



HoverCam User's Manual

Version 1.0
For PC and Macintosh

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Caution

This User's Manual provides the information you need to get started using the essential features of your HoverCam (X300, X500, X500 PRO). Please read this instruction manual carefully before using the product and keep it for future reference.

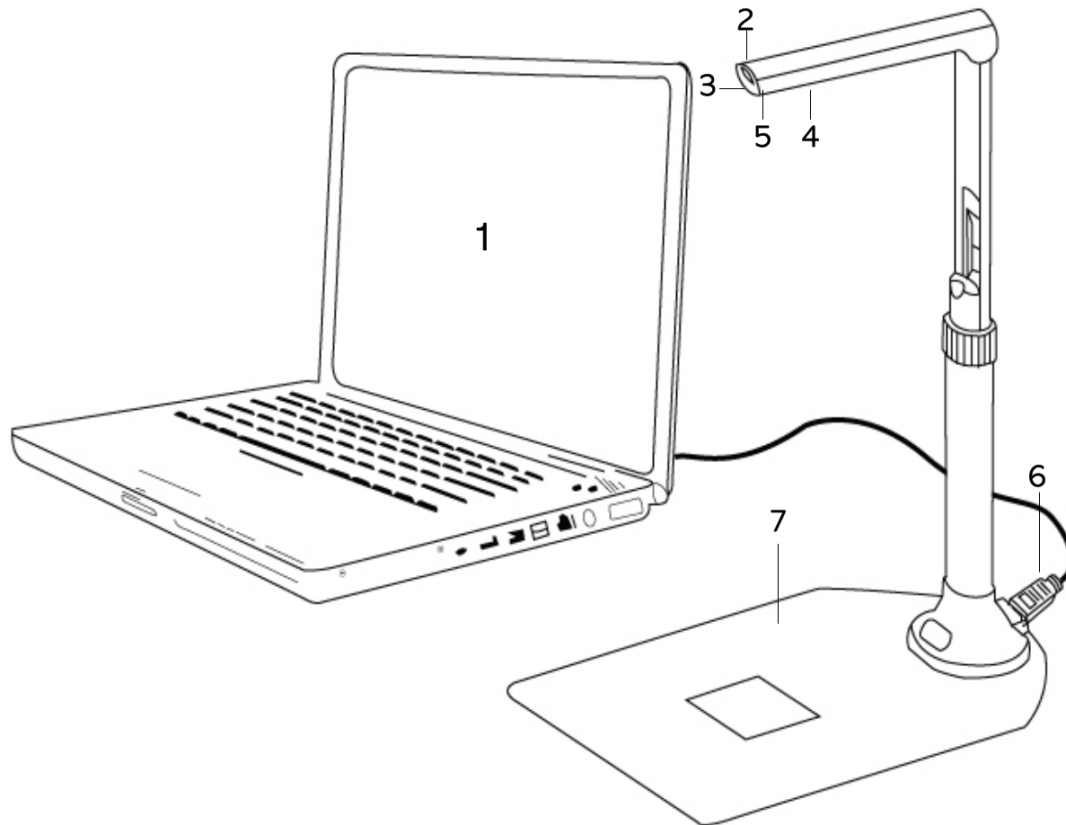
- Use HoverCam only under the rated electrical conditions.
- To avoid discoloration, deformation, or damage, do not leave the HoverCam under direct sunlight or by heaters.
- Do not place the HoverCam in any humid, dusty, windy or vibrating location.
- Use a soft, dry cloth when cleaning. Do not use any volatile solvent, such as paint thinner or benzene.

