

Appendix C

Avid Log Specifications

This section explains the Avid log file format. The Avid editing system can import logs that meet Avid log specifications. These logs must follow the formatting requirements described in this appendix.

Understanding Avid Log Specifications

You can prepare an Avid log on any type of IBM[®]-compatible or Macintosh computer by using a word processing application or a text editor. To ensure accuracy, you must follow the Avid log specifications described in this appendix.

An Avid log is composed of three sections, in this order:

- Global headings
- Standard and custom column headings
- Data headings

When you create an Avid log, you must follow the order precisely. The tables in this section follow this order.

For an example of a simple log file, see [“Sample Avid Log” on page 534](#).

Avid Log Specifications

This section contains tables that show how to enter headings and data to create an Avid log. The tables use the following conventions:

- A heading appears in the first column, without angle brackets or standard brackets. For example, FIELD_DELIM is the first global heading.
- A <supported value> is surrounded by angle brackets. <Alternative supported values> appear underneath, also in angle brackets. You must enter exactly one of these values. For example, <29.97> is one of the supported values for the FPS heading; to specify that value, type **29.97**.
- <*A variable data value*> is also surrounded by angle brackets, but it is italicized. For example, <*timecode*> is the data entry for the Start heading; type the correct timecode, in the format **08:19:10:00** (or **08;19;10;00**, for drop-frame timecode).
- [Tab] and [Enter] (Windows) or [Return] (Macintosh) keys are surrounded by standard brackets.
- A column contains the word “Required” if the heading must be included in the log.
- The final column contains notes about the heading or values.

You can choose not to display a defined heading (including a required heading), except for *Name*. *Name* must always be displayed.

The maximum number of combined global, standard, and custom headings in a log file is 64.

Global Headings

The global headings must come first in an Avid log file, and you must enter one value for each heading.

[Table 81](#) shows the format for the global headings and the supported values for each heading.

Table 81 Avid Log Global Headings

GLOBAL HEADINGS: Global headings are case sensitive and must be spelled exactly as shown. Include all required headings. Other headings are optional but might be necessary for your project. The maximum number of combined global, standard, and custom headings in a log file is 64.					
Heading			[Enter] or [Return]	Required	This marks the start of the global headings.
FIELD_DELIM	[Tab]	<TABS>	[Enter] or [Return]	Required	Enter TABS to show that the file is Tab delimited.
VIDEO_FORMAT	[Tab]	<NTSC> <PAL>	[Enter] or [Return]	Required	
FILM_FORMAT	[Tab]	<16mm> <35mm,3perf> <35mm,4perf>	[Enter] or [Return]		
AUDIO_FORMAT	[Tab]	<22kHz> <24kHz> <44kHz> <48kHz>	[Enter] or [Return]		Audio sampling rate for digitizing. You can override this for individual clips.
TAPE	[Tab]	< <i>tape name</i> >	[Enter] or [Return]	Required	Name of the videotape reel you are logging. If you omit this heading, the file name becomes the global tape name. You can override this for individual clips.
FPS	[Tab]	<24> <25> <29.97>	[Enter] or [Return]	Required	Capture rate is 24 fps for NTSC or PAL, 25 fps for PAL, or 29.97 fps for NTSC video.
			[Enter] or [Return]		Press Enter (Windows) or Return (Macintosh) a second time after entering the FPS value. This marks the end of the global headings.

Column Headings

The standard column headings appear after the global headings in the Avid log file.

You do not enter the data for a column heading along with the heading. You enter the data later, in a separate data section.

You must include the five required standard column headings; they are listed first in [Table 82](#).

You can create your own custom column headings. Enter them after the standard headings (see the last heading in [Table 82](#)). To create a custom heading, substitute the custom heading name for *<Your_heading>*. You can create several custom headings, as long as the total of global, standard, and custom headings does not exceed 64.

Table 82 Avid Log Column Headings

COLUMN HEADINGS: Column headings are case sensitive and must be spelled exactly as shown. Note that the first five headings are required. Other headings are optional but might be necessary for your project. This table lists only the column headings that are relevant to shot log files. Some data, such as Creation Date, is gathered by the system. The following table does not include headings for such data. The maximum number of combined global, standard, and custom headings in a log file is 64.			
Column	[Enter] or [Return]	Required	Indicates the start of the column headings.
Name	[Tab]	Required	Heading for clip name.
Tracks	[Tab]	Required	Heading for tracks you select for digitizing.
Start	[Tab]	Required	Heading for video timecode of sync point — the timecode IN for clip. From address track of video.
End	[Tab]	Required	Heading for timecode OUT for clip. From address track of video.
Audio	[Tab]		Heading for the audio resolution (sample rate). If omitted, the global entry for AUDIO_FORMAT applies.

