

April 14th 2022

# Australian Videocamera

**This week's major industry news stories  
plus ...**

**Review: ZHIYUN Crane-M2S**

**Review: RØDE NTH-100 Headphones**

**New Sony wireless mic series**

**Sony alpha Awards 2022**

**Which gimbal should I use?**

**Control Deck for DJI drones**

**and more!**





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**Cover Image:**

Bunbury Western Australia shot on a DJI Mini 2

## EDITORIAL

**Welcome to the latest Australian Videocamera e-magazine.**

*It has been a very busy week this week with a bunch of new products coming to my front door and more on the way.*

*So far, I have managed to review the Zhiyun Crane-M2 S and the new RØDE NTH-100 headphones. Still to come is a new radio mic from DJI, a Zhiyun M3 crane and I have to put the finishing touches to the Fujitsu GFX 50S, plus finish a few other things.*

*So busy, busy.*

*Also in the wings we will shortly have some interviews giving insight into how some of the companies involved in the world of video and filmmaking work and think.*

*The interest in this idea has been excellent and on the go are interviews from Videocraft / Digistor, Zhiyun and Hollyland and there has been major interest shown by another few BIG companies in the industry.*

*Stay tuned.*

*On that I am still chasing people who actually MAKE films to interview (and as a by-product, give you LOTS of exposure). [Send me an email if you are interested.](#)*

*Keep safe and well, and please feel free to contact me. Details at right.*

*As always, thanks for your support!*

*David Hague  
 Publisher / Managing Editor*

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## Industry news from Australia and overseas

*Abridged versions of press releases and stories. The full stories can be seen on our website by clicking the link at the end, of each story.*



### NAB Show Surpasses 900 Exhibitors as Industry Returns to Face-to-Face Business

I haven't been to any US (or European) trade shows for so long now. Personally I don't like 'em as they cost a

lot to get to, stay at and I haven't really seen a return on investment as a journo and publisher.

Back in the day (the 90s) as an exhibitor, definitely. I fondly remember the first ever "Windows World" where we made a killing selling show bags and a stand that had a giant Scalextric set on it! We

won most innovative stand too as I recall.

[Click here for the rest of the story](#)

### New DJI Microphone - and Price Drops too...

DJI has been active the last couple of days. First, we see they have some specials on the MAVIC 3 drone with a 6% saving on its RRP, and then the first announcement we have seen publicly of the new protective case being includ-

ed ion the price of the Action 2.

Now we hear the company is also getting into the audio market with the announcement of the DJU Mic.

This wireless clip on takes it cues from the popular method of packaging earbuds; that is, it comes in a small case that can also charge it up which is a logical and neat idea when you think about it.

Technically it offers 24bit 48KHz recordings for up to 15 hours (5 ½ hours per session with the charger capable of 3 charges) and a range of



around 200 metres (820 feet to be exact according to the specs).

Connectivity is via 3.5mm jack, Lightning and USB-C and sensitivity is controllable from -12dB to +12dB and there is also variable gain. A furry is included in the package along with a few other accessories such as a hot shoe, carry bag and so on.

[The rest of the release can be seen by clicking here](#)

### New: Blackview Ear Buds

I occasionally get solicited via email to see if I'll publish an article sent to me describing the latest gizmo or gadget as a "game changer". 99 times out of a hundred when I ask for a review sample I am refused so of course, I then tell the sender where to go.

Politely of course ...

Occasionally though, some do bear fruit and a few weeks later a parcel turns up with something often I had forgotten about.

This happened yesterday when the nice StarTrack driver lady rang the doorbell and had a package in her hands about 10cm square and 4cm high.

It turned out it was a pair of True Wireless stereo earbuds from a company called Blackview.



Hong Kong based, the company also makes a range of smart watches, smartphones and some Android tablets. Interestingly, just about everything bar the tablets is USD\$39.95!

[See the rest of the information here](#)

## Review: Zhiyun Crane-M2 S

Gimbals are like, oh I dunno, dash cams. You don't know you need one until you need one. And then when you have one, you wonder how you got by without it.

I played with a few in my time, and I like the way they can increase your range of expression of shots in a video. And in trying situations, a good gimbal is invaluable.

I'm thinking locations such as filming on boats, or in a moving car – anywhere it is difficult to get a smooth shot due the environment.

