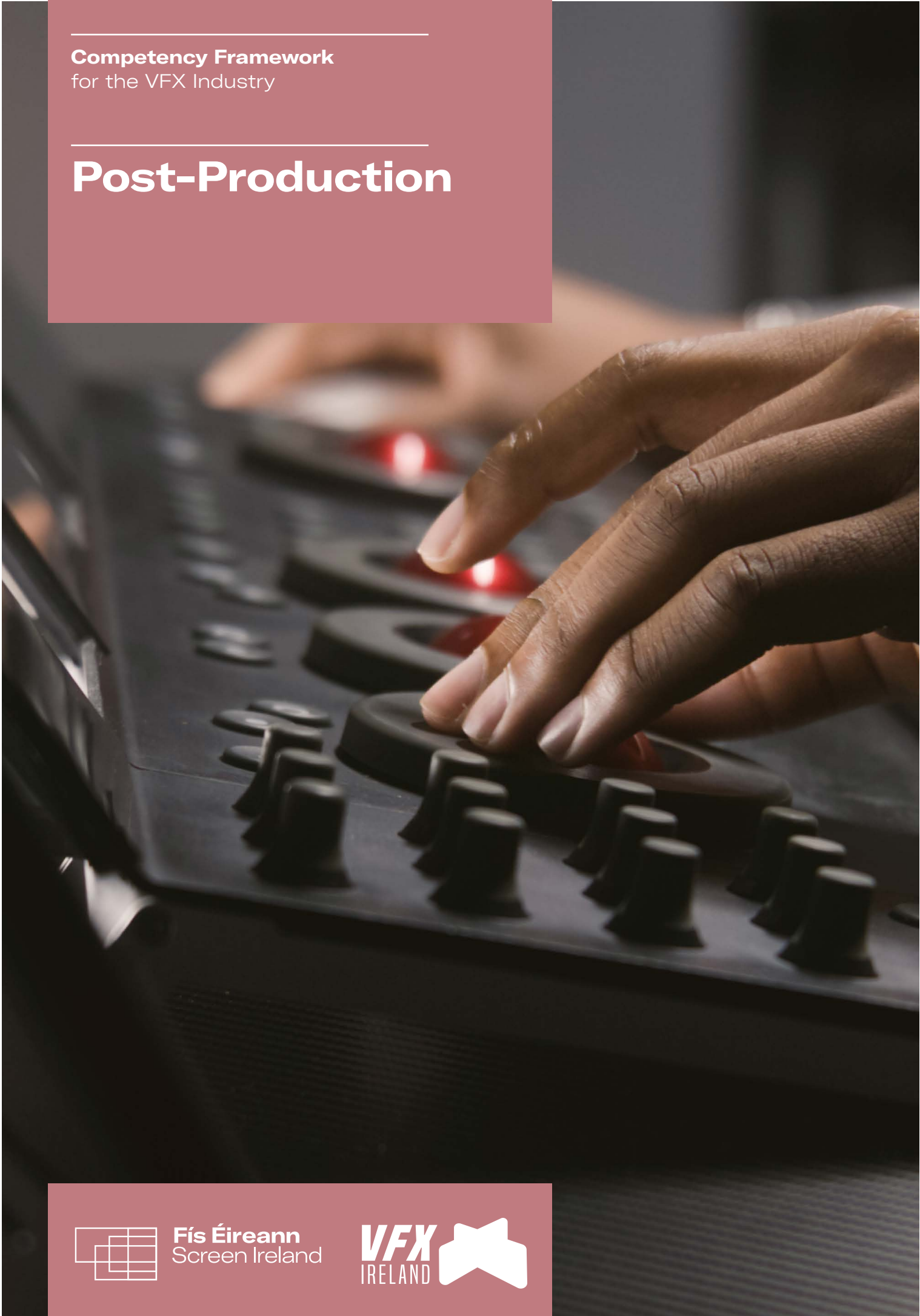


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**Competency Framework**  
for the VFX Industry

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# Post-Production



**Fís Éireann**  
Screen Ireland



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# Post-Production

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## Roles

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# Colourist (US: Colorist)

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## Role Summary:

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A Colourist in the VFX industry is responsible for enhancing the visual appeal of footage through colour grading and correction techniques. They work closely with filmmakers, directors, and cinematographers to achieve the desired look and mood for a project. Colourists play a critical role in shaping the overall aesthetic and narrative of a film or television production by applying creative and technical expertise to manipulate colour and light.

