GEM

Delivery Specifications

Version 1.2

Date: February 13, 2026

Owner: GEM Quality Control Team (QC)

Applies To: Long-form program deliveries for distribution on GEM (features, episodic series, documentaries, specials)

1. Objective

GEM offers an outstanding, high-quality viewing experience that preserves original artistic intent. Achieving this level of quality requires GEM to work with source files that match the original frame rate and aspect ratio as originally shot and mastered. If you do not have the source materials GEM requests, GEM will work closely with you to determine whether acceptable alternatives are available. In this document, GEM may be referred to as "GEM" or "our," and Partner may be referred to as "you" and "your."

For each Title, all Source Material elements set forth in this schedule must work in conjunction (conform) with one another as a properly functioning single asset. Source Material must be compliant with the specifications detailed in this document.

This document lists specifications for deliverables to GEM. Some specifications may not apply to your production. Please refer to your GEM Delivery Requirements List or your GEM representative to confirm which sections apply to your delivery. If any section of this document appears to conflict with the Partner Help Center, please defer to the GEM Delivery Requirements List for the Title or your GEM representative.

2. Core Principles

- All delivered elements must conform to the same final locked cut: picture, audio, and timed text must match frame-accurately.
- Deliver the native frame rate and native aspect ratio of the finished master. Do not standards convert or change cadence unless specifically approved.
- Deliver one continuous file per program (feature) or per episode. Do not split into reels.
- Dialog subtitles must be delivered as separate timed text files. Do not burn dialog subtitles into picture.
- No watermarks, timecode burns, slates, ad markers, broadcaster bugs, distributor logos, or platform branding.

3. General Asset Requirements

- Deliver the uncensored master unless GEM explicitly requests an edited version.
- Do not perform frame rate conversions, pulldown, interpolation, or re-timing unless GEM approves an alternative.
- Do not add letterboxing or pillarboxing unless it is part of the creative master.
- No bars/tone/leader/slates in the program master unless requested for a specific workflow.
- Timed text must not be burned into the program master (dialog subtitles).
- Translation integrity must be preserved; avoid altering meaning or tone beyond required localization.
- For animation or content with intense flashes, patterns, or strobing, Partner must disclose any PSE/flash concerns and provide test results if available.
- All elements must match the final locked picture master. If any element is based on a different cut, disclose immediately.

4. Delivery Package Summary

4.1 Minimum Delivery Package (All Titles)

Category	Item	Required	Notes
Program	Picture Master + embedded audio (mezzanine)	Yes	One file per feature/episode
Audio	Original Language Full Mix (2.0) WAV	Yes	Separate file(s), 48 kHz
Timed Text	Subtitles/Captions (at least EN when available)	Preferred	One file per language per feature/episode
Metadata	Title Metadata Form	Yes	Editorial, technical, credits, rights
Promo	Key Art (vertical + horizontal)	Preferred	Minimum for merchandising

If any Preferred item is not delivered, Partner must confirm it is unavailable. GEM may request it later for accessibility, merchandising, or localization.

4.2 Recommended Delivery Package (Best Experience)

Category	Item	Recommended	Notes
Program	UHD master (if mastered UHD)	Yes	Deliver mastered resolution only
Audio	Original Language 5.1 WAV	Yes	Standard 5.1 layout
Audio	M&E (Music & Effects)	Yes	Localization readiness
Timed Text	English CC/SDH (when applicable)	Yes	Accessibility
Promo	Trailer (texted + textless)	Yes	Marketing + discovery
Promo	Stills (5–20)	Yes	No text overlays

5. Delivery Package Organization and File Integrity

5.1 Folder Organization (Recommended)

Folder	Contents
01_Master	Program master (one file per feature/episode)
02_Audio	WAV deliverables (Full Mix, 5.1 if available, M&E if available)

03_TimedText	Subtitles, captions, forced narrative files
04_Promo	Key art, trailer(s), stills
05_Metadata	Metadata form and any clearance/notes as requested

5.2 File Integrity

- For large deliveries, provide a simple manifest listing all delivered filenames and file sizes.
- If a delivery uses a transfer service that supports checksums, ensure uploads complete successfully and are not modified after upload.
- If GEM requests it for a specific delivery, provide a checksum file (MD5 or SHA-256) per asset.
- Redeliveries must clearly indicate what changed and which files are replaced.

