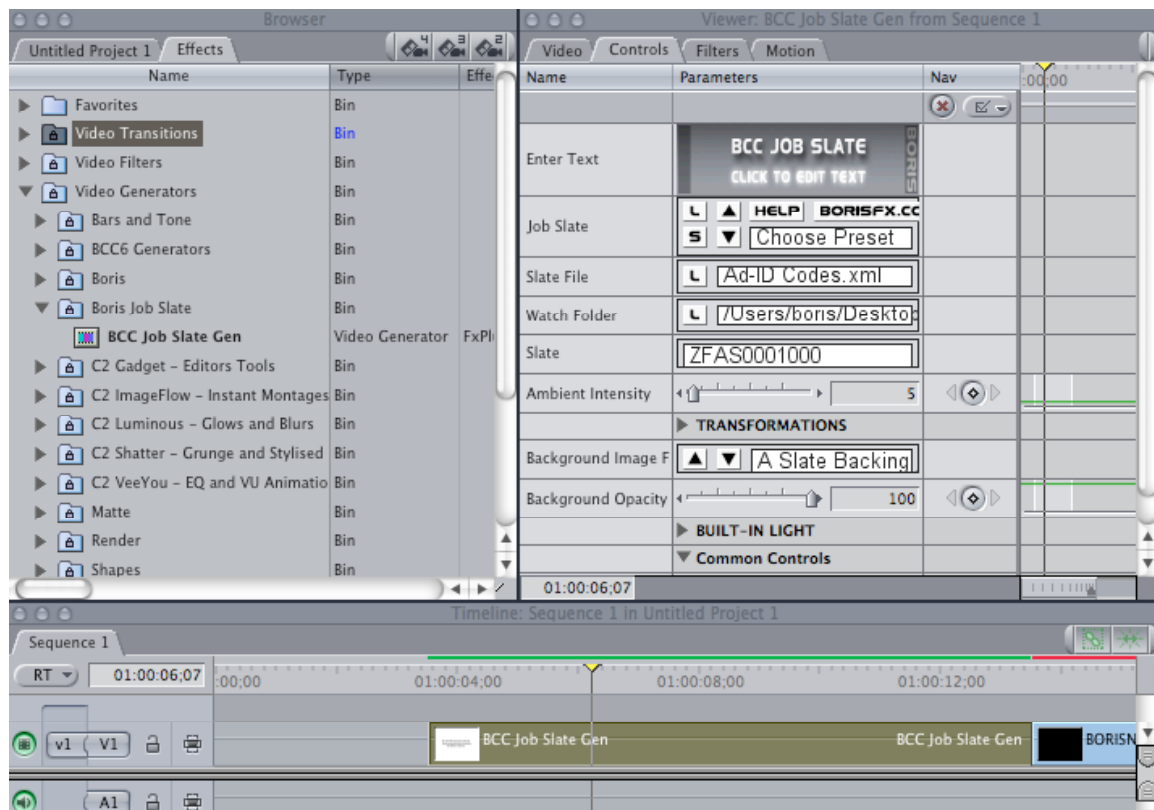


Boris Job Slate

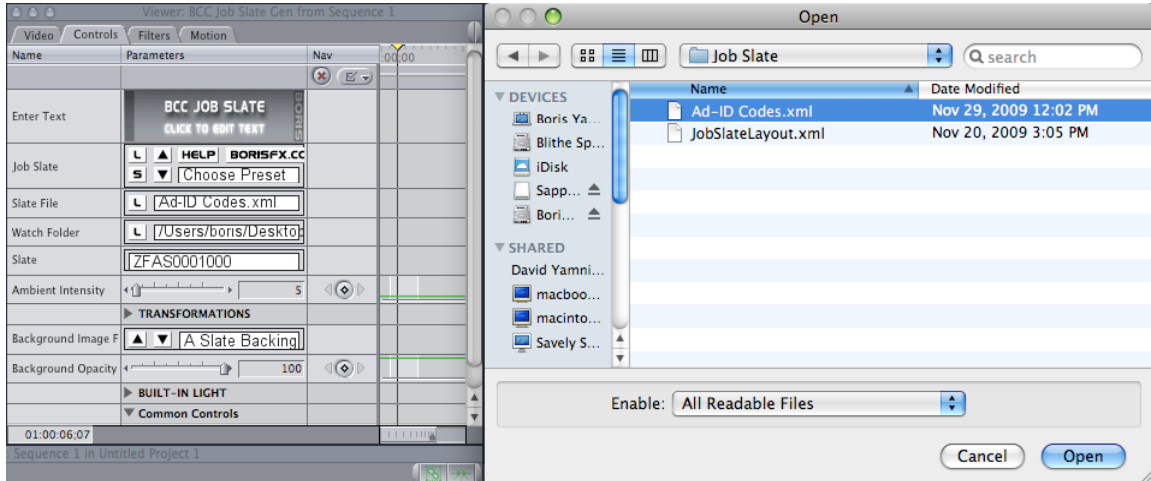
Boris Job Slate filter for Final Cut Pro is a special generator plug-in found under Video Generators in Final Cut Effect Browser window. Boris Job Slate is designed to automatically create text slates based on the information received from AD-ID ad tracking system. Boris Job Slate provides a solution superior to manual creation of slates in Final Cut and manual text entry with a standard text tool. It saves production time and eliminates operator error.



