



# era//404 Creative Group LookUp Tool

Project tracking on Flame\*/Smoke\* devices can become quite involved and cumbersome. Multiple operators, long-term projects, and disconnects between crews sometimes make tracking, archiving, deleting, even wiring, a time-consuming task.

That's why era//404 Creative Group worked with operators to develop the **LookUp Tool**, an automated approach to tracking projects giving all LAN users with access one-click retrieval of all device statistics/status, projects lists and project management assignments (archive, delete, wire).

## How It Works

By using a standard web server's inherent sockets connectivity, batch-performing the IRIX "vstat" command, and storing system values to a database, LookUp is accessed in a web browser and makes project tracking a breeze. Any workstation with access to LookUp can schedule a regular task to update the LookUp database, so users will have the most current records when they arrive to work in the morning. Alternately, a server-side CRON can be scheduled for hourly updates to the system database.

FS REPORTS	FS	TOTAL (MB)	USED (MB)	USED (%)	HD USE (%)	LIC. EXPIRES
SMOKE 1	SMOKE 1	487641	314059	64.4%	35%	smoke_oct2v12sd_r_6 30-aug-2006
SMOKE 2	SMOKE 2	487641	204180	41.9%	25%	smoke_oct2v12sd_r_6 30-aug-2006
FLAME 1	FLAME 1	975282	758266	77.7%	85%	flame_oct2v12sd_r_8 30-july-2006
FLAME 2	SMOKE 1	975282	938221	96.2%	52%	flame_oct2v12sd_r_8 30-aug-2006
INFERNO 1	INFERNO 1	487641	176505	36.2%	91%	inferno_oct2v12sd_r_6 30-oct-2006

Figure 1: The LookUp Tool Home Screen

## Summary

The LookUp Tool's Summary Home Screen (Figure 1) provides a snapshot of the following items for all devices:

- Device Name
- Framestore Total Storage (MB)
- Framestore Used Storage (MB)
- Framestore Usage Percent
- Hard Drive Usage Percent
- License Expiration

Devices nearing their capacity are shown in red, to draw attention to potential system warnings or faults. License Expiration is also clickable to view license detail and is also shown in red when renewal is required.

## Reports

PROJECT	FRAMES	STATUS	COMMENTS
01 Smoke Project Number 1	42153	Archive	clean up
02 Rig Removal	46422	Keep	waiting to hear
03 Hero Logo Animation	15959	Keep	
04 Sports Promo Revisions	0		
05 Show Packaging	7674	Keep	
06 Corporate Video Recut	13411	Delete w/o Archiving	Project has been archived
07 Web Video	35602		
08 Greenscreen Matte Test	27430	Archive	
09 Athlete Rotoscoping Job	19600	Delete w/o Archiving	Offline tests only
10 Camera Tracking	45601	Keep	Need this
11 Rough Composite for Review	45226	Keep	
12 Beach Color Correction	9819	Keep	
13 Pulldown Removal / Merge Fields	11185		

Figure 2: The LookUp Tool's Device Report

PO BOX 2063

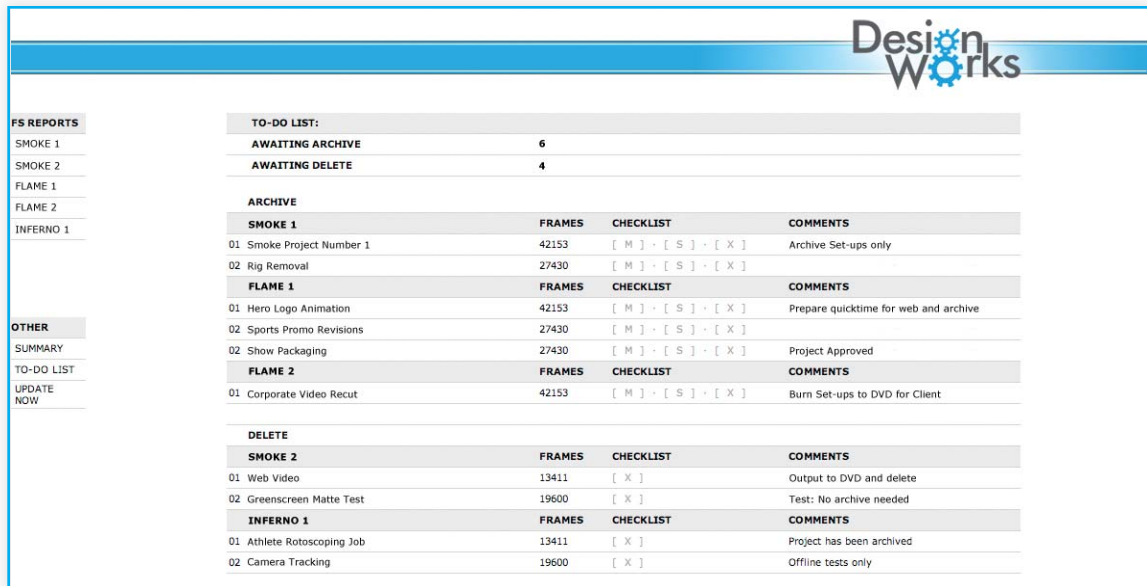
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Choosing a device from the navigation gives users a project-by-project breakdown of device activity (Figure 2), including frame usage, and management assignments. From a drop-down, users can mark a project for archival, deletion, and wire (to adjacent device). Free-text fields are given for each project, so that scheduling personnel and other users may enter comments about the project for other users to review. These assignments are stored along-side the projects and can be updated as often as necessary for up-to-date system-wide notification.

