Northeast Historic Film – PO Box 900 Bucksport ME 04416 – *Report on Metahoot by Catherine Weiss*

Report by Catherine Weiss, 21 June 2004

Metadata Hootenanny (Metahoot)
available for download free at http://www.applesolutions.com/bantha/MH.html

Metadata Hootenanny is a useful program for students who want to add metadata to their QuickTime projects. QuickTime by itself can't access or edit metadata, but through Hootenanny you can do both of these things with QuickTime files.

Through QuickTime Pro ($30) you can record and view limited metadata but can't edit the categories as you can using Hootenanny.

Hootenanny is also useful for organizing libraries of QuickTime files, which would be beneficial for organizing a grade's movie projects or archiving past projects. QuickTime movies can also be played directly through Hootenanny.

It is a 2.9-megabyte download, which is the approximate size of an MP3 song. It would take up to an hour to download on a dial-up connection so I would recommend that the teacher download this on a faster connection.

In Metadata Hootenanny, each movie file that is added can have different sections of information entered about it. In the viewer/editor, all the information about a movie is shown in a row of columns. Each column is a different category of metadata, for example, File Name, Title, or Actors. New categories can be added by typing into the Add Column box and pressing enter. The metadata itself can be edited by double-clicking on the text. I would suggest that all students are given a list of standard categories to add to their movie metadata.

Suggested categories for student movies:

- File Name (what the QuickTime file is called by the computer, for example, TheMovie.mov)
- Full Title (On Project: Documenting Senior Spring)
- Alternative Title
- Writer(s)
- Director
- Narrator
- Camera crew/lighting crew
- Location of filming
- Businesses/products used or featured in movie
- All actors in movie
- Original Format
- Date(s) filmed
- Original assignment
- Genre
- Music used in movie

- Comment
- Rights
- Sources

To view a movie's complete metadata, click on the row to highlight it and go to the All File Metadata option in the File menu. (Shortcut: <Shift, Apple key, A>)

Separate groups of metadata for different sections of a movie can be made only when each section is a separate file. Hootenanny only supports one set of metadata per QuickTime file.

Metadata Hootenanny Report II: Segmenting, Online Forum

Hootenanny has a tool that creates chapters in QuickTime files, similar to chapters in a DVD. The Chapters featureof MetaHoot would be useful for students working with iMovie because then multiple projects can be stored and easily navigated though in a single QuickTime file. Chapters can be added without MetaHoot in QuickTime Pro, the $30 version of QuickTime, but it's more difficult and requires jumping through a lot of hoops (creating separate text files and typing out the in and out points by hand) so I would recommend MetaHoot as a free and simpler alternative.

There is a guide about how to add these chapters at this website:
 http://www.applesolutions.com/bantha/MHGuide.html

To find an official forum for Q&A and discussion about MetaHoot, visit this website:
http://forums.3ivx.com/cgi-bin/ikonboard/forums.cgi?forum=10

Note: on the Hootenanny website to-do list
(http://www.applesolutions.com/bantha/MHbugs.html) there is
a note that indicates that movies will be able to be split
into parts, which may or may not mean that a later version
of Hootenanny may be equipped to have multiple, separate sections of metadata for one file. However, at this time, MetaHoot only supports one set of metadata per QuickTime file.

Metadata Hootenanny Report III

Who made Hootenanny? Who is responsible?

On the website www.macupdate.com there is a review of Metadata Hootenanny 1.0. On a message board, someone asks a question directed at a developer, and the response is from Noah Sorscher, the author of the review. His listed email is nasorscher @ comcast . net.

The original review can be found at: http://www.macupdate.com/info.php/id/10367
and the response can be found at:
http://www.macupdate.com/reviews.php?id=10367&pid=34935.

A Google search of "noah sorscher" first turns up this web address:
http://www.versiontracker.com/php/mp/devinfoapp.php?ID=9615&OS_Filter=

On this site is information about Noah Sorscher. Along with Metadata Hootenanny, he has also credited with Sync-Hole, also freeware multimedia software for Macintosh. According to http://www.versiontracker.com/dyn/moreinfo/mac/16900, Sync-Hole "fixes sound sync on any QuickTime movie." It has received five out of five stars in a versiontracker.com over-all customer satisfaction poll.

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