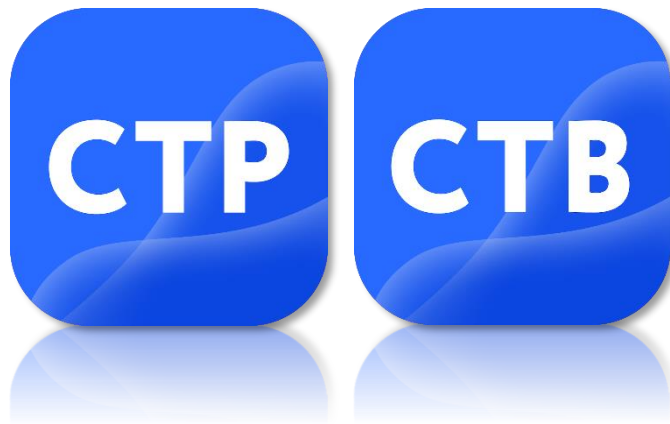




Catalyst Prepare/Catalyst Browse
(Ver.2025.3)

Quick Start Guide

■ Introduction

Catalyst Prepare/Browse are desktop applications for checking captured footage and carrying out pre-editing preparations. They can also be used to verify finalized content playback, check file formats, and review the metadata information attached to videos. By applying OK/NG/KEEP flags to captured video clips and assigning marker points to clip timecodes, these applications enhance the search efficiency in non-linear editing workflows. This ensures a smoother progression through subsequent editing processes. Furthermore, Catalyst Prepare/Browse offer comprehensive video clip correction functions, including footage correction, color adjustments, conversion to multiple video formats (transcoding), and various export functions.

Also, Catalyst Prepare incorporates higher-precision adjustment functions than Catalyst Browse, including: a batch export function for corrected clips (batch processing), a media management function, and additional supported formats such as XAVC and Avid DNxHD. While Catalyst Browse allows a limited experience of some functions, there are restrictions such as not being able to export files.

This Quick Start Guide explains the basic operational procedures for Catalyst Prepare/Browse, covering processes from PC preparation through to the utilization of built-in functions.

■ Steps Before Usage

Catalyst Prepare/Browse (hereinafter referred to as "Catalyst apps") support both Windows OS and macOS. An internet connection is required during initial use after installing the Catalyst apps. These operations must be performed while online.

1. Install Catalyst Apps

Download the OS-specific installer provided on the Sony website.

Download site URL:

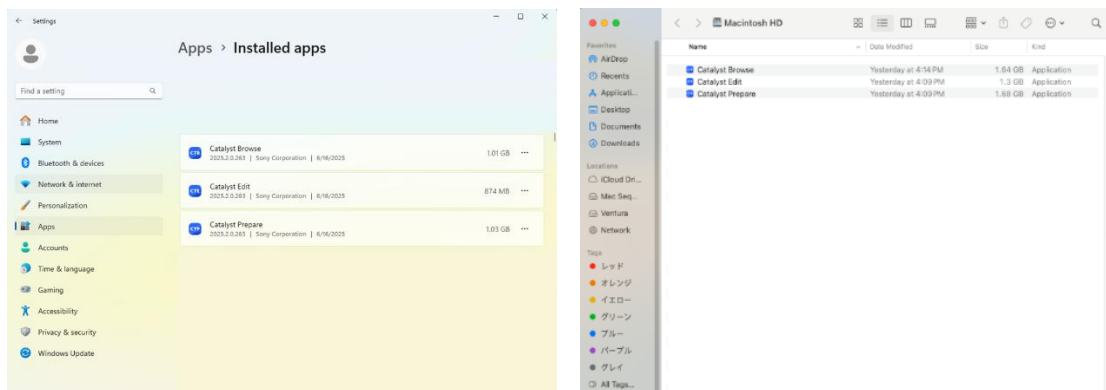
<https://www.sony.net/catalyst/download?cid=hlp-tutorial-browse1>

Double-click the downloaded file and follow the on-screen instructions to install it on your PC.

* Check the "4.0 System Requirements" and device specifications in the latest "Release Notes" before installation.

After the installation is complete, confirm that the application is installed on your PC.

- For Windows: Check the list via "Apps" → "Installed apps".
- For macOS: Check via "Applications".



For Windows, check via "Apps"

For macOS, check via macOS Finder

2. Getting a Paid Subscription to Use Catalyst Prepare

Subscribe to a paid plan via the following website:

A Sony account is required for subscription. If you do not have one, have one issued via "Create account".

Note: The first month is free for initial subscriptions.

<https://creatorscloud.sony.net/app/plans-purchase-catalyst?cid=hlp-tutorial-browse1>

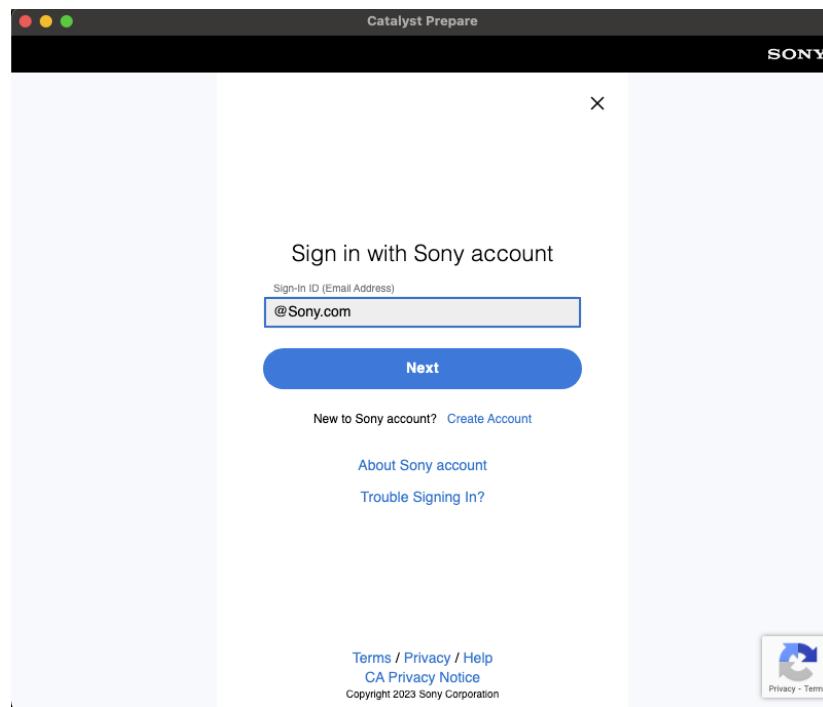
3. Launching the Catalyst Apps

Click the Catalyst Prepare/Browse app to launch it.

Note: For Catalyst Prepare, you must sign in with your Sony account after opening the app.

* The use of Sony Creative Software (SCS) accounts was discontinued as of March 28, 2025.

Users still utilizing SCS accounts must take note of this.



