

# NewsBrowse Version 2.7 Release Notes

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**World Wide Web:** <http://www.thomsongrassvalley.com/support/>

**Technical Support E-mail Address:** [gvgtechsupport@thomson.net](mailto:gvgtechsupport@thomson.net).

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## **About this document**

This document contains the latest information about the NewsBrowse system. For the complete description and instructions for NewsBrowse, read the NewsBrowse application online Help and the *NewsBrowse Installation and Configuration Guide*.

## **NewsBrowse features**

NewsBrowse processes an incoming feed and simultaneously encodes it into two formats: a low-resolution (MPEG-1) format stored locally on the Network Attached Storage (NAS) unit, and a high-resolution format stored on the Profile Media Server.

NewsBrowse creates video thumbnails, storyboards and RealVideo. You can use a web browser to edit stories using the low-resolution media, which is accessible from the journalist's desktop. NewsBrowse also provides a rich metadata search engine that allows you to search for clips using various criteria.

Once you complete a sequence with the NewsBrowse editor, NewsBrowse can use that sequence to pull the corresponding high-resolution video from the Profile Media Server and assemble an on-air quality sequence. NewsEdit can also use the sequence in a similar way. NewsBrowse can also monitor the Profile Media Server to create low-resolution files that do not exist, and stream live feeds.

From the NewsBrowse application you can archive and restore high-resolution media. Archived media is still visible from the NewsBrowse application.

## **What's new in NewsBrowse version 2.7**

This version of NewsBrowse includes several improvements and new features, in addition to correcting some problems that were present in earlier releases.

- A new software based Advanced Encoder. This encoder provides the same functionality as both the Sequential Encoder and the Image Support Server. The Advanced Encoder ingests material from storage using a GXF stream instead of base band/capture card. With the Advanced Encoder, you can view proxy media while the hi-res media is being ingested, with less than 15 seconds of latency.
- Archive support for Front Porch Digital Diva

For more information on these new features, read the *NewsBrowse Installation and Configuration Guide* for version 2.7.

## **Features not yet implemented in this release**

A future 2.7x version of NewsBrowse will support the following feature or features. You can find documentation for these features in the *2.7 NewsBrowse Installation and Configuration Guide*.

- Archive support for FlashNet.

## Installing NewsBrowse software

For the general installation instructions for NewsBrowse software, refer to the *NewsBrowse Installation and Configuration Guide*.

When you upgrade from a previous 2.x version to version 2.7, do the following:

- Uninstall the current version of NewsBrowse software before installing the new version.
- Restart after uninstalling software. The NewsBrowse server uninstall program prompts you to restart, which you should do immediately.
- Be careful that you do not unintentionally delete the MediaFrame and NewsBrowse databases. In most cases when you upgrade you want to retain all your current assets, so you do *not* want to delete these databases. However, the NewsBrowse server uninstall program prompts you to delete the databases as part of uninstall. The default is Yes to delete the databases and there is no follow-up “Are you sure?” dialog box. Respond carefully to these questions that are asked during the uninstall.

## Installation and configuration tips

**EDL locations** — For each of the following EDL operations, configure a different locations:

- Save EDL
- Temporary save EDL
- Conform EDL
- Export EDL

**Adding Advanced Encoders to existing systems** — For existing sites wishing to increase their Image Support Server or Sequential Encoder capacity, the Advanced Encoder can be used in their place.

**Upgrade to DirectX 9.0c or higher on NewsBrowse client machines** — Several problems are solved with this version of DirectX. Refer to [“Known problems” on page 11](#).

**MPEG Audio setting for Advanced Encoder** — Though not documented in the *NewsBrowse Installation and Configuration Guide*, the “Audio Gain Level” setting is included on the Advanced Encoder’s MPEG Encoder configuration page. Configure it the same way as the MPEG Audio setting for the Single-channel Encoder.

## Migrating from version 1.5

Work through the following tasks to convert an existing NewsBrowse system from version 1.5 to version 2.0 or higher.

