

Support



Support Department Hours -
9:00AM PST - 6:00PM PST Mon-Fri
Contact is for Registered Users Only-

Contact Information-

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DVD Sales Department
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<http://www.orionstudios.net/liquid/index.html>

NEX3 - First MP3 Toolbar for IE

<http://www.orionstudios.net/liquidburn/NEX3.html>

Understanding DVD Technology

DVD Basics

The features that make DVD attractive to consumers—seamless branching, multiple languages, parental control, karaoke support, and multiple angles. A DVD player must not only play back audio, video, and subpicture streams, but also must keep track of the navigation options that the disc is currently permitting, and correctly handle many types of user commands. DirectDVD shields you from much of this complexity. The following sections provide some necessary background information. You can find further information on DVD in third-party publications or on the World Wide Web.

Digital video disc (DVD) represents the next generation in optical disc storage technology for video and audio computer data. Essentially, a DVD is a compact disc (CD) that provides increased storage capacity, faster data access, and superior playback quality. A DVD holds 4.38 gigabytes (4.7 billion bytes) of data on each side — enough for a movie more than two hours long. Each side can hold two layers of information, allowing a single DVD to hold up to 15.9 gigabytes (17 billion bytes) of audio, video, and other types of data. A CD-ROM of the same physical size holds 650 megabytes (682 million bytes) of data.

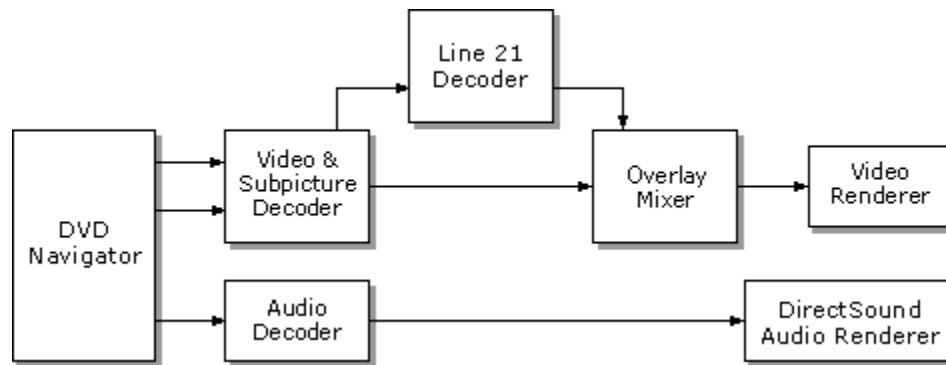
DVD aims to provide a unified solution for home entertainment, business, computer storage, and computer multimedia with a single digital format. Eventually, DVD aims to replace audio CD, videotape, laser disc, and CD-ROM technologies. Currently, DVD has widespread support from all major electronic companies, all major computer hardware companies, all major movie studios, and many major music studios. Thus, DVD technology has an excellent opportunity to revolutionize the distribution of media.

A DVD title can offer simultaneous multilingual support, parental control mechanisms, menu options, chapter searching, and varied viewing through multiple camera angles.

Playing your First DVD

DVD FilterGraph

The following illustration shows a typical DirectDVD - DVD filter graph.



The DirectDVD is the first filter in a DVD playback filter graph;

Playing your First DVD

Understanding DVD Technology

You are now ready to start playing your first DVD on DirectDVD-

First, DirectDVD can be started in (2) ways-

- (1) - By putting your DVD into the DVD Drive-
- (2) - Start DirectDVD by Clicking on the Icon on the Desktop!



Next- Direct DVD will auto start playing the disc if your program auto started -(not clicking on Icon) otherwise click on the play button to start your Movie-

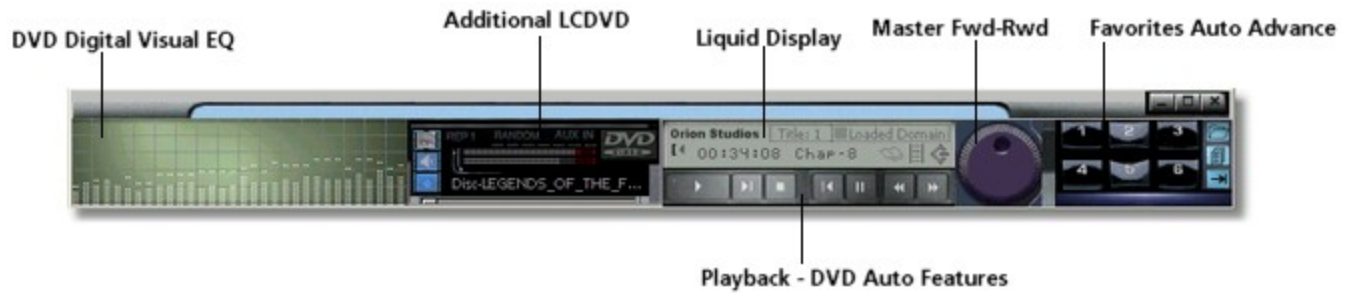


You are now playing your DVD movie- enjoy!!

Be sure to check out these awesome new features- to enhance you DirectDVD Experience!

Interface Layout

DirectDVD Master Layout -



[DVD Digital Visual EQ](#)

[Master Control Panel](#)

[Parental](#)

[Options](#)

[DVD to MP3](#)

[Video](#)

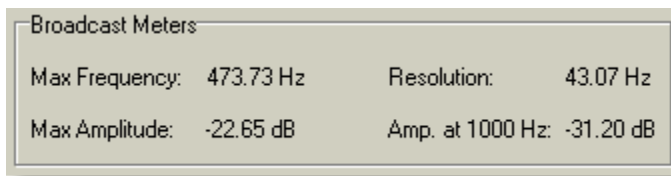
[Audio](#)

DVD EQ



DirectDVD has included some new exciting technology for your viewing-
With DVD EQ - Orion Studios allows you to view live audio and EQ information from the DVD Player-

Including a 16 Band EQ- (L) - (R) seperate bands and detailed audio information (image below)



These tools will provide you detailed audio information-

Menu Layout

Below is a master list of DirectDVD's master menu layout-

Play-> Start Playing your DVD -

Stop-> Stops playback of DirectDVD

Pause-> Pause DirectDVD Playback- DVD must be playing

ReplayChapter-> Replay the current chapter being played

TrackUp-> Play the next available chapter

TrackDown-> Play the previous chapter

ResumeDVDPlayback-> If DirectDVD is in a Menu- Playback will start from last playback position