Sign in screen after opening the app

■ Introduction of Main Functions

Now, let's introduce the detailed operations for the Catalyst apps.

The Catalyst apps offer numerous functions. This Quick Start Guide covers the following operation methods. You may focus on the necessary tasks.

To learn the layout of the Catalyst app screen

[1. Introduction to the full interface](#)

To manage media/clips

[2. Media/Clip management](#)

To check shot footage

[3. Playback operations](#)

[4. Check/add metadata](#)

To adjust footage

[5. Clip adjustment function](#)

[6. Color adjustment function](#)

To export video files

[7. Clip export operations](#)

I want to perform sound separation on a clip

[8. Sound separation function](#)

To learn other ways to use the app

[9. Other useful functions](#)

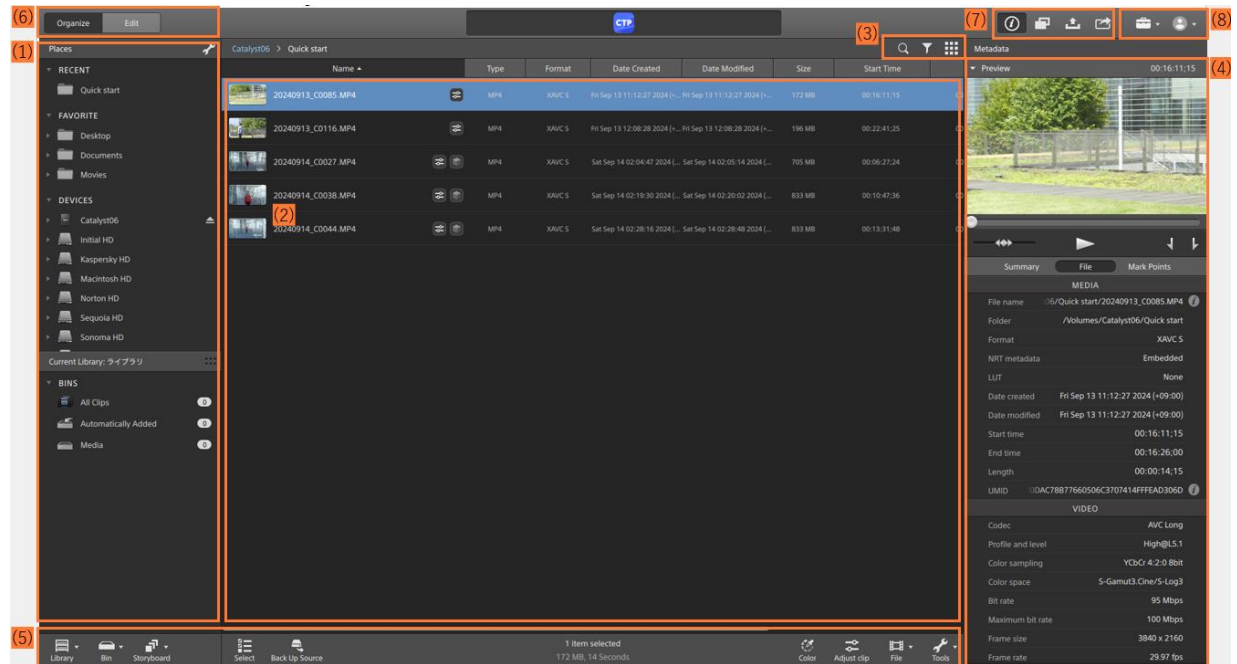
For detailed operations and functions, refer to the "Help" sections within the respective apps. Also, if you have any issues with operations, utilize the Q&A or Contact Support options listed on the website. The URLs and access points will be listed under ["Troubleshooting"](#).

1.Introduction to the full interface

This section explains the complete layout of the Catalyst app operation screen.

The image below shows the default screen after the app is opened. Click to navigate between different operation screens.

Right-click to open submenus.



App default screen (for Catalyst Prepare)

① Media/Folder Management

Displays file storage locations on your PC, including external drives/HDDs.
In Catalyst Prepare, this manages bins and storyboard editing elements.

② Clip List Display

Shows clips within folders. Double-click a clip to play it in a larger playback window.

③ Search and Display Settings

Enables clip name searches, filtering, and screen display settings for (2).

④ Metadata (Video Information) Display

View clip metadata, including video/audio formats, camera/lens information, GPS information, and other detailed information not accessible through standard PC browsers.

⑤ **Production Tool Operation (Toolbar)**

A group of tools for folder/clip operations. The tools automatically switch in accordance with the screen transitions. Clip adjustments, color adjustments, and more tools are displayed at the bottom.

⑥ **Media Management / Video Operation Screen Toggle**

Switches between file management operation (organization) and editing screens.

⑦ **File export operations**

Used to switch to the output (export) screen after using preview and adjustment functions such as clip copying, exporting after video adjustments, transcoding, and uploading to Ci and network storage. Can switch to (4) metadata display screen to perform tasks.

⑧ **Settings / Account Management**

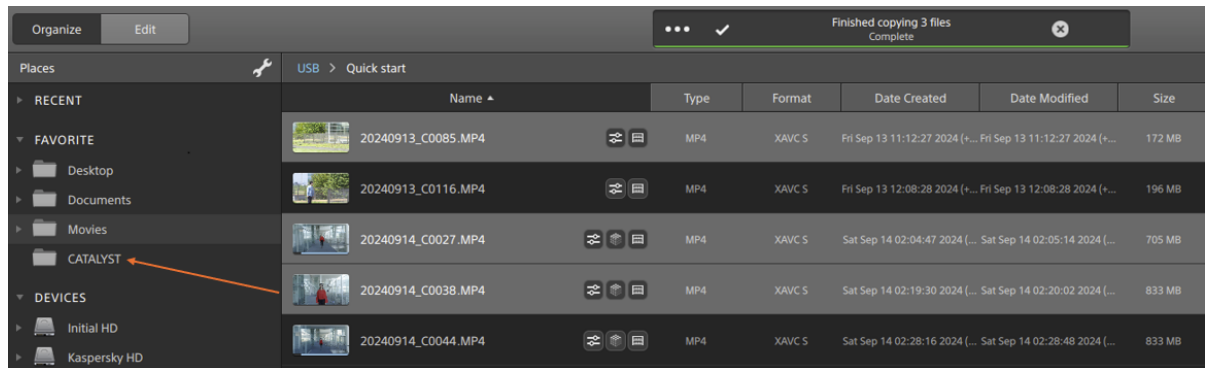
Configure video processing devices and app settings for external monitors, etc. Account functions include sign-in/out of account and Contact Support for help or support.

2. Media/Clip management

2-1. Clip Move/Copy Operations

The Catalyst apps allow you to manage media from memory cards and external drives/HDDs.

Copy footage from a memory card to your PC via drag-and-drop.