**NOTE:** Use the following procedures only as directed by Thomson Grass Valley Support.

### Prepare for migration

1. Use DeployCenter or other imaging software to create and save disk images from all NewsBrowse machines.
2. On the NewsBrowse server, do the following:
  - a. Run the AMDBScan on the 1.5 database to cleanup any corrupt assets.
  - b. Backup the 1.5 database.
  - c. Uninstall NewsBrowse 1.5, but do not delete the database.
  - d. Install NewsBrowse 2.7. The installer detects if Microsoft .Net Framework 1.1 is installed. If not, the installer installs .Net Framework 1.1 prior to the NewsBrowse application.
  - e. Open Internet Explorer and browse to *localhost:280*. Verify that NewsBrowse configuration pages open. If default IIS pages open instead, configure IIS to give *default.aspx* highest priority at port 280.
  - f. Start only the ASK, Resolver, and Metadata services.
  - g. Start Event Viewer. Turn on filter with error and warning only.

### Convert data

The NewsBrowse data conversion utility is to be run on the same server that the NewsBrowse 2.7 components are installed. It is recommended that the IngestScheduler service be stopped on both the NewsBrowse 1.5 and 2.7 systems. During the conversion process the system should be shut down. The Resolver and Metadata services on the NewsBrowse 2.7 system will need to be turned on. Make sure the Rules Wizard is not running while the data is being converted.

In previous testing of the conversion utility running on a dual PII 450 with 256 Meg of ram, it took 1 hour and 13 minutes to perform 55,499 database entries. The ThomsonAM database from the NewsBrowse 1.5 system had 14,002 GeneralMetaDataTbl table entries and the Thomson\_Ingest Events table had 8,000 entries. This information should give a barometer for the length of down time needed for the conversion process.

Do not run anything on the server(s) while the conversion process is underway. If the CPU spikes, errors occur and you will have to clean out the 2.7 database and start over.

This utility will convert the NewsBrowse 1.5 ThomsonAM database tables to the NewsBrowse 2.7 MediaFrame database tables and convert the NewsBrowse 1.5 Thomson\_Ingest database tables to the NewsBrowse NBIngest database tables. The conversion utility *does not convert the Thomson\_RulesWizard database*. The NewsBrowse 2.7 RulesWizard information will need to be manually configured.

To initiate the conversion utility on the NewsBrowse 2.7 server navigate to the following:

```
C:\ProgramFiles\Thomson\Utilities\DataConversion1.5To2.0\
NewsBrowse_Data_Conversion_UTILITY.exe.
```

Double click the exe file. When the dialog appears enter the server name or IP address of the NewsBrowse 1.5 system into the text box located in the top left corner of the dialog. With the correct server name or IP address entered the conversion process begins by clicking the **Start Conversion** button. Current status is displayed in the status display list box. If there are errors that occur during the data conversion they are displayed in the error log list box. Simultaneously two log files are created and written to logging the status and errors. The log files are located in *C:\Thomson\NewsBrowse\Logs*. The file that logs each entry and generic error information is *dblog-mm-dd-yyyy.log*. The file that contains the error information and failed entries is *dberror-mm-dd-yyyy.log*. The dberror log writes information in XML format with tag names associated to each step of the conversion process. The failed entries will contain key information such as URN's and the values that were attempted to be entered in the database. You can easily take that information and locate the record in the NewsBrowse 1.5 database and hand enter the values into the NewsBrowse 2.7 database.

Also NewsBrowse 1.5 would allow a metadata record to associate with URIs containing different asset names. NewsBrowse 2.7 will not allow this. When the conversion utility encounters this scenario it can not associate the URI to the metadata record. Another tool you can use during the process is the NewsBrowse 2.7 Event Viewer utility. Set it to filter on errors. When the conversion utility encounters the previous scenario the log viewer logs it as the asset has already been associated.

