**Overview**

**SubCentral** is a standalone subtitles plug-in for the MediaPortal HTPC application. The purpose of the plug-in is to allow user to search and download subtitles for movies or TV shows managed by popular Moving Pictures and MP-TVSeries plugins. It also has the interfaces to allow easy implementation and integration in any other plugin.

Best way to use SubCentral is through one of the supported plugins. If you wish, there is a possibility to modify search data SubCentral grabs from the plugins for more customized search. If plugin is opened from home screen, only manual search is possible, where you can create your own search queries (for movies or TV shows).

Before using SubCentral for the first time, use MediaPortal configuration to configure the plugin thoroughly (selecting, reordering and renaming groups/providers, selecting and ordering languages and managing of the download folders).

From the GUI you can configure languages (not priority!), search, download or delete existing subtitles and sort the search results using different criteria, including unique **tag ranking** system.

**Useful links**

* SubCentral Google Code site (<http://code.google.com/p/subcentral/>)
* SubCentral on MediaPortal forums (<http://forum.team-mediaportal.com/mediaportal-plugins-47/subcentral-85545/>)
* SubCentral manual – WiP (<http://code.google.com/p/subcentral/wiki/Manual>)
* SubCentral screenshots (<http://code.google.com/p/subcentral/wiki/Screenshots>)
* SubCentral issue tracker – report and browse issues (<http://code.google.com/p/subcentral/issues/list>)
* SubCentral SVN – source code (http://code.google.com/p/subcentral/source/browse/)

**Requirements:**

* MediaPortal v1.1.0 or higher
* Supported skin

**Integration – supported plugins**

* MP-TVSeries
* SubCentral has inbuilt support (plugin handler) for MP-TVSeries v2.6.0 or higher (it's always recommended to use latest stable release).
* Configuration: Open MP-TVSeries configuration, under “Extras” tab there should be “Enable SubCentral” check box. Check “Use SubCentral for episode ‘HasSubtitles query’ if you also want SubCentral for MediaInfo subtitles check (more through search). It is also suggested that you disable SubtitleDownloader (it will be removed from MP-TVSeries in v2.6.7).
* Users: When browsing episodes, open context menu and click “Download...”, then select “Retrieve subtitle”. SubCentral window will open.
* Skinners: no skin changes needed
* Moving Pictures
* SubCentral has inbuilt support (plugin handler) for Moving Pictures v1.0.3 or higher.
* Configuration: No configuration changes needed.
* Users: When browsing the movies, click “check for subtitles” button in your skin (it should be in (hidden) menu or on movie details screen). SubCentral window will open.
* Skinners: for closer look on integration, take a look at SubCentral Moving Pictures integration (<http://forum.team-mediaportal.com/moving-pictures-284/announcement-skinners-subcentral-integration-85548/>).
* Other plugins
* If the data from the plugin can be accessed from the "outside", there is a possibility of writing new plugin handler. Consult manual and source code for more info.
* There is also a possibility of integration without modifications in SubCentral. SubCentral supports data exchange through MediaPortal’s GUI window messages. Consult manual for more info.
* Another option is just to do manual search for subtitles you’re after. SubCentral will allow you to rename and save subtitles to defined folders.

**Supported skins**

These are the skins that support SubCentral so far (that I know of):

* Black Glass
* Black Glass Nova
* Blue3 (in the installer package)
* Blue3wide (in the installer package)
* Maya
* StreamedMP
* ?

If you’re planning to add support or your skin already supports SubCentral, let us know!

**Reporting issues / enhancements**

If you have any issues or problems using SubCentral or ideas on improving, report them here, or even better, on the issue tracker. For any questions, write on forums :)

When reporting issues, it's important to include fresh debug logs. That means configuring MediaPortal for debug logging ("General section", "Log verbosity") and fresh start of MediaPortal with only the bug reproduced. Logs needed include MediaPortal.log, error.log, MovingPictures.log, MP-TVSeries.log and SubCentral.log. Without logs it might be impossible to help you, therefore your report might just be ignored. Thank you for understanding!

**Developing / translating**

You’re a talented developer wanting to help us? Wrote a new plugin handler? Modified SubCentral so it works better/faster/stronger? Translated the plugin? Write to us here, on IRC (usually on #MovingPictures and/or #MP-TVSeries channels) or use issue tracker to submit your patches.