Copy using D&D

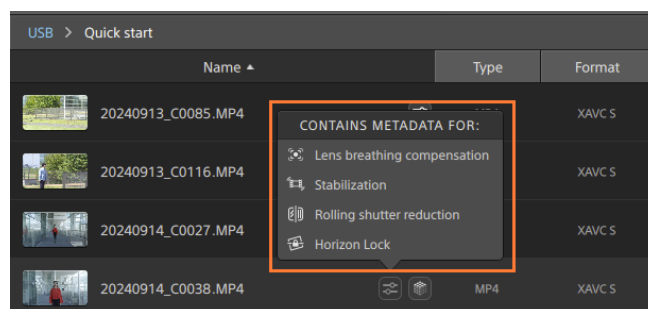
Clip management screen

2-2. Bookmarking Frequently Used Folders

You can bookmark frequently used folders on your PC under "Favorites" by activating the folder located in "Devices" and selecting  from the central bottom right of the screen. This will make subsequent folder access smoother.

2-3. Checking for the Presence of Shooting Metadata

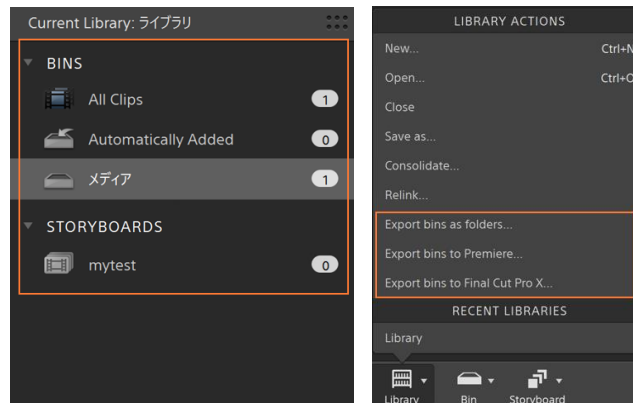
In the clip list in the center of the screen, icons are displayed near clip names. You can check for the presence of metadata related to the camera/lens and camera settings when they were captured with a Sony camera. For correction methods, see ["5. Clip Footage Adjustment Function"](#).



Metadata icon (clip list screen)

2-4. Bin Management (Catalyst Prepare Only)

Bins allow you to manage clips across multiple media sources. You can use them as virtual folders for organizing data prior to editing. You can operate them with D&D in the same manner as clip moving/copying. The data grouped within bin folders can be collectively copied/exported or output as project files for use in non-linear editing software.

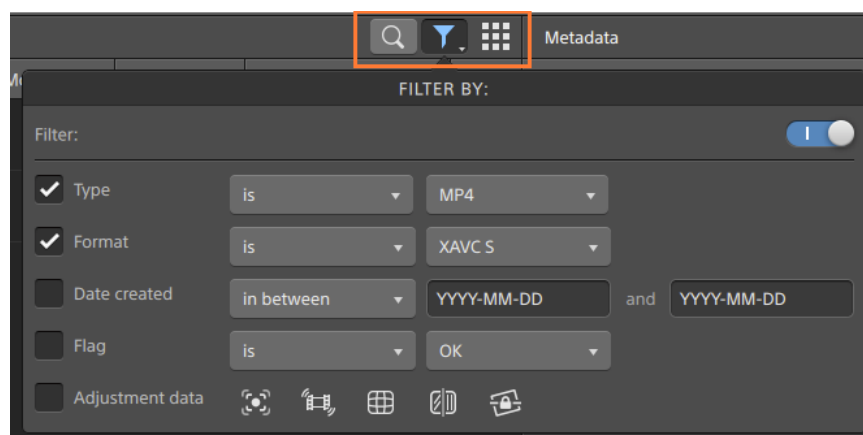


Library screen (under media/folder management)

2-5. Clip Search Panel (Filtering Clips)

When searching for clips you need, you can apply filters based on clip names, formats, shooting dates/times, and other criteria.

Pressing the search button  allows you to search by clip name.



Clip search panel (upper right of the clip list screen)

3. Playback operations

Double-clicking a clip, you want to play in the clip list switches to the video playback screen.

The Catalyst apps support high-quality playback operations on a frame-by-frame basis.

3-1. Playback Operations (Mouse/Keyboard Operations)



Playback screen

Playback operations can be performed using the icons located at the bottom center of the screen. Furthermore, keyboard shortcuts identical to those in non-linear editing software are also available.

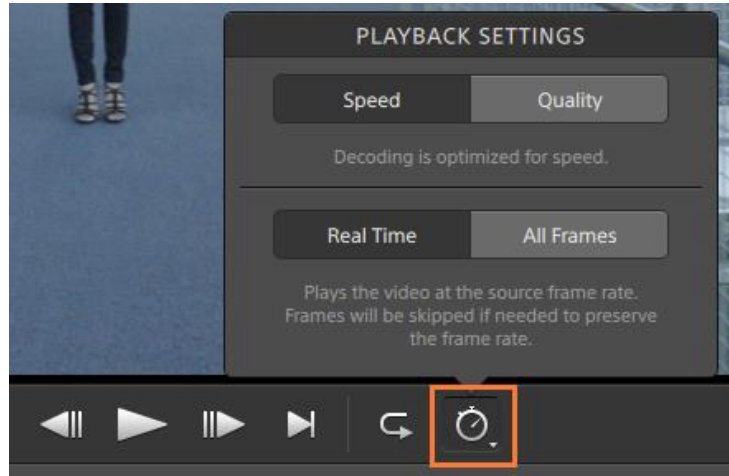
(Examples)

Play/pause	Space bar
Shuttle play	J/K/L
Frame operation	←/→
Mark point	I/O
Add mark point	E

* For details, check the "Keyboard Shortcuts" and "Gestures" in the Help section.

3-2. Playback Settings

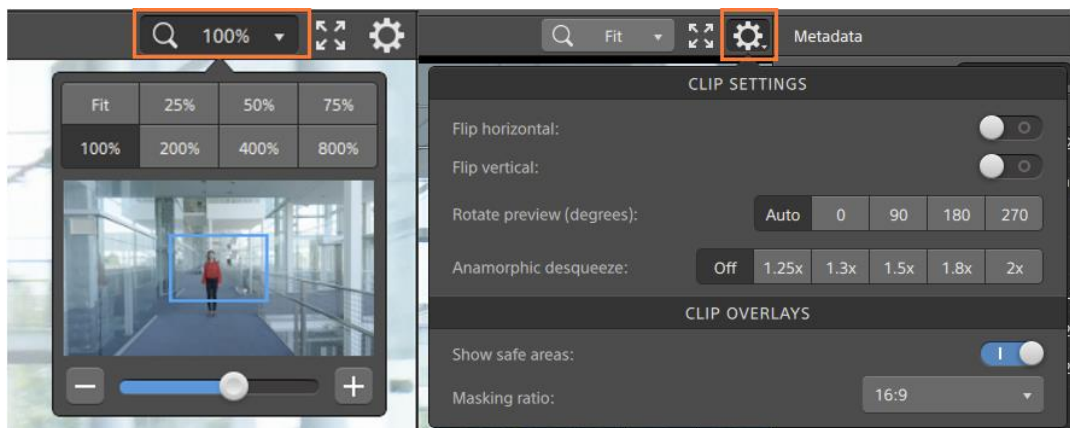
When playback becomes sluggish due to high bit rate formats such as 4K or RAW, you can adjust the playback settings to optimize the video playback smoothness and resolution based on your usage.



