

Fluition

Creating Business Presentations (video with slideshow) in RealPlayer

This paper will outline the basics for creating a presentation containing a video accompanied by a number of slides that will be sequenced with the video file, as well as a table of contents that will allow the viewer to jump to specific points in the presentation.



Fluition will allow you to layout your streaming video and slide show presentation easily using the steps below. Whether your presentation is intended for Internet broadcasting or for local playback, the layout of your presentation will be the same. Local playback will not require the same bandwidth considerations that are necessary for a streaming presentation.

As always, the first step in designing presentations is to assemble your media (video file and slides) into a folder on your computer (your media folder).

SLIDE PREPARATION

In your slideshow program (i.e. PowerPoint) save your completed files to a graphics file such as .jpg, .gif, or .png files for further modification in an image editor. Most slide show programs will give you the option to save your slides in the aforementioned formats when you choose the *Save As* option. (Check the *Save as type* drop down menu after you click *Save As*.) Smaller size .jpg files will often be the optimal choice of export to preserve image quality as well as reduce the file sizes of your slides.

Note: if you have added animations inside your slide show presentation these may be lost when you save your file to image files.

You will want to re-size your slideshow image files to fit into the presentation that will contain your video file. This can be accomplished easily either directly within your slide show editor, or in a graphics program once you have saved your slides as image files. To adjust the size of your slides in a slideshow program go to *File>Page Setup* to adjust the size of your slides before you export your slide to image files.

Alternatively, a graphics program can be used to open your slide images for resizing after you have exported them. Most graphics programs will present the option to *Modify* or *Transform* your images to your desired sizes.

For best results, using the latter approach of modifying images with a graphics program is recommended in order to achieve better results when re-sizing your images as well as having greater control over the final exported file sizes for your images.

Remember to note the size of your exported slides in pixels. The dimensions of your slides will be used when you are drawing your slide region in Fluition.

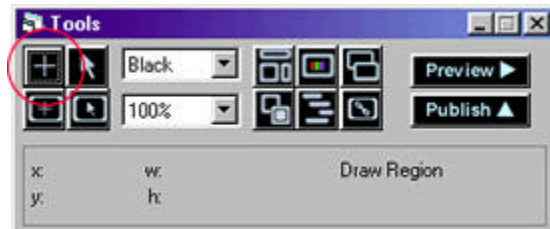
For Streaming: If your presentation is intended for streaming on the Internet the file sizes of your slides will need to be considered. Most graphics editors will allow you to choose various color palettes and loss percentages to reduce the file sizes of your images. It is recommended that you reduce your file sizes for optimal streaming.

PRESENTATION AUTHORING

Once you have your slides prepared and placed in your media folder, we can begin creating the presentation in Fluition.

Open a new presentation by selecting *New* from the *File* menu in Fluition. Define the attributes for your presentation (height, width, background color) in the Presentation Layout Window and save your file to your media folder using the *Browse* button beside the *Filename* field. Each of the attributes you have chosen for your presentation can be modified at any time during the creation of your presentation by choosing the *Modify Layout* option from the *Presentation* menu (Ctrl+L). Click OK in the Presentation Window to begin defining your presentation.

Select the Region Draw tool from the Tools Palette. In the Design Window draw three (3) Regions by dragging your cursor over the section of the Design Window where you want your Regions to be located. One Region will hold your video file, one will contain your table of contents, the other your slides.



Using the Regions Window adjust one Region to the dimensions (height and width) of your video and the other Region to the dimension of your slides Region. You may also change the name of your Regions (i.e. video, slides). Remember to click *Apply* or press *Enter* on your keyboard after adjusting fields in the Regions Window.