**Thank you**

* seco – for starting the plugin with initial ideas, helping with programming, testing and, of course, for the awesome SubtitleDownloader API (http://forum.team-mediaportal.com/mediaportal-plugins-47/subtitledownloader-2-2-a-71651/), without which SubCentral would not exist.
* gibman – for SubtitlesRetriever PoC (https://mediaportal.svn.sourceforge.net/svnroot/mp-plugins/trunk/plugins/SubtitlesRetriever/) that was used as retriever base.
* fforde – for starting the plugin with initial ideas and awesome core.
* damienh – for testing, support and some very nice ideas.
* 1stdead – for testing.
* All other testers that were reporting issues even before plugin was released
* All the translators

**What’s new**

v1.0.0 change log (not yet released)

* Add return to originating plugin option (after downloading subtitles)
* Canceling progress dialog now shows found results so far - configurable
* Absolute numbering of TV shows is now supported
* Release compatible with both MediaPortal 1.1 and 1.2 (Alpha, Beta, future releases)
* Added provider search timeout (advanced configuration)
* SubtitleDownloader updated to v2.4 (seco)
* (Default) skin improvements and fixes
* Various other bug fixes
* Updated German translation (Michael Schuler / catavolt)
* Added Dutch translation (Henkie Flits)
* Added Greek translation (ScRePt)
* **Skin changes**
  + SubCentral.ModifySearch.xml
    - added control id 226 (checkmark), for Absolute numbering.

Visible condition: <visible>Control.isvisible(103)+String.Equals(#SubCentral.ModifySearch.SearchType.Type,TVSHOW)</visible>.

Don't forget to modify the navigation from and to other controls :)

* **Translation changes**
  + Added
    - <string Field="SkinTranslationAbsoluteNumbering">Absolute numbering</string>
    - <string Field="TimedOutWhileRetrievingSubtitles">Time out retrieving subtitles!</string>

v0.9.1 change log (<http://code.google.com/p/subcentral/source/list?start=134>)

* First public release
* Moving Pictures & MP-TVSeries supported
* Ability to define and search subtitles from different providers and provider groups
* Unique tag rank sorting
* Many more…

**Download**

You can download SubCentral using MPEI package installer or get it on MediaPortal plugins repository (<http://www.team-mediaportal.com/extensions/movies-videos/subcentral>). Source code is available on Google Code.

**Known issues**

* MovingPictures: parental controls restrict access to MovieBrowser
  + Already reported as [Issue 858](http://code.google.com/p/moving-pictures/issues/detail?id=858) (<http://code.google.com/p/moving-pictures/issues/detail?id=858>) on MovingPictures issue tracker.
* Possible issues installing from MPEI on MediaPortal v1.1.1 and above
  + ~~There is a possible error in MPEI installer when checking dependency for correct MediaPortal version.~~ Edit: it's not issue in MPEI installer, but on the dependency versions set in MPEI package. ~~Will be fixed for next release. For the time being, if on SVN version, use RAR file on Google Code site to manually install the plugin.~~ Edit: Fixed!
* No SubCentral check boxes in MP-TVSeries
  + Although minumum version of MP-TVSeries for SubCentral is listed as v2.6.0, there were some changes in sub-sequential versions, therefore it's always recommended to use latest stable release. Also, after disabling or enabling SubCentral, you have to restart MediaPortal configuration.

**FAQ**

* How to add a download folder?
  + SubCentral uses MediaPortal configuration for subtitle paths. Open "Videos" section, "Subtitle" tab. Enter paths (folders) in "Subtitle paths" text box, separated by ';' (no quotes). Restart configuration.
* How to add more providers/scrapers?
  + SubCentral uses SubtitleDownloader under the hood, therefore uses its providers/scapers. For more information on adding providers/scrapers to SubtitleDownloader, consult SubtitleDownloader API thread (<http://forum.team-mediaportal.com/mediaportal-plugins-47/subtitledownloader-2-2-a-71651/>).
* Receiving errors when using MPEI package installer! How to fix it?
  + This is the change I did together with the new site. Fix is very easy to do. Open installer, go to "Options" tab, and click "Download online update info". It will refresh installer cache with latest info.