Overview

Package contents

- HoverCam Unit
- USB 2.0 Cable
- Quick-start Guide
- Scanning Mat

Product Overview



- 1 Computer (not included)
- 2 Light Control
- 3 Built-in Microphone
- 4 LED Lights

- 5 Camera Lens
- 6 USB port and Cable
- 7 Scanning Mat

Software Installation and System Setup

System Requirements

Minimum Requirements For Windows PC*

OS Supported	<i>Windows XP/2003/Vista/Windows 7 (32 or 64 bit)</i>
CPU	<i>1.6GHZ minimum, 2.0GHZ Recommended</i>
RAM	<i>Minimum 1GB, 2GB Recommended</i>
Hard Disk Space	<i>20 MB with over 60 GB total hard disk space</i>
Color Display Monitor	<i>1024H x 768V minimum, 1280H x 960V Recommended</i>

Minimum Requirements For Mac

OS Supported	<i>10.5.1 or newer</i>
CPU	<i>Intel Core2 Duo</i>
RAM	<i>Minimum 1GB, 2GB Recommended</i>
Hard Disk Space	<i>20 MB with over 60 GB total hard disk space</i>
Color Display Monitor	<i>1024H x 768V minimum, 1280H x 960V Recommended</i>

Software Installation

Our software resides entirely within Adobe Air, one of the industry's most widely used and tested platforms. Nonetheless, before installing our software, you first should back up your entire hard drive. You should do so for your own peace of mind and because regular backups are always a good idea. On any computer there is always a chance that a hardware problem is emerging, but not yet detected (e.g., hard disk starting to fail). With regular backups you can always recover from this kind of error. Not only to help protect the environment, but to assure that you have our latest software, we are not including an installation CD. HoverCam requires Adobe Air Version Adobe 2.0 B1 and will not work with any other version. Even if you think that you have a recent version of Adobe Air, you will avoid problems by uninstalling Adobe Air and reinstalling it from the latest version posted on our Web site. This procedure will not affect any other program or saved files on your hard disk:

1. Close, if you can, all programs, especially anti-virus and anti-malware programs. If you are using Windows 7, go to the Control Panel, click on Programs and Features, click on Adobe Air in the list of installed programs if Adobe Air is present, click Uninstall. If you are using Windows XP, go to Control Panel → System → Add Remove Programs, click on Adobe Air and uninstall it. If you are using a Macintosh, uninstall Adobe Air from the Finder.
2. Download Adobe Air 2.0 B1 **ONLY from our web site**. Follow the link,

<http://www.thehovercam.com/html/download.html>, and click on the Air icon  in Step

One to download this version. After the download is complete, you may be asked—sometimes more than once—if you wish to install the download. Indicate that you wish the installation to proceed. Otherwise, find the download and double click AdobeAIRInstaller.exe. Following the installation, reboot your computer.

3. Download the HoverCam software from our Web site, www.thehovercam.com/download.html. Carefully follow the instructions listed here, install the software, and reboot again.

*: If your Windows computer doesn't meet the minimum system requirements, you may also use HoverCam by downloading HoverCam Manager Software from the HoverCam Web site. See http://www.thehovercam.com/html/hovercam_manager/win/HoverCamManagerVersion1.0.zip.

Using your HoverCam For the First Time

After installing our software, plug the supplied USB cable into the HoverCam and your PC or Mac.

Open HoverCam Flex Software or HoverCam Manager Software to start using HoverCam.

HoverCam Flex Software Features

For convenience, we will refer to HoverCam Flex Software™ as “Flex” for short. Here’s how to use it.

Digital file cabinet

File all of your documents digitally in the HoverCam Flex Library or move documents in and out the Library at anytime. You also can access your files and folders directly from the Windows Explorer or Macintosh Finder, as though they were regular directories. However, we provide additional image enhancement and manipulation tools, elaborated below.

File stacking

Stack images into binders to organize multiple page documents. The images can be rearranged within the binder, and the stacked images can be exported as a single PDF file.

Drag and Drop

Drag images to a folder, an external USB drive, or directly into a document that you are editing. You can even move image files created with other software into Flex and let it organize as many files as you wish.

PDF File Generation

Create a multi-page PDF anytime and subsequently email, print, preview, or upload files to cloud servers.

