a pass report from a Harding or equivalent PSE testing device which complies with the latest ITU recommendation is required to be delivered alongside the master file. This can either be performed by your 3<sup>rd</sup> party QC facility or an automated QC application.

If your program fails the Harding test, there are three ways to ensure your programming is PSE compliant

- Adjust light/dark levels
- Add a fade effect in the edit
- Remove the sequence completely

##### 4.6.3 Test Deliveries

We require new productions to send a test file for full QC before beginning episode delivery. For those shows delivering a test file, you must deliver both the title sequence and first act for testing. The title sequence and first act must meet the following criteria:

- Should be representative of your final show, containing where possible all the applicable varying elements (e.g. acquired footage, special effects, etc.)
- Must contain full mix and color as intended for final delivery

The standard procedure for testing is below:

- Notify NPPO of impending test.
- Duplicate the main project sequence to ensure settings are consistent.
- Include slate at the top of the sequence and 4 seconds of black at the tail as defined in the standard layout.
- QC internally before submitting the test.
- Deliver to Global Media Operations via Media Shuttle upload.

All Test Deliveries should be named as follows:

- DSID\_Series\_TEST\_Date
  - For example, Yellowstone Test
    - UHDYELL401A\_Yellowstone\_TEST\_102721.mov

#### 4.6.4 QC Failures & Episode Redelivery Process

Once your episode is delivered to Paramount, it will undergo a thorough QC. If your master file fails the QC process, you will be required to revise and redeliver. Reasons for failure include, but are not limited to, lack of adherence to technical standards, unaddressed Standards & Practices notes, on-screen real estate violations, extraneous black borders, and file glitches. Depending upon the failure, multiple deliverables may need to be revised. Your NPPO representative will inform you of any QC failures ASAP after episode delivery and advise what deliverables and forms must be fixed.

Please note that a full episode file will be required for all redeliveries. Paramount cannot accept patch redeliveries.

All revised submission files should be labeled as follows:

- DSID\_Series\_VersionName\_AssetType\_Date\_Revision#
  - For example, Yellowstone Episode 402 Program Master Redelivery
    - UHDYELL402A\_Yellowstone\_PrimaryMaster\_102921\_REV1.mov

#### 4.7 DELIVERABLES OVERVIEW

All episode deliveries must be accompanied by a variety of supplemental deliverables and documentation. An episode delivery will not be considered complete until we have all of the required deliverables. NPPO will inform you as to which of the following deliverables are required for your production.

- Submission Master (1 per version)
- Caption File (1 per version)
- Graphics Toolkit (1 per episode)
- Audio Stems Package (1 per episode)
- Pro Tools Session Files (1 per episode)
- Textless Split Track Master (1 per episode)
- Semi-Texted Master (1 per version)
- Universal Global Images (6 per episode)
- Dolby Vision HDR XML Metadata file (1 per version)
- Alpha Layer Files (1-2 per episode)
- Dubbing Bible (1 per season)
- Metadata Intake Form (1 per season)
- Segment Air Rundown (1 per version)
- Formatted End Credits (1 per episode)
- Full Credit List (1 per episode)
- Timecoded As-Broadcast Script (1 per version)
- Graphics Cue Rundown (1 per version)
- Audio Stems Checklist (1 per season)
- Harding or equivalent PSE technical report (1 per episode)
- Music Cue Sheet (1 per version)
- Music Score Sheet (1 per episode)
- Show Log (1 per episode)

## 4.8 SUPPLEMENTAL DELIVERABLES

### 4.8.1 Graphics Toolkit

A graphics toolkit must be delivered for all episodes to ensure that graphics can be recreated or reused internationally. Graphics toolkits should be delivered as zipped folders that contain all relevant project files and the related media needed to recreate all graphics. This includes, but is not limited to, the below elements.

- If your graphics package is the same across all episodes, please deliver it with the first episode of the new season.
- Graphics deliveries are required even when the Network has provided the source files

#### Logos

- Delivery of master images and high resolution image files should be supplied along with any additional separate elements used to create the custom look of the logo. Fully rendered / treated / lit logos should be built 8000px wide rendered at 300dpi, and keyable with alpha channel or layers.
  - Source Files: Rendered Vector image file (.ai, .eps)
  - Output Files: Rasterized image file (.png, .tif, .psd)
  - Additional Files: Texture layers (.psd), 3D Layers (.psd), etc.

#### Graphics Projects

- After Effects Projects, or other if applicable:
  - All media associated with the project should be included.

Plug-ins used within projects should be included if they are proprietary. Licensed plug-ins should NOT be included in the Toolkit.

- Rendered/Exported Files from additional software, such as Cinema 4D (.c4d), or Maya (.ma) should also be included.

Keyable Versions of textless graphics rendered out as QuickTime files (Animation codec preferred).

- QuickTime files must include an Alpha Channel.
- Keyable Textless Graphics should include, but are not limited to:
  - Animated lower third backplates
  - Show unique graphics (show or sketch bugs)
  - Countdown clock backplates
  - Maps

Style Guide for all graphics and animations (if applicable).

Custom Fonts should be included in the tool-kit.

