



CompsFromSpreadsheet

Version 5 New Features



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New Features

Layers replaced with compositions can receive data from the spreadsheet

Ability to define import directory

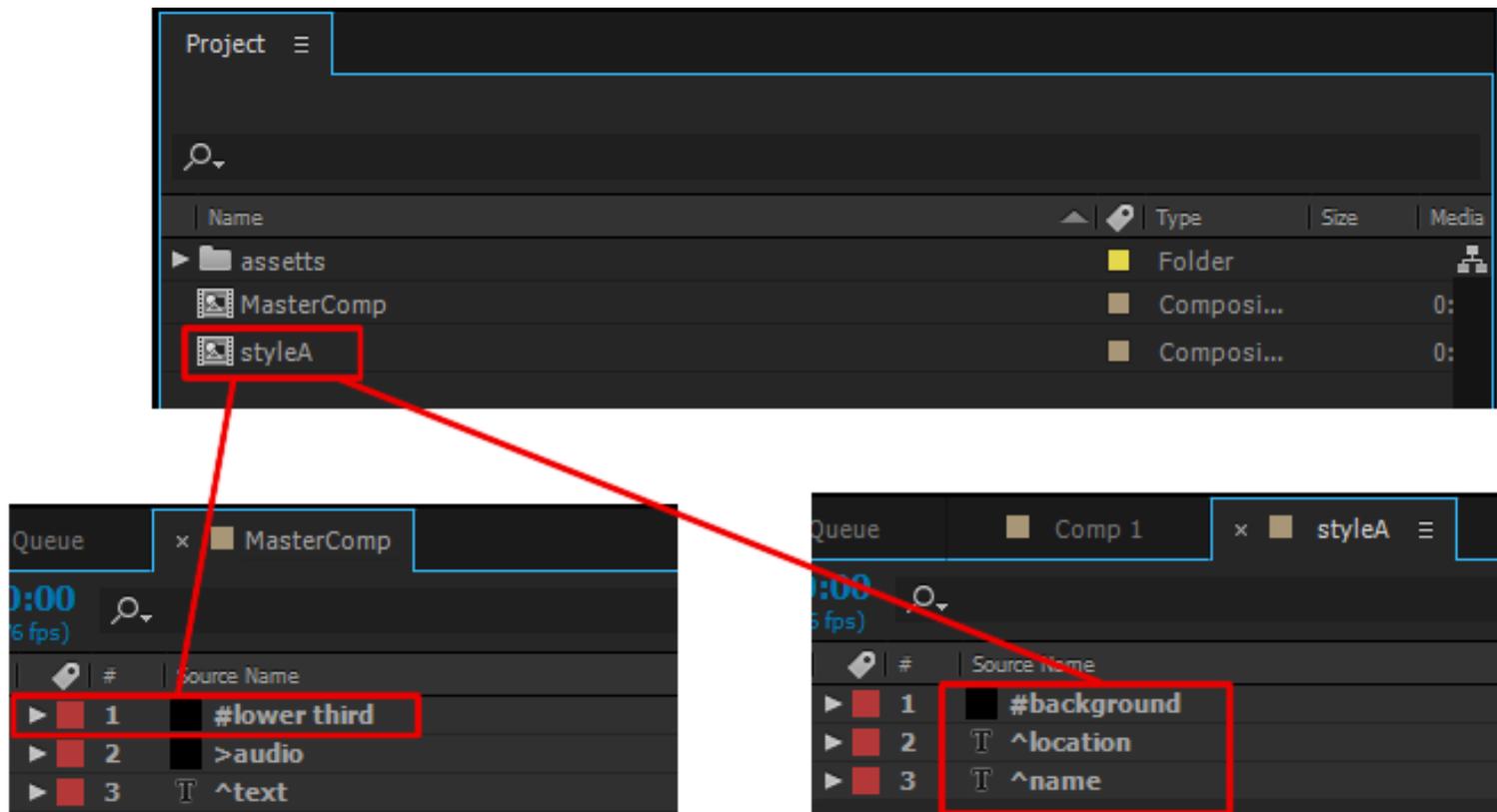
Composition length can be adjusted based on layers length