In NewsBrowse 1.5 the ingest channels were identified by integer values. When converting to NewsBrowse 2.7 the ingest channel names are now string values. When configuring the system the ingest encoders are more easily identified when configured using their network name instead of an integer value like 1 or 0. After completing the data conversion from 1.5 to 2.7 the channels in the EVENTS table will contain the same values that were entered in the 1.5 system. If it is desired to rename the channels to a more descriptive name, this can be accomplished in the following steps:

1. Open SQL Query Analyzer.
2. Select the NBIngest database.
3. In the command window type the following command:

```
UPDATE events
SET channel = '{new value}'
WHERE channel = '{old value}'
```

**NOTE:** “new value” is the new MDI name you would like the channel to be called; “old value” is the old integer value that is in the database.

4. Execute the script by clicking the green arrow in the Query Analyzer tool bar.
5. Repeat the process for each ingest channel that is to be renamed.

## Convert Users, Groups, and License Information

Before launching the utility to convert user, group and license information open the NewsBrowse Launch page. Click **License & User Management | Licenses**. Verify that in the list of licenses that Archive and Restore are listed as separate licenses. The Browse license at this point in time should have the value 5 as its session count. The rest should be set to the default value of 0.

By clicking the above links a default license file is created. To convert the license information from NewsBrowse 1.5 to NewsBrowse 2.7, navigate to the following:

```
C:\Program Files\Thomson\Utilities\DataConversion1.5To2.0\
TransferUserAccountInfo.exe.
```

Double click the exe file. When the conversion utility dialog appears click the browse buttons to verify the files exist before initiating the conversion.

Once the utility has finished converting the user, group and license information restart IIS. Click **Start | Run**, type in `iisreset` and click **OK**. After IIS resets go back to the License & User Management link and verify that the user, group and license information converted correctly from NB 1.5 to NB 2.7.

## Verify the NewsBrowse 2.7 installation with .Net

Before you begin testing NewsBrowse 2.7, verify the .Net machine config file. NewsBrowse 1.5 previously ran on Microsoft.Net Framework 1.0 and to enable impersonation the “machine.config” file needed the <processModel> tag's user name value changed from “machine” to “SYSTEM”. NewsBrowse 2.7 uses Microsoft.Net Framework 1.1 and the “machine.config” for this framework will require the same modification. The machine.config file for Microsoft.Net Framework 1.1 is located at the following:

```
C:\WINNT\Microsoft.NET\Framework\v1.1.4322\CONFIG\machine.config
```

Open the file in notepad and perform a search for “<process>”. Look for the following:

```
userName=”machine”
```

Change it as follows:

```
username =”SYSTEM”
```

Restart IIS for changes to take.

## Convert NewsBrowse machines

On the remaining NewsBrowse machines, do the following:

1. Uninstall NewsBrowse 1.5 software
2. On single-channel encoders and sequential encoders, if Profile System software is used, upgrade it on those machines to the version as provided on the NewsBrowse CD.
3. Install NewsBrowse 2.7. The installer detects if Microsoft .Net Framework 1.1 is



installed. If not, the installer installs .Net Framework 1.1 prior to the NewsBrowse application.

4. Open Internet Explorer and browse to *localhost:280*. Verify that NewsBrowse configuration pages open. If default IIS pages open instead, configure IIS to give *default.aspx* highest priority at port 280.
5. Set up configuration and run tests. Refer to the *NewsBrowse Installation and Configuration Guide*.

## Convert NewsBrowse client PCs

1. Uninstall NewsBrowse 1.5 Live Filter. In the Windows **Control Panel** open **Add/Remove Programs** and remove NewsBrowse 1.5 Live Filter.
2. Go through the NewsBrowse 2.7 client setup steps, as referenced on the NewsBrowse Launch page. Refer to the *NewsBrowse Installation and Configuration Guide*.

## Add MDI server to network

For existing NewsBrowse systems version 1.5 with three subnets (Production, Private, and Client), the only additional network configuration required for upgrading to NewsBrowse version 2.0 and higher is for the MDI server, if your system uses a stand-alone MDI server machine.