Playback settings screen (right side of the video operation panel)

3-3. Display Settings

Modify video display settings via Display Settings located to the right of the center in the upper part of the screen. You can set the zoom level, horizontal/vertical flip, safe area displays, and masking for aspect ratio modifications.



Display settings screen (upper right of the playback screen)

4. Check/Add metadata

On the clip management and video playback screen, the metadata is displayed on the right side of the operation screen. You can use tabs to switch between information categories. Before proceeding to subsequent non-linear editing tasks, you can record details about the files or timecode points you have used.

* The visibility and names of flag information and mark points (shot marks) may differ for each editing software program.

Check the manual from the respective editing software manufacturer

File tab (left picture below)

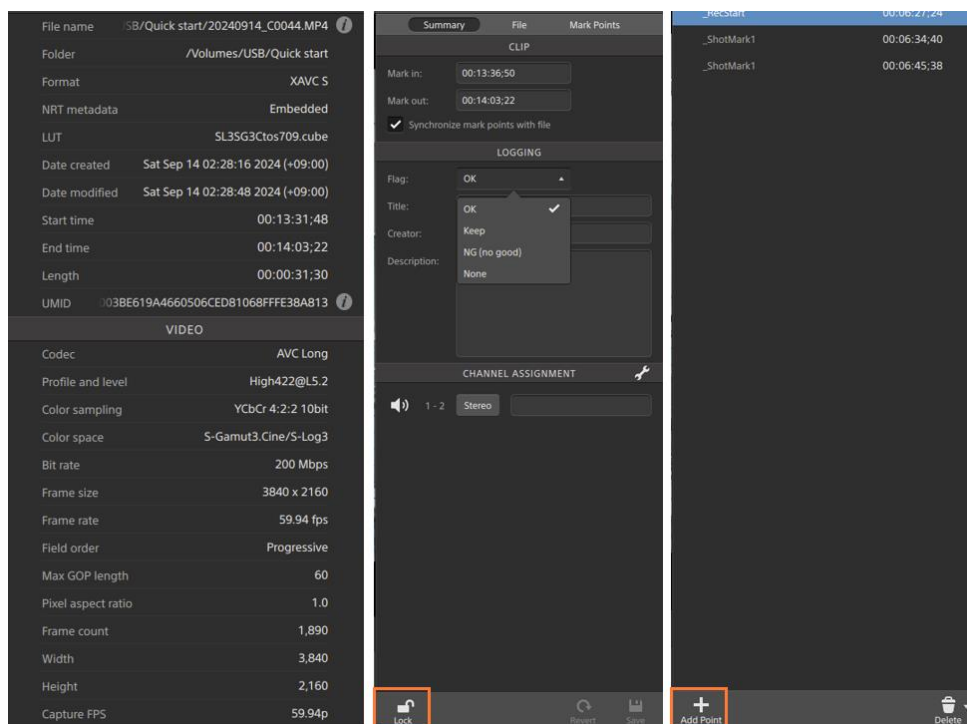
This tab displays video formats, camera/lens device information, and detailed information about camera settings (acquisition metadata).

Summary tab (center picture below)

By adding OK/KEEP/NG flags to clips, you can make it easier to search from the clip list. Additionally, you can record mark IN/OUT information onto clips. To do this, unlock them using the lock button at the bottom.

Mark point tab (right picture below)

This tab allows you to record mark points (markers) onto the timecode information of the video. The shot marks recorded during shooting can also be displayed. While reviewing the video, you can add new markers using "Add Point" at the bottom.



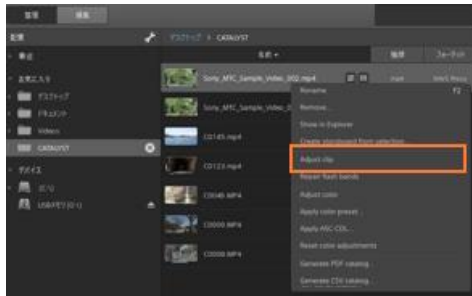
Display screen for various forms of metadata

5. Clip adjustment function

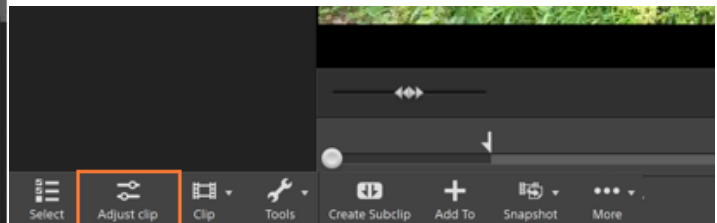
For clips shot with Sony cameras, you can utilize a high-speed, high-quality image adjustment function that leverages camera/lens metadata.

In the Clip List screen: Select the content, then select "Adjust clip" from the right-click menu

In the Playback screen: Select "Adjust clip" located at the bottom left of the screen



Clip List screen



Playback screen (bottom of playback)

5-1. Clip Analysis

Clip adjustments will switch to a dedicated screen. Select the items you want to adjust and execute the "Analyze" function.

You can make edits while comparing the original video to the changed video.

* If the post-analysis video displays a black screen, this may indicate your operating device's performance is insufficient.



Before analysis



After analysis

5-2. Details of Primary Adjustments

The primary video adjustment functions are as follows:

Catalyst Prepare has numerous items that can be configured with the manual.

