

# *Network Player Management Software*

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## **Operations Guide**

Before operating the software, please read this manual thoroughly,  
and retain it for future reference.

**BZNP-100** Version 3.00 and Later

## Overview of This Guide

This operations guide explains how to carry out the most basic operations of the Sony BZNP-100 Network Player Management Software. The BZNP-100 is designed to create and manage audio and visual content, such as commercial videos played in public places or educational and training videos. This content is sent to the Sony NSP-100 Network Players via a network for distribution.

The contents of the guide include the essential setup that you have to do before starting to use the software, and how to create and distribute a small piece of demonstration content.

In addition to this operations guide, the BZNP-100 software provides the operating instructions and online help. These provide complete information on BZNP-100 operations.

### Note on Viewing the Online Help

During operation, pressing the F1 key on the keyboard displays information (help) related to the window/dialog box currently having the focus.

Clicking “Related Topics” link to the right of the help title shows the procedure and other information related to the displayed window/dialog box.

Click the Help Topics button on the menu bar of the help window for information on the entire system.

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## Notations Used in This Manual

- Menu commands and labeled buttons that appear on the screen are indicated as [command name] and [button name].  
Example: [Setup], [Material Management]
- The act of selecting a command from the menu and then a subcommand is indicated as “Select [command name] > [subcommand name].”

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## How to Use the Operations Guide

This operations guide explains the essential setup that you have to do before starting to use the BZNP-100 Network Player Management Software, and how to create a small piece of demonstration content as shown on the right. You can create the same content by using the following sample materials that are supplied with this operations guide.

### Sample Materials and Playlist:

- Video  
Video\_Sample\_1, Video\_Sample\_2, and Video\_Sample\_3
- Graphics  
Graphic\_Sample\_1, Graphic\_Sample\_2, and Graphic\_Sample\_3
- Text  
Text\_Sample\_1, Text\_Sample\_2, Text\_Sample\_3
- Playlist  
Playlist\_Sample

All the materials and a playlist needed to create and play the demonstration content. Some of them may not be used in the procedure.

**Note:** Screen images contained in this guide are examples. They have been captured in an NTSC system.

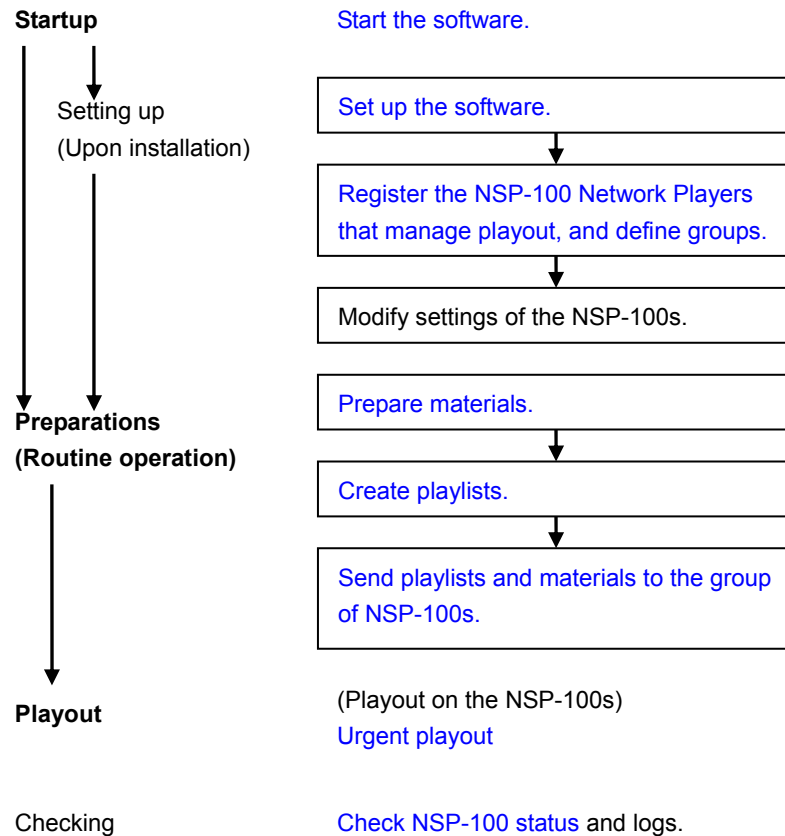
Try to create the following demonstration content.

The diagram illustrates the process of creating demonstration content. It begins with a screen titled "Sony Grand Hotel in California Optional Tour Guide" featuring a Sony logo and a list of tours: Desert Island (\$63), Sunset Cruises (\$80), and Volcano Tour (\$60). A special offer for "Desert Island Trek" is highlighted as "Only \$63". Below the list, it says "This week's Special Tour ; Desert Island Trek Only \$63" and "NETWORK PLAYER NSP-100 & BZNP-100". An arrow points to a "Sunset Cruise Tour" screen showing a sunset over the ocean, with the text "\$80 for 3 hours" and "SONY NETWORK PLAYER NSP-100". A second arrow points to a screen showing a volcanic landscape with the text "The Sony BZNP-100 series Network Player Manag" and "SONY". A large curved arrow labeled "Repeat" points back to the first screen.

