Based in Oxford, UK, Audiomotion Studios is a multiple award-winning studio specialising in the provision of motion capture services to the Game Development, Film and Television industries.

Audiomotion's position as Europe's largest motion capture specialist means that it delivers its products and services to the highest quality. Its overarching goal of exceptional quality and innovative execution, however, required extra horsepower and intelligence to keep it ahead of its global competition. This is why they turned to Autocue.


According to Audiomotion managing director Mick Morris, "We have, and continue, to work on many of the most high profile films, games and television programming in the world. However, we are nevertheless conscious that, we are a niche player in motion capture.

"We still need to offer our clients features and facilities that they are unlikely to find elsewhere, such as the set up that we have provided with the addition of the Autocue Video Server and media asset management capabilities."

State of Play

Audiomotion uses a highly sophisticated 130-camera Vicon Motion System, capturing multiple angles of performers' faces, fingers, and body. Using ultra-small 3mm markers on each performer, Audiomotion records expressions, nuances and movement to create wire frame images that can immediately be reviewed by the production team on set or remotely if required.

However, without seeing a regular video image of the movement, clients can struggle to visualise what the wire frame images will look like when they're animated into on-screen characters. Audiomotion, therefore, searched for a video server solution that allowed their customers to see the video as it was captured, and an overarching media management system that would provide them with automated recording, triggered by their motion capture system.
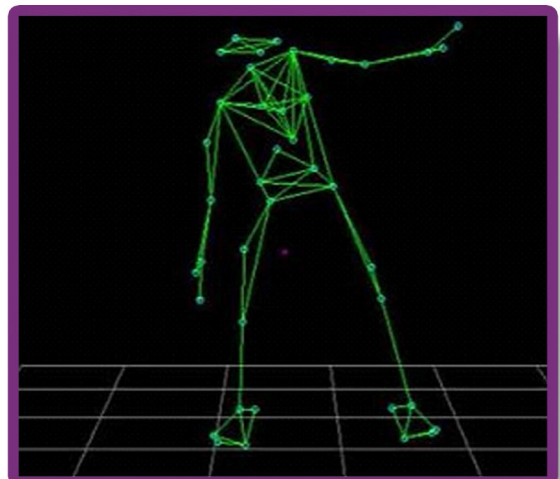
The Value Add for Audiomotion and its Customers

Autocue's video servers are connected to Audiomotion's camera system so that, when recording of multiple angles of the movement is trigged using Audiomotion's motion capture database, they capture frame accurate video of the performers associated with the wire frame images. This enables the production team responsible to instantly review the wire frame content alongside the actual video of the performance to decide if they are happy with the take, or select the best from a series of takes, often recoded from different angles.

To do this, Audiomotion uses four, four-port servers, each with 5.4 TB of storage and redundant PSUs, plus an additional two-port server with 2TB of storage and a single PSU. Autocue's API was also modified to handle communication with Audiomotion's hugely complex motion capture database.

Autocue also modified the video server's API to manage communication with Audiomotion's complex motion capture database, providing synchronized control of up to 80 cameras.

The Benefits

Mike Morris, Managing Director and Founder of Audiomotion, says "It's all about visualisation for the producers. With the addition of the Autocue Video Servers and media asset management software, we provide our customers with a real video feed alongside the motion capture feed, which is a tremendous benefit to them as well as a time and cost saver.

"Moreover, it's an investment that gives us significant competitive differentiator, enabling us to compete effectively amongst similar companies internationally. When they have a choice, we believe our system will compel film, game and television production companies to choose us."

Audiomotion has worked on an astonishing array of award-winning films, television programmes, commercials, music, sport, trailers and high-end computer games including Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2; Gulliver's Travels; Iron Man 2; Aliens: Colonial Marines; Killzone 3; Tiger Woods PGA Tour 11; F1 2011; Guitar Hero World Tour; Rockband 2 and, with the assistance of Autocue's video server system, no doubt many, many more to come.

Autocue

Audiomotion studios

With the addition of the Autocue video servers and media asset management software, Audiomotion provide their customers with a real video feed alongside the motion capture feed, allowing them to better visualise the finished product. This functionality provides tremendous benefits in terms of production time and costs, but it is also an investment that gives Audiomotion a significant competitive differentiator, enabling them to compete effectively amongst similar companies both in the UK and around the world.

For more information visit www.autocue.com

Autocue and QTV (in the Americas) have been serving the broadcast industry since the 1950s. They are the only company to offer the television industry a single solution for newsroom, scripting, automation, media management, video servers, broadcast monitors and teleprompters. Autocue is known worldwide for its service and dependability, serving such prestigious clients as the BBC, Bloomberg, NBC and CNN. Autocue's prompting solutions are compatible with all newsroom systems on the market and are used all over the world by broadcasters, production professionals, government facilities and corporate producers.

Company details: Autocue Group, Unit 3, Puma Trade Park, 145 Morden Road, Mitcham, Surrey, CR4 4DG, UK

About Audiomotion

Audiomotion is Europe's leading motion capture service provider. We are a multi-award winning studio, specialising in the provision of motion capture services to the Game Development, Film and Television industries. Audiomotion is committed to delivering its products and services on time, to the highest quality. We aim to meet and exceed every client's expectations in every respect.

For more information, visit www.audiomotion.com.