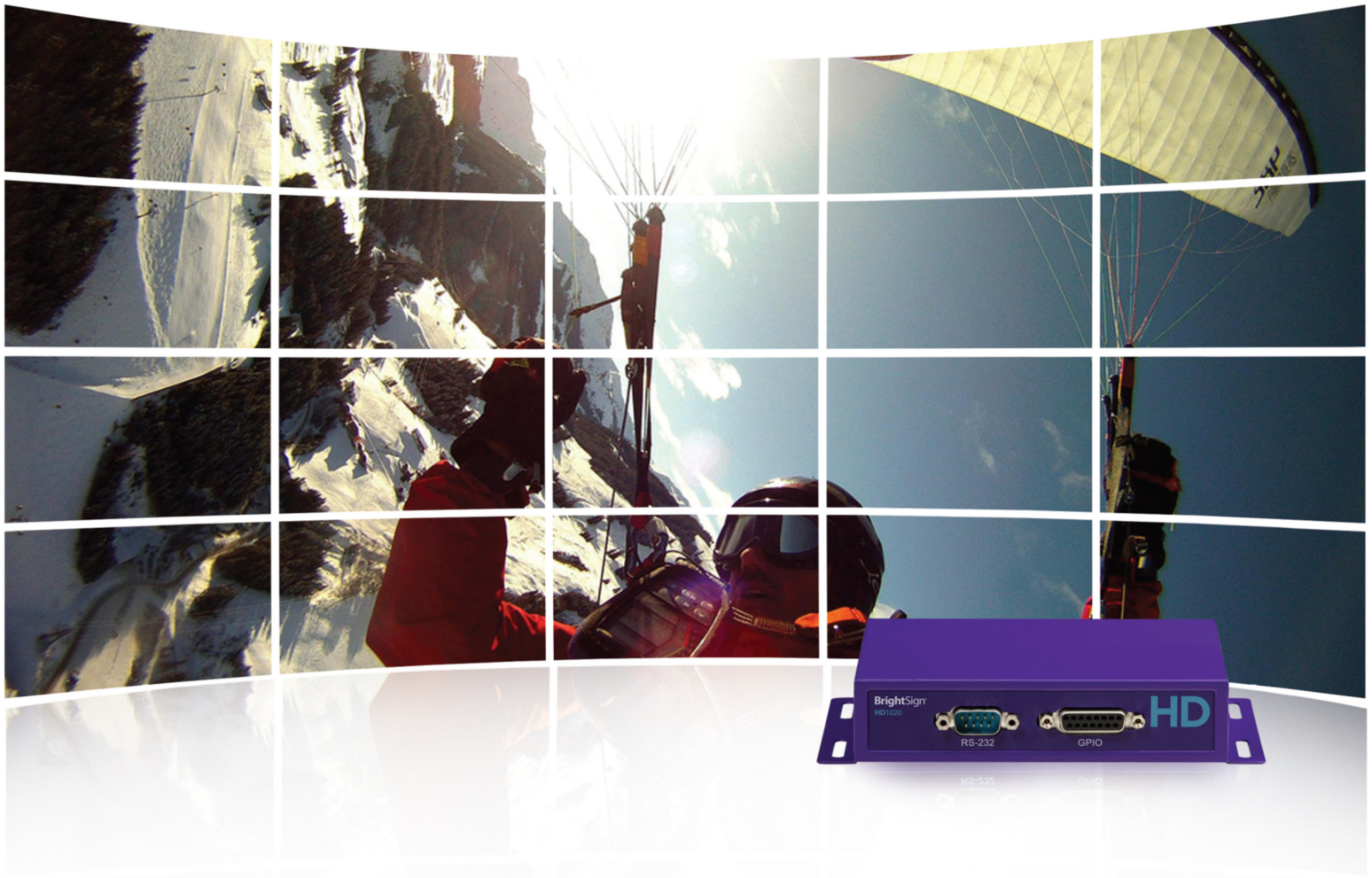


BRIGHTSIGN QUICK START GUIDE

FOR HD110, HD210, HD410, HD810, HD1010

BrightSign, LLC. 16795 Lark Ave., Suite 200 Los Gatos, CA 95032 | 408-852-9263 | www.brightsign.biz

TABLE OF CONTENTS

What's in the box? **1**

What is BrightSign? **2**

Benefits 2

Capabilities 2

Models 3

Getting Started **4**

Connecting a display **5**

Using a VGA cable 5

Using an HDMI cable 6

Connecting speakers **7**

Setting up BrightSign Players **8**

Creating presentations **11**

Creating a full-screen presentation 11

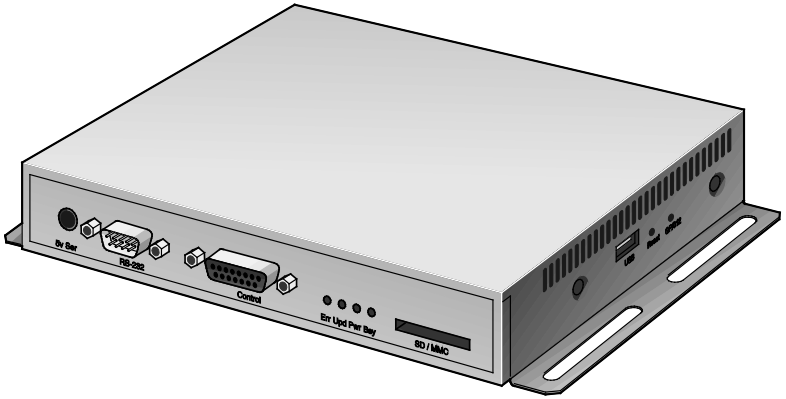
Creating a multiple zone presentation 13

Creating an interactive presentation 19

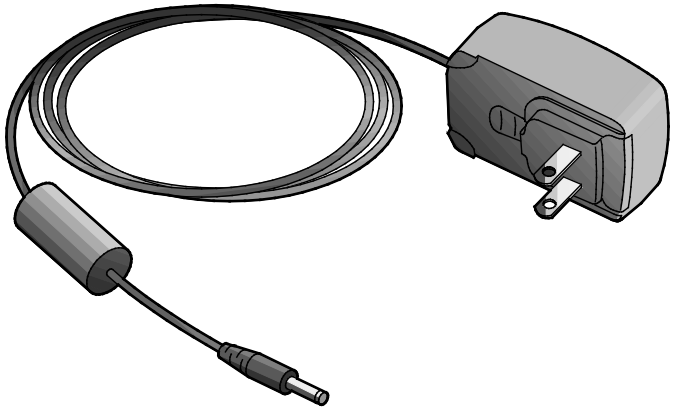
Publishing Presentations **23**

Next steps **26**

What's in the box?



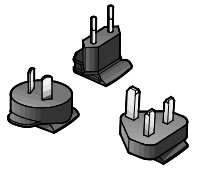
BrightSign Player



Power Adapter

Rubber feet

Cable Mount



International prongs

SD slot cover

Cable tie

Tip: Use the cable mount and ties to keep the cables securely attached to your BrightSign player.

Note: An SD card is not included in the package, but it is required for the player to function.
Note: The BrightSign TD1012 package includes only the tabletop display and power adapter. The solid-state media player and battery are built into the display.

What is BrightSign?

A BrightSign player is a standalone digital sign or kiosk controller. Because BrightSign players are non-PC devices with no moving parts, they are durable and designed specifically for digital signs, making them an ideal solution for information kiosks, retail displays, museum exhibits, and more.

Benefits

- Everything included: the hardware, the software, and the networking
- Astonishing full HD quality
- Reliable solid-state platforms designed specifically for digital signage
- Support for interactive displays with buttons, touch screens, and more
- Multi-zone screen layouts and synchronization of multiple displays
- Versatile networking options allowing remote control of display presentations

Capabilities

You can use a BrightSign player to do any combination of the following:

- Play content from a Secure Digital card (SD or SDHC card) or USB Flash drive (the HD120, HD220, HD1020, XD230, XD1030, and XD1230 also support SDXC).

Note*: You must format your SD storage using FAT32 for the player to receive network updates and generate logs. You should only format the storage using NTFS if you need to play media files that are 4GB or larger in size.*

- Display content on a high-definition monitor or TV.
- Play looping video, images, and music in HD.
- Divide the display into separate content windows called zones to play back video and images simultaneously.
- Play live HD video, including HDCP-secured content, using an ATSC/ClearQAM tuner (available on the XD1230 only).

- Play live video using a USB video dongle accessory.