# Operation Flowchart

The following chart shows an example of the flow of normal operation of this system to play demonstration videos on the street or presentation videos in the office.

Operations written in blue are covered in this operations guide.



# Starting the Software

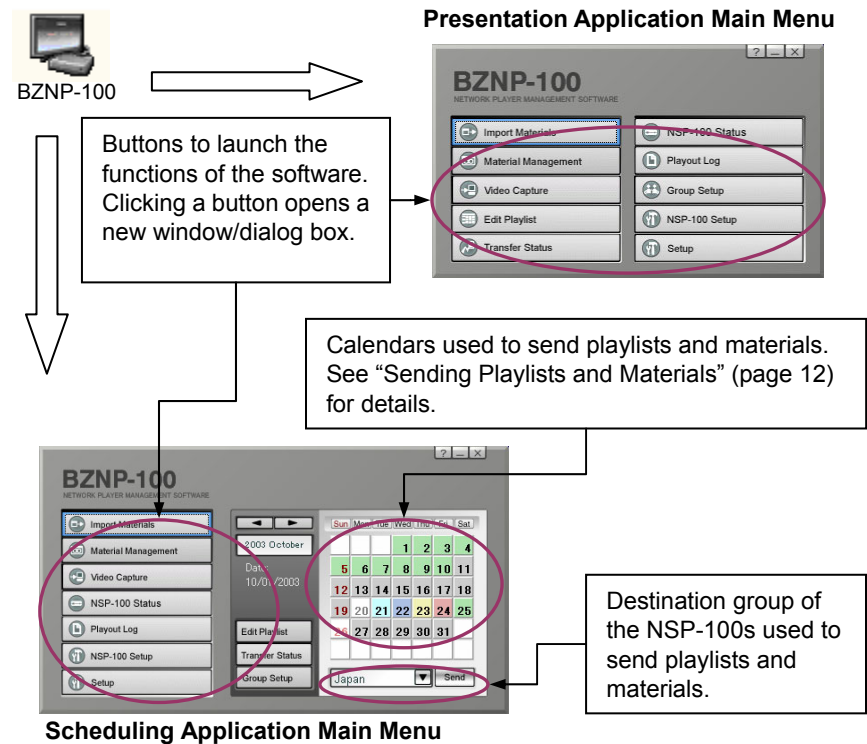
Double-click the BZNP-100 shortcut icon on your Windows desk top.

Or, click the Start button, then select [Programs] > [Network Player Management] > [BZNP-100].

Either of the following main menus appears.

The main menu is always displayed while the software is operating, and you can use any function of the software by clicking the corresponding button on the menu displayed.

**Note:** Power on your NSP-100 Network Player, too.



## Setting Up the Software

Before creating materials and playlists, there is some setup necessary: setup of the software and registration related to the NSP-100.

For the software, you have to open the Setup dialog box, then check and modify, if necessary, the following setup items.

The screenshot shows the 'Setup' dialog box with the following sections and controls:

- Application Mode:** Radio buttons for 'Presentation' and 'Schedule' (selected).
- Video Format:** Radio buttons for 'NTSC' (selected) and 'PAL'.
- Material Management Folders:** Fields for Video (MPEG), Graphics (IMAGE), Text (TELOP), Control (EXDEV), and Playlists (PLIST), each with 'Browse' and 'Rebuild' buttons.
- Material Code Starting Numbers:** Fields for Video (M: 0000001), Graphics (S: 0000001), Text (T: 0000001), Control (D: 0000001), and Playlists (P: 0000001).
- NSP-100 Setup Password:** Fields for Old Password, New Password, and Retype New Password.
- Automatic Sending of Scheduled Playlists (All Groups):** A 'Mode' dropdown menu (set to 'No Send'), an 'Interval' field (0:10), and 'Start' and 'End' time pickers (0:00:00 and 23:59:59).
- Retry for Manual Sending:** A 'Retry' dropdown menu (set to 'No').
- Buttons:** 'Network Setup', 'OK', and 'Cancel' buttons.

Numbered instructions are overlaid on the screenshot:

- 1 Click [Setup] on the main menu. (Indicated by a downward arrow pointing to the 'Schedule' radio button.)
- 2 Select "Schedule" to use the Scheduling Application. (Indicated by a red arrow pointing to the 'Schedule' radio button.)
- 3 Select your video signal format, NTSC or PAL. (Indicated by a red arrow pointing to the 'NTSC' radio button.)
- 4 Click [OK]. (Indicated by a red arrow pointing to the 'OK' button.)

