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Title		Note on the official FAQ for DVD+RW 8cm disc (SEL / SOCAN)							
<p>We would like to inform you that we have prepared the official FAQ of playback compatibility and playback limitation for DVD+RW 8cm disc.</p> <p>This FAQ is unified and updated of the previous FAQ that are attached on the EPF3-73 (issued on February 16 2005) and EPF3-79 (issued on February 18 2005).</p> <p>Please refer to the attachment.</p>									

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Q&A for DVD Handycam DVD+RW 8cm disc

Q&As marked with "Confidential" should not be posted on the public web site. It should only be used when answering inquiries from customer in CJC, marketing or service sections.

Category	No.	Q	A	
DVD Handycam models applicable to following Q&As ("Compatibility" category): DCR-DVD92/DVD103/DVD203/DVD403/DVD7				
Compatibility	1	Why can't the DVD players/recorders play back a DVD+RW 8cm disc recorded by the DVD Handycam?	DVD+RW 8cm disc is a new format that did not exist when the DVD+RW format was initially established. Therefore, there was no DVD+RW 8cm disc when those products were designed and developed, and its playback compatibility with the new disc could not be verified. The following products cannot play back a DVD+RW 8cm disc recorded by the DVD Handycam. DVD recorders: RDR-HX900/GX300 DVD players: models released before 2000	
Compatibility	2	Why can't the VAIO computers play back a DVD+RW 8cm disc recorded by the DVD Handycam?	VAIO computers released in April/2004 or before do not support the playback of a DVD+RW 8cm disc. (It is a specification of the products.)	
Compatibility	3	When did you find this out?	We found out during the designing process of the new DVD Handycam which can record on a DVD+RW 8cm disc, when we were testing the playback compatibility with other products.	Confidential
Compatibility	4	Has this information been announced?	Please check with the local PV Marketing in each region for details about the means or contents of the announcement.	
Compatibility	5	Where can I check the playback compatibility information of the DVD Handycam?	Please check with the local PV Marketing in each region for details about the means or contents of the information.	
Compatibility	6	Can I play back a DVD+RW 8cm disc on those products if it is finalized?	No, it cannot be played back even finalized.	
Compatibility	7	Will you fix my DVD player/recorder so it can play back a DVD+RW 8cm disc?	We have no plans to provide such service or upgrade for products already released. If you wish to play back a disc recorded by the new DVD Handycam on your DVD player/recorder, we advise to use a DVD-RW/-R 8cm disc.	
Compatibility	8	Will you fix my VAIO so it can play back a DVD+RW 8cm disc? Can't you provide upgrading service?	We have no plans to provide the upgrade. If you wish to play back a disc recorded by the new DVD Handycam on your VAIO, we advise to use a DVD-RW/-R 8cm disc.	
Compatibility	9	I have already recorded on a DVD+RW 8cm disc. How can I play it back?	1) Connect the DVD Handycam to the TV with the AV connecting cable and play back the disc on the DVD Handycam. 2) Copy the contents of the DVD+RW disc to a DVD-R/RW disc using Picture Package supplied with the DVD Handycam. For details about the operation, please contact Pixela User Support Center. Pixela User Support Center: - Web site: http://www.ppackage.com/ - North America (Los Angeles) Telephone: +1-213-341-0163 - Europe (U.K.) Telephone: +44-1489-564-764 - Asia (Philippines) Telephone: +63-2-438-0090	
Compatibility	10	When the images are copied from a DVD+RW disc to a DVD-RW disc using Picture Package, does the image quality deteriorate?	Images are transferred as files from a DVD+RW disc to the computer, so there is no deterioration in the image quality. Also, the image quality is not deteriorated when they are written to a DVD-RW disc, because the image data is not decoded or re-encoded.	
Compatibility	11	Are there any other products that cannot play back a DVD+RW 8cm disc? What products can play back a DVD+RW 8cm disc?	A DVD+RW 8cm disc recorded by the DVD Handycam can be played back on the following products. DVD players/recorders: Please check the compatibility list already provided. VAIO computers: It has been confirmed that models released in May/2004 or later can recognize a DVD+RW 8cm disc.	
Compatibility	12	Among the products already released, some can play back a DV+RW 8cm disc while some cannot. Why is it?	Whether it can play back or not depends on the drive or system used in each product.	
Compatibility	13	Only VAIO computers released in May/2004 or later support the playback of a DVD+RW 8cm disc. However, why has it already been supported by a VAIO peripheral PCGA-DDRW1 which was released before those VAIO computers?	It depends on the specifications of the adopted DVD drive. Among the products released before April/2004, PCGA-DDRW1 is the only model that we confirm the playback compatibility with a DVD+RW 8cm disc.	
Compatibility	14	How many products are there in the market which cannot play back a DVD+RW 8cm disc?	We don't announce sales unit of each model.	
Compatibility	15	If the product can play back a DVD+RW 8cm disc, can it also edit or transfer the contents of the disc to its HDD?	For DVD recorders: Sony DVD recorders cannot record or edit the contents of a 8cm disc, so you cannot directly edit the contents of a DVD+RW 8cm disc. With the DVD recorders equipped with HDD except for following models, you can edit the contents after transferring them to its HDD. - RDR-HX900/GX300 For VAIO computers: With VAIO computers released in May/2004 or later, you can edit the contents using the preinstalled software Click to DVD or DVgate. (However, all images are transferred in 4:3 regardless of the aspect ratio when recorded.)	
Compatibility	16	What would happen if you try to play back a DVD+RW 8cm disc on those incompatible products? Would there be any damage to the products?	There would be no damage to the disc or the product. The product would simply not play back the disc.	