- Licensed fonts should NOT be included for legal reasons. The following Licensed font information only should be listed on the graphics information document: Font Name / Size / Style

#### **Delivery Instructions:**

- All elements must be delivered on a per episode basis within a single zipped folder named as follows:
  - DSID\_ShowTitle\_Graphics\_Date.zip
- These files should be delivered at the same time as episode, audio, and document delivery via Media Shuttle.

#### 4.8.2 Audio Master Deliverables

All productions are expected to deliver a full set of audio stems and a Pro Tools session (if mixing in Pro Tools) at the time of episode delivery. All stems and Pro Tools files must be organized in separate compressed folders, each labeled with the full DSID. Each track must be labeled with the full episode DSID. Additionally, all animated properties must deliver full conform stems, with each character's dialogue placed on its own track.

Please conform to the following guidelines before delivery:

- All stems should be the same length and should be labeled accurately. The delivered stems must also match the duration of the source video file. **The duration of all tracks, video and audio, must be identical down to the frame.**
  - Please label all stems utilizing the following naming convention:  
DSID\_ShowTitle\_StemDetails\_Date
    - i.e. - UHDYELL402A\_Yellowstone\_StereoFullMix\_Uncensored\_102821
- When combined, all stems should equal the full program mix. All dipped tracks should be compressed as they were in the full mix
- All music and effects must be dipped to relative levels set as if dialogue and narration/vo were present
- Bleeps must be married to dialogue and not exist on the effects track.
- If there are no bleeps present, include "No Bleeps" in the applicable stem file name.
- Split any original music's vocal tracks out onto a stereo ISO track labeled **Music Vocals ISO**. Acquired music tracks are excluded
- VO/Narration is defined as a disembodied voice in the program. On-screen talent should remain on the Dialogue track even if a portion of their voice is over b-roll
- Walla, which we define as indiscernible crowd noise or murmur, should be included on the SFX and M&E tracks. Any discernible English should not be included in the SFX or M&E tracks and should be provided on a separate Walla w/ English track. Please see page **13** for more placement examples.
- Your audio stems must be consistent with your chosen master audio configuration. (i.e. If your show is delivering with a 5.1 configuration, you must deliver 5.1 stems.)
- If you are delivering SOT/Film Clips, please provide a brief description in your episode delivery email
- Audio files must be in either .wav or audio-only QuickTime .mov format
  - Bit Rate: 24-bit
  - Sample Rate: 48 kHz
- ***Do not deliver blank or empty stems. We understand that there may be stems in the configuration that are not applicable to all productions***

#### 4.8.3 Required 4 Channel Audio Stems

- Stereo Full Mix – UNCENSORED
- Stereo Full Mix – CENSORED
- Mono Full Mix – UNCENSORED
- Mono Full Mix – CENSORED
- Stereo Mix Minus (EVERYTHING EXCEPT VO/NARRATION) – UNCENSORED
- Stereo Mix Minus (EVERYTHING EXCEPT VO/NARRATION) – CENSORED
- Stereo V.O. – UNCENSORED
- Stereo V.O. – CENSORED
- Stereo Dialogue – UNCENSORED
- Stereo Dialogue – CENSORED
- Stereo Music
- Stereo Music Vocals ISO (original music with discernible language vocals only)
- Stereo SFX
- Stereo Music & Effects
- Stereo Audience/Laugh (if applicable)
- Stereo SOT/Film Clips (for pre-recorded archival footage)
- Walla w/ English (if applicable)

- 
- 4.8.4 Required 5.1 Surround Audio Stems**
- 5.1 Print Master (Full Mix) – UNCENSORED
- 5.1 Print Master (Full Mix) – CENSORED
- 2.0 Stereo Full Mix – UNCENSORED
- 2.0 Stereo Full Mix – CENSORED
- Mono Full Mix – UNCENSORED
- Mono Full Mix – CENSORED
- 5.1 Mix Minus (EVERYTHING EXCEPT VO/NARRATION) – UNCENSORED
- 5.1 Mix Minus (EVERYTHING EXCEPT VO/NARRATION) – CENSORED
- 5.1 V.O. – UNCENSORED
- 5.1 V.O. – CENSORED
- 2.0 Stereo V.O. – UNCENSORED
- 2.0 Stereo V.O. – CENSORED
- 5.1 Dialogue – UNCENSORED
- 5.1 Dialogue – CENSORED
- 2.0 Stereo Dialogue – UNCENSORED
- 2.0 Stereo Dialogue – CENSORED
- 5.1 Music
- 2.0 Stereo Music
- 5.1 Music Vocals ISO (original music with discernible language vocals only)
- 2.0 Stereo Music Vocals ISO (original music with discernible language vocals only)
- 5.1 SFX
- 2.0 Stereo SFX
- 5.1 Music & Effects
- 2.0 Stereo Music & Effects
- 5.1 Audience/Laugh (if applicable)
- 2.0 Stereo Audience/Laugh (if applicable)
- 5.1 SOT/Film Clips (for pre-recorded archival footage)
- 2.0 Stereo SOT/Film Clips (for pre-recorded archival footage)
- 5.1 Walla w/ English (if applicable)
- 2.0 Walla w/ English (if applicable)

All stems must be delivered on a per episode basis, via Media Shuttle, within a single zipped folder named as follows:

- DSID\_ShowTitle\_AudioStems\_Date.zip

Multiple audio stems folders may need to be delivered if an episode has versions with differing content length (e.g. a linear premiere and an extended multiplatform version). If this is applicable, please include version info in the file name:

- i.e. – HDYELL402X\_RuPaulsDragRace\_Multiplatform\_AudioStems\_011421.zip

Please indicate which stems are included using the Audio Stems Checklist. Details can be found in the Paperwork Delivery Guidelines on page [43](#).