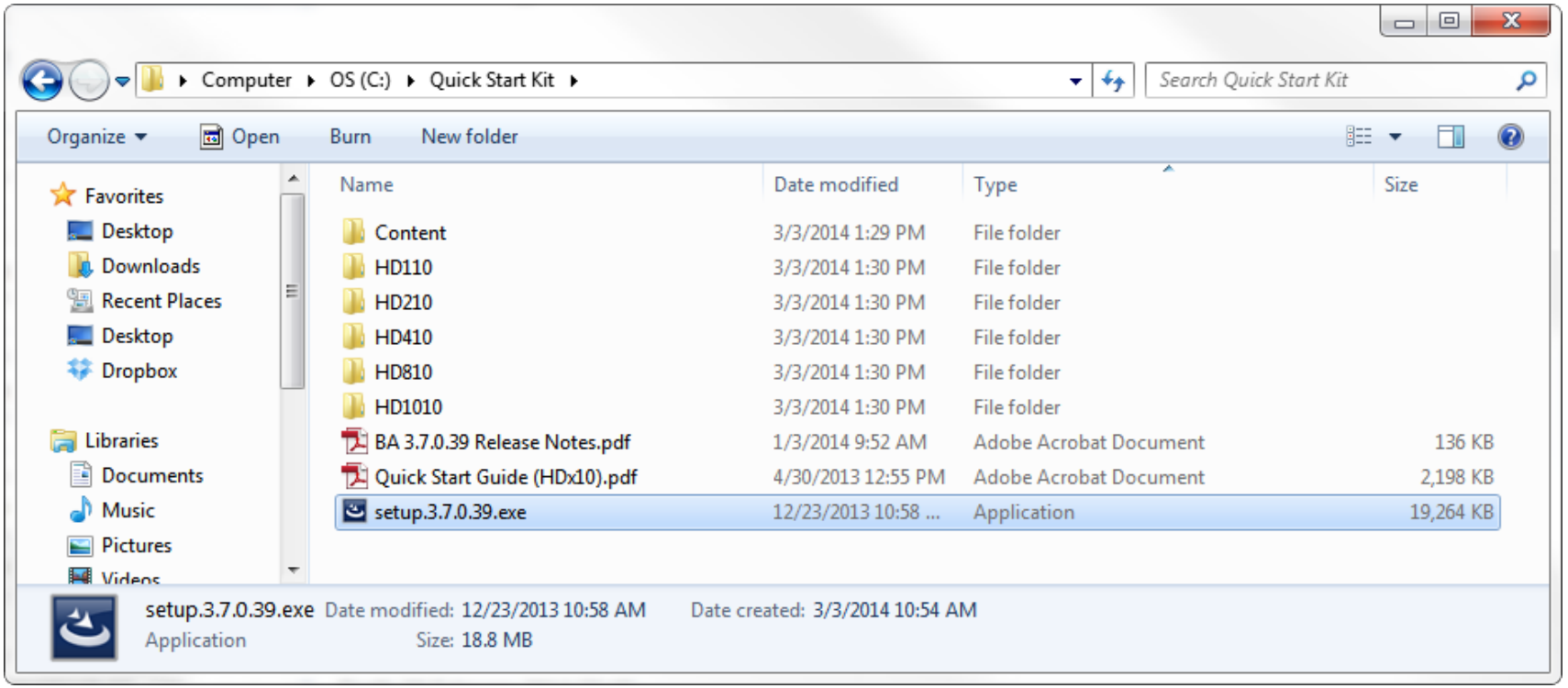
  Note: *Currently, only the HD1010w supports the Live Video module. This can be purchased from the BrightSign Store.*
- Schedule content to play at specific times (hour, day, month, year).
- Create looping displays.
- Display RSS feeds and other network information.
- Display HTML5 content (available on the XD230, XD1030, and XD1230 only).
- Run interactive presentations that playback content based on inputs from buttons, touch screens, mice, and more.
- Synchronize video playback across multiple BrightSign players.
- Update software and content remotely with the BrightSign Networking.

Models

To compare BrightSign models and all the features available for your digital signs, see the BrightSign Product Comparison Matrix.

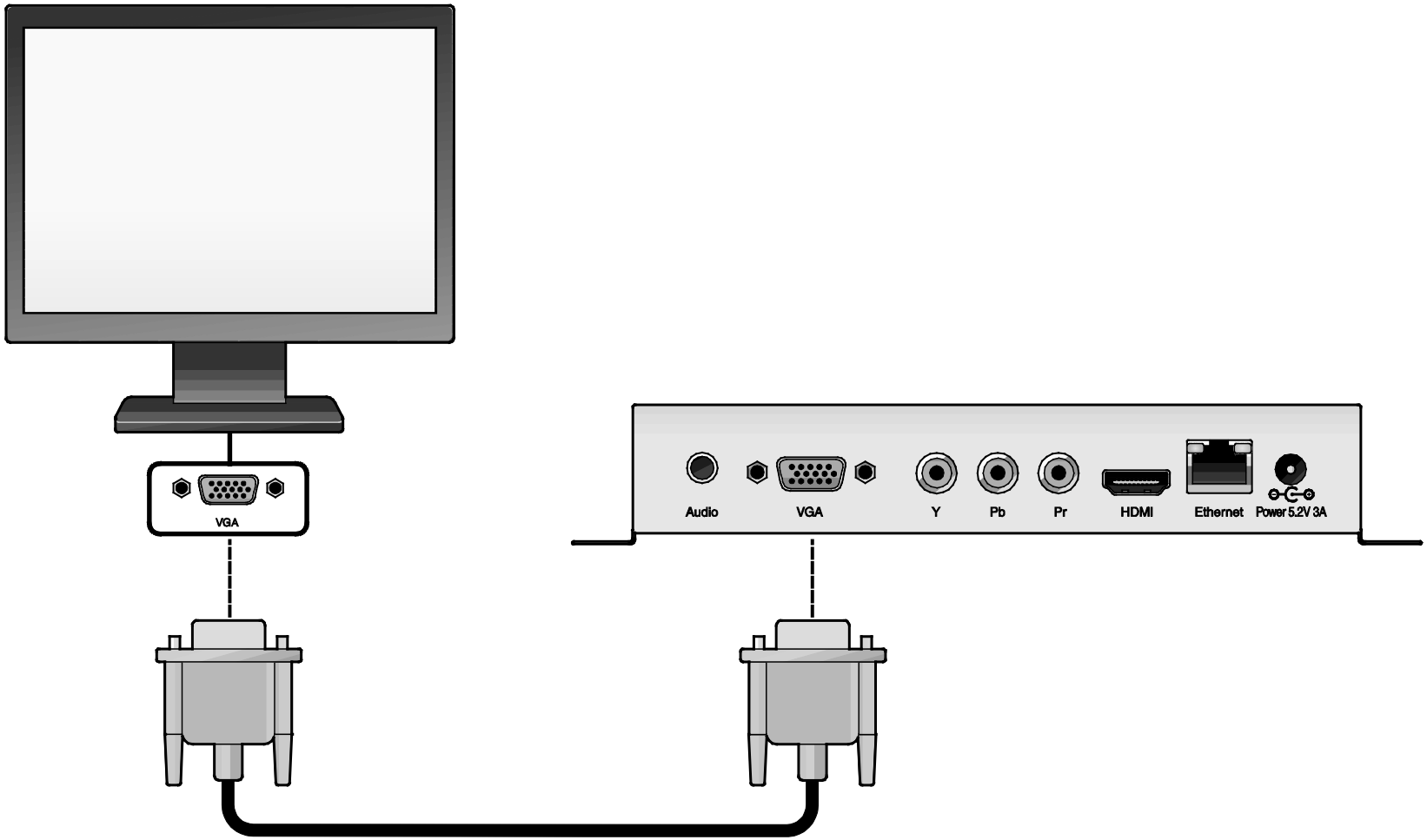
Getting Started

1. Download the **QuickStart.zip** file from the following URL: www.brightsign.biz/quickstart.
2. Unzip the file to a location on your PC.
3. Double-click the **Setup.exe** file and follow the on-screen instructions to install the BrightAuthor software.