Table 82 Avid Log Column Headings (Continued)

Auxiliary Ink	[Tab]	Heading for a second ink number used for the clip.
Auxiliary TC1	[Tab]	Heading for auxiliary timecode.
Auxiliary TC2	[Tab]	Heading for auxiliary timecode.
Auxiliary TC3	[Tab]	Heading for auxiliary timecode.
Auxiliary TC4	[Tab]	Heading for auxiliary timecode.
Auxiliary TC5	[Tab]	Heading for auxiliary timecode.
Camera	[Tab]	Heading for the camera used to film this clip. This feature is used in multicamera shoots.
Camroll	[Tab]	Heading for the camera roll ID containing this clip.
Duration	[Tab]	Heading for timecode Start to timecode End, the length of the video clip.
FPS	[Tab]	Heading for video frames per second rate for digitizing the individual clip . If omitted, the global entry applies.
Film TC	[Tab]	Heading for the timecode used on the film.
Ink Number	[Tab]	Heading for the ink number used for the clip.
Mark IN	[Tab]	Heading for timecode of clip's mark IN (if present).
Mark OUT	[Tab]	Heading for timecode of clip's mark OUT (if present).
KN Duration	[Tab]	Heading for the length of the clip, expressed in feet and frames.
KN End	[Tab]	Heading for the ending key number for the clip
KN Start	[Tab]	Heading for the starting key number for the clip.
Labroll	[Tab]	Heading for the lab roll ID for the clip. Lab rolls are a combination of several camera rolls.
Perf	[Tab]	Heading for the film edge perforations format used for 3-perf projects.

Table 82 Avid Log Column Headings (Continued)

Pullin	[Tab]		Heading for the telecine pulldown of the first frame of the clip (pulldown phase). Pullin can have the values A, B, C, or D.
Pullout	[Tab]		Heading for the telecine pulldown of the last frame of the clip (pulldown phase). Pullout can have the values A, B, C, or D.
Reel #	[Tab]		Heading for the source reel number.
Scene	[Tab]		Heading for the scene number of the clip
Shoot date	[Tab]		Heading for the date the footage was shot.
Sound TC	[Tab]		Heading for Nagra timecode, Aaton code, Arri code, and so on, at the sync point. Syncs with the Start timecode. Required if tracking the sync sound. Capture rate can be 25 or 30 fps.
Soundroll	[Tab]		Heading for sound roll ID for clip.
TC 24	[Tab]		Heading for 24-fps timecode.
TC 25P	[Tab]		Heading for 25-fps timecode with pulldown.
TC 25	[Tab]		Heading for 25-fps timecode.
TC 30	[Tab]		Heading for 30-fps timecode.
Take	[Tab]		Heading for take ID for clip.
Tape	[Tab]		Heading for source tape ID for the individual clip. If omitted, the global entry applies.
DESCRIPT	[Tab]		Heading for description of clip.
COMMENTS	[Tab]		Heading for comments about clip.
<Your_heading>	[Tab]		Add any category of information you want. Add as many headings as you want, but do not use more than a total of 64 global and column headings in the file. Press the Tab key between each heading. Do not press the Tab key after the last heading.
	[Enter] or [Return]	[Enter] or [Return]	Press [Enter] (Windows) or [Return] (Macintosh) twice (do not press Tab) after the last heading.

Data Entries

The data entries come after the Custom column headings. [Table 83](#) shows the format for entering data. Enter a line of data in this format for every clip. Be sure to start the data section *for each clip* with the word **Data** [Enter] (Windows) or **Data** [Return] (Macintosh).

Table 83 Avid Log Data Headings

DATA HEADINGS: The word Data marks the start of the data for each clip.			
Data	[Enter] or [Return]	Required	Enter the word Data to mark the start of the logged clip entries.
DATA FOR EACH CLIP: Enter a line of data for each clip. Enter the data so that it aligns with its column heading. (The data that goes with the ninth column heading must be the ninth data entry.) Be sure to enter data for all the required values. To leave a data position unfilled, press the Tab key instead of typing data. Press Enter (Windows) or Return (Macintosh) at the end of each line. Note that your Avid system supports up to four audio tracks in imported and exported logs.			
<clip name>	[Tab]	Required	Under Name heading. Enter a clip identifier (32 characters maximum).
<V> <VA1> <VA2> <VA1A2> <A1A2> <A1> <A2>	[Tab]	Required	Under Tracks heading. Enter the tracks you want digitized for the clip. Enter V for MOS takes. Enter A1, A2, or A1A2 for wild sound.
<timecode>	[Tab]	Required	Under Start heading. Enter the video timecode for sync point, the first frame in clip. Use colons for non-drop-frame (for example, 01:00:12:20). Use one or more semicolons for drop-frame (for example, 01;18;00;02).
<timecode>	[Tab]	Required	Under End heading. Enter the video timecode for the last frame of clip.
<22kHz> <24kHz> <44kHz> <48kHz>	[Tab]		Under Audio heading. Enter the audio sampling rate for this clip only. If omitted, global entry applies.