SubMenuReturn -> If playback is in a Sub-Menu- DirectDVD will return you to Main Menu (Global)

Titles and Chapters-> Direct Playback of chapters within a title- also see Understanding Titles and Chapters

Fullscreen-> Allows you to position the viewing area into FullScreen - also see Using FullScreen

DVD Audio Language-> Select the DVD Audio Stream for Playback - also see Audio Language Selection

DVD Digital Menus-> Instant Navigation to DVD Content Menus

Bookmark-> Use the Bookmark feature to bookmark your favorite scenes

Video Mode Preference-> Change the default DirectDVD Video Mode Preference

EXI Audio-> DVD hardware current Audio playback

Closed Caption-> Select/ON - OFF state of Closed Caption- (Application Developer)

DirectDVD Subpictures-> Access Additional Language Subpictures

Video Angles-> Select Angles when DVD is in Angle Block-

Play DVD at Time-> Play DVD at Time- in movie-

View Digital Control Panel-> Show/Hide Digital Control Panel

VStereoL Meter-> Left Meter for DVD Audio

VStereoR Meter-> Right Meter for DVD Audio

Spectrum-> 16 Band EQ to monitor DVD Audio channels-(Available only in DirectDVD)

View Info Bar-> View DVD running channels- and INFO while DVD is in Playback mode

Karaoke-> Select audio channels- playback must be Karaoke content (Available for Developer)

DVD to MP3-> NEW Feature - Record direct from DVD to MP3

Parental Locks-> Select Parental rating for DirectDVD - (G) (PG) (PG-13) (R) (NC-17) (All Content)

DVD Disc Text-> Some Movies provide extra DVD text- if available (Available for Developer)

Region Settings-> Select the region area for your hardware

Direct DVD Options-> DirectDVD Video, Audio, MP3, Parental, and Digital Info settings-

Help-> Access DirectDVD help files- located in root folder

Exit DirectDVD-> Close Down DirectDVD

StopDomain

DirectDVD performs - The head is retracted from the disc

Concept of Domains

TitleDomain

DIRECTDVD - ICD Display - (**Loaded Domain**)

DirectDVD action - The video content in a title. The menu-related methods are not valid.

Concept of Domains

Video Title SetMenu

DIRECTDVD - ICD Display - (**Title SetMenu**)

The menu for a title or group of titles, or one of its submenus—subpicture, language, audio, or angle. Any menu-related methods are valid.

Video Title Set Menus and Submenus

A Video Title Set Menu, also called a Root Menu (even though it's not at the root!), is a submenu of the VMGM. There can be from 1 to 99 titles in a title set. The VTSM has buttons enabling the user to go to any of the titles in the title set. In addition, the VTSM can also have submenus which enable the user to go to choose options for the audio stream, camera angle, subpicture stream, or chapter. These submenus are always valid for all the titles in the title set. VTSM submenus are not used on most DVDs. The root menu and all other submenus are optional, so never assume that all submenus in a VTSM have a common root menu.

Concept of Domains

First Play

DIRECTDVD - ICD Display - (**First Play**)

The initial section of the disc, for example, the FBI warning.

Concept of Domains

Video Manager Menu

DIRECTDVD - ICD Display - (**Video Manager**)

The main menu for the entire disc or disc side. Any menu-related methods are valid.

The Video Manager Menu

The top level menu is the Video Manager Menu (VMGM), also called the Top Menu or Title Menu. This menu usually has buttons that enable the user to go to the main titles or groups of titles on the disc. A group of titles is called a *title set*. For example, on a disc that has a feature film, a title set called "Interviews With the Director and Cast," and a title set called "Coming Attractions," the VMGM would probably have three buttons. Clicking the "Coming Attractions" button would take the user to a Video Title Set Menu (VTSM) with buttons for each separate title in the title set.

Because a disc can contain soundtracks in up to eight languages. It can also contain multiple VMGMs in languages that correspond to those on the soundtracks.

The VMGM appears when the user starts playing the disc unless the first title on the disc is authored as an autoplay title. In this case there may not be a VMGM. Most feature films on DVD are authored as autoplay titles.

Concept of Domains

Concept of Domains

The concept of the *domain* is very important to DVD navigation, but domains are not physically marked on the disc in the same way that titles, menus, and angle blocks are, and so DVD authors have no control over them. A DVD domain can be thought of as a type of state variable, with five possible values, that a DVD player monitors in order to keep track of the type of content that the player is currently reading from the disc. DVD players use domains to keep from issuing meaningless commands to the DVD drive. For example, a "SelectButton" command is only meaningful if a menu is displayed, and a "FastForward" command makes no sense if the player is currently stopped or is showing a menu, which is a still image. The following table summarizes the domains and their meaning from the perspective of an application.

Karaoke in general

Karaoke discs are a type of DVD-Video disc and have the same navigation structure. Songs are generally formatted as titles, and titles can be grouped together into title sets based on performer, musical style, or other criteria. The main difference between karaoke and other types of DVD-Videos is the audio stream. Karaoke discs all contain multichannel audio, usually Dolby AC-3. Channels 0 and 1 always contain the background instrumental music, while channels 2 through 5 contain guide vocals or guide melodies or sound effects. A karaoke application can control the volume and destination speaker for each auxiliary channel.

Karaoke playback also requires an audio decoder that supports the multichannel karaoke mixing information sent by the DirectDVD.

When the DirectDVD detects karaoke content on a disc and goes into karaoke mode, it informs the decoder, which then should mute the upper three channels (the auxiliary channels) until any or all of them are explicitly turned on by an application. The basic tasks of a karaoke application will therefore be to

- (1) determine the number of auxiliary channels and their contents
- (2) provide a user interface that displays the channel contents and allows users to turn any auxiliary channel on or off at any time.

