By adopting a converged color and visual effects workflow, we can keep the entire project in our shop, and have complete creative control from ingest to finishing.

— Chris Hengeveld
Smoke Artist
Northern Lights Post

Autodesk Flame Premium 2012 software give finishing artists working in television commercial post and broadcast design more creative control.

The convergence of color grading and visual effects represents a significant opportunity to differentiate in the commercial post-production industry. Only Flame Premium offers Autodesk’s best finishing tools alongside the renowned 3D visual effects of Flame to bring real-time professional color grading into the finishing suite. It’s now easier than ever to offer full-service creative finishing — from initial grade through final composite — in a more efficient workflow within a single suite.

The 2012 releases include a comprehensive feature set, with new tools for 3D relighting, powerful stereoscopic 3D finishing tools and streamlined interoperability between CG pipelines, visual effects and real-time color grading. Finishing artists can exercise more control over all aspects of finishing as they shape the color, light and volume of a project —while maintaining the Flame speed and intuitive workflow that artists know and trust.

Creative 3D Finishing
Autodesk Flame 2012 and Autodesk Flame Premium 2012 software give finishing artists working in television commercial post and broadcast design more creative control.

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Proven Creative Tools
Flame and Flame Premium offer intuitive user interface and precision visual effects tools, including Action for 3D compositing, integrated 3D Tracking, the Batch procedural compositing environment, Motion Estimation Timewarp, Color Warper™ functionality, and the Master Keyer. Autodesk Flame Premium includes the real-time color grading functionality of Autodesk® Lustre® 2012 software and the full timeline workflow of Autodesk® Smoke® Advanced 2012 to offer Autodesk’s ultimate finishing toolset.

Action
Flame Premium features Action — a true 3D compositing environment offering the interactive speed of traditional 2D compositing and powerful 3D tools that help you seamlessly integrate elements into finished composites. Graphics processing unit (GPU) accelerated performance makes sure you can work faster as you blend multi-resolution media layers, 3D lighting effects, and geometry to create stunning visual effects.

Image courtesy of Mikros Image.

Image courtesy of SWAY Studio.
Flame Premium offers an end-to-end stereoscopic finishing workflow with tools for conforming, compositing, and real-time color grading.

New 3D Relighting Tools in Action
Powerful tools for relighting in Flame 2012 and Flame Premium 2012 bring new ways to work with light inside of Action. Unlike plug-ins that overlay effects on top of rendered scenes, Flame 2012 integrates ultra-realistic GPU-accelerated lighting effects directly into the 3D compositing space — where you need them. New light types in Action help make it easier to create realistic composites from scratch or when importing scenes from Autodesk® Maya® software via Autodesk® FBX® asset exchange technology. Now lights within Action cast shadows, generate lens flares and produce volumetric edge rays in true 3D space.

Stereoscopic 3D Visual Effects and Finishing
In Flame Premium, you’ll find a creative toolset that integrates 3D at a fundamental level — from real-time 3D color grading to a rich 3D visual effects toolset — so you can offer a full stereoscopic 3D (S3D) finishing workflow using proven Autodesk tools.

Flame Premium offers an end-to-end stereoscopic finishing workflow with tools for conforming, compositing, real-time color grading and multi-format delivery of S3D content. A redesigned 3D tracking workflow within Action allows artists to analyze and more accurately place elements within S3D footage. Using the new lighting tools, artists can relight elements within scenes and generate true S3D lighting artifacts. Flame Premium offers a full S3D multilayer timeline workflow between visual effects and real-time stereoscopic color grading for Autodesk’s ultimate S3D finishing workflow.

Workflow with 3D
Building a modern pipeline for delivering CG-intensive projects requires efficiency and the highest quality tools throughout your pipeline from previz to finishing.

Flame and Flame Premium offer new ways to integrate multi-layer CG composites into finishing with built-in tools that enable more efficient integration with Autodesk animation products.

Flame and Flame Premium support FBX, so more 3D dataset information from 3D animation software can be shared between animators and finishing artists. The new Gateway clip workflow enables facilities to more easily integrate Flame Premium into their custom CG pipelines and rendering workflows. Finishing artists can have the most appropriate and up-to-date clips for compositing at their fingertips. Seamless integration of CG assets in finishing, artists can better manage changes and versions in post — when speed and interactivity are essential. Flame and Flame Premium 2012 also include new support for geometry cache, projective textures, and sharing of substance materials via FBX.

Batch
Batch is a node-based procedural compositing pipeline featuring the full Flame creative toolset. With Batch, you have the flexibility to build custom processing trees as you tailor each effect to the task at hand. You can easily version shots or break complex composites into easier-to-manage sub-sections. Only Flame Premium offers the full Batch and Action creative toolset within the timeline workflow of Autodesk Smoke Advanced.

Flame FX
Flame FX is a collection of powerful technical and creative tools that can help speed your workflow and reduce your dependence on certain 3rd party plug-ins. Unlike 3rd party plug-ins, Flame FX tools are integrated into the heart of your creative workflow where you need them most. Flame FX tools have GPU-accelerated procedural nodes for basic compositing tasks and image manipulations such as warping, rippling, edge detection, embossing and adding film artifacts.

Real-Time Color Grading*
Flame Premium blends color and visual effects tasks into a single creative offering. In Flame Premium, artists can move easily between Flame for 3D visual effects and Lustre for real-time color grading. Using professional and specialized tools for end-to-end finishing, you’ll save time in session by non-destructively moving entire multi-layer timelines between finishing tasks. Common UI conventions make it easier for finishing artists to move between creative tasks as they efficiently share a single set of data for grading and finishing.

Editorial Finishing
Flame and Flame Premium offer an intuitive timeline-based workflow combining the power of the Flame creative toolset and the logical progression of timeline navigation. By unlocking the full Flame Batch and Action creative toolset within the timeline workflow of Smoke Advanced*, you can choose your workflow based on project needs and without limiting your creativity. Advanced conforming tools for EDL, AAF, OMF and Apple® Final Cut Pro® XML files enables fast creation of multi-layer timelines that can be shared between VFX, editing, and color grading toolsets. Choose the workflow best for the project at hand — timeline or desktop. Drag-and-drop media management in the Clip Library and Desktop makes it easy to organize your projects and work clips.

To purchase a license of Flame, Flame Premium, and Flare or to obtain product information:
North America: +1-800-869-3504
International: +1-415-507-4461
www.autodesk.com/contactus.

Expand your Creative Capabilities with Flare
When you need more visual effects capabilities, Autodesk Flare™ software features the full creative toolset of the Flame Batch procedural compositing environment in a flexible software-only package. Featuring the same creative tools as Flame, Flare is designed for advanced creative tasks as well as support tasks such as rotoscoping and retouching.

Flare supports floating licenses to help give you more flexibility within your facility. Flare offers a cost-effective and scalable way to add more of the compositing power of Flame to your finishing pipeline. Artists can use Flare as a standalone creative station, work collaboratively with Flame and Flame Premium on multiple Flare stations sharing setups and centralized media, or use Flare on mobile workstations for powerful on-set VFX supervision using the power of the Flame creative toolset.

*Available only in Autodesk Flame Premium software.