Instruction and Research Technology

SteadiCam Competency Test

In order to take this test, the student needs to either have passed one of the camera tests or provide their own camera to take the test with. When a student takes the test as an operator, they need an assistant. *The assistant cannot be an STC on duty*. Set up should include balancing the sled with the camera, attaching it to the vest, moving around with it, and breaking it down. The student is allowed to miss 3 non-essential questions to pass. If the student misses one of the essential questions, it results in automatic failure.

(*=Assistant should help)

Set Up

- 1. How do you set up the C-stand and attach the Pilot sled?
- 2. (*Essential*) How do you attach the camera to the Pilot Sled?* (*=Assistant should help)
- 4. If you were to add weights to the sled, where can they go?
- 6. How do you connect the camera to the monitor?
- 7. How do you connect the batteries?
- 7. (Essential) How do you set the Static Balance (Gimbal)? *
- 9. (Essential) How do you set the Dynamic Balance (main post)? *
- 10. Which knob moves the camera forward and back?
- 11. Which knob moves the camera right to left?
- 12. Where do you position your hands while holding the sled?
- 13. What is the max amount of weight that can go on the sled?

Arm & Vest (Assistant should help)

- 1. (Essential) How do you connect the forearm to the upper arm?
- 2. (Essential) How do you put on the vest? *
- 3. (Essential) How do you attach the arm to the vest? *
- 4. (Essential) How do you attach the sled to the arm? *
- 5. How do you adjust the arm's lift?

Movement

- 1. Look again for proper hand placement. (one on post under Gimbal, one on handle)
- 2. Demonstrate:
 - A. Dolly
 - B. Truck
 - C. Arc
 - D. Pan
 - E. Boom
 - F. Tongue
- 3. How do you get a low angle?

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Breakdown

Have the student put the Steadicam away. As they do please watch for the following:

- 1. Place the sled on the C-Stand. *
- 2. Remove Arm. *
- 3. Take off Vest. (look for 6screws)
- 4. Separate arms, and place back in bag (watch for pin)
- 5. Take Camera off Sled. *
- 6. Place plate back on sled.
- 7. Disconnect the battery pack.
- 8. Place sled back in case (might need t-handle)

Identify the parts:

- 1. Arms 2 pin
- 2. Vest 6 screws
- 3. Release pin
- 4. Docking Bracket
- 5. Monitor
- 6. Gimbal/Gimbal Handle
- 7. Battery mount
- 8. T-handle
- 9. Camera Mount 4 screws
- 10. Weights -8
- 11. Bag of cables