Refer to the network diagrams in the *NewsBrowse Installation and Configuration Guide*.

To add an MDI server to the three-tier network, do the following:

1. Set up host tables as follows:
  - a. On each NewsBrowse machine, find host table files at *C:\WINNT\system32\drivers\etc*
  - b. In all system host tables, make an entry for the MDI server. Use the IP address for the Private network IP address of the MDI server.  
  
On the MDI server make sure the host table entry for the NewsBrowse server matches the canonical name of the NewsBrowse server.
2. Configure network settings on MDI server as follows. Use standard Windows procedures:
  - a. Name MDI server computer and add computer to domain
  - b. Set IP address for each port, DNS servers
  - c. Set DNS settings

## Migration notes

- If your system does not use a stand-alone MDI server and you intend to install the Profile MDI and Proxy MDI on a Sequential encoder, do the following on the Sequential Encoder before installation:

Click **Start | Setting | Control Panel | Administrative Tools | Internet Services Manager**. Double click on the encoder name and select **Default Web Site** or

**Config Web Site | Properties | Advanced.** Add type **80** for TCP port. Click **OK** to save settings and close and restart the encoder.

- Install the Profile software client on the NewsBrowse server before installing NewsBrowse server software.
- Update the channel names as described above. Afterwards, when setting up the ASK configuration, use the same names for the encoder MDIs.
- Set up configuration: ASK, etc. and run tests. Refer to the *NewsBrowse Installation and Configuration Guide*.
- For all machines running on a domain rather than in a workgroup, such as the machine that hosts the Avalon Archive MDI, make sure the host table entry for the NewsBrowse server matches the canonical name of the NewsBrowse server.
- Configure the rest of the NewsBrowse Server 2.7 to have the same settings/features as configured in the 1.5 system.
- Backup the 2.7 database after the conversion.
- When converting the database, some errors can be fixed as follows:
  - Custom fields error reports “The field value for XXX is too long. Change value to YYY.” — This error happens because the custom field length was 255 in NewsBrowse 1.5 and is now 50 in 2.7. Inform the customer the field is truncated and let them decide what value should be added to asset. Open the SQL Enterprise Manager and search the MediaFrame’s MetadataTbl using the URN to find the asset that need to be updated.
  - URI already associated to another URN — This can happen because in NewsBrowse 1.5 you were allowed to associate the same URI to two different URNs. Therefore, if you deleted files from the system while NewsBrowse was not monitoring the system for delete event or if you tried to record assets with the same name, you could have this problem. Track down the URI that are already associated and see if the file does not exist. If it does not, use the MediaFrame Asset utility to remove associations from the asset that is already associated. If the material exists, then look at the video and the creation date to determine which asset should have the association. If the association needs to change to the other asset, use the MediaFrame Asset utility to change the links.

***NOTE: Use the MediaFrame Asset utility only as directed by Thomson Grass Valley Support.***

- An error message reports “Custom field does not have a metadata record.” You can ignore this message, as it refers to custom fields left in the database to assets that have been deleted.

## Known problems

- Problem** After installing or updating the NewsBrowse application, components can be mismatched.
- Workaround** After installation be sure to clear the browser cache on client machines to insure updated components are downloaded. To clear the browser cache in Internet Explorer go to **Tools | Internet Options**, from the **General** tab select the **Delete Files** button, check **Delete all offline content**, and click **OK**. (CR # 46747)
- Problem** Live feeds become several minutes out of sync with the source after days of operation (CR # 43530)
- Workaround** Live monitors must be restarted on a daily basis.
- Problem** Opening Configuration Manager causes a NewsBrowse single-channel encoder to time out during initialization or recording. (CR # 39722)
- Workaround** Do not start Configuration Manager on the Profile system while a NewsBrowse recording session is taking place.
- Problem** Install program fails to report that Profile client software is not installed when the Profile MDI is installed. As a result, the PfAMS\_COM module fails to register and the Profile MDI cannot communicate with the Profile. (CR # 44564)
- Workaround** Install Profile client software before installing the Profile MDI.
- Problem** In the NewsBrowse application, an MPEG asset fails to load if the asset is named using foreign language characters. Also, the asset name is changed to “???” on the Profile system. (CR # 44897)
- Workaround** Do not use foreign language characters when naming assets.
- Problem** For assets with large storyboards (e.g. 1000 storyboards), while storyboards are loading and the Shift key is pressed, in the preview window the size of the video shrinks by approximately 5% on the top and 5% on the bottom. (CR # 46008)
- Workaround** When the shift key is released, the video size returns to normal.
- Problem** LTC Format warning issued by the sequential encoder is unnecessary and confusing in the case where the timecode is source timecode coming from the Profile’s movie timecode track. (CR # 46013)
- Workaround** In this case you can ignore the LTC Format warning.

