Neuron Bundle 5: Knoll Light Factory

The famous lens flare tool from Academy Award winner John Knoll

Created by John Knoll, Photoshop co-creator and Star Wars effects guru, Knoll Light Factory is one of the industry's most popular motion graphics tools. It is most famous for its high-fidelity simulations of light effects called flares, which simulate reflections from a very bright light source as seen through a camera's lens. Knoll Light Factory is Hollywood's go-to tool for adding interest to text or logos or extra pop to FX explosions.

Features

70 powerful presets

Use the same presets that the pros turn to every day for sports events and major motion pictures. Presets include Desert Sun, Arc Welder, Generic Panavision, Spikey Glow, Pv1 (for exploding stars), RedLaser, RockConcert, Omnimax (a flare seen on IMAX projection), or Distant Quantum (the original photon torpedo).

Custom Light Effects

19 lens elements in the main plug-in create custom light effects. Each element is also included as a separate plug-in for creating complex motion graphics.

Light Factory EZ Plug-in

Included with the package, Light Factory EZ gives you access to all 70 flares with a single click.

Alpha Generation

Generate integrated alpha channels automatically with the Unmult control, making it easier to include lights and flares in complex composites.

Auto-obscuration tools

No obscuration layer (left) and obscured by plane (right)

Flares can be obscured by objects (cars, enemy spacecraft) that come between them and the viewer (flare color can also optionally be determined by the colors in the object). The auto-track feature tracks specific points in an existing alpha channel, making flare location a snap.

New Features in Knoll Light Factory Pro V2.5

Here are several reasons to upgrade to V2.5 if you have an earlier version:

New Flares

A new set of 25 flares have been added to Light Factory EZ. These flares emulate suns and bright light sources from various cameras and add some basic graphic elements like twinkling lights and flash bulbs.

Matte Generation

All Light Factory plug-ins now offer built-in alpha channel generation. The new Unmult switch will allow the plug-in to output to an alpha channel for the flare. It is turned off by default to insure compatibility with older projects.

Spectacular Controls

Light Factory Spectacular now features an expanded set of controls for changing the flare brightness and scale depending on the alpha channel.

Examples: http://www.redgiantsoftware.com/products/categories/motion-graphics/knoll-light-factory-pro/examples/

Tutorials: http://www.redgiantsoftware.com/community/tutorials/

Reviews/Awards : http://www.redgiantsoftware.com/company/reviews-awards/

Testimonials: http://www.redgiantsoftware.com/products/categories/motion-graphics/knoll-light-factory-pro/more-info/2/

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About VDS

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