Create A Carousel Caption in Producer 6

In this Tutorial, I will show you how to Create a Carousel Caption in Producer 6.

Creating this effect requires an understanding of the following Producer functions.

Layers
Keyframes
Tilt function
Text Layers
The Copy Layers function

In this Tutorial, we will create a 4 Text Layer Carousel.

This effect could be used to replace a scrolling caption or a roller caption at the end of a show. To keep the Tutorial to a sensible length, we will create 4 Text Layers. However, once you have an understanding of the technique, you could go on to add as many Text Layers as you wish.
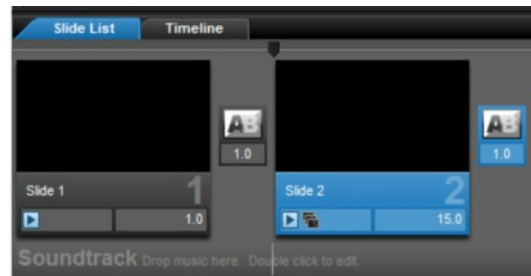
How it works

Each Text Layer follows the same path, turning through 90° as it moves from one screen position to another. As it turns, the Text changes size - to give the impression of depth - and reduces in Opacity as it moves away from the centre / front position.

To create the rotation effect, it is necessary to duplicate Text Layers - switching one off and another on as they turn, so the Text can be positioned 'in front' or 'behind' other Layers as required.

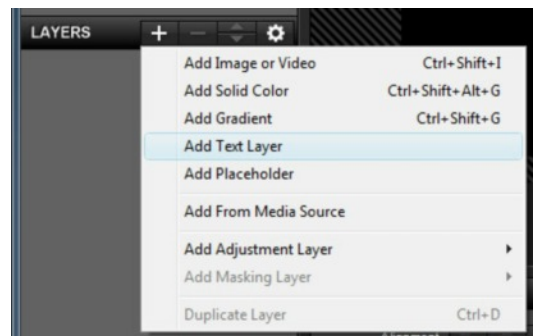Start by creating a new show - as seen in the graphic right.

If you're wondering why there's a 1 second blank slide at the beginning, it's because I always like a show to fade up from black. The blank 1 second slide enables us to include a transition at the start of our 'feature' slide. You will therefore need to include this slide, so the timings in the 'feature' slide are correct.

We are going to work in the 15 second slide, so double click on it and open Slide Options.
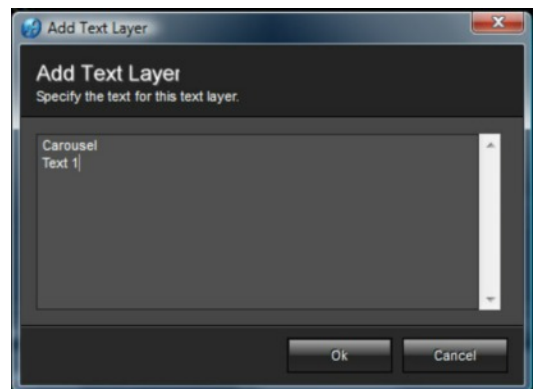

In Slide Options, click on the LAYERS "+" button and select "Add Text Layer".

This will open the "Add Text Layer" box.

In the "Add Text Layer" box, type your first Caption.
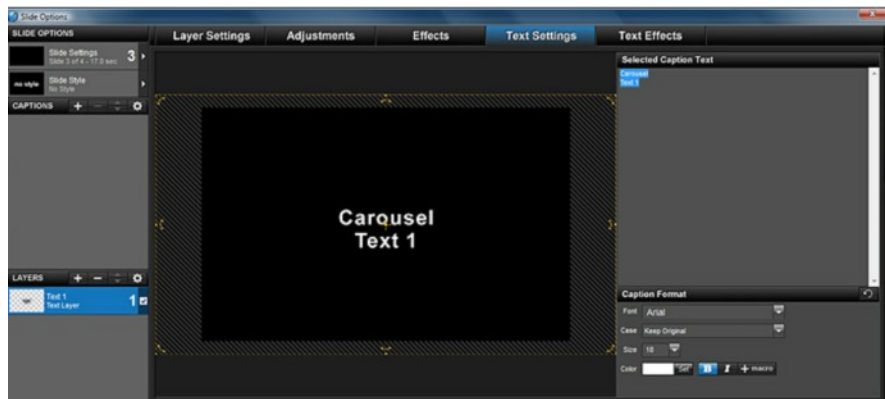
Now click on "OK".