6. Program Master Specifications (Picture + Embedded Audio)

6.1 Accepted Mezzanine Formats

Preference	Codec	Container	Notes
Preferred	Apple ProRes 422 HQ	.mov	Standard mezzanine
Preferred	Avid DNxHR HQX	.mxf / .mov	Standard mezzanine
Acceptable (approved workflows)	Apple ProRes 422	.mov	Lower bitrate than HQ
Acceptable (legacy / HD-only)	Avid DNxHD	.mxf / .mov	HD-only legacy deliveries

6.2 Picture Specs

Parameter	Requirement	Accepted Values / Notes
Resolution	Deliver mastered resolution	UHD 3840x2160; HD 1920x1080; do not upscale
Frame Rate	Native only	23.976, 24, 25, 29.97, 30, 50, 59.94, 60
Scan Type	Progressive only	No interlaced masters
Aspect Ratio	Native only	No added bars unless part of creative master
Color (SDR baseline)	Required	Rec.709 (Gamma 2.4 recommended)
HDR	By approval	Deliver HDR and SDR as separate masters if requested

6.3 Head and Tail

Item	Recommendation
Head	1 second black
Tail	1 second black
Audio	1 second head/tail silence Clean start and end; no clipped first/last frames

7. Audio Deliverables

7.1 General Requirements

Parameter	Requirement
File Type	WAV
Sample Rate	48 kHz
Bit Depth	24-bit preferred (16-bit by approval only)
Sync	Must match delivered picture master exactly

7.2 Required Audio Deliverables (Minimum)

Deliverable	Required	Format	Notes
Original Language Full Mix 2.0	Yes	WAV, 48 kHz	Stereo
Original Language Full Mix 5.1	Preferred	WAV, 48 kHz	If available
Music & Effects (M&E) 2.0	Preferred	WAV, 48 kHz	If available
Music & Effects (M&E) 5.1	Optional	WAV, 48 kHz	If 5.1 exists

7.3 Channel Layout

Format	Layout
Stereo 2.0	L, R
5.1	Ch1 L, Ch2 R, Ch3 C, Ch4 LFE, Ch5 Ls, Ch6 Rs

7.4 Loudness Guidance (Recommended)

Metric	Target
Dialog-Gated Loudness (ITU-R BS.1770)	-27 LKFS ±2 LU (dialog-gated)
True Peak	≤ -2.0 dBTP

For advertising or promotional assets intended to meet CALM-style targets, GEM may request -24 LKFS ±2. Please confirm targets in the GEM Delivery Requirements List for the Title.

Audio must be free of clipping, distortion, dropouts, clicks/pops, and phase issues (especially in downmix).

8. Timed Text (Subtitles and Captions)

8.1 General Requirements

Requirement	Standard
Conform	Must match final picture precisely
Start Timecode	00:00:00:00
Burn-ins	Not permitted for dialog subtitles
File Granularity	One file per language per feature/episode

8.2 Accepted Formats

Preference	Format	Extension
Preferred	WebVTT	.vtt
Accepted	SubRip	.srt
Accepted	TTML	.ttml / .xml

8.3 Timed Text Deliverable Matrix

Title Type	Minimum Recommended	Preferred	Notes
English Language Title	English CC/SDH	Additional languages as available	Accessibility priority
Non-English Title	English subtitles	Original-language CC/SDH where applicable	Discovery + accessibility
Any Title with plot-critical foreign dialog or on-screen text	Forced Narrative track	Separate FN file per language	Deliver separately or clearly labeled

8.4 Timed Text Quality

- Accurate transcription/translation and punctuation.
- Clean cue timing and readable pacing; avoid rapid-fire cues.
- No watermarking, ads, or platform branding.

- For CC/SDH, include meaningful non-dialog cues where appropriate.

9. Metadata Requirements

9.1 Required Metadata Fields

Category	Fields
Title	Exact title, year, country, original language
Episodic	Series name, season number, episode number, episode title
Editorial	Short synopsis (1–2 sentences), long synopsis (1 paragraph), genres, 5–10 tags
Credits	Director, producers, writers, main cast, key crew (as available)
Technical	Runtime, resolution, frame rate, aspect ratio, SDR/HDR, audio formats delivered, timed text languages delivered
Rights	Clearance confirmation for music/archive; territory limitations if any

10. Promotional Assets

10.1 Artwork Specifications

Asset	Minimum	Preferred	Format
Poster Key Art (Vertical)	2000 px long edge	3000+ px long edge	JPG/PNG
Cover Art (Horizontal)	2000 px long edge	3000+ px long edge	JPG/PNG

Artwork must be free of embedded borders, watermarks, and platform branding.

10.2 Stills

Asset	Minimum	Preferred	Notes
Stills	5	10–20	No text overlays

10.3 Trailer Deliverables

Asset	Minimum	Preferred	Notes
Trailer (Texted)	Optional	Yes	Marketing and discovery
Trailer (Textless)	Optional	Preferred	If available
Trailer Format	High quality	ProRes preferred	H.264/H.265 acceptable if needed

11. Audio Description (As Requested)

If GEM commissions Audio Description (AD) for a Title, GEM will provide specific instructions and timelines. When requested, deliver AD as separate WAV file(s) that conform to the final picture master. Naming conventions and delivery format will be confirmed in the GEM Delivery Requirements List for the Title.

12. File Naming Conventions (Required)

12.1 Naming Rules

- Use underscores; avoid special characters.
- Use consistent season/episode notation: S01E01.
- Keep names human-readable; avoid long strings.
- Include format and key technical traits when helpful.

