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When Microsoft laid off their ACES simulations design team, those people did not just disappear. Apparently some of them are still interested in creating simulation products and more...

Aces Studio Vets Form New Sim Studio



Cascade Game Foundry, a new game development studio in Washington announced their entry into the simulation marketplace with an experienced team of industry pros poised to create a portfolio of innovative and engaging products which will appeal to both aficionados and people new to the genre.

A new company formed by former Microsoft Aces Studio executives has announced its intention to move into simulation development following Microsoft's closure of Flight Simulator studio earlier this year.

Cascade Game Foundry has been founded by former Aces Studio directors Rick Selby and Kathie Flood, and the pair have plans to both address the vacancy in the market left by Microsoft's departure and to explore new ways in which to appeal to simulation users.

"The beauty of starting a new studio is that we get to reconsider all our preconceived notions," said Selby. "Our previous efforts focused on building traditional simulation titles. However, now we get to redefine what a simulation game can be.

"As a designer, that is incredibly liberating. The hardcore simulation fan is the critical foundation, but why stop there? We want to deliver unique experiences that appeal to diverse audiences around the world."

"We want to combine the naturally inquisitive nature of the human spirit with the stunning resources of the planet. The simulation market is known to be a strong, consistent performer, but our vision extends beyond flying and railroading," added Flood. "Think of scuba diving off Hawaii, traversing the Andes, hiking the Great Wall of China. The possibilities are endless."

The studio is currently working on a first, as yet unannounced, project.

<http://www.cascadegamefoundry.com/>





INSTRUCTIONS: Recording Video with MS Flight Sim

First download http://www.smallvideosoft.com/downloads/freeze_screenvideocapture.exe



