# Factory floor Producing constructive visual stories

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**Handout**

**Mobile journalism – technical requirements and applications**

**Technical requirements:**

* **Smartphone quality:** The smartphone should allow you to shoot videos in 1080p resolution at a minimum. The phone’s processing speed should be fast enough to run production apps.
* **Camera lens quality:** Today smartphones have dual, triple or even quadruple cameras. These differ also among brands. The lens quality affects the quality of photographs and videos.
* **Steady shots:** Tripods are useful to avoid shaky videos. Some devices offer image on-board stabilization (must be switched on). Other electronic options are available, such as gimbals.
* **Wind protection:** A wind cover (“dead cat”) on the microphone is recommended.
* **Audio:** The built-in microphones on smartphones offer good quality audio only at close distance. Otherwise, the use of external microphones is recommended. There’s a wide range of high-quality lavalier mics available for use with the smartphone. (No interviews or pieces to camera in noisy environments.)
* **Frame rates:** Countries using the NTSC system use 30 frames per second (fps), while in PAL countries the rate is 25 fps. If you work in a PAL country, your phone must allow you to record video at 25fps (such as an iPhone) or you can use a third-party app like Filmic Pro or Open Camera that allows you to manually set the rate.
* **Storage:** Videos consume much more space than photos on a phone. To be on the safe side, get an extra storage device. Extra memory cards help you avoid running out of storage during production.
* **Power:** It is a good idea to carry a power backup/power bank on the day of the shoot.
* **Zooming:** The use of the digital zoom feature in the smartphone camera is discouraged since it reduces video quality. Instead, move physically closer to the subject.

**Applications - an overview:**

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| **Photography** | **Video Recording** | **Multitrack video editing** |
| 1. Pro Camera (iOS) 2. Snapseed (iOS/Android) 3. ProShot (iOS/Android) 4. VSCO (iOS/Android) | 1. Filmic Pro (iOS/Android) 2. Open Camera (Android) 3. Cinema 4K (Android) 4. Cinema FV-5 (Android) 5. Lapse it (iOS/Android) | 1. LumaFusion (iOS only) 2. KineMaster (iOS/Android) 3. PowerDirector (Android only) 4. Alight Motion (Android Only) 5. iMovie (iOS) |

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| **Simple editing** | **Titles and captions** | **Audio editing and recording** |
| 1. Quik (iOS/Android) 2. Animoto (iOS/Android) 3. Apple Clips (iOS) 4. Movie Maker (Android) 5. Vlogit (iOS/Android) | 1. Phonto (iOS/Android) 2. Vont (iOS) 3. DIY Subtitle (iOS) 4. Movie Maker (Android) 5. Autocap (Android) | 1. RecForge Lite (Android) 2. Voice Record 3. Pro (iOS/Android) 4. Ferrite (iOS) 5. AudioEvolution 6. Mobile Studio (Android) 7. N-Track (Android) |

*Mobile Video by Made from NounProject.com*