#### 4.8.5 Pro Tools Requirements

##### A) Complete Pro Tools Session and Stem Mix Session Files (.ptf or .ptx)

The Complete Pro Tools session will consist of a folder containing;

1. All sound elements used for final mix
2. Automation and Plug-in assignments (Compression, Limiters, Etc.)
3. Any comments and marks
4. Session Backups
5. Waveform cache
6. Plug-in settings
7. Session icon clearly labeled
8. Audio Folder
9. Fade Folder

##### B) The Stem Mix Pro Tools Session will consist of a folder containing

1. Session icon clearly labeled
2. Audio Folder
3. Fade Folder
  - a) The file configuration will be as follows; Stereo English Mix Stereo sfx only

*\*\*All deliveries MUST contain the COMPLETE PRO TOOLS (all elements) session (.ptf or .ptx) along with the Stem Mix Pro Tools session that is normally provided. Pro Tools deliveries must be compressed into a .zip file.*

Pro Tools must be delivered on a per episode basis, via Media Shuttle, within a single zipped folder named as follows:

- DSID\_ShowTitle\_ProTools\_Date.zip

#### 4.8.6 Audio Description / DVS Files

Audio Description files (also known as Descriptive Video Service or DVS files) are now required for all Paramount Global programs. They must be delivered at the same time as episode delivery for all versions and uploaded along with the Submission Masters.

- All Audio Description files must be 2 channels, interleaved, 24 bit, and delivered as separate .wav files.
  - All files must match the timing of the associated master episode file exactly, including Slate timings at the top and 4 seconds of black at the tail.
  - It is preferred that the Audio Description contains a true stereo mix with a left and right side.
- The show's full mix must be included in the Audio Description file along with the dubbed audio.
  - Audio Description voiceovers should be timed to not interfere with dialogue.
  - AI and synthetic voices are not accepted.

Audio Description files should be labeled as follows: DSID\_ShowTitle\_VersionName\_AudioDescription\_Date

- For example, Yellowstone 402 Audio Description:
  - UHDYELL402S\_Yellowstone\_PrimaryMaster\_AudioDescription\_011421.wav

#### 4.8.7 Textless Split Track Master

**Any footage containing added text must be provided as a textless element.** This allows for picture localization of storyline-driven elements to be recreated by the international markets. Materials should include but are not limited to:

- Opening Sequence with Network Logo
- Episode Title and opening production credits
- Subtitles
- Bumpers
- Credit Bed
- Scenes or title cards that have a chyron inserted over them ('Later That Day', 'Stony Brook Farms', '12 noon,' etc.

All Textless Materials must be provided completely clean of text and backgrounds and delivered as a separate Textless Split Track Submission Master, formatted identically to the episode.

**Regardless of the number of textless elements in an episode, a full textless version of the episode must be provided.**

This file's audio and video durations must match the texted episode exactly. The full screen credits segment must be replaced by a black slug or the backplate of the end credits segment.

**The file must have the following audio track layout:**

- Channel 1: Stereo Dialogue/VO Left
- Channel 2: Stereo Dialogue/VO Right
- Channel 3: Stereo Evergreen Music Left
- Channel 4: Stereo Evergreen Music Right
- Channel 5: Stereo Sound Effects Left
- Channel 6: Stereo Sound Effects Right

#### **File Layout Summary – Textless Split Track Master**

<b>Segment</b>	<b>Timecode</b>
Slate	00:59:50:00 – 00:59:55:00
Black	00:59:55:00 – 01:00:00:00
Full Textless Program	01:00:00:00
Program Breaks	2 seconds of black, no slate
Program End	4 seconds of black

**Any failure to comply with the above will require a complete redelivery of the Textless Split Track file.**

For acquisition programs, contact your programming point of contact for required material which may include the aforementioned requirements.

All Textless Split Track master files should be labeled as follows:

- DSID\_ShowTitle\_TextlessSplitMaster\_Date
  - For example, Yellowstone Episode 402 Textless Split TrackMaster
    - UHDYELL402A\_Yellowstone\_TextlessSplitMaster\_102821.mov

#### 4.8.8 Semi-Texted Master

If an episode contains subtitles for translations (i.e., forced narratives), a separate version is required called the Semi-Texted Master. This allows for translation of the forced narrative elements by international markets. Semi-Texted Masters will be required for multiple versions of an episode in cases where music or timings change between versions. All audio included should be uncensored.

The Semi-Texted master comprises of all video and audio elements of the episode, but the subtitles must be removed. This includes translations for both real and fictional spoken and signed languages.