The latest model to to grace my front door via a DHL parcel is the Zhiyun Crane-M2 S. A mid-range model, Zhiyun suggests it is suitable for a large selection of makes and models such as those from Canon (EOS-R, RP, M50, M6, 200D, Powershot G1X Mk II etc), Sony (a7M2, a7R2, ZV E10, a6100, RX100M5 etc) Fujifilm (X-T20, X-A7,

X-T2, X-T3, X-S10 etc) and Nikon (Z50, Z5, Z6, Z7 etc) and others.

With these models, camera control is possible via USB-C connectivity from the Crane-M2 S to the camera allowing such things as focus, record, aperture and so on.

I don't have any of these models sadly, and oddly, my Powershot G1X Mk III – I checked and it is NOT compatible - didn't work despite its younger siblings being so.

I also tested with a GoPro Hero 10 Black and more on that a little later.

### Description / Setting Up

I received the Crane-M2 S “More” pack which comes with the gimbal and a nifty white carry case also containing a selection of USB cables with type C one end and variations on the other suitable for all the supported cameras, a base screw in tri-

pod, a set of light filters (there is a built in LED light) and an add-on mount allowing smartphones to be accommodated on the gimbal's quick release plate.

You also get a manual, and I'll comment on this a bit later too.

Assembly is a one-minute operation effectively; screw the tripod on, attach the quick release plate to your camera and slide it in after pressing its unlock button. If your camera con-



trol is supported, you also connect the USB-C cable between the camera and gimbal.

Next, like with all gimbals, you need to balance it correctly in the three axes – tilt, roll and pan. Initially the gimbal is locked and there are small slide buttons to release these locks allowing these locks to be de-activated thus allowing free movement.

Balancing is perfected by sliding the arms of the gimbal and plate along each mount axis. To do this, you lock the ones not being balanced, balance the free one so that the camera stays level, and when tapped, will swing

and then return to the neutral position. Once the first is correct (start with tilt), you then lock this and move on to roll, and repeat the procedure for pan.

Depending on the camera, it can take seconds or minutes, but it is imperative to get this right for proper operation.

The Canon Powershot was easy and took maybe 5 minutes in total. The GoPro Hero 10 Black was another story altogether.

(As an aside, make sure the camera is in an operational mode when balancing. That is make sure you have the lens mounted and extended if necessary and any accessories you will be using during the shoot with the gimbal are also in place. And a hint, take OFF any camera strap).

[To see the rest of the review click here](#)

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## Review: RØDE NTH-100 Headphones



Headphones can tend to be a personal thing. One set may be my favourite to listen to Pink Floyd through, but someone else may think they suck for Billie Eilish.

It all depends on all sorts of techie things like frequency range and how they are “tuned”.

For my music, I love my Sennheiser HD 300 Pro headphones.

But the new RØDE NTH-100 over ear cans are a different kettle of fish altogether. These are not setup so that any bass will rattle your back teeth.

These are, like the Sennheiser HD400 Pros, monitoring headphones designed specifically for audio creation, mixing, music production, podcasting, on-location shoots and so on.

You see, what you are hearing is exactly what the sound is like; it has not been coloured or enhanced in any way at all. This means, for example, you can detect any flaws in the recording and compensate accordingly in the production stage.

I received a set today from RØDE and I have to say I am extra impressed! There has been some serious thought placed into the NTH-100s from someone who obviously walks the walk as against simply (simply?) being an engineer.

Accepting the sound is brilliant - and you'd expect this from a company with a pedigree of RØDE – the NTH-100s have some nice touches that set them apart.

[To see the rest of the review click here](#)

## It's an ex-monitor. Or is it...



You've tried everything you can think of, but still that (insert device name here) is not working as it should.

It may that it isn't turning on, or not seeing something else, or giving odd results- any number of inconsistencies depending on what that (insert device name here) actually is.

So eventually you think “Stuff it. If I must replace it, I must replace it”.

That was my thoughts over the last few days with my well-loved OSEE LCM215E field monitor.

In this particular case, while it turned on, it would not accept being

switched to HDMI input, stubbornly remaining on DVI and not allowing any other format.

I couldn't even select anything else. And it has lots of options available.

Prior to this, when it was doing its job connected to my [Blackmagic Design ATEM Mini Pro](#), it started giving random interference lines on the screen, then started flicking between real colour and red overlays, before finally dying.

Now these monitors are not inexpensive at USD\$1399, and for that money you get a LOT of features.

