

FrameRate's General Purpose Interface Software for External Devices



Introduction

GP-Link, FrameRate's general purpose interface software module, allows you to control third-party external devices such as VCRs and switchers. With the appropriate external controller you can:

- Control VCRs to playback infomercials, training videos, and company announcements
- Search and playback video tapes using frame-accurate control
- Switch alternate programming on-air at any time
- Record network programming off-air for playback at a later time
- Automatically schedule events and control any device that has a serial or parallel interface with a published protocol

External Devices and Controllers

FrameRate makes use of proven interface technology to control a growing list of external devices. This open-architecture, standards-based approach simplifies the interface and assures that your installation does not become obsolete as new devices are introduced in the market.

We currently support VCR controllers from the following companies:

- Leightronix®
- Videomedia® VLAN
- Tech Electronics®
- Burst Electronics®

These devices will control VCRs (including units controlled by RS-422, optical, RS-232, and parallel connections) by Sony®, Panasonic®, Philips®, Toshiba®, etc.

NOTE: If the device you wish to interface with is not on this list, contact FrameRate to see if it can be added.

Additional Devices

Any device with a serial, parallel, or network protocol can interface directly or indirectly with FrameRate's products. A sample list of the type of devices GP-Link can control includes:

- Laser disks (Pioneer™)
- Video switchers/routers
- Sierra Video®

ActiveEvents™ Scheduling

ActiveEvents refers to events triggered from the powerful Schedule Engine or from the playback of any page or magazine. An ActiveEvent can be any kind of command or sequence of commands to external peripheral devices. Scheduled ActiveEvents provide the following key features:

- Issue any command or series of commands at any time.
- Repetitive scheduling capability reduces the number of events to program.
- Schedules may be merged to allow entire sequences to become a single event.

Active Events cont.

- Scheduled updates take effect immediately.
- All activity is logged to facilitate troubleshooting or to provide evidence of performance.
- ActiveEvents can be scheduled or triggered by other events in the system.

Requirements

- Serial port
- Millennium Information Suite
- External VCR controller

Installation and Training

GP-Link is normally installed when purchased with the Millennium Software Suite configured with one of FrameRate's turn-key systems. Best performance is assured if FrameRate has all the equipment or devices available for integration at that time. However, this option may be installed after installing Millennium Software Suite on your own equipment. Pricing is adjusted accordingly.

For More Information

Contact your Authorized FrameRate Sales Representative or visit our web site at www.framerate.com. You may also E-mail any questions to info@framerate.com or call us toll-free at 1-800-579-8247.

NOTE: Specifications subject to change without notice.