**Note:** If you change the application mode or video format, a message appears after step 4, asking whether you would like to restart the software. Click [Yes].

## Recommended Settings in the Setup Dialog Box

Apart from the procedure of creating the demonstration contents, we recommend that you specify the following settings in the Setup dialog box:

### Automatic Sending of Scheduled Playlists (All Groups) Section (for Scheduling Application Only)

It specifies whether the system automatically sends playlists and the necessary materials to the network players.

When you do not want to allow automatic sending, select [No Send] in the Mode drop-down list box. [Send (All Day)] allows the system to send newly created playlists at any time, and [Send (Limited Time)] only allows the system to send them during a specified time frame during the day. To allow automatic playlist sending, specify the retry interval (hours:minutes) in the Interval text boxes, too. For example, you would use "0:30" in the case of a 30-minute interval.

When selecting [Send (Limited Time)], specify the time when the system sends the playlist, too.

We recommend that you select [Send (Limited Time)], and specify a time such that there is no conflict with the daily HDD sleep time (default: 3:00am).

### Retry for Manual Sending Section

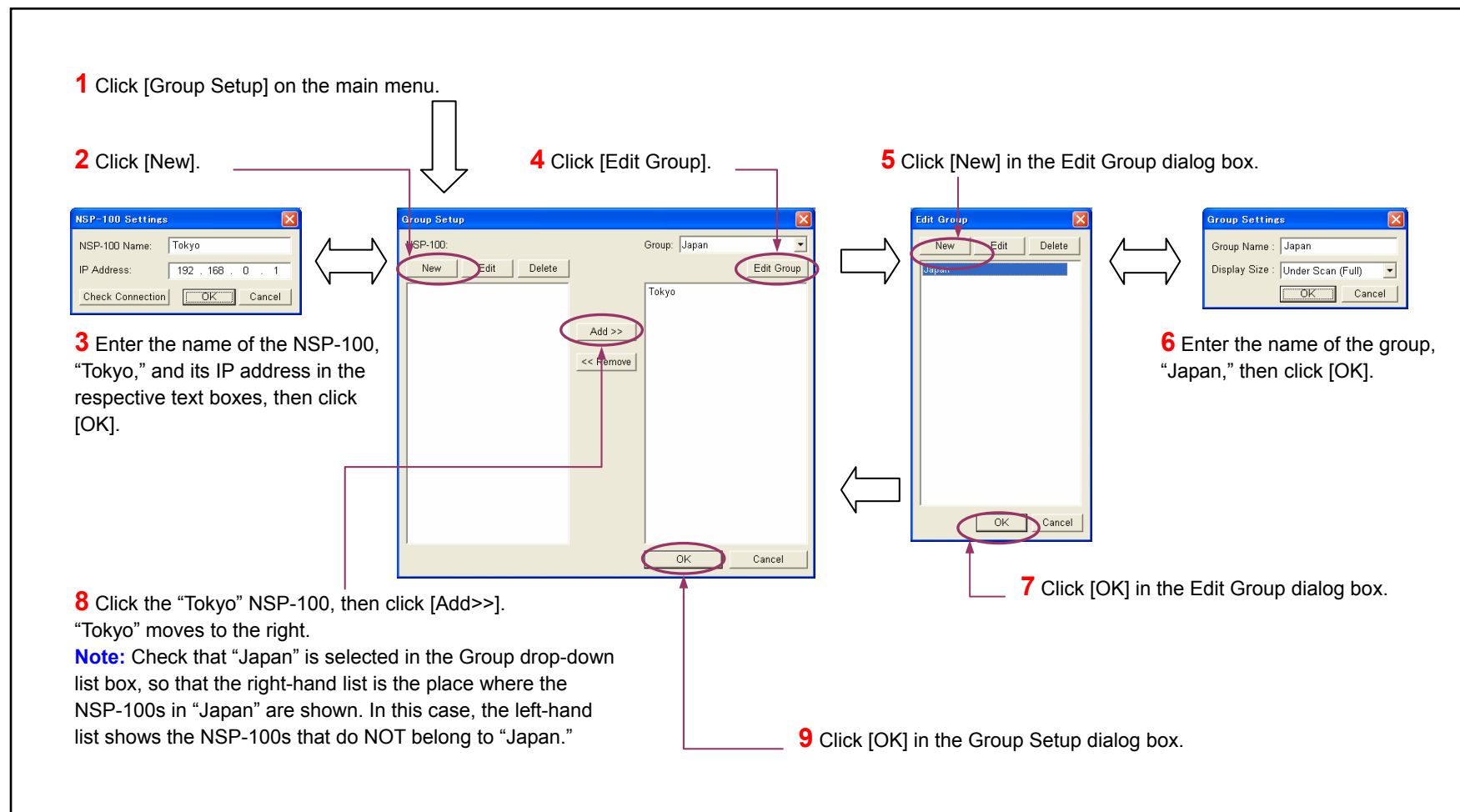
It specifies whether the system automatically re-sends materials and/or playlists that were sent manually, in the event an error occurs.