12.2 Example Naming Table

Asset Type	Feature Example	Episodic Example
Program Master	GEM_Title_2026_Master_ProResHQ_3840x2160_23976.mov	GEM_Series_S01E01_Master_ProResHQ_1920x1080_23976.mov
Full Mix 2.0	GEM_Title_2026_AUD_FullMix_20_EN_48k24b.wav	GEM_Series_S01E01_AUD_FullMix_20_EN_48k24b.wav
Full Mix 5.1	GEM_Title_2026_AUD_FullMix_51_EN_48k24b.wav	GEM_Series_S01E01_AUD_FullMix_51_EN_48k24b.wav
M&E 2.0	GEM_Title_2026_AUD_ME_20_48k24b.wav	GEM_Series_S01E01_AUD_ME_20_48k24b.wav
Subtitles	GEM_Title_2026_SUB_EN.vtt	GEM_Series_S01E01_SUB_EN.vtt
Captions	GEM_Title_2026_CC_EN_SDH.vtt	GEM_Series_S01E01_CC_EN_SDH.vtt
Forced Narrative	GEM_Title_2026_FN_EN.vtt	GEM_Series_S01E01_FN_EN.vtt
Poster	GEM_Title_2026_ART_Poster_Vertical.jpg	GEM_Series_S01_ART_Poster_Vertical.jpg
Cover	GEM_Title_2026_ART_Cover_Horizontal.jpg	GEM_Series_S01_ART_Cover_Horizontal.jpg
Trailer	GEM_Title_2026_TRL_Texted.mov	GEM_Series_S01_TRL_Texted.mov

13. Delivery Method

13.1 Approved Delivery Options

Method	Use Case	Notes
GEM Partner Portal Upload	Preferred	Standard ingest workflow
Secure Transfer (Approved Vendor)	Large deliveries	Frame.io, MASV, Google Drive, Aspera, S3, or equivalent
Physical Media	Exception only	Only by exception

Email is used for coordination only, not for delivering large media payloads.

14. QC Review and Outcomes

14.1 QC Outcomes

Outcome	Definition	Action
Approved	Fully compliant; ready for ingest	Title proceeds to ingest and scheduling
Approved with Notes	Minor non-blocking issues	Title proceeds; notes tracked for improvement
Fix Required	Blocking issues affect playback, compliance, or accessibility	Redelivery required

14.2 Redelivery Expectations (Guidance)

Severity	Expectation	Typical Examples
Blocking	Acknowledge within 7 business days; redeliver as soon as possible	Wrong frame rate; missing audio; clipping; burned-in subs; out-of-sync subs
Non-Blocking	Track and correct in a future delivery where feasible	Minor metadata typos; minor caption punctuation

14.3 Common Fix Required Issues

Category	Examples
Cadence / Frame Rate	Wrong frame rate, standards conversion, cadence artifacts
Aspect / Scaling	Incorrect aspect ratio, unintended letterboxing/pillarboxing, improper resizing
Picture Quality	Macroblocking, banding, unintended flicker, gamma shift

Audio	Missing WAV deliverables, clipping, incorrect mapping, out-of-range loudness
Timed Text	Burned-in subs, out of sync, wrong start time, missing required languages
Branding / Slates	Watermarks, slates, bars/tone, distributor bugs

15. Pre-Delivery Checklist

15.1 Program Master Checklist

Check	Pass Criteria
Picture Lock	Final cut delivered; no temp elements
Native Frame Rate	Matches creative master; no conversion
Native Aspect Ratio	Matches creative master; no added bars unless creative
Clean Image	No watermarks, timecode, slates
Clean Start/End	Stable first/last frames; no clipped transitions

15.2 Audio Checklist

Check	Pass Criteria
Sample Rate	48 kHz
Sync	Lip sync consistent throughout
Peaks	No clipping; true peak within target
Deliverables	Full mix 2.0 present; 5.1/M&E as available
Mapping	5.1 channels correctly ordered

15.3 Timed Text Checklist

Check	Pass Criteria
Start Time	00:00:00:00
Conform	Matches delivered picture master
Format	VTT preferred; SRT/TTML accepted
Accessibility	CC/SDH provided when available and applicable
Forced Narrative	Delivered when required by content

16. Exceptions and Approvals

If a Title cannot meet a requirement, request an exception before delivery. Provide a description of the limitation, the best available alternative, and confirmation that the alternative is the final intended deliverable. GEM QC will confirm acceptance in writing.

17. Contact

For delivery questions, exceptions, or QC issues:

- GEM QC: info@gemtreams.tv
- Subject line standard: Title + Year (and SxxExx if episodic) + Delivery Type (Master, Audio, Subs)

Appendix A. Language Codes (Examples)

Use consistent language codes in filenames and metadata. Examples:

Language	Code Example
English	EN
Spanish	ES
French	FR
German	DE
Portuguese (Brazil)	PT-BR
Portuguese (Portugal)	PT-PT
Italian	IT
Japanese	JA
Korean	KO
Chinese (Simplified)	ZH-HANS
Chinese (Traditional)	ZH-HANT

Change Log

Version	Date	Summary
1.0	—	Initial release.
1.1	—	Refined structure and formatting.
1.2	2026-02-13	Added Objective language, General Asset Requirements, package organization and integrity guidance, redelivery expectations, language code appendix, and change log.