ALEXA 35 Xtreme
Software Update Package SUP 5.0.1

RELEASE NOTES

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Overview

ALEXA 35 SUP 5.0.1 is a hotfix for an issue that resets Timecode to 00:00:00:00 for each new ProRes clip. Therefore, we strongly recommend for any ALEXA 35 Xtreme to be updated to ALEXA 35 SUP 5.0.1.

SUP 5.0.1 will only work on ALEXA 35 Xtreme cameras and is not compatible with ALEXA 35 or ALEXA 35 Live cameras.

Feature Overview SUP 5.0.1

- No new features

Peripheral Updates

The following peripheral software and firmware versions are included with SUP 5.0.1. Versions that have changed compared to the previous release are shown in **bold**:

- ARRICORE 0.1.8
- Multi Viewfinder MVF-2 3.62
- LPL Mount (LBUS) 1.61
- PL Mount (LBUS) 1.100
- PL Mount (Hirose) 1.100
- EF Mount (LBUS) 1.14
- Camera Access Protocol 1.14.0
- MXF Library 4.4.5

Software Compatibility

To ensure full compatibility with SUP 5.0.1, the following software versions must be used:

- ARRI Reference Tool: 1.8.0
- Camera Control Monitor CCM-1: 5.5.2
- Audio Extension Module AEM-1: V1.1G
- LPS-1 Fiber Camera Adapter: 1.1.1
- LPS-1 Fiber Base Station: 1.1.1
- Skaarhoj RCP Pro: core-arri-camera 1.0.4 / Reactor 2.2.0
- DaVinci Resolve Studio 20.0.1 Build 6

A comprehensive list of third-party software and their compatibility with the ALEXA 35 cameras is available on the ALEXA 35 Workflow webpage. Always ensure you are using the latest version of any third-party software.

Registration

If you haven't registered your camera yet, please ensure you do so through our online customer registration. Registering your camera guarantees you'll receive notifications about future software updates as soon as they're released. Additionally, if you register your new camera within one month of purchase, you'll receive a complimentary one-year extended warranty. To register, visit the Product Registration webpage.

Sample Footage

Sample footage shot with the ALEXA 35 camera can be downloaded from the ALEXA 35 Sample Footage webpage.

Update Procedure

The camera is updated via a USB-C memory stick and the process can be initiated either through the MVF-2 viewfinder menu or the camera Web Remote. When the MVF-2 viewfinder and the lens mount are connected to the camera, they will automatically update during the camera update. If they were not connected at that time, they can be updated individually through the camera later. If you are using the camera Web Remote to perform the update, it is recommended to use a 'private' or 'incognito' browser window to avoid potential issues or unexpected behavior.

1. After downloading the update file from the Software Update Packages for Cameras webpage, double-click the downloaded .zip file to unpack it, or unpack it manually. This will extract two update files to your computer (*.SWU and *.lic).
2. If not done beforehand, prepare the USB-C memory stick for use with the ALEXA 35 by connecting it to the camera. Then, go to *MENU > Media > Prepare USB Medium...* on the MVF-2 viewfinder menu or the Web Remote and press *CONFIRM*. This will create the required folder structure on the USB-C stick.
3. Connect the USB-C stick to your computer.
   Place the downloaded *.SWU file in the *ARRI/ALEXA35/SUP* folder.
   Place the downloaded *.lic file in the *ARRI/ALEXA35/LICENSES* folder.
4. The camera Software Update Package includes updates not only for the camera body but also for the MVF-2 viewfinder and the lens mount. Therefore, ensure that the MVF-2 viewfinder and the lens mount are connected to the camera during the update process.
5. Ensure the camera is connected to a power supply or powered by a fully charged battery to prevent power loss during the update.
6. Perform a factory reset on the camera with the menu item *MENU > Setup > Factory Reset...*
7. Connect the USB-C stick to the camera and navigate to the menu item *MENU > System > Update > Update Camera...*
8. Select the SUP file from the list and start the installation.

   The MVF-2 as well as the camera side display will show a screen displaying the update progress. Please note that the update can take up to 20 minutes.

   The MVF-2 viewfinder may turn off during the update process and will not provide continuous visual feedback, refer to the camera side display for the update status in this case.

   Do not power off or unplug the camera until it has rebooted.

   After the update process has finished, a success message is displayed.
9. Ensure that the correct time zone is set in *MENU > System > System Time & Date.*
10. If the MVF-2 viewfinder or lens mount were not connected during the update, the camera will still store the updated software for these devices. The next time they are connected and have an older software version than the one stored in the camera, the camera will prompt you to update them.