We recommend that you select [Yes] as it allows the BZNP-100 software to more efficiently manage automatic re-transfer of playlists and materials if a transfer error occurs.

## Defining an NSP-100 and a Group

The system features group-based playlist and content distribution. You can define network player groups, and put each network player in one or several groups.

The following chart shows how to register an NSP-100 named “Tokyo” and a network player group named “Japan.” The online help and the Operating Instructions explain the procedure used for registering more than one NSP-100 and network player group.



# Preparing Video Material

Convert the supplied AVI file corresponding to "Video\_Sample\_1" into the NSP format by yourself using the following procedure.

**Tip:** There is a capturing function that enables you to create AVI files from audio/video signal. See "Capturing Video" (page 14) for details.

**1** Click [Material Management] on the main menu.

**2** Select the Video tab.

**3** Click [Convert Material].

**4** Click [Browse] and specify the "AVI" folder under the folder where the software has been installed.

**5** Select the "Video\_Sample\_1.avi" sample file on the upper list, then click [Start]. Alternatively, move the file to the lower list using a drag & drop operation.

The bit rate can be changed using this dialog box.

Files to be converted that are stored in the selected folder appear on the upper list. Converted files (material) appear on the lower list on a blue background.

**Material Management**

No.	Code	Type	Title	Duration	Rate	Date Modified	Del. Date
0001	Ms0000N1	Sample	Video_Sample_1	00:00:15:00	9.0 Mbps	2003/01/01 00:00	
0002	Ms0000N2	Sample	Video_Sample_2	00:00:15:00	9.0 Mbps	2003/01/01 00:00	
0003	Ms0000N3	Sample	Video_Sample_3	00:00:15:00	9.0 Mbps	2003/01/01 00:00	

Prepared material is listed here.

**Convert Material**

C:\BZNP100\AVI

No.	File Name	Date Modified	Size
0001	Video_Sample_1.avi	2003/01/01 00:00	55,589 KB
0002	Video_Sample_2.avi	2003/01/01 00:00	55,589 KB
0003	Video_Sample_3.avi	2003/01/01 00:00	55,589 KB

100 %

No.	Code	Type	Title	File Name
0001	Ms0000N1	Sample	Video_Sample_1	Video_Sample_...
0002	Ms0000N2	Sample	Video_Sample_2	Video_Sample_...
0003	Ms0000N3	Sample	Video_Sample_3	Video_Sample_...

**Parameter Settings**

Protection: OFF

File Size: Large

AVI

Video Rate: 9.0 [Mbps]

Filter (Audio): OFF

OK Cancel

# Preparing Graphics Material

Convert the supplied bmp file corresponding to "Graphic\_Sample\_1" into the NSP format by yourself using the following procedure.

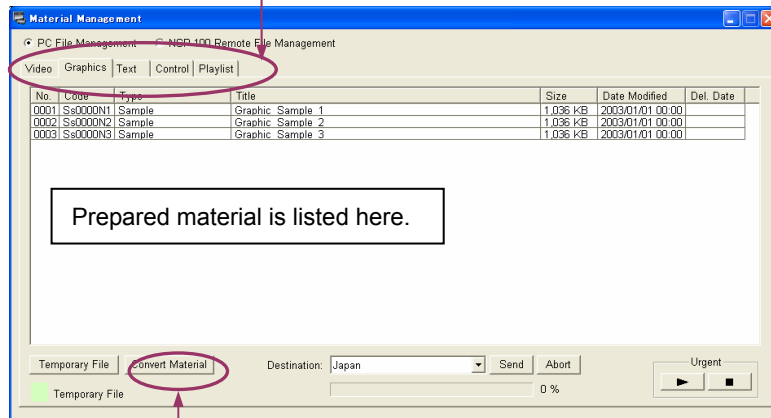
## Notes on Using Microsoft PowerPoint Slides

- Microsoft PowerPoint of Office 2000 exports full color JPEG files and 256-color bmp files. To use full color graphics files, you must convert the JPEG files into bmp files using a graphics converter.
- The following table shows the maximum size (W x H) of the graphics materials managed by the system.

The maximum size varies depending on the video signal and the display size used, either under-scan (full) or over-scan (88%). Check this table when defining the page size in PowerPoint.