To create a new slate simply click and drag the Job Slate generator to the timeline. Double-click on the new slate to open its controls in the Controls pane.

Selecting An XML File

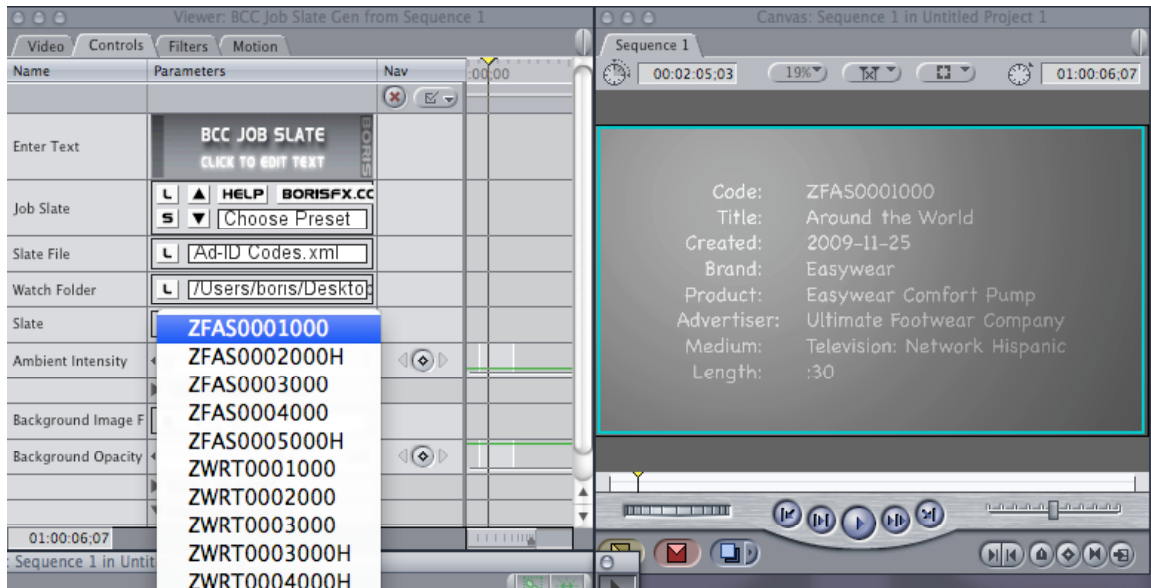
In the next step we shall select an xml Slate File. Slate File is the third parameter group from the top. Press the “L” button to select an xml file generated by AD-ID system.



We are selecting AD-ID Codes.xml pre-installed in Library/Application Support/BorisFX/Job Slate folder. This sample AD-ID file is pre-installed for demo and practice purpose. Select this file and click OK.

Now this xml file will be parsed by the Job Slate generator and the first slate will be displayed in the Canvas window over a standard grayscale background.

