

Portaprompt - Rigging prompters on PTZ

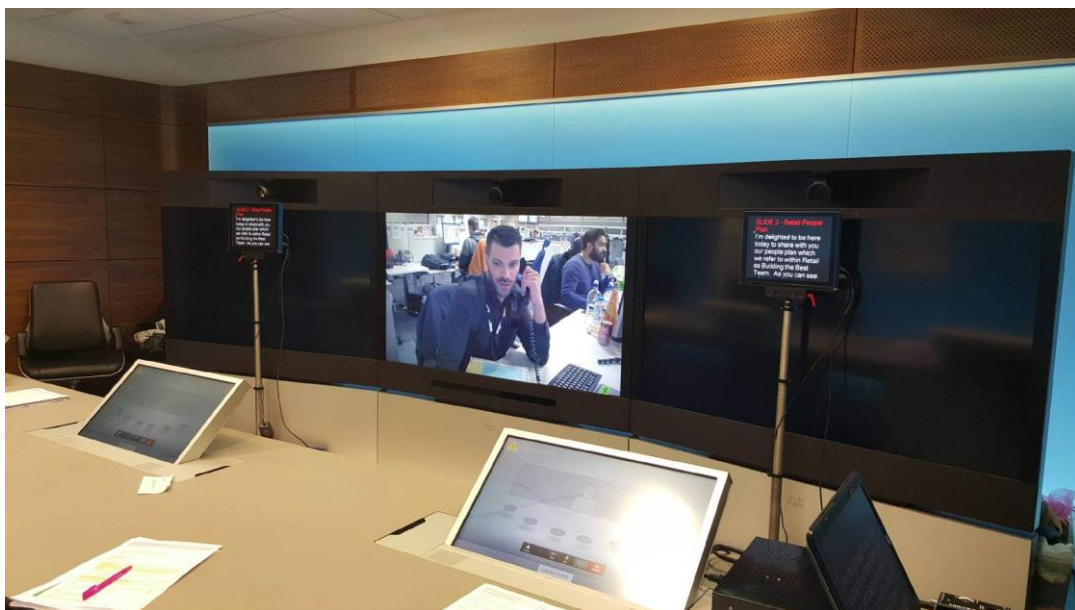
Cameras

Context

- PTZ cameras continue to be very popular for all types of production
- Prompters can be attached but are rigged onto the tripod rigging, as the motors on PTZ are not sufficient to move both camera/ lens and prompter and so the 360° is restricted to movement within the prompter hood which we estimate to be 15° left / right and 5° up / down
- Also many PTZ have an auto calibration and do a full 360° rotation when switched on and so the prompter must be removed before this happens or it will physically crash the system
- Within the context of this Portaprompt have 4 suggestions for mounting Prompters on PTZ's

