

Manual ClipsCleaner for Mac OSX

CC was created as handy tool to ease the de-identification of ultrasound images using an Apple Mac computer running OSX.

It is a straight forward method to overlay the Patient ID on the top of the Video Clip.

It also works with the latest 'Lion' version.

How does it work?

The process is very simple! You put a new Top Bar on the image or clip without a Patient name or dates.

1. Create a Clean Top Bar.

The easiest way to create a 'blank' top bar is starting from an standard image exported from your medical device using an image processing software like PaintBrush or Photoshop

You have to separate the top bar of an image and remove the Patient ID and Date using a part of the background color and paste it over the Patient Name and Time and Date.

Look into the last chapter to learn how to create your own 'Top-Bar' using PaintBrush.

Save the image that you have created as a JPG file. We propose to name it TOPBAR.PNG.

It should look like this example:



If you would like to keep the Preset Name or Time/Date from the original visible, you have to create a bar with a transparent window on the desired location.



In the example above, there is a transparent window to keep the Preset Name visible. And we added an logo to the right.

2. Create directories.

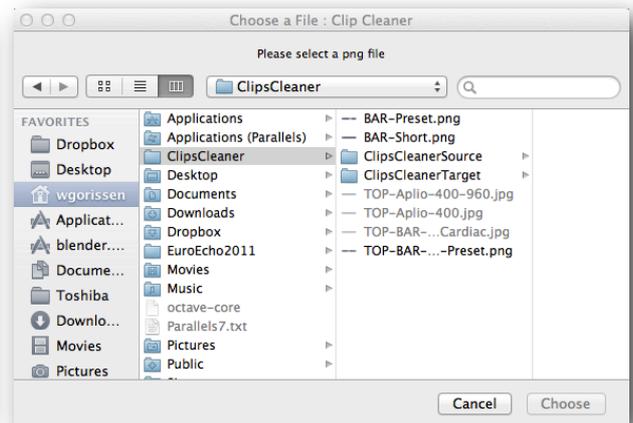
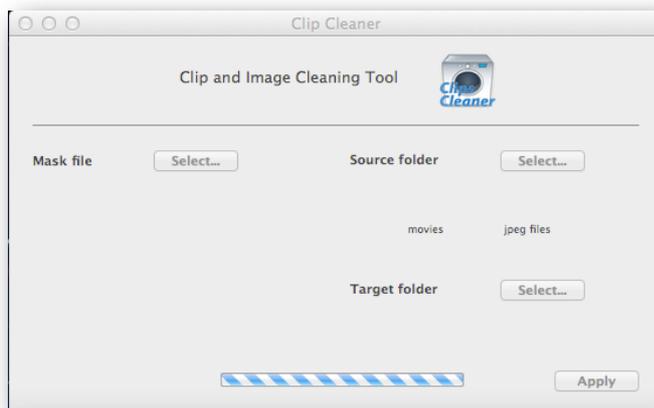
Create 2 Directories one 'Source' Directory for the original images and clips and a 'Target' directory where the clean image will be stored.

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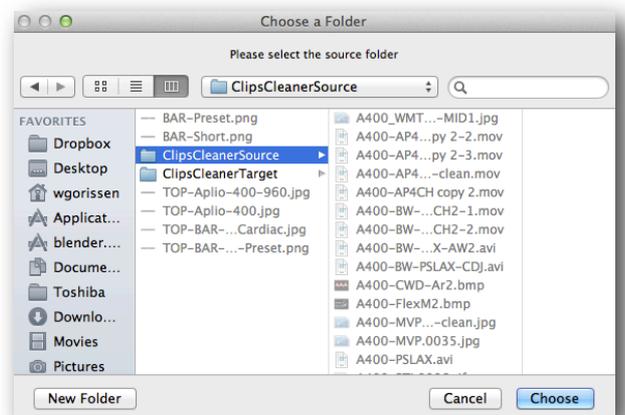
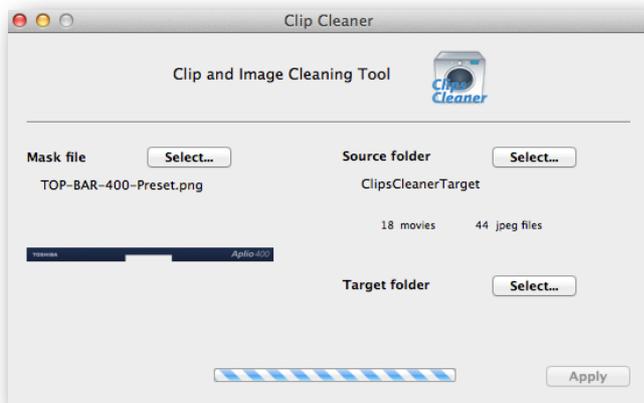
3. Run the 'Cleaning' process.