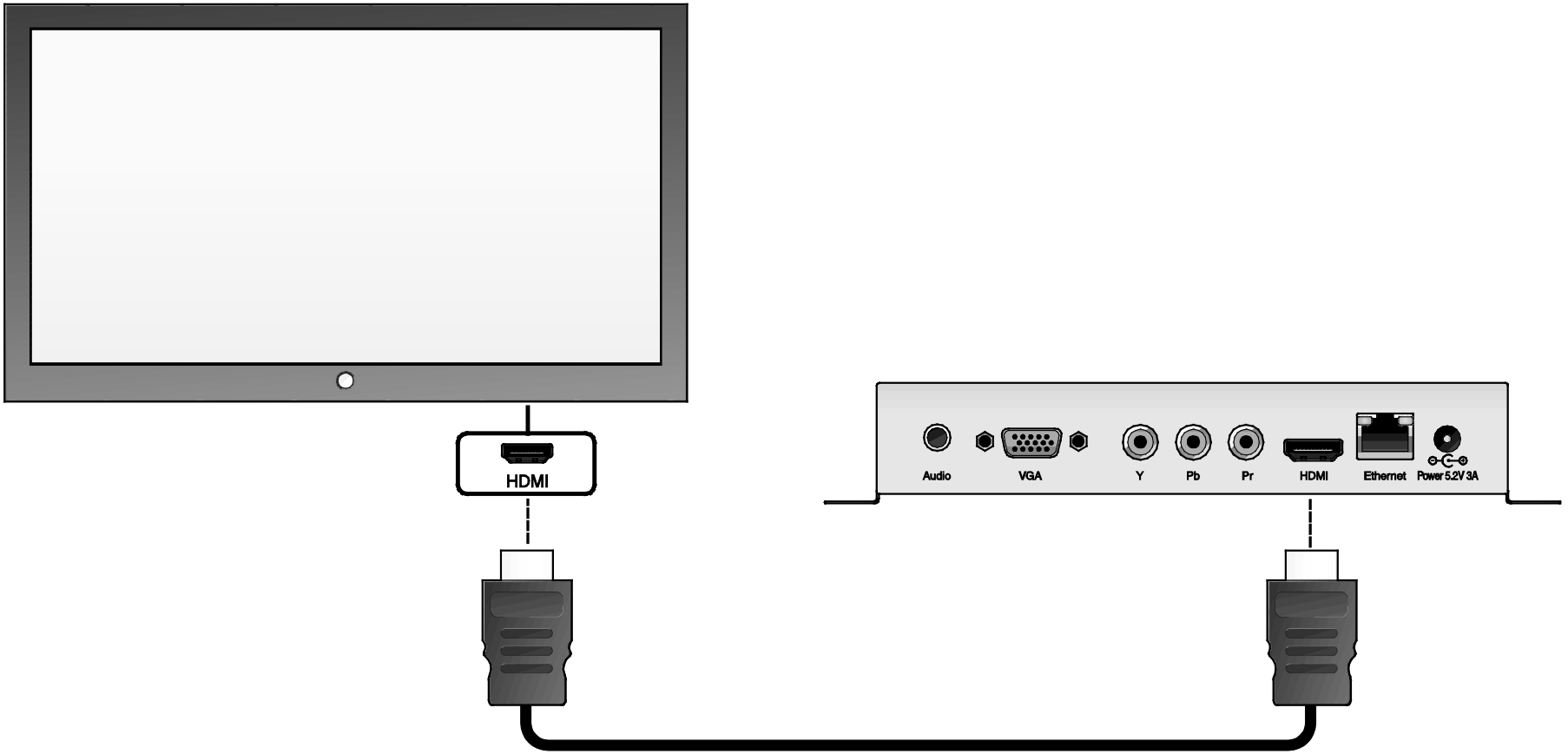
Connecting a display

Using a VGA cable



Note: The connectors on BrightSign players vary by model. Your BrightSign player may have different connectors from those displayed above.

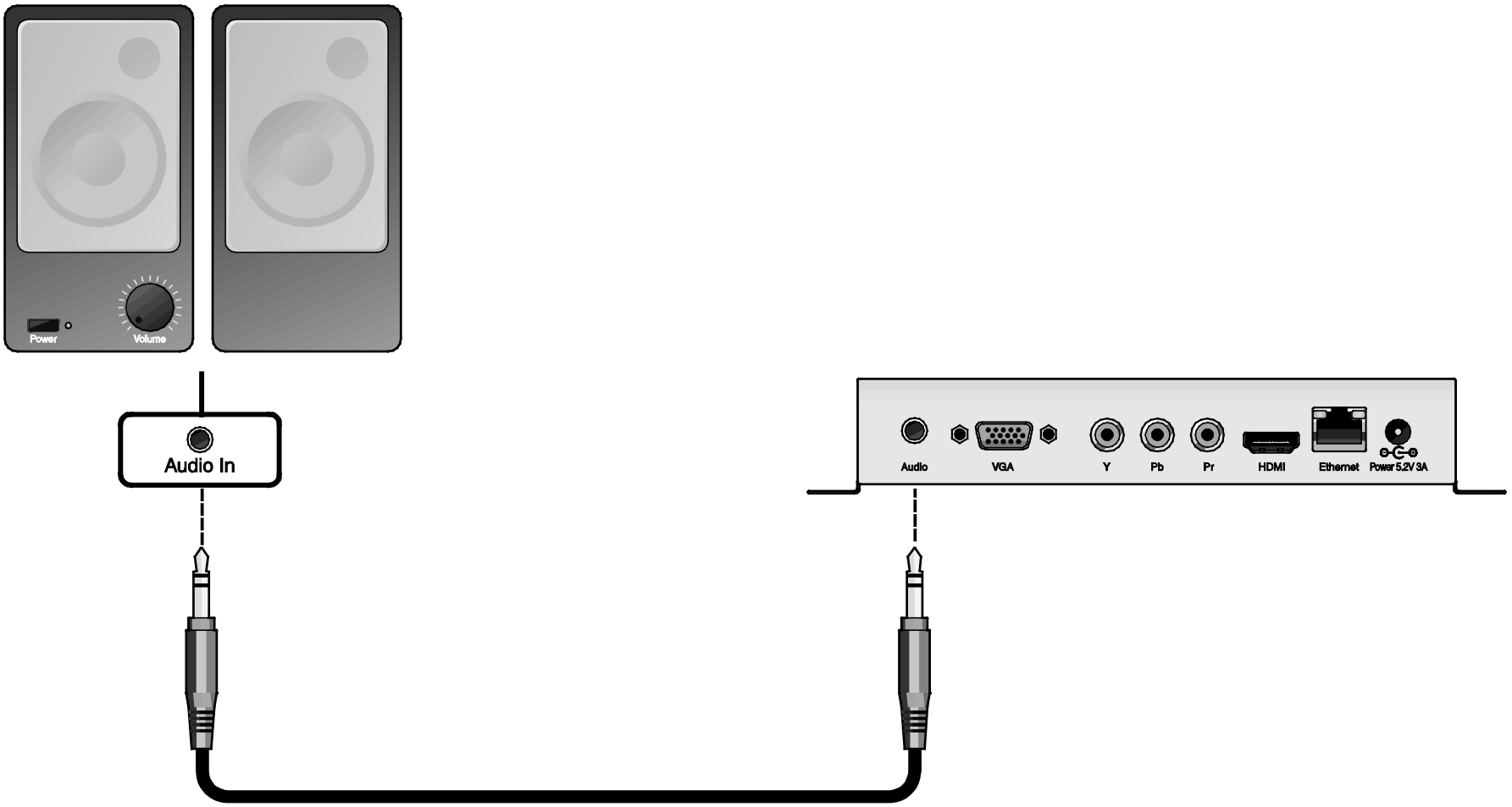
Using an HDMI cable



Note: The connectors on BrightSign players vary by model. Your BrightSign player may have different connectors from those displayed above.

Connecting speakers

If your presentations include audio, you can route the audio through an HDMI display that you connect to your BrightSign player, or you can connect powered speakers to your BrightSign player.



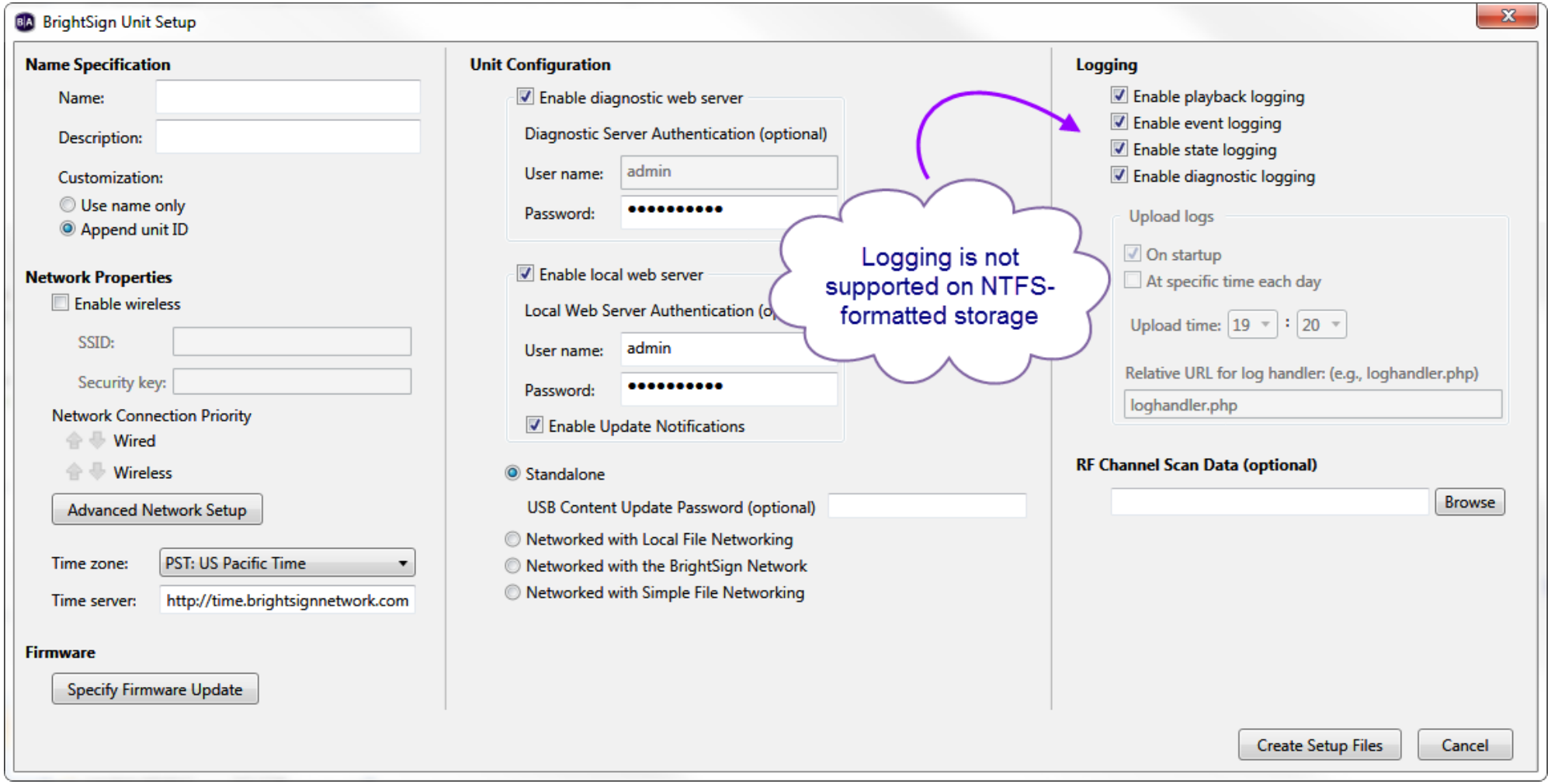
Setting up BrightSign Players

Before you can create and publish presentations, you must first set up the BrightSign players. To set up a player, you need to create setup files in BrightAuthor and add those files to a storage device (SD card or USB flash drive). Afterward, insert the storage (usually an SD card) into the BrightSign player. Remember that if you are using an SD card, it must be formatted using FAT32 for the player to receive network updates and generate logs.

