FILE SPECS FOR 5.1 FILM UPMIXING

Export the mixed audio stems from the video editing program, preferably at 24-bit/48Khz in WAV or AIFF format. 16-bit/44.1Khz is not recommended but can be accepted if that is the only option. Please do not send AAF or OMF files for upmixing.

Stereo Audio Stems (for Upmixing and Mastering)

- **Format:**
  - Finalized stereo audio stems: These are the core audio elements that will be processed and expanded into a 5.1 surround sound mix. The stems should be fully mixed with effects and processing.
- **Required Stems:**
  - **Dialogue (DIA):**
    - This stem should contain all spoken words, including voiceovers, narration, and on-screen dialogue. It should be clean and free of extraneous noise to ensure clarity in the final mix.
  - **Music (MX):**
    - This stem includes all musical elements, such as the score, songs, and any other musical components. It allows for independent control and placement of music within the surround sound field.

- **Sound Effects/Foley (SFX or FX):**
  - This stem comprises all sound effects, including ambient sounds, specific effects, and Foley.
  - **Foley (Separated, if applicable):**
  - If Foley is provided as a separate stem, it allows for even finer control over these crucial sound elements.

Picture Guidelines

- **Reference Video with Embedded Stereo Rough Mix:**
  - Provide a complete visual representation of the film, including the current stereo audio mix.
- **Picture-Locked and Approved:**
  - The video file must represent the final, unchangeable version of the film. This prevents discrepancies between the audio mix and the final visual output, ensuring synchronization and consistency.
- **Minimum Full HD Resolution (1920 x 1080):**
  - A high-resolution video is required for accurate visual referencing during the mixing process.
- **File Format (MOV or MP4):**
  - These are widely compatible and industry-standard video formats, ensuring smooth playback and efficient workflow.
- **Timecode (Burned-in Preferred):**
  - Burned-in timecode provides a visual reference for precise audio-to-video synchronization. While not mandatory, it significantly streamlines the mixing process and reduces the risk of timing errors.
- **Accepted Codec Examples:**
  - These codecs (Avid DNxHD, DNxHR, Apple ProRes, Dv25, Dv50, h265, h264) are commonly used in professional video production and provide high-quality image reproduction.
- **Matching Frame Rate:**
  - The video's frame rate must precisely match the final production's frame rate. Any mismatch will result in audio and video drift, causing synchronization problems. This is a critical requirement for a seamless final mix.