In the rare event of an interrupted or failed update the camera may enter a state where the MVF-2 is unresponsive. In this situation, use the side display to enable Wi-Fi, connect to the camera, and reinstall the update using the Web Remote.

Update of Accessories

The camera update does not update the following devices, which must be updated separately. Update files for these devices must be downloaded individually from the ARRI Software Packages webpage.

Camera Control Monitor (CCM-1):
Download the update file, copy it to a USB-C stick (root folder), and connect the stick to the CCM-1. Disconnect the CCM-1 from the camera, then navigate to *Menu>Firmware>Update* on the CCM-1 and select the file to start the update.

Audio Extension Module (AEM-1):
Download the update, copy it to a USB-C stick (root folder), and connect the stick to the AEM-1. On the AEM-1, initiate the update via *MENU>SETUP>UPDATE* and confirm with YES.

LBUS Devices (e.g., Lens Motors):
Download the corresponding update file and copy it to the ARRI/ECS/ folder on a USB-C stick. Insert the stick into the camera, connect the LBUS device via the LBUS connector, and initiate the update through *MENU>System>Update>Update LBUS Devices*.

Downdating the Camera

It is possible to install a previous software version on ALEXA 35 and ALEXA 35 Live cameras if needed. However, ALEXA 35 Live is not compatible with any software version earlier than SUP 2.0.0. ALEXA 35 Xtreme cannot be downgraded below SUP, as SUP 5.0.0 is its initial release and the minimum supported version.

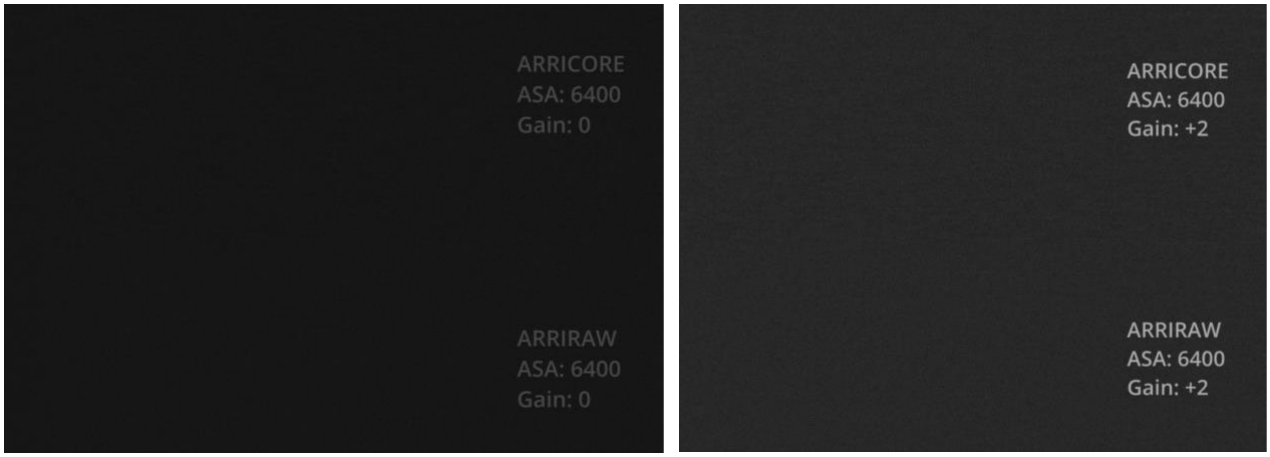
ARRICORE Beta – Known Issues

ARRICORE is in the final stages of optimization and therefore it is being released initially as a beta version. This means that it has not been fully tested, and some issues are known to exist and listed in this document. The underlying causes for the majority of these issues are known, and corresponding fixes are scheduled for an upcoming Software Update Package. Use of the ARRICORE beta is at the customer's own risk.

We would love to hear your feedback on your own ARRICORE tests.
Please send your feedback to our Workflow Team via digitalworkflow@arri.de.

Horizontal Noise in ARRICORE at High EI

In comparison to ARRIRAW, ARRICORE recordings currently have slightly increased noise with a horizontal pattern when shooting at EI 6400 or when shooting at lower EIs and then increasing the image brightness in post. See sample images on next page.
Shoot at or below EI 2560.