You can set up your BrightSign players for standalone use, add them to a Local Network, add them to the BrightSign Network, or set them up for Simple File Networking. Adding players to a network allows you to remotely manage and update your BrightSign players and presentations. Alternatively, standalone use requires inserting an updated storage device into the BrightSign player each time you want to update content.

To set up your BrightSign player, complete the following steps:

1. On the menu bar, click **Tools** > **Setup BrightSign unit**.
2. Under **Name Specification**, enter a name and description for the unit.
3. Under **Network Properties**, choose whether you would like to **Enable wireless** (only some models have wireless capability; please see the BrightSign Product Comparison Matrix for more details). Choose your preferred **Network Connection Priority** and click on **Advanced Network Setup** if you would like to manually configure the player's IP address. This window contains other content download options depending on the Unit Configuration option you choose.
4. Under **Firmware**, indicate whether you want to update the firmware and to which version. BrightAuthor requires a minimum firmware version to correctly publish presentations to a BrightSign player.
5. Under **Unit Configuration**, choose one of the four setup options**,** and then complete the steps:
    - **Standalone**: Under **Unit Configuration**, enabling the diagnostic web server and local web server is optional.
    - **Local File Networking**: Under Unit **Configuration**, enabling the diagnostic web server and local web server is optional.



- **BrightSign Network**: Assign the unit to a group. The player will receive presentations assigned to this group. Set a **Network Connection Frequency** and an **Update Health Frequency**.
- **Simple File Networking**: In the **URL for web folder** text field, set the location from which the unit will download presentations. Set a **Network Connection Frequency**.

6. Under **Logging**, set your logging preferences.
7. Click **Create Setup Files**.
8. Select an SD card or USB flash drive (HD810, HD1010, HD1010w, and HD1020 only) to store the setup files. Click **OK**.

Note*: You must format your SD storage using FAT32 for the player to receive network updates and generate logs. You should only format the storage using NTFS if you need to play media files that are 4GB or larger in size.*

9. Turn off your BrightSign player by unplugging the power adapter. Insert the SD card or Flash drive into the unit.
10. Turn on the BrightSign player by reconnecting the power adapter.

The SD card or Flash drive must remain connected to the BrightSign player, or it will not receive scheduled presentations from the network. The BrightSign player has no internal storage and therefore cannot receive content without a storage device connected. For a detailed description of all items in the *BrightSign Unit Setup* window, including optional settings, refer to the BrightAuthor User Guide.

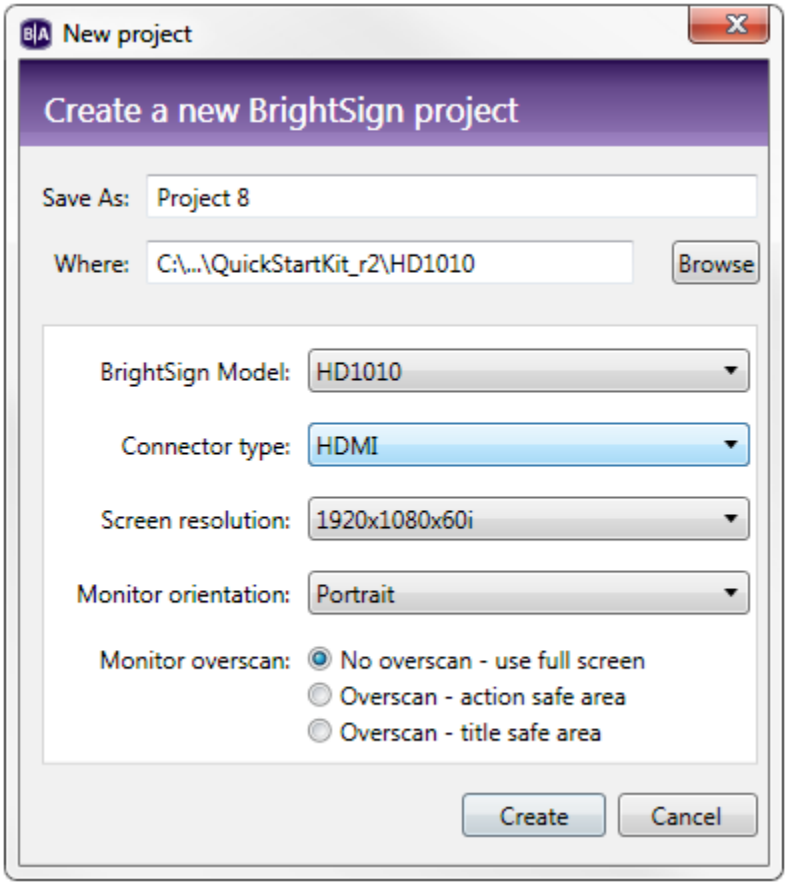
Creating presentations

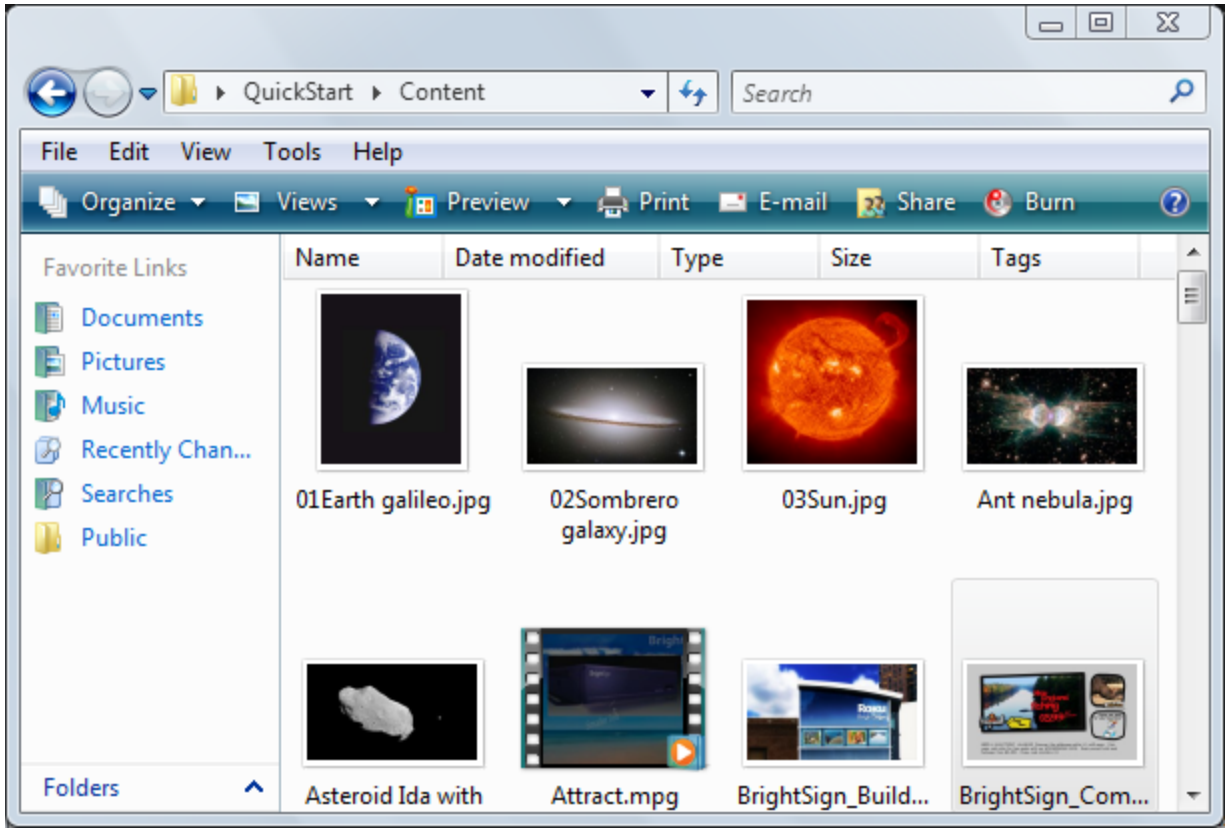
This guide describes how to create three types of presentations: a full-screen presentation, a multi-zone presentation, and an interactive presentation.

Creating a full-screen presentation

When you need to create presentations with more than one media file, you can use playlists to play multiple files in a loop. This section shows you how to create a playlist using BrightAuthor and the sample files provided in the Quick Start kit.

1. Create a new BrightSign project:
    a. Double-click the **BrightAuthor** icon on your desktop.
    b. Click **File** > **New Presentation**.
    Tip: *If you don't see **New Presentation** under **File**, make sure you have the **Edit**, **Publish**, or **Manage** tab selected in the upper-left side of the screen.*
    c. In the **Save As** field, enter a name for the presentation.
    d. In the **Where** field, enter the folder where you want to store the presentation. Click **Browse** to navigate to the desired folder.
    e. Select your BrightSign Model, Connector type, and Screen resolution.
    f. Click **Create**.
2. Select the Full Screen template.
3. Click **Choose**.
4. Under **Media Library**, click **Browse** and select the *Quick Start Content* folder.





