



This sturdy-looking drive is a videographer's best friend.

PHOTOGRAPH BY MARK MADEO

QuickStreamDV

TIMESAVING DV-CAPTURING HARD DRIVE

We hate waiting. That's why we dig DV-capturing hard drives such as the QuickStreamDV. These drives convert raw video footage from your DV camera into DV, MOV, or AVI format for editing on the Mac—and they do the conversion on the fly. As a result, you can immediately get to work editing in Apple Final Cut Pro or Express (or in Avid Xpress Pro, Apple iMovie, or almost any video editor), instead of waiting for that software to convert your footage. The QuickStreamDV sweetens the deal with solid performance, capable StreamManager software, and a rugged design that incorporates a standard tripod mount and an adapter for securing the drive in your camera's hot shoe.

We used the included four-pin-to-six-pin FireWire cable to tether the QuickStreamDV to our reliable ol' Sony DCR-TRV900—the drive supports MiniDV, DVCAM, and DVCPRO, as well as both NTSC and PAL television formats. Changing the QuickStream's capture format requires watching the drive's

status lights for a certain pattern and remembering which pattern indicates the format you've selected—MCE was smart to include a laminated setup guide, which makes configuring the drive in this way a simple task.

The 40GB QuickStream we tested recorded three hours of footage happily—the drive's internal Lilon battery, however, lasted only about half as long. Back at the Mac, we used a six-pin-to-six-pin FireWire cable (also included) to connect the QuickStreamDV to our Mac, and dragged the MOV and DV files straight into iMovie. The device even breaks footage into manageable 2GB, 10-minute chunks without losing a single frame of the action.

The QuickStreamDV responds to your video cam's Record button, but the drive also has its own Record button, so you can record to the QuickStreamDV whether you have DV tape in the camera or not—a nicety that makes this our favorite DV-capturing drive yet.

—Niko Coucouvanis

COMPANY: MCE Technologies
CONTACT: 949-458-0800,
www.mcetech.com
PRICE: \$729 (three-hour, 40GB model)

REQUIREMENTS: FireWire-equipped Mac,
Mac OS 9 or 10.2 or later, DV camera

GOOD NEWS: Records editable DV directly from DV cam. Works with or without DV tape.

BAD NEWS: Expensive.

MacAddict RATED

GREAT

SportSuit Runabout

'80S MACHO WRISTBAND IPOD CARRIER

With fond memories of '80s rocker Billy Idol and his signature black wristband, we hate to love Marware's SportSuit Runabout—but we can't help ourselves. Part utilitarianism, part guilty pleasure in black neoprene and plenty of Velcro, the Runabout goes for about the same price as Apple's iPod mini Arm Band (\$29, www.apple.com).

The Runabout provides a few advantages over Apple's strap, mainly in surface protection; clear plastic covers the mini's LCD screen and neoprene covers all four corners. This coverage slightly impinged on our access to the Hold switch, though it's just neoprene, so that's no biggie. You insert the mini

This sporty little black suit reminds us of Billy Idol's "White Wedding."



via a slit on the back of the strap, so you can access the mini's Dock Connector without removing the device from its 'Suit.

Sure, we experienced some snickering from the fashion-snob gallery, but we know they're just jealous of our iPod mini. Depending on your own sense of style, the Runabout is either garish or great, but it does its job as advertised.

—Niko Coucouvanis

COMPANY: Marware
CONTACT: 954-927-6031,
www.marware.com
PRICE: \$29.95

REQUIREMENTS: iPod mini, maverick sense of style

GOOD NEWS: Completely functional.

BAD NEWS: Makes you look an '80s dork.

MacAddict RATED

SOLID

PHOTOGRAPH BY SAMANTHA BERG