In this example, I used

Font : Arial
Size : 18
Font Weight : Bold
Color : White

I also set the Character Spacing to
110%
and the Line Spacing to 125%

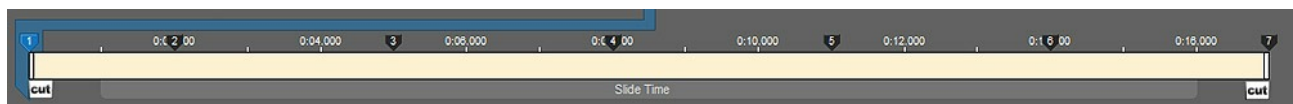I think this makes the Caption easier
to read as it moves.

OK. We have now created the first Caption. Next we must
add some Keyframes.

Make sure the Text Layer is highlighted and select the
"Effects" tab.

We can now add the Keyframes as shown in the graphic
below.

The Keyframes are set at: 2 seconds : 5 seconds : 8
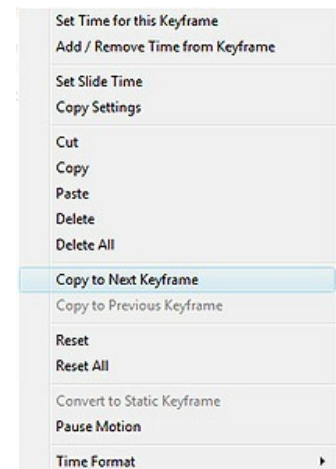seconds : 11 seconds and 14 seconds.

In a little while we are going to add a few more Keyframes - which will control the
Opacity - but for now, it is important that all the Keyframes are set to Manual rather
than Auto.

The best way to do this is to use the Copy To Next Keyframe operation.

Start with Keyframe 1. Right click on it and select "Copy to Next Keyframe" from the
dropdown menu.

Now do the same for Keyframe 2 and work your way along the line until all
Keyframes are set the same.

*Here's a tip. If you're not careful, as you click on a Keyframe it's possible that you
might move it a little. If you left click just to one side of a Keyframe to highlight it, then
right click on it to select the copy option, you're less likely to move it. I have no idea
why this should be, but it seems to work for me.*

The table right shows the settings we will apply to each Text
Layer. The settings shown for each screen position will be
applied to individual Keyframes to create the Carousel
effect.

I have not included the settings for The Horizontal Tilt in this
table as they vary for each Layer.

I have set the Left & Right positions to + / - 15. If you decide
to increase the length of your Text line,
you might want to change this value to accommodate the
Text.

Text Screen Settings

BACK

Position 0 0
Zoom 60%
Opacity 60%

LEFT

Position -15 0
Zoom 80%
Opacity 60%

RIGHT

Position 15 0
Zoom 80%
Opacity 60%

FRONT

Position 0 0
Zoom 100%
Opacity 100%

We can now apply the settings to each of the 7 Keyframes of Text Layer 1.

Note: In all settings, the Zoom X & Zoom Y remain locked and are always set the same.

Text Layer 1 starts in the Front position and moves right. From the table above, you should be able to work out the settings for each Keyframe.
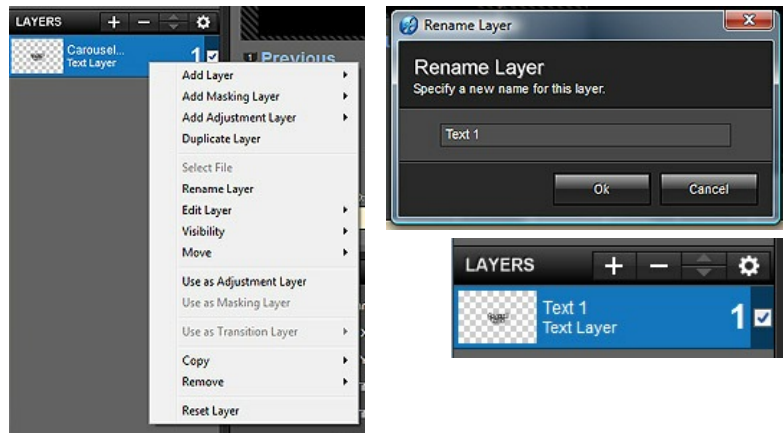
Keyframe 1	Keyframe 2	Keyframe 3	Keyframe 4	Keyframe 5	Keyframe 6	Keyframe 7
Pan : 0 0 Zoom : 100% Horizontal Tilt : 0° Opacity : 100%	Pan : 0 0 Zoom : 100% Horizontal Tilt : 0° Opacity : 100%	Pan : 15 0 Zoom : 80% Horizontal Tilt : -90° Opacity : 60%	Pan : 0 0 Zoom : 60% Horizontal Tilt : -180° Opacity : 60%	Pan : -15 0 Zoom : 80% Horizontal Tilt : -270° Opacity : 60%	Pan : 0 0 Zoom : 100% Horizontal Tilt : -360° Opacity : 100%	Pan : 0 0 Zoom : 100% Horizontal Tilt : -360° Opacity : 100%

