

Phocus 2.6.6 Mac read-me

April 17th 2012

Compatibility

Mac OS X 10.5 or later is required, Phocus Mobile support will only be available when running Mac OS X 10.6 or later which is also recommended for optimal user experience when working with 3rd party files. Phocus requires at least 2GB of memory, where 4GB or more is recommended. If you are working with the H4D-60 or any multi-shot cameras we recommend 8GB of RAM. An Intel processor is required.

System Requirements

Graphics adapters

Like other modern graphics applications Phocus utilizes the processing power available in the graphics card to provide precise real time feedback for adjustment changes. Therefore viewer performance is very much dependent on the quality of the graphics adapter. In general, more video RAM is better, especially if you plan to work with large displays or dual monitor setups. It is, however, important to stress that there can also be big performance differences between cheaper and more expensive GPU's even though they may contain the same amount of video RAM.

Recommended Mac configurations

For a desktop machine we suggest a Mac Pro with the Radeon HD 5770 graphics card. Even the bottom level 2.8 GHz Quad-Core model will give good performance - increasing the number of cores will primarily benefit file export performance and viewer speed at 100% zoom.

Also every model in the current iMac line should work well. For a laptop choose a MacBook Pro with minimum 512MB of video RAM and a 7200 rpm hard-drive.

Non-recommended Mac configurations

MacBook, MacBook Air and Mac mini models are not optimal for Phocus usage primarily because of lacking GPU performance.

Supported products

All FireWire based Hasselblad camera units are supported.

Capture of micro-step images is not supported.

Scanner 3F files are not supported.

3F files generated by Phocus are not backward compatible with FlexColor!

Change Log

V. 2.6.6

Features

Adds support for Phocus Mobile 2.0. A number of new features have been added in Mobile 2.0 and most of these rely on the corresponding support present in Phocus 2.6.6. Most important new features are 100% zoom, support for simultaneous connection of multiple clients as well as the possibility of restricting folder navigation.

Fixes

- improved stability when using Phocus Mobile on Lion.
- fix of thumbnail zoom issue when using short cut "cmd-shift-+"
- fixes an issue with incorrect RGB readouts when browsing images without zooming or making adjustments.

- fixes a viewer scaling issue on Leopard.
- fixes various issues relating to importing and exporting of 3rd party files.
- fixes an Intel HD3000 GPU related viewer issue.
- fixes an intermittent problem where multi-shot was not present in the capture type menu, even though a multi-shot camera was connected.
- fixes an issue leading to incorrect histogram display after switching compare views.

V. 2.6.5

- support for Lion full screen mode for both the main window and separate viewer window has been added. Note that apart from the Lion style full screen UI the old Full Screen Viewer functionality is still available.
- adds support for Lion style overlay scroll bars.
- a spinning progress will now be displayed in the thumbnail view when reading of folder contents takes longer than 1.5 seconds.
- several viewer performance enhancements have been made, this is especially noticeable when using the crop tool.
- performance and stability of tethered capture has been improved.
- improved dialogs and progress bar during (sensor unit) firmware update.
- fixes an issue with delay of syncing exposure info in the Camera tool immediately after a capture.
- the Map function is now only enabled when images containing GPS data has been selected. Also Map will now work for 3rd party files.
- fixes a problem that could lead to blank thumbnails when printing.
- fixes a possible crash issue when exporting files to the folder containing the corresponding raw files.
- fixes a couple of issues related to swapping compare views.
- the whole system of deleting images has been revised in order to give more consistent dialog behavior and correct handling of the case of network volumes where no trash is available.
- fixes an artifact issue with long exposure H4D-60 images.
- fixes an issue that could lead to artifacts when viewing or exporting a 6 shot image with distortion correction enabled.
- fixes a possible artifact issue when using highlight recovery.
- on 10.5.x viewing images in mid resolutions did not work correctly on Radeon GPU's, this has been fixed.
- also various other minor fixes are included.

V. 2.6.4

- adds live video support for the H4D-60 - do note that this functionality requires an update of sensor unit firmware to R500.
- fixes a viewer issue with displaying 3rd party files at 100% or more.
- fixes a possible crash during 6-shot capture.

