

AATON

Video Assist User's
guide
for VSA 16 & 35

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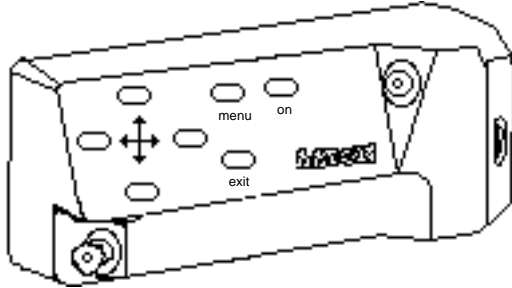
VIDEO ASSIST

You may use the Aaton color CCD assist in two different ways.

In some special situations (if you're filming in the dark for example), it might be more comfortable to look your images on a monitor than through the viewfinder.

This is why the video assist is equipped with a frame generator: as you can choose the size and position of the generated frame, the image you see through the viewfinder (which might be in ratio 1.78 or 1.66 for example) can match exactly the image you see inside the frame on the monitor. Moreover this frame is easier to locate than the viewing screen's frame. The director can then immediately control his operator's images, or the operator is allowed to stay away from his camera.

Of course, the video assist was first created to be used in such a way. But, now that video editing (including the virtual video editing) offers new powerful tools to the editor, the video assist can be used in a different way. It provides a Vitc lines generator, which are the dots and lines, usually put above the video image, used by video editing machines. Therefore, images recorded by the video assist may be directly used to make a video editing of the film; no need to use a telecine, no need also to have developed the rushes you won't use.



Operations

The control unit contains seven operator buttons: up, down, left, right arrows, menu on and exit keys.

- Press **On** to switch on the video assist
- Press **menu** to have the menu displayed.
- Use **arrows** to access to the desired parameter.
- Press **menu** to indicate that you want to modify this parameter.
- Use **arrows** to adjust this parameter.
- Press **menu** to validate
- Press **exit** to memorize the new configuration.
- Press **On** during 3 seconds to switch Off the video

SET VIDEO

- The **Output** function allow you to choose between color and black/white.

- **Color temperature** - Depending on which kind of emulsion you are using. In order to have the video colors closer to the film colors, you can choose between 3200K, 5600K.

- **Gain** - The Gain function (manual) increases visibility in low light situations, but increases video noise. The medium setting is **000**, you can increase or decrease the gain from **-155** to **+ 100** Use arrows to proceed.

DATE

- **Date** allows you to choose the position of the current date insertion inside the video image. Use arrows to proceed.

TIME

- **Time** allows you to choose the position of the current time insertion inside the video image. Use arrows to proceed.

CAM

- **Cam** allows you to choose the position of the current cam insertion inside the video image. Use arrows to proceed.

FRAME

- **Frame On/Off** allows you to choose if you want or not a frame to be inserted in the video image.

- **Frame 1,2,3 or 4**, allows you to memorize 4 different frames. The 4 frames can not be inserted at the same time.

- **Frame Top Left** allows you to choose the top-left position of the frame. Use arrows to proceed.

- **Frame Bottom Right** allows you to choose the bottom-right position of the frame. Use arrows to proceed.

- **Frame move** allows you to move the complete frame in the picture. Use arrows to proceed.

- **Edge Shadow** allows you to choose between a white or black edge around the frame or no edge. Use arrows to proceed.

TECHNICAL

- **Time Code Off/On** allows you to choose to insert (On) or not (Off) AatonCode information, which consists of Time, Date and Equipment number ID.

- **Font** allows you to choose the font you need

for the characters to be inserted. Choose 1 for standard characters and 2 for bold characters.

- **Automatic Power Off** allows you to choose between an automatic shut off (On) or a manual one (Off).

- **Delay to power off** allows you (displayed only if the Automatic Power Off mode has been chose) to choose an automatic shut off of the video assist, from 10 to 60 minutes. Use arrows to proceed.

- **Vitc Position** allows you to choose the position of the Vitc lines. Choose between line 10 and 19 in PAL (Aaton recommends line 19), between 13 and 19 in NTSC.

- **Parity** allows you to select the parity of the Vitc lines between Odd and Even.
Make sure that your Post-production tools run properly with the selected value.

- **Low camera Speed** allows you to increase brightness and sharpness in low camera speed mode (from 3 to 12 fps).

- **Burn-in White level** allows you to modify the intensity of the white burn-in frame. You can choose from **-100** (almost grey) to **+50**. The medium position is **000**. Use arrows to proceed.

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