

AMI
AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ASL)
TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

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1 AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ASL)

1.1.1 Overview:

Where ASL interpretation is specified in the delivery agreement, AMI can recommend an approved third-party interpreter service. The production is responsible for engaging directly with their chosen interpreter service. The interpreter service will work directly with the production to provide the interpreter element. Production is responsible for incorporating the interpreter element into the final delivered master file in accordance with the specifications outlined in the document.

1.1.2 AMI Recommended Interpreter Services

The use of an AMI recommended interpreter service is strongly encouraged. Productions should contact the Supervisor, Media Accessibility at AMI-tv for recommended ASL services.

1.1.3 Presentation Approach

Three presentation approaches are approved for use: the **Split Screen Approach**, the **Integrated Approach**, and the **Framed Approach**. The Split Screen Approach is the preferred approach and should be used as the default unless otherwise warranted. If the production determines that the Integrated Approach or the Framed Approach is more appropriate for the content, the Supervisor, Media Accessibility at AMI-tv must be notified in advance. Each approach has its own complete set of specifications outlined below.

1.2 Split Screen Approach

1.2.1 Overview

The program content and interpreter are displayed side by side within the same frame. The interpreter is presented against a neutral gray background that provides a clear visual separation between the interpreter and the program content.

1.2.2 Interpreter Dimensions

The interpreter zone must occupy a minimum of 20% and a maximum of 30% of the total 1920×1080 frame and shall be placed within the 90% action safe zone.

The default background color of the interpreter zone is neutral gray, RGB (119, 119, 119). Any alternative background color must be discussed and approved by AMI.

1.2.3 Program Window Dimensions

The program window will be reduced in size to accommodate the interpreter zone. The program window and interpreter zone should be positioned so that neither interferes with the other's visibility or legibility at any time.

The extent of the program window reduction is at the discretion of the producer in consultation with the production facility.

Example of the Split Screen approach:



1.2.4 Compositing and Outline Requirements

The interpreter must be cleanly composited over the grey background with no visible edge artifacts, fringing, or color spill.

1.2.5 Interpreter Screen Position

The interpreter must be visible from belt line to top of head, and all hand, arm and signing movements must remain within the frame at all times.

The interpreter zone is positioned to the right of the program window by default. If an alternative placement is required, it must be discussed and approved by AMI prior to production.

The EIA-608 caption window must never interfere with the ASL interpreter. [See Sections 3.1.8 and 3.6 of the AMI Technical Specifications document for Closed Captioning requirements.]

Graphics must never interfere with or overlap the ASL interpreter at any time.

1.2.6 Interpreter Visibility Requirements

No cropping of the interpreter at any point during performance.

The interpreter must wear solid dark colors.

Interpreter is consistently and evenly lit throughout.

No flickering or exposure variation.

Interpreter always faces the camera directly.

1.2.7 Video Quality and Sync

The production is responsible for ensuring that video delivered by the ASL interpreter service is of equal quality to the main program, matching the resolution, frame rate, and overall video quality.

The production must ensure that the interpreter is synchronized with the program content, working directly with the ASL interpreter service to ensure language alignment.

1.2.8 Audio

No audio from the ASL interpreter should be present on any audio channel in the final delivered file.

1.2.9 File Delivery

The final broadcast master files incorporating ASL interpretation, as well as a clean broadcast master without ASL interpretation, must both be delivered as separate files.

Delivery format must conform to Section 3.1 of the AMI Technical Specifications document.

