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## USER REPORT

# Tommy K Productions Relies on Frezzi

by Tommy Krakowiak

Owner

Tommy K Productions

### NEW YORK

I am a freelance cameraman and director of photography who has worked for a number of network news organizations.

I am currently DP for a home and garden show called "Cultivating Life," which runs on PBS. I've spent a large part of my career shooting news and have undertaken many assignments for "ABC World News Tonight" and "Nightline." I won an Emmy for my camerawork on a piece about Bob Dole for "Nightline" and a Peabody and Emmy Award for my camerawork covering former New York City Mayor Rudolph Guiliani on 9/11.

During that assignment, I covered Guiliani walking the streets of New York, holding press conferences, visiting hospitals, and of course, going to Ground Zero. We went nonstop for almost 24 hours shooting some remarkable and often horrifying footage. Most recently, I worked with Charlie Gibson when he interviewed President Bush aboard Air Force One and chronicled, "A Day in the Life of the President."

Due to my 20 years of experience, the assignments I get are usually high profile and require top-notch equipment. I've been using Frezzi batteries since I began shooting professionally and am now on my third generation of batteries and chargers.



I began with Frezzi Nicads, graduated to metal hydride and now use their lithium batteries.

I have had tremendous success with the Frezzi FLB-200 lithium batteries due to their extreme reliability. They last four times as long as the original NiCads (200 W-h) and weigh half as much as their predecessors.

When you are out in the field for long periods of time, lighter weight is an important factor. The Frez-zi lithium batteries also give you 40 more W-h than some other lithium batteries, and at a considerably lower price. Frezzi's fast chargers and high-capacity batteries make those long shooting assignments more bearable and eliminate one of my worries.

Frezzi Mini-Sun Gun HMI lights make up another part of my location gear. They adjust to daylight color temperature.

They're lightweight, excellent for filling in shadows on people's faces and shooting interviews outdoors.

For the "Cultivating Life" series, I use the HMI lights to highlight flowers and background scenery. The HMI lights give them extra contrast, which makes them come alive on-screen.

One of the nice parts about using Frezzi equipment is that the sales and engineering staffs are extremely sensitive to a cameraperson's needs. If you need service in a hurry, they will accommodate you. If you need a loaner, they will help you as well.

### FIELD TESTER

Fortunately, I have not had problems that needed such service, but it is good to know that it is available to me. I have dealt with Ed Kuhn, Frezzi vice president of sales, for a long time, and when they introduce a new product, Ed will often call me and asks if I'd like to field test it.

That's what happened with the lithium batteries and I haven't looked back. I'm completely satisfied with their performance and recommend them to my colleagues in the field. Frezzi makes a good product and the company is easy to deal with. In the hectic life of a cameraman, that's a winning combination.

Tommy K Productions is based in Rhode Island and New York. His production van can often be construed as his office. He shoots all over the world and provides production crews for broadcast projects. He may be contacted at [tommykproductions@earthlink.net](mailto:tommykproductions@earthlink.net).

For additional information, contact Frezzi Energy Systems at 973-427-1160 or visit [www.frezzi.com](http://www.frezzi.com).