5. Drag one or more files to the playlist area.
6. You can set the order in which files play by dragging them to the playlist area in the desired order. You can change the order of files already in the playlist by clicking a file and dragging it to a new position.
7. To edit how long each file plays in the presentation, right-click a file and click **Edit**. Change the **Time on Screen** field and click **OK**.
8. On the Menu bar, click **File** > **Save**… to store your presentation.

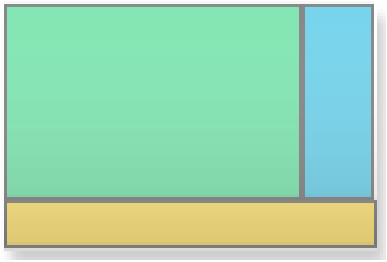
For details on publishing the saved presentation, see Publishing Presentations.

Creating a multiple zone presentation

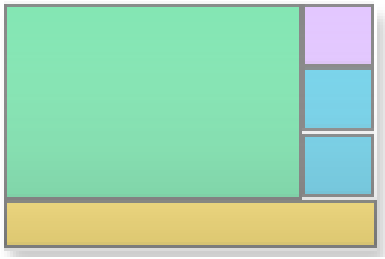
Using BrightSign zones, you can divide your signage screen into windows and play different types of content in each window, including video, audio, images, ticker feeds (RSS or text), or date and time. You can also control transitions between media files, background color, background image, font, text color, text alignment, and text orientation.

Below are a few examples of BrightSign zone templates:

2-Zone



3-Zone



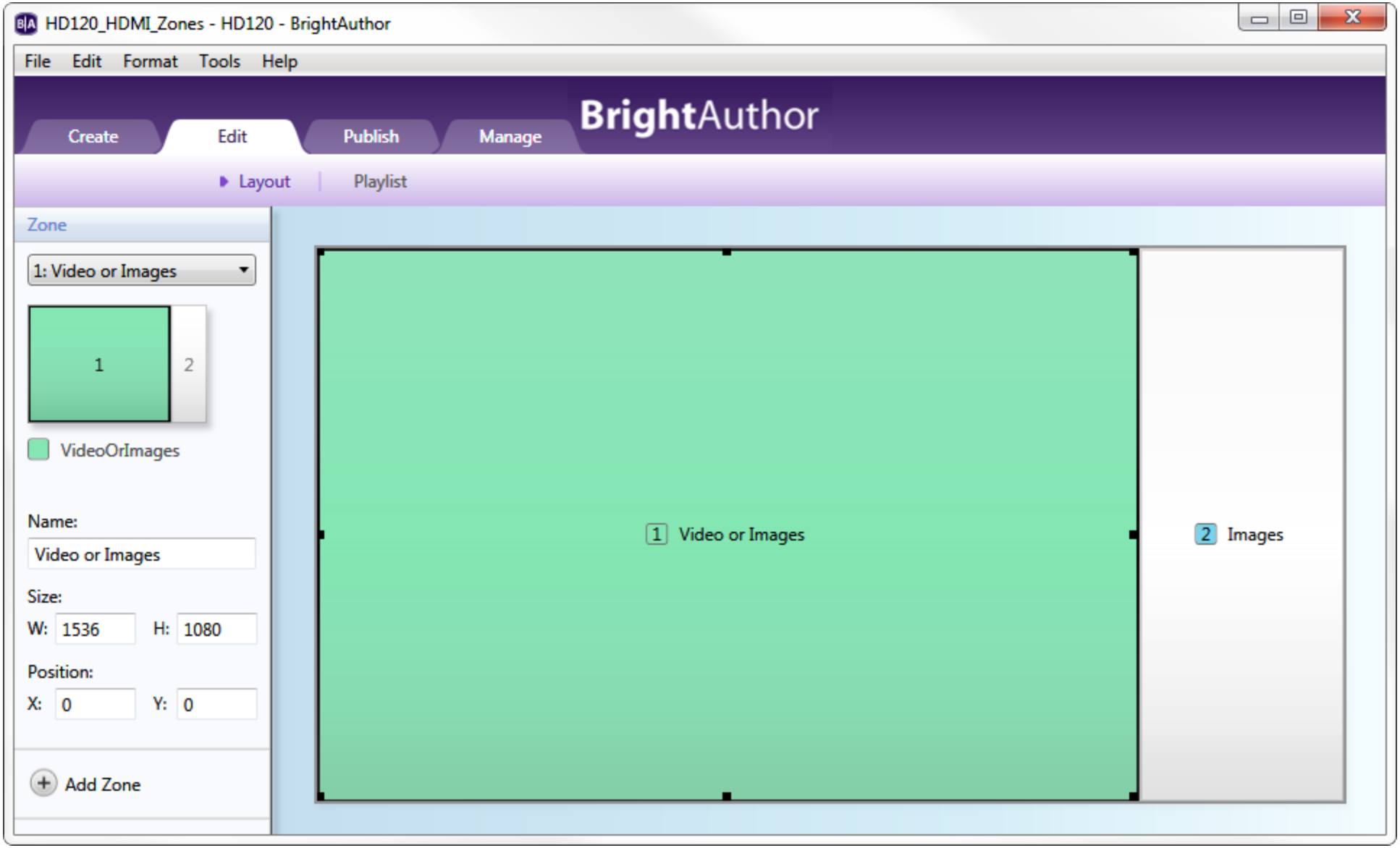
5-Zone

To create a presentation with multiple zones using the sample content, complete the following steps:
Double-click the **BrightAuthor** icon on your desktop.

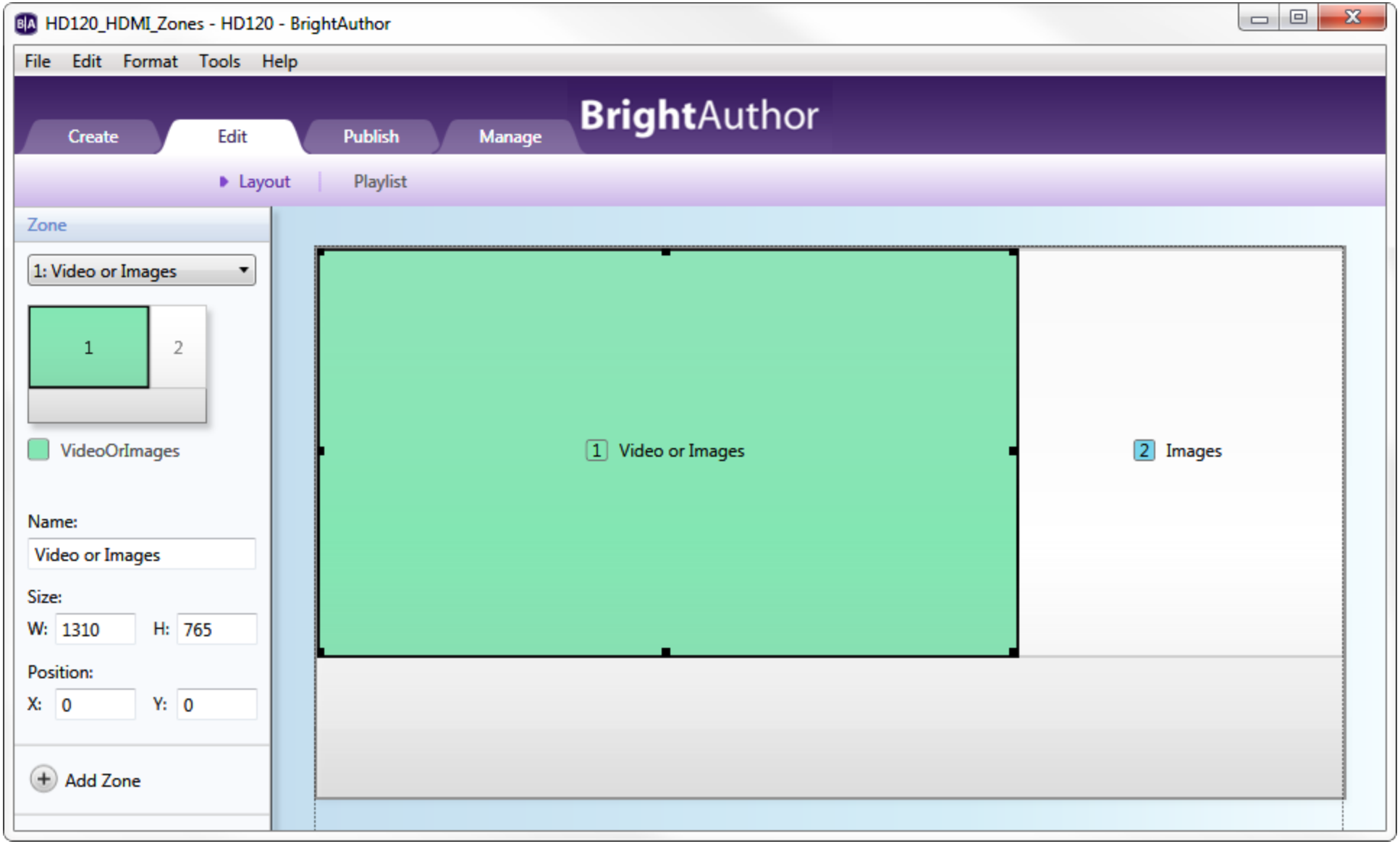
1. Click **File** > **Open Presentation**.
2. Navigate to the *Quick Start Kit* folder on your PC and select the folder for your BrightSign model to see the sample files.
3. Do one of the following to open the BrightAuthor project:
    - If your BrightSign player is connected to your display via an HDMI connection, select the **HDMI_Zones** file.
    - If your BrightSign player is connected to your display via a VGA connection, select the **VGA_Zones** file.
4. When prompted to locate one of the files in the project, click **Browse**, locate the *QuickStartKit\Content* folder, and then select a file in that folder. Click **Open**. In the **Missing Media File** window, click **Yes**.
    - Zone 1 is a Video or Images zone. You can add videos, images, or audio files in this type of zone. If using an HD player, you can only have one video zone on screen at a time. If using an XD player, you can have up to two.