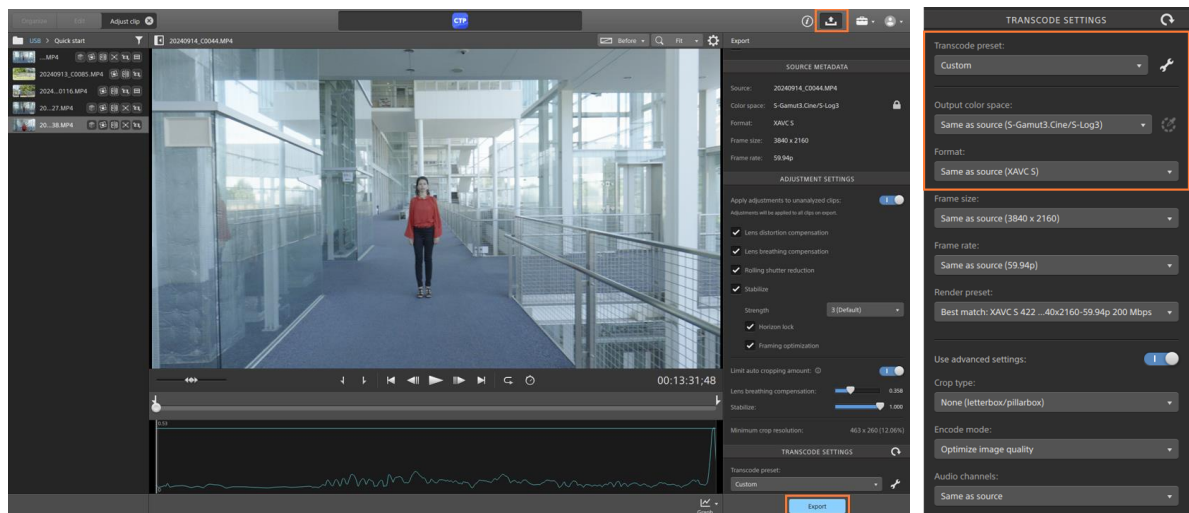
On the other hand, please note in advance that Catalyst Browse is limited in some of its functions, such as only having auto adjustments and only being able to preview.

Lens breathing compensation	Corrects the phenomenon where the angle of view or focal length of a lens changes when the focus is adjusted.
Lens distortion compensation	Corrects lens distortions introduced during shooting (X-OCN format only)
Rolling shutter reduction	Corrects and reduces rolling shutter distortions caused by camera movements.
Stabilization	Corrects the shake (camera shake) that occurs during handheld shooting, reducing the shakiness in the footage. In this version, we have a newly added function to adjust the intensity of the stabilization and a framing optimization function to minimize the cropping amount.
Horizon lock	Corrects tilted images to keep them level.

5-3. Exporting the Contents of the Adjustments

To apply the contents of an adjustment to a clip, run the "Export" operation.

If you wish to retain the original color space and format without modifications, select "Same as source". If you do so, you can also convert the format (transcode). Select according to the production format.

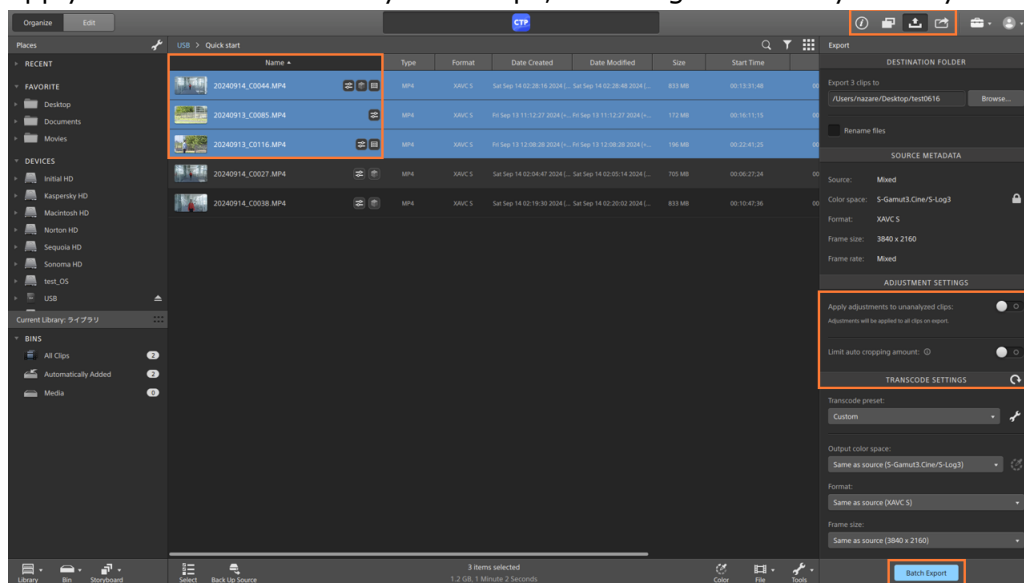


Export operations after clip adjustments

5-4. Batch Processing for Multiple Clips (Catalyst Prepare only)

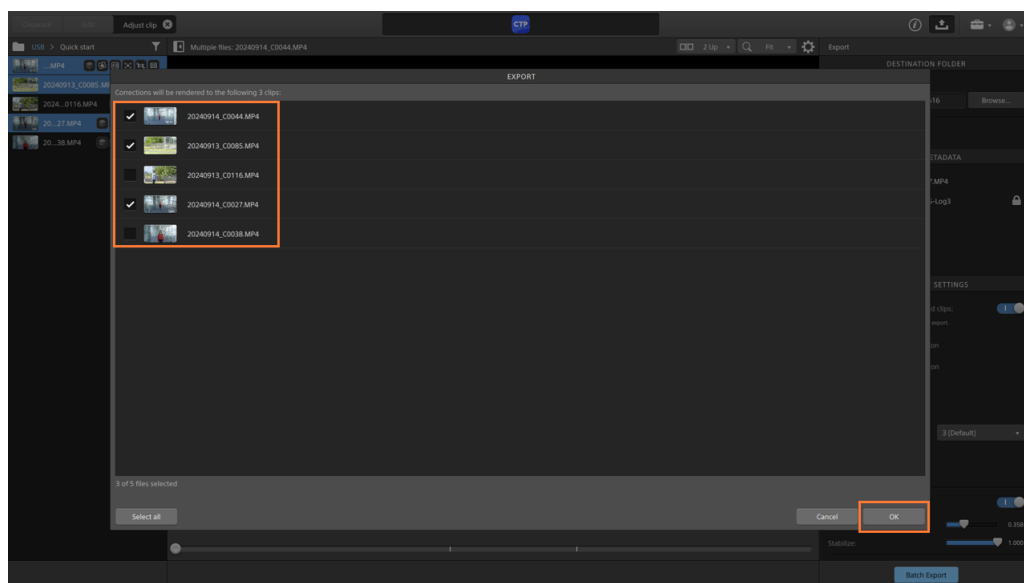
You can export efficiently by performing analysis and adjustment tasks on multiple clips, and then running a batch export (batch processing). This function is a highly convenient function in Catalyst Prepare for users who use it frequently. (For Catalyst Browse, clips are processed individually)

When multiple clips are selected, the "Export" button in the export settings will switch to "Batch Export". Additionally, by utilizing the "Adjustment Settings" option, you can apply corrections collectively to all clips, including those not yet analyzed.



Batch processing function (using the Clip List screen as an example)

Clicking the "Batch Export" button will switch screens, where you can check the selected clips. Pressing the "OK" button will run the export



Batch processing function check screen

6. Color adjustment function

The Catalyst apps allow for post-shooting color adjustments, such as HDR/SDR adjustments and LOG adjustments.

Select "Adjust Color" located at the bottom-center of the Clip Playback screen to go to the task screen.