Quick Scan

Scan an image in a split second. You thereby can focus on managing files instead of waiting for moving parts to complete a grinding roundtrip, as you would with traditional flatbed scanners.

Auto Trimming

Automatically trim pages. Place pages on the black mat supplied with the HoverCam and the background automatically will be masked out. For 3-D objects or pages with irregular borders, you also can trim images manually.

Auto Straightening

Correct the alignment of pages during or after scanning. On traditional scanners, mages are frequently misaligned, but our software can straighten pages automatically. Note, however, that pages with crooked borders or misaligned by more than 25% cannot be straightened.

Auto Color Adjustment

Auto-correct images to achieve optimal brightness, contrast, and background.

Auto Capture

Continuously capture images every 3, 5, 8, 10, or 20 seconds without pressing a button between scans. The HoverCam is so fast that you may need to slow it down so that you don’t photograph your own hand in the process of changing pages.

Real-time Video Projection

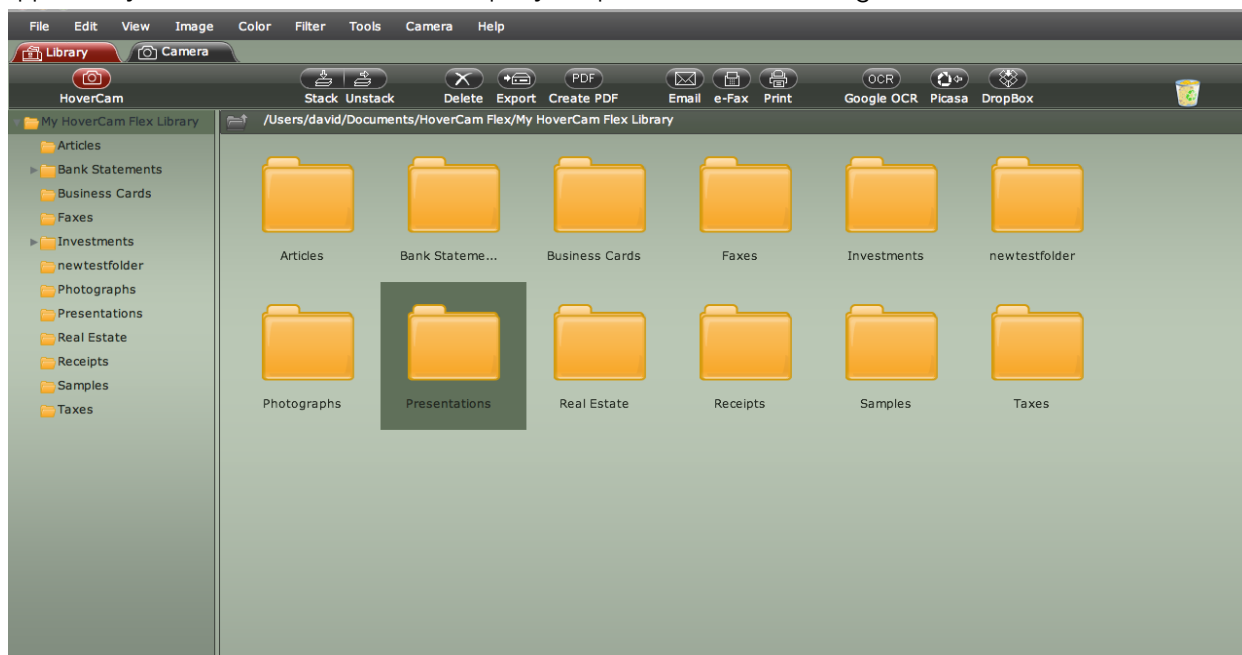
Stream video for real-time presentations. Not only is the HoverCam a scanner, but it also is a digital projector that can zoom in and out. Alternative projectors cost thousands of dollars.