The Semi-Texted master is not required in cases of subtitle use for poor audio quality or for mumbled or overlapping English language dialogue.

Please alert your NPPO representative as to whether a Semi-Texted Master will be delivered for a given episode as soon as the need is known, and no later than the lock cut stage. If an episode is delivered without a Semi-Texted Master that is found to require one, a new delivery of a Semi-Texted Master will be mandated.

Each semi-texted master must deliver with the following sidecar materials:

- One closed caption (.scc) file containing the full show, minus any instances of forced narrative subtitling.
- One Audio Description file, minus any voiceover of forced narrative subtitling.
- And the following two subtitle (.stl) files:
  - **Partial Subtitle:** Includes all dialogue, with no forced narrative subtitles.
  - **Forced Narrative Subtitle:** ONLY includes forced narrative subtitles in the content's original language.

Semi-Texted Masters will be labeled as an S Version:

- For example, Yellowstone 402 Semi-Texted Master and its corresponding sidecar files:
  - UHDYELL402S\_Yellowstone\_SemiTexted\_Master\_102821.mov
  - UHDYELL402S\_Yellowstone\_SemiTexted\_ClosedCaption\_102821.scc
  - UHDYELL402S\_Yellowstone\_SemiTexted\_AudioDescription\_102821.wav
  - UHDYELL402S\_Yellowstone\_SemiTexted\_PartialSubtitle\_102821.stl
  - UHDYELL402S\_Yellowstone\_SemiTexted\_ForcedNarrativeSubtitle\_102821.stl

#### 4.8.9 Universal Global Images

Show production must provide Universal Global Images (UGIs) for each episode delivered. Files are to be sent at the same time as Audio and Video master files. UGIs will be used across all digital platforms to best represent the episode.

- **Please be sure that all UGI's are center-cut safe**
- All images created should be 300 PPI or higher
- All stills should be connected to the story of the episode
  - Please select stills with central composition featuring main characters
    - If an episode features a special guest star, please feature the star in at least one image
  - Please avoid stills that are blurry or include backs of characters, awkward faces, or closed eyes
  - UGIs should include only content original to the production and not third-party materials, unless out of context promotional rights have been secured. For any questions, reach out to your project's PCLO representative.

3 distinct images representing each episode are required to be delivered as .JPG files along with each episodic delivery.

Each image is required to deliver in each of two formats, as listed below:

- 16:9 format – labeled as Large Stills
  - 3840x2160 for UHD projects
  - 1920x1080 for HD projects
- 4:3 format – labeled as Small Stills
  - 2880x2160 for UHD projects
  - 1440x1080 for HD projects

File names should follow the standard naming convention but include UGI, sequential number, and respective format. UGIs should be numbered in order of which stills should be prioritized for displaying content on digital platforms. For Example:

- DSID\_Series\_UGI1\_Large\_Date
- DSID\_Series\_UGI1\_Small\_Date

Please deliver all UGIs as individual and separate files, not as a compressed .zip folder.

UGIs may need approval by BALA and PCLO (Production Clearances & Licensing Ops) reps before final delivery.



#### 4.8.10 HDR XML Metadata File (For Dolby Vision UHD HDR Projects Only)

An XML metadata file is required to be delivered alongside any Dolby Vision HDR Masters. Please see page **10** for content details.

Please label all .xml file as follows: DSID\_Series\_XML File\_Date

- For Example: UHDYELL402AHDR\_Yellowstone\_XMLFile\_102821.xml

#### 4.8.11 Alpha Layer Selects – Animation Only

- Show production must provide 1 select per episode or 1 per cart for carted series – delivery via Media Shuttle to be set up after delivery call
  - Please deliver at least 1 month before premiere date
- Minimum length of 2-3 seconds and maximum length of 5-7 seconds
  - Length can be longer if necessary
- Ideal selects have a main character in full frame and un-cropped. Avoid head cropping if the character is cropped
- Best examples will include the following attributes:
  - Seasonal themes / Action / Funny / Minimal lip flap / Dancing / Loops
- Main characters are the most important, e.g. Cartman, Kyle, Stan, Kenny
- Call to action, promo language (Kyle: “Oh my God! They killed Kenny!”)
- Actions indicative of their character or common traits associated with that character
- Dynamic and interesting backgrounds and camera moves with or without characters
- **Characters must be separated from the background on an alpha layer and should be limited to a single scene**

##### Alpha Layer Selects Final Renders – Animation Only

- Codec: Apple ProRes 4444 or Animation
- Frame Rate: 23.98 fps
- Channels: RGB+Alpha
- Depth: Trillions of Colors +
- Color: Pre-multiplied (Matted)
- Follow the standard naming convention, but include “AL” at the end of the file name. If multiple alpha layers selects are delivered, indicate numerically after the “AL”
  - DSID\_Series\_AL1\_Date
  - DSID\_Series\_AL2\_Date

#### 4.8.12 Dubbing Bible

For all animated series, a Dubbing Bible must deliver before or at the first episode delivery. Please contact your NPPO representative to confirm dubbing bible delivery instructions and to confirm that you are working off of the latest template. The dubbing bible should include the following information:

- Series Description
- Episode List & Air Order Guidelines
- Voice Casting Guidelines
- Character Descriptions
- Translation Guidelines (Primary and Secondary Characters, Locations, Key Phrases, and Key Props)
- Logo
- Fonts
- Technical Specs
- Songs
- Lyrics

#### 4.9 FINAL DOCUMENTATION DELIVERY

##### Use email to deliver all final documentation at the time of episode delivery.

- All paperwork must be sent via email to a distribution list you will receive after the delivery kickoff call.
- An ideal document delivery notification email should read as follows. When applicable, please include the REV number at the end of the Subject Line

**Subject Line:** Episode Delivery Notification: Paramount Network - Yellowstone EP: 402 DSID: UHDYELL402A

Hi all,

We are delivering the following episode of Yellowstone today:

Ep. 402 - DSID: UHYELL402A

Episode Title: "All I See is You"

The following materials are being delivered:

- (1) Apple ProRes 422 HQ UHD master file (51GB) (via Media Shuttle)
- (1) Audio Stems .zip File (via Media Shuttle)
- (1) Pro Tools Session .zip File (via Media Shuttle)
- (6) Episodic UGI files (via Media Shuttle)
- (1) Graphics .zip File (via Media Shuttle)
- (1) Audio Description File (via Media Shuttle)
- (1) Textless Split Track Master (via Media Shuttle)
- (1) .scc file (attached)
- (1) Formatted End Credits list (attached)
- (1) Full Credit list (attached)
- (1) Segment Air Rundown (attached)
- (1) Graphic Cue Rundown (attached)
- (1) Timecoded As-Broadcast script (attached)
- (1) Audio Stems Checklist (attached)

Please note the following Pre-QC Flags: *List any time codes with visual or audio notes that could cause unnecessary QC flags.*

Please let me know if you have any questions!

Thanks,

**\*\*Please send a test paperwork delivery at least 3 weeks before your first final episode delivery to ensure correct naming conventions.\*\***

##### 4.9.1 Required Paperwork Deliverables

Every episode delivered to Paramount must be accompanied by the following paperwork deliverables:

- Segment Air Rundown
- Formatted End Credits
- Full Credit List
- Timecoded As-Broadcast Script
- Graphic Cue Rundown Document
- Audio Stems Checklist
- Harding or equivalent PSE technical report (if territorially applicable)
- Music Cue Sheet Submitted via Q
- Show Log submitted to PCLO

Templates for these documents can be found at the NPPO website and specifications for each document follow.

**\*\*Please deliver a Metadata Intake Form 3 weeks prior to your first episode delivery\*\***

## 4.9.2 Paperwork Delivery Guidelines

### Metadata Intake Form

- Required prior to the start of master delivery
  - Only approved & locked metadata (including descriptions) should be provided.
  - A revised form is required to redeliver when any metadata is updated or newly locked
- All series & season descriptions must not exceed 250 characters, including spaces.
- Series Names cannot exceed 100 characters (including spaces)
- Episode descriptions must not exceed 1040 characters (long) / 250 characters (medium) / 80 characters (short), including spaces.
- All Episode Titles must be distinct from the episode's number.
  - Please do not title episodes Episode 101, etc.
  - Episode Titles cannot exceed 100 characters (including spaces)
- All line items must be filled. Please use "N/A" if needed.

### Segment Air Rundown

- Document in and out times must be completed based on both Native Frame Rate and 29.97fps drop frame timecode
- Timing for all elements including cold opens, main titles and end credits must be provided
- Please provide rundowns with correct in and out time codes for segmenting and with the correct number of segments. Please make sure to include segment DSIDs.
- If an Act contains multiple defined segments (for example, if your first Act contains both a title sequence and Act 1):
  - Add rows as necessary above the "2 seconds of Black" noted line to help denote these segments
  - Please apply the same segment number and DSID for each segment present in the Act (for instance: Segment 1, HDABC101A1)
  - Each segment's timing must be included on the form in lieu of the full Act

### Formatted End Credits

- Please see credit details on page **26**
- Instructions on how to create this document follow on page **45**
- This must be delivered as a Word document or .txt file
- Network and Paramount End Pages must be included in the Formatted End Credits.
- This document is only required for US productions.

### Full Credit List

- Please see credit details on page **26**
- This must be delivered as a Word document

### Timecoded As-Broadcast Script

- Deliver as a Word document or a writable PDF, in native frame rate
- Required for both evergreen and popular cue versions
- Please deliver uncensored
- All lines must be included and attributed to a character
  - For sketch comedy series, please include both character and actor names for each line
- Include all song lyrics if applicable.

