grass valley

product data sheet

Aurora Browse 6.0

Desktop-Based Browsing and Editing System

Grass Valley™ products offer the most comprehensive, multi-format solutions for acquisition, production, storage, and playback—and a strong foundation for centralized, proactive status and activity monitoring.

As part of this broad capability, the Grass Valley Aurora™ production solution touches the entire news-production process, from acquisition, ingest, and media browsing, to quick-turn editing, craft editing, and automated playout.

A key component of this solution is the Aurora Browse system, a workflow-management tool for media production environments. It provides desktop access to low-resolution media for searching, browsing, editing, logging, sequence trimming, archive storage interactions, and simple content management—and the ability link changes to that media with the corresponding high-resolution media residing on a playout system.

The Aurora Browse system is based on Grass Valley's MediaFrame metadata storage and services architecture. The MediaFrame platform lets users of all Aurora applications access Aurora Browse features directly, and provides an IT industry-standard simple object access protocol (SOAP) interface for the integration of third-party applications.

Supporting the K2™ media server/media client system, Profile® XP Media Platform system, and the M-Series™ intelligent video digital recorder (iVDR)—as well as the Aurora Ingest, Aurora Edit, and Aurora Playout applications—the Aurora Browse system gives you fast, easy access to feeds, centralized, and archived media as well as familiar, intuitive editing tools for complete story creation—all from the desktop.

The Aurora Browse platform also provides a number of important production workflow benefits. Using it, you can access, review, and log shared media. You can also review content and make frame-accurate selections for use in finish editing or for direct playback to air or via a media object server (MOS)-compliant newsroom computing system.

The Aurora Browse system also eliminates the sequential screening of content: multiple users can browse, log, and make selections from a single piece of media simultaneously, even while the media is being recorded into the system.

For archived material, the Aurora Browse platform can quickly search and retrieve proxy content linked to archive-resident, high-resolution media. It also greatly reduces wasted time and valuable storage resources by eliminating unnecessary restores; you can initiate a restore from an archive of related high-resolution media and get visual confirmation right at your desktop.

key features

- Frame-accurate, 800 kb/s to 1.5 Mb/s, MPEG-1 browsing and editing of high-resolution media
- Format support:
  - DV 25 and DV 50 and MPEG-2 to 100 Mb/s
  - SD: NTSC/PAL
  - HD: 1080i/720p 50/60 Hz
- Ingest/asset management:
  - Monitors K2, M-Series, or Profile XP Media Platform systems for new material and automatically generates low-resolution clips
  - Supports wide range of user-defined metadata and annotation fields
  - Supports Boolean searches and provides reusable custom filters
  - All text entries indexed, searchable, and retrievable from online and offline storage systems
- Editing:
  - Supports Aurora Edit interface
  - Enables creation/preview of edited sequences
  - Supports low-resolution editing during ingest of live feeds
  - Independently controls audio tracks and audio levels
  - Speeds editorial review via automatic storyboard creation
  - Creates EDLs for Aurora Edit platform use
  - Conforms sequences for direct playout
  - MOS newsroom computer system plug-in
- Archive:
  - Interfaces to Legato, Front Porch Digital, and SGL archive-management systems
  - Partial full-resolution restoration from archive
- User authentication and rights management to control access for asset protection

