Ripstation MediaGrabber
Operating Manual

V1.0.35.0 or higher

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Overview

MediaGrabber is a dedicated software tool to allow for batch transfer of video files from Blu-Ray*or DVD utilising MF Digitals' 7602/7604 robotic autoloaders.

MediaGrabber will take any Blu-Ray* or DVD Video and create a fully compliant uncompressed video folder complete with GD3 metadata.

The application operates on the Windows Platform.

The product is designed for use by individuals, system integrators and service providers and offers flexibility, ease of use and high throughput at the core of its operation.

This document provides a user manual to allow basic and advanced operation as well as customisation of all parameters, set up and use of robotics for a complete end to end process.

*** Please Note, a Blu-Ray drive upgrade is necessary to support Blu-Ray data ripping – this can be added at time of purchase as an optional upgrade to your system. DataGrabber WILL NOT rip Blu-Ray discs without a Blu-Ray drive.**

** Please note that this software may only be used for ripping non encrypted discs only **

Content

1.0 Hardware Installation

This section details a set of instructions for correct assembly of the robotic hardware (if purchased). It begins by listing the items contained within the packaging.

1.1 Robotic Hardware

The autoloader box should contain:

1. The robotic hardware system
2. Power cable
3. These Quick Setup Instructions
4. Warranty & support documents

1.2 Step by step guide of Robotic Hardware 7602/7604

1.2.1 STEP ONE: Remove the Packing Constraints

- Carefully remove the autoloader from its carton, lifting from the bottom using the hand cut outs in the foam base.
- DO NOT attempt to lift the machine using the spindles, column tower, or pick arm, as these are delicate pieces and are depended on for proper alignment and functioning of the unit.
- Place the system on a level workspace free of debris, dust, humidity, excessive heat, and electronic or electromagnetic interference.
- Keep out of direct sunlight.
- Allow at least six inches of clearance on all sides of unit for ventilation.
- Remove protective plastic cover from system and save along with the rest of the packaging.

1.2.2 STEP TWO: Plug in the Peripherals (KVM PC inside units only)

- Plug in a monitor (VGA DSUB), keyboard and mouse (PS2 or USB) to the robot
- Attach the Ethernet cable.
- Using the enclosed 3 prong power cord, plug in the autoloader to a properly grounded AC receptacle. It is highly recommended that a surge protector is used to ensure safety in operation.
- Power on the unit using the main switch at the back
- Windows will now load and you will see the Ripstation Desktop
- Double click the icon for Ripstation MediaGrabber to run the ripper application.

2.0 MediaGrabber Quick Start Guide

Before using the MediaGrabber software, please use the following steps as a 'quick start' guide to set the initial parameters and perform a simple batch rip.

1. Open the MediaGrabber software and on the main screen select a loader type and the "Files" output format. This will rip DVD files to the Video TS structure or Blu-ray to the BDMV structure.
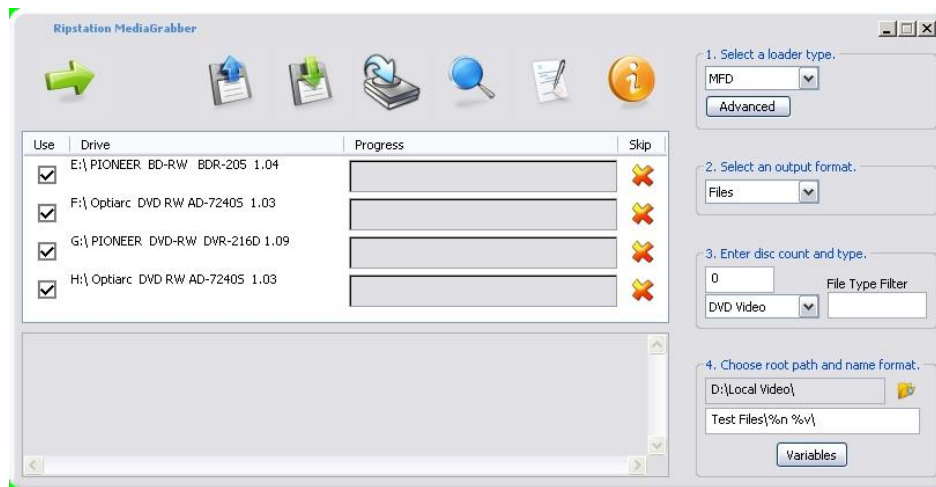
2. Click on the preferences button and the following dialog with five tabs will appear. Choose the settings for each option as indicated below:

Rejects
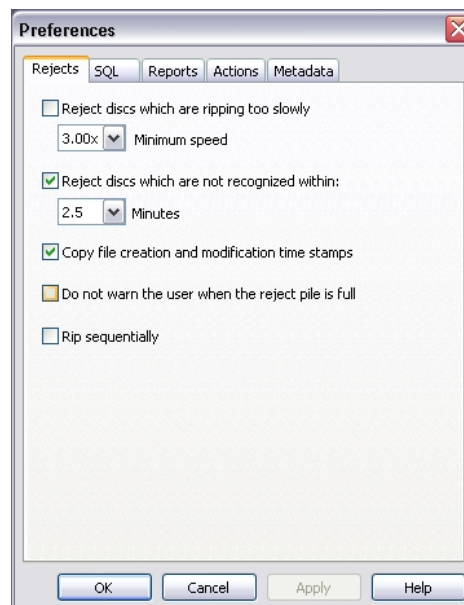
- Check "Reject discs which are not recognised..." and set to 2.5 minutes.

- Check "Copy file creation and modification time stamps"

SQL
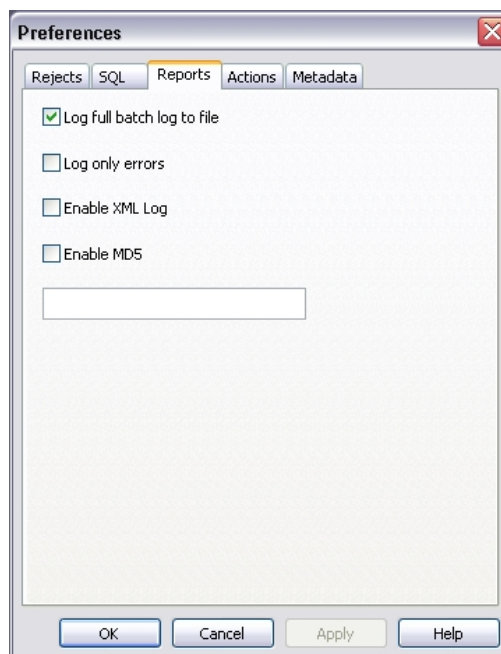
- All options left blank
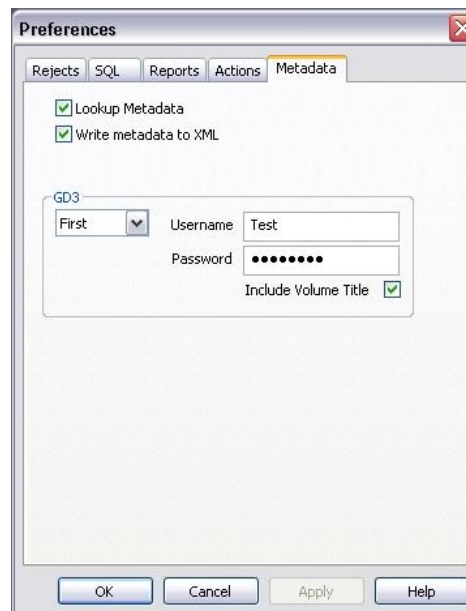
Reports

- Check "log full batch log to file"

Actions

- All options left blank

Metadata

- Ensure "Lookup Metadata" is checked
- Ensure "Write metadata to XML" is checked
- Ensure GD3 is set to "First". Details on signing up for a GD3 account can be found on Page 24
- Then click OK to exit the preferences

3. On the main screen enter the number of discs you wish to rip, or enter 0 to have it rip continuously

4. Choose the folder name by entering it into the text box and then the destination directory for the files to be ripped to by clicking the icon

5. Once all the details have been entered, click the start batch button to begin ripping

Once all of your discs are ripped, you will see a folder on your local hard drive with all the DVD/BD titles.