1.3 Integrated Approach

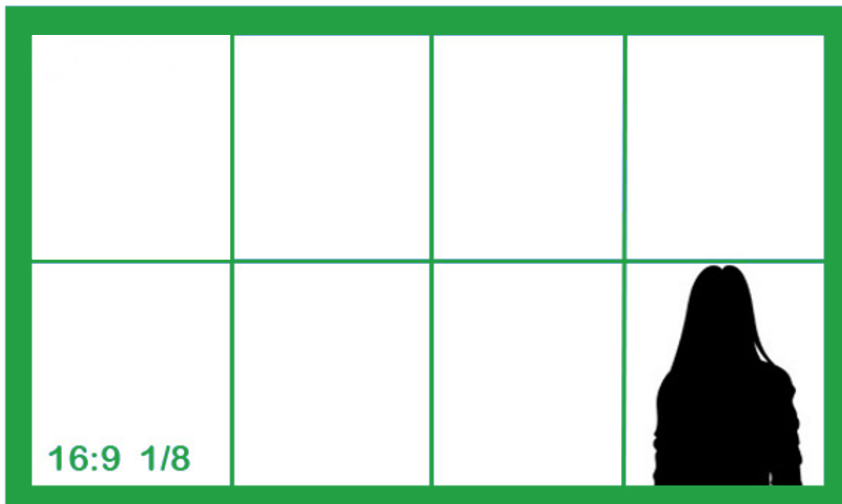
1.3.1 Overview

The interpreter is composited directly over the program video without a background and frame. The interpreter remains visible, clear, and easy to track without significantly shifting viewer focus from the primary content.

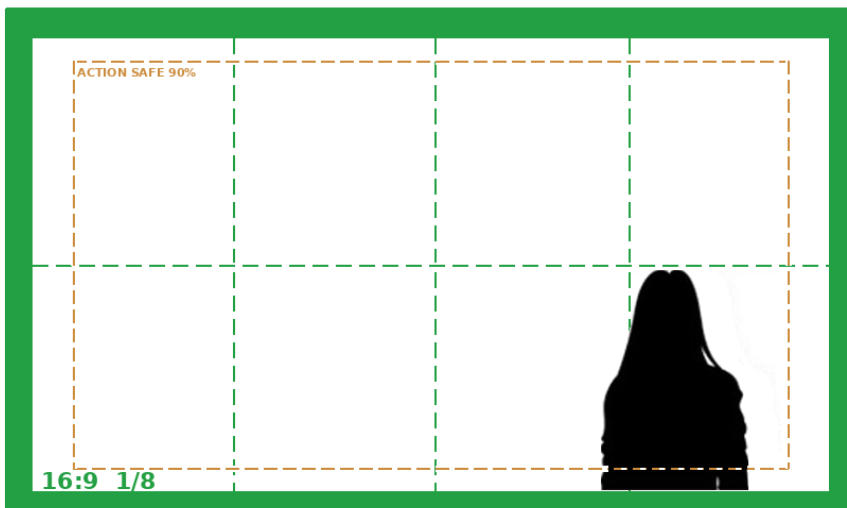
1.3.2 Interpreter Dimensions

The interpreter occupies approximately 1/8 of the 1920x1080 (16:9) broadcast frame and shall be placed within the 90% action safe zone.

Example of Interpreter 1/8 Rule:



Example of Interpreter 1/8 Rule within Action Safe Zone:



1.3.3 Compositing and Outline Requirements

The interpreter is composited directly over the program video with no background and frame.

Clean compositing is required with no edge artifacts, fringing, or color spill around the interpreter at any time.

1.3.4 Screen Position

The interpreter must be visible from belt line to top of head, and all hand, arm and signing movements must remain within the broadcast action safe area.

The interpreter must be positioned in the lower right corner of the frame.

The EIA-608 caption window must never interfere with the ASL interpreter. [See Sections 3.1.8 and 3.6 of the AMI Technical Specifications document for Closed Captioning requirements.]

Graphics must never interfere with or overlap the ASL interpreter at any time.

1.3.5 Interpreter Visibility Requirements

No cropping of the interpreter at any point during performance.

The interpreter must wear solid dark colors.

Interpreter is consistently and evenly lit throughout.

No flickering or exposure variation.

Interpreter always faces the camera directly.

1.3.6 Video Quality and Sync

The production is responsible for ensuring that video delivered by the ASL interpreter service is of equal quality to the main program, matching the resolution, frame rate, and overall video quality.

The production must ensure that the interpreter is synchronized with the program content, working directly with the ASL interpreter service to ensure language alignment.

1.3.7 Audio

No audio from the ASL interpreter should be present on any audio channel in the final delivered file.