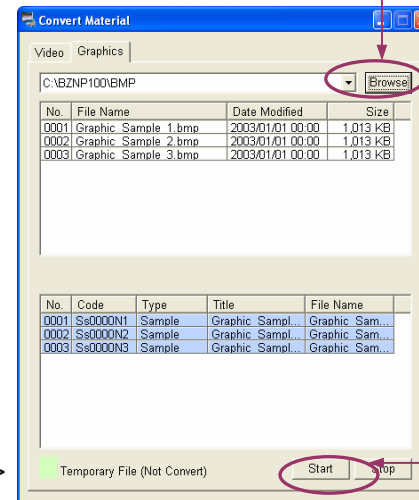
Signal	Display Size	Size (pixels)	Size (inches)
NTSC	Under-scan (Full)	720 x 480	10.00 x 6.67
	Over-scan (88%)	630 x 420	8.76 x 5.84
PAL	Under-scan (Full)	720 x 576	10.00 x 8.00
	Over-scan (88%)	630 x 504	8.76 x 7.00

**1** Select the Graphics tab of the Material Management window. If this window is not open, click [Material Management] on the main menu.



**2** Click [Convert Material].

**3** Click [Browse] and specify the "BMP" folder in the folder where the software has been installed.



Files to be converted that are stored in the selected folder appear on the upper list. Converted files (material) appear on the lower list on a blue background.

**4** Select the "Graphic\_Sample\_1.bmp" sample file on the upper list, then click [Start].

Alternatively, move the file to the lower list using a drag & drop operation.



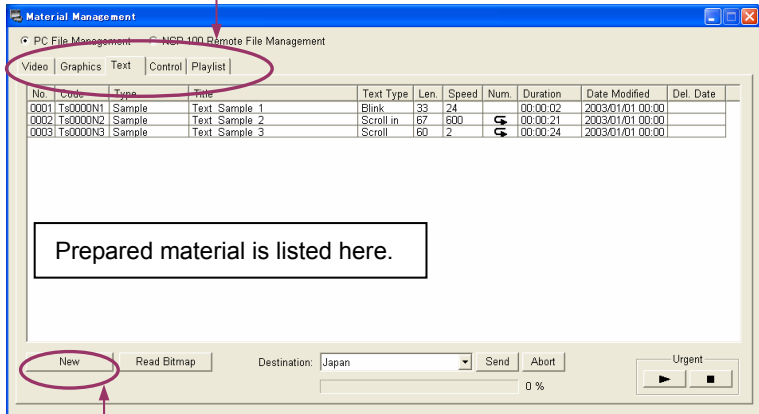
## Preparing Text Material

Create a piece of blinking text that is the same as the text in "Text\_Sample\_1" using the following procedure.

**Tip:** The system provides some text editing functions, such as allowing you to use a text file instead of typing text.

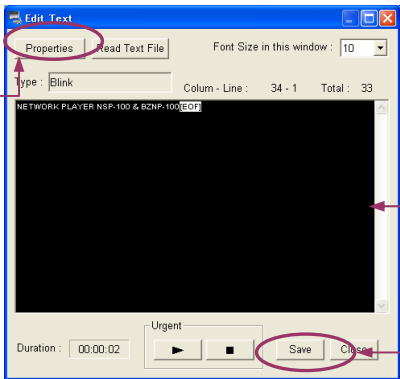
Refer to the online help or operating instructions for details on the text editing function.

**1** Select the Text tab of the Material Management window. If this window is not open, click [Material Management] on the main menu.

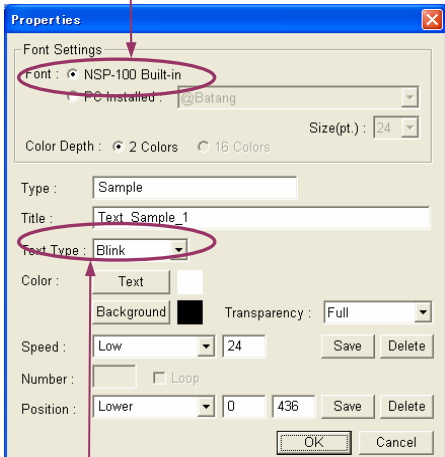


**2** Click [New].

**3** Click [Properties].



**4** Select the NSP-100 built-in font.



**5** Select [Blink] from the Text Type drop-down list box, and specify the other settings as shown in the figure, then click [OK].

**6** Type the following sentence: "NETWORK PLAYER NSP-100 & BZNP-100"

**7** Click [Save].

The new piece of text material appears in the Material Management window.

## Creating a Playlist

Now, arrange the materials to make the same playlist as the sample. A playlist also has information on the positions of the video and text materials on the

screen, as well as scheduling data.

**Note:** The sample playlist is available if you are using the group named "Japan" referred to earlier.

**1** Click [Edit Playlist] on the main menu.

**2** Select the pieces of material and move them to the playlist, one by one, using a drag & drop operation, so that they are listed as shown.

**3** Right-click the top line, click [Display Setup], then specify the positions of the video and text on the screen. Repeat this for the second and third lines. See the next page (page 11) for details.