Cloud Integration (Stay Tuned)

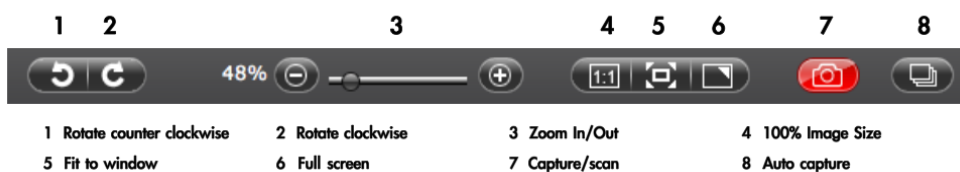
Beyond local management of your files, HoverCam Flex is designed to work with today's most popular cloud computing technologies. Already, you can email one or multiple documents with a click of a button. Other capabilities are under development and will be added as automatic updates to Flex. Because we value privacy, none of these features will become active unless you chose to use them.

Using Your HoverCam

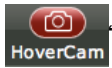
The HoverCam often can be used with other software that recognizes USB-connected cameras, but we support only our software. Below are step-by-step instructions for using Flex.








Scanning: Camera Mode:  Camera

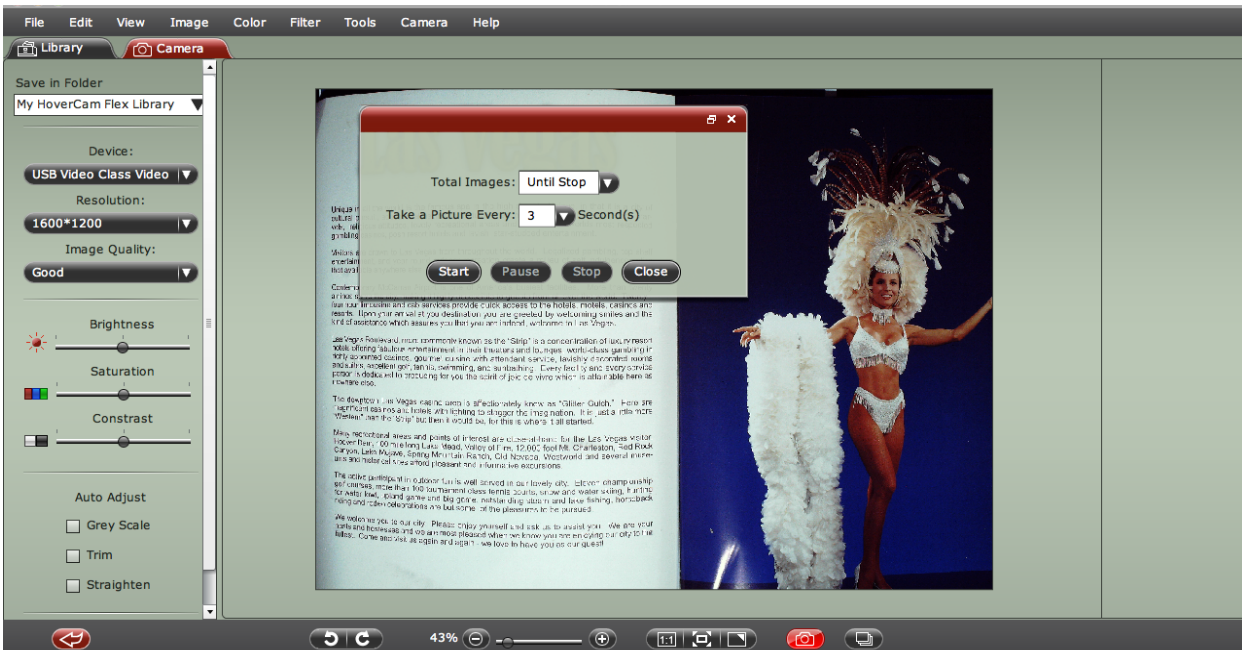


Menu buttons:

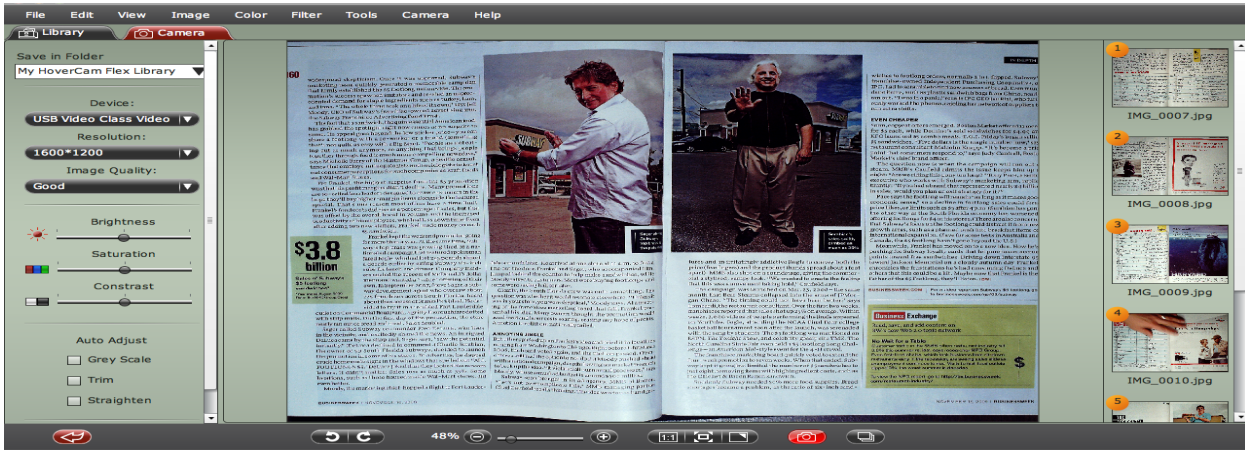
- Open HoverCam Flex Software.
- Click on the  "HoverCam" button on the upper left corner to initialize HoverCam and enter the "Camera/Preview" mode.
- Place the object to be scanned, such as documents, receipts, bills, books, magazines, newspapers, school work, artwork, or 3-D objects, and so on, on the scanning mat or, without the mat, on the desktop space shown by the camera on your monitor. What's good about the mat, besides the neutral background, is that it shows you

where to align the document or object to be scanned.

- Use these buttons to preview the image:
 -  “1:1” to show the image at 100%.
 -  “fit to window” to fit the scanning subject to the preview window.
 -  “full screen” to view the image in full screen mode.
- Start scanning in one of the two available modes:
 -  Manual capture mode: click this capture button for each document to be scanned and scanned images will appear in the right panel.
 -  Auto capture mode: start “auto capture” by clicking the “auto capture” button. Set the total number of images to be scanned and the number of seconds for the scanning interval. Click the “Start” button. By default, the HoverCam will automatically capture images every 3 seconds until you press the “Stop” button, but you can increase this interval. To do so, click the second down arrow in the selection box that opens.

