Camera Prep Checklist

FILM EDITION (SHORT FORM)

Version 4.0

PRODUCTION TITLE: VENDOR/SUPPLIER DETAILS: DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY: FOCUS PULLER:

GENERAL HOUSEKEEPING	
Check equipment list from Rental House against the DOP's list - flag any discrepencies	
Confirm all equipment has arrived, and arrival time of equipment that is not there	

LENSES	
LENSES - Correct mounts? Mounts to camera securely? Gears move smoothly? Smooth zoom tracking? Note lens weights (steadicam)	
Check all lenses on a projector - are the distance markings correct? Do they need shimming?	
Do the lens circles cover the shooting format? (Check vignetting on wider lenses)	
PENTAFINDER - Correct aspect ratio GG? Correct lens mount? Lens mounts securely?	
Do long lenses/zoom lenses have the correct size rods, base plates and lens supports?	
Check front and rear elements are clear of scratches. Note cosmetic scratches and alert the rental house	

CAMERA BODY - EXTERIOR	
BASE PLATES - Lock securely and release? Top handle secure? Base plates secure?	
AKS - Do you need additional plates, etc for specific builds? (eg. 100% tap, steadicam plates), Correct cover plates?	
LENS MOUNT - Correct mount? LDS working? Flange depth correct? Orientation correct (N35/S35)?	
BODY - Any cosmetic damage? Powers up? Do all REC buttons work? Framerate adjusts? Footage counter runs? Counter resets?	
SHUTTER - Electronic/manual shutter adjusts and locks? Manual shutter tools?	
GROUND GLASS - Correct aspect ratio? Markings accurate? Installed properly? Clean?	
SHOOT FRAME LEADER	
VIDEO TAP - Analogue-to-digital converter needed? Correct focus and picture size set? Set aspect ratio mask, colour temp, etc	
PORTS - All SDI video ports work? All power outputs work? Timecode port works and embeds TC?	
LENS RODS - Correct length 15mm/19mm rods for lenses?	
VF - Closes properly, no light? ARRIGLOW/PANAGLOW working? Clean and scratch free? Set dioptre	
VF - Extension mounts correctly? Anamorphic desqueeze and zoom working? Levelling bracket in tripod head?	
CONSUMABLES - TBAs	

CAMERA BODY - INTERIOR (FILM MOVEMENT)	
Correct movement fitted? Correct gate? Correct blanking plates (eg. N35 for anamorphic)?	
Camera gate clean and dust-free? Removes/fixes properly? All film runners click in? Smooth runners? Registration pin good?	
Shutter in-sync with pulldown? (Check at 1FPS). Stress-test at High Speed - no torn perfs?	
SHOOT STEADY TEST - Base FPS and High Speed	

FILM STOCK	
Confirm which laboratory. Has the DOP sent instructions? Confirm delivery requirements - anything specialist (eg. B&W)?	
How much raw stock? Use-or-return basis? Shooting ratio? What scenes/shots require a lot of stock?	
Check DOP's stock order (film type, lengths, quantity) and confirm the same has been ordered/arrived	
CONSUMABLES - Film cans, cores, lightproof bags, camera tape, report sheets, film can labels	

FILM MAGAZINES	
Correct magazines for camera builds (eg. steadi/shoulder)? Enough magazines?	
All mags light-proof? Clean all mags. Label serial numbers. Footage counter works? Correct units (m/ft)? All with plastic protectors?	
SCRATCH TESTS - Label tests with serial numbers	
Labels/tabs for cases (MT, EXP)?	
CHANGING TENT - Light-proof and no tears? Clean and dust free? Spare tent/bag? Set up changing station on magliner	
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POWER	
Correct battery mounts for camera(s) and monitor(s)? Enough batteries and chargers?	
Correct block battery cables? Mains power cables? Spare cables? Extra long block battery cable?	
Charge all batteries. Leave used ones on overnight and alert rental house staff	

ACCESSORIES	
FF4 - Moves properly? No "play"? Correct size accessories and gears?	
WIRELESS FOCUS - Works at distance? Set wireless channel. Correct pitch gears? Remote Start (RS) working?	
Mark up follow focus rings, or input lens data	
Microforce/zoom control working? Powers and calibrates? Runs smoothly at speeds? No drift? Tape-up R/S switch	
Cinetape/CineRT functioning? Correct interface cables? L-CUBE working properly? Spare cables?	
Teradek paired with correct TX and RX? No interference or break-up? Correct mounts and cables?	
SMB - Correct size trays? Secures to rods? Swing-away smooth? Tilting good? Correct donuts? Mattes & chops?	
LMB - Correct size backing plates? Secures to lenses? Mattes & chops?	
Do any matte boxes vignette on wider focal length lenses?	
Additional matte boxes required (eg. LMB6 for wide-angle primes)? Step-down trays needed?	
Rotating and geared trays move smoothly? Dioptre trays for all MBs? Filter catchers for all MBs?	

FILTERS	
All filters clean and scratch-free? Correct sizes for MBs? Will they cover the wider lenses?	
POLA - Circular? Rota? - O/F? - ND Grads? - Dioptres?	
ROTA POLA - "Out" position correct? Rotates smoothly? Confirm stop-loss	

MONITORING	
VIDEO PLAYBACK OP - Confirm no double-ups of monitors. Are they supplying Teradek?	
Monitors power up properly? No scratches or dead pixels? Correct battery mounts? Enable auto-recover. Sunshades for all?	
Calibrate monitors to colour bars. Check backlight and white balance settings are the same	
Link Teradek TX and RXs. Correct mounts and cables for RXs? Enough BNCs?	

BASIC GRIP EQUIPMENT	
LEGS - Set of spreaders with each set? Rolling spider bases?	
HEAD - Front box bracket? Extension viewfinder levelling brackets? Note counter balance level	
HANDHELD - Moose bars? Shoulder pad? Easyrig? Kong frog clip and eye bolt?	

FINAL HOUSEKEEPING	
Weigh camera build. Mark balance points for steadicam	
Confirm camera truck size or delivery details	
Reference photos of build for DOP, Grip, Steadicam	
Check in with DOP - Any last minute requests? Changes to plans? Specific processing requirements (eg. Push-Process)?	
SHOOTING SPECS - Confirm aspect ratio, stock type, filters choice, etc with DOP	

SPECIALIST & OTHER IMPORTANT BITS	
UNDERWATER - Splashbag or housing? Watertight? Does the camera fit? Antifog and rainex? Loom cables?	
RAIN DEFLECTOR - Runs properly? Correct voltage from camera (12v/24v)? Antifog and rainex?	
TROLLEYS - Enough magliners or fold-it carts? Are they suitable for location/studio? Unbent shelves? Tyres not flat?	
WET WEATHER - Camera rain cover? Monitor rain covers? Blue roll? Shower caps? Tarps? Magliner covers? Umbrellas?	
DIGISLATE - Sync to TC or music track? Sync-sound? Engraved slates?	
VFX - Confirm workflow and requirements	
TRAVELLING ABROAD - Kit lists sent to production for Carnet. Include personal items	
TRAVELLING WITH BATTERIES - Check flight regulations, print tech sheets, tape connectors, discharge to 30%	