



The production process – Distribution copies

Following approval of the production by the client, release copies for distribution can be manufactured in the required media formats.



The following media formats may apply -

- Professional videotape (analogue or digital - for broadcast)
- VHS copies
- Video CD
- DVD
- Web-formats (for release via the internet)



Professional release copies for broadcast and VHS copies may be made from a digital or analogue archive master or directly from the digital master file.

Channel 6 Television's VHS duplication system can produce up to 1500 copies per day.



Channel 6 Television's duplication suite

We offer quality control of all VHS copies, with partial or full spot checks as required.

For release on digital disc media - such as CD or DVD - there is a vital intermediate process before copies can be made.

The digital master file must be transcoded to the relevant digital media format. DVD release requires an authoring process in which menu graphics are designed and the disc menu structure is programmed.

For video CD releases we usually recommend a simple HTML menu.

The challenge with all digital media releases is to achieve the highest possible sound and vision quality with the highest possible playback compatibility.

The DVD format includes many different or overlapping standards, some of which are incompatible with certain DVD playback hardware - in both computers and set-top players.

None of the existing DVD standards offer 100% playback compatibility on all hardware.



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The maximum playback compatibility is achieved with glass-mastering technology - a factory process in which the foil with the media data is stamped with a glass mould before the foil is laminated into a plastic disc.

Glass-mastering gives up to 95% playback compatibility and is used for almost all feature film DVD productions.

The initial tooling and manufacturing costs are high, so this process is only economically viable for releases exceeding several thousand copies.

Channel 6 Television does not handle glass-mastering in-house, but can handle such orders through specialist sub-contractors.



For DVD duplication in smaller quantities, Channel 6 Television employs traditional multi-drive burning technology - which with careful low speed burning can achieve over 75% playback compatibility - probably the maximum possible with existing technology.

Low speed burning and high quality blank media are the most important factors in optimising playback compatibility.

There are similar challenges associated with the production of CD and video CD releases. Channel 6 Television has good experience of video CD production.

The format is especially suitable for productions where the clients target audience does not have widespread access to DVD playback - especially on computers.

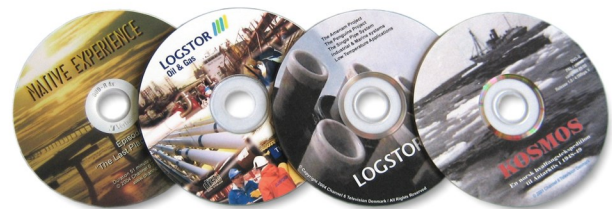
When producing CD or DVD for set-top players, particular attention must be paid to the TV system in the target countries.

Different countries use different - usually incompatible TV systems – see our website for a list of TV systems worldwide.

Channel 6 Television can supply both CD and DVD copies.

Graphic design and production

Before release CD and DVD box inserts, disc labels and VHS covers must be designed and produced - usually using design elements produced for the production graphics.



Channel 6 Television can handle the design and production of additional printed matter - using both traditional printing technology and in-house DTP technology.