McAfee SiteAdvisor®

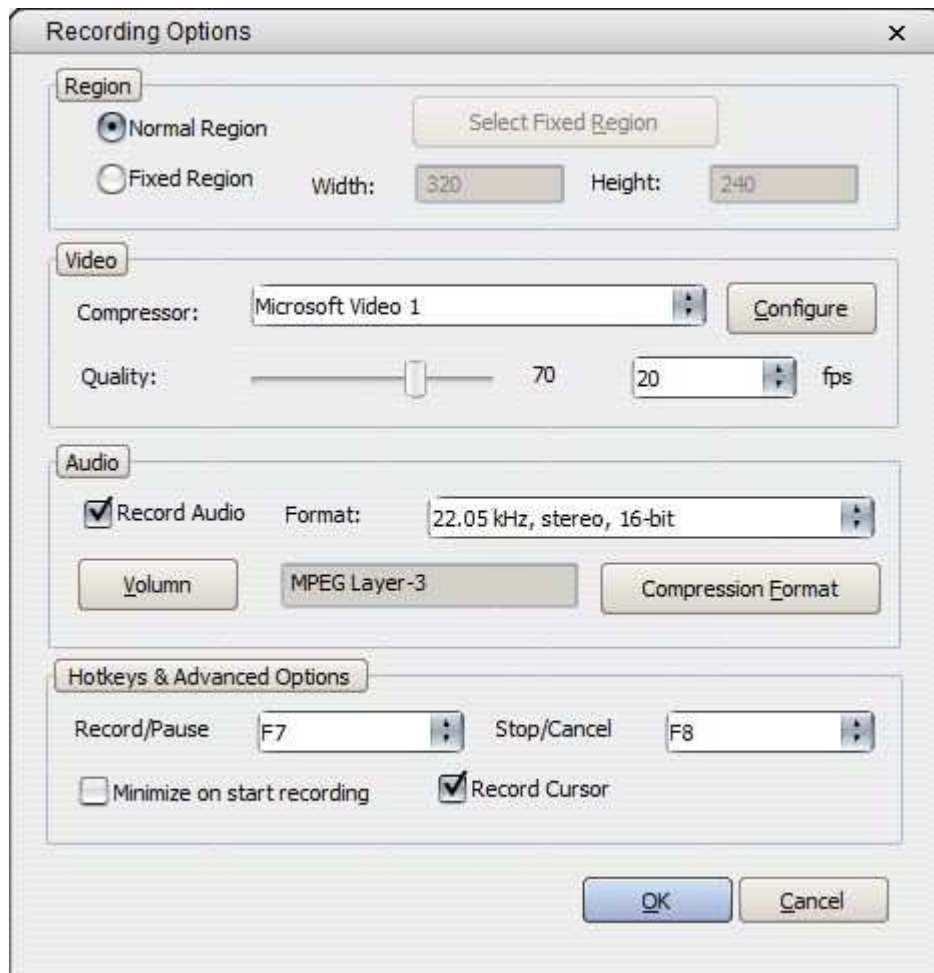


We tested this site and didn't find any significant problems

Once installed and run, you will see the following screen:

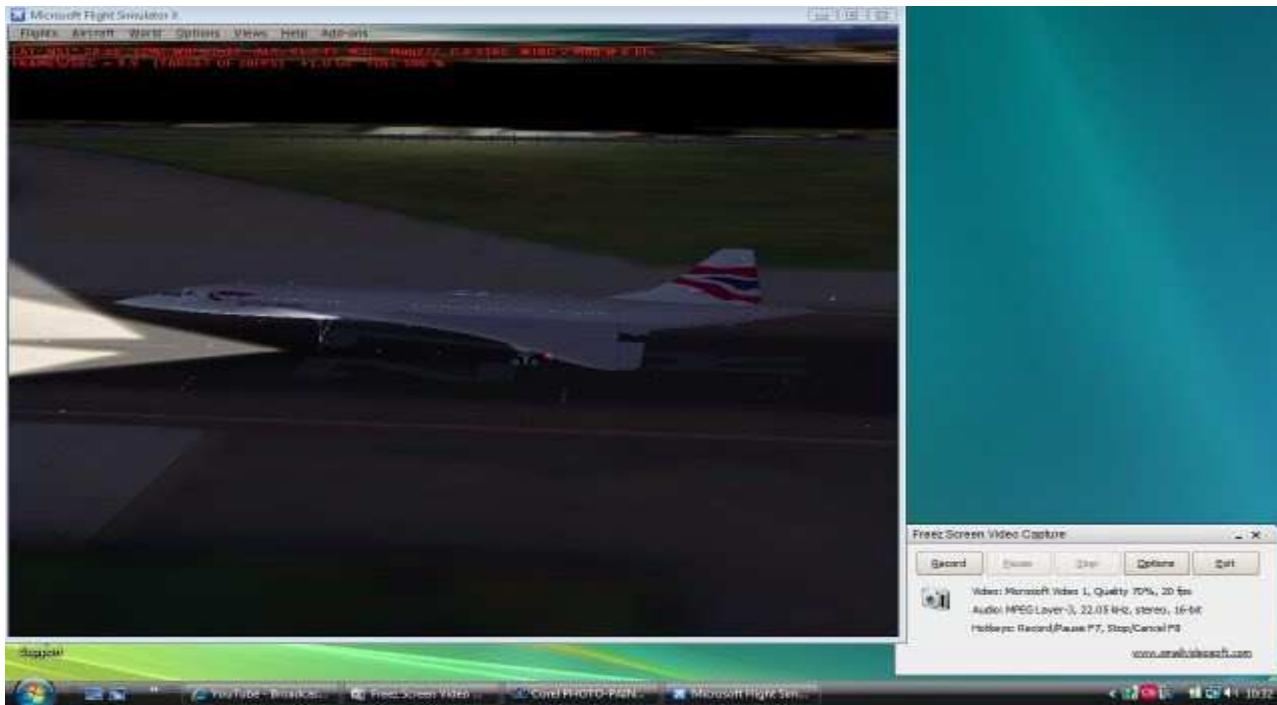


Now, click on "Options" and you will see the following:

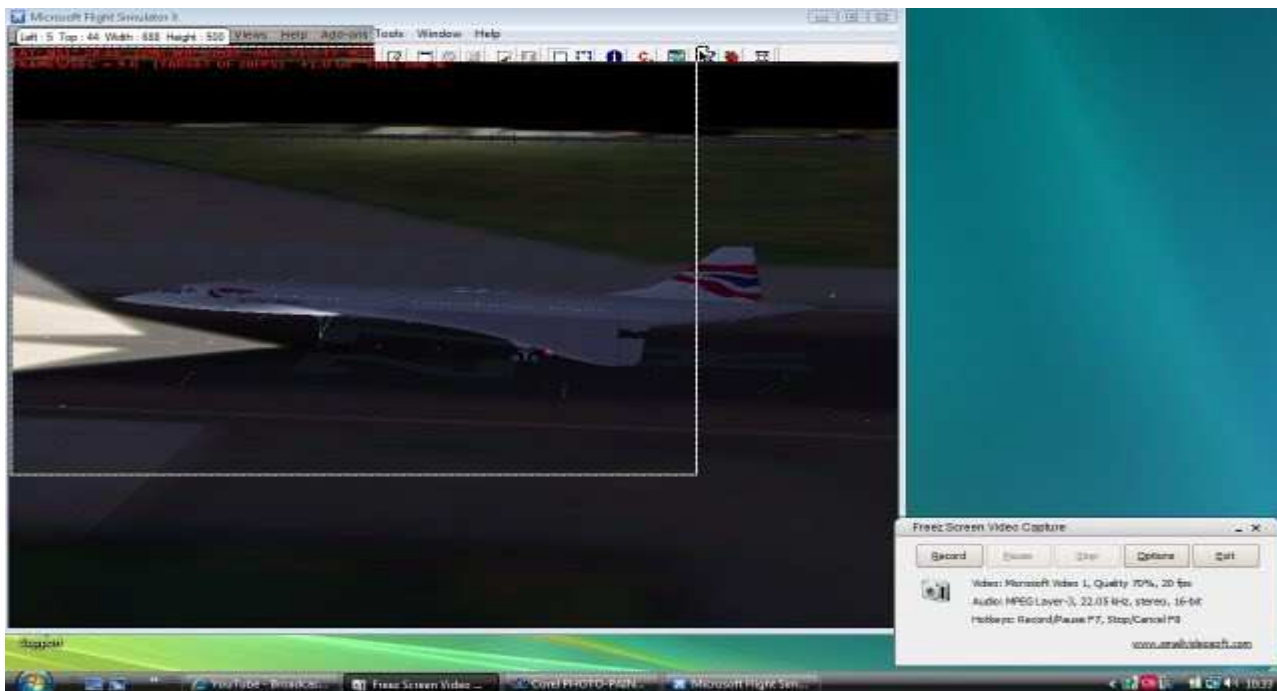


These are the **maximum** settings you will need for recording Flight Sim video; you can reduce them as you wish.

Now start up your flight Sim, and this is the important part ... **You must set-up your screen in a window so it does not cover the video recorder window** - like so:



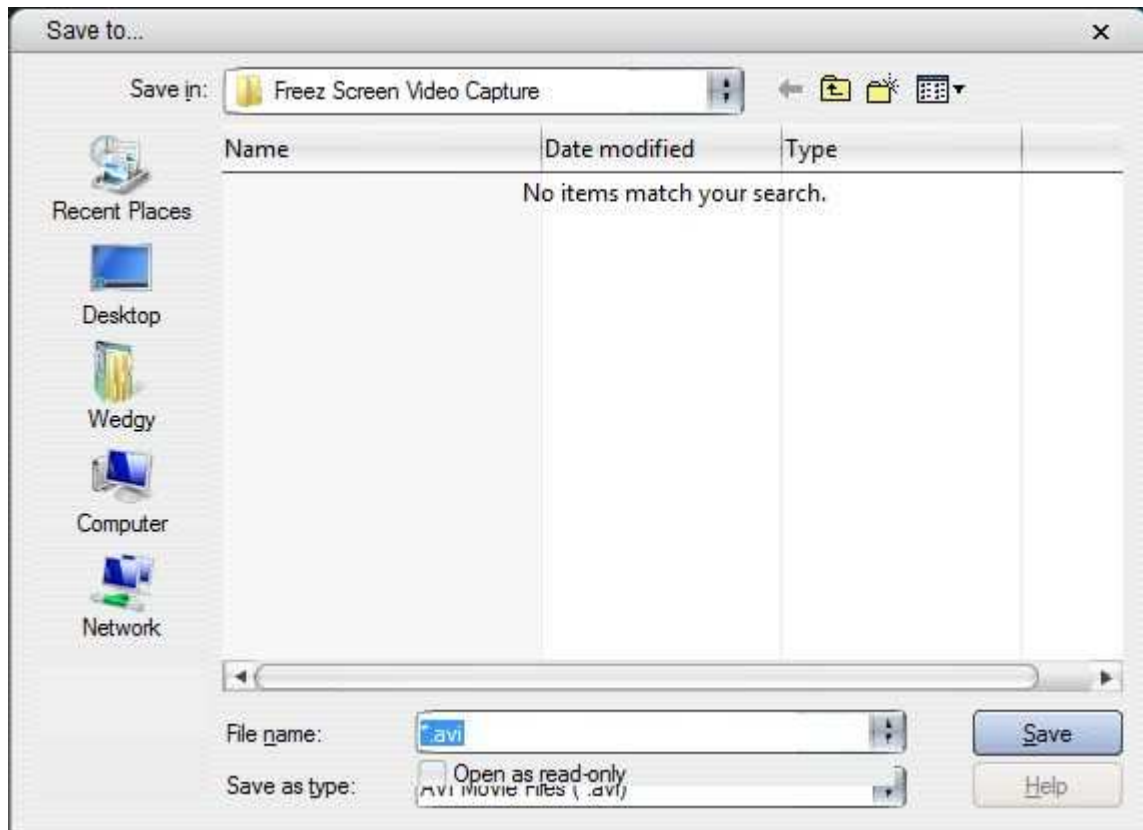
When you are ready to record, hit the record button and crosshairs appear. You must now select the area of the screen you wish to record - as demonstrated below:



As soon as you release the selected area, the video starts recording! Please note, using the F7/F8 hotkeys will not work (thus far) as obviously Flight Sim has them assigned to their functions.

Start flying!

When you are ready to finish recording, just hit the "stop" button, you will be presented with a "save as" box where you can select where you want to save the video clip.



DO NOT SAVE IN THE DEFAULT DIRECTORY, save file in your documents or to your desktop. For some reason, if you save them in the default directory - they disappear

Post to YouTube for all to see!



You can record "Live Flight, Instant Replay, or Flight Video".

In the options there is a way of pre-selecting the area you wish to record (a "fixed region")



The image shows a 'Recording Options' dialog box with the following sections:

- Region:** Radio buttons for 'Normal Region' (selected) and 'Fixed Region'. A 'Select Fixed Region' button is next to 'Normal Region'. Below 'Fixed Region' are input fields for 'Width: 320' and 'Height: 240'.
- Video:** A 'Compressor' dropdown menu set to 'Microsoft Video 1' with a 'Configure' button. A 'Quality' slider is set to 70, with a dropdown menu set to 20 fps.
- Audio:** A checked 'Record Audio' checkbox. A 'Format' dropdown menu set to '22.05 kHz, stereo, 16-bit'. Buttons for 'Volume', 'MPEG Layer-3', and 'Compression Format' are present.
- Hotkeys & Advanced Options:** 'Record/Pause' set to F7 and 'Stop/Cancel' set to F8. A 'Minimize on start recording' checkbox is unchecked, and a 'Record Cursor' checkbox is checked.

At the bottom are 'OK' and 'Cancel' buttons.

FYI:

It is possible to record full-screen - a maximized WINDOW anyway; open Freeze Screen - maximize your FSX window (so that you can still see the taskbar at the bottom of the screen), pause your light/replay, set the cross-hairs to INCLUDE the little Freeze Screen window, press record, minimize Freeze Screen, and un-pause your flight/replay.

SOUND - Freeze Screen uses the microphone to record the sound from the speakers! You need to have an integral microphone.



Information in this newsletter is developed by Kevin Kashi and Ted Robinson using the Coosbayhops website and published information on the internet. For questions, comments or suggestions regarding methods to improve the skill sets of PC pilots, airport and airplane design, please contact Kevin at CoosBayKevin@aol.com or Ted at trobin@molalla.net. *Unauthorized use of the contents in this newsletter is prohibited.*