DVD Handycam models applicable to following Q&As ("Wide" category):

DCR-DVD203/DVD403

Wide	17	Will images shot in wide by the DVD Handycam be played back in wide on a DVD player?	Yes. If your TV is wide ready, wide images can basically be played back. However, in case of a DVD+RW disc, as a DVD player cannot auto-detect wide signals, please change the setting to "wide display" on the TV.	
Wide	18	Squeezed images are displayed when images shot in wide on a DVD+RW disc are played back on a DVD player. What should be done to adjust?	<p>To customers with a 16:9 wide TV: Please change the setting of "Wide Mode" to "Full" on the TV menu or by the remote commander. Refer to the TV instruction manual for wide setting on the TV as well.</p> <p>To customers with a 4:3 TV: If wide (16:9) display is available on the TV, please change the setting to "Wide Display (16:9)" on the TV menu or by the remote commander to switch the TV display. Refer to the TV instruction manual for wide setting on the TV as well. If wide (16:9) display is not available on the TV, please directly connect the DVD Handycam* to the TV with the supplied AV connecting cable. In this case, please select [SETUP] then [STANDARD SET] from the menu, and set [TV TYPE] to [4:3] on your DVD Handycam. * For the models with the 4:3 LCD panel: As there is no [TV TYPE] setting in those models, you cannot display the 16:9 images on the TV even when the Handycam is directly connected to the TV.</p> <p>(If you use a DVD-R/RW disc to play back on a DVD player, you can display the 16:9 images on a TV regardless of the types of the TV.)</p>	
Wide	19	Will our wide TV display 16:9 images without squeezing when a DVD+RW disc is played back?	Please change the setting of "Wide Mode" to "Full" on the TV menu or by the remote commander. Refer to the TV instruction manual for wide setting on the TV as well.	
Wide	20	Will our 4:3 TV display 16:9 images without squeezing when a DVD+RW disc is played back?	<p>If wide (16:9) display is available on the TV, please change the setting to "Wide Display (16:9)" on the TV menu or by the remote commander to switch the TV display. Refer to the TV instruction manual for wide setting on the TV as well. If wide (16:9) display is not available on the TV, please directly connect the DVD Handycam* to the TV with the supplied AV connecting cable. In this case, please select [SETUP] then [STANDARD SET] from the menu, and set [TV TYPE] to [4:3] on your DVD Handycam. * For the models with the 4:3 LCD panel: As there is no [TV TYPE] setting in those models, you cannot display the 16:9 images on the TV even when the Handycam is directly connected to the TV.</p> <p>(If you use a DVD-R/RW disc to play back on a DVD player, you can display the 16:9 images on a TV regardless of the types of the TV.)</p>	
Wide	21	Why will only images recorded on a DVD+RW be squeezed?	<p>For DVD players: It is because most DVD players cannot recognize wide recording on a DVD+RW disc, and they output images to a TV as normal 4:3 signals.</p> <p>For computers: It is because there is no confirmed software that can recognize the wide (16:9) signal recorded on a DVD+RW disc and play it back correctly as of March, 2005.</p>	
Wide	22	What should I do to automatically play back 16:9 images on a DVD player?	<p>1) Use a DVD-R/RW disc when you shoot with your DVD Handycam. 2) Copy the contents of the DVD+RW disc to a DVD-R/RW disc using Picture Package supplied with the DVD Handycam. Then, you can play back the DVD-R/RW disc on your DVD player to display 16:9 images. For details about the operation of Picture Package, please contact Pixela User Support Center. Pixela User Support Center: - Web site: http://www.ppackage.com/ - North America (Los Angeles) Telephone: +1-213-341-0163 - Europe (U.K.) Telephone: +44-1489-564-764 - Asia (Philippines) Telephone: +63-2-438-0090</p>	
