

## Vizrt iNEWS Command Plugin Administrator's Guide

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## 1 Introduction

Avid has provided a Graphic Device Service plugin SDK for their iNEWS Command system which Vizrt has used to create a plugin for basic playout of Viz Content Pilot graphics.

This guide will help you integrate the Vizrt iNEWS Command Plugin with Avid's iNEWS Command workstation. In addition it will describe how to use iNEWS Command to achieve a basic Vizrt graphics workflow.

This section contains information on the following topics:

- Known Limitations
- Requirements
- Document Structure
- Related Documents
- Contact Vizrt

#### See Also

- · Installation and Configuration
- Playout of Vizrt Graphics
- Troubleshooting

## 1.1 Known Limitations

The following are the known limitations of the Vizrt iNEWS Command Plugin. The limitations are based on functionality most users expect from a Vizrt graphics workflow; hence, the basic playout and control of Vizrt graphics, when compared to Vizrt's control applications, is a bit different.

- No status feedback to Avid iNEWS Command.
- · No playlist initialization.
- No native support for continue count functionality based on que/play/stop events. Continue is handled by pressing Play multiple times for each continue point.
- No support for video elements.
- No support for thumbnails of Vizrt graphic (and video) elements.
- No support for \*cg elements (e.g. the Viz Trio workflow).
- If a playlist is deleted in Viz Content Pilot, the Avid Graphic Device Service must be restarted.

## 1.2 Requirements

The following requirements must be met in order to successfully install, configure and use the plugin.

Software	Avid iNEWS Command 2.5.0.529 or later			
	Media Sequencer 1.20			
	Viz Content Pilot 5.4			
Operating system	Windows XP Professional 32-bit.			

### See Also

- Viz Content Pilot User's Guide
- Viz Engine Administrator's Guide

## 1.3 Document Structure

This section, section 1, introduces the plugin, the known limitations and system requirements.

Section 2 contains all the information needed in order to successfully install and configure the plugin.

Section 3 contains information on how to operate a basic playlist containing Vizrt graphic elements.

Section 4 contains basic troubleshooting information.

## 1.4 Related Documents

- 1. Viz Content Pilot User's Guide: How to install, configure and use the Newsroom Component, and configure the output channels.
- 2. Viz Engine Administrator's Guide: How to setup a Viz Engine as an output channel.
- 3. Viz Template Wizard User's Guide: How to create templates, assign template variants to categories, and categories to channels for multiple output channel playout.
- 4. Avid iNEWS Command Installation and Configuration Guide: How to install and configure the iNEWS Command workstation.

## 1.5 Contact Vizrt

We encourage your suggestions and feedback regarding the product and this documentation. Our support E-mail address is support@vizrt.com. You are also welcome to use the web-based support at www.vizrt.com, or to contact your local Vizrt support person by telephone.

## 2 Installation and Configuration

This section describes the basic steps you need to perform in order to successfully integrate your Vizrt graphics workflow with Avid's iNEWS newsroom system.

The following sections describe how to install and configure Vizrt's iNEWS Command Plugin and the Viz Content Pilot Newsroom Component with Avid iNEWS Command and Avid iNEWS, respectively. In addition this section describes how to configure Viz Content Pilot in order to operate multiple output channels.

This section contains information on the following topics:

- Integration with Avid iNEWS Command
- Integration with Avid iNEWS
- Output Configuration

## 2.1 Integration with Avid iNEWS Command

Install the plugin on the machine/server you installed the **Media Sequencer**. This should deploy all files needed for the plugin.

This section contains information on the following topics:

- To install the plugin
- To configure the plugin and confirm connection
- To configure a channel group and confirm functionality

### To install the plugin

- 1. Log on to the Media Sequencer workstation/server.
- 2. Install the Avid Service Framework (client install).
- 3. Install the Avid iNEWS Graphic Device service. You only need to install the one service (Avid Graphic Device service 01).