When performing color adjustments, ensure that you configure in advance the work environment such as the preview space and external monitor in "Color Management" within the Catalyst app settings.



Adjust Color Operation Screen

- ① When working with clips recorded in S-Log, modify the "Source" option under the "Color Space" menu located at the upper-right corner of the screen to proceed with the task.
- ② In the Look section, you can choose to apply and preview the LUT embedded to clips shot with Sony cameras, or apply any desired LUT. Select the EI mode from "Source Settings".

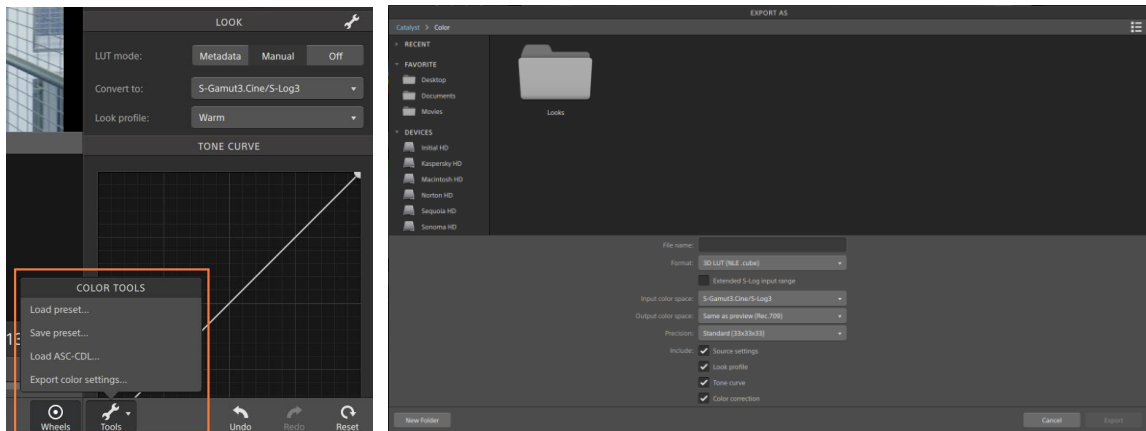
■ EI Mode Selection

Metadata: The exposure metadata is automatically applied based on the camera settings.

Manual: Manually set the exposure. The exposure of the entire clip can be adjusted.

Off: Turn off exposure adjustments. The original sensitivity will be applied as is.

Additionally, from the Tools menu, you can load/save presets and export color setting files for use in cameras or non-linear editing software.



Operations related to color tools

■ About LOG Shooting

For LOG-related information, refer to the following site:

Creator's Help Guide: <https://helpguide.sony.net/di/pp/v1/ja/index.html>

7. Clip Export Operations

Reflect the work done in the Catalyst app onto the clips and export them as files. At this time, the format itself can also be changed. Select the clip you want to export, then click the "Transcode" icon in the upper-right corner of the Catalyst App. Select your desired settings here and click the "Export" button in the lower-right corner to complete the export.

7-1. Batch Exporting Multiple Clips

To batch export multiple clips, use multiple select on all the clips you want to export. At this time, the button in the lower right corner of the transcode screen will change to "Batch Export", and all the selected clips will be exported.

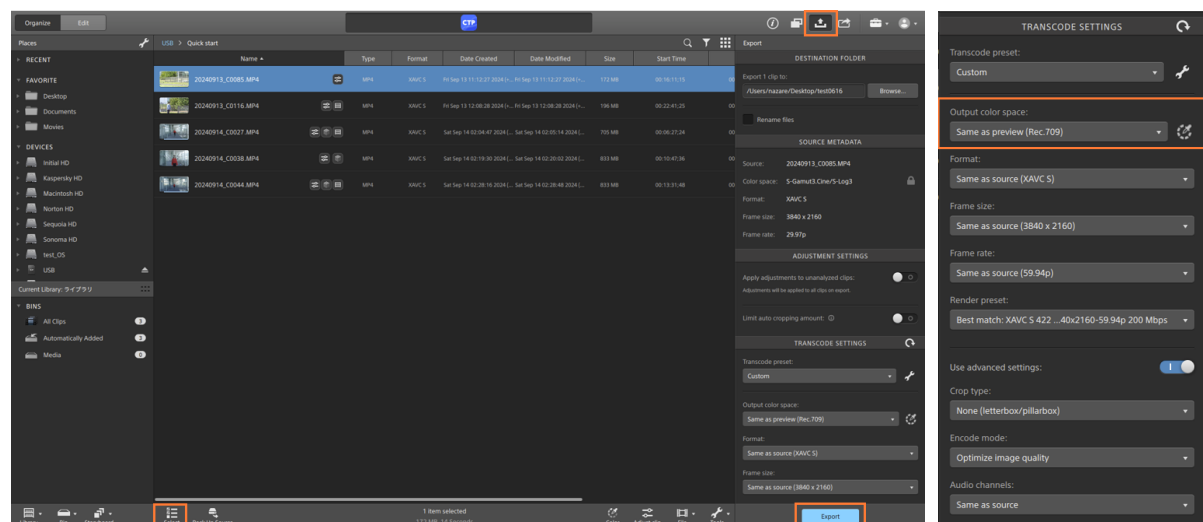
To select multiple clips, press and hold the Shift or Ctrl (Command) key on your keyboard while selecting files, or click the "Multiple Select" button at the bottom of the screen.

To export clips with video adjustments, refer to ["5-3. Exporting the Contents of the Adjustments"](#).

7-2 Exporting with Color Adjustment Effects

To export the video with color adjustments, set "Output color space" in the transcode settings to "Same as preview". This will ensure that the video with color corrections seen in the preview is exported as a file.

Note that if you select "Same as source," the color corrections will not be included in the exported file.



Operations to export clips

8. Clip sound separation

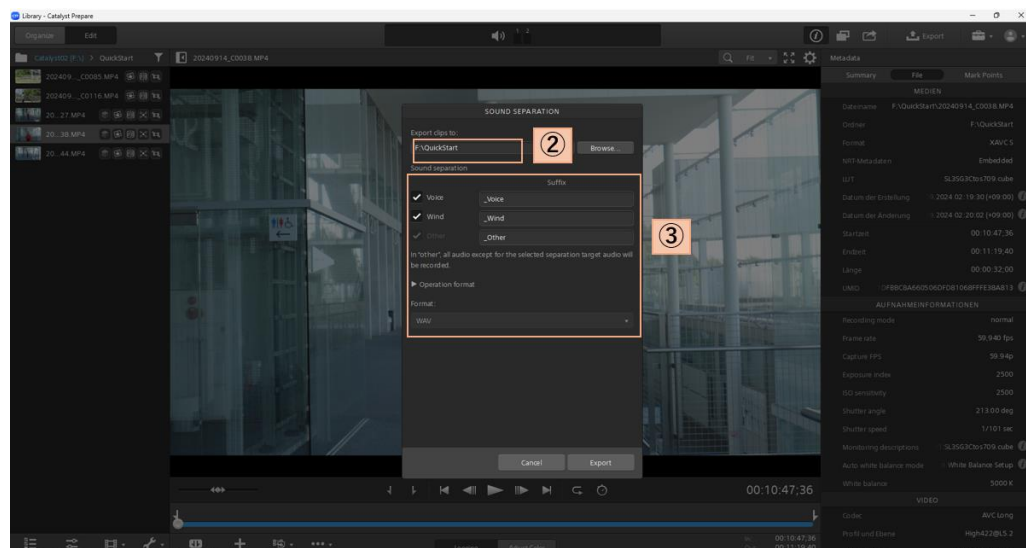
In version 2025.3, released in October 2025, a new function for sound separation in video clips was introduced. This sound separation function divides the recorded clip's audio into speakers, wind noise, and environmental sounds, and creates new audio clips (WAV files). The clips created can be volume-adjusted and edited using non-linear editing software.