Table 83 Avid Log Data Headings (Continued)

<timecode>	[Tab]	Under Auxiliary TC heading. Enter a Nagra timecode, Aaton code, Arri code, and so on, for the sync point. Syncs with the Start timecode.
<camera ID>	[Tab]	Under Camera heading. Identify the camera, using letters or numbers. For multicamera shoots.
<camera roll ID>	[Tab]	Under Camroll heading. Identify the camera roll, using letters and numbers.
<timecode>	[Tab]	Under Duration heading. Enter the length of the video clip, Start to End.
<24> <25> <29.97>	[Tab]	Under FPS heading. Enter the video capture rate for this clip only. If omitted, global entry applies. Use 24 fps for PAL or NTSC video, 25 fps for PAL video, or 29.97 fps for NTSC video.
<timecode>	[Tab]	Under Film TC heading. Identify the timecode used for the film, usually at 24 fps.
<inknumber>	[Tab]	Under Ink Number heading. Identify the ink number for the start of the clip.
<keynumber>	[Tab]	Under KN Start heading. Identify the complete key number for the start of the clip, for example, KU 31 2636-8903&12.
<keynumber>	[Tab]	Under KN End heading. Identify the key number for the end of the clip. You need to identify only feet and frames, for example, 0342&07.
<keynumber>	[Tab]	Under KN Duration heading. Identify the length of the clip, in feet and frames.
<lab roll ID>	[Tab]	Under Labroll heading. Identify the lab roll, using letters and numbers.
<1> <2> <3>	[Tab]	Under Perf heading. Edit the perf for this clip only.

Table 83 Avid Log Data Headings (Continued)

<A> <X> (matchback only) <C> <D>	[Tab]	Under Pullin heading. Identify the telecine pulldown of the first frame of the clip (pulldown phase). NTSC only.
<A> <X> (matchback only) <C> <D>	[Tab]	Under Pullout heading. Identify the telecine pulldown of the last frame of the clip. NTSC only.
<reel ID>	[Tab]	Under Reel # heading. Identify the reel, using numbers.
<scene ID>	[Tab]	Under Scene heading. Identify the scene, using letters and numbers.
<shoot date>	[Tab]	Under Shoot Date heading. Identify the date the footage was shot, in numbers or in letters and numbers.
<timecode>	[Tab]	Under Sound TC heading. Identify the sound time code at the sync point. Syncs with the Start timecode.
<sound roll ID>	[Tab]	Under Soundroll heading. Identify the sound roll, using letters and numbers.
<timecode>	[Tab]	Under TC 24 heading. Identify the start of the clip for 24p timecode.
<timecode>	[Tab]	Under TC 25p heading. Identify the start of the clip for 25p timecode (PAL pulldown)
<timecode>	[Tab]	Under TC 25 heading. Identify the start of the clip for 25-fps timecode (PAL)
<timecode>	[Tab]	Under TC 30 heading. Identify the start of the clip for 30-fps timecode
<take ID>	[Tab]	Under Take heading. Identify the take, using letters and numbers.
<source tape ID>	[Tab]	Under Tape heading. Enter the source videotape ID for this clip only.
<clip description>	[Tab]	Under DESCRIP heading. Describe the clip.

Table 83 Avid Log Data Headings (Continued)

<clip comments>	[Tab]	Under COMMENTS heading. Comment on the clip.
<information>	[Tab]	Under the headings you created yourself, type the appropriate information.
	[Enter] or [Return]	Press Enter (Windows) or Return (Macintosh) after the last entry for the clip. Do not press Tab after the last entry for the clip.
Enter an additional line of data for each remaining clip.		

Sample Avid Log

This section contains a sample Avid log for an NTSC video project, in Windows and Macintosh formats.

Formatting keys (such as [Tab] and [Enter] (Windows) or [Return] (Macintosh)) are shown in brackets.

Windows

```
Heading [Enter]
FIELD_DELIM [Tab] TABS [Enter]
VIDEO_FORMAT [Tab] NTSC [Enter]
AUDIO_FORMAT [Tab] 44kHz [Enter]
TAPE [Tab] 001 [Enter]
FPS [Tab] 29.97 [Enter]
[Enter]
Column [Enter]
Name [Tab] Tracks [Tab] Start [Tab] End [Enter]
[Enter]
Data [Enter]
CU Josh & Mary [Tab] V [Tab] 01:00:00:00 [Tab] 01:15:05:00 [Enter]
```

Macintosh

```
Heading [Return]
FIELD_DELIM [Tab] TABS [Return]
VIDEO_FORMAT [Tab] NTSC [Return]
AUDIO_FORMAT [Tab] 44kHz [Return]
TAPE [Tab] 001 [Return]
FPS [Tab] 29.97 [Return]
[Return]
Column [Return]
Name [Tab] Tracks [Tab] Start [Tab] End [Return]
[Return]
Data [Return]
CU Josh & Mary [Tab] V [Tab] 01:00:00:00 [Tab] 01:15:05:00 [Return]
```

