

# THE BROADCAST JIGSAW

These days, no broadcast technology can exist in isolation. The vital organs of a modern TV facility are linked to form an 'integrated' broadcast platform. The Aston 7 now integrates seamlessly into Brainstorm's MOS-compatible newsroom system, BrainNews, and it is a fully scalable solution enabling an unlimited number of Aston 7 Edit workstations and TX Playout units to be deployed.

The Aston 7 can also be fully controlled via external applications:

- The Aston 7's popular Datapools protocol allows applications created using our free SDK to not only provide data but also trigger animations and control the taking of pages
- The embedded Brainstorm real-time 3D graphics engine, eStudio, powering all the Aston 7's graphics, can now also be controlled externally, giving Aston 7 customers access to the full power of Brainstorm graphics for elections, gameshows, branding or other graphics types.

## FEATURES

- **Simplicity, reactivity and reliability** – the most powerful and intuitive 3D character generator on the market
- **Total creativity for the designer:**
  - Ability to import, display and animate 3D objects
  - Ability to manipulate perspective, camera angle and lighting angles
  - Ability to group 3D graphics elements together providing sophisticated visual effects e.g. applying dynamic text or video to a moving 3D template for Sports or News
- **Full graphics preview** is available on the Aston 7 Edit workstation
- **Unique capability** to bring graphics groups and objects on and off independently
- **The Aston 7 keyboard** enables fast page-based graphics recall
- **No prior knowledge** of 3D required
- **Aston 7 interface** familiar to experienced CG operators
- **Fully scalable solution**
- **Integrates with Brainstorm's MOS-compatible newsroom solution BrainNews**
- **Integrates with newsrooms, automation controllers, asset management servers and external content feeds**
- **Templates created with Aston 7** can be exported to BrainNews or Easy On Air Graphics
- **Ability to import** the most advanced sets and graphical elements from Brainstorm's eStudio and launch to air with the Aston 7
- **Multiple TX Playout machines** can each output in different video formats
- **Up to 8-page simultaneous pre-buffering** permits up to 8 pages to be taken instantly when needed, regardless of graphical complexity
- **Timeline view** provides a graphical representation of actions permitting easy manipulation of transitions and delays



## RECOMMENDED PC SPECIFICATION

- **Dual / Quad CPU Intel P4 Xeon / AMD 64 Opteron 3Mhz or faster**
- **RAM: 6 Gigabyte**
- **SCSI Disk / SATA Disk**
- **PCI Express 16x**

## SUPPORTED PLATFORMS

- **Windows**

## QUALIFIED WORKSTATIONS

- **HP XW Z800**

## RECOMENDED GRAPHICS BOARD

- **NVIDIA Quadro FX 5800**
- **NVIDIA Quadro FX 5800SDI**

## RECOMENDED VIDEO BOARD

- **Aja Xena 2Ke SD/HD**
- **Nvidia SDI Output SD/HD**
- **Nvidia SDI Capture (4 Inputs) SD/HD**

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Technical Specifications change regularly. Check the Brainstorm website Forum for the latest information.



**BRAINSTORM**  
BROADCAST REAL TIME 3D GRAPHICS SOLUTIONS

## ASTON 7

## THE WORLD'S MOST POWERFUL & RELIABLE REAL-TIME 3D CHARACTER GENERATOR



Brainstorm recently acquired the prestigious Aston 7 brand – an industry leading real-time character generator with over 30 years of experience. Now the power and flexibility of Brainstorm's eStudio have merged with the Aston 7's traditional user interface and feature set, resulting in stunning 3D graphics, but with the advantages of fast, page-based graphics recall using the Aston 7's customised keyboard layout. The Aston 7 provides true real-time 3D preview and playout, easy editing and preview on PC or laptop and integrates with external systems like newsrooms, automation controllers, asset management servers and external content feeds. The system is comprised of a minimum of one Edit workstation and one TX Playout unit and is fully scalable.

## CONTENT CREATION

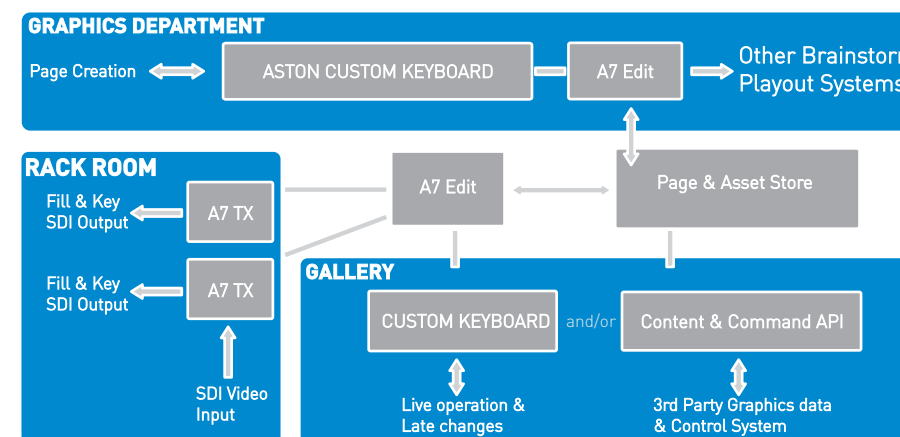
The most intuitive user interface on the market:

- Content can be displayed in the Aston 7's edit window exactly as it appears on the live video output.
- The Aston 7's intuitive toolbox provides easy addition of graphics objects such as text, shapes, video, tickers, and rolls & crawls.
- With the Aston 7, no additional modules are required – all features are included out of the box.
- Graphics projects are displayed as tree structures showing individual pages and their graphics elements, enabling fast navigation between pages and the ability to view or update animations and display properties for each element.
- Text can be easily entered or edited in the edit Window or using the Aston 7's smart text edit boxes.
- Resources such as textures, video clips, images and audio clips are displayed in thumbnail format at the bottom of the edit Window.
- Operators need no prior knowledge of 3D to operate the system and the Aston 7's interface will be familiar to all experienced CG operators.



## SIMPLICITY, REACTIVITY & RELIABILITY

The Aston 7 is renowned for simplicity, reliability and reactivity - the ability to make late changes to content – these are the features coveted by graphics operators when working live on a TV programme.



### SIMPLICITY

The Aston 7 allows the animation state for each graphics object or group to be mapped to a separate key on the Aston 7 keyboard. This allows graphics to be brought on, animated and taken off easily using dedicated keys.

### REACTIVITY

The Aston 7 project tree structure makes it easy to follow and preview page sequences. Offline pages may be added using fast keystroke page recall commands to make late page re-ordering changes with the minimum of effort and stress. New pages can also be added to the sequence while on air with no performance degradation as with Brainstorm's graphics engine there is no pre-rendering – all graphics are 100% real-time.

### RELIABILITY

With over 30 years of experience, Aston is the most tried and trusted character generator in the business.