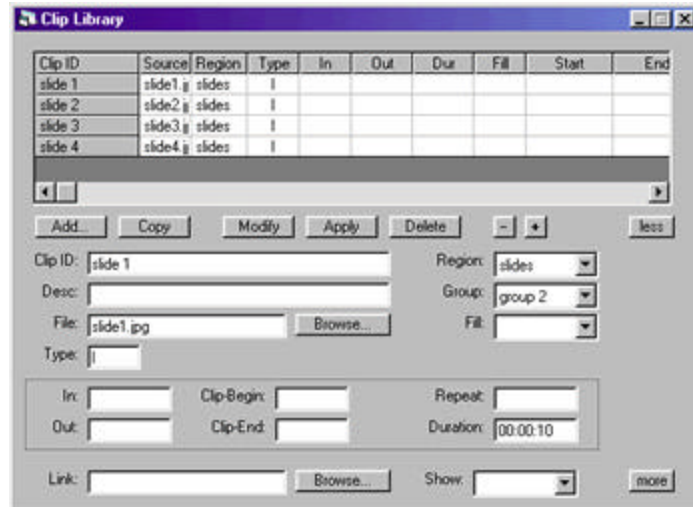
Adding Video

Select the Region Select tool from the Tools Palette. Click on your video Region in the Design Window to highlight that Region. In the Clip Library Window click the Add button and browse your video file from your media folder.

Adding Slides

To add multiple files to a Region, as we are about to do, you can either add the slide files one by one by clicking the Add button on the Clip Library or you can use the *Add Multiple Clips* option in Fluition. To access the *Add Multiple Clips* function go to the Options Window (*View>Options* for Windows) and click on the checkbox beside *Add Multiple Clips* and click OK.

Using the Region Select tool, highlight your slide Region and click the Add button on the Clip Library. You will see the Multifile Window. Browse your media folder and select all the slides that will be used in your presentation (double click on the slide files or select the file and use the arrow button to move the file to the Clip List section of the Multifile Window) and click Apply. Your files will be ordered in Fluition in the order you choose them. You will see that your files have been added to your presentation in the Clip Library.



To change the order of your slides after they have been added to the Clip Library in Fluition, the "+" plus and "-" minus buttons on the Clip Library window can be used to move a selected file up or down your list of clips.

Sequencing Slides

Next you will want to sequence your slides with your video. To accomplish the sequencing of slides with your video file you will need to add Durations to each slide. If your video file addresses a certain topic also covered by a slide for a certain length of time, you will want that slide to show in your presentation for that specified length of time before changing to the next slide. Using your mouse select the first slide from the Clip List in the Clip Library Window. Using the *Duration* field enter a duration to that slide and click *Apply*. For ten seconds enter 10 into the *Duration* field and click *Apply*. (Fluition will automatically format your time values.) Select the next slide from the Clip List, enter the duration and click *Apply*. Repeat this step for all your slides.

For the last slide you may want to add a *Freeze* tag using the *Fill* drop-down menu and clicking *Apply* in order to have that slide remain in your presentation even after the presentation has completed playing. If you add a Freeze tag to your last slide, adding a Duration will not be necessary.

[Note: Fluition uses Groups to sequence presentations. Regions are generally placed in a parallel group so that they all play at the same time, while media clips are grouped in a sequential group in order to play one after the other. If you follow the above steps Fluition will group your Regions and Clips automatically (Regions in Group 1 and Clips in Group 2). You will see the grouping assignments in the Group Window on both the Regions Window and the Clip Library Window. If you are adding a slide show to an existing presentation where your groups have been modified you will want to make sure you assign your slides to a sequential group.]

Adding a Table of Contents

Using a graphics program, create a table of contents (TOC). The TOC will be added to the Region designated for the TOC and thus should be the dimensions (height and width) of the

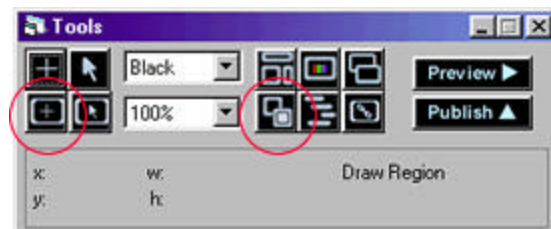
Region to which it will be added. When exporting your TOC graphic, you will want to ensure that the file size is kept to a minimum while retaining image quality. Exporting to a .jpg file is recommended. Export your TOC graphic to your media folder.

Select the Region Select tool from the Tools Palette. Click on your TOC Region in the Design Window to highlight that Region. In the Clip Library Window click the Add button and browse your TOC file from your media folder. Choose the *Freeze* tag from the *Fill* drop-down menu and click *Apply* to have your TOC clip remain in your presentation for the entire length of the presentation.

