

## **Power Tools Series**

### **Part 3, How to record Internet Video clips For Educational Purposes**

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### **Introduction**

Ever since, I have written the article “Learning Japanese through the Internet”, I have received wonderful feedbacks from all over the world. Last year, one Japanese instructor at a major American research university wanted to know how to record Japanese news from the Internet for use in the classroom. Since she could not record news clips from TBS’s site, she could not utilize the contents of the article because news changes everyday. To help self-learners and language instructors, I want to explore a complete set of tools that people can use in class or off-line situations. I will let people use freeware as much I can. If windows systems provide satisfactory functions, I will provide a review of them.

In short, if you have already used similar types of tools, which I will mention later, then please stick to your favorite ones.

## Chapter 1. About Streaming Video Recorders

### [My favorite streaming video recorders]

- ASFreecorder <http://ftp.idg.pl/pc/programy/0865.html>  
*If you cannot find one, please search on google.*
- Hi-Net Recorder <http://www.hoonnet.com/>

[Table 1, Recorders]

|                            | <b>ASFreecorder</b>  | <b>Hi-Net Recorder</b>                                |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| Download resuming function | Yes  | No  |
| Time stamp                 | No (yes)<br><i>With WMP, you cannot fast forward, etc.</i> | Yes<br><i>You can set or unset via its preference</i> |
| Source code                | Yes  | No  |
| Updatability               | This project has been done                                 | Currently Ver.0.7b                                    |

*WMP: Windows Media Player*

*Note: Both of them only work on Windows media stream.*

*(I.e..asx, etc. extensions)*

## Chapter 2. Recorder Configuration.

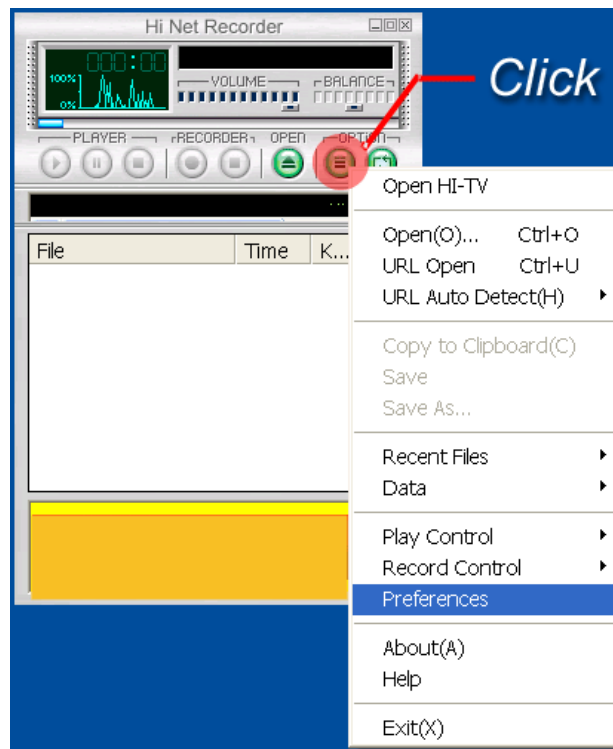
Personally, I am using both recorders depending which site I am working on.

One works well at one site, the other works well at the other site. In short, if one recorder does not work on a site, I try the other on the site.

I will show you how to record *TBS* and *Yomiuri News's* video news clips using Hi-Net Recorder throughout this book. The main reason of my choice at the moment is that you do not need to figure out video clips' URL by yourself. If you just follow what I show you here, you can just concentrate on studying Japanese.

