

# The rotating text solution

by Walter Wallenborn 12/5/05

I started to deal with this one by juggling bits of text but quickly realised that it would be so difficult for someone to do their own version. Also you might want to do something other than text that must spiral.

So what I've done is create a strip of the screen which is cut into pieces. Each piece is on a separate layer as a mask. By making the pieces thin enough and rotating each by an equal amount then arranging them into the desired sequence you can have anything which moves along the middle strip in the reference track appear to move along the resulting pattern in the output.

What the Vegas file then has is a series of pairs of parent-child tracks. In each case the mask comes first followed by the media you want bent. The very first one is the real media while all the others are referenced copies of track two. Note that there is no pan/crop or track motion in any of these media copies.

In the first track of each pair the Pan/Crop is used only for picking the area of the source which will be chopped out for this piece of the finished pattern.

The track motion rotates and locates this window into the final result. In fact if you wanted to you could even resize these pieces to have them shrinking or expanding as they head to the end of the pattern.

To make it perfectly obvious what you can do I've included both text and a moving pattern. In either case they can go right to left or left to right by just using a source that goes the way you want. As this system only relies on windows into the source it doesn't care what the video is doing.

Have fun!