**4** Click [Properties], and set the properties of the playlist. See the next page (page 11) for details.

**5** Check that the desired destination group, "Japan" is selected. If not, select it.

**6** Click [OK].

**Hint:** Hold the Ctrl key down and press the Z key to cancel the last operation.

**Material List**

**Playlist**

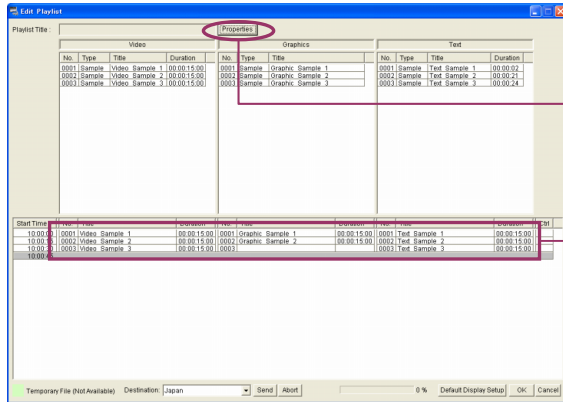
Video				Graphics			Text			
No.	Type	Title	Duration	No.	Type	Title	No.	Type	Title	Duration
0001	Sample	Video_Sample_1	00:00:15:00	0001	Sample	Graphic_Sample_1	0001	Sample	Text_Sample_1	00:00:02
0002	Sample	Video_Sample_2	00:00:15:00	0002	Sample	Graphic_Sample_2	0002	Sample	Text_Sample_2	00:00:21
0003	Sample	Video_Sample_3	00:00:15:00	0003	Sample	Graphic_Sample_3	0003	Sample	Text_Sample_3	00:00:24

Start Time	No.	Title	Duration	No.	Title	Duration	No.	Title	Duration	Ctrl
10:00:00	0001	Video_Sample_1	00:00:15:00	0001	Graphic_Sample_1	00:00:15:00	0001	Text_Sample_1	00:00:15:00	
10:00:15	0002	Video_Sample_2	00:00:15:00	0002	Graphic_Sample_2	00:00:15:00	0002	Text_Sample_2	00:00:15:00	
10:00:30	0003	Video_Sample_3	00:00:15:00	0003	Graphic_Sample_3	00:00:15:00	0003	Text_Sample_3	00:00:15:00	
10:00:45										

Destination: Japan

Default Display Setup

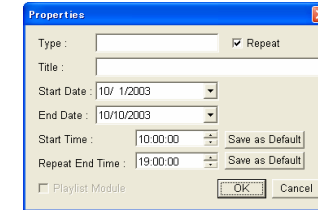
## Creating a Playlist - Continued



### 4 - Continued

In the Properties dialog box, select today's date in the Start Date drop-down list box, and a date 10 days later in the End Date drop-down list box.

Then, check the Repeat check box, and specify the desired time in the Start Time and Repeat End Time spin boxes and click [OK].



### 3 - Continued

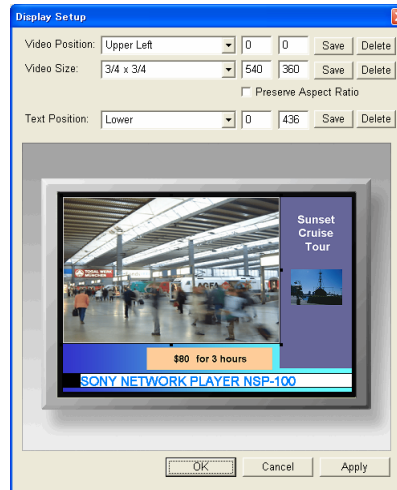
Select the video positions and sizes, and the text positions in the respective Display Setup dialog boxes, as shown in the figures.

Then click [OK].

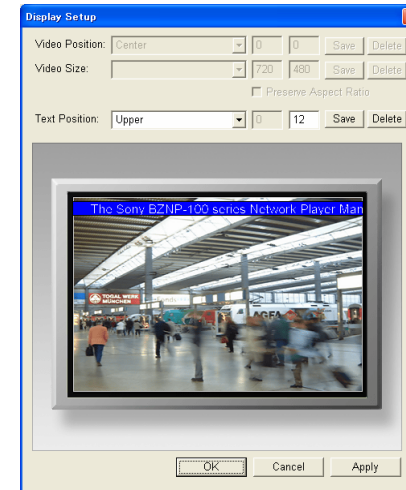
**Tip:** [Default Display Setup] in the Edit Playlist window is used to specify the default positions of the video and text.