**Note:** For further information on installing Avid components, see the latest Avid iNEWS Command readme.

- 4. If you are running a firewall you should open it and allow the Avid Graphic Device Service 01 to be allowed for all networks.
- 5. Run the Vizrt iNEWS Command Plugin installer.

🔌 Avid Wo	rkgroup	Propertie	S			¥ 7 🗙			
Services	Login	Lookup	Location	System Check	About				
Workgroup	AvidWork	group		E	Edit				
Status	Status 🥝 All enabled services are running.								
			6	Start :	Stop	Advanced			

6. Open the Avid Workgroup Properties application and click Stop, and then Start.

### To configure the plugin and confirm connection

- 1. Start the Avid Service Configuration tool, and select the Avid Graphic Device Service 01.
- 2. Under the **Plug-in Chooser** tab select Vizrt as plugin and click Apply.
  - The service should restart automatically within 15 seconds. If not, open the Avid Workgroup Properties application and restart all services by clicking Stop, and then Start.

Apply Apply To Reset	
Plug-in Chooser Device Settings Vizrt Plug-in Settings	
The service will be restarted within 15 seconds of applying changes.	
Device name: cg44	
Channel count: 1 🚍	
<ul> <li>You will use this device name when configuring device channels late</li> <li>Under the Vizrt plugin Settings tab change the URL for the Media Sequ REST interface to the correct Media Sequencer (e.g. http://<hostname>).</hostname></li> </ul>	r. encer ≻:8580/
<ol> <li>Click the Look up button to generate the list of available profiles on the Sequencer</li> </ol>	• Media
<ol> <li>Click the Look up button to generate the list of available profiles on the Sequencer.</li> <li>Select the profile you have configured, and click Apply.</li> </ol>	e Media
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9. Switch back to the Diagnostics tool and confirm that the connection to the Media Sequencer has been established.

## To configure a channel group and confirm functionality

- 1. Log on to the Avid iNEWS Command workstation.
- 2. Start the Avid iNEWS Command client.
- 3. From the main menu click Tools and select System Settings.
- 4. Click Channel and Device Channels in the System Settings tree, and click Add.

🔀 Add Device	Channel	? 🗙
Channel name:	с	
Device name:	cg44	-
Device type:	Other Graphics	-
Channel index:	0	
Note:	Vizrt graphics channel	
	ОКС	ancel

- 5. In the Add Device Channel dialog box, do the following:
  - Enter the Channel Name
  - Enter the Device Name (which should be the same used in Step 3 in the previous procedure (e.g. cg44).
  - Select the Other Graphic device type.
  - Leave the channel index at 0.
- 6. Click OK to confirm, and repeat for additonal channels as necessary.
- 7. Once finished adding device channels, click Apply.
- 8. Select Groups in the System Settings tree on the left, and click Add.

	cg44			
tes:	Vizrt Grap	hics channel		
annels:	NAME	ТҮРЕ		Up
	ш. С	Standard		Down
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				Add
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Channel	detail			
Ch	annel type:	Standard	-	
Prir	mary:	C : cg44(0)	-	
Mir	ror:	None		
Pre	view:	None	-	
	ane Danne			
Graphic P	age Range			

- 9. In the Create New Channel Group dialog box, do the following:
  - Enter a name for the channel group.

• Click Add and select a Viz device channel to be the Primary (e.g. cg44). 10. Click OK when finished.

Device Channels	Graphics style	
Playlist	Styles	
⊡ ··· Playout	VCP	Add
GPI		Delete
Tally Privileges		Delete
Custom Alterna		

- 11. Select Playlist in the System Settings tree and click Add in the Graphics Style section.
- 12. Double-click Style and change the name to VCP.
- 13. Click OK to close the System Settings dialog box.
- 14. To confirm functonality, select the newly created channel group in the inventory panel to see one item.

### See Also

Integration with Avid iNEWS

• For further information on installing Avid components, see the latest Avid iNEWS Command readme.

## 2.2 Integration with Avid iNEWS

The Newsroom Component is installed on the Avid iNEWS workstation, and is used to add graphic elements to the newsroom stories. The iNEWS stories and the Vizrt graphic elements are then monitored and played out using the Avid iNEWS Command client.

