

Conform and workflow for Baselight systems



Increased throughput for your Baselight system with macOS software-only productivity solution

With the increasing complexity involved in conforming and reconforming projects - from multiple versions of VFX and different cameras - we recognise that our customers need to perform these tasks on a low-cost, general purpose workstation. Baselight CONFORM is a scalable software solution for just this scenario. The application runs on macOS and is available to all customers with a current annual support package for Baselight.

Preparing for the grade

Baselight CONFORM allows Baselight scenes to be set up and conformed while the main system is busy generating revenue. The application goes further than this, though.

In today's productions, with multiple cameras using different formats, colour space and decode settings, preparing a scene to be graded efficiently can require a number of technical decisions to be made up front. Baselight CONFORM allows that process to occur efficiently away from the eyes of clients in the main grading suite.

Full scene editing capability

Helping the colourist to be effective goes beyond simply providing a project that is ready to start grading. As a production progresses, new VFX shots and cuts from the editor have to be incorporated on a regular basis.

With Baselight CONFORM, Baselight scenes can be amended by dropping revised material in, and adjusting keyframes and grades as needed. New edits can be conformed and grades can be multi-pasted to prepare for the next session. You can even perform typical Baselight ASSIST roles, such as rotoscoping and tracking.

Grade from the raw source

Some DI workflows have evolved a pragmatic process where the cut is rendered flat, using basic software, into a sequence of DPX files. Although this keeps the distraction of handling the editorial side of a production away from the colourist, the increasing demand for RAW camera workflows makes it less desirable. Baselight CONFORM addresses this issue by making it viable for every conform assistant to be sitting at a Baselight system - with full access to Baselight's unrivalled colour space management and support for all professional formats.

Dedicated conform workstation

Baselight CONFORM is a near-complete version of the Baselight software that runs on macOS. It supports control via a standard three-button mouse and keyboard and uses standard Mac or even HD-SDI monitoring - all to enable you to prepare scenes for full Baselight systems with dedicated control panels.

You can also set up rendering tasks and send them to the queue on a full Baselight system.

While the full system is incredibly powerful and configurable, mounting removable drives can require technical knowledge, connectivity or filesystem support that isn't available under the Linux FilmLightOS operating system. As Baselight CONFORM runs on a Mac, however, it can also act as an easy-to-use gateway to present attached storage to the Baselight Cloud.

Professional monitoring

Baselight CONFORM can drive an HD-SDI display as an alternative to the Mac display via the third-party AJA family of display devices such as the Thunderbolt T-TAP, IO-XT, IO-4K and Kona 3G.

Key Features

- » Software-only solution that creates Baselight scenes in the common jobs database, shared immediately to all Baselight/ASSIST/CONFORM stations
- » Uses core Baselight technology on macOS platform
- » Import CMX3600, AAF, FilmLight EDLs, Autodesk DLEDLs, or FCP XML
- » Filter media on template, file type and/or metadata
- » Reconform from revised EDL maintaining grade events and keyframes
- » Detect cuts in long-form content
- » Adjust keyframes for all controls
- » View offline and conform timelines of any resolution side-by-side or with split screen wipe
- » Perform simple compositing including green screen keys and/or external mattes
- » Set up renders to queue on Baselight/ASSIST stations
- » Reframe/reformat with dynamic pan and scan
- » Perform complex colour space transforms with Truelight Colour Spaces
- » Access local storage of other Baselight systems, or FLUX Store, in a networked cloud
- » Conform and prepare media on remote systems with optimised streaming access to high-resolution images
- » Manage image data across network via FLUX Manage
- » Organise complex projects in Job Manager: create folder hierarchy for jobs, filter items, rename/delete scenes
- » Browse source media easily in the Sequence Browser, view sequence details and play back sequences

Easily deployable

As the processing requirement of the conform role is normally low, the software-only macOS application allows even older Mac workstations or iMacs to be used in this role.

Baselight CONFORM integrates the Baselight cloud image server technology on macOS for high-performance image streaming from a full Baselight or FLUX Store system over 1GbE, or with real-time playback of high-resolution images if 10GbE network fabric is available.

Specifications

- » Supported on macOS 10.12-10.14

Minimum specification

- » MacBook Pro, Mac Pro, iMac or iMac Pro
- » 1GB GPU memory
- » 8GB RAM
- » 1GbE connection to Linux Baselight system

Recommended specification

- » Mac Pro 6,1
- » 2GB GPU memory
- » 16GB RAM
- » External high-performance disk system for local playback
- » Single/Dual 10GbE connection to Linux Baselight system

Scalability

Baselight CONFORM is available for a low subscription price on top of the normal Baselight support contract. This means that conform departments that handle complicated projects can have as many assistants as they need, all in discussion with VFX and edit houses, all with access to Baselight CONFORM and all helping to bring the project together without impacting the main suite.

Upgrade to Baselight CONFORM

Baselight CONFORM supersedes both Baselight Kompressor and Baselight PORTABLE, which have now been discontinued. Any customers who wish to move to Baselight CONFORM from the discontinued products should contact baselight-support@filmlight.ltd.uk.

Head Office & EMEA

London, UK
t: +44.20.7292.0400
info@filmlight.ltd.uk

Australia

Sydney
t: +61.2.8746.0602

China

Beijing
t: +86.139.1073.7940

Germany

Berlin
t: +49.151.2345.5668

India

Mumbai
t: +91.9819.426.677

Japan

Tokyo
t: +81.3.6801.6280

Mexico

Mexico City
t: +52(1)55.5165.2132

Singapore

Singapore
t: +65.9670.3283

Thailand

Bangkok
t: +66.891.259.009

USA

Los Angeles
t: +1.323.785.1630

www.filmlight.ltd.uk



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