Output Module and Render Settings can be set from the spreadsheet

Other Features

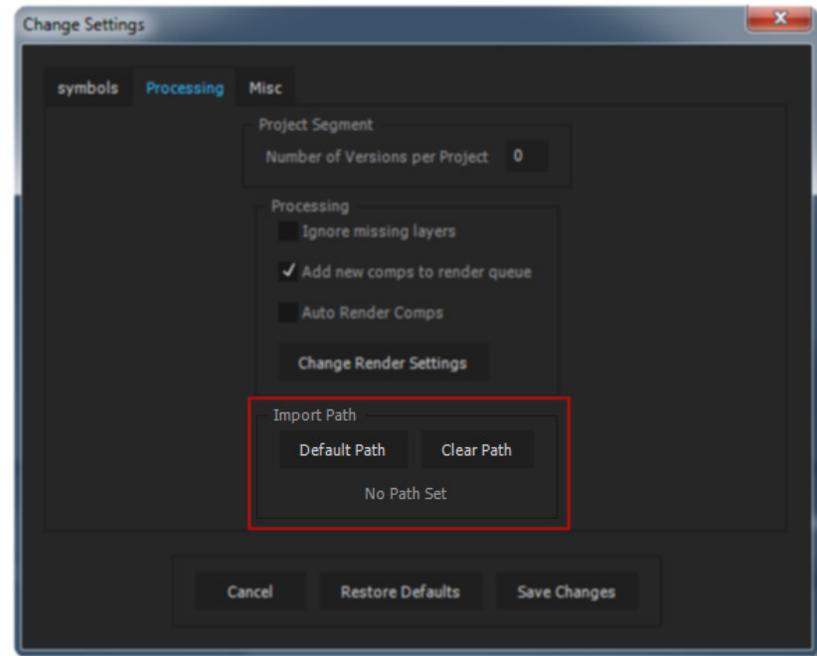
Layers replaced with compositions can receive data from the spreadsheet

Now if you have a layer that is replaced with a composition, all the layers of that composition are checked to see if they are set to receive data from the spreadsheet. In the previous versions if a comp replaced a layer the comp was not updated. In the image below, the layer *#lower third* is replaced with the composition *styleA*. The composition *styleA* has three layers that are set to receive data. In previous versions those layers would not be updated from the script. In version 5 the script now updates these layers.



Ability to define import directory

You can now choose a single directory from which to have CompsFromSpreadsheet import from. This way instead of having to put a long pathname in your spreadsheet you can set up a default location where all your files are, then you only need to put the filename in your spreadsheet.

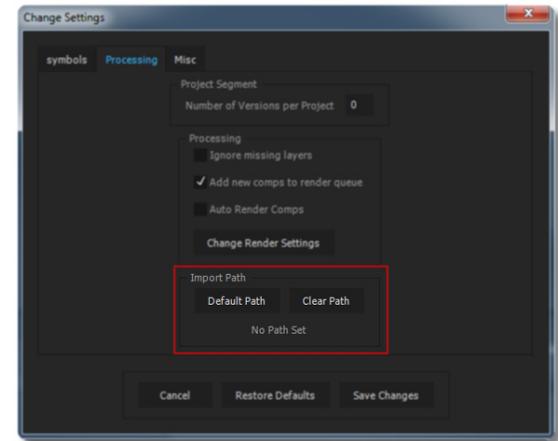


Old Import Data	
B	C
image 1	text
/c/!Projects/zzmike/cfs/Rev1/archive/final/rev2/2.mov	Limited Time Offer
/c/!Projects/zzmike/cfs/Rev1/archive/final/rev2/1.mov	Call Now
/c/!Projects/zzmike/cfs/Rev1/archive/final/rev2/3.mov	Don't Wait

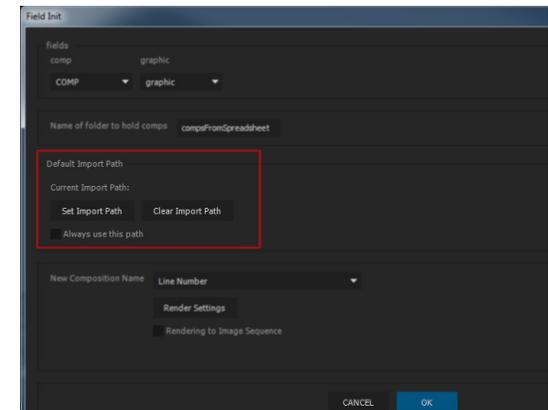
New Import Data	
B	C
image 1	text
2.mov	Limited Time Offer
1.mov	Call Now
3.mov	Don't Wait

In Previous versions of CompsFromSpreadsheet, when you wanted the script to import a file into your project, you had to put the full path to every file imported. Now if all your files are in the same folder you can tell CompsFromSpreadsheet to import all files from that folder.