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## Key Tasks:

1. Applying colour grading and correction to footage
2. Collaborating with filmmaker and creative teams
3. Ensuring consistency across shots and sequences
4. Optimizing colour workflow and efficiency
5. Maintaining industry standards and best practices
6. Keeping abreast of emerging technologies and trends

## Task statements

### Key Task 1:

#### Applying colour grading and correction to footage

##### Associated activities

- ✓ Assess the visual characteristics of footage, including colour balance, exposure, contrast, and saturation
- ✓ Use colour grading software to apply creative looks, styles, and visual effects to enhance the mood and atmosphere of scenes
- ✓ Perform colour correction to address technical issues and discrepancies, such as white balance, exposure, and noise reduction

### Key Task 2:

#### Collaborating with filmmakers and creative teams

##### Associated activities

- ✓ Work closely with directors, cinematographers, and production designers to understand their creative vision and goals for the project
- ✓ Participate in pre-production meetings and camera tests to establish the desired look and aesthetic for the film or television show
- ✓ Provide creative input and recommendations based on industry expertise and technical knowledge

### Key Task 3:

#### Ensuring consistency across shots and sequences

##### Associated activities

- ✓ Maintain visual continuity and consistency throughout the film or television series by matching colours and tones across shots and scenes
- ✓ Create and apply colour grading templates and LUTs (Look-Up Tables) to maintain a cohesive visual style and mood
- ✓ Collaborate with compositors, VFX artists, and editors to seamlessly integrate visual effects and CGI elements with live-action footage

## Key Task 4:

### Optimising colour workflow and efficiency

#### Associated activities

- ✓ Develop efficient workflows and techniques to streamline the colour grading process and maximize productivity
- ✓ Utilize advanced features and automation tools within colour grading software to expedite repetitive tasks and improve efficiency
- ✓ Organize and manage project files, timelines, and deliverables to ensure smooth collaboration and communication with the post-production team

## Key Task 5:

### Maintaining industry standards and best practices

#### Associated activities

- ✓ Stay informed about the latest industry standards, colour science, and best practices for colour grading and correction
- ✓ Adhere to studio guidelines, technical specifications, and delivery requirements for different distribution platforms and formats
- ✓ Continuously refine and improve skills through training, workshops, and professional development opportunities

## Key Task 6:

### Keeping abreast of emerging technologies and trends

#### Associated activities

- ✓ Stay updated on emerging technologies, software updates, and trends in colour grading and digital imaging
- ✓ Experiment with new tools, techniques, and workflows to push creative boundaries and achieve innovative looks
- ✓ Share knowledge and insights with colleagues and peers to foster a culture of learning and collaboration within the VFX industry

## Competencies Required

Core Competencies	Technical Competencies		Leadership Competencies	Personal Development Competencies
Adaptability to Change	VFX Pipeline		Leading Teams	Continuous Learning and Improvement
Communication	VFX Software Suites		Managing Budgets	Industry Knowledge
Decision Making	Knowledge of Photography and Cinematography		Managing People	Managing Self & Resilience (Wellbeing)
Managing Deadlines	Rigging		Mentoring and Coaching	Self-Awareness
Problem Solving	2D	Compositing Software	Strategic Thinking	Working as a Freelancer/ Self-Employed
Quality Oriented	3D	Digital Sculpting Software	Working Inclusively	Working Under Pressure
Time, Task and Resource Management	3D	Lighting Techniques		
Working Collaboratively	3D	Rendering Engines		
Working Independently	3D	Shading and Material Creation		
	3D	Texture Mapping		
	3D	3D Modelling and Animation Software		
	3D	Groom Techniques		

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# Online Editor

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## Role Summary:

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An Online Editor in the VFX industry is responsible for the final assembly and quality control of visual effects shots or sequences. They work closely with VFX Supervisors, Compositors, and Colourists to ensure that the final output meets the creative and technical standards of the project. Online Editors play a crucial role in the post-production process, providing the finishing touches that enhance the visual appeal and coherence of the footage.

