"Sean's High Testosterone Rename Renumber Utility"

Freeware for personal use. Modest shareware fee for businesses & professional use (US\$30.00).

Features include

\* It's GUI on the outside, crunchy on the inside, with online documentation.

\* Automatic parsing of most standard numbering schemes. Choose the first file in your list and it does most of the work from there.

Will auto parse, for example:

(with 0 to 5 padding zeros) myfile.0001.ext myfile.001 myfile00001 myfile1.ext myfile00001ext

\* You can then:

- Add, Change or Strip extensions
- Add, Change or Strip leading zeros
- Change the basename (myfile001 -> yourfile001)
- Change the numbering sequence (myfile001 -> myfile031)
- Skip files (by any value) in the read session  $(2,4,6,8 \rightarrow 1,2,3,4)$
- Generate alternate files sequences in write  $(1,2,3,4 \rightarrow 1,4,7,10)$
- Move files to other directories (and create new directories during session)
- All in ONE session
- \* You several options for generating Continuity Reports (To check for missing or dropped files)
- \* Set the level of confidence for file replacement (Always, Never, Ask First)

## THE DOCUMENTATION

The Input Side

This plugin will automatcally read most standard animation file configurations, including (but not limited to): (for files with 0 to 5 padded digits, ie., test.1  $\sim$  test.00001)

test001 test.001 test.001.ext test001.ext test.001ext test001ext and also test.temp.001.ext and other variations

When the input file requester appears, simply double-click on the first file in the sequence you want to be processed. The only values you should have to enter when the "Input Side" requester appears are <End Frame> and <Count By>.

<End Frame> is the final frame number in the sequence you want to process. <Count By> allows you to count through your list in increments other than 1. For example, a count by 3 with a start frame of 0001 would process files 0001,0004,0007,0010...and so on.

If you want to keep the processed files in their current directory, choose the <Pass File Info To Output> option. To designate a new directory path, choose <Browse For New Path>. Navigate to the new directory, type in a sample first new file (newname.0001.newextension), and hit return.

If the input side fails to parse your particular naming convention, all values can be entered manually into the requester fields. See also "Tips & Tricks".

The Output Side

The output side is very straight forward.

To change the base file name (everything left of the number sequence) type in new path/basename, or alter the existing one.

To change the number of leading zeros, enter a number between zero and five in the "Pad to # of Digits" field.

Changing the value in "Start Frame" will renumber your sequence begining on the new value.

"Count By" is the increment by which your files wil be renumbered. For example, a value of four would produce files numbered 001,005, 009,013...and so on.

Extensions can be added or altered by changing the "Extension" field, or they can be stripped by clearing this field.

File Management

When the program goes to rename a file in your sequence, and encounters an already existing file by that name in the destination directory, it looks to your entry for "Confidence Level" to resolve the conflict.

"Never Overwrite" : preexisting file on drive will never be overwritten. Pros: File Safety/Idiot Proof. Good for renumbering within a sequence. Cons: If older version of a sequence exist, older file may not be replaced.

"Ask First" : Stops renumbering until user makes the call. Pros: File Safety/Intelligent replacement. Cons: Takes the "Auto" out of "Automatic".

"Overwrite Without Asking" : writes over any anything. Damn the torpedos. Pros: Your sequence gets processed and ends up where you want it, entirely. Cons: Say goodbye to any duplicate file names.

This program is capable of producing detailed continuity reports on the sequences it processes. The reports can be saved to file for viewing with your favorite text reader. For those times when you just have to get it firsthand, the "Real-time Interrupt" option will interrupt the processing to notify the user of anomalous results. The report will indicate:

- Missing files in the source sequence. - Files that were skipped because the filename already existed. - Files that existed that were overwritten. - Files that should have been overwritten but were not. (Due to missing source files)

Tips & Tricks

Cool Tip #1: To preform a continuity check only, give the Input and Output sides identical naming conventions and set confidence level to "Never Overwrite."

Cool Tip #2: Setting the "Count By" increment on the output side to -1 and making the "Start Frame" equal to the total number of frames in your sequence will reverse the order of the sequence. Just make sure to change the filename so you don't overwrite files on the way down.

Cool Trick #1: The padding engine in this program only handles 5 digits. I know this will come as a major disappointment for those of you who want to render your next animated feature-film as a single image sequence. You can, however, fool the program into reading and writing pads of more than five digits. To get the program to read "MyTest.000001" type in a basename of "MyTest.0" and select a five digit pad. The same trick can be reversed to write out pads of more than five digits.

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About

"Sean's High Testosterone Rename/Renumber Utility" is Shareware.

The version you have is 100% functional. I'm sure I could have come up with a number of clever and ultimately annoying schemes to force/annoy/shame you into paying the oh-so-modest \$30.00 shareware fee. Here's what I came up with:

I made a cool and very handy program that is easy to use and works well. If I see any kind of return on my investment of time, I'll write some more. Also, registered users will be notified of updates, bug fixes and new projects.

That's about as simple as it gets. One more thing. The shareware fee is waived for pure hobbyests. Amature Lightwave users are not required to pay for the use of this program (though they can if the care to!).

All I ask is for people who use this program in a business setting to reimburse me for my effort.

Send Check or Money Orders for US\$30.00 to

Sean Moyer 37-R Cottage St. Watertown, MA. 02172 USA

Questions, Address Updates and Bug Reports:

Put "Hey Sean" in the Subject

Thank you. You've been a wonderful audience. Good night.