

ALEXA 35 and ALEXA 265 SUP 5.2.0

ALEXA 35 | ALEXA 35 Live | ALEXA 35 Xtreme | ALEXA 265

RELEASE NOTE

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Original version.

ALEXA 35 Family

We are pleased to introduce ALEXA 35 Software Update Package SUP 5.2.0. It can be installed on all three cameras in the ALEXA 35 family: ALEXA 35 Xtreme, ALEXA 35, and ALEXA 35 Live.

Among the highlights for the ALEXA 35 Xtreme are a new subject tracking capability that can ensure the monitor image stays zoomed in on a person moving in the shot for better focus checking, the re-introduction of in-camera down-sampling and in-camera anamorphic de-squeeze for the recorded ProRes image and new metadata that signals color space and transfer characteristics (i.e. SDR or HDR) on the SDI outputs. All three cameras support the Live Production Monitor LPM-1 now and offer an increase to the sensor fps presets list from 16 entries to 32. For a more detailed description of all new features, look at the release notes.

New Features for ALEXA 35 Xtreme

- Focus Assist: Tracking Zoom
- Sensor mode 4K 16:9 down-sampled in-camera to UHD, 2K or HD
- Sensor mode 3.3K 6:5 re-sampled in-camera to 3.8K 2.39:1 2x Ana 2x
- Improved in-camera ARRI Debayer Algorithm
- Color Space Signaling via SDI
- Support for Live Production Monitor LPM-1
- Hi-5 control of Enhanced Sensitivity
- Expanded sensor fps presets list

New Features for ALEXA 35 and ALEXA 35 Live

- Sensor mode 3.3K 6:5 re-sampled in-camera to 3.8K 2.39:1 2x Ana 2x
- Support for Live Production Monitor LPM-1
- Hi-5 control of Enhanced Sensitivity
- Expanded sensor fps presets list

Update

You can install this software on ALEXA 35 Xtreme, ALEXA 35 and ALEXA 35 Live. We recommend updating from any previous ALEXA 35 SUP.

We do **not** recommend updating to a new SUP in the middle of a production. Please read through the release notes, which contain detailed update instructions and known issue, before you update or operate your camera.

Downdate

It is possible to install a previous software version on ALEXA 35 Xtreme, ALEXA 35 and ALEXA 35 Live cameras if needed. However, ALEXA 35 Xtreme is not compatible with any software version earlier than SUP 5.0.0 and ALEXA 35 Live is not compatible with any software version earlier than SUP 2.0.0.

ALEXA 265

ALEXA 265

We are pleased to introduce ALEXA 265 Software Update Package SUP 5.2.0.

This software provides full support for the Live Production System LPS-1, adds a 5 GHz client mode, adds an improved defect pixel correction (like the ALEXA 35 Xtreme got with SUP 5.1.0) and new metadata that signals color space and transfer characteristics (i.e. SDR or HDR) on the SDI outputs. In addition, it supports the Live Production Monitor LPM-1 and offers an increase to the sensor fps presets list from 16 entries to 32. For a detailed description of all new features, look at the release notes.

New Features for ALEXA 265

- Live Production System LPS-1 Support
- Wi-Fi 5 GHz Client Mode
- Improved defect pixel correction
- Color Space Signaling via SDI
- Support for Live Production Monitor LPM-1
- Expanded sensor fps presets list

Update

You can install this software on ALEXA 265. We recommend updating from any previous ALEXA 265 SUP.

We do **not** recommend updating to a new SUP in the middle of a production. Please read through the release notes, which contain detailed update instructions and known issue, before you update or operate your camera.

Downdate

Please note that ALEXA 265 is not compatible with any software version earlier than SUP 3.0.3. To downdate an ALEXA 265 to SUP 3.0.3, you must first downdate to SUP 3.0.4 and then from SUP 3.0.4 to SUP 3.0.3. All SUPs and licenses must be on the USB stick used for downdating.

General

Peripheral Updates

The following peripheral software and firmware versions are included with SUP 5.2.0.

Versions that have changed compared to the previous release are shown in **bold**:

• LPL Mount (LBUS)	1.62
• PL Mount (LBUS)	1.100
• PL Mount (Hirose)	1.100
• EF Mount (LBUS)	1.14
• Multi Viewfinder MVF-2	3.62
• Camera Access Protocol	1.16.0
• MXF Library	4.4.9

Software Compatibility

To ensure full compatibility with SUP 5.2.0, the following software versions shall be used:

ARRI Reference Tool	1.8.1
Camera Control Monitor CCM-1	5.5.2
Audio Extension Module AEM-1	V1.1G
Live Production System LPS-1	1.2.0
LPS-1 Fiber Base Station	1.1.1
CODEX Device Manager	7.6.2
DaVinci Resolve Studio	20.2

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.

