

Fisheye-Hemi Plug-In for Aperture

Posted in [Digital Photography](#), [Image \(photo, computer graphics\)](#), [Software](#) by Guy Okada on the July 15th, 2008

by Guy Okada ,AAUG Member

Product Review



Product: Fisheye-Hemi Plug-In for Aperture

Company: [Image Trends](#)

Contact: www.imagetrendsinc.com

Price: \$29.95

Pros: Easy to use and effectively corrects distortion

Cons: None

Product Rating



Excellent

as possible. There are three choices and each has a different aesthetic effect. Fisheye-Hemi 1 works best with 8mm lenses, Fisheye-Hemi 2 works best with a 10.5mm lens and Fisheye-Hemi 3 works best with a 16mm lens. Experimenting with each lens shows different effects. It is recommended that the user look at vertical items in the photo to see whether they bend unnaturally after the effect is applied to determine whether or a different option should be used to create a more natural appearance.

Fisheye-Hemi worked seamlessly with Aperture 2.0. First I opened my fisheye photos, then selected Images > Edit With > Fisheye-Hemi, then I chose the appropriate radio button for Fisheye Hemi 1, 2, or 3, and, voila, the image was transformed. It is done automatically with no manual adjustments necessary and that's how a plug-in should work, I believe. It definitely makes fisheye images appear more natural while still keeping the wide angle of the original shot. For photographers who use fisheye lens, this plug-in is an invaluable tool in your digital imaging inventory. It does its job effortlessly and very well. I highly recommend Fisheye-Hemi and Image Trends has another winner!

Fisheye photos are great as they allow a wider field of view and sometimes interesting effects. However, some photos created by using a fisheye hemispheric lens can appear distorted, especially when subjects are at close range. People and objects can appear bent into unnatural shapes, although sometimes that may be the intended effect. However, for those fisheye photos that need to be adjusted to make the subjects appear more natural, Fisheye-Hemi by Image Trends is a great solution.

Image Trends is a company that produces plug-ins and other applications to enhance digital images and their motto is: "The Science of Imaging." Image Trends' strategy is to "license and incorporate innovative imaging technologies embedded in original equipment manufacturers (OEM's) products. Simone Lange from AAUG reviewed another Image Trends plug-in, ShineOff, a few months ago and gave it high marks.

Fisheye-Hemi is a plug-in that works with either Photoshop or Aperture and in either the Mac or PC environment. Image Trends offers a full free trial version on their website although the trial mode watermarks the image. It is wise for potential buyers to check to see which cameras and lens the application works with before purchasing. Other requirements are: Adobe Photoshop 7.0 and higher, Apple Aperture 2.1 and higher, Photoshop Elements 2 and higher, PaintShopPro 7 and higher, Windows Vista, XP, NT, 2000, and, Mac OS X and above. The documentation on their website is quite good as is their explanation of how the fisheye effects works. Installation of the plugin is very simple.

Fisheye-Hemi works by improving the resolution of the image by including more of the original pixels.

straightening vertical lines while displaying the intended composition and framing. In other words, it makes adjustments but maintains as much of the original photo

