PLAN 9 STUDIOS

Working with a Post Sound Facility

Often, I'm asked by Directors and Editors what does a postproduction sound team need and what does the workflow look like? Whether you use Plan 9 or not, here's a quick guide to get you started:

Conform

During the editing process, your Editor will conform (or place in sync) the audio files recorded during production to the video. Provided camera and sound were locked via timecode during production, they only need to concern themselves with editing to the mix track and not worry about each individual mic.

*Unnest any sequences! Premiere in particular, will break the timecode syncing process with Pro Tools if any sequences are nested.

*Stay organized! Place temp FX or music on separate tracks in your NLE. Don't let FX or music get into your dialog tracks.

Export

✓ Generate an AAF file of all tracks. This is a session file for sound that Pro Tools can import. The AAF does not embed video. (Adobe Premiere instructions [here](#))
- Include all dialog tracks, temp music, and temp sound FX
- Export as 48k, 24bit files, copying complete files
- Choose Separate Audio to render the newly created audio files into a folder next to the AAF
- Zip the exported folder into a single file

✓ Generate a Final Cut Pro XML.
This is a list of every clip you edited into the film and where it was placed. In the event you change sync by re-editing, this will become critical for your sound team to match (Adobe Premiere instructions [here](#)).
- Many Sound Editors (especially in indie film) will charge additionally for sync changes because of the level of effort required to re-conform (re-sync'ing thousands of audio clips) so it's in your best interest to make your final edit, your final edit.

✓ Render a QuickTime copy of your final film.
- 1080p (anything less isn't accurate enough for precise sound work)
- Acceptable CODECS
  - DNxHD
  - Apple ProRes
  - Avoid MPEG, H.264, H.265, or anything downloaded from Vimeo

✓ Provide a copy of all audio recorded on set.

✓ Provide a copy of the script in PDF format. This allows for easy and accurate reference if ADR is needed.

Delivery

✓ Physical drives, Dropbox, Google Drive, or WeTransfer are acceptable, or sign up for a free account at https://www.plan9studios.com/clientportal for a convenient place to upload files throughout your project.