Frequently Asked Questions about the DV-RA1000 • Updated May 26, 2005

Q: What is DSD?

A: Direct Stream Digital is a digital format devised by Sony for the Super Audio CD player. It plays audio at 2.822MHz, or 64 times the rate of a traditional 44.1KHz CD. It is a 1-bit signal, unlike the 16-bit signal of a CD. Many audiophiles agree that DSD has the best sound quality of any digital format, and better than any analog format as well.

Q: Does the DV-RA1000 record Super Audio CD or DVD-Audio discs?

A: No. It records audio files that are ideal for mastering to DVD-Audio (DVD-A) or Super Audio CD (SACD). However, discs recorded in the DV-RA1000 cannot be played in a SACD or DVD-A player.

Q: Does it play SACD or DVD-A discs?

A: No, it will play DV-RA1000 discs or CDs.

Q: Can I record and play back CDs?

A: Yes, the DV-RA1000 records standard CDs.

Q: Does it record DVD Video files that I can play in a DVD player?

A: No, there is no video on the unit and DV-RA1000 discs can't be played in a DVD player.

Q: What can I do with the discs?

A: The discs can be played in any computer with a DVD-ROM drive capable of playing DVD+RW discs. It creates UDF discs, a standard format read by virtually all computer platforms, including Mac, Windows and Linux. The files recorded are Broadcast Wave (.WAV) or DSDIFF (.DFF) files.

Q: What discs can I use?

A: TASCAM currently recommends DVD+RW media by Ricoh, Philips, Maxell, TDK or Sony, 4.7GB, up to 4x speed. 8x media will not work.

Q: Do I have to do anything to the discs before recording?

A: Discs have to be formatted before recording on them. The DV-RA1000 formats discs in the background: you'll notice the "CLOSE" indicator flashing in the display while this is happening. You can record or eject a disc before it is completely formatted, but to avoid problems TASCAM recommends waiting for a new disc to be completely formatted (about 30 minutes) before recording.

Q: How long can I record to DVD+RW?

A: The recording times are:

- 44.1kHz/24-bit (290 min.)
- 48kHz/24-bit (267 min.)
- 88.2kHz/24-bit (144 min.)
- 96kHz/24-bit (133 min.)
- 176.4kHz/24-bit (72 min.)
- 192kHz/24-bit (66 min.)
- DSD (2.8224MHz/1-bit, 109 min.)

Q: Can I record at higher sample rates than 44.1k/16-bit to CD?

A: No, recording to CD is only possible at "Red Book" audio CD resolution. The CD you record can be played in any CD player.

Q: How big is the hard drive?

A: There is no hard drive, the DV-RA1000 records directly to DVD or CD.

Q; Does the DV-RA1000 record and play back true Direct Stream Digital, or is it converted from PCM?

A: TASCAM worked with Sony to create a true DSD recorder. The A/D and D/A converters output true DSD resolution in addition to PCM signals. The A/D is a Burr Brown PCM1804, and the D/A is a DSD1792.

Q: What is the control port?

A: This is an RS-232C-compatible jack that can be connected to systems like Crestron" and AMX". Programming codes to control the recorder will be posted to www.tascam.com.

Q: What is a DSDIFF file?

A: A DSDIFF file is the standard file used for DSD recording. It can be read by DSD computer systems, such as Sony Sonoma", Philips SA-CD Creator and Sadie".

Q: What is an SDIF-3 jack?

A: This is used for digital connection to DSD computer systems or converters.

Q: How is 192kHz/24-bit audio sent digitally?

A: The AES/EBU connectors are capable of dual-speed/double-wire operation.

Q: How does the DV-RA1000 handle editing and DSP if it records directly to a disc?
A: You can edit, trim and process audio using a DVD+RW disc. If necessary, the audio is rewritten to the disc.

Q: Can I edit all formats of audio?

A: No, you can only edit and process audio up to 96kHz. 192kHz and DSD audio can not be processed.

Q: I see "Read Error -61" on the display.

A: When you insert a disc, select a new project or even a new track, you'll notice the DISC light flashing as the RAM buffer fills up. Wait until the DISC light stops flashing before pressing PLAY to avoid disc read errors.

Preliminary information. All specifications subject to change without notice.