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medi@expertTM series 007



Working with medi@maze : part 3

PowerPoint is a very useful presentation tool. It can be used to communicate ideas to a wide audience. With medi@maze, you can easily combine audio clips and PowerPoint slides to make a video slide show.

In this article, we are going to use PowerPoint's "Save As" pull down menu option to save a set of slides as picture files. These picture files will be merged with audio into a medi@maze project.

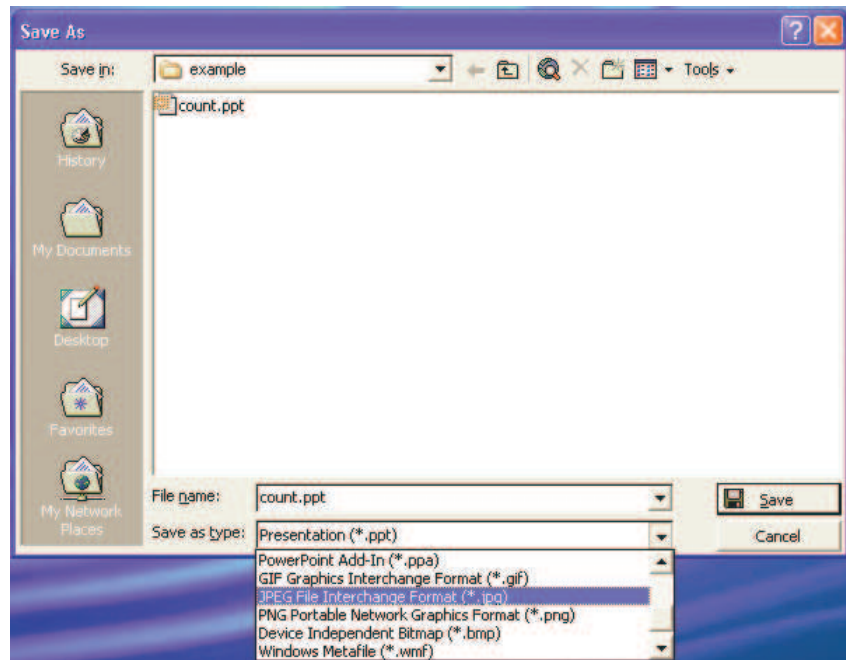
Requirements

medi@maze – Media editing tool by Anetac Software.

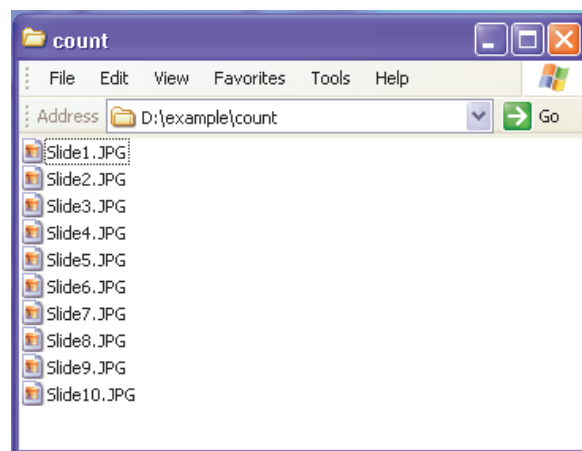
PowerPoint – Presentation graphics package by Microsoft.

Saving your PowerPoint slides

Load the file "count.ppt" into PowerPoint. Choose the *File | Save As* pull down menu option. You will be asked to choose a file type and a file save location. Choose the "JPEG File Interchange Format (*.jpg)" file type option.



Click the “Save” button. You will be asked if you want to export every slide in the presentation or just the current slide. Since we want every slide, click the “Yes” button. This will save every slide to a 720x540 Pixel JPEG file in the current location in a sub directory called “count” (named after the PowerPoint file).



You can now exit PowerPoint. You are almost ready to import your slides into medi@maze. The next step is to use your favorite paint application to resize your first picture file to a resolution that can be encoded to video (resolutions in which the width and height are divisible by 16). Common resolutions and frame rates are as follows:

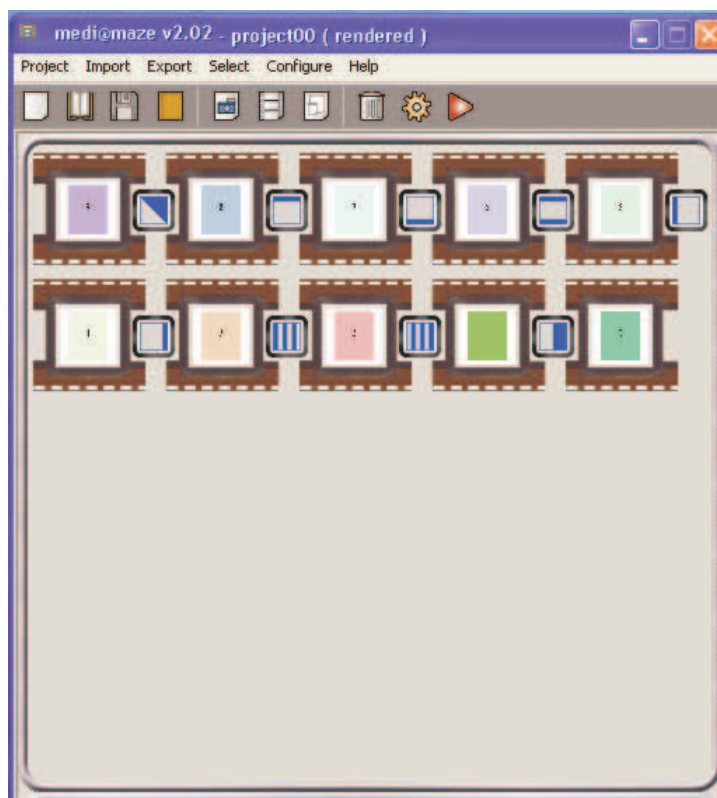
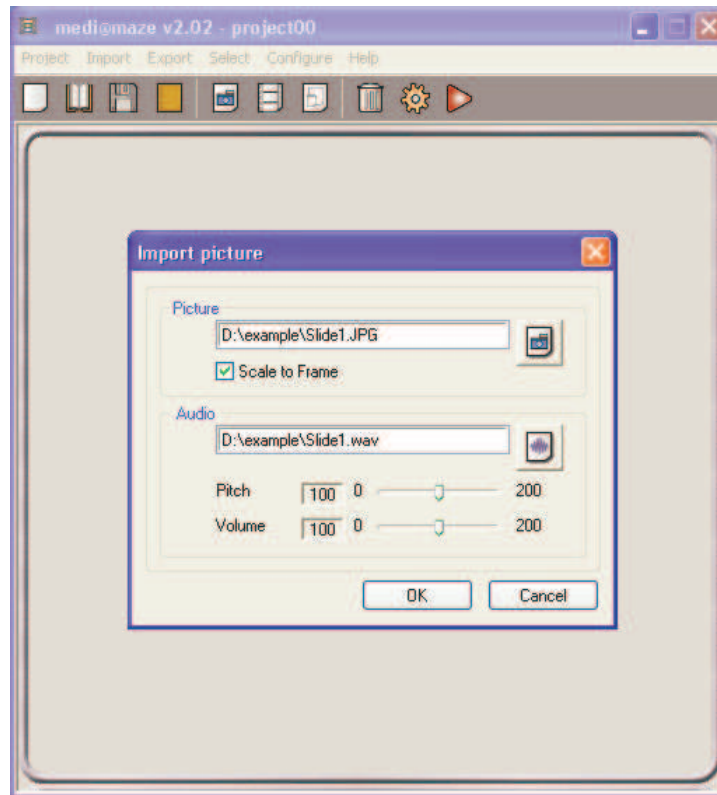
Resolution (pixels)	Frame rate (fps)	Medium
720x576	25	DVD PAL/SECAM
720x480	29.970	DVD NTSC
480x576	25	SVCD PAL/SECAM
480x480	29.970	SVCD NTSC
352x288	25	VCD PAL/SECAM
352x240	29.970	VCD NTSC

The first media file import into a medi@maze project determines the resolution and frame rate for the entire project. This is why you only need to resize the first picture file. All others will be resized automatically to fit the project.

Alternatively, you could import a picture or video clip of known resolution from your collection as your first media clip in order to set the project properties. This media clip can later be removed when it is no longer needed.

Now that your first picture file has been resized, you are now ready to import your slides into medi@maze. Import each slide with its associated audio file, as shown in the previous article (working with medi@maze: part 2).

If you want the width to height ratio of your project to be considered when new media imports are resized, leave the *Scale to Frame* option selected.



The resulting project can now be rendered and exported to an AVI MJPEG file or compressed to MPEG-1 or MPEG-2 video in order to create a video disc.

This is the end of working with medi@maze, part 3. Here we explored how a set of PowerPoint slides and audio clips can be turned into a video disc presentation. We hope this introduction will help you make the most out of our tools and your imagination.

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