This section contains information on the following topics:

- To install the Viz Content Pilot Newsroom Component
- To configure the Avid iNEWS Workstation

#### To install the Viz Content Pilot Newsroom Component

Vizrt Viz Con	itent Pilot 5.4.0.62993 - InstallShield Wizard
Newsroon	a Component Configuration
Г	Disable preview
Г	Preview settings
	To override database preview settings, please specfiy:
	Viz Engine preview host: VizEngine1 Port: 50008
	-Advanced iNews settings
	✓ Insert BCS Tag BCS device name: cg44
	I▼ Use VCPDM BCS template name: pilotdata
InstallShield -	Override database MOSID: PILOT
	< Back Next > Cancel

- 1. Log on to the Avid iNEWS workstation.
- 2. Run the Viz Content Pilot installer.
- 3. Select Newsroom Integration Client
- 4. Set the Viz Engine preview host and port (default is 50008).
  - The Viz Engine preview host is typically a Viz Engine that is configured to be a frame server.
- 5. Check **Insert BCS Tag**, and define the broadcast control system (BCS) device name (e.g. cg44, default is cg)
  - This tag will be used when configuring the Avid iNEWS client's SYSTEM.MAP (see Device information).

- 6. Check Use VCPDM, and use the default template name pilotdata
- 7. Finish the installation.
- 8. Start the Newsroom Component Test Page in Internet Explorer to check that you have a connection to the VCP database.

## To configure the Avid iNEWS Workstation

1. Start the Avid iNEWS client.

;show.ne	ws.rund						
show.ne	ews.rur	ndown show	.news	-	monit	or	2359
wnasvr		cmdsvr1	-	comr	nand-mas	ter	
	cg	cg44	-	С	VCP	: V	/iz Content Pilot

- 2. Open the SYSTEM.MAP and configure the following for each rundown:
  - a. Rundown information

Example: show.news.rundown show.news - monitor 2359

- Name of the rundown (e.g. show.news.rundown).
- Directory that contains the rundown queue (e.g. show.news)
- Name for a composite list queue (if used).
- Name of the user group that should have access to monitor the rundown (e.g. monitor).
- Monitor duration or quit time (e.g. D200 or 2100).
- b. Server information

Example: wnasvr cmdsvr1 - command-master

- Server type: wnasvr specifies the Command Server.
- Primary server's name (e.g. cmdsvrl) which is the computer running the Avid iNEWS Communication service.
- Form name for the monitor server (e.g. command-master) if one is defined. A hyphen can be used as a placeholder.
- c. Device information

Example: cg cg44 - C VCP

- Type of device (i.e. cg).
- Name of the device (e.g. cg44).
- Default channel. Note that this information is required, but has no effect when controlling Vizrt graphics.
- Default style. Note that for Viz Content Pilot, the default style is  ${\tt VCP}.$

### See Also

- Integration with Avid iNEWS Command
- Avid iNEWS Command Installation and Configuration Guide

## 2.3 Output Configuration

In order to play out Vizrt graphics you need one or several Viz Engines depending on your use case.

This section will describe how to best configure your Viz Engine(s) in order to play out graphics from the Avid iNEWS Command workstation.

This section contains information on the following topics:

- To create an iNEWS playlist containing Vizrt graphics
- To configure an output channel
- To configure multiple output channels

### To create an iNEWS playlist containing Vizrt graphics

iNEWS			
File Edit View Go To Story	Format Tools Communicate Window	Help	
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	0:		
VCPTemplateFiller Control			×
Templates Media			
2TierThirds			Concept: News 🗸 Variant: Top third 🔽 🖬 🗔 🖬
Name			
Avid iNEWS Command			
Designation			Avid INEWS Command
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- 1. Create and configure a new playlist in iNEWS.
- 2. Add your stories to the new playlist.
- 3. Open a story for editing.
- 4. Start the Newsroom Component (Tools -> Plugins -> VCPTemplateFiller Control).
  - This will start the Newsroom Component.