- Zone 2 is an image zone. You can add images to this type of zone, and you can add as many image zones as you like to a presentation.

Note: *Next, we're going to resize Zones 1 and 2 and then add and populate a new zone.*

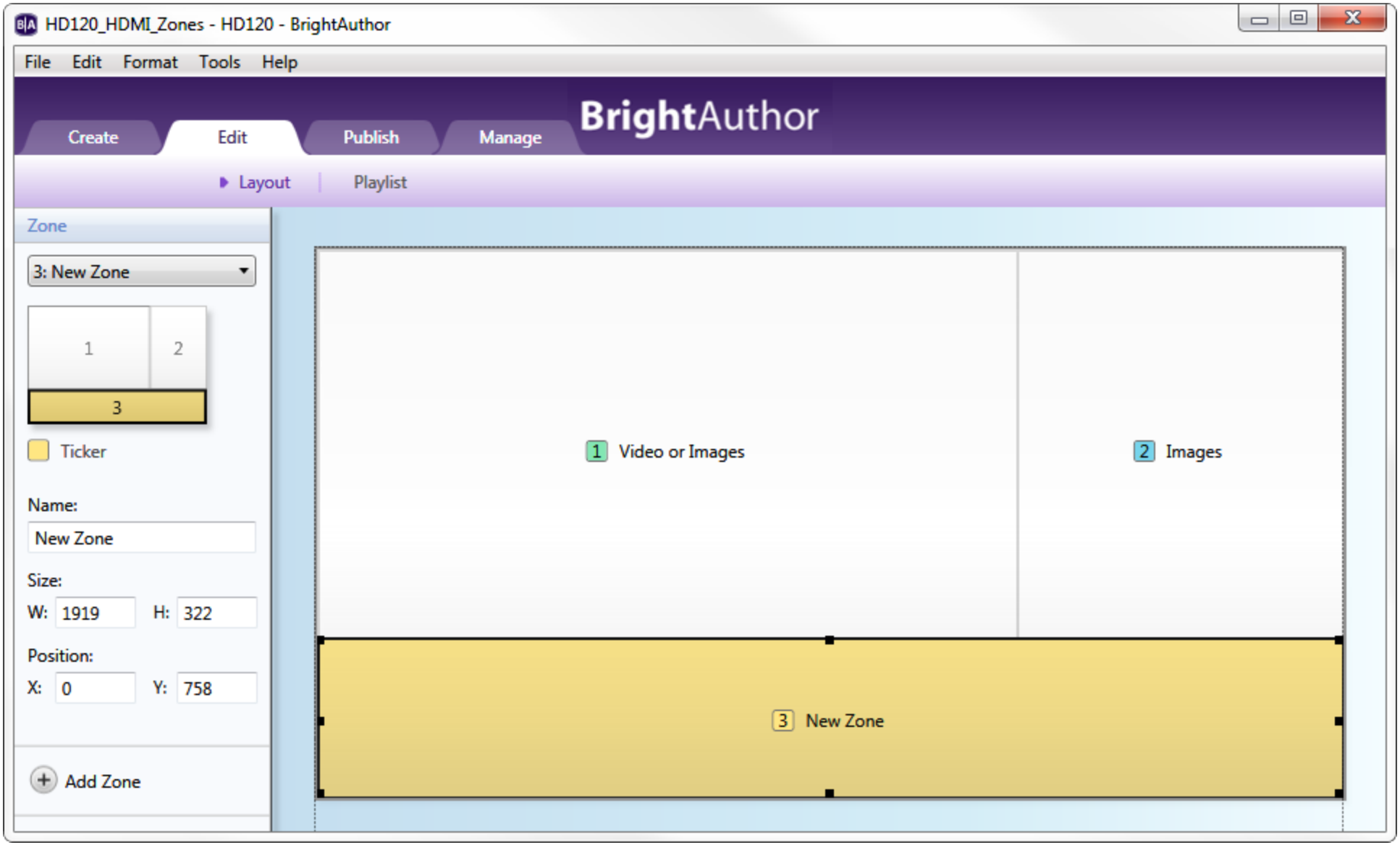


5. Resize the existing zones:
    a. Click **Layout** on the upper-left side of the screen under **Edit**.
    b. Select and drag the bottom of the Video Or Images zone to make the zone shorter.
    c. Select and drag the bottom of the Images zone to make both zones the same height.



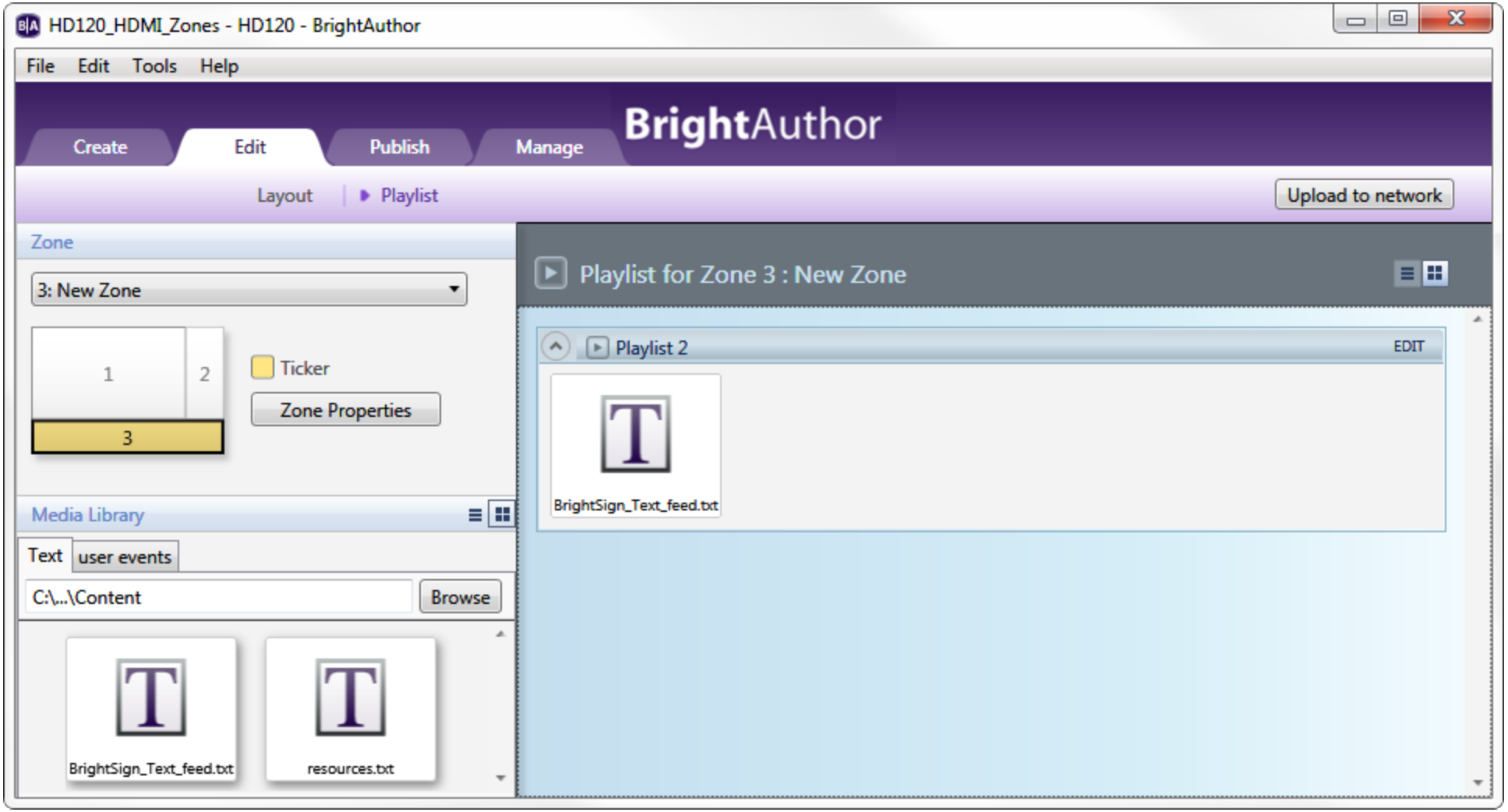
Note: *Alternatively, you can also make the height and width of each zone exact using the **W** and **H** fields on the left.*

6. Add a new zone:
    a. Click **Add Zone**, select **Ticker**, and then click **OK**.
    b. Drag the **Ticker** zone to the lower left corner.
    c. Select and drag a corner of the **Ticker** zone and resize it to fit below the other two zones.