### Graphic Cue Rundown Document

- Submit document for each episode
- List of exact location and timing of all program graphics for each episode that are produced into the show and specify graphic type within left-hand column on form
- Indicate approximate location of graphics
- IN/Out Point information must be based on 29.97fps drop frame timecode.
- In/Out Point for graphics must be calculated from the start of each segment – NOT the start of the episode
- Include Title Sequence and End Credits
  - If the Title Sequence is married to the First Programming Act with credits over picture, the In Point of the graphics must include the Title Sequence

### Audio Stems Checklist

- Use the appropriate tab (Stereo or 5.1) to indicate which audio stems are provided in the delivered Audio Stems .zip package
  - Include any relevant notes as necessary
- Submit once with first episode of each season, unless subsequent episodes have significantly different audio stems available

### Harding or equivalent PSE Technical Report

- If your program originates in a territory where a Harding test is legally mandated, a pass report is required to deliver alongside the master files
- Please see details on page **33**

### Music Cue Sheet

- All music cue sheets are submitted via Q.
- Please consult your PCLO & Creative Music Strategy (CMS) representatives for cue sheet submission instructions.

### Music Score Sheet (if applicable for original music)

- Submit form for each episode delivery if available to the CMS team and your NPPO representatives

### Show Log

- Please consult your PCLO & CMS representatives about submitting a Show Log

**All Paperwork file names must lead with the full episode DSID in addition to containing the document type and date of delivery. If revised paperwork must be delivered, please include \_REV# at the end of the file name. Please see examples below:**

- Metadata Intake Form
  - UHDYELL402A\_Yellowstone\_Metadata\_102821
- Segment Air Rundown
  - UHDYELL402A\_Yellowstone\_Rundown\_102821
- Formatted Credits
  - UHDYELL402A\_Yellowstone\_FormattedCredits\_102821
- Full Credits
  - UHDYELL402A\_Yellowstone\_FullCredits\_102821
- As-Broadcast Script
  - UHDYELL402A\_Yellowstone\_ABS\_102821
- Graphic Cue Rundown
  - UHDYELL402A\_Yellowstone\_GraphicCueRundown\_102821
- Audio Stems Checklist
  - UHDYELL402A\_Yellowstone\_AudioStemsChecklist\_102821
- Harding Technical Report
  - UHDYELL402A\_Yellowstone\_HardingReport\_102821

### 4.9.3 How to Create Formatted End Credits

- All formatted credits must deliver as a .doc file with no formatting in a single, left-justified column with no differences in font, italics, bold or tables.
- Text should be Title Case
  - Small words should remain lowercase; e.g. a, and, the, of etc.
  - Titles and initials can remain uppercase; e.g. BBC, AD, CG, NOC etc.
- To label the document with series info, please do so above the title line in the document. Do not add headers/footers to the document.
- Please only include end credits in your formatted credits document, no opening credits necessary.
- The coding system will automatically break up the display of names onto the following page if a list is too long to fit on a single page.

Use only these five symbols to format your credits document:

- Asterisks (\*): used to create a heading or title
  - e.g. \*Production Manager  
Drew Breeden
  - Note: when there are bodies of text/copyright info, the asterisk should be placed on the line above.
- Number Signs (#): used to create a subheading or subtitle
  - e.g. \*Guest Starring  
#Jacki Weaver  
as Caroline Warner
- Equals Sign (=): used only when two headings need to be simultaneously present.
  - e.g. \*Executive Producers for Television  
#Paramount Network  
  
=SVP, Music Strategy  
Leslie Fram  
  
=VP, Production  
Margaret Comeaux  
  
#Believe Entertainment Group  
=Executive Producer  
Dan Goodman
- Exclamation Points (!): used to for titles at the top of the document
  - e.g. !Yellowstone

- Page Breaks (.page): used before and after specific lines to create intentional breaks in the credits.
  - e.g. .page

\*for MTV Entertainment Studios  
 #Executive Producer  
 Elena Diaz

#Executive in Charge of Production  
 Liz Kim

.page

- Note: .page is only used for intentional breaks in the credits. The coding system will automatically create page breaks if .page is not present. Please also note that due to graphical limitations, page breaks may not display as noted. They are best utilized when 1-4 credits are needed on an isolated card.

#### 4.9.4 Production Logos/End Cards Delivery for Formatted Credits

- Any endcards or production logos must be noted in the formatted credits document like this:  
 \*\*\*NAME OF COMPANY LOGO
- Do not include .png or .jpg versions of the logos in the formatted credits document.

In addition to the above, NPPO will need you to send full screen versions of every unique end page used in your project's credits.

- Production End Pages must be sent to NPPO at least 2 weeks before series launch regardless of platform.
  - NPPO will provide a Media Shuttle link for End Page upload after series kickoff
    - Note: this Media Shuttle link will be different from the link used for final master delivery
  - All End Pages should be provided in native framerate at highest resolution/codecs possible.
  - End Pages should include Show Title and description in file name.
    - For Example: Yellowstone\_101Studios.mov
  - Please notify NPPO if/when production logos change between seasons/episodes

#### 4.9.5 Example of Coded End Credits

!Yellowstone

\*Starring  
#Jen Landon  
as Teeter

#John Emmet Tracy  
as Ellis Steele

#Hugh Dillon  
as Sheriff Donnie Haskell

.Page

\*Supervising Sound Editor  
Alan Murray

\*Re-Recording Mixers  
Tim Leblanc  
Dean Zupancic

\*Music Editors  
Joe Lisanti  
Kyle Clausen

\*ADR Casting By  
Barbara Harris

.Page

\*Executives in Charge for Paramount Network  
Keith Cox  
Lauren Ruggiero

\*\*\*101\_STUDIOS\_LOGO



#### 4.10 NON-EPISODIC DELIVERABLES

Content created for multiplatform / non-episodic delivery such as sneak peeks and deleted scenes must conform to all guidelines listed in this document, including regarding the delivery of closed captioning. NPPO may reach out for this content ahead of episode delivery if linear episode delivery is scheduled close to air.