Figure 1: Template editor and data element list

VCPTemplateFiller Control	Data element name	Creation date	
Templates Media	2TierUpperThird	10/6/2010 2:27 PM	
Templates Media	2TierLowerThird	10/6/2010 2:03 PM	
2TierThirds	FullScreenStock	10/6/2010 2:03 PM	
d'	FullScreenScatter	10/6/2010 2:03 PM	
Name	FullScreenPie	10/6/2010 2:02 PM	
Avid INEWS Command	FullScreenLine	10/6/2010 2:02 PM	
Designation	FullScreenChart	10/6/2010 2:02 PM	
Vizrt integration	FullScreenBars	10/6/2010 2:02 PM	

5. Open a template, make the necessary changes and save it as a new data element.



All the magic of Vizrt comes together in the Viz Virtual is itself being a goldmine for content driven production.

The set is featuring an interactive multitouch screen fron to. The set was made as an sterescopic set and was ke projectors. Tracking for the set was done by Vizrt partne main camera that are used to find its position.)

- 6. Drag and drop the element into your story.
  - Data elements can be added from the Template editor and data element list.
- 7. Monitor and load the playlist to see it in iNEWS Command.

## To configure an output channel

- 1. Start the Media Sequencer you have configured for Avid iNEWS Command.
- 2. Start the Viz Engine(s) you will use as your output channel(s).
- 3. Start Viz Content Pilot (VCP).
- 4. From VCP's Tools menu, select Profile Configuration... (CTRL+M).

Profile Configuratio	'n						
Profiles	Channels	Viz Engines					
vizroom1	Name	Vi Program	z Preview	Video Program Preview		Allocated	■ 10.211.111.98 ■ 10.211.111.108
	А	×					
	10.211.111.98						
	В						1116
	10.211.111.108						Add VIZ
							Video Devices
New profile	New channel						Add Video
							Close

- 5. Add a new profile.
- 6. Add a new channel (e.g. A).
- 7. Add the Viz Engine you will use as your output channel.
- 8. Drag and drop the newly added Viz Engine onto the newly created channel.

MSE REST interface url:		http://VIZ-MSE-SRV:8580/	Look up
Choose profile:	http://VIZ	-MSE-SRV:8580/profiles/vizro	iom1 🔽

- 9. Start the Avid Service Configuration tool installed on the Media Sequencer machine.
- 10. Select the graphic device and under the **Vizrt Plug-in Settings**, click the Look up button.
- 11. Select the profile you just created, and click Apply.

## To configure multiple output channels

- 1. Start Viz Template Wizard.
- 2. From the Tools menu, select Categories and Channels.
- 3. In the Categories and Channels dialog box do the following:
  - Define the categories (e.g. FullScreen and Thirds).
  - Define the channels (e.g. A and B).
  - Define the custom channels by assigning a channel to the newly created categories.

🖷 [template manager]					
Concepts - ALL News News Sports New Edit Delete	Concept templates         I3         Y Banner         Y Chart         Y FullScreenChart         Y Headline         Y I3         Y I3         Y I3         New       Edit         Delete	Template variants         Default       Image: Colspan="2">Image: Colspan="2" Image: Colspan="">" Toto Colspan="2" Image: Colspan="" Colspan="" Toto Colspan="">" T			
Edit variant Description of variant: Default	Id: Ext ID: Description	Lift Saus			
Active	Category: Thirds				
Scene rolder: SCENE*03_USERS/Vizrt-BGO/Jon_Fraczak Scene name:					
Stop points (Default):	Re-import				

- 4. From the Tools menu, select **Template Manager** (requires a running Viz Engine).
- 5. Select and edit a template variant and set a category for it.
- 6. Click Save.
- 7. Start Viz Content Pilot.
- 8. Repeat the procedure above (To configure an output channel); however, this time add two channels with the channel names defined in Viz Template Wizard (e.g. A and B).