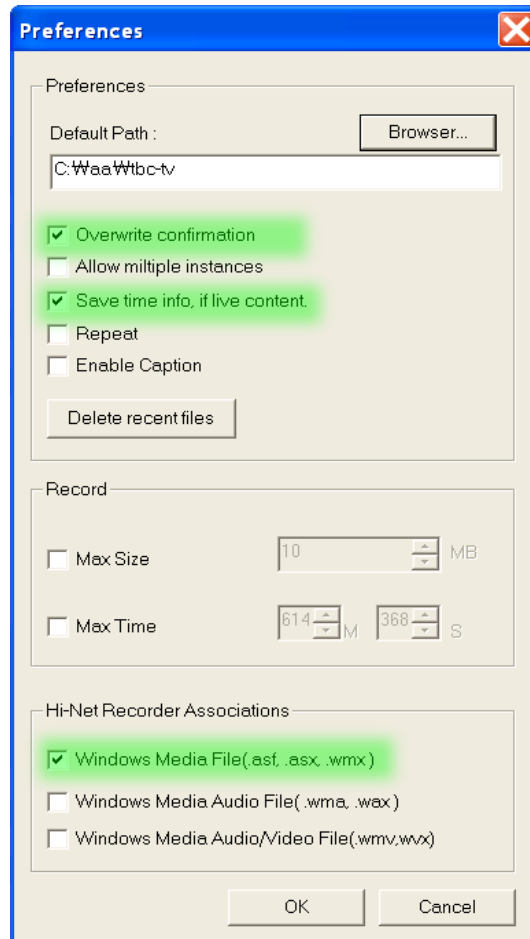
I assume you know how to install *Hi-Net Recorder* on your computer, if not please get some help from local experts or system administrators.

Once you install and start *Hi-Net Recorder*, you will need to check some preferences before recording.



[Figure 1. Setting preferences]

If you click on Preference in Fig 1, you will see Fig 2, and then, please do exactly as I did by accepting the default settings. I will explain the meaning of these settings later.



[Figure 2. Required setting]

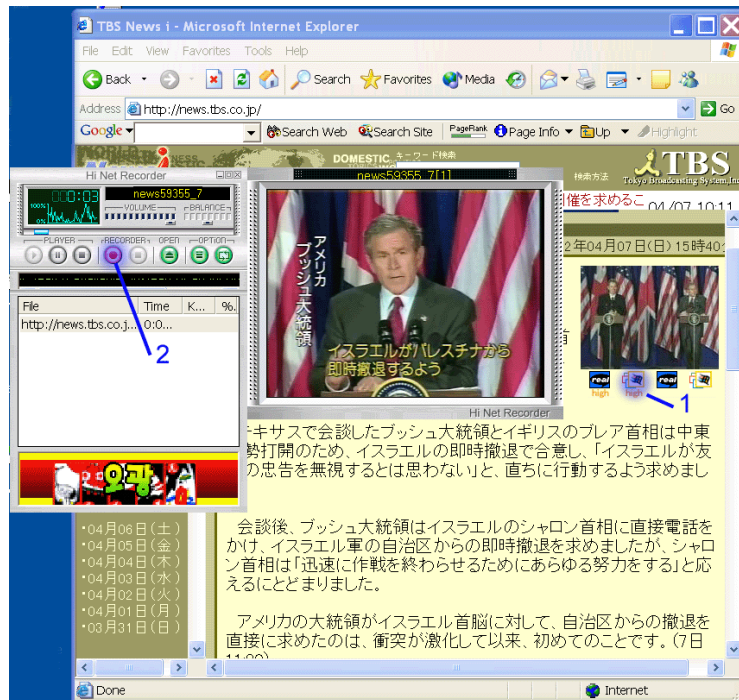
Now you should be all set, and all you need to do is visit a website and enjoy recording Internet news. From Fig.2's settings, you made the recorder recognize *asf* file extension.

- *Overwriting confirmation*: A message window will pop up if you attempt to save the same file name more than once.
- *Save time info, if live content*: If you check this box, you can do fast forwarding or rewinding when you play the video clip.
- *Windows Media File*: Without this box checked, you cannot automatically initiate the recorder by clicking on item#1 in Fig 3.

## Chapter 3. How to use the recorder (*Demonstrations!*)

- Section 3-1: Let's try to record news from TBS

Via my site, <http://www.research-j.org/e-japanese/english/for-inter.html#section3.2>, you can easily visit the TBS news site.



