Unit 6.3: Adding Video to Multimedia Projects

Digital video is the most engaging of multimedia element. It is indeed a powerful tool to attract your audience to your message through your multimedia project.

Let say now you have captured your video footage using your video camera. What should you do? You have to move all of the footage from the camera and onto your computer's hard disk. Next, you need a way to select the parts that you are going to use.

Out of the big chunk of footage, you need a way to mark the beginning and end of the needed clips, this enables you to move them around as individual units and bond them together into the final scene.

You do this by looking at the raw footage and marking an "IN" and "OUT" point. Drag these little clips onto the timeline. Once you have your shots figured out, you need a place to arrange them in the proper order and hook them together.

The place where you do that is called a timeline. You line the shots up in sequential order. Then you can play them as a sequence. For the final package, you can choose whether to distribute it using CD-ROM or DVD.

Meanwhile, for online distribution, you may upload your video to online video sharing sites such as Youtube, DailyMotion or Vimeo, just to name a few. O yeah! YouTube has recently celebrated its 10th anniversary.

Guess how many unique visitors a month YouTube has? It's over 1 billion. Yes, 1 billion. Also, the increased popularity of online video clips has produced a large increase in video editing activity by Internet users like you.

Digital video brings the power to your multimedia presentation or project. With video editing software, you can create your own original and unique movies for personal or business purpose.

Now, if you want to create a digital video you need to consider some important aspects. You have to make sure that your software and hardware met certain minimum requirements. Things to consider includes:

1. Fast Processors and plenty of Random Access Memory (RAM)
2. Fast hard disk (with at least 8 Mbps transfer rate, 13GB for one-hour footage)

However, bear in mind that video files are so huge in nature. Let say you have recorded and stored a colored video clip with a size of 320 X 240 pixel, recorded in 15 frame per second, with a duration of 30 seconds. Could you imagine that just for this half-minute video, the size needed in 103 MB!

In summary, adding video to your multimedia project needs to be done in a careful way.