Wide	23	When the images are copied from a DVD+RW disc to a DVD-RW disc using Picture Package, does the image quality deteriorate?	Images are transferred as files from a DVD+RW disc to the computer, so there is no deterioration in the image quality. Also, the image quality is not deteriorated when they are written to a DVD-RW disc, because the image data is not decoded or re-encoded.	
Wide	24	Will a DVD-RW or DVD-R disc not have any problem?	When using a DVD-RW or DVD-R disc, DVD players recognize wide images and will play back images according to the connected TV. If the setting of the DVD player for the connected TV is set to "Wide (16:9) TV", wide (16:9) images will be outputted. If set to "4:3 TV", images will be outputted in letter box or by pan scan. When playing back a DVD-RW or DVD-R disc on a DVD player, please finalize the disc.	
Wide	25	Is it a TV problem? Is it possible to change the TV setting to switch its aspect ratio automatically?	It is not a TV problem but it is caused by the combination of a DVD player and a DVD+RW disc. Therefore, changing the TV setting will not allow automatic display change.	
Wide	26	Will 16:9 images recorded on a DVD+RW be played back in wide on a computer (VAIO)?	<p>The images may not be played back in wide depending on the specifications of the DVD playback software.</p> <p><For internal use only> The following procedure can only be advised "orally" to a customer depending on the situation. By using WinDVD preinstalled in VAIO '05 models or some of '04 models, it is possible to change the aspect ratio of the images to display in wide. Please follow the steps below. 1) Start up WinDVD. 2) Open the Setup screen. 3) Deactivate the option to fix the aspect ratio. (Make sure the disc is inserted in the disc tray.) 4) Drag the corner of the screen frame to manually adjust to the correct aspect ratio.</p>	
Wide	27	Squeezed images are displayed when images shot in wide on a DVD+RW disc are played back on a computer. What should I do?	<p>If you use WinDVD or PowerDVD preinstalled in VAIO computers, you can display the images in wide (16:9) by changing the setting of the software. For Macintosh computers, we have not confirmed any software that can display the images in wide (16:9) as of March, 2005.</p>	
Wide	28	Will 16:9 images recorded on a DVD+RW be played back in wide on a Macintosh computer?	Squeezed images are displayed when playing back on a Macintosh computer as of March, 2005.	
Wide	29	Is there any software (for Windows or Macintosh) that can play back 16:9 images recorded on a DVD+RW in the correct aspect ratio?	We have not confirmed any software as of March, 2005.	
Wide	30	Can a DVD player which supports DVD+RW format auto-detect the wide signal?	At the moment, we have not confirmed any DVD player that can detect the aspect ratio information (wide ID) of a DVD+RW disc.	
Wide	31	Can PlayStation2 auto-detect the wide signal?	No, the images are squeezed to 4:3 when playing back on PlayStation2, just as normal DVD players.	
Wide	32	Why does a DVD player auto-detect the wide signal on a DVD-RW and not on a DVD+RW?	<p>In the DVD Handycam, DVD+RW Video Format specifications (DVD+VR) is adopted as the recording format of a DVD+RW disc. This specifications are mostly the same as the DVD-Video specifications. However, the definition of the aspect ratio (wide) information is extended than the DVD-Video specifications. Therefore, DVD players compliant with the current DVD-Video specifications cannot recognize the extended field, and they cannot auto-detect the wide signal. On the other hand, VIDEO mode of a DVD-R or DVD-RW disc is the same as the DVD-Video specifications. Therefore, DVD players can recognize the wide signal correctly. Also, the wide signal in VR mode of a DVD-RW disc can be recognized correctly when using a compatible players.</p>	