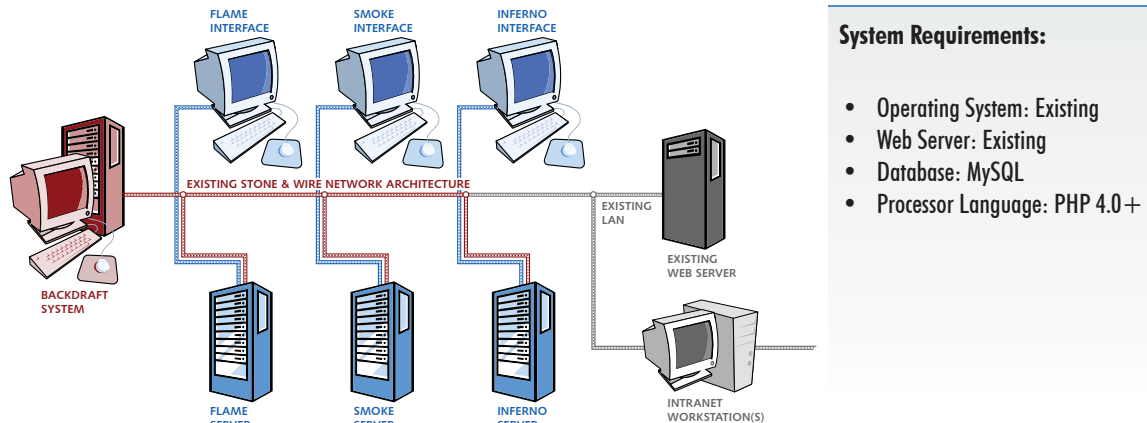
## To-Do



TO-DO LIST:			
<b>AWAITING ARCHIVE</b>	<b>6</b>		
<b>AWAITING DELETE</b>	<b>4</b>		
ARCHIVE			
SMOKE 1	FRAMES	CHECKLIST	COMMENTS
01 Smoke Project Number 1	42153	[ M ] · [ S ] · [ X ]	Archive Set-ups only
02 Rig Removal	27430	[ M ] · [ S ] · [ X ]	
FLAME 1	FRAMES	CHECKLIST	COMMENTS
01 Hero Logo Animation	42153	[ M ] · [ S ] · [ X ]	Prepare quicktime for web and archive
02 Sports Promo Revisions	27430	[ M ] · [ S ] · [ X ]	
02 Show Packaging	27430	[ M ] · [ S ] · [ X ]	Project Approved
FLAME 2	FRAMES	CHECKLIST	COMMENTS
01 Corporate Video Recut	42153	[ M ] · [ S ] · [ X ]	Burn Set-ups to DVD for Client
DELETE			
SMOKE 2	FRAMES	CHECKLIST	COMMENTS
01 Web Video	13411	[ X ]	Output to DVD and delete
02 Greenscreen Matte Test	19600	[ X ]	Test: No archive needed
INFERNO 1	FRAMES	CHECKLIST	COMMENTS
01 Athlete Rotoscoping Job	13411	[ X ]	Project has been archived
02 Camera Tracking	19600	[ X ]	Offline tests only

Figure 3: The LookUp Tool's To-Do List

Technicians responsible for performing archives, deletes and wire transfers are given a To-Do "worksheet" (Figure 3) as a guide for routine system maintenance. As projects are given management assignments, these specifications are automatically added to a printable To-Do list with checkboxes for on-site recording of task completion. Then, as projects are wired or deleted, the LookUp Tool finds this activity and updates the database during the next scheduled update.



## Security

Because LookUp Tool is installed on an existing intranet (or internet), access permissions can be administrated using standard network procedures. Standardized .htaccess can govern LookUp scripts for one-touch access to intranet users, while requiring authentication from external internet requests. This framework gives your IT manager complete control over your devices' project security.

Make the tedium of project tracking a thing of the past, by buying your license of the era//404 Creative Group LookUp Tool.

For more information, please contact:

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