By the time we finish this exercise, we will have 7 Layers - all displaying Text - which could become confusing.

Right click on Layer 1 in the Layers list and select Rename Layer from the dropdown menu. (as seen right)

Rename the Layer "Text 1". (as seen far right)

The Layer should then appear as Text 1. (as seen lower right)

You should now be able to play the slide and see the Text move in a carousel motion.
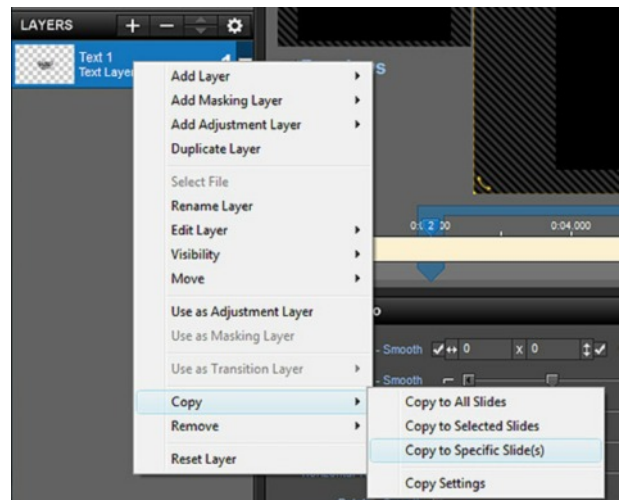
We are now going to add the next 3 Text Layers.

To save time and duplication of work, we will use the Copy facility.

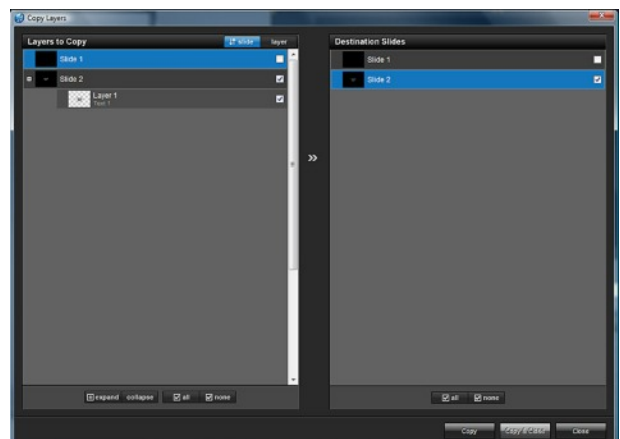We will need to do this for all the remaning Text Layers.

Highlight Text 1 in the Layers list and right click on it.

Select Copy from the menu and then Copy to Specific Slide(s). (as seen right)
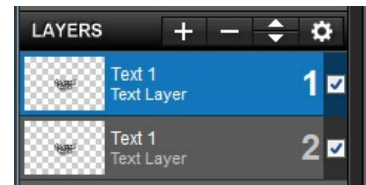

This will open the Copy Layers box. (as seen right)

In the Copy Layers box, tick Slide 2 in the Destination Slides section and then click Copy & Close.
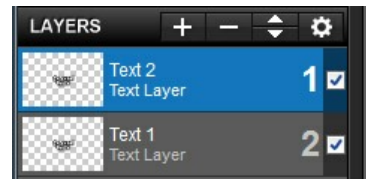
The newly copied Text Layer will now appear at the top of the Layers list.
(as seen right)