There are two ways to set the import path for CompsFromSpreadsheet. If you want to set a default directory to be used every time you run CompsFromSpreadsheet, set the default directory from settings. Settings in CompsFromSpreadsheet are now tabbed, go to the *Processing* tab and click on the *default path* button and navigate to the folder you want to always import from. Click ok, now you only need to put the filename in your spreadsheet and the script will find it.



To set an import directory per run, there is a Default Import Path section in the Field Init Window. Click the *Set Import Path* button and navigate to the folder where your files are.

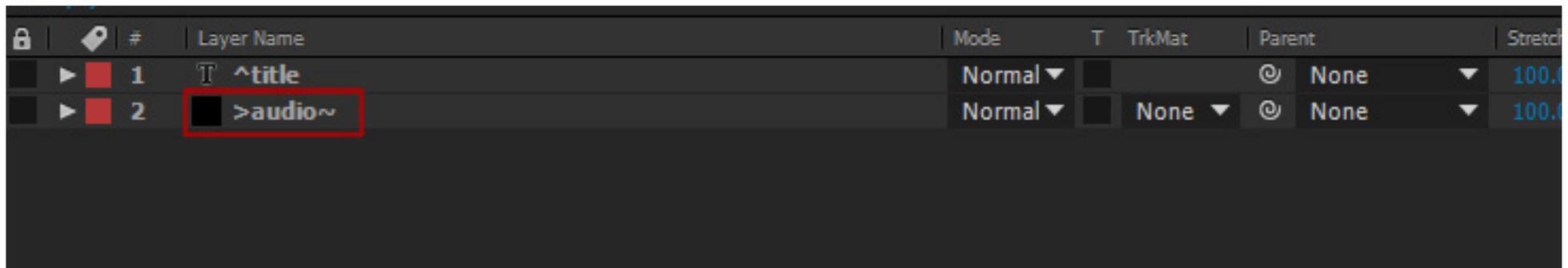


Composition length can be adjusted based on layers length

The length of your composition can now be increased or decreased to match the length of a layer. Any layer that is set to receive either a layer from the project or an imported layer can be designated to adjust the length of the main comp, if the comp's length is increased all the layers in the comp will be lengthened accordingly.

To designate a layer as a length layer all you need to do is add a ~ after the name; so if you had a layer set to import audio files named `>audio` in your comp just add a trailing ~ to make it `>audio~` and when the script imports the audio file the length of the comp will be lengthened or shorted so that it ends exactly when the imported audio file ends.

This only works in the main sequence, if you put a length layer in a precomp the main comp's length won't be adjusted. If you have more than one length layer in your comp, only the last one will matter.



Output Module and Render Settings can be set from the spreadsheet

You can now set the output module and render settings individually from the spreadsheet. To set the output module from the spreadsheet you need to have a column *outputModule* in your spreadsheet to hold the name of the output module to use for each render.

To set render settings you need to have a column *renderSettings* in your spreadsheet to hold the name of the render setting to use for each render.

The image shows a spreadsheet with columns A through E. Row 1 contains headers: A: comp, B: title, C: outputModule, D: renderSettings. Row 2: A: Comp 1, B: movie 1, C: Lossless, D: Best Settings. Row 3: A: Comp 1, B: movie 2, C: Lossless with Alpha, D: Best Settings. Below the spreadsheet is a software interface window titled 'Render Queue' for 'Comp 1'. It shows a table of render jobs. The first job (row 10) is for 'Comp 1' with 'Render Settings' set to 'Best Settings' and 'Output Module' set to 'Lossless'. The second job (row 13) is for 'Comp 1' with 'Render Settings' set to 'Best Settings' and 'Output Module' set to 'Lossless with Alpha'. Red boxes highlight the 'Best Settings' values in the spreadsheet and the software interface. Blue boxes highlight the 'Lossless' and 'Lossless with Alpha' values in the spreadsheet and the software interface. Lines connect the spreadsheet cells to the corresponding settings in the software interface.

	A	B	C	D	E
1	comp	title	outputModule	renderSettings	
2	Comp 1	movie 1	Lossless	Best Settings	
3	Comp 1	movie 2	Lossless with Alpha	Best Settings	
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					

Other New Features

Auto Render	You can now save countless seconds by having the script automatically push the render button for you when it is done processing
Ignore missing layer	The script wont complain if it cant find a layer referenced in the spreadsheet
Layer names not changed	The script no longer changes layer names when it processes so as not to interfere with any expressions referencing by name