V. 2.6.3

A number of performance enhancements related to image browsing and viewing has been added. Version 2.6.3 also fixes a few bugs:

- incorrect thumbnail display of rotated images when not displaying crop.
- the color correction picker tool now works correctly in grayscale mode. This makes it easy to adjust the lightness of selected colors with more accurate control than just using the RGB sliders.
- fixes an issue with EXIF max aperture data.
- also fixes a possible artifact issue when using highlight recovery.

V. 2.6.2

- fixes a crash issue when capturing with Ixpress cameras.
- a possible delay when activating live video has been fixed.
- likewise an issue with the first capture made after usage of live video is fixed.
- fixes an artifact issue when capturing 6-shot images in portrait mode.

V. 2.6.1

- various metadata enhancements including more EXIF data, EXIF in PSD exports and GPS info in JPEG and PSD.
- enhanced gesture support - you can now use a swipe gesture (3 fingers on trackpad - 2 on mouse) to view next or previous image. Furthermore sliders can be adjusted by using scroll gestures or the mouse scroll wheel. Also sliders can be reset by double clicking.
- when printing a contact sheet you can select whether to display rating info or not.
- fixes an issue that could lead to the wrong image being displayed in the left side of the compare view.
- a problem with missing updates of the Capture Info tool when switching compare views has been fixed.
- fixes an issue with combining moiré correction and EV adjustments.

V. 2.6 - Features

Dust removal

A new dust removal tool has been added (do note that if upgrading from a previous version you will need to add it from the tool popup found in the top right corner of the tool area). The tool has a picker button - activate it and you will be able to add dust removal points to the current image. The radius of a point can be edited either by using the slider in the tool or by dragging. Apart from radius each point also has an amount parameter that can be set via a slider in the tool. This effects how aggressive the removal algorithm will behave so basically you will want to use the lowest value that actually takes care of removing the point. The reason for this is that typically you will want to reuse a set of points and point parameters for several images. So if for example you use an image with a uniform blue sky to mark a number of points when reusing this for other images (by using batch modify or applying it as a tool preset) these points may cover areas with more detail information. For those images it may be necessary to raise the amount value for the removal algorithm to kick in.

Multiple points can be easily added by holding down the alt key while dragging - this is especially useful when correcting for hairs and similar.

You should notice that if you have active dust removal points during tethered capture, the embedded thumbnails (used for the thumbnail view and immediate display in viewer) will not be dust corrected - this is due to performance considerations).

Star rating

While the standard IPTC based rating has always been available in the IPTC tool as a number it has not been possible to use it for sort and search purposes and it has not been easily accessible. We have now added controls for setting the star rating in the viewer bar, and the thumbnail bar now has a control used to filter based on star rating. Rating is also displayed on image thumbnails and what used to be the sort by approval functionality has been replaced by sort by rating. The old approval levels are still present and can be used in parallel with the star rating - the two are not hierarchically related. As for keyboard short cuts the number 0 to 5 are now used to set the star rating while 6 to 8 can be used for approval levels.

Phocus Mobile support

Support has been added for the new Phocus Mobile iOS application available as a free download from the Apple App Store. This lets you remotely browse and rate images, trigger captures and control camera parameters. In the redesigned Preferences window in Phocus you will now find a tab dedicated to Phocus Mobile, here you need to check the **Accept Phocus Mobile Connections** box. Launching Phocus Mobile will display a list of servers and provided the iOS device and the Mac are both on the same WiFi network the Mac should show up in the list. Note that if no common WiFi network is present you can create an ad hoc network from the Mac by selecting **Create Network** in the Airport menu.

The Mobile preferences tab also let's you setup a password and decide whether remote trigger of captures and rating of images should be allowed. Notice that changing these options will not have effect until making a new connection.

Improved multi-shot viewer support

You will now get improved resolution display in 25% and 50% zoom and in 100% the update speed has been much improved.

Extended info in compare mode

The viewer bar will now show image info for both the left and right view - also rating and approval levels are available for both sides.

Combined H and V lens tool

There is no longer a separate tool for V lens corrections. Instead the standard lens tool will adapt to the currently shown image.

Import/Export of Image Adjustments

If, like most photographers, you have specific sets of image adjustments that you use over and over again, you can now share those adjustments with other members of your team or take them with you, so you have them available whether you're on location or using rented equipment. This functionality is available via a new action menu in the adjustments browser.