Before we do anything else, we must rename the new Layer so we don't get confused.
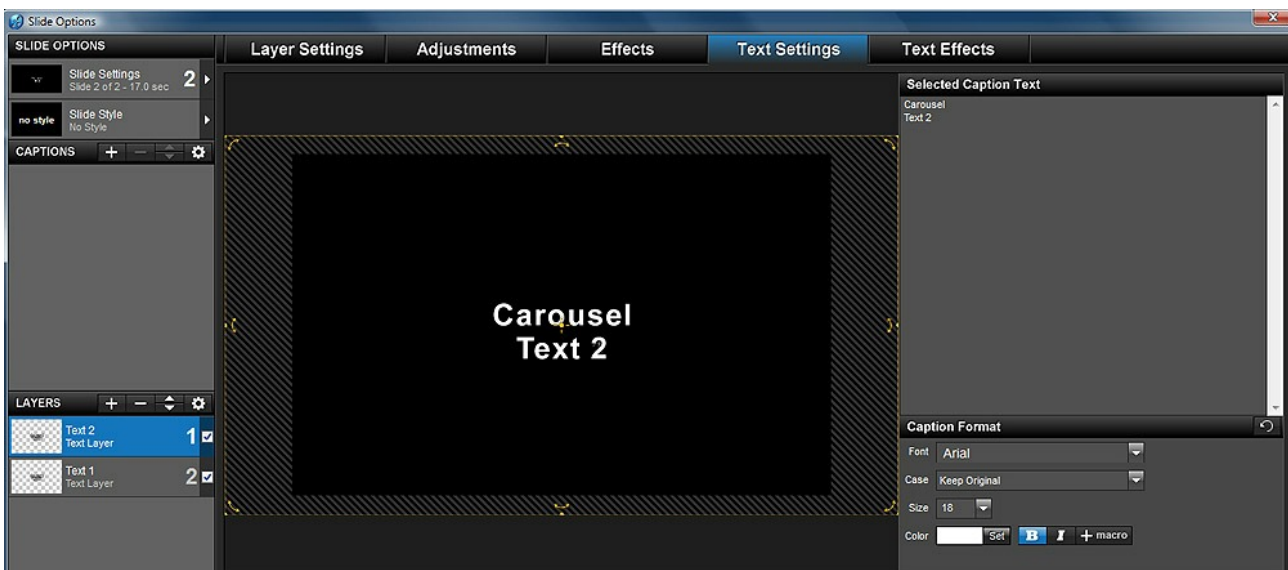
Rename it as "Text 2".

We will now add the new Text to this Layer.

With the new Text 2 Layer highlighted, click on the Text Settings tab and edit the Text.

I have called it "Carousel Text 2". (as you can see below)

We can now apply the settings to each of the 7 Keyframes for the Text 2 Layer.

To do this, we must click on the Effects tab.

Text 2 Layer starts in the Left position and moves right. From the table above, you should be able to work out the settings for each Keyframe.
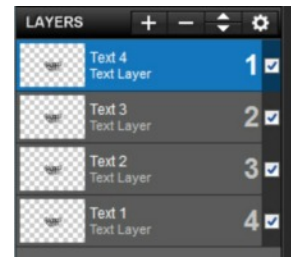
These are the Keyframe Settings for Text 2

Keyframe 1	Keyframe 2	Keyframe 3	Keyframe 4	Keyframe 5	Keyframe 6	Keyframe 7
Pan : -15 0	Pan : -15 0	Pan : 0 0	Pan : 15 0	Pan : 0 0	Pan : -15 0	Pan : -15 0
Zoom : 80%	Zoom : 80%	Zoom : 100%	Zoom : 80%	Zoom : 60%	Zoom : 80%	Zoom : 80%
Horizontal Tilt : -270°	Horizontal Tilt : -270°	Horizontal Tilt : -360°	Horizontal Tilt : -450°	Horizontal Tilt : -540°	Horizontal Tilt : -630°	Horizontal Tilt : -630°
Opacity : 60%	Opacity : 60%	Opacity : 100%	Opacity : 60%	Opacity : 60%	Opacity : 60%	Opacity : 60%

Having set the Keyframes for Text 2, we can now play the slide and should see the 2 Captions move in a carousel motion.

We can now repeat the Copy process twice and create Text 3 & Text 4, remembering to rename the new Layer as it's created and also edit the Text each time we create a new Layer.