Click [here](#) for the full specs if you are interested.

[To see what the result was, click here](#)

# Which Gimbal Should I Use?



For a while now, gimbals have been a Thing. And quite right too, as in the right circumstances a gimbal matched with the right camera is a fabulous tool to get some unique – not to mention s-m-o-o-t-h – shots.

But which gimbal?

This all depends, but the main factor is what sort of camera are you using? A full on dSLR? A mirrorless 4/3rds? A dedicated camcorder? Perhaps a smartphone?

Using the wrong gimbal for a camera, or indeed vice versa, will cause all sorts of grief.

There are a number of gimbal manufacturers including DJI who cut their teeth with the Ronin series and incorporated its drone technology to great effect. Or it might have been vice versa.

Lately, we have seen ZHIYUN step up and here at Australian Videocamera we have a couple of ZHIYUN units and another on the way for review.

To aid the beginner, and not so beginner alike in just what gimbal to use, ZHIYUN sent us this handy table to assist.

Of course this only takes ZHIYUN gimbals into account, but it gives you an idea of which features to look for when considering a gimbal from wherever you may be looking.

And take it from me. I have tested a few gimbals in my time, and in many cases, I have not followed up with a review as they were simply not worth the effort.

In this game "inexpensive" really DOES mean :cheap" and you will pay for what you get - and possibly regret it at the lower end.

	 CRANE-M2	 CRANE-M2 S	 CRANE-M3
Size (mm)	267*69*138 (with quick release plate)	240*68*150 (folded)	280.37*74.88*157.06
Net Weight	500g	590g	700g (with battery)
Release Structure	Quick Release	Quick Release 4.0 +Universal Quick Release Plate	Quick Release 4.0 +Universal Quick Release Plate
Axis Lock	Pan Axis Lock Switch	Two-step seamless lock switches for three axes	Two-step seamless lock switches for three axes
Capacity	1100mAh	1150mAh	1150mAh
Runtime	7h	10h35min	8h
Charging Type	/	9V-12W (PD)	12W Fast Charge (PD)
Charging Time	2h	1h41min	2h
Touch Screen	Not Supported	Not Supported	Supported
Fill Light	/	Built-in Color Temperature (5500K) Fill Light	Built-in Dual Color Temperature Fill Light
Audio Solution	/	/	Expansion Base +6.5mm Microphone
Camera Control	Bluetooth +Wi-Fi Control	Wired connection to Type-C port	Shutter Release Protocol +Wireless Bluetooth (upcoming)
Camera Compatibility	Sony A6100, Panasonic DMC-GX85, Canon M50, GoPro Hero 7, etc.	Sony A7R4, A7S3, A7C, ZV-E10, Canon M50, Fuji XT4, etc.	Sony A7M3 FE 24mm F2.8 G Sony A7C FE 20mm F1.8 G Sony A6600 FE 14mm F1.8 GM Canon M50 EF-M 22mm f/2 STM etc.



# Sony launches new UWP-D wireless microphone series

Sony has launched the new URX-P41D two-channel portable receiver, supporting MI (Multi Interface) shoe with Digital Audio Interface. The URX-P41D, boasts all the key features included in the 4th Generation UWP-D Series, such as improved high sound quality from Digital Audio Processing, NFC Sync for quick and easy set-up from Receiver to Transmitter and functions such as Auto Gain mode and Output level control, making the job of recording sound even easier.

As part of the market leading UWP-D Series, the URX-P41D will work with all UWP-D transmitters (backwards compatible with previous generations) and will be available as a stand-alone receiver and as part of a new kit, the UWP-D27, which will include two UTX-B40 Bodypack Transmitter.

The URX-P41D is ideal for many users ranging from broadcast and news

productions, to run and gun style interviews, or documentaries and series productions, using Sony's XDCAM™ camcorders and Alpha™ interchangeable lens cameras\*

Key new features include:

- Digital audio interface to improve sound quality
1. Sony's Digital Audio Processing, which uses DSP (digital signal processing) for digital companding, improves sound quality by optimizing a time-constant range between the transmitter and receiver, making the reproduction of sound more accurate. It provides superb transient response performance which for interview style recording means the audio is clear and crisp.

2. Using the SMAD-P5 MI shoe adaptor enables direct digital audio recording and delivers high sound



quality with low noise by skipping the D/A and A/D process. This interface is compatible with a wide

range of Sony's XDCAM camcorders and Alpha interchangeable lens cameras.\* It also integrates



seamlessly with Sony's camcorders and displays audio information on the viewfinder for enhanced

usability in the field.

