TOPAS A
THE «WORKAHOLIC»

broncolor®

Compatible with your career.

Topas A is a range of power packs that sets new standards. Compact in size, but big in performance. Decisively affordable in price, but packed with all the latest broncolor technology and quality. Its compatibility with other broncolor units makes Topas A a welcome addition to existing equipment or the ideal first investment for beginning professionals who want to keep expanding their flash system as their career progresses.

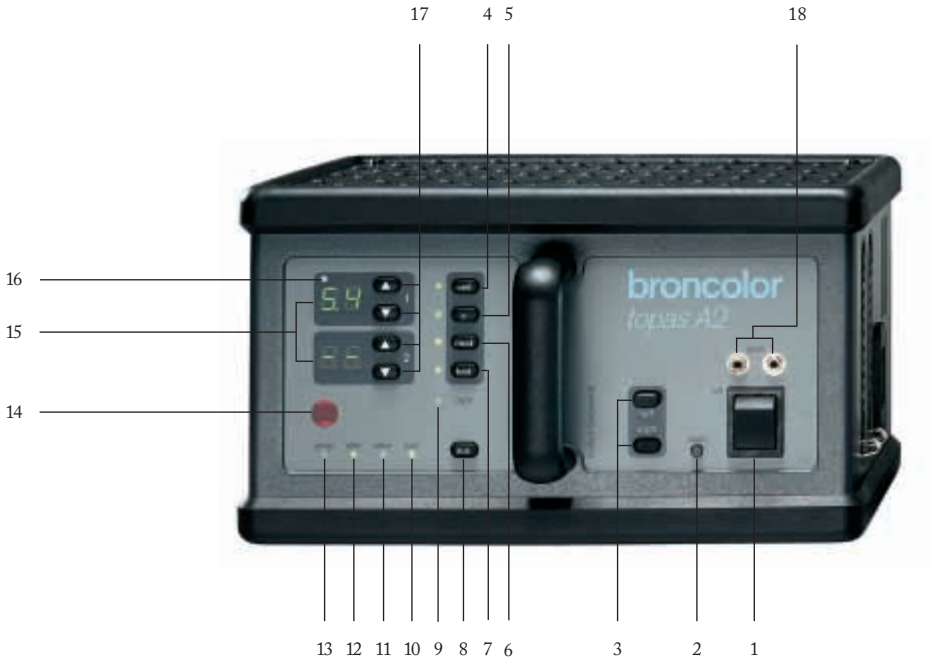
Ultramodern technology.
Topas A power packs are precision devices with all the features of broncolor's ultramodern technology and know-how. The latest generation of microprocessors along with carefully selected components guarantee the ultimate in reliability and functionality even under difficult conditions. Modular design and compatibility with existing broncolor accessories make Topas A an obsolescence-proof investment that pays off right away.

Topas A2/A4/A8: Individual power distribution in a compact package.
Despite their light weight and compact dimensions, these power packs deliver real power and combine the output of two power packs in one unit: 1600 J from Topas A2, 3200 J from Topas A4, and 6100 J from Topas A8. Output can be regulated over a 4-f-stop range in 1/10-stop or whole-stop increments, and the range can optionally be expanded to 5-f-stops and by a further 1.7 stops in the asymmetric modus. The power packs have two lamp connections and a modelling light that is proportional over the entire output range. In the asymmetrical mode the two lamp connections can be adjusted independently of one another. This allows a greater versatility in setting up main and secondary lighting. The Topas A2 control range 60% for outlet 1 and 40% for outlet 2. The corresponding ranges for Topas A4 and A8 are 70% for outlet 1 and 30% for outlet 2. Each of the two outlets has its own power display. Output distribution can be switched from individual to symmetrical by pushing a button. The built-in infrared receiver allows cordless flash release. An automatic flash monitor confirms proper output for each flash. The total available energy can also be delivered to one single lamphead.

Pure power – with 6100 J, the Topas A8 has plenty of power to spare. Because of its high output, the Topas A8 power pack requires Pulso 8 lampheads. This powerful yet still handy power pack is particularly ideal for large studios, indirect flashing, or for lighting large objects such as furniture, automobiles, etc.