- Deliverables are given unique DSIDs assigned by NPPO and delivered to the NOC

#### 4.11 NON-AIRING PILOTS & PRESENTATIONS OVERVIEW

Non-Airing Pilots for all networks require the same technical specifications and naming conventions, but they involve a smaller set of deliverables and documentation.

File layout must follow the specifications provided on page [14](#), but pilots and presentations do not require a credits segment.

NPPO will inform you as to which of the following deliverables are required for your production.

- Submission Master (multiple versions possible)
- Graphics Toolkit
- Audio Stems
- Pro Tools Session
- Textless Split Track Master
- Segment Air Rundown(s)
- Full Credit List
- Source Materials
- Pilot Metadata Intake Form
- Music Cue Sheet
- Music Score Sheet
- Show Log

In addition to the above, all non-airing pilots and presentations must deliver a screener via MediaSilo, in the following specs:

- .MP4 format
- Video Codec H.264
- Frame size 1280x720
- Video Bit Rate no greater than 8mb/second
- Audio Codec AAC
- Audio Bit Rate no less than 96kb/second

This screener should be absent of network logos and slate. It should include 2 seconds of black at start and tail of file.

The screener should be named in the following convention:

- DSID\_ProjectName\_SCREENERS\_Date.mp4



## 4.12 DIGITAL CONTENT/SERIES OVERVIEW

Digital content for all networks requires the same technical specifications and naming conventions, but they involve a smaller set of deliverables and documentation.

File layout must follow the specifications provided on page [14](#), but the inclusion of a credits segment is optional. Please consult your Paramount production contact on if your series needs to include credits.

NPPO will inform you as to which of the following deliverables are required for your production:

### Masters + Supplemental Deliverables:

- Submission Master (1 per version)
- Textless Split Track Master (1 per episode)
  - Textless Split Track Workreel (1 per episode, see below for more details)
- Audio Stems (1 per episode)
- Pro Tools Session (1 per episode)
- Platform Rendition Files Package (1 Per episode, see below for more details)
- Graphics Toolkit (1 per season)
- Source Materials (1 per season)

### Paperwork:

- Digital Metadata Intake Form (1 per episode)
- .SRT Closed Caption File (1 per version)
- .SCC Closed Caption File (1 per version)
- Timecoded As-Broadcast Script (1 per version)
- Full Credit List (1 per episode)
- Formatted Credits Document (1 per episode)
- Audio Stems Checklist (1 per season)
- Digital Series Metadata Form (1 per season)
- Music Cue Sheet (1 per version)
- Music Score Sheet (1 per episode)
- Show Log (1 per episode)

Animation projects may additionally be required to deliver the following assets:

- Alpha Layers (1-2 per episode)
- Dubbing Bible (1 per season)
- Episodic Animation Assets Package (1 per episode)

If your show is an original Paramount owned production, at wrap please submit all elements used in the production and post-production of the program cycle. More information can be found on page [50](#).

### 4.12.1 Textless Split Track Workreel

If your production is not mixing audio, and audio stems cannot be provided, the textless file must follow the video specs and file layout as detailed on page [39](#) but include the following audio layout:

- Tracks 1 & 2: Uncensored Stereo L & R Full Mix
- Tracks 3 & 4: Uncensored Dialogue
- Tracks 5 & 6: Stereo Sound Effects
- Tracks 7 & 8: Stereo Music
- Tracks 9 & 10: Misc. (i.e. censored mix)
- Tracks 11 & 12: Misc. (i.e. censored dialogue stem)
  - Depending on the complexity of the edit, use channels 9-12 for additional needs like VO, SOT, additional mixes, show packages, etc.

The file should be labeled as a Textless Split Track Workreel rather than a Textless Split Track Master.

- For example, Casagrandes Digital Short 202 Textless Split Track Workreel
  - HDDGSCASA202A\_Casagrandes\_202A\_081021\_TEXTLESS\_SPLIT\_WORKREEL.mov

#### 4.12.2 Platform Rendition Files Package

In addition to the Submission Archive Master, productions must deliver all versions of an episode created for online platforms (such as YouTube, Twitter, etc.) in a single zipped folder per episode. All Platform Rendition Files Packages must be delivered via Media Shuttle at the same time as episode delivery.

All Platform Rendition Files should be formatted as .mov or .mp4 files with H.264 proxy codec.