- Problem** End timecodes are 0 for clips created by the sequential encoder. This is because by design the sequential encoder records approximately eight extra frames. (CR # 46016)
- Workaround** The net effect is very minor and can be ignored.
- 
- Problem** The UI for deleting clips issues a confusing dialog box indicating the number of clips is more than what the user actually requested. (CR # 44603)
- Workaround** The number is cumulative and can be cleared by clearing the browser cache.
- 
- Problem** In the NewsBrowse application, while a clip is loading, if you change the tab selection the tab state can be out of synch with the active area after the clip loads. (CR # 44592)
- Workaround** Do not change the tab selection while a clip is loading.
- 
- Problem** Thumbnails display black if there is more than one minute of black at the beginning of a clip. (CR # 46019)
- Workaround** Reduce the length of black at the beginning of the clip to less than one minute.
- 
- Problem** Clips are detected as modified and scavenged a second time by a “CONTENT\_MODIFIED” rule. This occurs if the channel that is being used to play back the movie has any resources (video decoders, audio channels, or timecode readers) that don’t have matching media files. (CR # 45970)
- Workaround** Make sure the playback channel is dedicated to the Sequential Encoder and remove any of the following excess resources:
- More than one video decoder
  - More than two audio channels
  - More than one timecode reader
- If this is not possible, you can also work around the problem by disabling the “CONTENT\_MODIFIED” rule.
- 
- Problem** Foreign (non-English) language characters cause problems in Ingest Scheduler.
- Workaround** Use only English language characters in Ingest Scheduler.

**Problem** On a Profile XP system, when using Media Manager to move a clip (instead of copying it) into a folder monitored for scavenge operations, the Advanced encoder does not get notified and therefore no proxy MPEG is created. (CR # 48107)

**Workaround** If you want proxy MPEG created, make sure that the clip placed in the scavenge folder is detected as new—through using some type of copy or cut/paste operation—rather than being an existing clip that is simply moved from one location to another.

**Problem** NewsEdit cannot find NewsBrowse EDLs. This occurs when the Profile hostname and the Profile MDI name are not identical. (CR # 50798)

**Workaround** If using NewsBrowse EDLs with NewsEdit, name the Profile MDI the same as the Profile hostname. Alternatively, add an entry to the host table with the MDI name and the IP address of the Profile.

**Problem** Occasionally a UIM transfer fails, but the NewsBrowse application automatically retries and the transfer is successful. An error is reported in the log, but in this case it can be ignored, since the transfer is successful. (CR # 50533)

**Workaround** No workaround required.

**Problem** Though the UIM supports six simultaneous transfers, on rare occasion it behaves as if it supports only four simultaneous transfers and the fifth transfer fails. (CR # 49987)

**Workaround** Restart the UIM.

**Problem** An EDL segment gets stuck on the cursor if you drag the EDL outside of the timeline frame. When you move the cursor back into the timeline frame the EDL segment is attached. (CR # 50158)

**Workaround** Move the cursor into the timeline frame and left-click. This releases the EDL segment.

**Problem** On the bin tab, when you manually delete an asset, the asset is still displayed in the bin list. (CR # 49656)

**Workaround** To remove deleted assets from the bin list, on the bin tab click the column header **X** button, then click **OK** on the “Remove all assets from the bin” message box that appears.