Once you have started the tool, automatically all the clips in the directory will be loaded and the TopBar image is placed over the clip, masking the original information like the Patient ID.

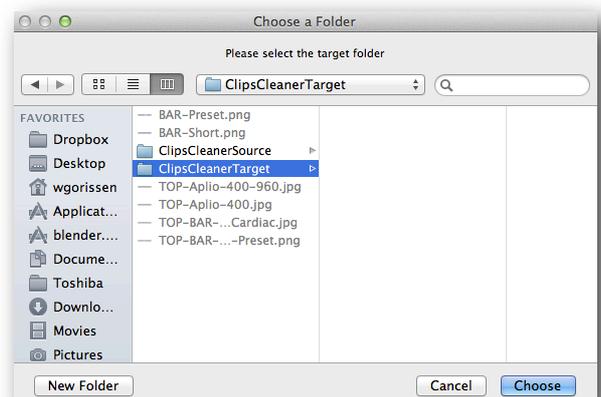
Select the 'Mask File' like the Top-Bar.png file in the example. You can add several files here to be used under different conditions. e.g. other image size or different masks. (Maybe with and without Hospital logo??)



Then select the directory where your original images and Clips are located. In this example we created a ClipsCleaner Folder with an Source and Target Directory...

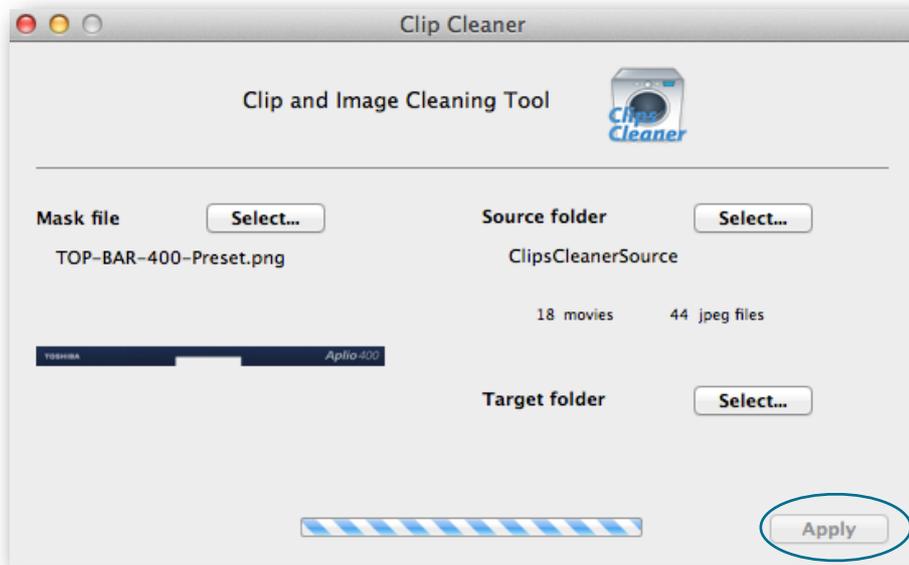


Select the "target Folder where the 'clean' images will be stored.



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After the selection of the Mask file, the Source Directory and the Target directory, you are ready to start the de-identification process by a click on the Apply button



After some moments, the files are created in the Target Directory. Clips are available as QuickTime movie (xxx.mov) files and Still Images will be available as JPEG (xxx.jpg) files.

To avoid mixing up the original and converted images, the Converted Images are renamed adding '-clean' to the original; filename.