The Layers list should now look like this.

Having created Text 3 & Text 4, we can now set the Keyframes on these 2 Layers. The settings are shown below

These are the Keyframe settings for Text 3

Keyframe 1	Keyframe 2	Keyframe 3	Keyframe 4	Keyframe 5	Keyframe 6	Keyframe 7
Pan : 0 0	Pan : 0 0	Pan : -15 0	Pan : 0 0	Pan : 15 0	Pan : 0 0	Pan : 0 0
Zoom : 60%	Zoom : 60%	Zoom : 80%	Zoom : 100%	Zoom : 80%	Zoom : 60%	Zoom : 60%
Horizontal Tilt : -180°	Horizontal Tilt : -180°	Horizontal Tilt : -270°	Horizontal Tilt : -360°	Horizontal Tilt : -450°	Horizontal Tilt : -540°	Horizontal Tilt : -540°
Opacity : 60%	Opacity : 60%	Opacity : 60%	Opacity : 100%	Opacity : 60%	Opacity : 0%	Opacity : 0%

These are the Keyframe settings for Text 4

Keyframe 1	Keyframe 2	Keyframe 3	Keyframe 4	Keyframe 5	Keyframe 6	Keyframe 7
Pan : 15 0	Pan : 15 0	Pan : 0 0	Pan : -15 0	Pan : 0 0	Pan : 15 0	Pan : 15 0
Zoom : 80%	Zoom : 80%	Zoom : 60%	Zoom : 80%	Zoom : 100%	Zoom : 80%	Zoom : 80%
Horizontal Tilt : -90°	Horizontal Tilt : -90°	Horizontal Tilt : -180°	Horizontal Tilt : -270°	Horizontal Tilt : -360°	Horizontal Tilt : -450°	Horizontal Tilt : -450°
Opacity : 60%	Opacity : 60%	Opacity : 60%	Opacity : 60%	Opacity : 100%	Opacity : 60%	Opacity : 60%

With all the Keyframes set, we can now play the slide and see all 4 Captions move in a carousel motion.

The effect is now taking shape but you will probably have noticed that Captions are not appearing in the correct order - that is to say, some are in front of others where they should be behind.

We will now fix this and set the Layers in the correct order.

As I mentioned at the start of this Tutorial, to create the finished effect, it is necessary to duplicate some of the Layers, so we can switch between them to create the correct positioning.

We are now going to duplicate 3 Layers. This is not as painful as it might sound. It's just a case of copying the existing Layers - we have already set the Keyframes.

The Layers we must copy are Text 1, Text 3 & Text 4.

Use the same Copy method you used before and copy the 3 Layers. As you copy each Layer, rename the newly copied Layer by adding an "a" to it.

You will end up with 7 Layers named Text 4 a, Text 3 a, Text 1 a, Text 4, Text 3, Text 2, & Text 1.

Having created the 3 new Layers, we can now position them in the correct order in the Layers stack.
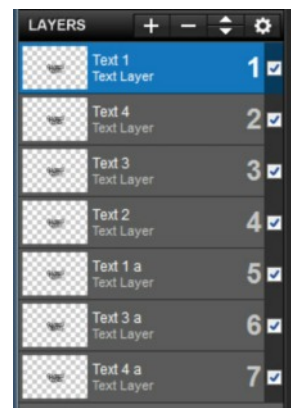
Using the arrow buttons at the top of the Layers list, position the Layers so that they mirror the graphic right.

We are almost there now.

All that remains is switch these Layers on and off in the correct order to create their required position in the final effect.
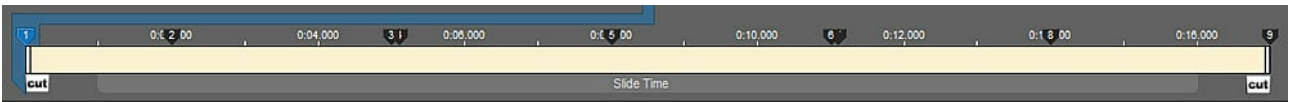
We do this by adding a couple of Keyframes to each Layer and setting the Opacity.