**Problem** On a Profile XP with system software version 5.4.x, LicenseManager becomes inoperable. This is because of an incompatibility between NetTime Client and LicenseManager. (CR # 50796)

**Workaround** Do not run NetTime Client on a Profile XP system.

**Problem** Low-res browse controls not frame accurate, 0 ending timecode.  
(CR # 50796)

**Workaround** Upgrade NewsBrowse client to DirectX 9.0c or higher.

**Problem** Very large batch delete (~10K) causes NAS to get very slow.  
(CR # 50796)

**Workaround** Reboot NAS. The system will recover after about 20 minutes when the deletions are complete.

**Problem** After the restart of a Profile XP system, the Profile MDI occasionally fails to automatically reconnect to the Profile XP system. The most obvious symptom of this problem is that new scavenge operations do not occur after the Profile restarts. (CR # 47441)

**Workaround** 1. Make sure the Rules Wizard is running. It must be running or the automatic connection attempt will not occur.  
2. Verify that this is the problem. Use the Event log as follows:

When the Profile reboot starts the Event log will show the following:

```
ProfileAssetMDObj0: Failed to establish Pronet  
session with Profile: <profile_hostname>.
```

After the Profile reboot is complete, the following message shows that the reconnection was successful:

```
ProfileAssetMDObj0: Profile Asset System has established Pronet  
session with Profile:<profile_hostname>.
```

3. If you don't see this message within a few minutes of the Profile recovery, it means the Profile MDI has not automatically reconnected. Stop and start again the Profile MDI service.

**Problem** DIVA and FlashNet restore operations fail if the destination folder has clips with the same base name as the clip to be restored. This occurs even if duplicate name handling is enabled. The specific condition that causes the failure is when the name of the clip to be restored is *clipname*, and the destination folder has a clip named *clipname* **and** a clip named *clipname\_0*. (CR # 50770)

**Workaround** Restore to a different destination folder or delete/rename the clips in the destination folder that have the same basename as the clip to be restored.

**Problem** An "Internet Explorer Script Error" message appears if you select **Recurring Feed** and then quickly select **Add Event**. (CR # 50706)

**Workaround** Pause before selecting **Add Event**.

**Problem** For proxy clips created on an Advanced Encoder, reverse seeking updates the video display on every 15th seek operation (I-frames) only. (CR # 50675)

**Workaround** Install DirectX 9.0c or higher on the NewsBrowse client machine.

**Problem** When archiving two assets with the same name, the DIVA MDI occasionally logs a message “Unable to submit the archive/restore request for some unknown error”, even though the archive operation is successful. (CR # 50598)

**Workaround** In this case the error message can be ignored.

**Problem** When clicking **Delete from Archive**, the video display shifts up and covers the asset name. (CR # 50578)

**Workaround** Open and close the storyboard. This causes the video display to shift down and reveals the asset name.

**Problem** When doing a complete restore (not partial restore) from a DIVA or FlashNet archive device you cannot change the asset name. Although the NewsBrowse application allows you to enter a new name, the asset retains the original name as on the Profile XP system. This is because DIVA and FlashNet archive devices support user-specified names for partially restored assets only. (CR # 50542)

**Workaround** No workaround available.

**Problem** The NewsBrowse application shows black flashed between EDL segments. This when the NewsBrowse client machine is experiencing slow performance. (CR # 50155)

**Workaround** Optimize network performance or use a faster client machine.

**Problem** When archiving to DIVA there is no incremental report of progress. The Archive Status log reports only 0% and 100%, with no percentage of progress in-between. (CR # 49888)

**Workaround** No workaround available.

**Problem** Occasionally (1 in 500 transfers), archive requests to the DIVA archive fail. Either the archived clip is not deleted from the Profile system as requested, or the transfer to archive itself fails. (CR # 50891)

**Workaround** Resubmit archive request.