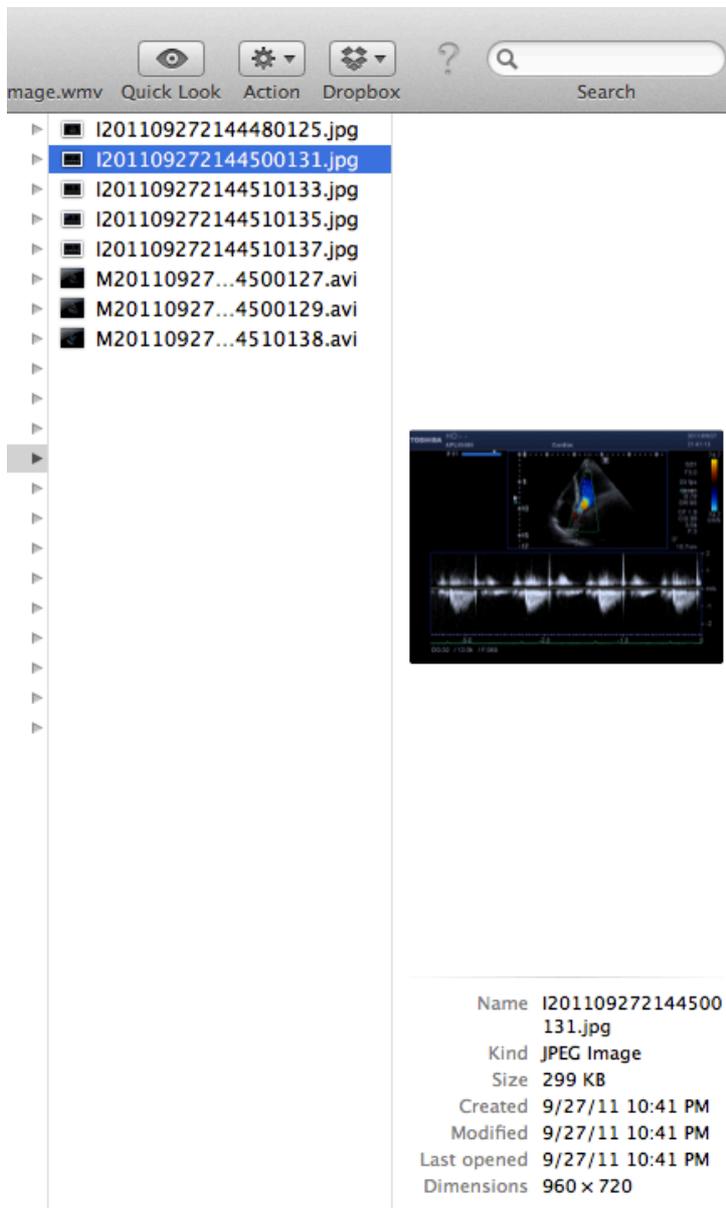


Both File types can be directly imported for presentation into a Keynote or PowerPoint Presentation.

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How to create a Top-Bar for your clips and images.

Select an exported JPG image from your ultrasound System.

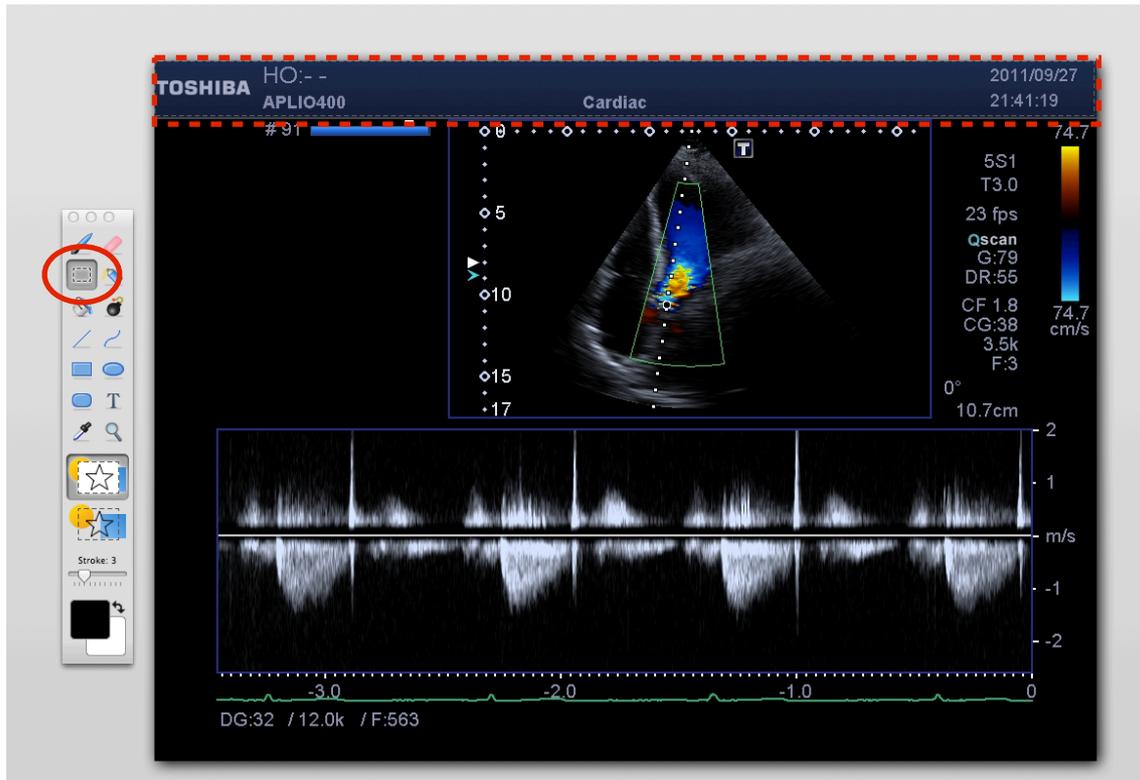


You can basically select any image, you just need to grab the top blue bar to work with.

In the display below you can find also the file dimension. In this case it is 960x720, So the Width of the Bar has to be 960 pixels wide.

