

Wireless Compact Unit WCU-4 SUP 3.0

Software Update Package wcu4_pkg_3.0_00.07

RELEASE NOTES

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Table of Contents

A. Inti	roduction	3
	New features & overview of changes introduced with SUP 3.0	3
B. Upo	date Instructions	3
	How to get a Software Update Package	3
	WCU-4 update procedure	3
C. Ger	neral New Features	
	New lens file management on SD card	4
	Extended WCU-4 user settings on SD card	
	ENG lens zoom improvements	
	Improved radio signal strength indication	
	Additional camera status signal color	
	Additional camera states PLAY and ERASE	
	Support for external zoom controls	
	Support of cmotion cdistance display	
	Updated user interface style	
D. Nev	w Features for ALEXA Mini	
	Wireless lens file transfer	
	Playback control	
	Remote camera user setup	
5 No.	Motor gear teeth detectionw Features for ALEXA SXT	
E. Nev	Live camera information	
	Support of multiple monitor outputs	
E Nov	w Features for ALEXA 65	
r. nev	Live camera information	
	Support of multiple monitor outputs	
G. Knd	own Issues	
.	Inaccuracy while focusing EF lenses	
	Long download time for camera lists	
	Pre-marked focus rings sometimes do not match lens data	
	WCU-4 serial number not displayed in SYSTEM INFO	
	Lens data uncorrected when using LDS extender	
	Region settings containing only 3 regions	
H. Rus	g Fixes	
III. Dug	Change frame rate in Pre-Rec	
	Programming close focus mark at end stop	
	Lens programming display issue	
	Rounding issue with LCUBE CUB-1	
		6

A. Introduction

We are proud to announce the release of Software Update Package (SUP) 3.0 for the Wireless Compact Unit WCU-4. This SUP is a major software update that expands functions for the WCU-4 as indicated below. Major new features like the wireless lens file transfer work with the ALEXA Mini cameras updated to the new Software Update Package SUP 5.0.

We highly recommend updating the WCU-4 to this Software Update Package. Please take your time to go through this document before you start using the WCU-4.

For more information, please visit http://www.arri.com/ecs/wcu-4

New features & overview of changes introduced with SUP 3.0

- Wireless lens file transfer from WCU-4 to ALEXA Mini (SUP 5.0)
- Full playback control of ALEXA Mini (SUP 5.0) via WCU-4
- Remote ALEXA Mini (SUP 5.0) user setup switching from WCU-4
- Support for motor gear teeth detection settings with ALEXA Mini (SUP 5.0)
- Live ALEXA 65 camera status info on WCU-4
- Support of multiple monitor outputs of ALEXA SXT and 65 (SUP 2.0) cameras
- Support of Master Grip rocker, ZMU-3A and cmotion pan-bar zoom hardwired to WCU-4
- Support of cmotion cdistance display
- New lens file management on SD card
- Extended WCU-4 user settings storage on SD card
- ENG lens zoom improvements
- Improved radio signal strength indication
- New camera status info on WCU-4
- Camera status display for PLAY and ERASE on WCU-4
- More accurate Cine Tape Measure values on WCU-4
- Updated WCU-4 user interface style

B. Update Instructions

How to get a Software Update Package

You can find the Software Update Package (SUP) in the WCU-4 downloads section on http://www.arri.com/ecs/wcu-4. Download the latest Software Update Package to your computer.

WCU-4 update procedure

The WCU-4 software is updated with a SD or SDHC memory card with a capacity up to 32GB.

- Make sure the power supply of the WCU-4 is stable. The best way to achieve this is by using a fully charged battery.
- Have the SD or SDHC memory card formatted to FAT16 or FAT32.
- Prepare the SD or SDHC memory card with the following the WCU-4 folder structure: /ARRI/WCU4/Firmware
- Copy the Software Update Package file into the 'Firmware' folder on the SD card.
- Turn the WCU-4 on.
- Insert the SD or SDHC memory card into the SD card slot of the WCU-4. The slot is located below the display on the bottom of the WCU-4, covered by a rubber cap.
- Go to MENU > FIRMWARE.
- Go to 'Select Update File'.
- Choose the desired Software Update Package and then press the two UPDATE soft buttons simultaneously to start the update. The update process takes about 5 seconds. The WCU-4 will re-boot, and the update process is completed.

Please note: Do not remove the SD card while updating the WCU-4!

C. General New Features

New lens file management on SD card

SUP 3.0 supports custom SD card folder structures for saving and loading lens files. Users can save lens files to any folder of choice and copy existing files from one folder to another. Folders and files are displayed in alphabetical order.

Extended WCU-4 user settings on SD card

Now all important user settings can be stored to and loaded from an SD/SDHC card including the following WCU-4 settings: radio on/off, focus lock, focus reference, iris lock, iris reference, zoom lock, zoom reference, zoom speed, pre-marked focus ring state and value.

ENG lens zoom improvements

Linear rocker characteristic curves for ENG lenses were added. Also, the ENG lens name is now shown on the WCU-4.