Main use cases: Lowering the gain of only environmental sounds during street shooting, removing wind noises, and more.

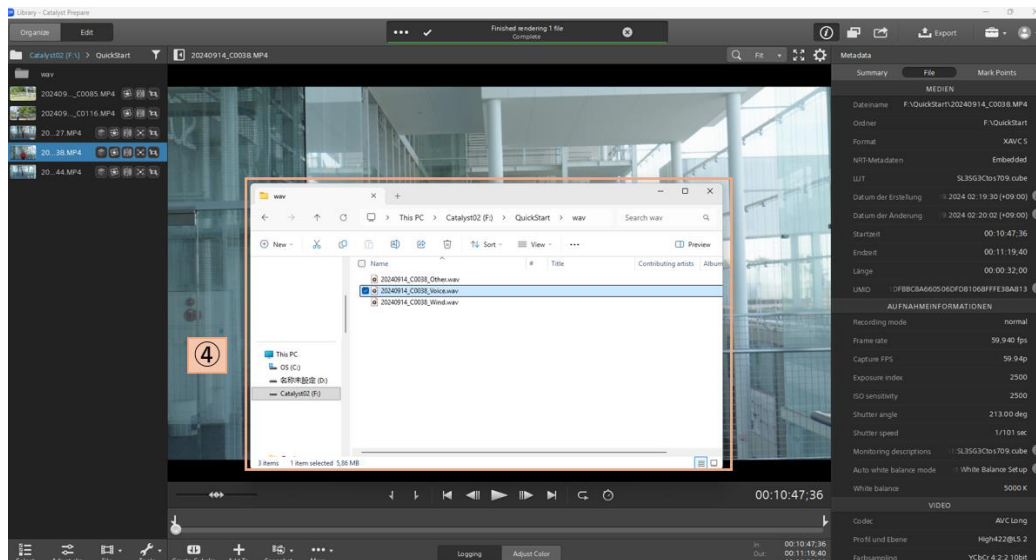
- ① Select a clip and choose "Sound Separation" from the "Tools" menu at the bottom of the screen.



- ② Select the output destination.
- ③ Check the items you want to output, such as speakers or wind noise. The output format is automatically set to WAV.



- ④ Once the output is complete, WAV files will be created in the specified folder. Check the output results.



- ⑤ In your non-linear editing software project, place the necessary clips on the timeline. Adjust the volume and other settings for each WAV clip as needed. [DaVinci Resolve UI example]



9. Other Useful Functions

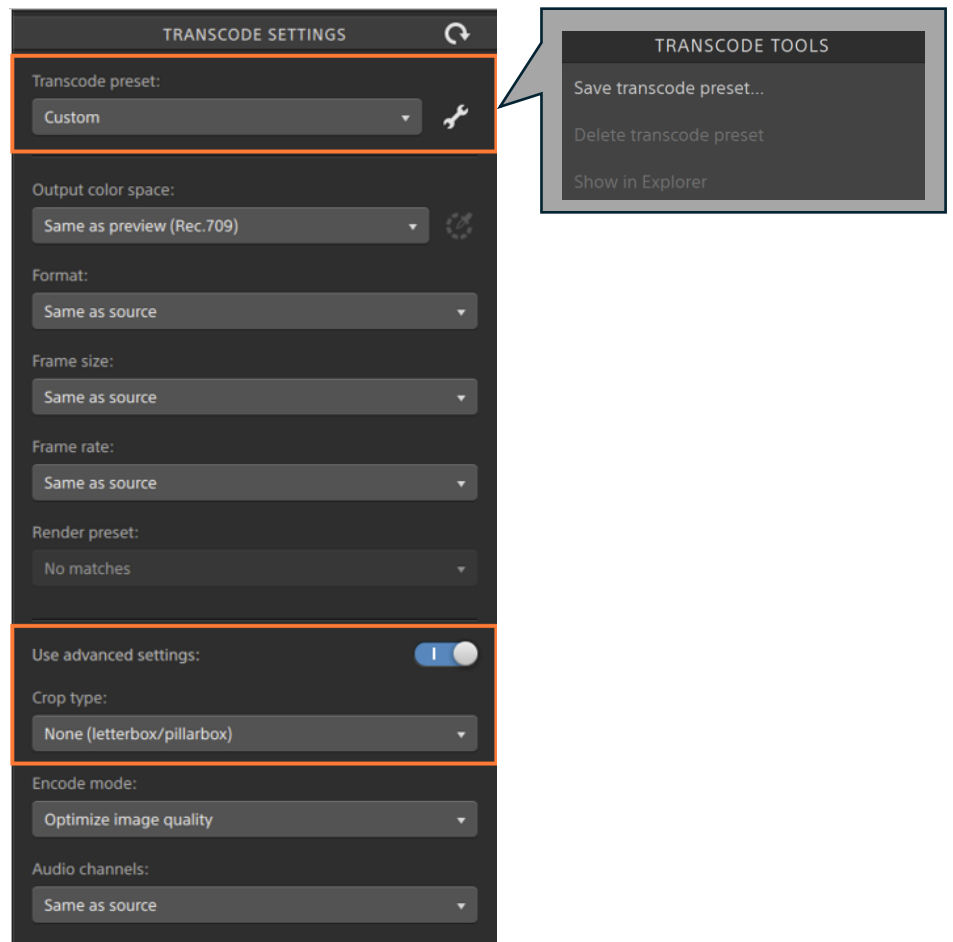
In addition to the functions we've introduced so far, Catalyst Prepare/Browse offers many other functions. Here are some convenient functions we'd like to highlight:

9-1. Transcoding

Catalyst apps are equipped with a transcoder. You can use it to accurately export Sony video formats or convert to other company codecs.

Additionally, by using the masking done with the display settings in ["3. Playback Controls"](#), you can select "Use masking ratio" from the crop types to transcode and export with different aspect ratios like 1:1 or 9:16 from the original video.