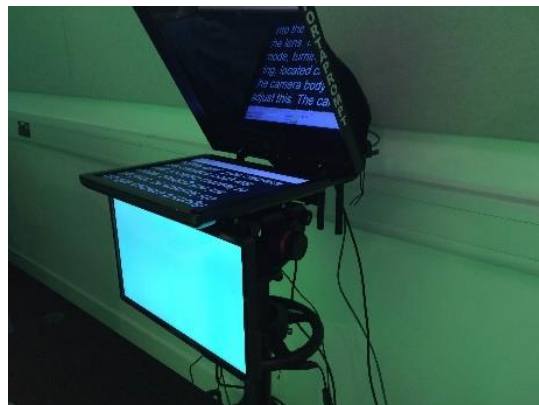
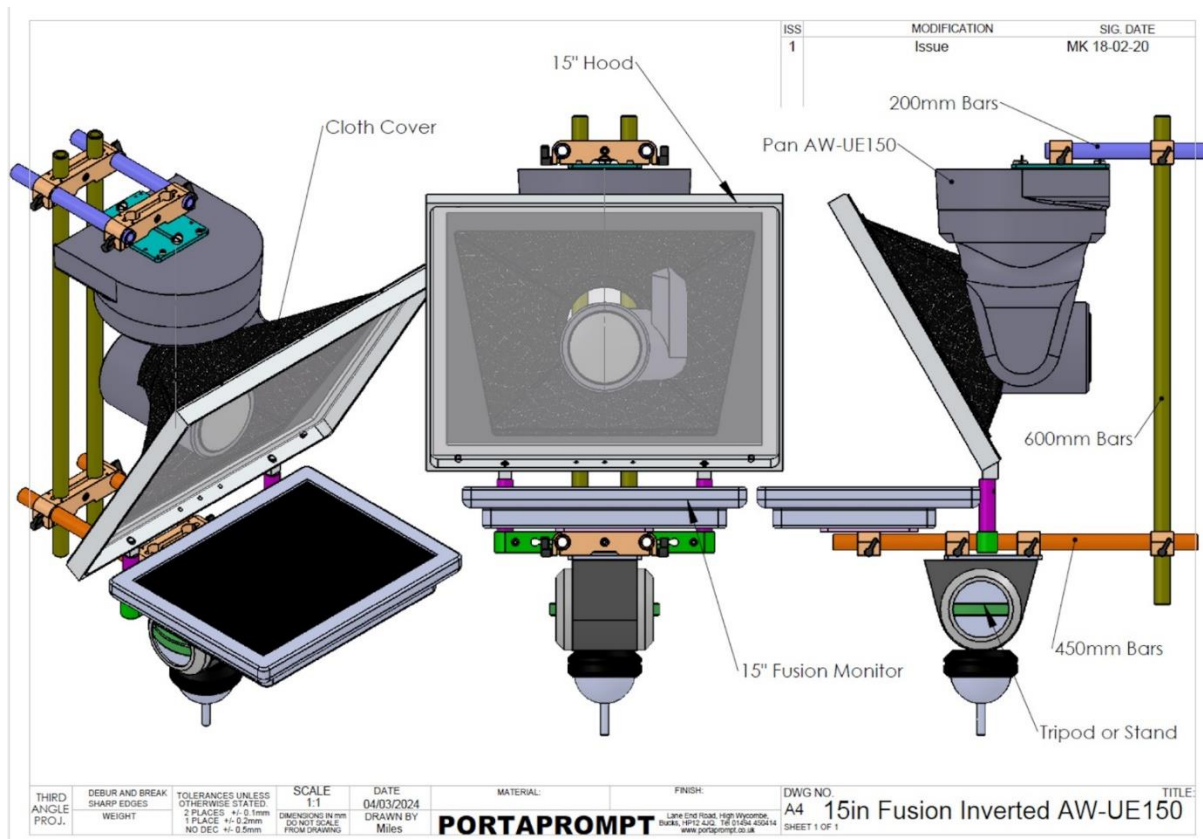
1 – Direct Read

- PTZ's are wall mounted
- Prompters are rigged on independent stands as direct read monitors and fed the prompter source accordingly
- Limitation – as this is not “through the lens” prompting the eye line can be compromised but if a mid-shot with enough distance and monitors are close as possible to the bottom of the lens this can be avoided
- Advantage - No need to move prompter in the install as they are not connected to the PTZ so full 360° is possible at all times! Cheapest way to do this!



2 – Through the lens “on camera” rigging

- PTZ's are rigged on tripod / fluid head using Portaprompt Fusion rigging
- Prompts are also rigged on tripod for “through the lens prompting” and fed the prompter source accordingly
- Limitation – as prompters are also rigged onto the tripod rigging (as the motors on PTZ are not sufficient to move both camera/ lens and prompter) then the 360° movement is restricted to within the prompter hood which we estimate to be 15° left / right and 5° up / down. Also many PTZ when switched on do an auto calibration and full 360° rotation and the prompter drape must be removed before this happens or it will physically crash the system
- Advantage - No problem on through the lens prompting and no eye line compromise







4 – Independent camera and prompter rig

- Both PTZ's and prompters are rigged on a separate telescopic elevation unit, which is can be operated and programmed remotely from companies like Polecam
- <https://www.polecam.com/elevation-systems>
- Their Autopod will move the whole rig in the vertical axis and if you add their Pancake will move the whole rig in the horizontal axis as well
- Limitation – The Autopod make the 360° pan movement of the PTZ irrelevant as movement is of the whole rig (PTZ and Prompter). This is the most expensive way to do this
- Advantage – Full “through the lens” prompting so no eye line compromise and full 360° is possible at all times!