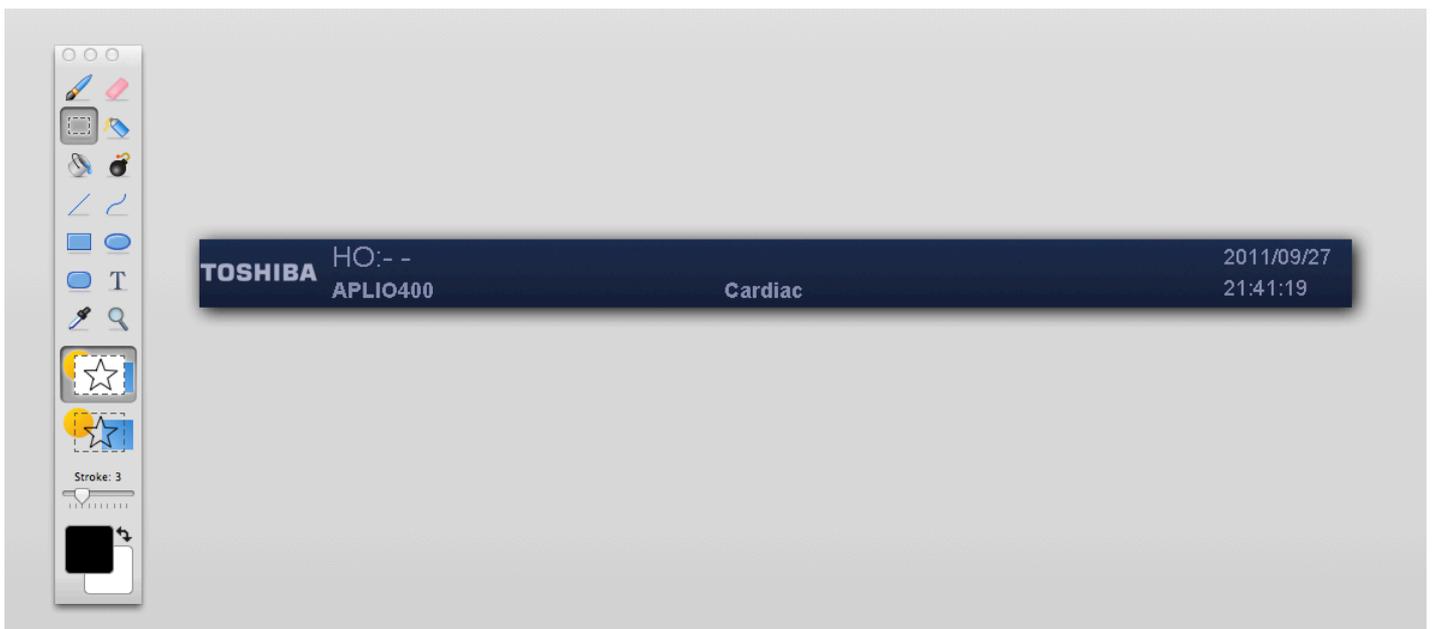
Open your selected Image in a image processing software. I used here Paintbrush, a free to use program that is easy to use and is to be compared with 'Paint' which is available in Windows. You can download at: <http://paintbrush-mac.en.softonic.com/mac> If you like it, you can donate to the developer...

After opening in Paintbrush, the full image is visible on the screen and you can use the rectangular selection tool to select an area over the blue bar on the upper part of the image.



After you have selected the upper area you can copy this content with the copy command or press [Cmd + C]. Both methods will copy the selected area into the memory.

Then select File -> 'New' and choose: new image from Clipboard. And the program will



open a new image with the Top-Bar only.

Then with the rectangular selection tool, select a 'clean' part of the blue background and



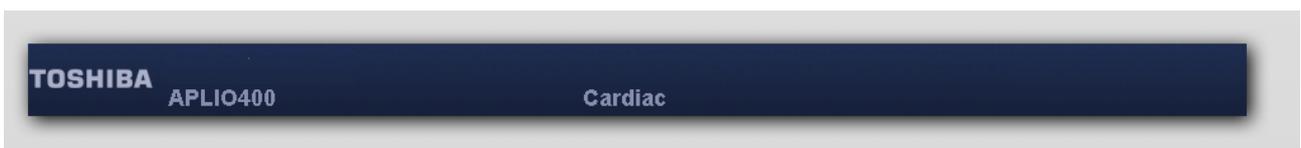
copy it with [Cmd+C]. And Paste it again with [Cmd+V].

Now a blue box is put over the Top-Bar. Use the cursor to position it over the text you



want to hide.

Do this as many times until you have hidden all text which you do not want to see in all of



your clips

The 'Clean' Top-Bar now will look like this and is ready to be used.

Save it as a PNG file. like: Top-Bar.png

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