Catalyst Prepare allows you to save presets for frequently used transcoding settings. You can create multiple settings files and save them on your device. In addition, Catalyst Prepare has added support for the Avid DNxHD format. The Catalyst apps support many formats, enabling encoding and decoding between various formats. For a list of supported formats, refer to the "Help" section.



Transcoding settings

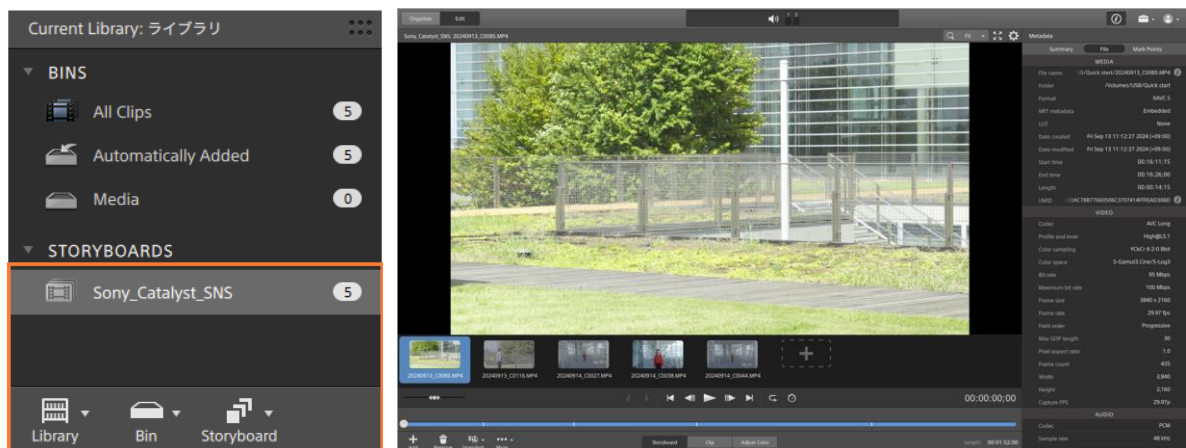
9-2. Storyboard Editing

With Catalyst Prepare, you can use storyboards to streamline post-shoot cut editing and various clip adjustments.

In the clip management screen, drag and drop the clips you want to use in your project into the storyboard folder.

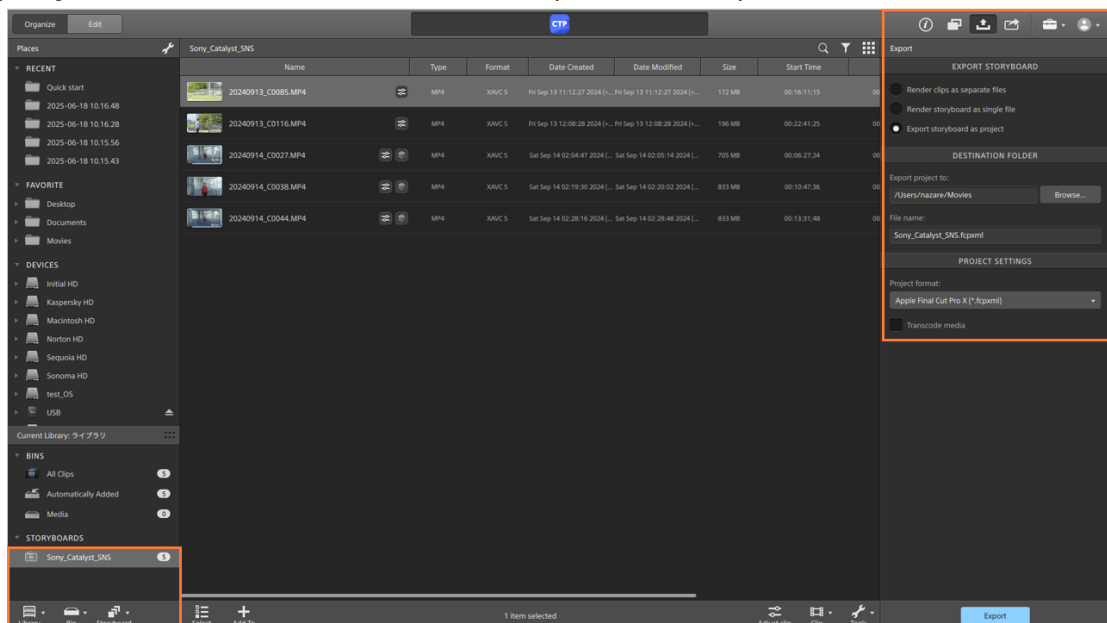
Double-click the storyboard to open the storyboard editing screen.

Here, you can check the list of video clips and thumbnails, rearrange the clips, trim the IN/OUT points of the necessary cuts, and make color adjustments.



Storyboard editing screen

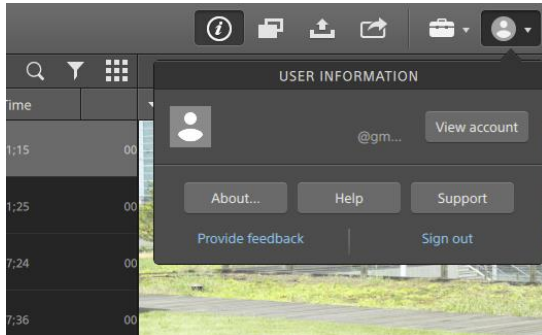
Once you're done, you can export as a project file of your editing software using the "Export" button on the clip management screen. When you open it in non-linear editing software, you can start editing with a prepared timeline. You can also perform clip adjustments like stabilization on the clips in the storyboard folder.



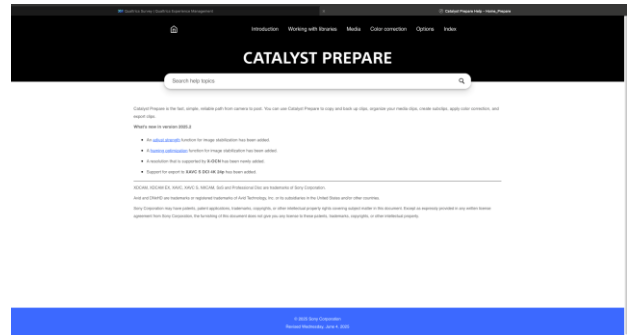
Storyboard export operations

■ Troubleshooting

If you encounter any uncertainties or need support during operations, use the "Help" or "Support" options accessible from "User Information" in the top right corner of the screen. Web Help provides the latest help information.



User Information



Help (online)

Also, if a problem occurs during usage, check the site below. There may be solutions listed.

You can also access the aforementioned help and support from there.

■ Q&A and Support Team Contact Information

<https://www.sony.net/catalyst/help>

We hope you enjoy Catalyst Prepare / Browse!

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