All Platform Rendition Files should be labeled as follows:

- DSID\_Series\_Platform\_Date\_Platform
  - For example, Casagrandes Digital Short 202 YouTube Rendition File
    - HDDGSCASA202A\_Casagrandes\_Youtube\_081021.mov

All Platform Rendition Files Packages should be labeled as follows:

- DSID\_Series\_PlatformRenditionFiles\_Date
  - For example, Casagrandes Digital Short 202 Platform Rendition Files Package
    - HDDGSCASA202A\_Casagrandes\_PlatformRenditionFiles\_081021.zip

#### 4.12.3 Paperwork Delivery Guidelines

##### Digital Series Metadata Intake Form

- All descriptions must not exceed 1024 characters (long) / 250 characters (short), including spaces.
- All line items must be filled. Please use "N/A" if needed.

##### Digital Episode Metadata Intake Form

- Episode descriptions must not exceed 1024 characters (long) / 250 characters (short), including spaces.
- All Episode Titles must be distinct from the episode's number.
  - Please do not title episodes Episode 101, etc.
- Include a list of original songs for each episode if applicable in episode description. This does not count toward character totals.
- All line items must be filled. Please use "N/A" if needed.
- Complete the Content Rundown with correct in and out time codes for segmenting. Timing for all segments must be included.
- Complete the Graphics Rundown with the description, location, and correct in and out time codes for all graphic elements.

#### 4.13 SOURCE MATERIALS DELIVERY

- If your show is an original Paramount owned production, at wrap please submit all elements used in the production and post-production of the program cycle. This includes Camera Masters, Source Footage, Edit Elements and Projects, and all other media, including data from intake forms, camera, and/or audio masters. All elements must be submitted on LTO in an Iron Mountain Library Box, which can be obtained from the Paramount Library. Please find Library contact information in the next section and include your NPPO contact on all correspondence.
- The ViacomCBS Library can currently accept LTO-6, LTO-7, and LTO-8 tapes.
- LTFS formatting is required for all submitted LTOs
- All complete file paths must be 180 characters *or less*
- File and folder names should not include any special characters, as they could cause problems with archiving files.
- Materials should be clearly delineated into separate, clearly labeled categorized folders, including Footage, Audio, Graphics, Project Files, Builds, and Non-Paramount Assets.
- No one file on an LTO should be larger than 2TB.
- There are three forms used in the source materials archiving process:
  - Digital Container Submission Form
  - Archive Cataloging Submission Form
  - Catalog Submissions Verification Form
- All forms and examples are available on the NPPO website.

### Paperwork Completion

- Complete a **Digital Container Submission Form for EACH item submitted**. Physically attach this form to its respective LTO and place inside of the box. When you are filling out this form, be sure to include a title for the LTO and fill out all corresponding fields that apply to the content being submitted with as much detail as possible.
  - LTO Titles should include show name and season number along with specific identifying information.
  - In the Content Description field, please include all applicable information about the footage provided, including corresponding episode numbers, scene descriptions, talent involved, locations, and shoot dates
  - Upon completing the Digital Container Submission Forms, please make sure that all LTOs are working properly.
- All productions must submit an **Archive Cataloging Submission Form** along with EACH BOX for archiving.
  - All LTOs need to be put in a box to be archived. Place one copy of the completed Archive Cataloging Submission Form **inside of the box** before sealing, and attach one copy to the **outside of the box** for identification. This form is a record of what the box contains.
    - The titles of each LTO inside the box should be listed alongside their respective format and include any relevant episode or promo number. The listed titles must match those listed on the Digital Container Submission Form
  - Make sure that your **Archive Cataloging Submission Form** matches what is inside of the box. You should be able to follow/count the materials in the order they are listed on the form.
- Once all boxes are ready, please fill out the **Catalog Submissions Verification Form**. This form details the name of the person who will be dropping off the boxes, the contact information for the Production Company, the Network Contact, show title and number of boxes that will be dropped off.

### Delivery of Final Boxes

- Please contact your NPPO representative with completed paperwork when ready to deliver. They will review and initiate contact with the Library to coordinate final delivery.

## 5 CONTACTS

Please use the contact information below should you need to contact anyone at Paramount during the episode creation or delivery processes. Except in case of emergency, always contact your NPPO representative first.

### Paramount Network Post Production Operations (NPPO)

To reach our entire NPPO Team please email <a href="mailto:NetworkPostProdOps@viacom.com">NetworkPostProdOps@viacom.com</a>			
Name	Position	Phone	Email
Brian Amyot	Director	Work: 212-846-8257 Cell: 516-582-5301	Brian.Amyot@paramount.com
Laura Presedo	Director	Work: 212-654-5740 Cell: 917-656-3572	Laura.Presedo@paramount.com
Nate Scates	Director	Work: 615- 335-8555 Cell: 615-487-3722	Nate.Scates@cmt.com
Jesse Torres	Director	Work: 212-846-8315 Cell: 908-208-1535	Jesse.Torres@paramount.com
Nick Bell	Manager	Cell: 724-989-4703	Nicholas.Bell@paramount.com
Kelly Bermel	Manager	Work: 212-846-4601 Cell: 718-664-5095	Kelly.Bermel@nick.com
Drew Dalea	Manager	Work: 323-371-2666	Andrew.Dalea@paramount.com
Norman Foote II	Manager	Work: 310-907-2531 Cell: 714-232-2450	Norman.Foote@paramount.com
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