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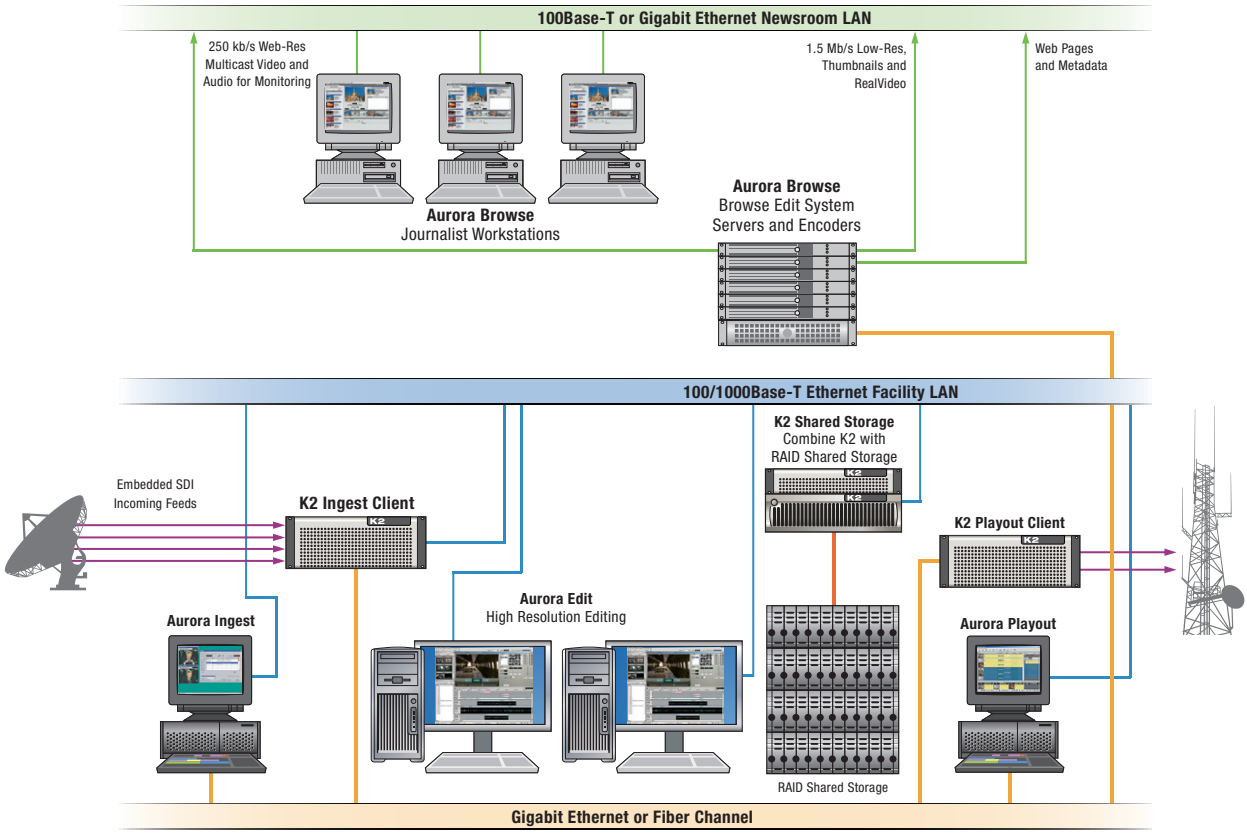
Aurora System Workflow



And for centrally managing your content, the Aurora Browse system lets you locate assets easily to manage the logging of rich metadata, archive interactions, and asset transfers and deletions within the system.

And by leveraging modular, scaleable components, the Aurora Browse system provides expandability without increasing latency or compromising performance.

Speeding Story Creation

The Aurora Browse system helps speed story creation. Instead of waiting for a crowded edit room to become available, you can work right from your desktop. Need to trim a clip or put a couple of shots together? It takes just 10 minutes to get learn everything you need to mark in, mark out, and insert.

And with our low-resolution editing extensions, you can perform frame-accurate editing of browse media with audio split-track editing and other advanced functions, including wipes and dissolves, aspect-ratio correction, multi-track audio, enhanced audio and video scrubbing and jog/shuttle, audio level adjustments, audio metering, audio waveforms, and record audio to timeline.

Streamlining workflows further is the system's storyboard-creation feature that creates a thumbnail image for each scene change. Leveraging the popular interface of the Aurora Edit nonlinear editor, the Aurora Browse system lets you quickly perform cuts-only edits by placing these thumbnails on a timeline using a drag-and-drop interface. It can also conform frame-accurate EDLs directly to a playout server or to an Aurora Edit workstation for future refinement.

Robust Asset-Access Tools

The Aurora Browse interface is patterned after the Aurora Edit nonlinear editing system so that you don't have to learn multiple interfaces to get the job done.

For asset access, the Aurora Browse system includes a sophisticated query engine and media database. They keep track of media assets and preserve the important links between the low-resolution versions used for browsing and initial editing and the high-resolution versions used for finish editing and broadcast.

Comprehensive Metadata Entry

The Aurora Browse system also features a unique *Explore* view that lets you search and browse for assets by location, including remote venues. You can transfer full-resolution files between remote sites—even control the bandwidth dedicated to the transfer operation to manage your network's load.

And with our MOS plug-in module, you can sift through scripts in a variety of newsroom computing systems, including ENPS, iNews, Octopus, and NC Power.

The Aurora Browse system also lets you add wide-ranging descriptive information about media assets—and features advanced search technologies to quickly retrieve them. For example, you can add, modify, or delete metadata and annotations, and review and delete individual keywords for clips or frames. You can also annotate and edit video, and enter information in custom metadata fields before, during, and after clips are ingested. An administrator can even create predefined metadata fields, or *pick lists*, to speed selection and avoid errors.

Text entered into the Aurora Browse system is indexed and searchable. You can also retrieve low-resolution versions of high-resolution media from both online and offline media storage systems.

To keep assets secure, the Aurora Browse system lets administrators set functional and media-access permissions on a user-by-user basis, including the ability to limit control of ingest servers, encoders, and databases.

