

Frequently Asked Questions

I-link connectivity for the PDW-510 & PDW-530



007-12112005

Question

How can I use the I-link connection on my PDW-510/530 XDCAM camcorder?

Answer

The I-link connection on the back of your camera can be set-up in two different ways:

- 1) **AV/C** – This means you can transfer video & audio to/from your camera in a "tape" based way. This basically means that the transfer is real-time and has a maximum quality of DVCAM.
When you have recorded IMX30/40/50 material the camcorder will transcode this to DVCAM when outputting it to the I-link connection (this means a loss of quality).
- 2) **FAM** – This means you can work in a file based way. This allows for transferring full quality DVCAM/IMX files or proxy quality files. The transfer *can* be faster than real-time.

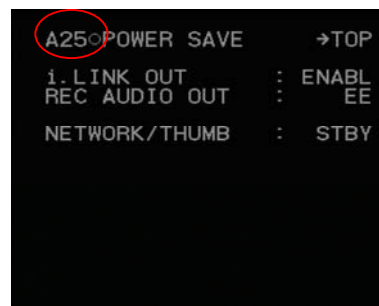
How can I achieve this?

The following settings are done in the engineering-menu. So all mentioned page numbers are page numbers in the engineering menu, not the users menu!

You can enter the engineering menu by pushing the rotary encoder while switching the menu to on, after that select "All".

For both modes you will have to enable the I-Link connection (no power save):

The "i.LINK OUT : ENABL" setting will disable the power saving feature of the I-Link connection.



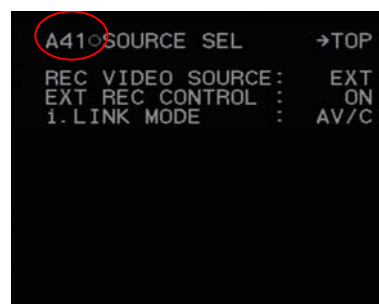
For selecting **AV/C operation** you will have to set-up page A41 as following:

The "REC VIDEO SOURCE : EXT" setting enables the recording of DVCAM material back onto a disc.

That disc will have to be formatted for DVCAM material!

"EXT REC CONTROL : ON" will allow the editing application to control the camera for recording material.

"i.LINK MODE : AV/C" This is the most important setting which will put the I-link connection in the AV/C mode.



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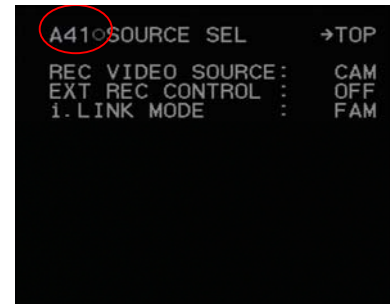


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After these settings are confirmed you can restart the camcorder and connect it to a Mac or Windows based computer. Make sure to connect the camcorder before switching it on! You should be able to use your Avid/FCP/... editing application in a similar way as when working with other Firewire based equipment.

For selecting **FAM operation** you will have to set-up page A41 as following:

The most important setting is "i.LINK MODE : FAM" – this puts the I-link connection in FAM mode.



Before connecting the camera to a Windows based computer you will first have to install the FAM driver so the computer will recognize the camcorder.

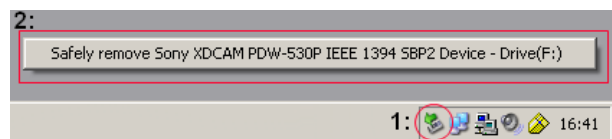
The FAM driver is included in the PDZ-1 Proxy Browsing installation CD which is included with every new camcorder.

You can either install the PDZ-1 software, which will also install the FAM driver, or you can install the FAM driver separately by navigating to the "FAM Driver" folder on the installation CD and running the setup.exe in that folder.

After installing the FAM driver you can connect your camcorder to your PC and switch it on. Windows will probably show a "New hardware found" wizard, which you can complete. After this you will get a new CD-Drive which represents your camcorder. If you insert a disc the drive name will change to "XDCAM" and you can browse the files on the disc.

During the FAM connection the camcorder will display "PC REMOTE!" in the viewfinder and LCD display and you cannot control the camcorder.

When you are finished you must click the "Safely Remove Hardware" icon in the taskbar and choose the camcorder from the menu to safely terminate the connection:



To confirm that the camcorder can be removed from the system, Windows will display the following message.



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When reconnecting the camcorder it often seems it's not detected. To solve this you will have to follow these steps:

- 1) Open the Windows device manager → Start>Run>devmgmt.msc
- 2) You will see the camera detected, but it will have a yellow exclamation icon
- 3) Uninstall the camera by means of the right click menu (1: in the screenshot)
- 4) Scan for new hardware: the camera will be detected and you must walk through the "New hardware found" wizard. (2: in the screenshot)
- 5) After this the yellow exclamation mark will disappear and the camera will function again as a FAM device.