3.0 Main User Guide

3.1 Key Features

- Batch encoding
- Batch reporting on successful & failed discs
- Live batch process logging window
- 7602/7604 robotic autoloader support
- Rip to ISO or files level
- Batch setup wizard
- Single touch start and drive control
- Drive stop control
- Full error checking
- Full variable naming control
- Metadata testing service
- XML metadata
- GD3 metadata and cover art
- Metadata editing tool
- Support for DVD and Blu-Ray Video Discs - Unless you choose the Blu-Ray option at the time of purchase, the robotics will not be equipped with a Blu-Ray drive. If you didn't choose Blu-Ray drives at purchase you would need to upgrade to a Blu-Ray drive now, to enable all Blu-Ray features.
- ISO,IFO, VOB, FOLDER, VIDEO_TS, BDMV, STREAM compliant
- Support for up to 4 drives
- Sync and Async options for disc management
- Creation of matching or new file stamps
- Userdata.txt - file and folder pathway customisation.
- SQL output
- Send To Disk function
- Command line execution at the end of batch and disc
- Selectable timeout on error and retry routines

## 3.2 MediaGrabber Main Screen: Advanced Options

The MediaGrabber main user interface is shown below. Operations are carried out using the button controls and information is displayed throughout the rest of the screen. The user interface is split into groups from 1 to 7 and Section 3.2.1 of the manual details each of these groups in turn.
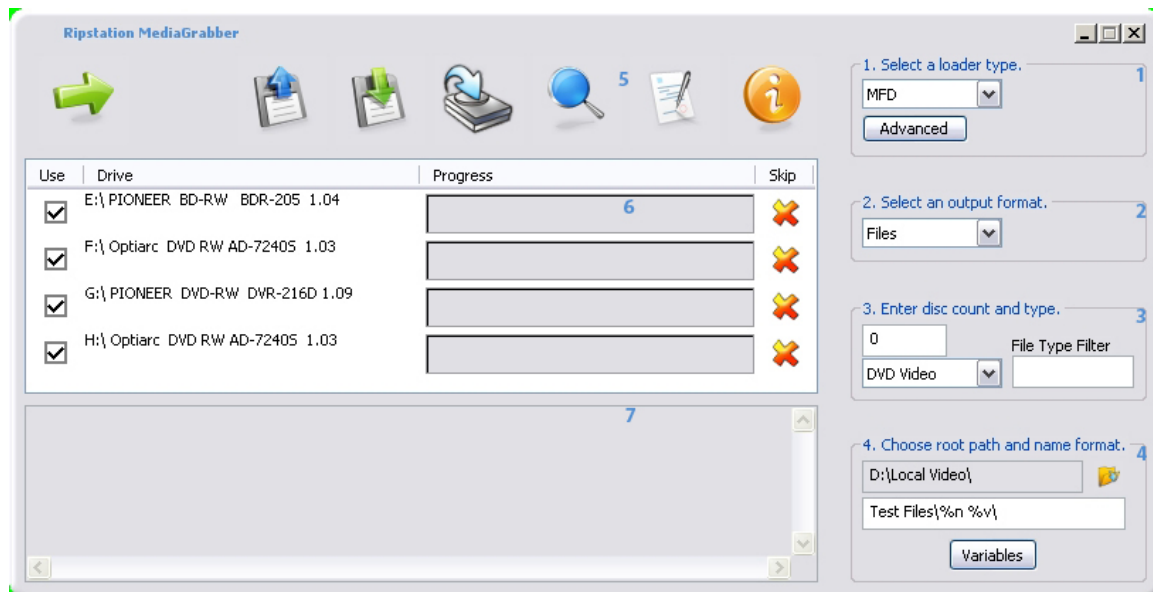
3.2.1 Button and Screen Operations

3.2.1.1 Group 1: loader type

Here the user will select from the dropdown list, which type of device they will be using, whether it is manual or MFD (7602/7604). When MFD is selected the advanced button becomes active and allows further settings to be changed. These settings are com port selection, shake mode and drive placement.
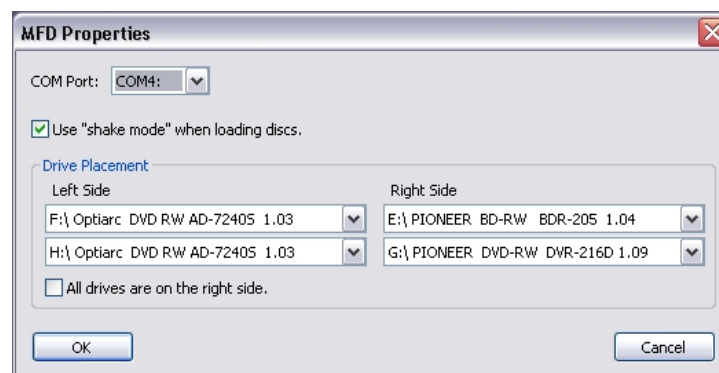
3.2.1.2 Group 2: Select an output format

The option to rip to an ISO image or just to rip the actual files on the disc is available. To change between one and the other is simple, as the user will just select the option for the type of output they desire from the dropdown box. If you choose ISO, you should have the default pathway of %n %v\%v entered under folder name.