- "NFC SYNC" function to allow quick and easy channel setting

1. Simple and quick channel setting for reliable RF transmission when time pressure is high is becoming crucial. Delivering enhanced usability, the unique "NFC SYNC" feature is designed for easy and fast frequency setting. By simply holding the NFC SYNC button on the receiver for a few seconds, it automatically scans the appropriate frequency. Thereafter, just touching the receiver to the transmitter will sync the channel for optimum speed and efficiency.

- Compact form factor, with improved ergonomics

1. By reducing the size of the receiver from previous generations, the URX-P41D can sit on top of the camera or ILC attached to the MI shoe or cold shoe allowing for improved balance on the camera

- External Microphone Input and Three-channel mixing function

1. The External Microphone Input for an additional wired microphone widens the sound capture options. Three-channel audio recording is available by using a Sony's lavalier microphone through the external microphone input. Furthermore, four-channel audio recording is also possible when using a stereo microphone through the external microphone input.

To see the remainder of the story and further specifications please [click here](#)



## The Sony Alpha Awards return for 2022

The 2022 Sony Alpha Awards marks the seventh year of the Photo Competition showcasing the incredible photography captured on Sony cameras and lenses. The Alpha Awards aim to reinvigorate and reconnect photographers across the region, reward professionals and enthusiasts alike, and provide a platform for the greatest photography work captured on Sony Alpha cameras and lenses, across Australia and New Zealand.

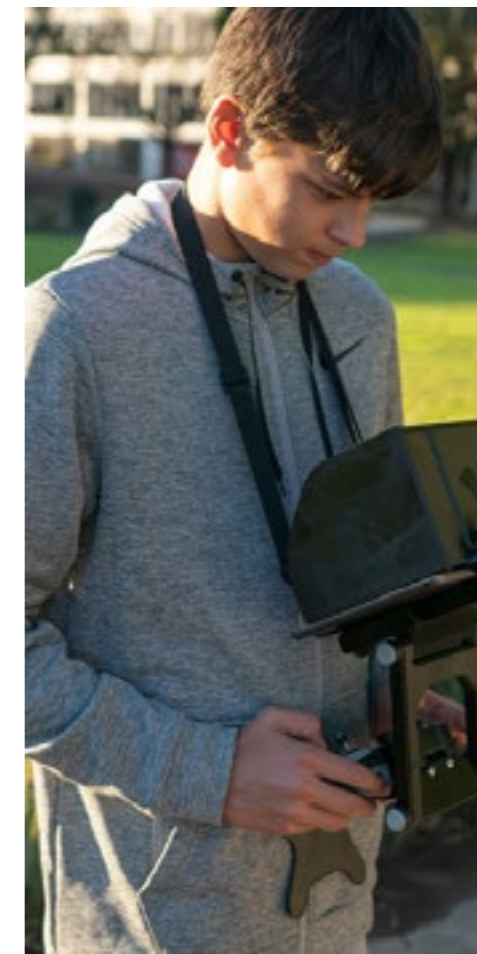
Categories continue to represent the diverse range and passions of all Sony photographers, allowing entrants to submit their work across twelve categories, including; Astrophotography, City/Street, Compact Camera, Creative, Editorial, Landscape, Nature, Portrait, Seascape, Sports, Wedding, and Youth.

\$54,000 worth of Sony camera gear will be available to win at the 2022 Alpha Awards – including \$4,000 of Sony digital imaging gear per cate-

gory, and each of the category finalists will be in with the chance to win the overall Grand Prize of Sony digital imaging gear to the value of \$10,000.

Jun Yoon, Head of Digital Imaging, Sony Australia and New Zealand comments: "We are thrilled to bring back the Sony Alpha Awards again in 2022. Last year we received close to 4000 entries and we eagerly anticipate seeing what the Alpha community creates in 2022."

[More details on entering here](#)



For many Drone Pilots, flying is often a well planned event - We regularly travel long distances, often well before first light and then we're greeted by the inevitable juggling act to get up an running.

The new ControlDeck is here to make [For more info, click here](#)

that experience a whole lot more enjoyable and whether it's sitting in your warm car, sitting on a picnic bench or walking around, the ControlDeck with it's multi-position 3 way articulated frame has you covered.



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