DirectDVD makes Karaoke available in later versions- In most cases the engine will be enabled by the content-

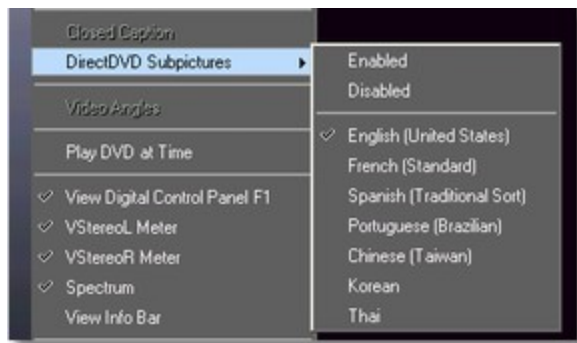


Subpictures Overview

blended. The data on the alpha channel could be text for closed captioning, buttons to provide a user interface, menus, subtitles, credits, and so on. Each pixel in a subpicture graphic is encoded with 2 bits, allowing only four colors and four levels of transparency per pixel, chosen from palettes of colors and contrast levels.

DVD-Video provides support for up to eight audio tracks to accommodate various languages. DVD-Video also supports text in different languages for statistics related to the DVD title, such as cast, crew, and title. On-screen menus can be displayed in various languages.

In DirectDVD you can find SubPictures selections in the Master Menu-



Select the Subpicture of your choice- and in some cases you will need to Enable the Subpicture - by clicking on **Enabled**

To Disable the SubPicture content- click on (**Disabled**)-

Supported Languages

DirectDVD Supporting Languages

Valid Primary Language IDs

Afrikaans 0x36

Albanian 0x1c

Arabic 0x01

Basque 0x2d

Belarusian 0x23

Bulgarian 0x02

Catalan 0x03

Chinese 0x04

Croatian 0x1a

Czech 0x05

Danish 0x06

Dutch 0x13

English 0x09

Estonian 0x25

Faeroese 0x38

Farsi 0x29

Finnish 0x0b

French 0x0c

German 0x07

Greek 0x08

Hebrew 0x0d

Hungarian 0x0e

Icelandic 0x0f

Indonesian 0x21

Italian 0x10

Japanese 0x11

Korean 0x12

Latvian 0x26

Lithuanian 0x27

Malay 0x3e

Norwegian 0x14

Polish 0x15

Portuguese 0x16

Romanian 0x18

Russian 0x19

Serbian 0x1a

Slovak 0x1b

Slovenian 0x24

Spanish 0x0a

Swahili 0x41

Swedish 0x1d

Thai 0x1e

Turkish 0x1f

Ukrainian 0x22

New Features

DirectDVD incorporates a variety of new features requested by users, including:

Easier to use DVD controls: Easy one button access to many of your favorite controls

Digital Audio Visuals: Experience your DVD with true EQ features

DVD to MP3: Users can now record their DVD content to MP3

Karaoke support: (This requires a compatible decoder.)

Simplified access to DVD text information strings

Audio volume control

Support for customizing the DVD Navigator's behavior when the Stop command is issued:

Applications can now instruct the DVD Navigator to either resume from the current location when restarting the filter graph, or start play from the beginning of the disc.

Digital Theater Systems (DTS) and Sony Dynamic Digital Sound (SDDS) audio support: Now DTS and SDDS audio streams are recognized by DirectDVD and passed to the audio decoder. (A third-party DTS-compatible or SDDS-compatible decoder is required to decode and play the audio.)

Improved support for parental level changes: DirectDVD now allows an application to accept, reject, or ignore parental level change commands from the disc.

Advanced options for managing the state of the DirectDVD and synchronizing commands

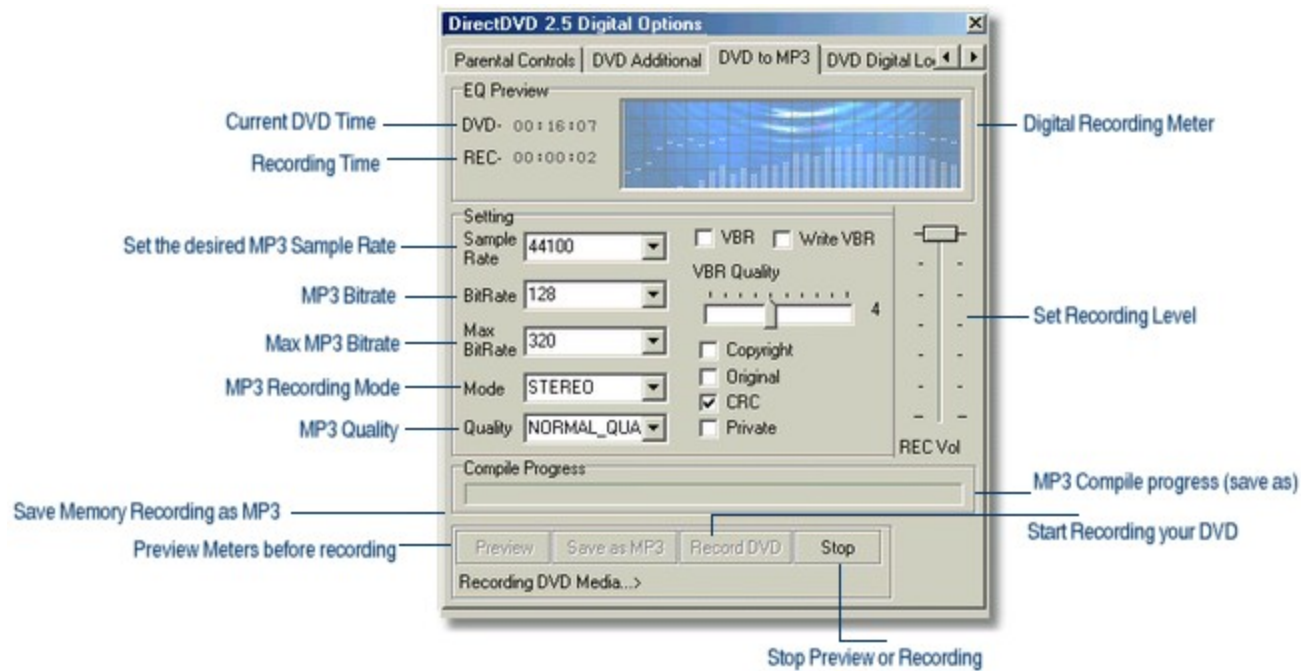
Support for frame stepping, frame-accurate seeking, and reverse play: These new features require an updated video decoder that supports them.

The ability to save the current location in a title and return to it at any time.

Simplified support for time events in non-sequential PGC titles: For non-sequential PGC titles, the DVD Navigator now relays the raw timecode information to the application.