### See Also

• To install the Viz Content Pilot Newsroom Component

- To configure the Avid iNEWS Workstation
- Viz Content Pilot User's Guide
- Viz Template Wizard User's Guide

## 3 Playout of Vizrt Graphics

This section describes how to successfully play out Vizrt graphics from Avid iNEWS Command.

This section contains information on the following topics:

Controls

## 3.1 Controls

The only state kept by the plugin, is what element is currently "running" (paused, in Avid-terms.). If you click Play on the current element it will result in a CONTINUE, while a play on all other elements will result in a TAKE on the corresponding element (see To play out from Avid iNEWS Command).

The Avid iNEWS Command controls map to the following behavior when triggering Vizrt graphics:

 Table 1: Control buttons on playout toolbar

lcon	Action
	<b>Cue</b> has no function; however, the next graphics element will be cued automatically on TAKE.
	<b>Play</b> will do a TAKE if the element you click Play on is not already taken.
	Clicking Play will immediately result in a "pause"-icon for the current element to allow a CONTINUE on consecutive actions for the same graphics element.
	Pause has no function.
	<b>Stop</b> will result in a TAKE OUT.

## To play out from Avid iNEWS Command

SHOW.N	EWS.	RUND	имо		
0:00:	<b>DO</b>				
<b>0</b>	-				
				1	
			IIILE	CHANNEL	DURATION
			STORY A	CHANNEL	DURATION
			STORY A pilotdata:2TierUpper	CHANNEL	00:00:00:00
			STORY A pilotdata:2TierUpper pilotdata:2TierLo	C C	DURATION 00:00:00:00 00:00:00
			STORY A pilotdata:2TierUpper pilotdata:2TierLo STORY B	C C	00:00:00:00 00:00:00
			story A pilotdata:2TierUpper pilotdata:2TierLo Story B pilotdata:FullScreenSt	C C C	00:00:00:00 00:00:00 00:00:00:00

- 1. Start Avid iNEWS Command workstation.
- 2. Open the playlist you loaded in iNEWS.
- 3. Click the lock to operate the playlist.
  - Clicking the lock will send the playlist information to the Media Sequencer.
- 4. Click the Play button to load and play out the graphics.
  - If the scene use Continue points, click the Play button to continue the animation.
  - If the scene should be played again, click the Stop button and then the Play button.
  - If the scene should be taken off air (hard cut), click the Stop button.

## See Also

- Installation and Configuration
- Troubleshooting

## 4 Troubleshooting

The following section is a troubleshooting section for the Vizrt integration with Avid iNEWS Command. The information is based on experience gained by Vizrt during development and testing.

Before you start troubleshooting you should familiarize yourself with the following Avid tools:

- Avid Diagnostics: Avid Diagnostics is a logging framework that enables you to view logs of different Avid products across the network. Your Vizrt device should show up there as an "Avid Graphics Device Service".
- Avid Health Monitor: Use the Avid Health Monitor to view different "health" statuses related to the services.
- Avid Service Configuration: With this tool you can configure the different services, like our graphics plugin, across the network.
- Avid Workgroup Properties: With this tool you can, amongst other things, start and stop services.

This section contains information on the following topics:

- Configuration is OK
- Configuration is not OK

### Configuration is OK

The following tells you that the configuration is OK:

- You create a rundown in Avid iNEWS, with elements corresponding with your Vizrt device (i.e. cg44).
- You monitor the device, and it shows up in the Avid iNEWS Command workstation.
- You open the rundown, click the lock, and the rundown is visible.
- You select and click Play for one of the elements, and the graphic is played out on air.

### Configuration is not OK

The following tells you that the configuration is not OK:

- 1. You have installed the device, but it does not show up in any of the Avid tools.
- Check the firewall on the computer you installed it on.
- Does it show up using any of the Avid tools on the local computer (the same as you installed it on).
- If you are running Windows Vista or 7 (or anything newer than XP you should probably set service to run in Compatibility mode (see Installation and Configuration).
- 2. Your device is not usable in Avid iNEWS Command workstation and displays "No inventory found" in the Alerts listing.
- Check to see that the device is running.