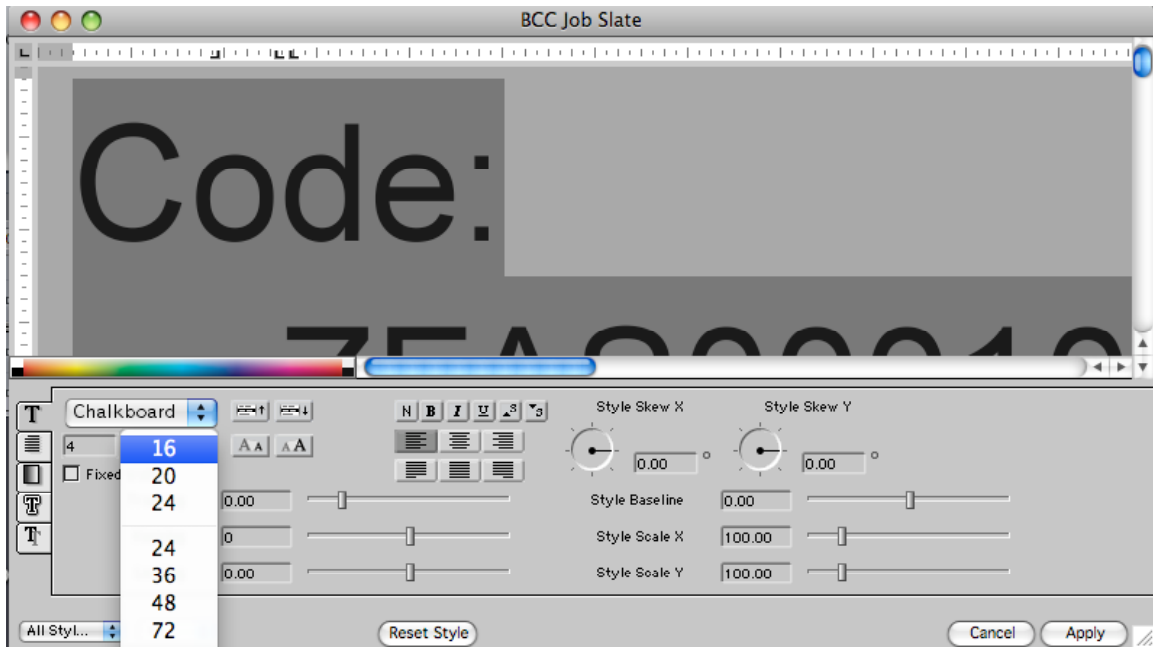
To choose another slate from that file click on the Slate popup box and select another slate.



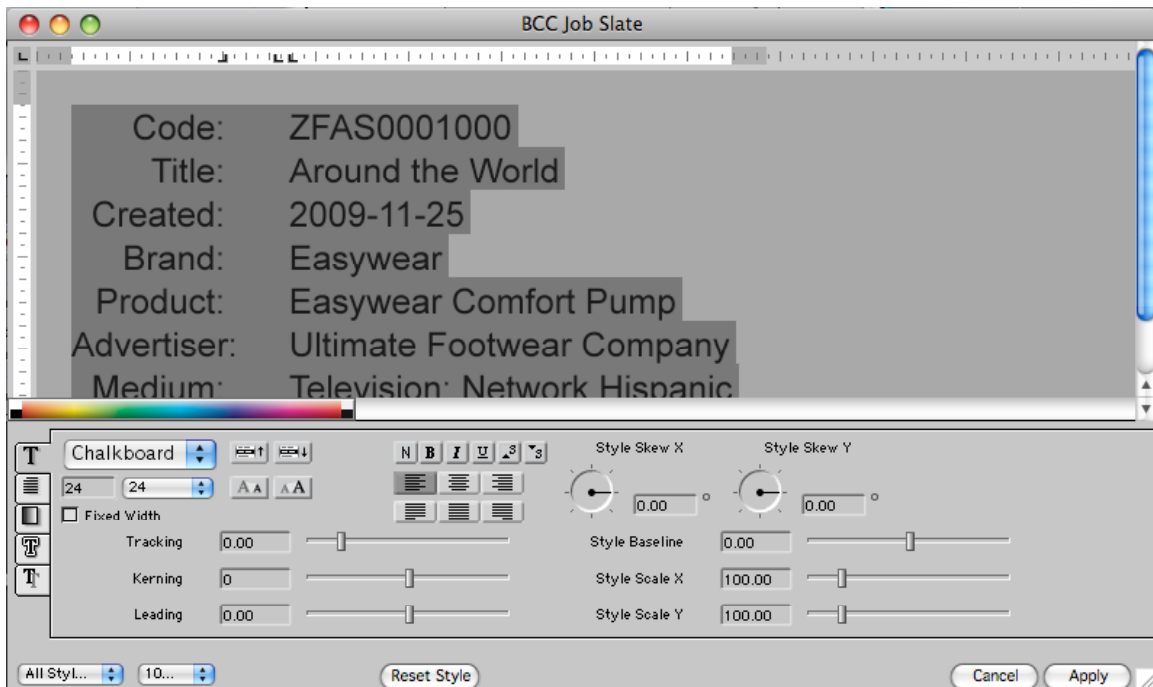
The information from a new slate now appears in the Canvas window. Now is the time to adjust text style and layout. Click on the top control banner where it says “Click To Edit Text”. The BorisFX text edit window pops up - the same standard window is used in other Final Cut text generators such as Title 3D and Title Crawl. The main difference between the Job Slate and the Title 3D is in the way the text is stored with the sequence. Although you can change text in Job slate using Text window, these changes will not be saved with the Final Cut sequence. Instead, they will always be substituted by the information from the xml file. This is done to preserve data integrity and to avoid inadvertent changes to the AD-ID information caused by operator error.

