PicturesToExe

John Willett

Over the years tape/slide (Diaporama) has always been a problem when it came to projection because of the different standards that exist for projectors, tape recorders, etc. Digital cameras and computers have made things easier, but not every computer had PowerPoint and there are several different proprietary, non-compatible, systems.

But now there is a solution!

When I attended the recent Audio-Visual Festival of the Royal Photographic Society they presented their medal to Igor Kokarev from Russia for producing the computer program '**PicturesToExe**'. Normally this medal is given to elderly recipients as a lifetime achievement award, very rarely to someone as young as Igor (who is in his 30s).

It wasn't hard to see why. Almost all the audio-visual presentations at the festival were made using "PicturesToExe" and it has become the system of choice for presentations. Hence the very high regard in which Igor is held.

What is "PicturesToExe"?

Basically it is a sophisticated but affordable and easy-to-use program that enables you to make complex audio-visual presentations and then to save them as an "exe" file that can be used on any computer. No longer is special equipment is needed – all you require is a standard PC with a sound card. Double-click the "exe" file and there you are – 'simples'. The program will also allow you to make Mac compatible files and/or to enable you to burn the presentation on a DVD to play back on your TV.

Igor's company is WNSOFT and he graciously donated a couple of copies of "Pictures to EXE" as prizes for last year's IARC and BARC contests.

The website is: www.wnsoft.com. I would urge you to have a look and get the full details of this excellent program. You can download a free trial if you want to see how it works.

To quote from The Photographer, February 2008, 'The Picture Show Program':

'PicturesToExe Deluxe is an amazing piece of presentation software that defies all the usual rules. It's inexpensive, easy to learn, very powerful, undemanding in terms of computer resources – and it produces wonderful results ...'

Even if you have never thought about Multimedia audio-visual presentations in the past because of all the difficulties, it may well be worth considering now. I have bought a copy for myself and plan to try my hand in 2011.

I'm looking forward to seeing what appears in the 'Multimedia' section of next year's BARC.