Intuitive, Familiar Editing Tools

The Aurora Browse editing tool is patterned after the popular Aurora Edit nonlinear editing system. Using it, you can perform cuts-only editing with traditional tools for mark-in and mark-out points—and reorder clips on a graphical timeline through the drag-and-drop interface.

With this streamlined interface, you can get one-click previews of edited sequences in low resolution. You can also quickly export edited sequence EDLs to an Aurora Edit system for further high-resolution editing or for conformance directly to your playout server.

The Aurora Browse system also supports split-audio edits, audio level adjustments, and mixing down from four to two audio tracks. Conformance is performed by the Aurora Browse conform server.

Scaleable Platform for Unfettered Growth

The Aurora Browse system is comprised of browse only, browse-edit, advanced editing, and archive applications; browse servers, low-resolution storage systems; and encoders. This collection of hardware and software can easily scale to meet the growth demands of your organization.

The Aurora Browse server maintains a Microsoft SQL Server database which links low- and high-resolution media, and manages the metadata and access rights for the system. The Aurora Browse software transcoder engine automatically generates browse media and storyboard thumbnails using advanced scene-detection technology.

The low-resolution storage systems serve up all media to clients, including low-resolution MPEG-1 files for desktop editing and browsing and thumbnails for quick clip identification.

The Aurora Browse system also scales to accommodate any number of ingest sources and offers flexible encoding for generating low-resolution files.

The system's advanced encoder, for example, handles up to 1.5 Mb/s, MPEG-1 low-resolution media from feeds or tapes. This Ethernet device, when paired with a K2 system, can simultaneously record high-resolution media while monitoring selected folders in scavenge mode to automatically create low-resolution material from new finished material.

Specifications

System Features

- Codec for support of MPEG-1 at 800 kb/s to 1.5 Mb/s
- Modular storage on network-attached storage (NAS) systems devices with 1 Gb/s uplink to newsroom network

Editing Application System Requirements

- Applies to low-resolution editing extension (Aurora Edit LD and LDB) systems
- Intel Pentium 4, 512 MB RAM, 40 GB EIDE system drive, CD-ROM drive, DirectX 9 compatible
- Dual Ethernet 100Base-T network interface
- Windows XP Professional operating system

Video

- NTSC, 525/59.94 (240, 248, or 256 active lines per field)
- PAL, 625/50 (288 active lines per field)
- HD 1080i/720p 50/60 Hz
- Compression: MPEG-1, 1.5 Mb/s

Audio

- MPEG-1 stereo pair multiplexed with video in MPEG-1 file
- Time code
- Captured from high-resolution asset file

Server Physical Dimensions

Chassis: standard EIA rack mount

Dimensions:

- Height (2 RU): 8.57 cm (3.375 in.)
- Width: 48.26 cm (19.0 in.)
- Depth: 69.85 cm (48.26 in.)

Power Requirements

Power: 500W

Voltage: auto switch, 120V @ 6.2A or 240V @ 3.1A

Frequency: 47-63 Hz

Ordering Information

AURORA-B-SERVER
Aurora Browse Server Software – Requires XRE-2 Platform

AURORA-B-STORE-1TB
Basic Browse Storage: NAS 1TB

AURORA-B-SESSION
Browse-Only Session License

AURORA-B-ARCHRSTR
Archive/Restore License

AURORA-B-ARCHSEND
Archive Send License

AURORA-B-SDENC
SD Software Transcode To Browse

AURORA-B-SDENC-SB
SD SBIN Software Transcode To Browse

AURORA-B-HDENC
HD Software Transcode To Browse

AURORA-B-HDENC-SB
HD SBIN Software Transcode To Browse

AURORA-B-MDISVR
MDI Server Software – Requires XRE Platform

AURORA-XRE-1
Single Processor XRE Engine – High Availability

AURORA-XRE-2
Dual Processor XRE Engine – High Availability

AURORA-XRE-HAFT-1
HA Fault-Tolerant Option – Requires Two XRE-1 Platforms

AURORA-XRE-HAFT-2
HA Fault-Tolerant Option – Requires Two XRE-2 Platforms

Support Services & Training

The Grass Valley Support Services & Training team delivers complete service solutions that enhance your return on Grass Valley products and global systems solutions. Advanced training and proactive support, by reducing down time, keeps your equipment and staff performing at optimum productivity and quality.

Our pre-packaged suite of SupportPRO Services provides support through the whole process:

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- ServicePRO Comprehensive Software and Hardware Support
- PartsPRO Advanced Exchange Hardware Support
- Critical Spares Kits for Most Products

For specific requests, our worldwide experienced Support Services & Training experts can build and assist you with customized solutions.

For more information contact your authorized Grass Valley representative or visit us online at www.thomsongrassvalley.com/support.

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