For the top line



For the second line

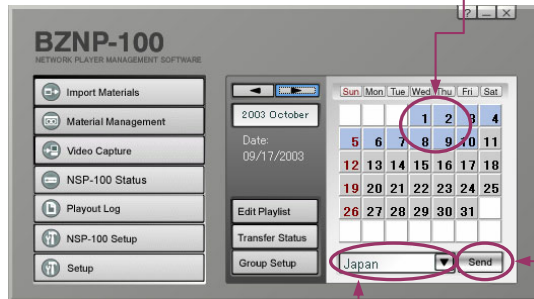


For the third line

## Sending Playlists and Materials

You can easily send a playlist and the necessary materials to NSP-100 network players. Use the main menu as shown in the following illustration.

- 2** Click today's date (or any playout date for the playlist to be sent).  
A gray frame appears.



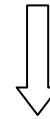
- 1** Select the destination group, "Japan."  
**3** Click [Send].  
The playlist and the materials are sent to the group of network players.

### Colors used on the calendar

Color	Date color	Meaning
White	Gray or Brown	Non-playout day.
Gray	Black or Red	Playlist not yet created.
Green	Black or Red	Playlist being edited or already edited.
Light Blue	Black or Red	Playlists and materials are being sent.
Blue	Black or Red	Playlists and materials successfully sent.
Yellow	Black or Red	Necessary materials not yet sent.
Red	Black or Red	A transfer error occurred.

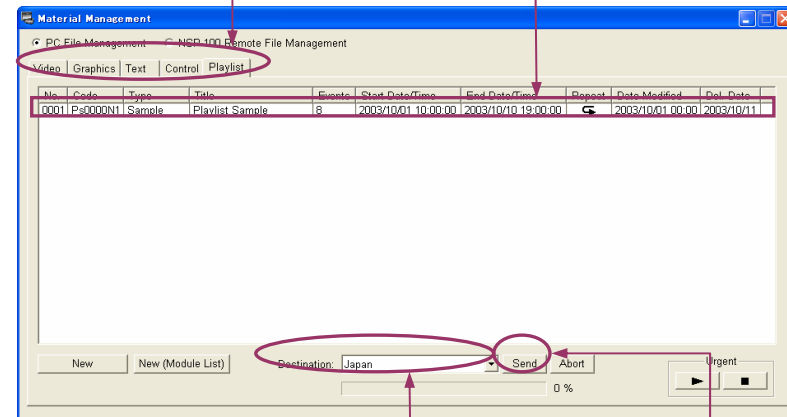
**Tip:** You can select the desired playlist and send it with the necessary materials on the Playlist tab of the Material Management window as follows. This method is available for the Presentation Application, too.

- 1** Click [Material Management] on the main menu.



- 2** Select the Playlist tab.

- 4** Click the playlist to be sent.



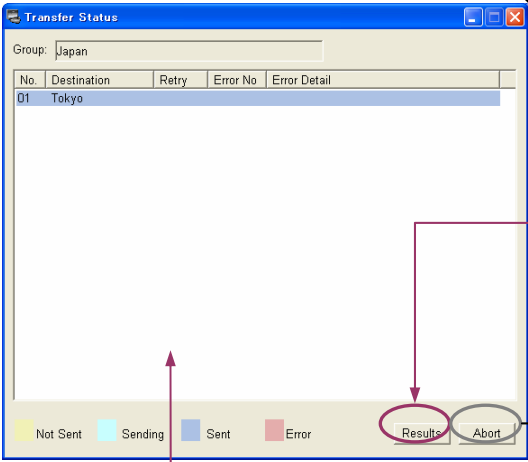
- 3** Select the destination group, "Japan."

- 5** Click [Send].  
The playlist and the materials are sent to the selected group of network players.

## Checking Transfer Status and Results

Use the following procedure to check the status and results of a playlist/material transfer from the Material Management window or main menu.

**1** Click [Transfer Status] on the main menu.

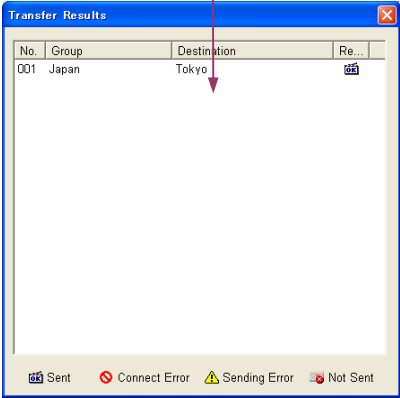


**2** Check the transfer status of each network player in the group, "Japan" to which playlists and materials were sent last.

**3** Click [Transfer Results], if necessary.

**Hint:** You can cancel transfer of playlists and materials by clicking [Abort].





**4** You can check the result of the last playlist/material transfer to each network player.



**Status of the current or last transfer**

Color	Status
Yellow	Necessary materials not yet sent.
Light blue	Now being transferred.
Blue	Successfully transferred.
Red	An error occurred.

