

WEB PUBLISHING SOFTWARE

A minor update for Macintosh; a new authoring environment for Windows

Adobe GoLive 4.0

BY PETER DUDAR

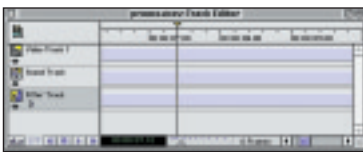
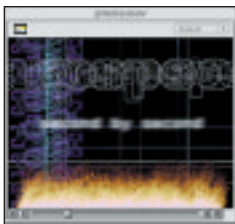
SINCE 1997, MAC USERS HAVE HAD EXCLUSIVE USE OF *GoLive CyberStudio*, one of the best WYSIWYG editors available; now it's an Adobe product, repackaged as *Adobe GoLive 4.0*. And it's gone cross-platform, with complete feature parity for both Mac and Windows users — making it the high-end HTML alternative to *Macromedia Dreamweaver*.

GoLive's visual environment combines pixel-level control with sophisticated site management. Its studio of editors includes: Visual Layout, Source Code, (context-sensitive) Inspector, Palette (with drag and drop tag icons), Web Database, JavaScript, CSS, DHTML Timeline, and Site View (with integrated FTP client). The 801 (!) page user guide testifies to *GoLive's* depth; the tutorial is 31 pages.

GoLive 4's primary enhancement is a QuickTime movie editor that enables you to apply built-in QuickTime 3.0 transitions (like cross fade, gradient wipe, implode) and filters (like blur, color tint, edge detection). With controls similar to those in the DHTML Timeline Editor, you drag any combination of audio and visual elements, transitions, sprites, MIDI and HREF tracks into its timeline, using the Palette's QuickTime panel. Click on a track and the Inspector palette turns into a Track Inspector for specifying effects. You can flatten

the movie when you save it; to inspect embedded links, simply click the graphic Link Inspector, then make changes using *GoLive's* point and shoot capabilities. You won't mistake this editor for *Adobe Premiere* or *After Effects*, but it's a pretty decent add-on. (And QuickTime 4.0 seems to be spurring interest in the technology.)

The proficient JavaScript editor accesses a set of 40+ actions, now supplemented with 14 third-party actions. Included are: confirm link, daily redirect, force frame, slide show, password protection, and remote window targeting. A new Variables subset (declare, init, set, test, plus cookie-related actions) provides controls for the creation, setting and



QuickTime authoring. (from top) the Movie Viewer instantly displays any edits you make in the Track Editor; the Track Editor; the Select Effect dialogue with control sliders.



ADOBE GOLIVE 4.0

System requirements

Power Macintosh or compatible, Mac OS 8.0 or later, 24 MB available RAM (32 MB recommended), 30 MB hard-disk space (45 recommended), QuickTime 3.0

Intel Pentium 200 MHz (or faster) or compatible processor, Microsoft Windows 98 or Windows NT 4.0 (or later) with Service Pack 3, 32 MB RAM for Windows 98, 64 MB of available

RAM for Windows NT 4.0, 50 MB hard-disk space, QuickTime 3.0

Street price \$480; Adobe download \$275 (US); upgrade \$99 (US) from *GoLive CyberStudio Professional 3.x* and below, *CyberStudio Personal Edition* and *Adobe PageMill*; upgrade Adobe download \$69 (US)

Adobe Canada Telephone 416-538-0100; Web www.adobe.com

testing of variables. A new Inline Action can be dropped anywhere on the page, to be initiated when the browser reads that part of the page. And actions can now be triggered when the page loads (onload), when the browser exits the page (unload), and through another action (oncall).

You can now store scripts in JavaScript libraries to be shared by different pages in your site. Simply click the Import CSScriptLib radio button on the Page Inspector; *GoLive* transfers all the JavaScripts on that page to the external file and writes code to automatically call that file when a page using any of the scripts is loaded.

Version 4 lets you select multiple cells and format text inside a table in several ways. For instance, you can shift-click columns, rows or non-contiguous cells and apply text formatting from the Style menu or change background and text color with the Table Inspector. And tables can be created from tab-delimited text files.

GoLive 4 provides basic viewing and editing support for Extensible Markup Language (XML) and Microsoft Active Server Pages (ASP). And numerous small enhancements have been made to site management; links in PDF files can be viewed and revised from the Site Window; subfolders can be scanned with the Update command; you can troubleshoot missing files by clicking *GoLive's* contextual menu, and path specs that reference subfolders can be relative or absolute. But compared to *Dreamweaver*, *GoLive* still doesn't deliver much in the way of collaborative features and extensibility.

The crucial aspect of this upgrade is its cross-platform functionality. Adobe's stated intention is to next integrate *GoLive* with their industry standard apps, like *Photoshop* (which will include *ImageReady* in version 5.5), *Illustrator*, and *Acrobat*. For Windows users, *GoLive* is a viable high-end alternative to *Dreamweaver* with unique capabilities. For some Mac users, *GoLive's* new QuickTime support may be reason enough to upgrade now. *