A new, more convenient data structure for handling timecode information

How to in DirectDVD 2.5



Current DVD Time

Current Playback time of your DVD

Recording Time-

Recording Time starts once you begin recording your DVD to MP3
It will reset for next recording-

SampleRate-

Sample recording rate of your MP3 - (Output quality)

MP3 BitRate-

BitRate of your MP3

Max MP3 BitRate

Max level for MP3 BitRate

MP3 Recording Mode

Recording quality- of Output MP3

Save as MP3-

After Recording of DVD has stopped- press this button to locate a drop folder for your new MP3 file-

Preview-

Preview Meters and prepare for recording-

Stop Recording-

Stop the DirectDVD internal recorder- and prepare to save out file using the save button-

Digital Recording Meters-

Advanced DVD Recording Meters for Audio Output-

Set Recording Level-

Here you will set the level of your recording- always try to keep the audio between the red - for excellent recording level-

MP3 Compile Progress-

Status of the folder dump for MP3 to DVD- (Push save after recording stop) meter will inform you of the internal status-

Start Recording DVD-

Record the current DVD content to Memory- follow this by pressing ->Stop then Save to record to MP3-

Registering your Product

If you would like to purchase DirectDVD 2.5 and unlock all options-
please goto <http://www.orionstudios.com>

With your purchase you will receive the following-

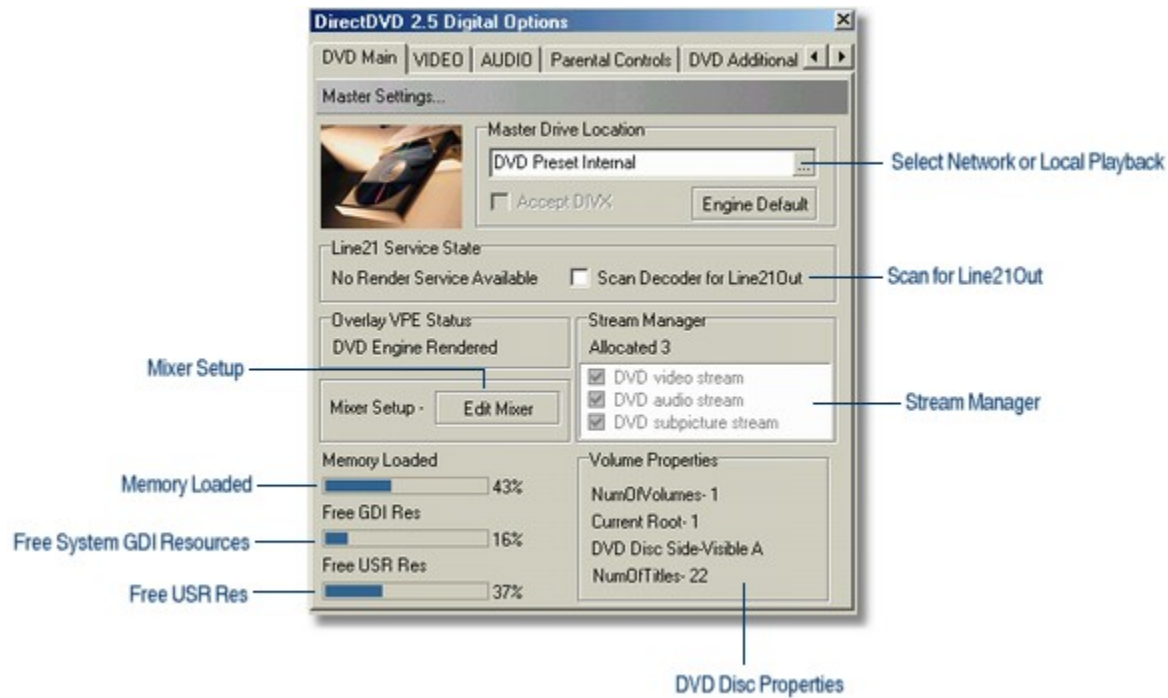
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- (2) Online Technical Support
- (3) Digital Upgrades for current major version-
- (4) Notice and DirectDVD Online Discounts for other exciting Products-
- (5) FREE NEX3 for Internet Explorer - a \$24.99 free licensed software version

Audio, Video and Subpicture Data

A DVD-Video disc contains three primary types of streams: video, audio and subpicture.

- The video stream can contain up to nine "angles," which can be thought of as substreams. DVD authors can include multiple angles wherever they wish to offer the viewer a choice of camera angles from which to view the same scene. Only one angle can be active at a time. The video stream also contains line 21 Closed Caption data, if any exists.
- There can be up to eight separate audio streams, or tracks, providing up to eight multichannel soundtracks and allowing DVD karaoke discs to make use of multichannel audio.
- There can be up to 32 subpicture stream containing bitmap graphics used for menu buttons and subtitles. The subpicture data streams are independent of the Closed Caption data in the video stream, although they may look similar when they appear in the video rectangle. If a disc contains both subpicture and Closed Caption data, you cannot display both at the same time.

Main Options



Mixer Setup-

Mixer setup allows you to manually set your local Recording Mix Line to desired Level- Also, Recording Mix Line must be turned on for visuals to record DVD content-and DVD to MP3 DirectDVD has to have all DVD to MP3 and MIX settings correct to operate correctly- The system will not visually display audio unless the MIX settings are correct!

Memory Loaded-

Current Memory load of your system-

Free System GDI Resources-

Free System GDI resources- This is important for DVD playback- the lower the level the more system strain on the DVD is performed!

Free USR Res-

Free USR Res

DVD Disc Properties-

DVD properties like Num of Volumes-(Volumes contained in the DVD), Current Root and Disc Titles-
Use this to compare features in DirectDVD, in case of program problems with playback-

Select Network or Local Playback-

Select your local or Network drive to playback the DVD disc content-

Scan for Line21Out-

Before DVD Disc Rendering, would you like DirectDVD to scan for Line21Out (Caption)