Note: *Zone 3 is a Ticker zone. You can add RSS feeds and Text files to this type of zone. You can mix both RSS and Text files, and use multiple RSS and Text files in the same Ticker zone.*

7. Populate the Ticker zone:
    a. Click **Playlist** on the left side of the taskbar next to **Layout**.



b. Under *Zone*, click Zone 3: This is the Ticker zone.
c. Under **Media Library**, click the **Text** tab.
d. Click **Browse**, locate the *QuickStartKit\Content* folder, and then click **OK**.
e. Drag the **BrightSign_Text_feed.txt** file into the Zone 3 playlist area.

8. To add an RSS feed instead of a text file, follow the steps above, but replace steps 7c –7e with the following:

   Note: *Internet connection and a networked player are required to use RSS feeds.*

   c. Under **Media Library**, click the **RSS** tab.
   d. Drag the **New RSS Feed** icon to the playlist and click **Add Data Feed**.
   e. Enter a name in the **Feed Name** field. You can use this name to easily select which RSS feed you want to use in the future.
   f. Under **Feed specification**, select **Url** and enter the web address of your RSS feed. You can also choose to create and host RSS feeds using two BrightSign Network features: Live Data Feeds and Dynamic Playlists. See the BrightAuthor User Manual for more information on these features.
   g. Click **Validate** to check whether the URL is a valid RSS feed and click **OK.**
   h. Use the **Select data feed** dropdown list to locate the RSS feed you just created. Click **OK**.
9. On the Menu bar, click **File** > **Save...** to store your presentation.
10. For details on publishing the saved presentation, see Publishing Presentations.

Creating an interactive presentation

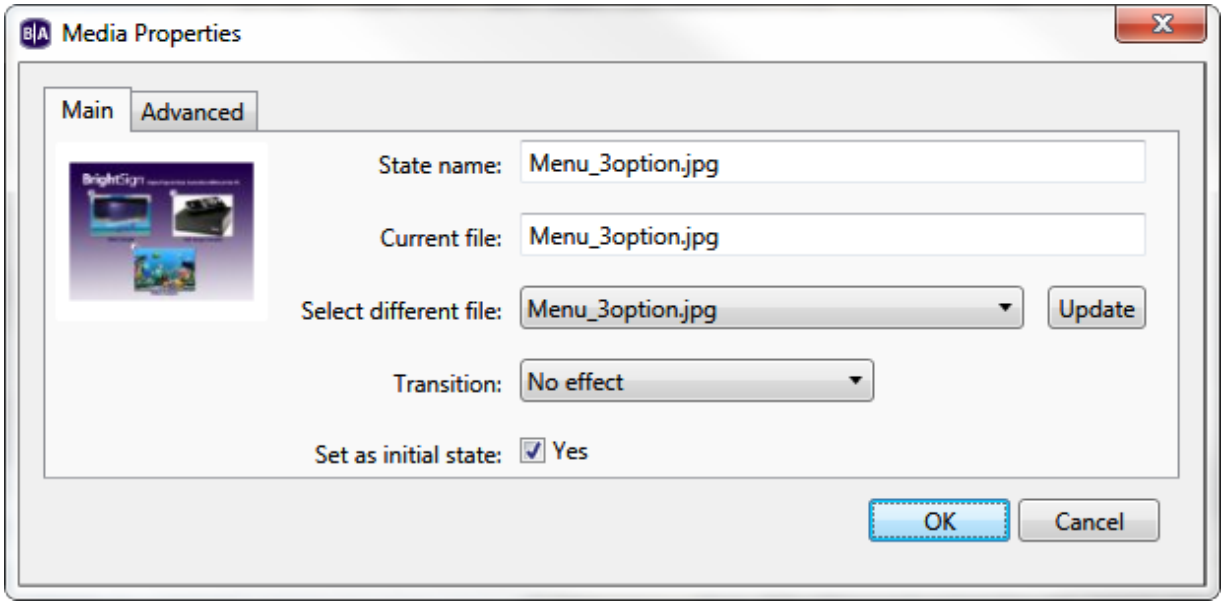
All models except the HD110 support various types of interactivity. For a complete list of features and details for each BrightSign model, see the BrightSign Product Comparison Matrix.

This section of the guide will teach you how to create an interactive presentation with a GPIO device attached to your BrightSign player. Even if you do not have a GPIO device connected to your BrightSign player, this example can teach you the basics of interactive presentations before you attempt more complex projects. Demos for various types of presentations (included Linked Zones, Touch Screen, and Button Board) can be download from our website.

To create an interactive button board presentation with the sample content:

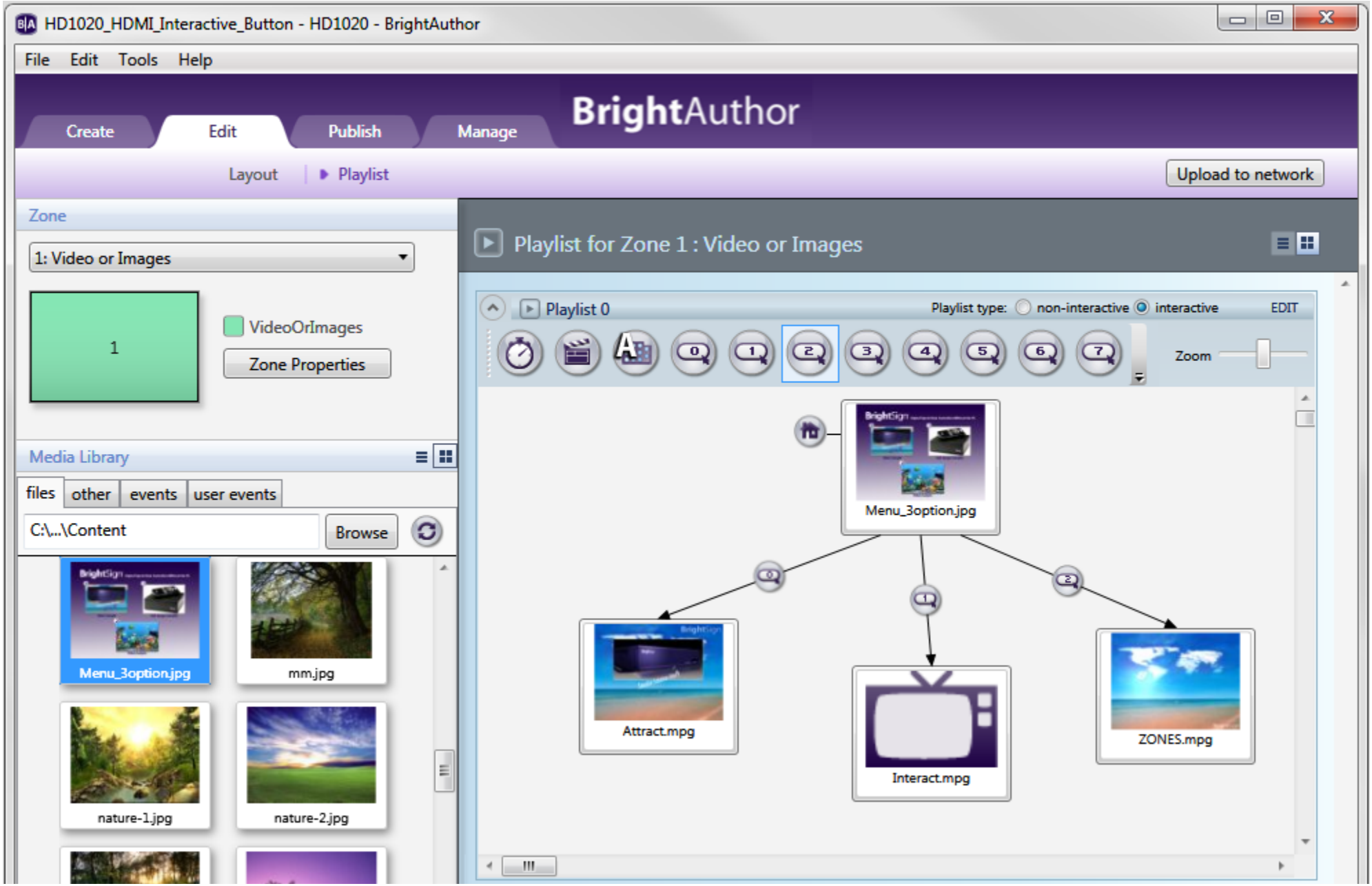
1. Double-click the **BrightAuthor** icon on your desktop.
2. Select **File** > **Open Presentation**.
3. Navigate to the *Quick Start Kit* folder on your PC, and select the folder that corresponds to your BrightSign model.
4. Do one of the following:
    - If your BrightSign player is connected to your display via an HDMI connection, and you have a button board attached to your BrightSign player, select the **HDMI_Interactive_Button** file.
    - If your BrightSign player is connected to your display via a VGA connection, and you have a button board attached to your BrightSign player, select the **VGA_Interactive_Button** file.
5. When prompted to locate one of the files in the project, click **Browse**, locate the *QuickStartKit\Content* folder, and then select a file in that folder. Click **Open**. In the **Missing Media File** window, click **Yes**.
6. Under **Media Library**, click **Browse** and select the *QuickStart/Content* folder.
7. Drag the following files to the playlist area on the right side of the screen: **Menu_3option.jpg**, **Zones.mpg**.
8. In the playlist area (in the right side of the screen), click the **Menu_2option.jpg** thumbnail and press **Delete** on your keyboard. This removes the file as well as all interactive events linked to it.
9. Set the new Menu image (**Menu_3option.jpg**) as the Home Screen. The Home Screen (indicated by the Home icon), is the first media file that plays in the presentation. If the presentation is a multi-zone presentation, each zone must have a Home Screen.

a. Double-click the **Menu_3option.jpg** thumbnail.
b. In the **Media Properties** window, click the **Set as initial state** box. If the box is already checked, the file is currently the Home Screen.
c. Click **OK**.



