

## Branor Systems Camera Trucks "CamTruck" Graham Farish CTN003

Thank you buying this Branor Systems **CamTruck**. We hope you get as much enjoyment out of this novel device as we had developing and using it.

### Contents:

CamTruck packed in an original manufactures box.  
Mini USB cable  
This instruction sheet

**Operation:** All functions are controlled by the buttons at the front of the truck. Both buttons perform the same operation and are simply wired together. Status is indicated by a dual coloured LED mounted under the camera hood.

**On/Off:** The CamTruck is turned on by pressing the button for a few seconds until the yellow light comes on. Conversely, pressing this button for a few seconds until the yellow light goes out turns the truck off. (but only after making a recording)

**Start Video Recording:** With the yellow light on steady as above press the button again for a few seconds until the light flashes then release the button. The Video recording is now running and the yellow LED continues to flash..

**Stop Video Recording:** Press the button very briefly. The yellow light will return to the steady on state.

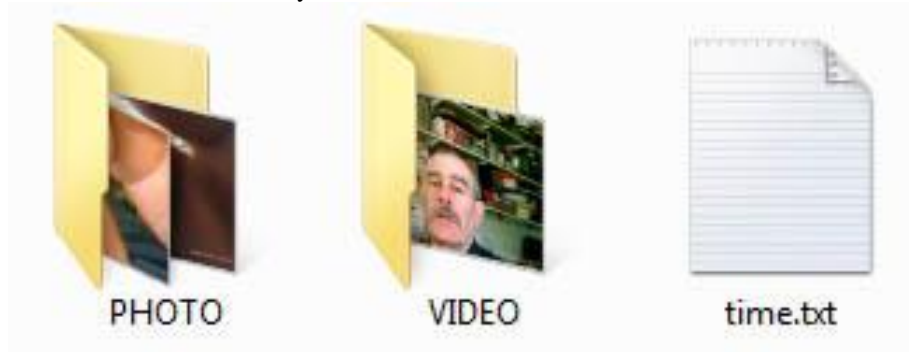
To make a further recording, press the button briefly again.

**Still Pictures:** In the On mode, if the button is pressed briefly and released a still picture in JPG format will be taken. The light will go off then on when the picture has been stored. Multiple still pictures can be taken without turning the camera off and then on.

**Note:** If any of the above sequences are performed without waiting in-between operations the electronics can lock up. If this happens, press the reset button for a few seconds. This button is located inside the truck and can be accessed by removing the truck roof.

**Downloading Videos:** Connect the CamTruck to a PC via the supplied USB cable. The smaller USB connector should be plugged directly into the CamTruck. Do not push too hard. The larger USB connector should be plugged into any available PC USB socket. The Red light on the CamTruck should turn on.

With any version of Microsoft Windows or Apple PCs the CamTruck should be automatically recognised as a standard USB memory stick. If a choice menu appears, select 'Open folder to view files'. If this menu is not shown (or you close this menu option) the files can be viewed by going to 'My Computer' and clicking on the 'removable disk' option. The number allocated to external disks will change depending on what other external devices that are connected to the USB connectors. A clue to which one is correct is the memory size.



The image to the left shows how the screen looks in Window 7 on a PC. This will be different for other operating systems and computers.

A window should appear with two folders "PHOTO" and "VIDEO". The AVI video files will be in the VIDEO folder and conversely, the JPG pictures will be in the PHOTO folder. The "time.txt" file is for setting the time and date.

The videos can be viewed directly from the CamTruck but the access speed of the PC may produce a slow and jerky playback. It is best to copy the AVI files to a suitable folder on the PC and play them from there.

**Disconnecting:** There is a safe way of removing a USB memory stick from a PC and this should be the preferred way. If the USB cable is removed during a file transfer, the file may be lost or damaged!

When the CamTruck is disconnected from the PC the Red light should turn off.

**Playback problems:** The files recorded on this CamTruck have been tested on Microsoft Windows versions XP, Vista and Windows 7 using the supplied Window Media Player or Apple equivalent with no problems. One version of Windows 7 and Window Media Player played the video with sound only! If this occurs on your PC we suggest you use a different Media Player. An excellent player is available free from VLC Media Player from <http://www.vlcmmediaplayer.org/> This application seems to play every type of video file and loads much faster than Window Media Player. Apple Quick Time Player also works well and is free. On some files we have seen the message that the AVI file is broken. Just ignore this message and play without fixing. It always works. The files recorded on this CamTruck have been successfully loaded into various Video Editing programs and this a good way of removing unwanted start and end sequences of giant hands coming into picture!

**Charging the internal Battery:** All the time the USB cable connects the CamTruck to the PC the internal battery is being charged from the computer. The red light should go out when fully charged but do not leave it charging for more than 1 hour. We recommend that the battery is given a full charge when first received.

**Recording Suggestions:** In order to record a video as seen from the viewpoint of an engine driver just place the CamTruck in front of a locomotive and drive it around your track with the camera facing forwards. Best results are when the speed of the loco is slow. This gives the eye a chance to take in the scenery. The CamTruck can be pulled backwards to give a 'Guards Van' view. It is important to get as much light as possible on to your layout. This improves sharpness and reduces grain on the image. If you have a road system on your layout there is nothing to stop you pushing the CamTruck around the roads to get a car drivers view.

**Specifications:**

Video format: 720 by 480 pixels at 30 frames per second in AVI format. Angle of view 30° approx.

Audio format: 128 KB second, Mono, 22KHZ sample rate.

2GB Micro SD Memory Card. This gives about 30 minutes recording time. A larger memory card up to 8GB can be fitted.

Internal Lithium Polymer Battery life when fully charged is just over 1 hour.

Guaranteed for one year providing no damage has been caused by modifications or disassembly.

**Setting the Time and Date:** The video records the time and date as a text display in the lower right side of the picture. This information is kept up to date even when the CamTruck is off. This time information can be set as described below by creating a text file in the root directory of the CamTruck memory card. When the CamTruck is turned off and then on, the data in the file will be used to set the clock. Using the reset button may also reset the time and date!



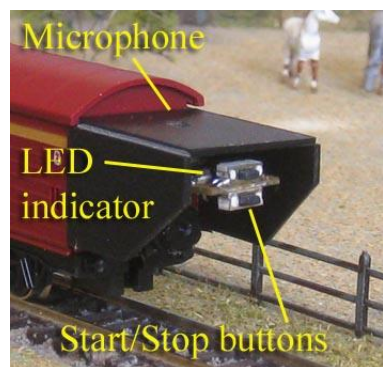
**Time and Date set Text file Format**

File name "time.txt"

Type the following with today's date and time:

**2011/04/29  
12:32:00**

Note: For the date the order is:  
Year/Month/Day



**Front controls & indicators**