Bottom Line Artifact in ARRICORE 4.6K 3:2 Open Gate

ARRICORE recordings in the 4.6K 3:2 Open Gate sensor mode currently exhibit a line at the very bottom of the frame that does not show proper image content. All other sensor modes do not show this issue.
Place framelines so they don't use the bottom edge of the Open Gate frame. Crop in post.

Playback Fails After Drive Is Filled with Long Take

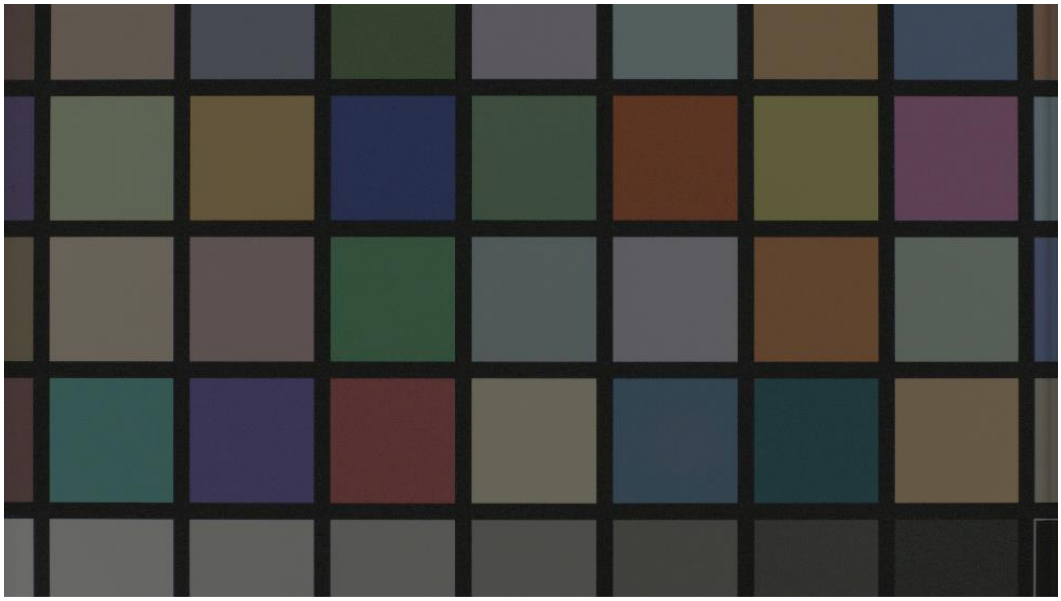
Trying to initiate in-camera playback after having filled a drive with one very long take, Error 151 (playback failure) pops up and no playback is possible.
Don't fill the drive with one long take.

ARRICORE Clip Playback Frame Rate Limited to 30 fps in Certain Sensor Modes

When using the sensor modes 4.6K 3:2 Open Gate and 4.6K 16:9, playback of clips recorded with the ARRICORE codec is limited to a maximum playback speed of 30 fps. Clips recorded at higher project frame rates can still be played back, but frames will be skipped during playback. This does not affect the recorded material.
Don't judge playback smoothness when shooting higher than 30 fps based on in-camera playback. If in doubt, use the ARRI Reference Tool to decode sample ARRICORE clips to check on the image playback.

Edge Shadow Artifacts During ARRICORE Playback

When ARRICORE recordings are played back by the camera, they show a shadow or reflection of the image on the image borders, most often visible on the right and left image edges (see right edge of the sample image below). This shadow is not visible in the recording or in the live monitoring/viewfinder image.



Increased Noise During In-Camera ARRICORE Playback

When ARRICORE recordings are played back by the camera, they show more noise than is actually in the recording and also more noise than is visible in the live monitoring/viewfinder image. In the image below the playback is on the left (HW Playback), and the ARRICORE file as decoded by the ARRI Reference Tool is on the right (SDK Playback).
Don't judge ARRICORE noise based on in-camera playback. If in doubt, use the ARRI Reference Tool to decode sample ARRICORE clips to check on noise levels.

Known Issues in ALEXA 35 SUP 5.0.1

Temporary SDI Signal Loss During Certain Setting Changes
When certain settings are changed — such as switching sensor modes or entering and exiting playback — the SDI outputs may briefly re-synchronize, leading to a momentary loss of signal. This can affect connected devices such as wireless video transmitters. The behavior is currently under review.

Colored Edges Near Clipping Point in Highlights
Just before reaching the clipping point, some image areas may show colored fringes or a colored "corona" instead of a neutral white highlight roll-off. This can affect individual color channels and is most noticeable in extreme highlight regions.