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## Key Tasks:

1. Finalizing and assembling visual effects shots
2. Performing colour grading and colour correction
3. Reviewing and addressing technical issues
4. Collaborating with VFX teams and clients
5. Ensuring delivery of final output
6. Maintaining project documentation and assets

## Task statements

### Key Task 1:

#### Finalising and assembling visual effects shots

##### Associated activities

- ✓ Receive and review final elements from various departments, including compositing, matte painting, and CG animation
- ✓ Arrange and edit shots according to the approved storyboard, sequence, or edit decision list (EDL)
- ✓ Integrate visual effect elements, including CG renders, matte paintings, and live-action footage, to create seamless compositions

### Key Task 2:

#### Performing colour grading and colour correction

##### Associated activities

- ✓ Apply colour grading techniques to enhance the visual appeal and consistency of the footage
- ✓ Adjust colour balance, contrast, saturation, and exposure to achieve the desired look and mood
- ✓ Match colours between shots to maintain continuity and visual coherence across the sequence

### Key Task 3:

#### Reviewing and addressing technical issues

##### Associated activities

- ✓ Conduct thorough quality control checks to identify and address technical issues, such as artefacts, noise, and mismatched frame rates
- ✓ Ensure that visual effect elements are properly integrated and aligned with the background plate
- ✓ Collaborate with VFX supervisors and technical teams to troubleshoot and resolve any technical challenges

## Key Task 4:

### Collaborating with VFX teams and clients

#### Associated activities

- ✓ Communicate regularly with VFX supervisors, compositors, and other team members to discuss project requirements, feedback, and revisions
- ✓ Attend client review sessions and address feedback to ensure that the final output meets their expectations and specifications
- ✓ Provide creative input and suggest solutions to achieve the desired visual effects and storytelling goals

## Key Task 5:

### Ensuring delivery of final output

#### Associated activities

- ✓ Prepare final output files in the required formats, resolutions, and colour spaces for delivery to clients or distribution platforms
- ✓ Coordinate with post-production coordinators or delivery managers to ensure timely delivery of final assets
- ✓ Archive project files and assets according to studio guidelines for future reference and retrieval

## Key Task 6:

### Maintaining project documentation and assets

#### Associated activities

- ✓ Keep detailed records of project progress, including shot lists, version histories, and delivery schedules
- ✓ Organize and manage project files, including source footage, visual effect elements, and intermediate renders
- ✓ Ensure that all project documentation and assets are properly labelled, stored, and accessible to team members as needed

## Competencies Required

Core Competencies	Technical Competencies		Leadership Competencies	Personal Development Competencies
Adaptability to Change	VFX Pipeline		Leading Teams	Continuous Learning and Improvement
Communication	VFX Software Suites		Managing Budgets	Industry Knowledge
Decision Making	Knowledge of Photography and Cinematography		Managing People	Managing Self & Resilience (Wellbeing)
Managing Deadlines	Rigging		Mentoring and Coaching	Self-Awareness
Problem Solving	2D	Compositing Software	Strategic Thinking	Working as a Freelancer/ Self-Employed
Quality Oriented	3D	Digital Sculpting Software	Working Inclusively	Working Under Pressure
Time, Task and Resource Management	3D	Lighting Techniques		
Working Collaboratively	3D	Rendering Engines		
Working Independently	3D	Shading and Material Creation		
	3D	Texture Mapping		
	3D	3D Modelling and Animation Software		
	3D	Groom Techniques		

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# VFX Editor

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## Role Summary:

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A VFX Editor ensures the seamless integration of visual effects elements into the final edit of a film or video. They collaborate closely with directors, editors, and VFX artists to implement visual effects shots, refine sequences, and achieve the desired creative vision.