Stream Manager-

Information on SDirectDVD Rendering progress-
Use this also for error notice-

Understanding DVD Parental Control

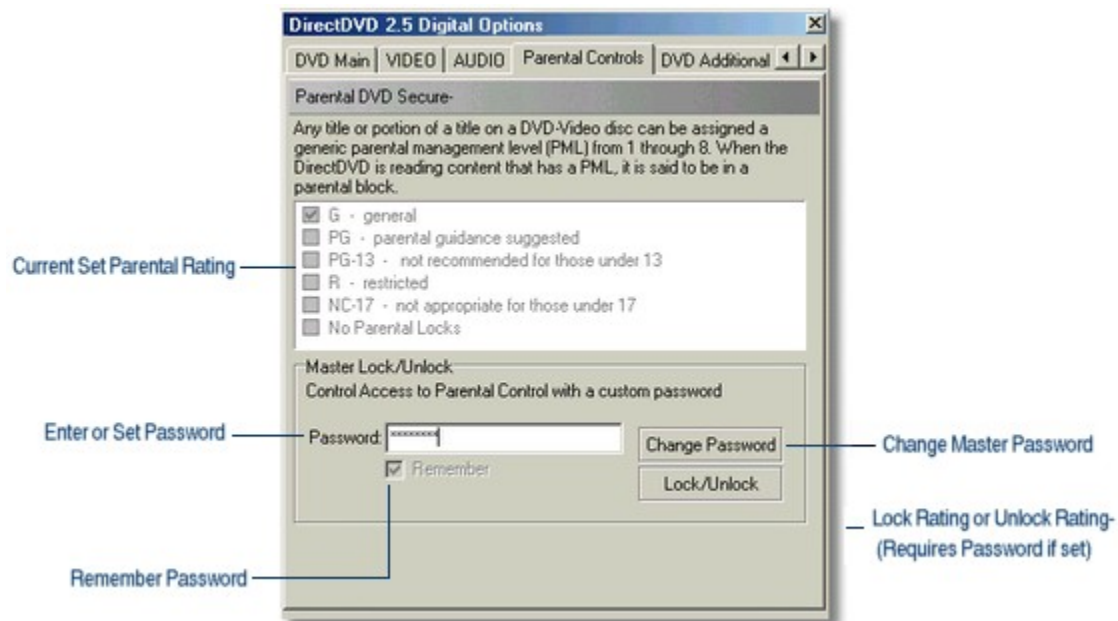
Enforcing Parental Management Levels

All or part of a DVD disc can be encoded with a Parental Management Level (PML) numbered from one to eight. Eight is the most restrictive level (adults only) and one is the least restrictive (all ages). The idea is to prevent children from watching adult content without parental consent, while allowing adults to watch child-safe content. In the United States and Canada, the levels map to the rating system of the MPAA (G, PG, PG-13, NC-17), but this is not the case in other countries or regions.

Because chapters can exist logically within a parental block, there may be two versions of the same chapter in a title, each assigned a different PML and in a different parental block. For example, a child who logs in and plays the disc would see one version of Chapter 3, and an adult who logs in would see a different version, assuming that the application supports PMLs.

A title or chapter can also contain temporary PMLs, whose content is rated higher than the PML for the title or chapter as a whole. This means that a title may have more than one parental level. Temporary PMLs are generally authored as angle blocks, so that a scene in a film may have two versions, one rated for younger viewers and one for adults.

DirectDVD Master Parental



Current Set Parental Rating-

The current DirectDVD master Rating- requires user to enter his/her password to change-

Enter or Set Password-

Enter password or set password- Type the current password for entering into content blocked areas- or use to set the master password-

Change Master password-

Change the current master password-

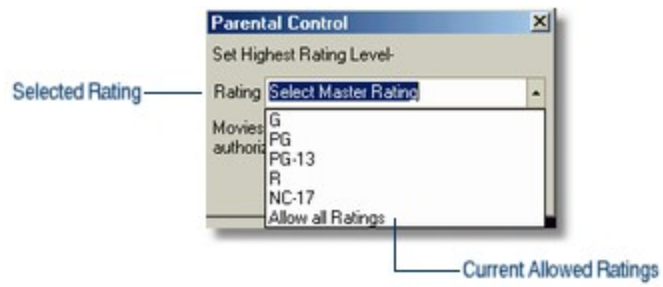
Lock Rating or Unlock-

Lock/Unlock Rating- this button will allow you (as long as the current password is correct) to enter the block area and select a new rating-

Remember-

Remember your Adult Password next time- (Program is not parental locked)

Select New Rating

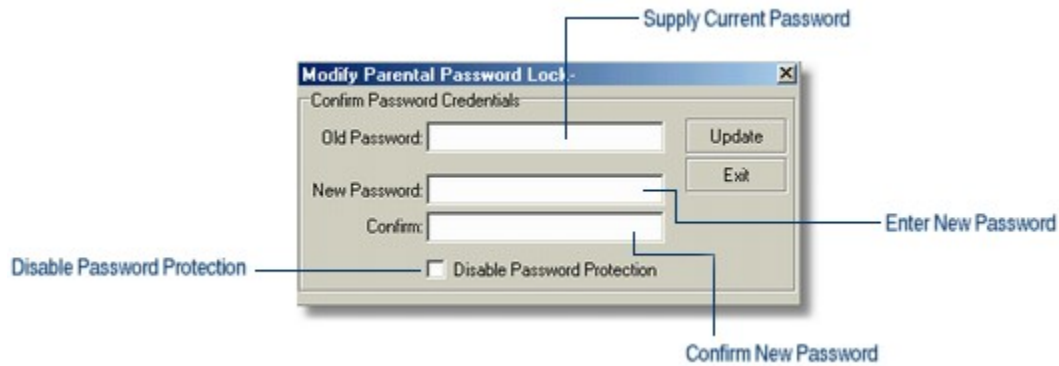


Select the current rating you would like to block-
for example-

if you want to block PG movies- content PG and above will require a password!

Understanding Parental DVD

DirectDVD Master Parental



Supply Current Password-

Supply the current password (your previous Password)