Drawing Anchors in your TOC

Anchors will be drawn in your TOC clip to allow the viewer to click on the TOC list at any time during the playback of the presentation and jump to specified points in your presentation's timeline.

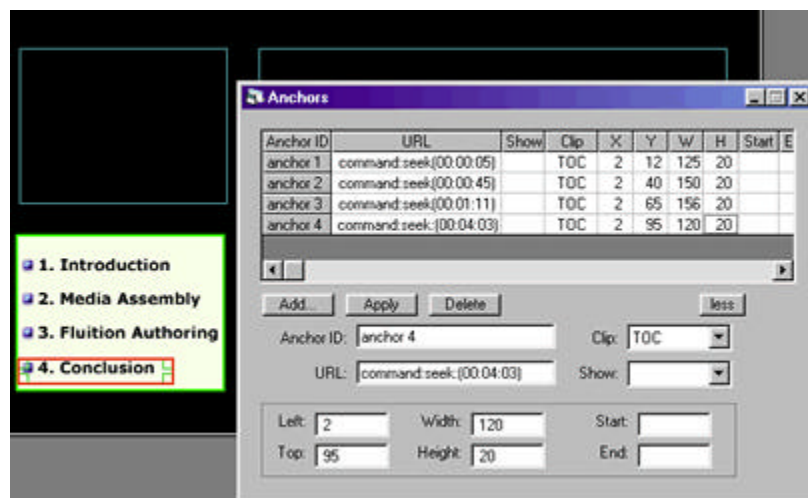
First select the clip (your TOC) from the Clip List in the Clip Library on which the Anchor will be drawn. With the Show Images option turned on (click the Show Images icon on the Tools Palette), choose the Anchor Draw tool from the Tools Palette.



Draw an Anchor around each of the items listed in your TOC. Open the Anchors Window by clicking on the Anchors Window icon on the Tools Palette. The attributes of an Anchor can be modified in the same manner as Regions. You can select an Anchor from the Anchor List and modify the height, width and location of the Anchor relative to the clip in which the Anchor is contained. Click Apply, or press Enter on your keyboard, to apply changes to each Anchor.

To synchronize Anchors to jump to specific points in your presentation, a command will be entered into the URL field in the Anchors window. The RealPlayer specific tag *command:seek(00:00:00)* is used to jump to a designated points in the presentation's timeline for presentations that will be played in RealPlayer.

Example: The first Anchor in the TOC will link to the beginning of your presentation, the second Anchor will jump to 40 seconds into your presentation, the third Anchor will jump to 2 minutes 30 seconds into your presentation, and so on. Select the first Anchor from the Anchor List and enter *command:seek(00:00:00)* into the URL field and click Apply.



Choose the second Anchor in the Anchor List and enter *command:seek(00:00:40)* into the *URL* field and click Apply (or press Enter on your keyboard). Define the remaining Anchors in the TOC to complete the TOC for your presentation.

[Note: The *URL* field in the Anchors window can be used to launch other Fluition presentations, link to other media files, launch HTML pages (<http://www.webpage.com>), contain an email link (<mailto:yourname@youraddress.com>), etc. When linking to content outside of the player program (i.e. web pages, email links) use the *Pause* tag in the *Show* field in the Anchor Window to pause the presentation while the viewer leaves the player. To link to other SMIL presentations that have been created and saved within your media folder, the relative path ([yournextpresentation.SMIL](#)) can be used in the *URL* field. In this case, use the *Replace* tag in the *Show* field for that Anchor.]

PREVIEWING YOUR PRESENTATION

You are now ready to preview your presentation. Click the Preview button on the Tools Palette to view your presentation. Fluition will preview your presentation using the built-in RealPlayer Window to preview your presentation. To view your presentation in RealPlayer, go to *View>Options* in Fluition and Browse for your installed RealPlayer in the Player Location field.

If you would like to modify any aspect of the layout or timing of your presentation, close the Preview Window and modify your presentation.

Once you have completed your presentation your media folder is ready to be presented from your computer, burned onto a CD-ROM, or uploaded to a streaming server for broadcasting on the Internet.