Controls and display

1. Mains switch
2. Circuit breaker
3. Keys for individual power distribution
4. Slave cell on/off
5. IR receiver on/off
6. Modelling light on/off
7. Test key, ready light green
8. Additional functions (aux)
9. Display symmetrical power distribution
10. Buzzer
11. Slow charge
12. Charging dimmer
13. Operating mode modelling light
14. IR receiver cell
15. Digital power display per lamp
16. Slave cell
17. Energy control up/down
18. Sync socket



Compatible with your needs. Topas in the studio.

With their wide output range Topas A power packs are fully-fledged studio units, either as an economical starter kit for beginners or to improve the power and versatility of the broncolor flash systems you already own. The well-organised keypad with digital display makes operation simple. The illuminated silicone keys on the front panel are used to regulate output, select the modelling light, and switch the photocell and infrared receiver on and off. The LED output display (in f-stops) is easy to read even in a darkened studio.

Topas on location.
Topas A power packs cut a good figure outside the studio as well. Their lightweight, handy and compact design makes them easy to transport. The robust housing with its distinctive hard rubber panels and carefully selected components shrugs off bumpy road trips and rough handling at the airport. Power circuit components are double-insulated and all accessible surfaces are made of plastic, to ensure excellent reliability even in high humidity. Topas A2 and A4 power packs automatically adjust to any mains voltage from 100 to 240 volts. Topas A8 is available for 200–240 V.
By switching to slow charging, you can keep working even on poorly-fused, low-amperage mains systems. If there is no mains connection at all, the power packs can be operated from a 12-volt car battery through the battery converter (only for versions 100–240 V).

Compatible with your career.
Greater lighting capability means more photographic creativity. The Topas A range therefore includes important functions that have convinced many famous photographers to choose broncolor for their light. With Topas A, you have all the advantages right from the start, with comparatively little investment.

Lots of light.
With their output levels of 1600, 3200 and 6100 J, the Topas A power packs are fully capable energy sources for studio and outdoor shooting. Compatibility with broncolor units, and an outstanding price/performance ratio, make Topas A the ideal addition to your existing flash equipment.

High-quality light.
Light quality depends both on the quality of the light shaper used and on the precision with which the flash unit's light can be controlled. An intelligent controller regulates flash voltage to within ±1%, while keeping recycling times short. This repetitive precision is particularly important for «3- or 4- shot» cameras: if the quantity of light for the three or four exposures is not absolutely identical, colour shifts will occur. Topas A ensures that even in digital photography, the photographer can count on the same light quality with every shot.

Short recycling times.
With a recycling time of 1.8 s (for Topas A2), these new power packs can be used for fast flash sequences even at full energy. At reduced energy, they will keep pace with medium-format motor-drive cameras. Unlike many other power packs, the audible and visual ready display appears only at 100% charge, eliminating variations in light output. On low-amperage mains systems outside the studio, it is easy to switch to slow charging.

Short flash duration.
Considering how much light output they offer, the Topas A power packs have surprisingly short flash durations, thanks to sophisticated 900 volt technology. The shortest t 0.5 flash duration is 1/1600 s with Topas A2, 1/1300 s with Topas A4, and 1/540 s with Topas A8.

Selectable modelling light.
broncolor Topas A offers new and practical solutions for modelling lights as well. Of course the modelling light is automatically proportional over the entire output range. Five different proportionality steps (prop numbers), compatible with any broncolor power pack or compact flash, make it easy to combine different broncolor light sources without laborious calculation. The procedure is simple: set the same prop number on all the units, and the modelling light is always automatically proportional. A higher prop number corresponds to a brighter modelling light.
When using a view camera with a long bellows draw and filters, the modelling light can be set to full output so you can easily evaluate the image on the matt glass. On the other hand disturbing effects can be avoided by reducing the modelling light.
To prevent overloads on low-amperage mains systems, the modelling light can be automatically dimmed during charging.