Sample Footage

Sample footage shot with the ALEXA 35 camera can be downloaded from the [ALEXA 35 Sample Footage](#) webpage.

New Features

Focus Assist: Tracking Zoom

ALEXA 35 Xtreme only

Utilizing the increased processing power of the ALEXA 35 Xtreme, we are working on several new features designed to assist the crew in their daily work that we want to begin showing and continue developing in close collaboration with our customers. The idea behind these features is to support on-set skills, not replace them, and the first of them we want to share is Tracking Zoom.

Tracking Zoom extends the standard Zoom function by adding intelligent subject tracking. Instead of zooming into a fixed area of the image, with Tracking Zoom the zoomed-in area automatically follows a selected person's face, keeping them centered for easier focus evaluation. Tracking Zoom works during standby, recording, and playback. Tracking Zoom currently does not work when Sensor Overdrive is activated.

You can activate Tracking Zoom through the user buttons *VF Tracking Zoom*, *SDI 1 Tracking Zoom*, or *SDI 2 Tracking Zoom*.

- **Short Push:** Activates face detection on a selected output. Up to five faces can be detected, each marked with a bounding box. By default, boxes use corner markers. The selected face for tracking is highlighted with a solid outline.
- **Subsequent Short Pushes:** Cycle through detected faces to select the desired person for tracking.
- **Long Push:** Activates or deactivates Tracking Zoom. The operation is identical to the activation of the standard Zoom, except that Tracking Zoom automatically follows the selected face. While Tracking Zoom is active, a reference map appears in the lower-left corner. It shows all detected faces and the position of the zoomed frame within the full image.

Please note that these user buttons can also be activated from the Hi-5 when connected to the camera via white radio or an LBUS cable with Hi-5 SUP 3.2.0 or later. Using Tracking Zoom user buttons while connecting from the Hi-5 to the camera via the RIA-1 will be possible soon.

Possible use cases for Tracking Zoom in its current form include checking focus during an interview shoot or checking focus on individual performers during playback. This feature, and others related to it, will be developed further by ARRI going forward. If you have thoughts on expanding the use cases or functionality, please send an email to digitalworkflow@arri.de.

Sensor Mode 4K 16:9 Down-sampled In-camera to UHD, 2K or HD

New in ALEXA 35 Xtreme

This is a feature that is available in ALEXA 35 and ALEXA 35 Live but was absent in ALEXA 35 Xtreme. By popular demand we are bringing it back.

Many customers use the 4K 16:9 sensor mode, as that provides a sensor area close to the traditional spherical Super 35 film format, resulting in the cinematic shallow depth of field, while at the same time being compatible with most Super 35 lenses. Some productions, however, generate such enormous amounts of data that they benefit from an in-camera down-sampling to recording resolutions of UHD (3840 x 2160), 2K (2048 x 1152) or HD (1920 x 1080). This feature works only for Apple ProRes.

Sensor Mode 3.3K 6:5 Re-sampled In-camera to 3.8K 2.39:1 2x Ana 2x

New in ALEXA 35 Xtreme, ALEXA 35 and ALEXA 35 Live

Many customers use the 3.3K 6:5 sensor mode to shoot with 2x anamorphic lenses. When shooting Apple ProRes, it is now possible to record this either as is (Recording Resolution 3.3K [3328 x 2790]), or to have the camera do an anamorphic de-squeeze to a UHD 2.39:1 image (Recording Resolution 3.8K 2.39:1 Ana 2x [3840 x 1608]), thereby saving this step in post.

Please note that the ALEXA 35 and ALEXA 35 Live used to offer ProRes recording and in-camera de-squeeze to a recording resolution of 4K 2.39:1, whereas the ALEXA 35 Xtreme did not offer recording of any in-camera de-squeeze. Now all three cameras offer a de-squeeze to UHD 2.39:1, which was the preferred choice of many customers.

Improved In-camera ARRI Debayer Algorithm

ALEXA 35 Xtreme only

The in-camera ARRI Debayer Algorithm (ADA) converts the raw sensor data into a color image for ARRICORE and ProRes recording and for monitoring (viewfinder, SDI out and screen grabs). The increased processing power of the ALEXA 35 Xtreme allows this algorithm now to have the same performance as the post algorithm ADA-7SW used in the ARRI Image Software Developer Kit (SDK), which is used by all third-party tools and by the ARRI Reference Tool.

The new in-camera ARRI Debayer Algorithm includes various improvements including smoother and cleaner high-contrast edges, especially when seen against a green or bluescreen background, and the eradication of a rare banding-like artefact.

Color Space Signaling via SDI

New for ALEXA 35 Xtreme and ALEXA 265

This update enables signaling of the Color Space and Transfer Characteristics (e.g., BT.709, BT.2020, PQ, HLG) over SDI, according to SMPTE ST 352 (VPID) and SMPTE 291M standards.