The following variables are available:

- %n   Incremental Counter
- %u   UPC
- %v   Volume Name
- %f   Film Title
- %d   Director
- %y   Year
- %i   Unique Id
- %s   Volume Serial Number

Through the use of UserData.txt, MediaGrabber allows complete customisation of the file and folder naming path through a system of user defined variables. Documentation is in the program folder with the user manual and can also be accessed through the Windows Start Menu for the application.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The software will not rip multisession DVD or Blu-ray to "ISO/MDF" format. This is not supported. These discs can be ripped to the "Files" format without any issues.

3.2.1.3 Group 3: Enter disc count and type

Here the user will enter the amount of discs to rip, or they can set it to 0 to rip indefinitely. The drop down box allows the user to select what type of disc they are trying to rip, whether it is a Blu-Ray or DVD Video.

If you only want to rip only certain file types from a disc you can enter the file extension in the File Type Filter box. For example if I only wanted mp3 files I would enter mp3 in the File Type Filter box as below:

File Type Filter
mp3
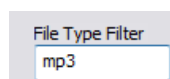
If you want to rip more than one file please enter the extensions and separate with a comma as below:

File Type Filter
mp3,flac
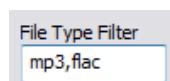
3.2.1.4 Group 4: Folder name and destination

The user will enter the folder name mask to ensure each folder name is unique, and will choose the destination they want all the files saved to. The default is %n %v\ but this is fully editable and you can use any of the specified above variables or the users own text.

Ripstation recommends setting the destination folder as being local to the machine, as ripping to a network attached device will affect ripping speeds.