Disable Password Protection-

Disable the Master Password protection-

Confirm New Password-

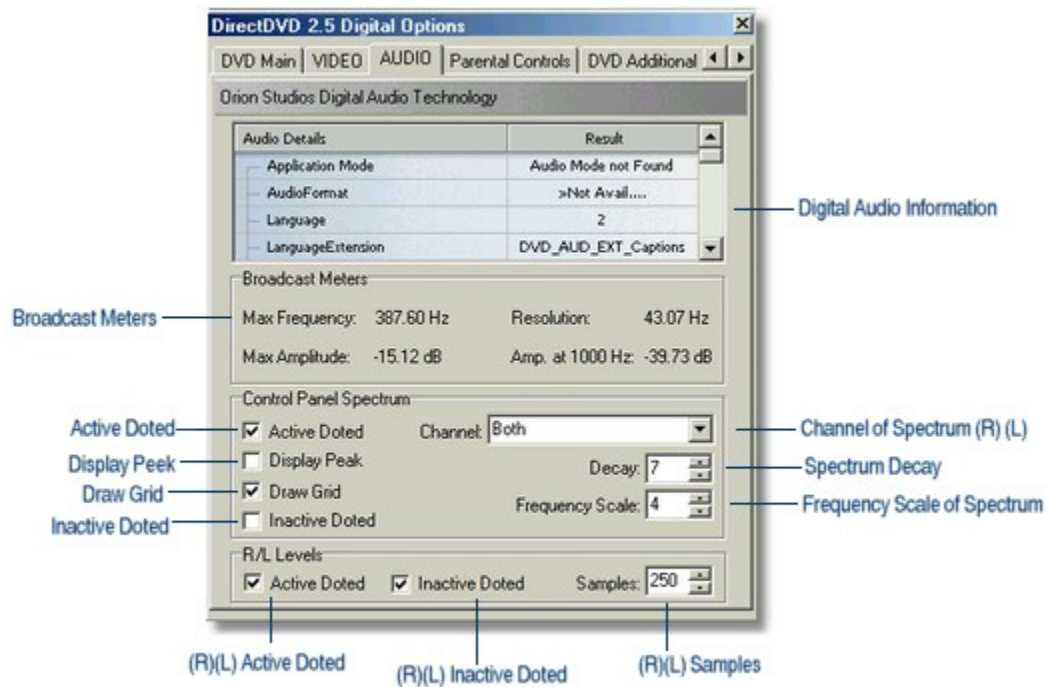
Re-Type your password to have the engine confirm your password-

Enter New password-

Enter the desired new password-

If you have an emergency- and have lost all access to your passwords- you can contact dvdsupport@orionstudios.com and request an authorized unlock-

Audio Options



Broadcast Meters-

Measures current audio feed from DirectDVD-

Active Doted-

Spectrum Active Doted- yes/no

Display Peek-

Have Spectrum Display Peek meters- on/off

Draw Grid-

Spectrum has yes/no grid

Inactive Doted-

Choice of inactive doted yes/no

(R)(L) Active Doted-

Yes/no on right and left meters doted

(R)(L) Inactive Doted-

Yes/no Inactive Doted

(R)(L) Samples-

Sample for meter levels

Digital Audio Information-

Displays current audio information from DirectDVD-

Channel of Spectrum-

Select from left/right or both - this will display in the spectrum

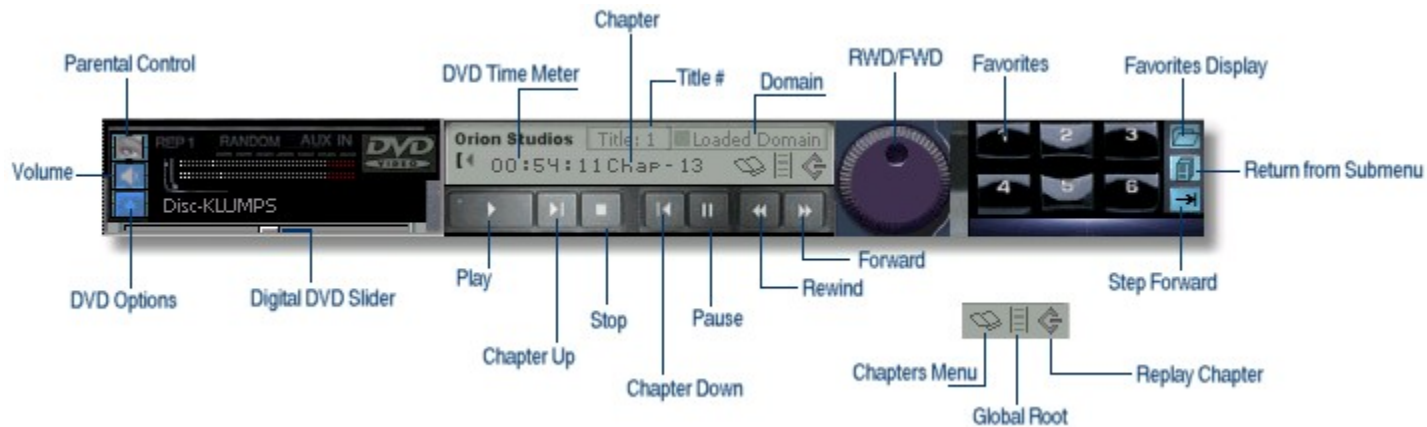
Spectrum Decay-

Decay levels for the visual spectrum

Frequency Scale-

Frequency scale of the spectrum meters-

Master Control Panel



Parental Control-

Displays the current control panel for Parental- allows for updating/selecting master rating/ ect..

Volume-

Control DirectDVD master volume

DVD Options-

Display the master options-

Digital DVD Slider-

With the Digital DVD Slider, users can skip to parts of a dvd instantly- the track represents (1) title- in complete track- in some cases the slider may not be available because of the DVD Author choice-

Play-

Start playing you DVD disc

Chapter Up-

Skip chapters in a title- title must have (2) or more chapters-

Stop-

Stop DirectDVD internal DVD engine-

Chapter Down-

Skip back chapters by pressing this button- Title must have access to (2) or more chapters-
(Some authors do not allow skip forward or back - so this is up to the author)
(DirectDVD will always push the internal engine to move forward or back)

Pause-

Pause the current playing Disc- press play or pause again to begin playing again!

Rewind-

Right click to set speed- and then press button to rewind-
press again or play to stop rewind sequence-

Forward-

Right Click to set speed- press button to forward in playback-
press again or play to stop the forward sequence-

Chapters Menu-

This button allows you to access the chapters menu to select different scenes in a movie..