Reliable operation.
The well-organised front panel with its illuminated silicone keypad and digital display reduces operating errors and provides clear information about the selected output.
The practically wear-free keypad replaces rotary knobs and switches for improved reliability over many years of use.
Topas A power packs discharge internally when output is reduced, so extra flashes are not required.
The built-in data memory retains all settings when the unit is switched off or if mains power fails.
The processor continuously monitors the temperature of all vital power pack components.
These power packs are cooled with a powerful but quiet fan, making them suitable for extended series of flashes.
Topas A2 + A4 power packs adapt automatically to any mains voltage from 100 to 240 volts, and are equipped with an automatic circuit breaker. Topas A8 is available for 200–240 V.

Future included.
Topas A is a flash system from broncolor, the renowned Swiss manufacturer. It guarantees not only quality and retained value, but also an obsolescence-proof investment. By using the latest components and the most modern microprocessor technology, broncolor has succeeded in developing an economical unit with an impressive list of advantages. That means that with the Topas A, even years from now, you will still be at the state-of-the-art.

Jacques Lévesque, Altkirch, France

Superior engineering in a compact design.

Technical data

	Topas A2	Topas A4	Topas A8
Flashy energy	1600 J [Japan 1200 J]*	3200 J [Japan 2400 J]*	6100 J
f-stop at a distance of 2m ($6^1/_2$ ft.), 100 ISO, P70 reflector	64 2/10	90 2/10	128
Flash duration t 0,1 (t 0,5)	1600 J: 1/300 (1/1000 s) 1000 J: 1/400 (1/1300 s) 600 J: 1/500 (1/1600 s)	3200 J: 1/150 (1/600 s) 2200 J: 1/200 (1/800 s) 1000 J: 1/300 (1/1300 s)	6100 J: 1/50 (1/230 s) 4300 J: 1/100 (1/330 s) 1800 J: 1/150 (1/540 s)
Charging time (for 100% of selected energy)	200–240 V / 110–120 V: 0,4–1,8 s 100 V: 0,5–2 s Automatically adjusts to existing mains voltage Can be switched to slow charging	200–240 V / 110–120 V: 0,7–3,4 s 100 V: 0,5–4 s	200–240 V / 50 Hz: 0,5–5,2 s 200–240 V
Ready display	Visual and audible (deactivatable), when 100 % of selected energy is reached		
Lamp base connections		2	
Power output distribution	Symmetrical and variable individual (asymmetrical) output distribution		
Controls	Illuminated, dust- and scratch-proof silicone keypad and LED display		
Control range	4 f-stops at 1/10-stop increments (1:16); switchable to 5 f-stops (1:32)		
Modelling light	Halogen max. 2 × 650 W with 200–240 V, Halogen max. 2 × 300 W with 100–120 V Proportional to flash energy, also full-energy and energy-saver settings. Proportionality adaptable to other broncolor power packs and compact units, and to different output levels.		
Flash release	Manual release button, deactivatable photocell, deactivatable infrared receiver, sync cable, FCM 2, FCC, IRX, IRQ_		
Number of sync sockets	2		
Stabilized flash voltage	+/– 1 %		
Standards	EC-Standard 73/23, UL 122		
Power requirements	200–240 V / 50 Hz: 10 A 110–120 V / 50–60 Hz: 16 A 100 V / 50 Hz: 16 A		200–240 V
Dimensions (L × B × H)	280 × 162,7 × 272 mm	280 × 162,7 × 322 mm	280 × 162,7 × 446 mm
Weight kg	5,8	8	12,6

*[Technical data for the Japanese version are different from those shown here]
Subject to change in the interest of technical development.

Topas A flash units are the result of many years of experience and advanced broncolor technology. Generously dimensioned components and robust construction ensure the best possible reliability and functionality even under difficult conditions. We offer a 2-year factory warranty.

A world wide sales network with facilities for any necessary repairs forms the foundation for reliable service for every piece of broncolor equipment.

broncolor: Your best investment for the future. Made in Switzerland.

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broncolor®
The Light

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