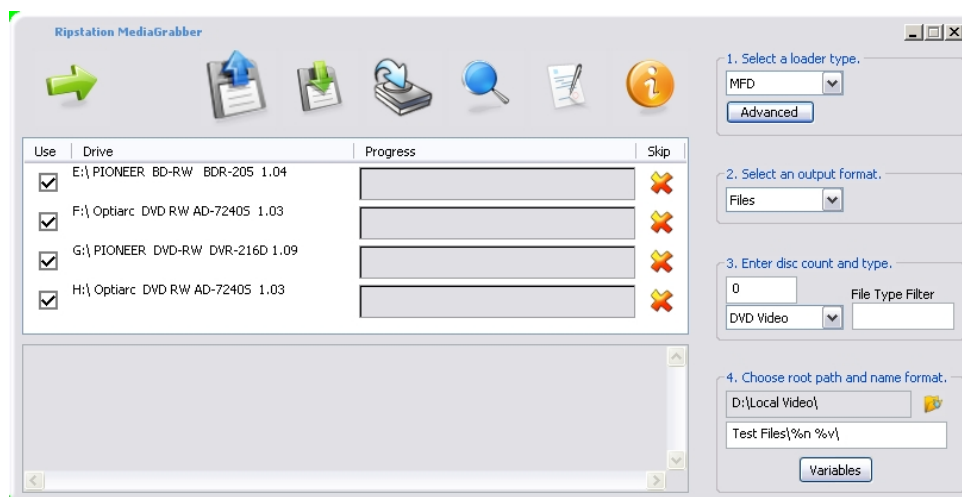### *3.2.1.5 Group 5: Buttons*

The 7 buttons are as follows:
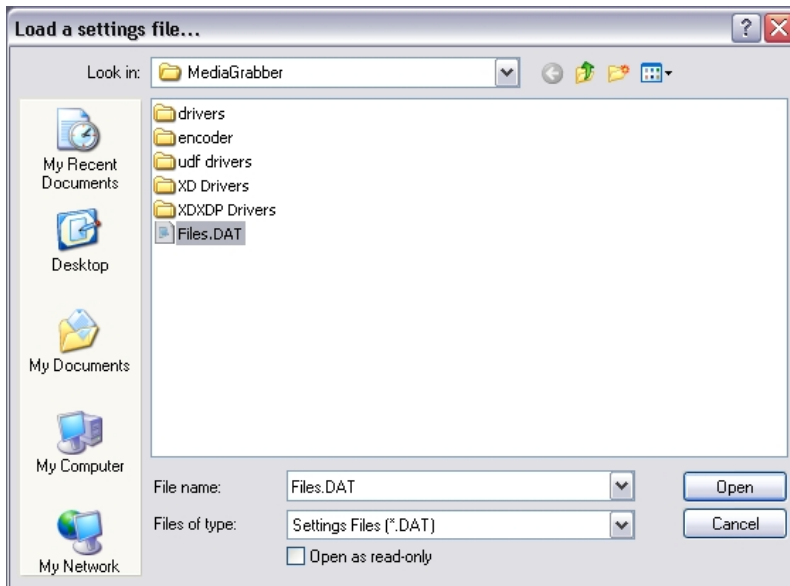
Start – This button starts the batch

Load – This button loads the settings from a customised "settings.dat" file

To load a "Settings.dat" file click on the load button on the main user interface as shown below:

Then the following dialog will open:

Select the required file and click on the "Open" button and the settings will be loaded.

Save – This button saves the settings to a "settings.dat" file

To save a "Settings.dat" file click on the save button on the main user interface as shown below:
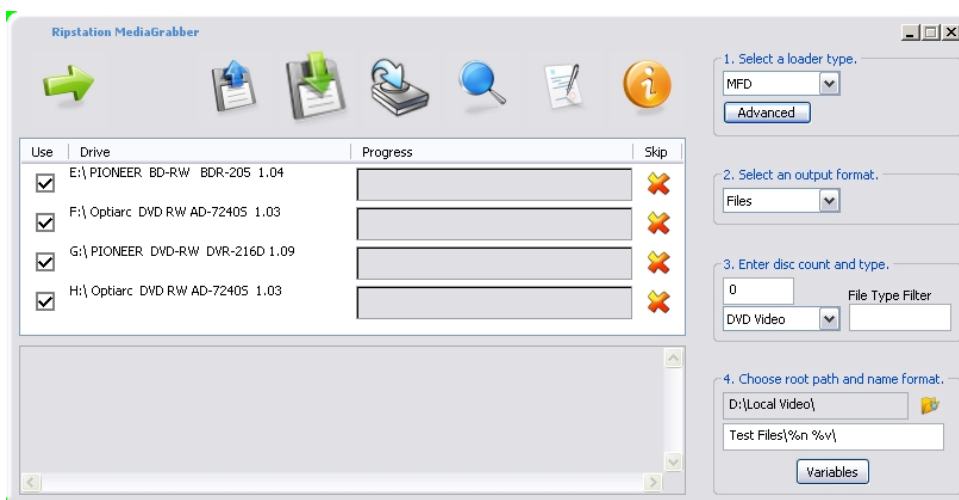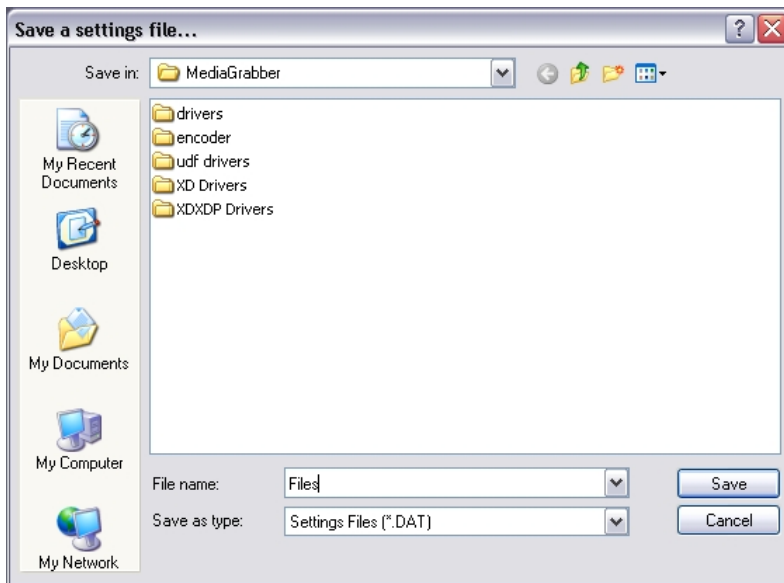
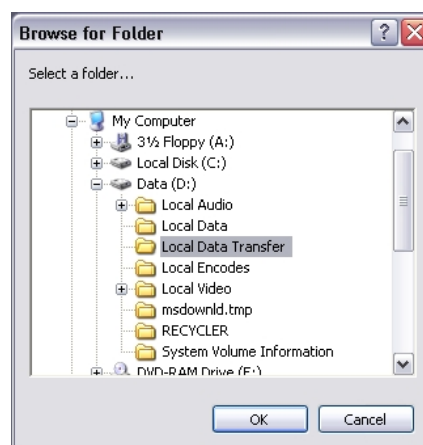Then the following dialog will open:

Type the filename in the box provided and click on the "Save" button and the settings will be saved.

Send To Disk – The 'Send to Disk' button loads the batch folder to a user specified destination.

When the button is clicked the standard Windows explorer dialog opens:

Select the target folder and click OK. The files from the batch folder will then be loaded to the target folder and the file copy dialog appears to show its progress.

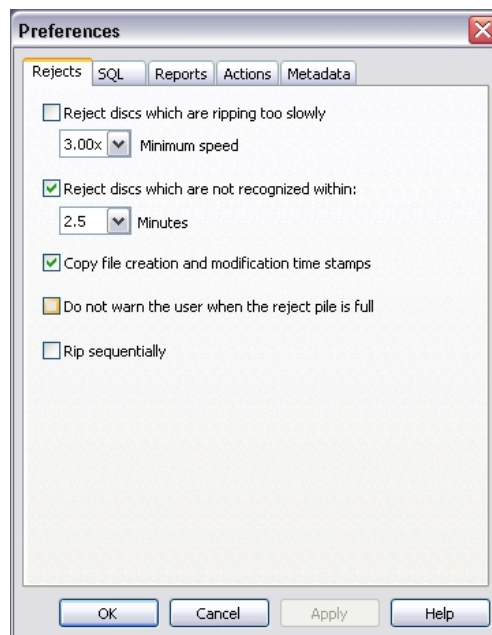**Fix Metadata –** This button opens the metadata cleaning utility

(Please see section 3.3 for further details)

Preferences – Click on the preference icon and the preferences dialog will open with its five individual tabs.

The four tabs are as follows:

Rejects

- "Reject discs which are ripping too slowly" - This enables the user to reject discs that the unit is ripping slowly. The threshold for the minimum speed can be set from 0.25x to 3.00x in regular increments.

- "Reject discs which are not recognised within" - This enables the user to reject discs that the unit cannot recognise within a specified period of time. The

threshold for the rejection can be set from 2.5 to 25 minutes in regular increments.

- "Copy file creation and modification time stamps" – Switching this on enables the user to copy across the source files and folders original creation and modification time stamps. When this option isn't checked new creation and modification time stamps are created for the files when they are ripped.

- "Do not warn the user when the reject pile is full" – When selected the application will not warn the user if the application has rejected 16 or more discs.

- "Rip sequentially" – This will rip and unload the discs in a sequential order.

SQL

- DataGrabber offers full SQL reporting. This will only connect to MS SQL or MS SQL Lite. DG uses stored procedures to allow your DBA to customise their own data table structure unique to your organisations requirements.

- Please see the SQL folder in the main program folder for SP lists and connection details. You must set up a valid and authenticated SQL DB with your own structure before you attempt to connect. At this stage you will require your server name (localhost or remote), DB username and password. Hitting the TEST button will check the connection is valid.

IMPORTANT NOTE: MF Digital do not offer support on SQL integration. This is the responsibility of the user and his/her DBA.

