Backing up Final Cut Pro Projects

Projects in Final Cut include a multitude of individual files. Audio, video and image files are LINKED TOGETHER and edited WITHIN the Final Cut Project. To ensure that all pieces remain linked correctly, and present at all times, you must backup properly. This will ensure that the project can be worked on at other locations. Most video editing is very time consuming and having a copy of your work ensures that you will not need loose your work, should the Mac crash or you lose the original material.

We recommend:

1. Place all files on the same physical medium before starting the project and added to the same location before importing into Final Cut.
   a. Examples: the Mac, an external hard drive, SD Card, and/or USB thumb drive
   b. The device MUST be formatted to be compatible with the Mac OS.

2. When importing from devices such as camcorders directly into Final Cut, you should back up the original recording onto another device, or preserve the footage on the SD Card.

3. When creating a Final Cut project, select a unique name. Do not use “Untitled”
   a. If you decide to put this project in the Public Folder for others to work on, there may already be a project called “untitled”.

Note: If you have created or customized any Final Cut Pro effects, transitions, titles, or generators in Motion, set the storage location for your Motion content to "In Library" before starting any copy or move operations between libraries or storage devices. Otherwise, Motion content is not included in those operations. For more information, see Manage Motion content storage locations, https://support.apple.com/kb/PH26157?locale=en_US&viewlocale=en_US You must manually track and move third-party (FxPlug) content, because it is not managed within the Final Cut Pro library.

Backing up steps:

1. Click on the event you want to backup. It must be highlighted in blue. You may need to scroll up if you do not see it.
2. From the top line menu select File > Copy Event to Library > New Library

If you have not already saved the file with a unique name, do it now. Where: in this example, the Public folder on the Mac in the IMC is selected. You can share it with other users by saving to the Public folder. To back up your project select a Mac formatted external hard drive, USB thumb drive or SD card.

Confirm that Proxy Media is selected. Proxy Media refers to all the content you have associated with the project. By not selecting Proxy media, you may not backup all of your files and your project may have missing files.

Final Cut needs time to create the backup. The bigger the project, the longer it takes to backup. You can monitor the process by in the background tasks. Click the check mark in the circle to open your background task viewer.

When Media Management is idle, your project is backed-up. Your backup is now visible with a Four Star Icon located in the destination you saved it to.