Improved radio signal strength indication

The radio signal strength indication is now more accurate, with earlier warnings in case of a weak radio signal.

Additional camera status signal color

The camera status color on the WCU-4 screen now changes to black in the rare case that the current camera status has not been updated for more than one second.

Additional camera states PLAY and ERASE

The new camera states PLAY and ERASE were added to the WCU-4 screen.

Support for external zoom controls

Master Grip Rocker, ZMU-3A and cmotion pan-bar zoom are now supported hardwired to the LCS interface of the WCU-4.

Support of cmotion cdistance display

The cmotion cdistance display for additional distance readouts is now supported and hardwired to the WCU-4 LCS interface.

Updated user interface style

The graphical user interface has been optimized, providing more on-screen list items and additional information within the menu structure.

D. New Features for ALEXA Mini

The following features will be supported with ALEXA Mini Software Update Package 5.0 onwards.

Wireless lens file transfer

Now, users can select a lens file stored on the SD card in the WCU-4 and wirelessly transmit the file to the ALEXA Mini.

Playback control

Full remote playback control is now possible from the WCU-4. This allows users to wirelessly select, play back, and shuttle through any clip from the CFast 2.0 card in the ALEXA Mini without needing direct access to the camera. When a clip is paused, the WCU-4 zoom control can be used to shuttle through clip frame-wise (just like click wheel on MVF). When clip is playing, the WCU-4 zoom control can be used to increase playback speed and playback direction (just like click wheel on MVF). The maximum playback speed selectable on WCU-4 is 64x.

Remote camera user setup

ALEXA Mini user setups can now be selected and activated from the WCU-4.

Motor gear teeth detection

ARRI offers interchangeable gears with different teeth counts for lens motors. The teeth count mode can now be selected in the WCU-4 motor setup screen. This new function is important for correct lens data.

E. New Features for ALEXA SXT

The following features will be supported with the soon to be released ALEXA SXT Software Update Package 2.0.

Live camera information

Camera errors and warnings are shown in the WCU-4 GUI.

Support of multiple monitor outputs

Users can select the settings of multiple SDI monitor outputs in WCU-4 submenu CAM>MONOUT>Mon CNG, depending on the number of outputs available (e.g. SDI peaking On/Off, SDI exposure tool On/Off and others).

F. New Features for ALEXA 65

The following feature will be supported with ALEXA 65 Software Update Package 1.4 onwards.

Live camera information

Camera errors and warnings are shown on the WCU-4 screen.

The following feature will be supported with the soon to be released ALEXA 65 Software Update Package 2.0.

Support of multiple monitor outputs

Users can select the settings of multiple SDI monitor outputs in WCU-4 submenu CAM>MONOUT>Mon CNG, depending on the number of outputs available (e.g. SDI peaking On/Off, SDI exposure tool On/Off and others).

G. Known Issues

This is a list of known issues for this particular SUP 3.0 Software Update Package.

Inaccuracy while focusing EF lenses

Accuracy of set focus marks is getting lost when using EF lenses on ALEXA Mini (SUP 5.0). Do not rely on custom or pre-marked focus rings when using EF lenses.

Long download time for camera lists

Downloading menu lists from cameras like ALEXA Mini or ALEXA can take some time, depending on quality of the radio link. This can result in missing menu items or slow response times when selecting or changing a menu item.

Pre-marked focus rings sometimes do not match lens data

When using the pre-marked focus rings, sometimes some of the engravings may slightly differ from the displayed distance on the WCU-4. Re-calibrating the focus knob via WCU-4 Extended Service Menu can solve this issue.

WCU-4 serial number not displayed in SYSTEM INFO

No WCU-4 serial number will be displayed in the system info screen up to WCU-4 serial number 5070. Please contact your local ARRI Service Center to correct this issue.

Lens data uncorrected when using LDS extender

When using an LDS lens with an ALURA extender, the lens data will not be corrected with the extender factor.

Region settings containing only 3 regions

In rare cases, the radio region-setting menu contains three regions only after performing this software update. Please perform the software update again to obtain all five regions. Note that region setting is only available for devices including the EMIP300 radio module.

H. Bug Fixes

This is a list of bug fixes for this particular SUP 3.0 software package.

Change frame rate in Pre-Rec

Fixed an issue where camera is set in Pre-Rec mode the WCU-4 declined any change of FPS.

Programming close focus mark at end stop

Solved an issue where, while programming a custom lens file with WCU-4, it was not possible to enter close focus point positioned on the end stop (calibration limit) of the lens focus ring.

Lens programming display issue

Solved an issue where the scales for iris and focus axes were filled with noisy data in the lens-programming mode.

Rounding issue with LCUBE CUB-1

Solved an issue when UDM-1 was connected to a LCUBE CUB-1 and then to an ALEXA Mini, there were rounding issues between WCU-4 and UDM-1.

ALEXA Mini lens mount switched off after lens programming

Fixed an issue where the ALEXA Mini lens mount did not switch on automatically after programming a lens file with WCU-4.

Vibration during startup

Solved an issue where the WCU-4 vibrated after turning it on.