

DeckLink Duo & Quad FAQ

What is the technical specification of the connector type on DeckLink Quad and 4K?

DeckLink Quad and DeckLink 4K cards use DIN 1.0/2.3 connectors. Third party adapter cables exist or new cables can be made with a DIN 1.0/2.3 on one end and a BNC on the other.

What software can I use for multiple input ingests with these cards?

MAC: MovieRecorder Pro <http://www.softron.tv/products/ingest/movierecorder.html>

MAC: ToolsOnAir just:in http://www.toolsonair.com/2011/products_justin.html

Windows: Cinegy Capture Blackmagic Design Quad Edition <http://www.cinegy.com/jml/>

What software can I use for multiple playout with these cards?

MAC: ToolsOnAir just:play http://www.toolsonair.com/2011/products_justplay.html

MAC: ToolsOnAir just:live http://www.toolsonair.com/2011/products_justlive.html

There is also a freely available SDK from Blackmagic Design should you wish to write your own custom application.

Can I ingest and playout at the same time with the Quad?

The DeckLink Quad is basically four DeckLink SDI devices on a single card sharing a genlock. DeckLink devices are half duplex, they can capture or render, however they cannot do both operations simultaneously. Therefore on a Quad card, you could do 4 x capture OR 4 x playback, or combinations such as 2 x capture and 2 x playback etc.

What about monitoring while ingesting?

When you capture, the SDI output will turn into a local monitoring output. So you will get SDI output whilst ingesting.

Will pass through still work if power goes down?

There is a relay on the Quad which means if the machine loses power, pass through will still work. The relay can also be toggled programmatically and triggered via a watchdog timer.

The Duo does not have bypass relays.

Can you do compression if using the SDK, i.e. like mjpeg as can be done in Media Express? Also, would this be hardware or software compression?

The DeckLink API does not support compression. However there is a MJPEG Encoder filter available in the SDK, if a developer decides to use the DirectShow API, with the DeckLink capture or render filters. If a developer wants to use the DeckLink API (which is recommended) perhaps they can use an open source library such as ffmpeg to perform the compression. We would definitely recommend Duo/Quad users use the C++ based SDK in preference to the DirectShow API.

Media Express can perform MJPEG compression. This is performed in software and is a part of the Media Express application.

Detailed comparison specs can be found here:

<http://www.blackmagic-design.com/products/decklinkquad/techspecs/>

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