This might seem complicated, but it doesn't take very long.
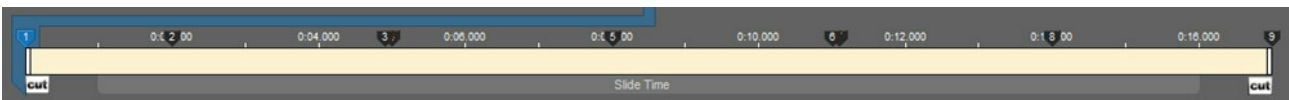
Use the setting below to re-set each Layer.

Text 1 - Opacity Settings

Add Keyframes at 5.1 seconds & 11.1 seconds

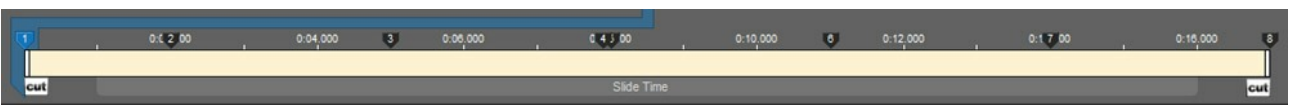| Keyframe 1	Keyframe 2	Keyframe 3	Keyframe 4	Keyframe 5	Keyframe 6	Keyframe 7	Keyframe 8	Keyframe 9
100%	100%	60%	0%	0%	0%	60%	100%	100%

Text 3 - Opacity Settings

Add Keyframes at 4.9 seconds & 11.1 seconds

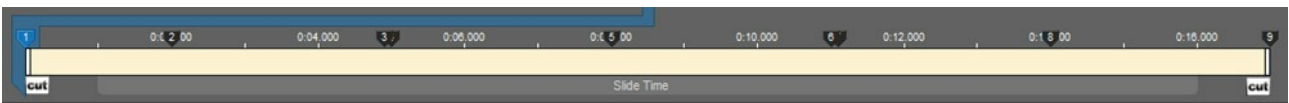| Keyframe 1	Keyframe 2	Keyframe 3	Keyframe 4	Keyframe 5	Keyframe 6	Keyframe 7	Keyframe 8	Keyframe 9
0%	0%	0%	60%	100%	60%	0%	0%	0%

Text 4 - Opacity Settings

Add Keyframe at 7.9 seconds

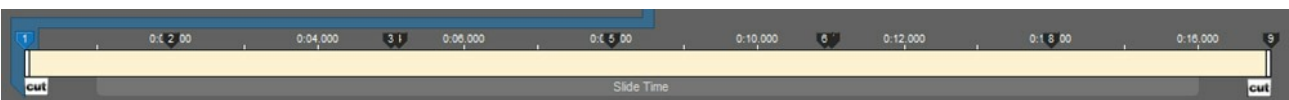| Keyframe 1	Keyframe 2	Keyframe 3	Keyframe 4	Keyframe 5	Keyframe 6	Keyframe 7	Keyframe 8
0%	0%	0%	0%	60%	100%	60%	60%

Text 1a - Opacity Settings

Add Keyframes at 4.9 & 11.1

Keyframe 1	Keyframe 2	Keyframe 3	Keyframe 4	Keyframe 5	Keyframe 6	Keyframe 7	Keyframe 8	Keyframe 9
0%	0%	0%	60%	60%	60%	0%	0%	0%

Text 3a - Opacity Settings

Add Keyframes at 5.1 seconds & 10.9 seconds

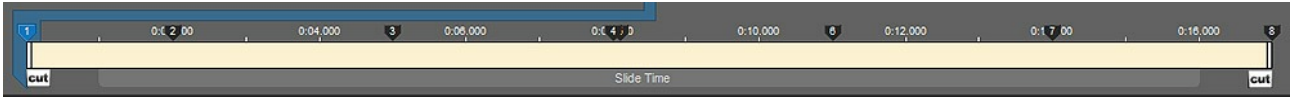| Keyframe 1	Keyframe 2	Keyframe 3	Keyframe 4	Keyframe 5	Keyframe 6	Keyframe 7	Keyframe 8	Keyframe 9
60%	60%	60%	0%	0%	0%	60%	0%	0%

Text 4a - Opacity Settings

Add Keyframe at 8.1 seconds

Keyframe 1	Keyframe 2	Keyframe 3	Keyframe 4	Keyframe 5	Keyframe 6	Keyframe 7	Keyframe 8
60%	60%	60%	60%	0%	0%	0%	0%

And that's it.

You should now be able to play the slide and see the carousel text moving correctly.