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## Key Tasks:

1. Integrating visual effects shots into the final edit of a film or video
2. Collaborating with editors and VFX artists to refine sequences and achieve creative goals
3. Managing and organizing VFX assets and sequences
4. Providing technical support for the VFX editing process
5. Communicating with key stakeholders to ensure project requirements are met
6. Reviewing and evaluating visual effects shots for quality and accuracy
7. Contributing to the development and improvement of post-production workflows

## Task statements

### Key Task 1:

#### Integrating visual effects shots into the final edit of a film or video

##### Associated activities

- ✓ Work closely with editors and VFX artists to identify the placement and timing of visual effects shots within the overall edit
- ✓ Import, layer, and composite visual effect elements into the editing software timeline
- ✓ Adjust timing, pacing, and transitions to seamlessly integrate visual effects shots with live-action footage
- ✓ Ensure that visual effects shots are colour-corrected and graded to match the surrounding footage

### Key Task 2:

#### Collaborating with edit or sand VFX artist store fine sequences and achieve creative goals

##### Associated activities

- ✓ Attended editing sessions and VFX reviews to provide input and feedback on sequence pacing, composition, and visual effects integration
- ✓ Worked with editors and VFX artists to address feedback and revisions from directors and clients
- ✓ Assisting in creating pre-visualizations and animatics to plan and refine complex visual effects sequences
- ✓ Provide creative solutions and suggestions to overcome technical or artistic challenges during the editing process

### Key Task 3:

#### Managing and organising VFX assets and sequences

##### Associated activities

- ✓ Maintain a structured file organization system for VFX assets, including raw footage, visual effects elements, and project files
- ✓ Create and manage bins, folders, and metadata tags to organize VFX sequences, shots, and versions
- ✓ Ensure that all VFX assets are properly labelled, versioned, and archived for future reference and retrieval
- ✓ Collaborate with VFX coordinators and production teams to track the status and progress of VFX shots and sequences

## Key Task 4:

### Providing technical support for the VFX editing process

#### Associated activities

- ✓ Troubleshoot technical issues related to editing software, file formats, and rendering pipelines
- ✓ Optimize workflows and implement best practices for efficient VFX editing and compositing
- ✓ Collaborate with IT support and the VFX supervisor to resolve hardware- or software-related issues affecting the editing process
- ✓ Stay up-to-date with the latest advancements in editing software, plugins, and VFX tools

## Key Task 5:

### Communicating with key stakeholders to ensure project requirements are met

#### Associated activities

- ✓ Attend production meetings, reviews, and screenings to provide updates on the status of VFX sequences and shots
- ✓ Communicate effectively with directors, producers, and clients to understand their creative vision and feedback
- ✓ Provide clear and concise progress reports on VFX editing tasks, deadlines, and deliverables
- ✓ Collaborate with production managers and coordinators to prioritize tasks and allocate resources effectively

## Key Task 6:

### Reviewing and evaluating visual effects shots for quality and accuracy

#### Associated activities

- ✓ Conduct thorough reviews of VFX shots to ensure they meet quality standards and technical specifications
- ✓ Provide constructive feedback to VFX artists on shot composition, lighting, animation, and rendering
- ✓ Verify that visual effects shots align with the creative direction, style, and continuity of the project
- ✓ Perform final quality control checks and render approvals before delivering completed VFX sequences to the editorial team

## Key Task 7:

### Contributing to the development and improvement of post-production workflows

#### Associated activities

- ✓ Identify opportunities to streamline and optimize VFX editing processes, workflows, and pipelines
- ✓ Collaborate with VFX supervisors, editors, and technical directors to implement workflow enhancements and efficiency gains
- ✓ Participate in post-mortem reviews and feedback sessions to identify lessons learned and areas for improvement
- ✓ Provide training and mentorship to junior VFX editors and artists to promote skill development and knowledge sharing

## Competencies Required

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