1.3.8 File Delivery

The final broadcast master files incorporating the Integrated ASL interpretation, as well as a clean broadcast master without ASL interpretation, must both be delivered as separate files.

Delivery format must conform to Section 3.1 of the AMI Technical Specifications document.

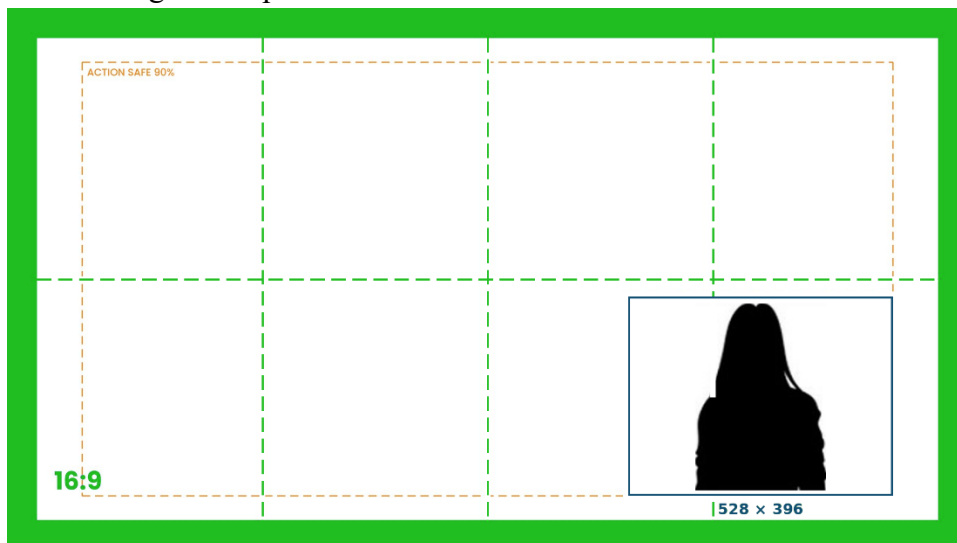
1.4 Framed Approach

1.4.1 Overview

The interpreter is presented within a clearly defined frame/window with a neutral gray background. The interpreter should be filmed against a green screen. The gray background should be filled in post production. The frame creates a visual boundary that prevents the interpreter from competing with or blending into the program video.

1.4.2 Interpreter Window Dimensions

- Width: 528 pixels
- Height: 396 pixels



1.4.3 Interpreter Window Background

Background color: RGB (119, 119, 119), broadcast safe neutral gray

Background must be consistent throughout, with no variation, gradient, or texture.

No pattern or design elements permitted within the background.

1.4.4 Window Screen Position

The interpreter window must be always positioned within the broadcast action safe area

The interpreter window must be positioned in the lower right corner of the frame.

The EIA-608 caption window must never interfere with the ASL interpreter. [See Sections 3.1.8 and 3.6 of the AMI Technical Specifications document for Closed Captioning requirements.]

Graphics must never interfere with or overlap the ASL interpreter window at any time.

The interpreter window must remain in its fixed position and must not be moved or repositioned anytime.

1.4.5 Interpreter Visibility Requirements

Interpreter is visible from belt line to top of head throughout.

The interpreter must be centered within the window.

The interpreter must wear solid dark colors.

The interpreter must be consistently and evenly lit throughout.

Hand and arm movements are always contained within the window.

No cropping of the interpreter at any point during performance.

No flickering or exposure variation.

Interpreter always faces the camera directly.

1.4.6 Video Quality and Sync

The production is responsible for ensuring that video delivered by the ASL interpreter service is of equal quality to the main program, matching the resolution, frame rate, and overall video quality.

The production must ensure that the interpreter is synchronized with the program content, working directly with the ASL interpreter service to ensure language alignment.

1.4.7 Audio

No audio from the ASL interpreter should be present on any audio channel in the final delivered file.

1.4.8 File Delivery

The final broadcast master files incorporating the Framed ASL interpretation, as well as a clean broadcast master without ASL interpretation, must both be delivered as separate files.

Delivery format must conform to Section 3.1 of the AMI Technical Specifications document.