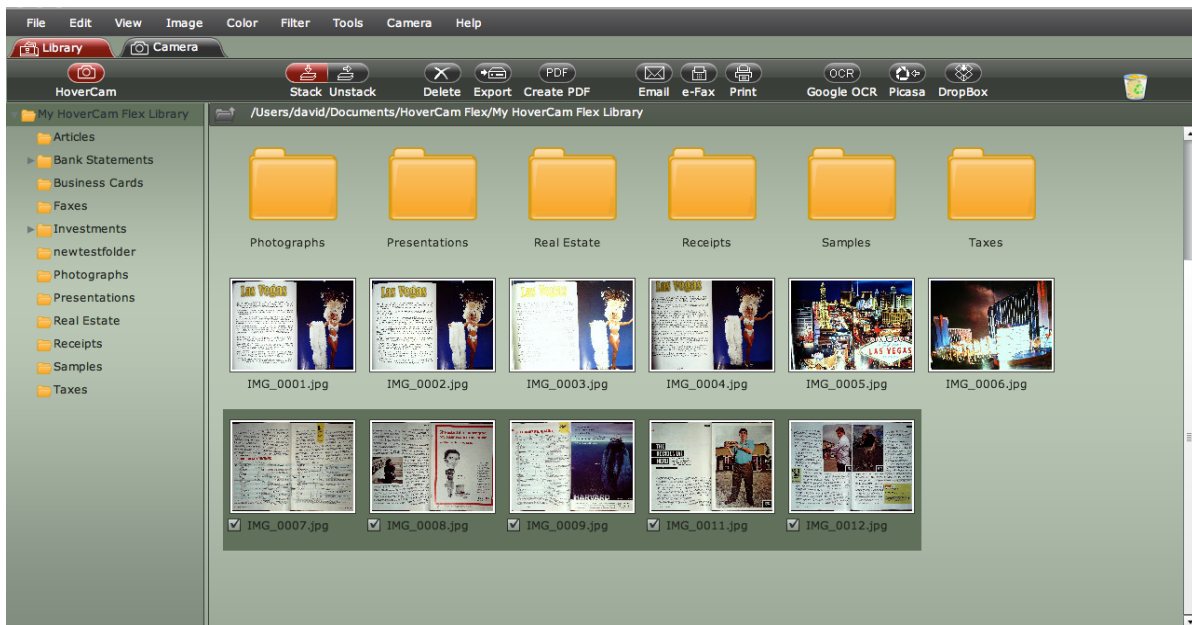


After scanning, double-clicking on any scanned image in the right panel will bring you to the “Image Mode” for viewing or editing (see the screenshot below). Or you can click on the “Library” tab to enter the “Library Mode” (File Management Mode).



For image adjustment settings and functionality, see above under “HoverCam Flex Software Features.”.

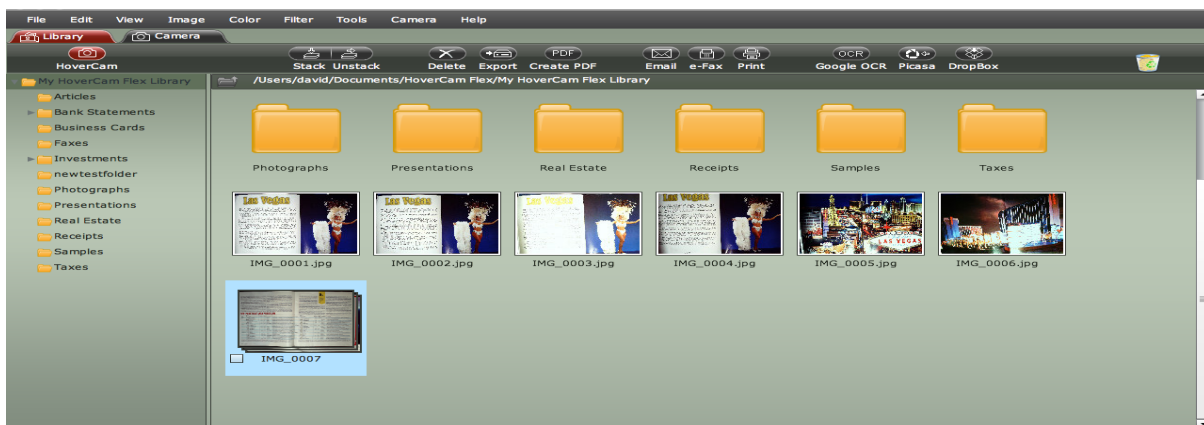
Library Mode (File Management Mode):



