Specifications and Guidelines for DCP Delivery to 76th Venice Film Festival

Failure to deliver content conforming to these specifications and guidelines may result in issues and/or errors during the presentation in a theatrical environment at 76.VFF. Therefore it will not be possible to achieve the Sound and Vision representation of the Creative and Technical Intent. Care must be taken to not send DCPs to 76.VFF with "known issues".

DCP Packaging Format: The 76.VFF accepts "**SMPTE-DCPs"** (preferred format), that are fully compliant to the current formal standard by SMPTE regarding the packaging and delivery of digital cinema content files. "Interop-DCP" can also be accepted. However, this format does not include very useful features that are included in the "SMPTE-DCP" format. **"SMPTE DCPs"** are regulated by strictly formulated International technical requirements. As such, it is strongly recommended to commission a Professional Mastering Facility to create the DCPs, the DCP Supplemental Packages (if required), and to generate the KDMs (if required).

DCP Quality Control & Validation (QC&V): Please do not send untested DCPs that have not been verified and validated by a DCP Professional Mastering Facility and by the Producer and/or Distributor who submits the movie to the 76.VFF. The results of the QC&V should be included in the **Online DCP QC&V Report** as a task of the submission process. QC&V should be done on both the DCP1 (Show copy) and DCP2 (Backup copy).

Online DCP QC&V Report: This report should be completed and **uploaded** to the link, that will be made available to invited films, only when the final DCPs (DCP1 Show copy and DCP2 Backup copy) have been rigorously approved in all of its Files/Assets. The DCP QC&V report is the **"I.D. Card of the DCP"**. As such, it must be precise, editorially and technically, rigorously verified and validated by the Professional Mastering Facility and by the Producers and/or Distributors that submit the content to the 76.VFF. **Failure to provide 100% accurate data or information, and/or not conforming to the data and information verified and validated by the Mastering Facility and by the Producer and/or Distributor may result in issues and/or errors during the presentation of content in a theatrical environment at 76.VFF.**

CPL (Composition Playlist): This is a ContentTitleText string that describes, specifies and instructs on how to screen the version of your movie at 76.VFF. Even though the "Digital Cinema Naming Convention" is an agreed upon voluntary recommended practice, care should be taken to ensure the ContentTitleText of a CPL follows the naming convention V.9.5 or the version in force.
This text string is used also elsewhere (e.g.: in the annotation text of the PKL and in the KDMs): all these entries should MATCH EXACTLY. If they do not, confusion may result in d-cinema systems. If a DCP already delivered, or one of its files, should be replaced, it must be authorized by the Director of the 76.VFF. Moreover, any time a CPL is revised, either the date field or version number shall be updated or amended in some way to denote a new version has been created.

Soundtracks: Preferred Audio configurations are 5.1 and 7.1 Channel-Based. Immersive Audio (Object Audio) is also accepted but must have prior authorization from the Director of the 76.VFF. The Audio data shall be formatted in conformance with the SMPTE Standards in force.[Please note that only Sala Darsena is equipped for immersive audio.]

DCPs delivery date: It is requested to provide two identical DCPs (DCP1 Show copy and DCP2 Backup copy) of the same movie, including the same ContentTitleText value, each one supplied on a Physical Storage Device (see info below), **by August 16, 2019**. Each storage device shall contain only the DCP related to the movie.

DCP Physical Storage Devices: Each DCP should be preferably delivered in a 3.5" Hard Disk Drive (HDD) with interfaces CRU-Dataport and eSATA 6G. Solid State Disk (SSD) and portable Flash devices (USB Sticks) are also accepted. The partition on the storage device should be formatted specifically for Linux using the Extended File System EXT2 or EXT3 or EXT4, with the iNode size set to 128 bytes. Each storage device should be supplied in a dedicated safety shipping box, must be rigorously labeled, and be accompanied by a print copy of the **DCP QC&V Report**.

DCP Digital File Transfer: Exceptionally the 76. VFF may authorize the delivery by digital file transfer (e.g. Aspera Transfer Service) of the DCP or some of its files/assets. To prepare for this, it is recommended that the following considerations are in place: a Broadband Internet connection that exceed 50Mbit/s or better must be used; the DCP or the file/asset to deliver must not exceed 5GB; the DCP or the file/asset to deliver must have been rigorously verified and validated (see **DCP Quality Control & Validation (QC&V);** you need to obtain the preventive authorization and instructions from the Cinema Department of La Biennale (digitalcinema@labiennale.org).

Technical Conformance Checks (TCC): Each DCP delivered on time to the 76.VFF will be technically verified regarding its interoperability and conformance with the SMPTE-DCP or Interop-DCP formats. These checks do not replace the QC&V but are necessary to prepare the PCF (Project Configuration File) and thus to program correctly the DCP for the theatrical exhibition at the 76.VFF. Technical data error, file/assets error or non-conformance with the SMPTE Standard or with DCI Specifications cannot be solved at the 76.VFF.

On-Screen Subtitles: The 76.VFF requires that Italian (English for Italian movies) **On-Screen Subtitles** be delivered as burned into the picture, or as XML File embedded in the DCP (OV or VF). It is the responsibility of the organization that submits the movie to have them in sync (Timed Text) with each frame of the entire movie and be positioned in the Save Title Area of the image format. CPL should use lower case text indicating burned in subtitles; uppercase if embedded.

Off-Screen Subtitles (English): These will appear on a separate screen under the main screen. The file must be delivered by email. These subtitles must be in sync (Timed Text) with on-screen subtitles and therefore have the same frame rate. We require that you send a 100% identical DVD or a link to a downloadable video file and the lists of subtitles with Time Code - both in Italian and English – by August 16, 2019. Off-Screen Subtitles for 3D Stereoscopic movies are not accepted at 76.VFF.

KDM: If the DCPs are encrypted, we require that the validity of the KDMs includes the day the DCPs arrive at 76.VFF (not after August 16, 2019) till September 8, 2019. The KDMs shall be valid for all the IMB/Media Blocks in use at 76.VFF. The list will be available on request. Please deliver KDMs to the Cinema Department of La Biennale (digitalcinema@labiennale.org). If an automatic upload or download service for KDMs is available the Cinema Department of the 76.VFF must be made aware at once. Please send KDMs in zipped forlders.
Note: If the validity of KDMs will not be compliant with the above requests, the 76. VFF will be unable to perform the **Technical Conformance Checks (TCC)** and to prepare the Projector Configuration File (PCF). As a result, it will not be possible to plan the DCP for the theatrical exhibition at the 76.VFF.