10. Link the Menu image to the Attract video (**Attract.mpg**) with the interactive event Button 0. Once the event is defined and the Menu image is playing, pressing Button 0 will cause the presentation to transition to the Attract video file. To define the interactive event, follow these steps:
    a. Click **Button 0** on the event bar.
    b. Click and hold the bottom of the **Menu_3option.jpg** thumbnail. The pointer will change to a hand.
    c. Drag the hand pointer from the bottom of **Menu_3option.jpg** to the **Attract.mpg** thumbnail.

11. Link the Menu image to the Interact (**Interact.mpg**) and Zones (**ZONES.mpg**) videos with the interactive events Button 1 and Button 2, respectively.



Once the events are defined and the Menu image is playing, pressing Button 1 will cause the presentation to transition to the Interact video. Pressing Button 2 will transition to the Zones video. To define the interactive events, follow these steps:

a. Click **Button 1** on the event bar.
b. Click and hold the bottom of the **Menu_3option.jpg** thumbnail (the pointer changes to a hand).
c. Drag the hand pointer to the **Interact.mpg** thumbnail.
d. Click **Button 2** on the event bar.
e. Click and hold the bottom of the **Menu_3option.jpg** thumbnail.
f. Drag the hand pointer to the **Zones.mpg** thumbnail.

12. Link the end of the Attract, Interact, and Zones videos to the Menu image so that the menu reappears when the videos finish playing. To define the interactive event, follow these steps:
    a. Click **Media End Event** on the event bar.
    b. Click and hold the bottom of the **Attract_mpg** thumbnail.
    c. Drag the hand pointer to the **Menu_3option.jpg** thumbnail.
    d. Click and hold the bottom of the **Interact _mpg thumbnail** (by default, the previous interactive event used is already selected, so you don't need to click the Media End Event again).
    e. Drag the hand pointer to the **Menu_3option.jpg** thumbnail.
    f. Click and hold the bottom of the **Zones.mpg** thumbnail.
    g. Drag the hand pointer to the **Menu_3option.jpg** thumbnail.

    Note: *If you do not add a Media End event after each video, the videos will loop indefinitely.*
13. On the Menu bar, click **File** > **Save**... to store your presentation.
14. For details on publishing the saved presentation, see **Publishing presentations** on the following page.

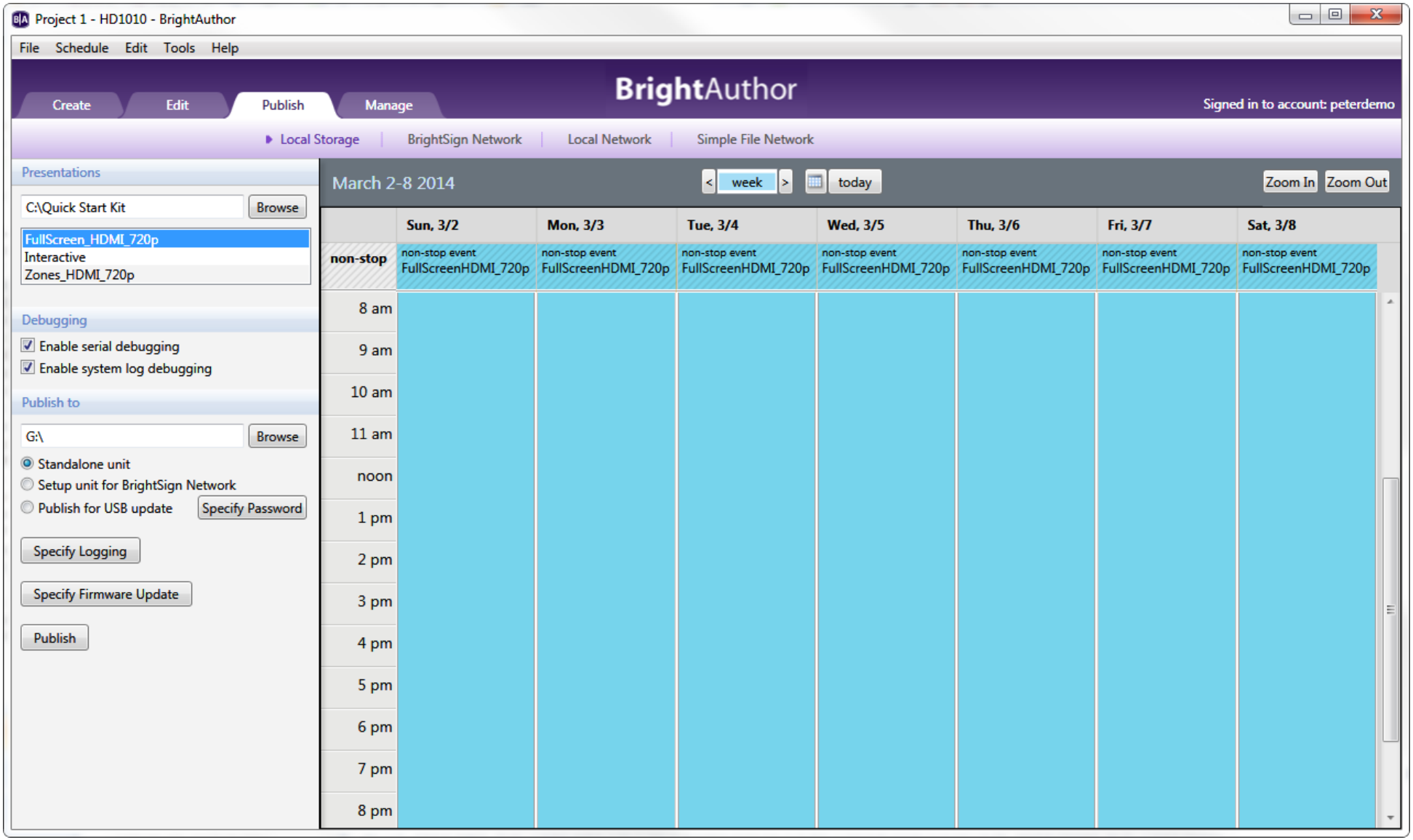
Publishing Presentations

After creating a presentation, you can publish the content to your BrightSign player using one of four methods: Local Storage, Local Networking, Simple File Networking, or the BrightSign Network. This guide will teach you how to publish your presentations to an SD card and update your BrightSign player manually. For details on the other publishing methods, see the BrightAuthor User Guide.

Note*: You must format your SD storage using FAT32 for the player to receive network updates and generate logs. You should only format the storage using NTFS if you need to play media files that are 4GB or larger in size.*

To publish a presentation to an SD card:

1. Insert an SD card into your computer's card reader.
2. Click the **Publish** tab in the upper-left side of the BrightAuthor screen.
3. Click **Local Storage** (below the **Publish** tab).
4. Under **Presentations**, click **Browse**, select the folder where your presentation is saved, and then click **OK**.
5. Select the presentation you want to publish from the list of presentations.
6. Drag the presentation into the calendar to set a time when the presentation will play. You can expand or contract the time range by clicking, holding, and moving the lower border of the colored field. Double-click the presentation in the calendar to further customize the playing time. You have the following options when scheduling a presentation:
    - (default) The presentation plays during a limited time range on a single, specific day. Customize the range by changing the **Start** and **End** times in the **Event time** field.
    - The presentation plays continuously without interruptions or an end time. Select this option by checking the **Active all day, every day** box.
    - The presentation plays for a limited time during a recurring pattern of days. Select this option by checking the **Recurring Event** box. You can further customize whether you want the presentation to play daily, every weekday, every weekend, or during certain days of the week. Use the **Range of recurrence** field to choose what dates the recurring event will begin and end.



In the screen shot above, the presentation is set to "Active all day, every day"

7. Under **Publish to**, click **Browse**, select the drive where your SD card is located, and then click **OK**.
8. Click **Publish**. When the **Publish Complete** window opens, click **OK**.

9. Turn off your BrightSign player by unplugging the power adapter.
10. Insert the SD card used in the above steps into the BrightSign player.
11. Turn on the BrightSign player by reconnecting the power adapter.
12. Leave the SD card in the player. A local storage device (SD card or USB flash drive) must always remain inserted in the BrightSign player, regardless of which publishing method you are using. The only time a storage device should be removed from the player is when you are manually updating its content.

Next steps

Visit these areas of our webpage to get the most from your BrightSign player:

- Documentation: Get the latest user guides, release notes, scripting references, hardware reference manuals, and regulatory guides.
- Demos: Get an overview of what BrightSign players are capable of by downloading the demos.
- Tutorials: Get step-by-step instructions on how to use BrightAuthor to create presentations, publish presentations, and more.
- Downloads: Get the latest BrightSign firmware, BrightAuthor software, Autoplay scripts, scripts for manually setting the date & time, and scripts for testing button boards.
- Support: Contact technical support if you are having trouble with your BrightSign player.