Global Root-

Directs the engine to main menu- (start menu) you will find Audio, Chapters, and other Author content-

Replay Chapter-

Replay the current chapter

Step Forward-

Step forward in the dvd with audio- press play or similar to restart the playback-

Return From SubMenu-

If you are in a menu below the root - this button will direct you back - where the root button may not direct you-

Favorites Display-

Launch/Set a DVD favorite- if bank is empty- no DVD highlight will show with time- just press the button to activate a favorite-
Button and selection mode go in order from 1-6 so by setting 1, you will not be able to skip to 5 and leave 2-4 empty-
Right click to prepare a bank that is already filled- this bank will remain ready till button is pushed-

Favorites-

Instant access to your favorites-

RWD/FWD Wheel-

Instant access to RWD/FWD just hold the slider down- and pull to the left(rewind) - or right(forward)- release to continue play- (No speed settings are built in) master is set at 2X

Domain-

Current DVD Domain-

Titles-

Current Playing Title- each title will contain chapters-

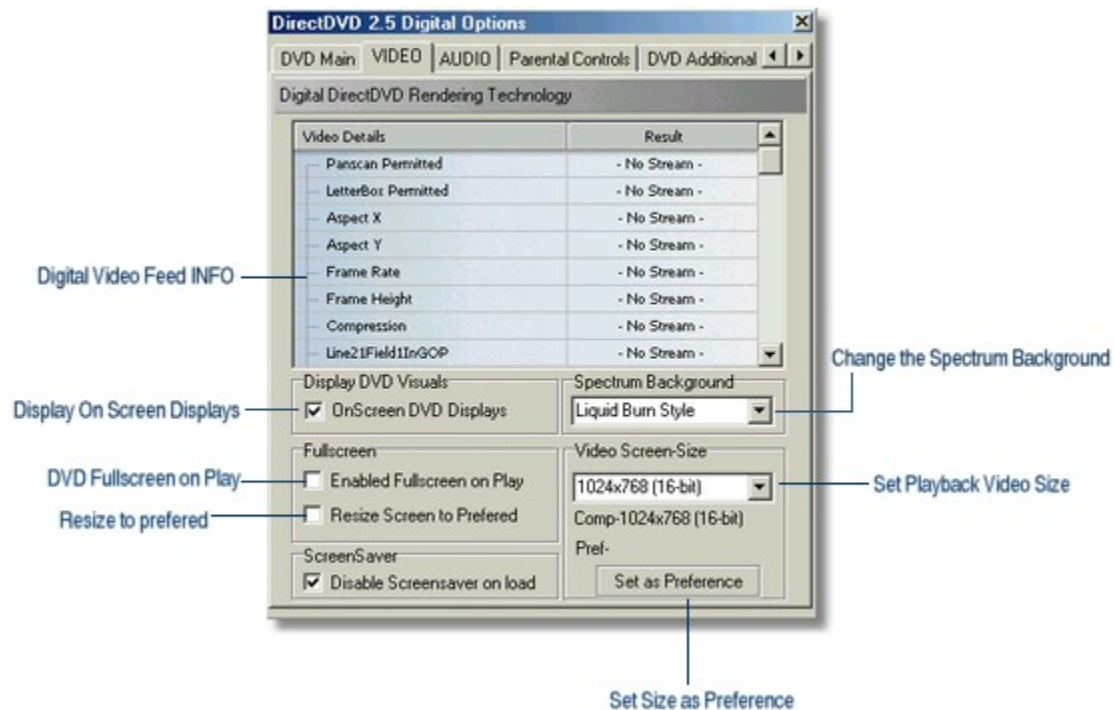
Chapter-

Current Playing chapter-

DVD Time Meter-

Accurate DVD Time Position

Video Options



Digital Video Feed Info-

Digital Information from the DVD Renderer-

DVD FullScreen on Play-

If checked, When in Play mode- DirectDVD will enable fullscreen- just in current Video Size-

Resize to preferred-

Resize DirectDVD screen at play mode- to desired Playback Video Size (Full Screen can happen also)

Set Size as Preference-

If selected is new Video Size- DirectDVD will resize to fit your desired screen preference-

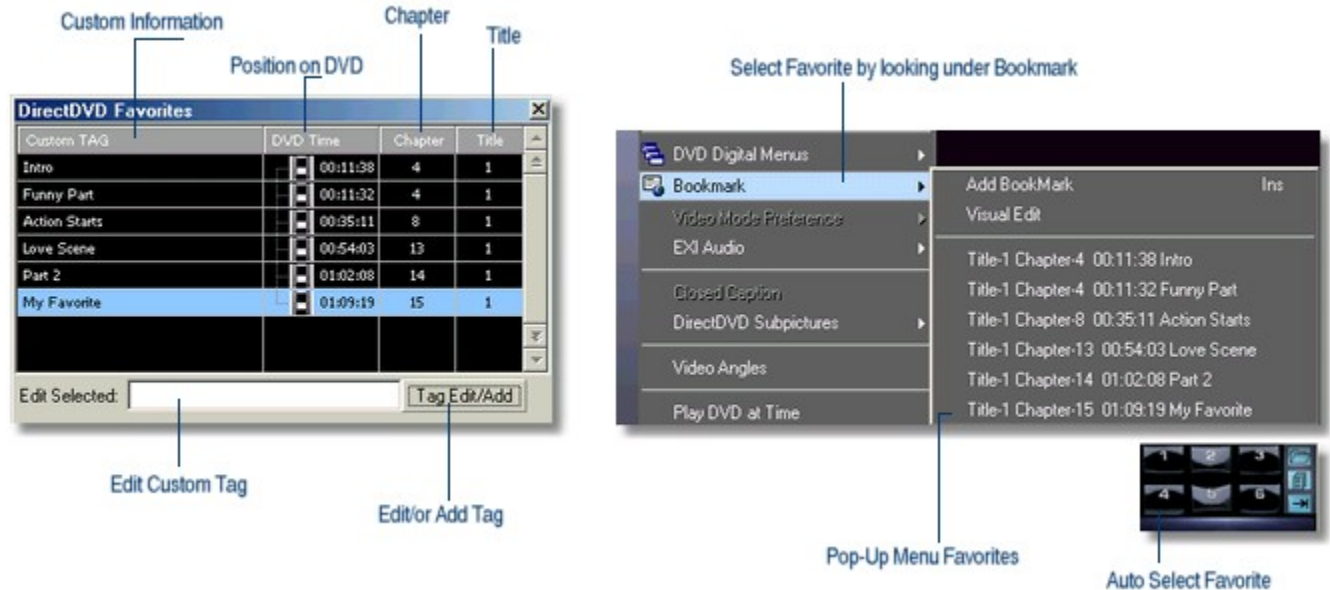
Set Playback Video Size-

Works along side preference size- select your choice then press the Set Size as Preference-

Disable Screensaver-

Disable your system screensaver during playback-

Understanding Favorites



How to create a favorite-

Creating a favorite for DirectDVD is one of the easiest things to do-
You will need to be playing a DVD before you can select a favorite-