NOTE: In Job Slate the Text Window is only used to set text style and layout. Any changes to text itself are not saved.

Once in Text Window, your first step will be to choose font and size for your text. To do that, place the I-beam cursor in the text edit pane and use Cmd-A keyboard shortcut to select all text.



Choose font, size, or any other attributes of your desired text style. In our example we need to adjust tab stop positions to account for a longer “Advertiser” tag in 24-point text size. To accomplish that, click and drag a tab stop marker (which looks like inverted “L”) at the top of the text pane.



To create new tab stops simply click in that area. Left, right or center justification for each tab stop can be changed with a double-click on the tab stop marker.

Press Apply to return to Final Cut. To learn more about using Text Window refer to the documentation provided with the Title 3D generator bundled with Final Cut Pro.

Choosing Custom Backdrop

To replace the standard grayscale background with any custom image select from the Background Image File popup box. Although a couple of backgrounds are supplied with the installer you are encouraged to create your own image plates in any compatible image file format and place them in the following preset location:

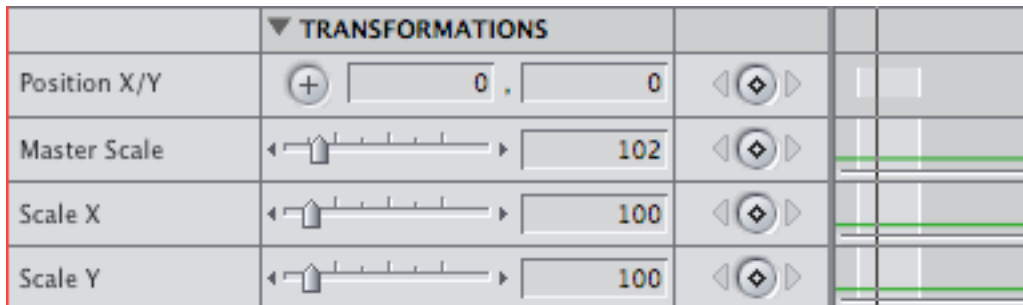
Library/Application Support/BorisFx/BCC FxPlug 6/Styles/Custom Textures.

Any image file placed in that location will appear in the Background Image File popup box.

TIP: Create custom backdrops in the same size as your Final Cut sequence resolution, e.g. 1920x1080 to avoid unintended distortion. For each resolution used, create a separate backdrop file.

Global Adjustment Of Size And Position Of Text

You can move the entire text object relative to the background and change it's scale from within TRANSFORMATION parameter group. Use Final Cut standard X/Y Position and Scale sliders.



Managing AD-ID XML File

Because all slate data is stored in the AD-ID xml file you need to take extra care when moving project from one system to the next. Think of the xml file as an imported footage or graphics file with one important difference: because the xml file is imported via a plug-in, the Final Cut native Media Manager window will not be aware of it when archiving sequence media to another location. You will have to do it by hand. The same applies to custom background images.

Watch Folder

To assist in finding XML files Job Slate generator includes a Watch Folder feature. If a xml file is not found in its standard location a special watch folder will be searched to find this file. By default the location of the Watch Folder is set to user's Desktop but it can be changed with an "L" button.

TIP: The Watch Folder does not apply to custom backgrounds. Make sure to copy corresponding custom backgrounds to each system used.

Creating Multiple Slates

To create multiple slates in the same sequence out of the same or a different xml file follow this step-and-repeat procedure:

- Create the first slate using the method described above
- Make sure that you are satisfied with the appearance of the slate
- Select the generator clip in the timeline and copy with Cmd-C
- Step to a new location in timeline and paste with Cmd-P
- Choose a new slate from the Slate popup box or a new AD-ID file
- The basic appearance of the new slate should remain the same

Any adjustment to style or tab stops of a slate after step-and-repeat process will remain local to that slate. All other slates will not be affected.

Adjusting The Tag Order And Tag Names

Job Slate is using an auxiliary file (also in xml format) to manage the data that comes from AD-ID system. This file is called JobSlateLayout.xml. This file must be stored in the same folder as the AD-ID codes file. If the layout file is missing the Job Slate generator will attempt to present AD-ID tags the way they are written in the AD-ID xml file. The layout file is editable with any XML compatible editor.

You can recognize the “raw” and “display” names. Job slate will attempt to replace any “raw” tag with a “display” version. Also, the order of the tags in the layout file is important. It is the same order in which the tags will be displayed in the final slate. To change this order simply cut and paste the entire tag group between XML-standard brackets (such as <field> and </field>).

NOTE: The first tag “Code” is not adjustable by this layout file. It is always placed first in the slate.