Support for Live Production Monitor LPM-1

New for ALEXA 35 Xtreme, ALEXA 35, ALEXA 35 Live, and ALEXA 265

SUP 5.2.0 adds general support for the [Live Production Monitor LPM-1](#) and is required to operate the LPM-1.

Hi-5 Control of Enhanced Sensitivity

New for ALEXA 35 Xtreme, ALEXA 35, and ALEXA 35 Live

Enhanced Sensitivity can now be adjusted remotely via the Hi-5 hand unit. Please note: The display of some status values like Enhanced Sensitivity, Sensor Mode, Recording Resolution and Sensor Overdrive requires Hi-5 SUP 3.2.0 or later.

Expanded Sensor FPS Presets List

New for ALEXA 35 Xtreme, ALEXA 35, ALEXA 35 Live, and ALEXA 265

The list of user-definable frame rate presets has been expanded to accommodate 32 entries, doubling the previous limit of 16.

Live Production System LPS-1 Support

New for ALEXA 265

This is a feature new for the ALEXA 265 that is already present in ALEXA 35 Xtreme (with the Multicam license), ALEXA 35 (with the Multicam license) and ALEXA 35 Live.

SUP 5.2.0 introduces compatibility between the ALEXA 265 and the Live Production System LPS-1, allowing operation in live Multicam environments. No license is required as the Multicam features become available when LPS-1 is attached to the camera.

Wi-Fi 5 GHz Client Mode

New for ALEXA 265

This is a feature new for the ALEXA 265 that is already present in ALEXA 35 Xtreme but not possible for ALEXA 35 and ALEXA 35 Live.

SUP 5.2.0 adds support of wireless connections to 5 GHz Wi-Fi networks (IEEE 802.11a/n/ac) in client mode, offering higher bandwidth, lower latency, and greater reliability in congested RF environments. Please note that the 5 GHz client mode requires the longer antennas with the white and blue bands, which will also improve transmission for 2.4 GHz.

Update Procedure

The camera is updated via a USB-C medium. The process can be initiated 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 push *CONFIRM*. This will create the required folder structure on the USB-C stick.
3. Connect the USB-C stick to your computer.

ALEXA 35/Live/Xtreme:

Place the downloaded *.swu file in the *ARRI/ALEXA35/SUP* folder.

Place the downloaded *.lic file in the *ARRI/ALEXA35/LICENSES* folder.

ALEXA 265:

Place the downloaded *.swu file in the *ARRI/ALEXA265/SUP* folder.

Place the downloaded *.lic file in the *ARRI/ALEXA265/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 and copy it to a USB-C medium. Connect the USB-C medium to the CCM-1. Disconnect the CCM-1 from the camera. 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 medium (root folder). Connect the USB-C medium to the AEM-1. On the AEM-1, start the update through *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 medium. Insert the USB-C medium into the camera. Connect the LBUS device through the LBUS connector. Start the update through *MENU>System>Update>Update LBUS Devices*.

Live Production System LPS-1

The LPS-1 system can be updated via a computer connected through an Ethernet cable to one of the RJ45 management ports of the LPS-1 system. Please refer to the latest Live Production System LPS-1 release notes for detailed update instructions.

Known Issues

User Pixel Mask Export Does Not Complete When File already exists

When exporting a User Pixel Mask (UPM) from the camera to a USB memory stick that already contains a UPM file with the same name, the camera GUI becomes unresponsive. The screen remains stuck on the message *"Exporting user pixel mask, please wait..."* and the process does not complete. Reboot the camera to resume operation. Delete or rename the existing UPM file on the USB stick before exporting.

Hi-5 "Lens File Transfer Cal" - Motors Stop After First End-Stop During Calibration

When the Hi-5 *"Lens File Transfer Cal"* function is enabled, the Hi-5 sends a lens table to the connected camera, which then triggers automatic motor calibration. However, the motor(s) might begin to calibrate but stop after reaching the first end-stop, failing to complete the full calibration sequence. Resending the Lens File a second time completes the calibration successfully.

Larger Surround View Area on ALEXA 35 Xtreme

The ALEXA 35 Xtreme offers an expanded surround view area in certain sensor modes compared to the ALEXA 35 / Live.

Video Output Failure When Switching Sensor Modes at High Frame Rates

When the camera is running at high frame rates and the sensor mode is switched without a reboot (e.g., from 4K 16:9 to 3.8K 16:9), the video outputs may fail. If this occurs, a reboot is required to restore normal operation, as subsequent recordings may also be affected (ALEXA 35 / Live).

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 many user setups, the camera may take longer to become ready to record after a reboot. This behavior is currently under investigation.

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.

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.

ALEXA 265 Operation with CCM-1

To ensure that the Camera Control Monitor CCM-1 functions properly with the A265, open the menu and enable *MENU > System > Camera Access Protocol > Emulate ALEXA 35*.

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.

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.

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