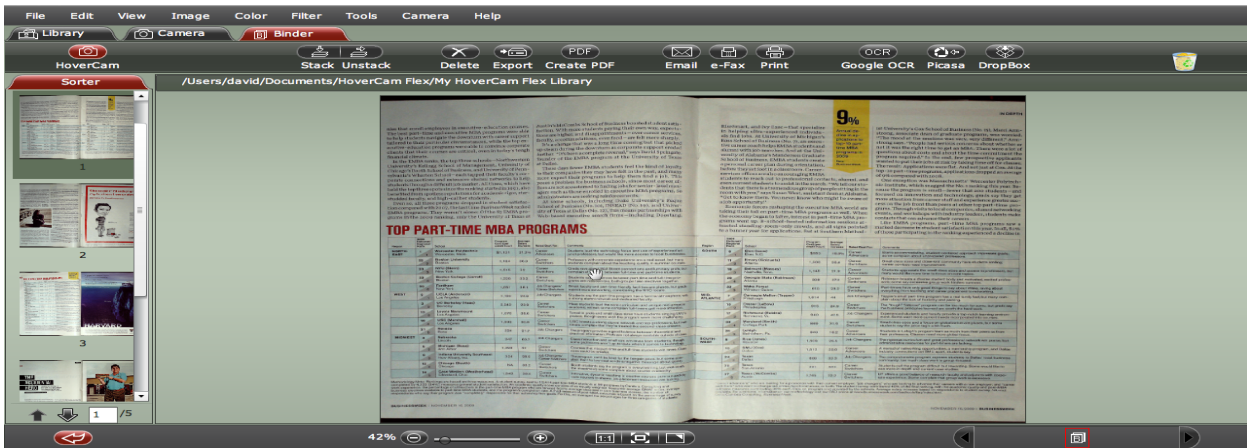
In “Library Mode” you can view, sort, delete, move, and stack/unstack scanned images, drag and drop images to existing folders, or create new folders.

You can choose to combine a number of scanned images together, such as all the pages in an article scanned from a magazine or bills for a given month. This “Stack” feature helps you keep track of separate images and facilitates filing. Conversely, you can “Unstack” a series of images into individual pages.

Double-clicking on an individual image will bring you to the “Image Mode”; double-clicking on a stack of images will bring you to the “Binder Mode”.



Binder Mode (Stacking Mode):