- Does is show up in any of the Avid tools? If not, see point 1.
- Have you configured the device in the Avid Service Configuration tool to use the Vizrt plugin, and not the default None plugin (see Plug-in Chooser tab)?



- Check the Avid Health Monitor tool for additional information:
  - The Available status should be true and not false (see image above). If this is not the case you should check whether the Avid iNEWS Command server can access your Avid iNEWS Command workstation where you installed the plugin. Also disable firewalls to check for potential port connection issues.

INFO	vizrt Command Plugin: Saving new current playlist:http://VIZ-MSE-SRV:8580/direct
INFO	vizrt Command Plugin: vizrt plugin created!
INFO	Avid Graphic Device Service is starting in Daemon Mode
INFO	The Avid Graphic Device Service daemon is starting in Daemon Mode
INFO	Connection to Media Sequencer Engine (http://VIZ-MSE-SRV:8580/) ok

- Check the Avid Diagnostics tool and look at the log-messages from the device.
  - Select the device and enable logging for it.
  - Restart the service using Avid Workgroup Properties.
  - It should log a lot of messages, look out for anyone containing Vizrt.
  - Check for SEVERE errors.
- 3. I have inventory, but my playlist is empty in the Avid iNEWS Command work-station.
- Check that the device name (e.g. cg44) configured in Avid Service Configuration matches the device name configured in iNEWS. If the latter is correctly configured the device name in iNEWS should match the inventory name seen in iNEWS Command.
- Check the SYSTEM.MAP configuration and element data in your stories for the same device name.
- 4. For some reason I have seen changes in iNEWS not affecting the playlist in iNEWS Command.
- Try Monitor -> OFF and Monitor -> Load again, and turn on and off the lock in Avid iNEWS Command a few times.
- 5. I cannot configure the device using the Avid Service Configuration tool.

• If the device shows up, but you get an error message when trying to click it and open the GUI, see the next point on DNS related issues.

🞢 Avid Health Monitor		: 2 🔀
<u>File View Tools H</u> elp		
💷 Overall Health Status		84
Overall System Status: Critical		
Workgroup Services     Avid Workgroup     Avid Graphic Device Service 01 - cg44     Avid Graphic Device Service 01 - cg44     Avid Archine Monitor Service     Avid Time Synchronization Service     Avid Time Synchronization Service	<ul> <li>Current Process Information</li> <li>JVM Information</li> <li>Discovery Status</li> <li>Discovery Status</li> <li>Workgroup Count: 2 Local Workgroup: AvidWorkgroup Codebase URL: http://bgo422w/2.wizrt.internal.49871</li> <li>Lookup Services Joined: 1</li> <li>Clookup Locator Status: bgodemo05l/vizrt.internal.4160 Configured</li> <li>Connection Status: Connected</li> <li>Connected Name: cg44</li> <li>Connected Availability: Availabile</li> <li>Plug-in Information</li> <li>Plug-in Health Data</li> </ul>	

- 6. You have installed the service, configured it to run in compatibility mode, started it, but it does not show up correctly with Inventory in Avid iNEWS Command workstation, and you get errors when trying to open the configuration panel.
- This may be caused by wrong reverse lookup in DNS. For example:
  - You installed on a computer called (e.g. host1).
  - The plugin seems to ask the DNS for its hostname, based on IP (like nslookup).
  - The DNS/whomever replies with a different/wrong hostname (e.g. host2)
  - The plugin broadcasts to the Avid Services that it can be contacted at host2.
  - The services tries this, and fails.
- Use the Avid Health Monitor and check the following:
  - Try to access the Codebase URL, and check that it is the right hostname for your service.
  - Try to access the Codebase URL from the Avid iNEWS Command server (ref. Lookup Locator).
- 7. Your playlist in iNEWS Command displays all elements that were added in iNEWS, but you cannot see the playlist in the VCP client.
- If you have deleted the playlist in VCP you must restart the Avid Graphic Device Service XX.