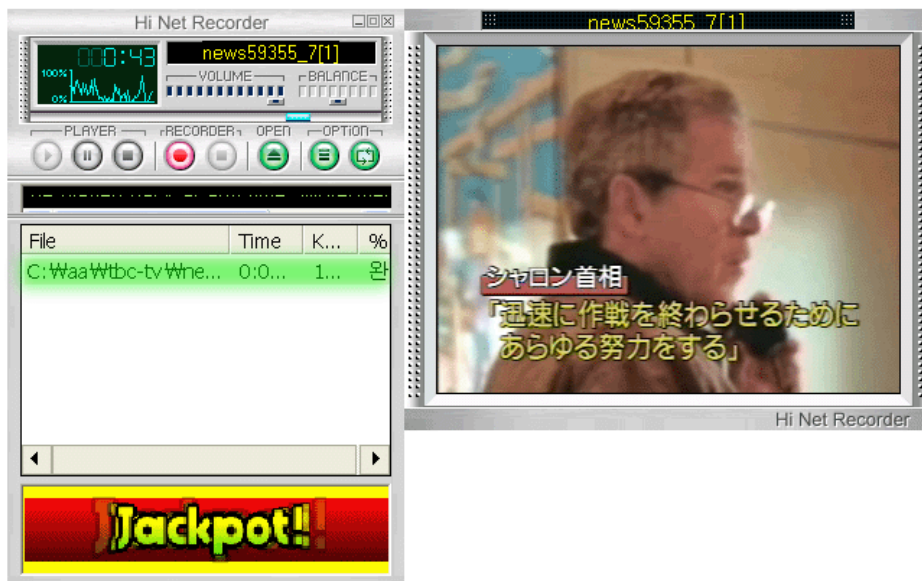
[Figure 3. if you followed exactly like Fig.1 and 2]

However, if you cannot get something like Fig3, then please **right mouse click** on item #1 shown in Figure 3 and choose “open in new window”. That may solve your possible headache, when Internet Explore (IE) tries to play news inside of IE.



[Figure 4. Alternative way to turn on the recorder]

If you click on item #2 in Figure3, you will get a file path instead of a URL in the plain window of the recorder. At this stage, all you need to do is just go to that file and experience the exciting feeling of learning Japanese!!



[Figure 5. now you got the file]

- Section 3-2: Let's try to record news from *Yomiuri News*'

Just like what we did before, we visit *Yomiuri News* site via my site,  
<http://www.research-j.org/e-japanese/english/for-inter.html#section3.2>

What you need to do is click on *win*, and the recorder will automatically open as we reviewed in Section 3-1.



[Figure 6. Yomiuri New site]

Now, you should pay attention to the lower left corner of the browser. You can see the file extension `.asx`, which is the type we are working with. You cannot record files with the `.ram` file extension, which is used for real video. In short, you cannot record real video or audio files with these two recorders, which I reviewed and confirmed today.

## Conclusions

As I introduced in this article, you can record Microsoft's Windows Media files from the Internet using *ASFrecorder, or Hi-Net Recorder*. However, you shouldn't over-use them. I strongly suggest that you use these tools for personal and educational purposes ONLY.

Next time, I will show you how to extract audio files out of the recorded .asf video files, which I demonstrated for you in this article.

Until the next time, please enjoy your teaching and learning Japanese.

Once again, I deeply apologize to Mac users, not because I do not like Mac, but because I do not have a Mac to do research. If someone or some institution donates a decent Mac computer system, I will develop equivalent Mac versions of these writings.

### [Reference]

- [Learning Japanese Through The Internet](#)

<http://www.research-j.org/e-japanese/english/index.html>

From [e-Japanese](#)

[How to use Japanese with English Windows](#)

<http://www.research-j.org/e-japanese/english/japanese-computing/index.html>

From [e-Japanese](#)

- [Power Tool Series for Japanese Learning](#)

<http://www.research-j.org/e-japanese/english/japanese-computing/index.html>

From [e-Japanese](#)