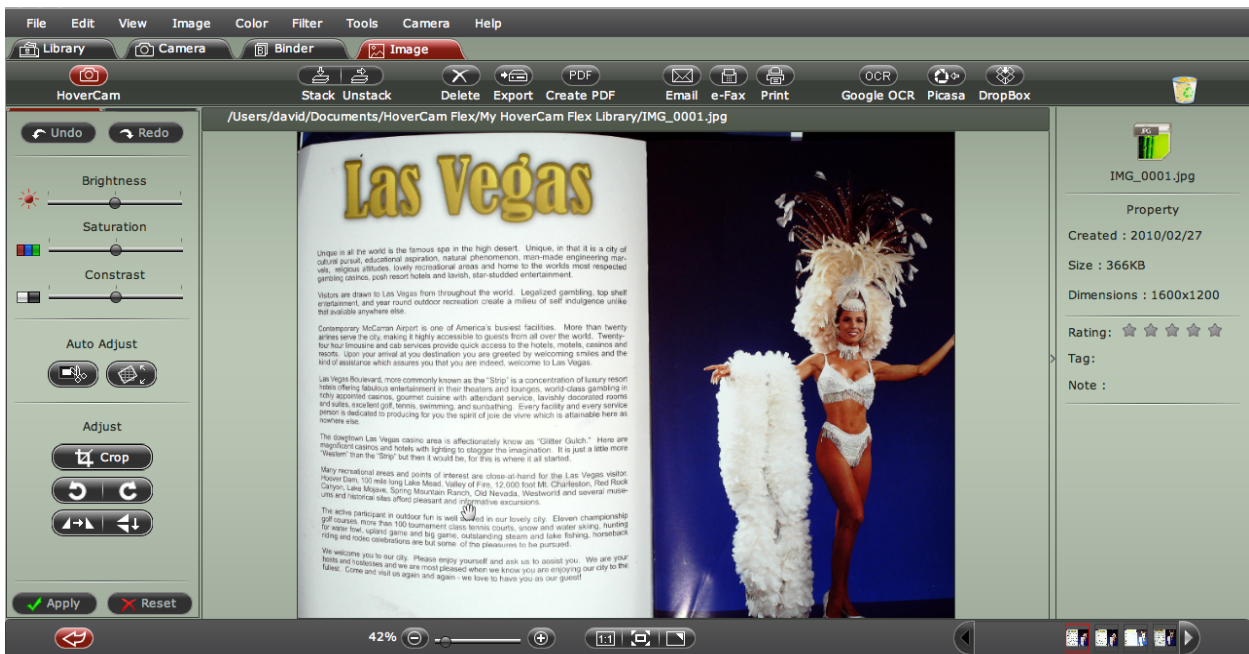


In “Binder Mode”, you can:

- view images included in the stack;
- sort, rearrange, and delete images;
- export stacked images into one PDF file; or
- email stacked images using your favorite email program;*

*The default email program (Microsoft Outlook, Microsoft Outlook Express, Thunderbird, Apple Mail, Eudora, etc.) needs to be configured before you can use this feature.


Image Mode: Image



In “Image Mode”, you have controls for:

- Brightness, saturation, and contrast;
- Automatic trimming, automatic straightening;
- Cropping, rotating, and flipping of the image;
- Emailing the image;
- Conversion of the image into a PDF file;

Visual Presentation (HoverCam as a Document Camera)


Click on the “HoverCam”  button to initialize the HoverCam and enter the

“Camera/Preview” mode. At this point the monitor not only shows what you would capture if wanted to start a scan, but, without starting a scan, also shows a local or remote audience the same image. For this reason the HoverCam is superb for presentations.

To begin the presentation, place what you want to show in the HoverCam’s field of vision.

Preferably, use a solid background (scanning mat is NOT needed).

Connect your computer to a projector, LCD monitor, or SmartBoard.

Use the “**zoom**” button or the mouse wheel to zoom in or out of the live presentation. If you want a full screen, click (guess what?) the “**full screen**”  button. To exit the full screen mode, press the “Esc” key or else mouse over the screen bottom and click the “full screen” button again.



Tips:

The video performance is optimized at 1600 x 1200 pixels, so choose this setting. You can show PowerPoint slides and Flex images simultaneously simply by shrinking windows and showing two windows at once. At any time you can enlarge either window or overlap one window with another.

Video Conferencing

To use the HoverCam for video conferencing, start, according to your preference:

Windows Live Messenger, or
 Yahoo Messenger, or
 Skype.

Taking Skype as an example, you would go to Skype **preference** → **Video** → **Select** and pick “HoverCam Document Camera” as the camera. You would then be set up for your video conference using Skype. In Windows Live Messenger or in Yahoo Messenger you would select the HoverCam in the same fashion.

Knowledge Base and Troubleshooting

Go to www.thehovercam.com/html/support.html for further information about the HoverCam, including ever-growing HoverCam applications, FAQs, Tips and Tricks, and troubleshooting guides. Need help, open an support ticket at www.thehovercam.com/html/support

Question or Problem

Solution

When installing HoverCam Flex Software, I got a message saying: “This application requires an update to Adobe AIR that is not available for your system...”

Check to see whether you have Adobe AIR 2.0 b1 runtime installed on your system. If you don't, download and install Adobe AIR 2.0 runtime from our Web site. Other versions of Adobe Air are problematic, and you must have the latest version. You'll hurt nothing by reinstalling this program. Uninstall any previous version of Adobe AIR, then follow the instructions for downloading the correct version at www.thehovercam.com/download.html.

“The camera selected is

When you click on the “Camera” button in the upper left corner

busy, try again?"

under the file menu, the HoverCam may produce a message that says:

"The camera selected is busy, try again?"

Do the following:

- Click on "No";
- Close the "Camera" tab;
- Unplug from the PC the USB cable going to the HoverCam;
- Wait 10 seconds;
- Plug the USB cable that you just unplugged back into to the PC;
- Click on the "Camera" button again, bringing up the HoverCam preview window. You should be good to go.

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