Sensor Overdrive and High Frame Rate Settings Unavailable on CCM-1 Monitor
When using the CCM-1 monitor, it is currently not possible to enable Sensor Overdrive, nor to set frame rates above 120 fps (ALEXA 35 Xtreme).

Delayed Ready-to-Record State After Reboot with Many User Setups on Connected
Storage When user storage is connected and contains a large number of user setups, the camera may take longer to become ready to record after a reboot. This behavior is currently under investigation.

Hand Unit Nudge only functional via built-in radio
The Hand Unit Nudge function does not work if the hand unit is connected to the camera in any way other than through the camera's built-in white radio.

Incorrect EOTF Signaling in SMPTE 352 VPID Metadata When Outputting 12G-SDI
When 12G-SDI is used for video output, the EOTF (Electro-Optical Transfer Function) is not correctly signaled in the SMPTE 352 VPID metadata stream.

Incorrect Scaling of Frame Lines with Lens Squeeze Factor applied
When using frame line files containing three frame lines, incorrect scaling of individual frame lines may occur if the Lens Squeeze Factor is set to a value other than 1.0x.

RCP Iris Control may not function correctly with custom LDA Lens Tables
When using custom LDA Lens Tables to provide lens data, it may occur that the iris cannot be properly controlled or adjusted via a Skaarhoj RCP.

CCM-1 Timecode Options
The timecode menu of the camera has been updated; however, these updates have not yet been implemented in the CCM-1. As a result, it is not possible to set the LPS-1 System as the timecode source via the CCM-1.

Prerecording Requires a User Button
Prerecording can only be toggled on or off using a User Button. If the device with the assigned User Button is unavailable and prerecording remains active, start a regular recording and then remove the drive from the camera. This will cause the recording to fail, deactivating prerecording in the process.

Temporary Unresponsiveness After Playback or 'Check Last Clip'
After exiting playback, whether initiated via the PLAY button, 'Check Last Clip,' or the 'Playback' User Button, the camera may momentarily become unresponsive to inputs. This issue typically resolves within a maximum of four seconds, and the camera will return to its normal state.

Limited Clip Availability via Camera Access Protocol (CAP)
When playback is controlled via CAP, only the first 270 clips on the card can be selected. To access additional clips, use the MVF-2, the camera's side display, or the Web Remote.

Radio Interface Adapter RIA-1 Update via CAM Connector Fails
When updating the RIA-1 by connecting its CAM port to the ALEXA 35 and running the update from the camera, the process may occasionally fail. In such cases, the update can instead be performed via an LBUS connection.

MVF-2 OLED May Show Magenta Tint
In rare circumstances the MVF-2 OLED can show a magenta tint that is not observable on SDI. The recorded images are not affected.

External LUTs Desaturate Camera Overlays
A LUT applied to an external monitoring device may desaturate the camera overlays in a way that makes STBY and REC indications hard to distinguish. Reducing the SDI overlay brightness mitigates this issue.
The setting is found in: *MENU>Monitoring>SDI>SDI 1 Processing>Overlays>Overlay Brightness.*

Cut-off Playback Image when using Magnification
When using magnification with surround view enabled, the playback image may display a cropped version of the original capture. This means that the playback view may show less than what was recorded and visible on the outputs during recording or standby.

Exposure Index with ES cannot be set via Hi-5
Selecting an Exposure Index with Enhanced Sensitivity (ES) on the Hi-5 is not possible. To adjust these settings, please use a user button, the MVF-2 menu, or the Webremote.

Frame Lines Displayed in Surround View with Master Magnification
When using master magnification in conjunction with surround view, frame lines may appear in the surround area at certain magnifications, even though they should not be visible.

Missing or Incorrect Lens Scales with Certain /i Lenses
Some lenses using the Cooke /i protocol may fail to transmit lens data or lens data is displayed inaccurately. To resolve this issue, deactivate the lens mount and use lens tables instead.

Lower Headphone Output in Playback
When playing back a clip with audio, the headphone output on the MVF-2 is 3dB lower than during live recording.

ENG Zoom Lens Control via ARRI Master Grips may not work with some lenses
The camera can control the three axes of an ENG zoom lens connected via the Hirose mount using ARRI Master Grips. However, in some instances, control may not function with certain lenses. To resolve this, please check the software or firmware version of the lens and, if necessary, update it to the latest version.