**Result of the last transfer**

Mark	Status
(None)	No transfer
	Transfer successful.
	Connection error occurred.
	Transfer error occurred.
	There is unsent material.

Now you have finished the operations necessary to show the demonstration content.

The network player, "Tokyo" in the group, "Japan" will automatically start playback

at the time you specified in the playlist.

## Supplement 1 - Capturing Video

If you have a VCR or camcorder connected via i.LINK (IEEE 1394), you can use video recorded on a tape as video material. The following procedure captures audio/video signal and creates an AVI file, so you can convert it into NSP format using the same procedure shown in "Preparing Video Material" (page 7).

**Note:** These operations are not necessary to create the demonstration content shown at the beginning.

Please contact your supplier or Sony sales representative for information on the video devices that you can use for capturing.

Other video devices may be used, but depending on the device, some operations, such as shuttle control and cue-up operations, may not be available.

- 1** Connect the VCR and PC using an i.LINK cable, power the VCR on, and insert the desired cassette. Close all windows except for the main menu.
- 2** Click [Capture] on the main menu.
- 3** Click [Folder], then select the folder in which the AVI files should be stored.
- 4** Cue up the desired In point using the buttons of the VCR control section, then click [In]. The time code of the point appears.
- 5** Cue up the desired Out point, then click [Out]. The time code of the point and the duration of the clip appear.
- 6** Click [REC]. Capturing starts. It automatically ends at the specified Out point.

**Upon Conversion**

Captured AVI files are shown here in the Convert Material window. Click [Browse], then select the folder specified in step 3, if necessary

[Live REC] is for live recording. Clicking this button immediately starts capturing. It stops when you click [Stop].

## Supplement 2 - Urgent Text Playout

The system supports “urgent playout” that overrides ongoing playout and forces the network player to play a specific video/graphics/text piece of material or a

playlist.

This manual explains how to do “urgent text playout” to show a specific piece of text scrolling over the bottom of the ongoing playout screen. Refer to the online help or operating instructions for details on urgent playout.

**1** Click [Material Management] on the main menu to open the Material Management window.

**2** Select the Text tab.

**3** Select the group where urgent text playout will be performed.

**4** Click [New].

**5** Click [Properties].

**6** Select the NSP-100 Built-in font, [Scroll], and [Lower], then click [OK].

**7** Type the text to be displayed.

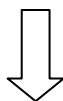
**8** Click the play button. The typed text is sent to the network players of the selected group, then displayed. Click the stop button when urgent playout finished.

No.	Code	Type	Title	Text Type	Len.	Speed	Num.	Duration	Date Modified	Del. Date
0001	Ts0000N1	Sample	Text Sample 1	Blink	33	24		00:00:02	2003/01/01 00:00	
0002	Ts0000N2	Sample	Text Sample 2	Scroll in	67	600		00:00:21	2003/01/01 00:00	
0003	Ts0000N3	Sample	Text Sample 3	Scroll	69	12		00:00:24	2003/01/01 00:00	

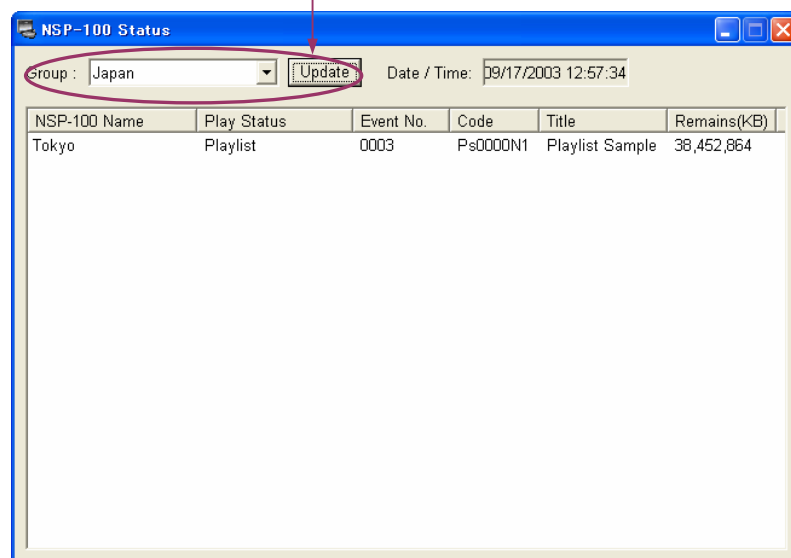
## Supplement 3 - Checking Network Player Status

The following procedure enables you to check the status and the remaining hard disk drive capacity of each network player in the group.

**1** Click [NSP-100 Status] on the main menu



**2** Select the desired network player group from the Group drop-down list box. Click [Update] when the desired group is already selected.



**3** Check the status and remaining disk space of each network player in the group displayed on the list. When the network player is playing, information on the playlist or material being played also appears.