Dartfish® – "Tagging" the way Forward

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More than seven years ago, Dartfish® released its first video **"Tagging"** software, allowing users to mark events in video and extract relevant clips and statistics from these events. Originally designed for use in team sports to reduce the amount of time spent reviewing game film and to highlight specific stats and performances of specific athletes, Dartfish® has moulded tagging technology into the incredibly powerful tool it is today. And here at the hpc we use it for all our match and game analysis needs.

Tagging is not at all limited to team sports or even sport in general for that matter, and has truly become an invaluable tool to many professionals in many fields. The publishing tools incorporated into the software, make it the perfect tool for "editing" video and extracting only the clips you want to use i.e. eliminating "wasted" video with no action/purpose. Taekwondo and cheerleading use it as their basis for video-based judging and replay systems worldwide. In the corporate environment it has found favour for use in meetings, interviews, etc. and is being used by universities to evaluate student-teacher classroom performances. Because tagging being used in so many fields and customer's needs differing so dramatically, Dartfish® has five main tagging solutions.

MANUAL TAGGING

With the ability to create customized tagging "panels" in the Dartfish® software, users are able to tag videos and extract relevant information required for their specific coaching staff/athletes. Short video clips/highlights can be easily extracted from long videos, and creating statistical reports or highlighting and sharing certain data is quick and painless. Creating "events" is as simple as one mouse click, and applying descriptors or 'values' to these events, not many more. The descriptors or values allow quick and accurate video searching/sorting to locate the exact performance event desired.

Want to examine each slower ball bowled in the opening spell for your opening bowling in cricket? Or look closely at each foot fault performed by your centre in netball? Or even evaluate the consistency of an umpires calling of a game in hockey? The event/value system locates the exact event you choose to view – depending on how you have constructed your tagging panel. You can do a simple text search, an advanced multi-level search or a hyperlinked table search to filter your events. And all this information can simply be exported into Microsoft Excel® for the creation of intricate tables and creative graphs. This very powerful and time saving solution is used by thousands of organizations today.

AUTOMATED TAGGING

In 2008 Dartfish® created a customizable SDK (software development kit), providing a fully automated tagging solution which allows Dartfish® to be "controlled" by existing scoring or data capture software to automate the capture and tagging process. In use today by organizations such as the World Taekwondo Federation, the automated tagging solution has revolutionized the tagging world.

EASY TAG

Dartfish® EasyTag was designed for use on Apple® operating system devices such as the iPhone® or iPad® and allows users to tag live events and later send those tags to their computer with Dartfish® software. Here their "events" are merged with the video to display all of their tags. This is done by synchronizing captured "events" with the timeline of the video clip, and can be used to tag various video clips simultaneously, i.e. different video views of the same event. Easytag, is a free application, and allows users to create their own customized tagging panels and also share them with other Easytag users, or to synchronize their information through iTunes®. Gone are the days when video analysts and coaches had to sit alongside the camera with a laptop to tag events live.

ONLINE TAGGING

The latest release of Dartfish.tv® has also addressed the prospect of on-line tagging. Users can now tag events and add customized values on-line, eliminating the logistical problems of being personally present at events in order to analyse them in a time-efficient manner. The Dartfish.tv® platform, has also incorporated unique search and share tools allowing users to take full advantage of the in-depth tagging Dartfish® offers. Now, instead of applying keywords to entire videos, the "value" data can be searched and shared, allowing viewers to create and share customized playlists with other viewers. Want to sort through a video of a match and see only your favourite player's shots on goal, wickets, tackles, etc? And them share them with others? No problem - simply search for your desired results and click "Share".

OTHER TYPES OF TAGGING

Dartfish® also has the ability to import other data files such as .CSV data to tag video. This means almost anyone, anywhere can create a data report to tag videos. Dartfish® users can also export their tags to a data file to share with other users on other computers who don't have the software to maximize this experience. For example, a unique and powerful solution has been delivered by Dartfish® and Edge® for utilizing detailed baseball charting data and game video to search for simple or complex data on all pitchers and hitters, over an entire season. Served up on the web for easy-access viewing and searching, the video related to this data is in an embedded playlist and provides a very advanced use for Easytag and the Dartfish® software in general 🌈