What a favorite is according to DirectDVD- is a position on the DVD where you would like to return instantly later-

DirectDVD comes prepared with (6) banks on the main control panel for instant/create and recreate favorites-

By just clicking on the buttons in order- allows for easy creation of a favorite-

To reset your Auto-Select Button on the control panel- just right click and click prepare bank- this will allow the system to prepare that bank for a new position-

You can then edit your favorites by clicking on the view-favorites button on the far right top- This will allow you instant access to creating new tags and positions-

To delete a favorite you will need, to go to the visual favorites to delete manually-

Setting you DVD Mixer

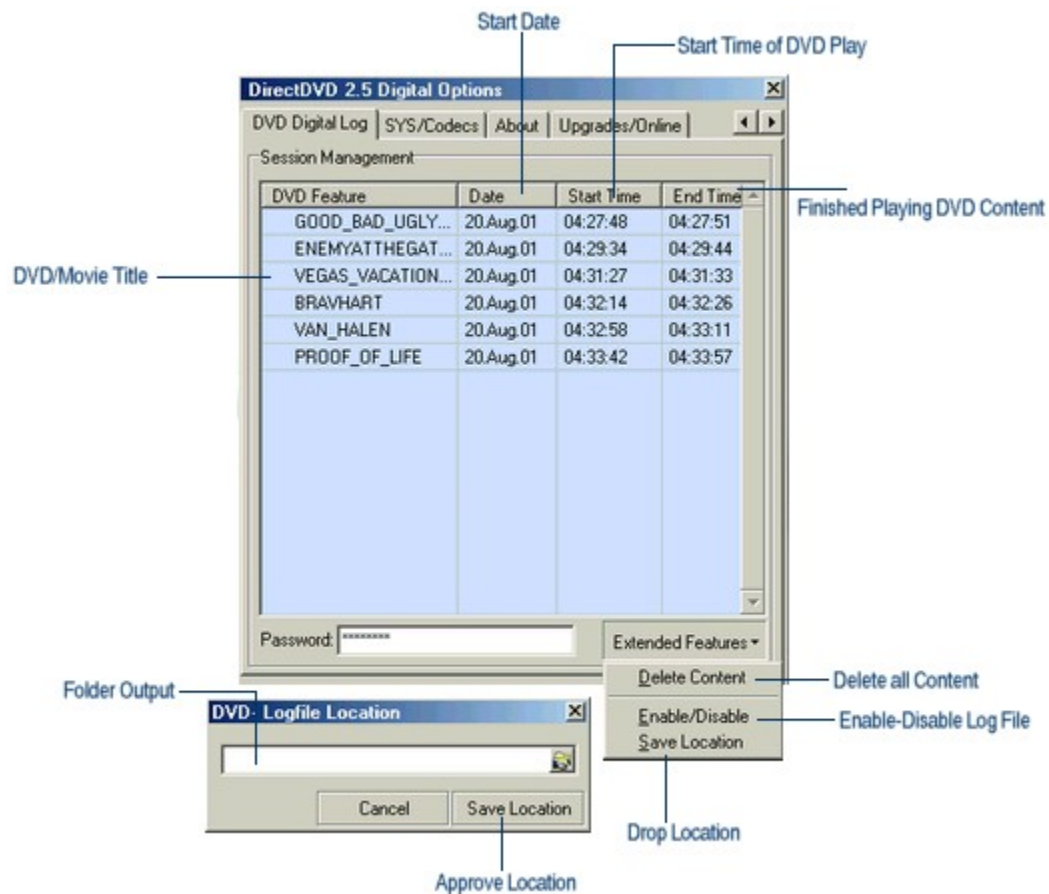
If you experience problems with audio then we have solutions available by support- or the following-

No Audio being displayed-

Try setting your windows volume control-the recording-
You will need to switch this to an available Wav Mixer-
Make sure the Wav Mixer is turned on and volume is up-

devteam@orionstudios.com will be able to assist you if you have any further problems-

DVD Log Files

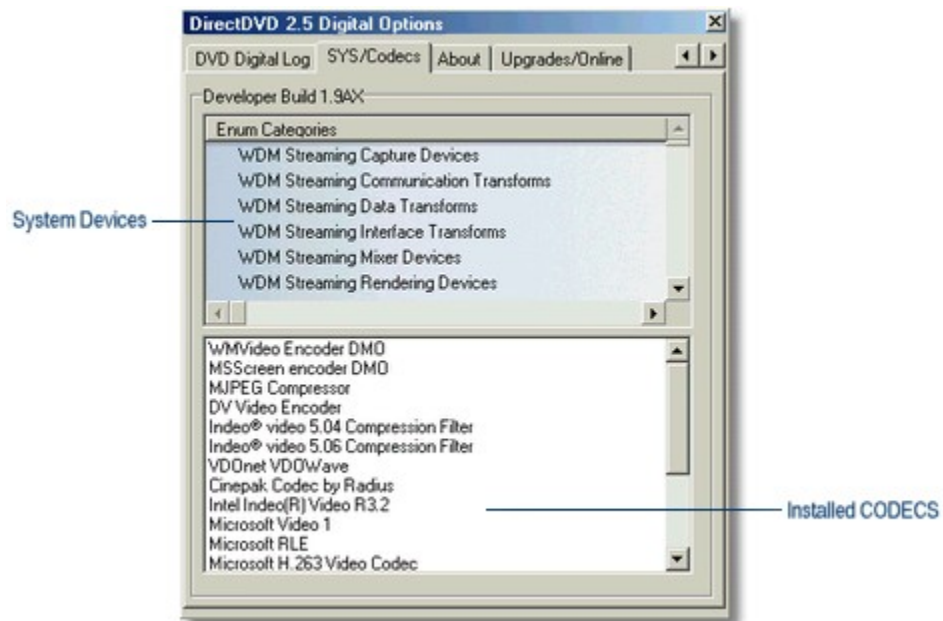


DVD log File- allows you to store Digital Logs of Movies played on your personal DirectDVD edition-

With this new feature you can save your logs out to Network locations- for office management- and also enable/disable the logs-

Just added 8/12/01- more updates will be available if you are a registered user!

DirectDVD 2.5 Installed Device Manager



Orion Studios provides a safe and organized solution to locate and manage your device CODECS-

Installed and re-built on 8/20/01-