Reports
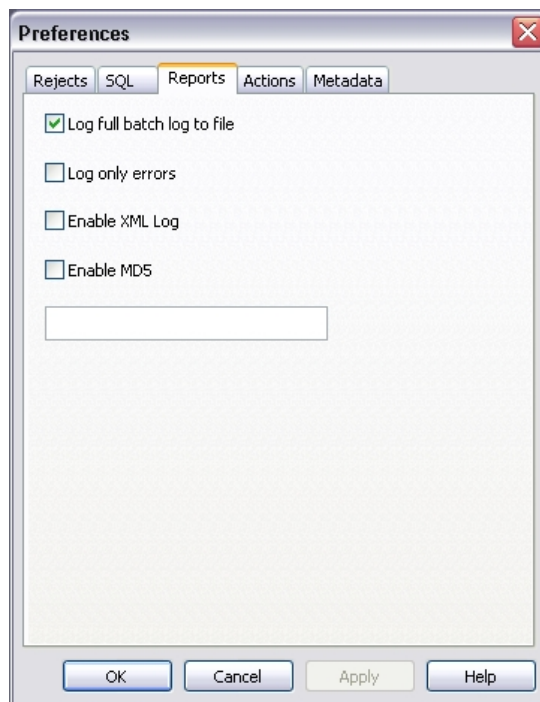
- "Log full batch log to file" – This writes the ripping log text from the application UI to a text file that is placed in the output folder.

- "Log only errors" – This produces a log file that contains only the error responses from a batch.

- "Enable XML log" – This creates an XML file detailing each disc, and within each file each disc that has been ripped in a batch.

- "Enable MD5" – This creates MD5 hashes of all the files ripped from a disc using the default filename extension of md5, and it also allows the user to specify the filename with all batch and disc variables.

Actions

- "Launch this application after every successful batch" – Use this option to browse to the location of the application you would like to launch after every successful batch.

- "Launch this application after every successful disc" – Use this option to browse to the location of the application you would like to launch after every successful disc.

- "Launch this application after every failed disc" – Use this option to browse to the location of the application you would like to launch after every failed disc.

- "Parameters" – When an application is launched after every batch or disc the parameters option enables the user to specify parameters to be passed to the external application in the same way they are specified in the output folder name field. As an example, you can utilise switch parameters as required by your specific executable, or a combination of these and the inbuilt DG variables to target files and folders.

- "Copy all files to this folder after every batch" - Use this option to automatically copy the content of the batch folder to the selected location at the end of each batch.

Metadata
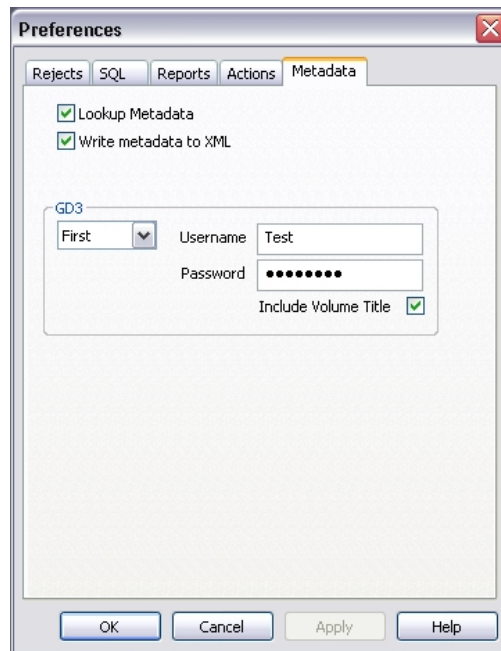
- "Look up Metadata" – This enables metadata look ups

- "Write metadata to XML" – This writes the metadata returned to an XML file

- "GD3" – Enable, set the order of preference and enter username/password for metadata look ups with GD3.

- "Include Volume Title" – This enables volume title search if initial disc ID is unsuccessful.

3.2.1.6 Group 6: Batch Status Window

The batch status window is designed to give a dynamic preview of the current batch job, listing the attached drives, ability to optionally select each drive or not, the progress of each drive and the ability to skip the disc in that drive.

3.2.1.7 Group 7: Batch Logging Window

Real time logging of robotic operation, disc loading, metadata lookup, ripping and encoding process and failed discs. Each log entry is time stamped.

3.2.2 Main Screen Menu Options

Right click on MediaGrabber in the taskbar and the following window will be displayed as shown below:

3.3 Metadata

3.3.1 Metadata Support

MediaGrabber supports metadata from GD3. The application returns a full XML data set. This is placed under the root folder of the disc structure and the additional files are written to the same location:

Title.tit   Folder.jpg
Year.yer   UPC.upc
Director.dir   Unique id.bid
RawMetadata.xml   Number.nbr
Volume Name.vol   Metadata.xml
Title.xml

The nbr, yer, upc, bid, tit, vol and dir files have no content in the file itself and are merely there to support third party media servers who depend on only top level metadata. The XML file lists this top level metadata as a node listed XML compliant file. The contents of each are:

RawMetadata.xml   this returns an unfettered return of all the metadata for that disc

Metadata.xml   this contains all the high level metadata, and the basic disc contents

Title.xml   this contains the language, subtitle and chapter information pertaining to that particular disc

MediaGrabber supports metadata from GD3 and you must have a GD3 account to enable metadata from GD3. If not please click on the following link to the GD3 sign up page:

www.getdigitaldata.com/GD3SignUp.aspx
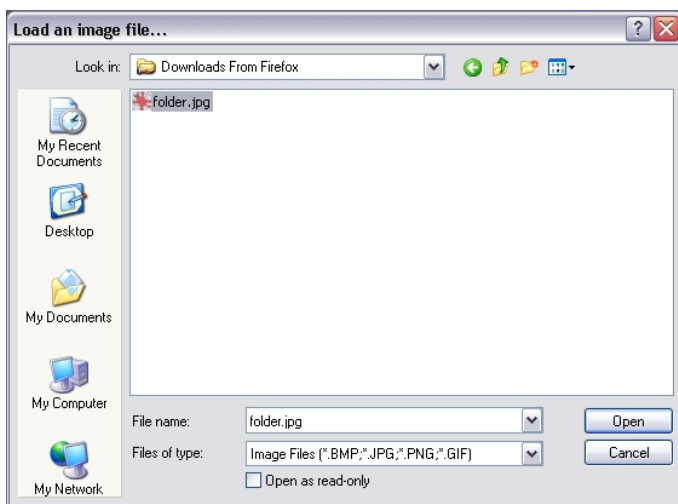
3.3.2 Metadata Editing

Metadata editing can be performed by pressing the "Fix Metadata" button when the software is not ripping. The user is also automatically prompted at batch end or when a batch is cancelled:
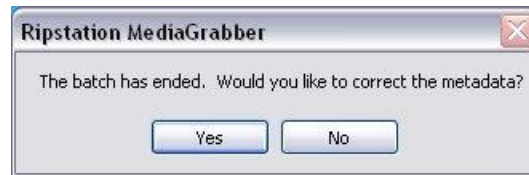
When you click yes, you will be presented with the following screen

These will be set to unknown if the disc has a generic DVD title such as "DVDVideo". Enter the Film Title and other details in the in the space provided.

Then click on the cover art box to browse to the .jpg location or you can drag the cover art file onto the space provided.

By clicking you will save the updated metadata and move to the next disc in the batch.

If you click the icon this will cancel the whole editing process

4.0 Help and Support

Support terms are detailed in client specific contracts, but at minimum shall include 24 hour support via our online helpdesk. In addition we offer an extended warranty package which includes remote access to your site from our headquarters and extended hardware warranty coverage.

Support response is guaranteed within 24 hours.

Contact details:

Ripstation
A Division of Formats Unlimited, Inc
155 Sherwood Avenue
Farmingdale, NY 11735

EU Support:
T: +44 2890 022342

US Support:
T: +1-631-249-9393
F: +1-631-249-9273

support@mfdigital.com
www.mfdigital.com/techsupport.html

Appendix - Director and Scribe Installations

When using DataGrabber or MediaGrabber on the same unit as Director or Scribe, please ensure that spindle select is turned off and Director or Scribe is rebooted. If the Spindle Select is not turned off using the following procedure, the software will display an error and the batch will fail.

Director

Turn off the Spindle Select by deselecting the "Separate CD/DVD Spindles" option in Director, then click Apply in the bottom right of the screenshot below and reboot the computer.
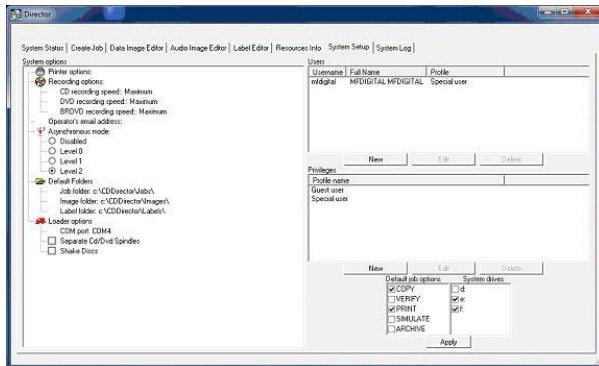
Scribe

Turn off the Spindle Select option in Scribe then click OK and reboot the computer.