

Questions & Answers

Adobe Flash Player End-of-Life

In brief.

- Analog Way's LiveCore™ live presentation switchers and VIO 4K multiformat converters will be affected by Adobe's decision to move its Flash technology to end-of-life status.
- If you are using these products, Analog Way has created a 'custom browser' to provide specific access to Analog Way devices based on Flash technology, and only these.
- This browser, named AW Browser, is available both for Windows and Mac OS and can be downloaded directly on the Analog Way web site.
- Once installed on your computer, you can use the AW Browser application to connect your VIO 4K or LiveCore™ processor as you previously did with popular web browsers.

1) What is Flash?

Adobe Flash is a cross-browser software plugin that has been widely used for displaying rich digital media and web applications, including web distribution, interactive kiosks, and industrial touch panels. Analog Way uses Adobe Flash for some versions of its proprietary control software, the Web RCS.

2) Why did Adobe decide to stop distributing and updating Flash Player after 31 December 2020?

Open standards such as HTML5, WebGL, and WebAssembly have continually matured over the years and serve as viable alternatives for Flash content. Also, the major browser vendors are integrating these open standards into their browsers and deprecating most other plug-ins (like Adobe Flash Player).

3) When is Flash being shut down?

Adobe will fully end its support for Flash on December 31, 2020. Popular browsers have begun to alert users of this upcoming event. Currently, these browsers allow you to access Flash content on a case-by-case basis by manually approving it, but even that option is going to disappear by the end of 2020. Exactly when that will happen depends on the browser you're using, as they have all announced different timeframes for removing Flash support, but if everything goes according to plan, any Flash content will be largely inaccessible by the end of 2020.

4) Which Analog Way's products are affected? Which Analog Way's products are not affected?

The embedded Remote Control Software used to control the VIO 4K image processor as well as the entire LiveCore™ product line (Web RCS) is based on Flash technology. This means these products are directly affected by the decision to end support for Flash.

Important note: The front panel interfaces of these products don't use Flash, therefore these machines can still be operated from the front panel in all circumstances, including after January 1st, 2021.

All the other Analog Way products don't use the Flash technology at all and are therefore not affected by this change.

Products that are affected by the end of Flash support

All LiveCore™ products including:

Reference	Product name
ASC1602	Ascender 16
ASC1602-4K	Ascender 16 - 4K
ASC3204	Ascender 32
ASC3204-4K	Ascender 32 - 4K
ASC3204-4K-PL	Ascender 32 - 4K - PL
ASC4806	Ascender 48
ASC4804-4K-PL	Ascender 48 - 4K - PL
ASC16LE-4K	Ascender 16 LE - 4K
ASC32LE-4K	Ascender 32 LE - 4K
ASC48LE-4K	Ascender 48 LE - 4K
LOE016	LiveCore Output Expander 16
LOE016-4K	LiveCore Output Expander 16 - 4K
LOE032	LiveCore Output Expander 32
LOE032-4K	LiveCore Output Expander 32 - 4K
LOE032-4K-PL	LiveCore Output Expander 32 - 4K - PL
LOE048	LiveCore Output Expander 48
LOE048 -4K-PL	LiveCore Output Expander 48 - 4K - PL
SMX12x4	SmartMatriX Ultra
NXT0802	NeXtage 08
NXT0802-4K	NeXtage 08 - 4K
NXT1604	NeXtage 16
NXT1604-4K	NeXtage 16 - 4K

VIO 4K

Reference	Product name
V701	VIO 4K

Products that are not affected by the end of Flash support:

All LivePremier™ products including:

Reference	Product name
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AQL-RS-ALPHA	Aquilon RS alpha
AQL-RS1	Aquilon RS1
AQL-RS2	Aquilon RS2
AQL-RS3	Aquilon RS3
AQL-RS4	Aquilon RS4
AQL-C	Aquilon C
AQL-C+	Aquilon C+

All Midra™ 4K references including:

Reference	Product name
QVU-4K	QuickVu 4K
QMX-4K	QuickMatrix 4K
PLS-4K	Pulse 4K
EKS-4K	Eikos 4K

All Picturall™ references including:

Reference	Product name
MSP16-R1 or MSP16-R2	Picturall Pro
MST02-R1	Picturall Twin
MSQ04-R1	Picturall Quad
MSTC02-R1	Picturall Twin Compact
MSQC04-R1	Picturall Quad Compact
DUOM2	Picturall Duo
QDRM2	Picturall Quadro
OCTM2	Picturall Octo
BROM2	Picturall Broadcast
HIISI	Picturall Hiisi

All Midra™ and Midra™ HDBaseT references including:

Reference	Product name
QMX150	QuickMatriX
QVU150-3G	QuickVu-3G
PLS350-3G	Pulse ² -3G
SMX250	SmartMatriX ²
SPX450	Saphyr
EKS550	Eikos ²
QMX150-H	QuickMatriX - H
PLS350-H	Pulse ² - H
SMX250-H	SmartMatriX ² - H
SPX450-H	Saphyr - H
QMX150	QuickMatriX

All Console/controllers references including

Reference	Product name
VR300	Vertige
RCU300	Rackmount Control Unit
RC400T	RC400T
SB80 & SB80-2	Shot Box & Shot Box ²
SB124T & SB124T-2	Control Box & Control Box ²
ORC50	Orchestra ²
RK-350	RK-350

All older products, such as Di-Ventix II, Broadscan, Pulse, etc., are also not affected by the end of Flash support.

5) Doesn't the Pulse2, QuickVu and other Midra™ devices use Adobe products?

The Midra™ products RCS utilizes Adobe AIR and not affected by the end of Flash support. AIR technology will continue to be supported after end of 2020 (managed by HARMAN)

<https://blog.adobe.com/en/publish/2019/05/30/the-future-of-adobe-air.html>

6) Does this mean the LiveCore™ series and the VIO 4K are no longer supported?

No, the VIO 4K and the LiveCore™ series are fully supported by Analog Way and will continue to be fully supported in the future.

7) So, what actions need to be taken?

If you are using the VIO 4K or any of the LiveCore™ live presentation switchers, Analog Way has specifically created a 'custom browser' to provide specific access to Analog Way devices based on Flash technology, and only these. This browser named AW Browser, is available both for Windows and Mac OS and can be downloaded directly on the Analog Way web site. Once installed on your computer, you can use the AW Browser application to connect your VIO 4K or LiveCore™ processor as you previously did with popular web browsers.

Important note. If you are using any of the affected products but utilize the Vertige or Shot Box² control panel, AW Toolbox application, or programmed control system such as Crestron, AMX, Extron, or others to control the device and do not require access to the Web RCS, no action is required to continue operation. The device will continue to operate, as only the Web RCS GUI interface is affected.

8) Adobe says continuing to use Flash is a security risk. Am I at risk if I continue to use the Analog Way products that utilize Flash with AW Browser?

These risks do not apply when using AW Browser as this is not a regular browser that allows you to browse the Internet. On the contrary, AW Browser rejects access to named URLs and restricts access to local IP addresses only. In addition, AW Browser systematically blocks pages that contain Flash modules except those developed, signed, and certified by Analog Way.

9) I have additional questions that aren't on this list. Where can I get further assistance?

Contact Analog Way technical support (techsupport@analogway.com)