

# ALEXA Mini LF SUP 7.2

Software Update Package (SUP) Mini LF 7.2

RELEASE NOTES

March 6, 2023



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## A. Introduction

This document describes changes for ALEXA Mini LF cameras with the Software Update Package (SUP) Mini LF 7.2 in contrast to ALEXA Mini LF SUP 7.1.2. We recommend that you take your time to go through these release notes, the known issues section of this document and the user manual before operating the camera.

For more information on the camera, please visit [www.arri.com/alexaminilf](http://www.arri.com/alexaminilf).

For frequently asked questions and their answers please visit the [ALEXA Mini LF FAQs](#).

### ALEXA Mini LF SUP 7.2 Changes Overview

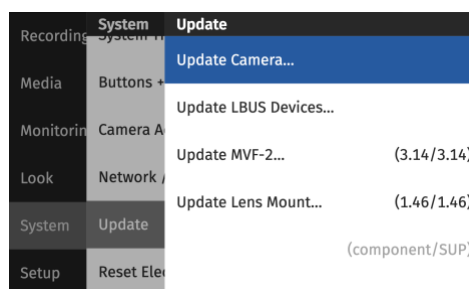
- **WiFi improvements**
  - **Firmware update of WiFi board**
  - **Automatic channel selection for WiFi Host Mode**
  - **Disabling of WPA secured networks**
  - **Error message when using default WiFi password**
- **Web Remote improvements**
- **CAP additions and bugfixes**
- **Others**
  - **Eyepiece Heating and Flip are recalled from setup**
  - **Audio icon in playback reflects clip properties**
  - **EF lens control improvements**
  - **Bugfixes**

We recommend updating to all customers.

### Updating Camera, Viewfinder and Lens Mount

- This SUP can be installed on all previously shipped ALEXA Mini LF cameras. However, we recommend updating from SUP 7.1.2 to SUP 7.2 (note: this can take up to 20 Minutes). If your camera is not running Mini LF SUP 7.1.2, please update it to 7.1.2 before updating to SUP 7.2. ALEXA Mini LF SUP 7.1.2 is still available on the ARRI website.
- We do not recommend updating in the middle of a production.
- When connected to the camera, the MVF-2 viewfinder and lens mount will also be updated automatically.

In case of using an MVF-2 or lens mount with older software with a camera with newer software, please make sure to perform a component update of the MVF-2 or lens mount. The version numbers in brackets should be equal (MENU > System > Update).



- Please note that the viewfinder might switch off during the update process and does not give visual feedback of the update all the time. The SDI outputs, however, will stay active, which they did not in previous SUPs.
- Make sure not to power off the camera during an SUP update. Make sure not to unplug the viewfinder during an SUP update. Detailed instructions for the update process can be found at the end of this document.
- Always use a 'private' or 'incognito' browser window when using the Web Remote to operate the camera and to perform a SUP update. This prevents possible erroneous behavior.

## Updating LBUS Accessories

- The camera SUP does not contain any LBUS accessory software. LBUS accessories (like cforce mini motors, cforce Plus motors, ARRI Master Grips, ARRI Operator Control OCU-1 or ARRI LCUBE) connected to the camera during a camera SUP update will therefore not be updated.
- To update LBUS accessories, download the LBUS device update file from the ARRI website, copy it onto a USB stick in the folder ARRI/ECS/, place the USB stick into the camera, connect the LBUS device to the LBUS connector on the camera and then initiate the update from MENU > System > Update > Update LBUS Devices.

## Downdating

It is possible to downgrade from this ALEXA Mini LF SUP 7.2 version to an older SUP.

- For a downgrade to a previous SUP version, both the license file of the installed and of the previous version (always included in the SUP zip file and named: 'mini\_lf\_fw\_update\_aes\_X.X.X.lic') need to be available on the USB memory stick under /ARRI/A-MINI-LF/LICENSES.
- ALEXA Mini LF SUP 7.1.2 is available for download on the ARRI website.
- However, MVF-2 viewfinders with serial numbers above 6849 and Compact Drive 2TB units with serial numbers starting with '273xxxxx' are not compatible with ALEXA Mini LF SUPs lower than 7.1.2.

## Codex Compact Drive 1TB Update

A firmware patch is available to address a firmware error with Codex Compact Drives with the serial number range from 10020001 to 10022568. Drives outside this serial number range already run the latest firmware and require no update. On rare occasions, this firmware error could cause a Compact Drive to take a long time to load in the camera, Dock or Reader, not load at all or result in the camera status "INVALID". For all ALEXA Mini LF owners we recommend updating their Compact Drives to this new firmware. If you have access to an ALEXA 35, all 1TB Drives requiring an update will be identified and updated in this camera. Unfortunately, this feature is not available on ALEXA Mini LF. If you do not have access to an ALEXA 35, you can also send these drives to any [Codex](#) or [ARRI Service station](#) for a free software update.

Please note that Mini LF SUP 7.2 will not update Compact Drives. ALEXA Mini LF cameras running SUP 7.1.2 and higher are compatible with Compact Drives with and without the update. More information can be found on the ARRI Website [here](#).

## Software Compatibility Notes and Sample Footage

- A document providing an overview of postproduction tools that support files recorded with ALEXA Mini LF cameras ("ALEXA Mini LF Supporting Tools & Software Overview.pdf") can be found in the download section of the ALEXA Mini LF webpage.
- ARRIRAW files recorded with ALEXA Mini LF cameras with SUP 7.1.2 or later can be processed with the ARRI Reference Tool (ART) or the ARRIRAW Converter (ARC). Metadata can be extracted with the ART or the ARRI Meta Extract (AME). All are free-of-charge software applications.

Please note that the ARC and AME will not be developed any further, as we have moved all their features into the [ARRI Reference Tool \(ART\)](#), which is the reference tool of choice now for all ARRI digital cameras (except the ARRIFLEX D-20/D-21). The ART allows you to process ARRIRAW from Mini LF with either the original ARRI color science (LogC3/AWG3) or with the new REVEAL Color Science (LogC4/AWG4), which provides greatly improved image quality as well as compatibility with footage shot on ALEXA 35. If you want to use the ARC or AME, please update both to the latest release versions (ARC 4.4 and AME 4.4).

- Please note, that macOS X version 10.14.4 or later is required to successfully transfer data from a Codex Compact Drive with the Codex USB-C Compact Drive Reader, or the SXR Capture Drive Dock with the Compact Drive Adapter. Using older versions of macOS will result in a copy error for files larger than 9.66 GB.
- Please note that macOS X version 10.15 with the Apple MXF plug-in installed (part of "Pro Video Formats 2.1") is required to play back downloaded MXF/Apple ProRes footage in Apple QuickTime Player.
- Sample footage shot with the ALEXA Mini LF camera can be downloaded [here](#).

## Registration

If you have not done so already, please make sure you register your camera using our online customer registration. Your registration ensures that you receive information about future software updates as soon as they are available. If you register your new camera within 1 month of purchase, you will get a 12-month extended warranty for free. You can find the registration [here](#).

## B. New Features and Changes

### WiFi improvements

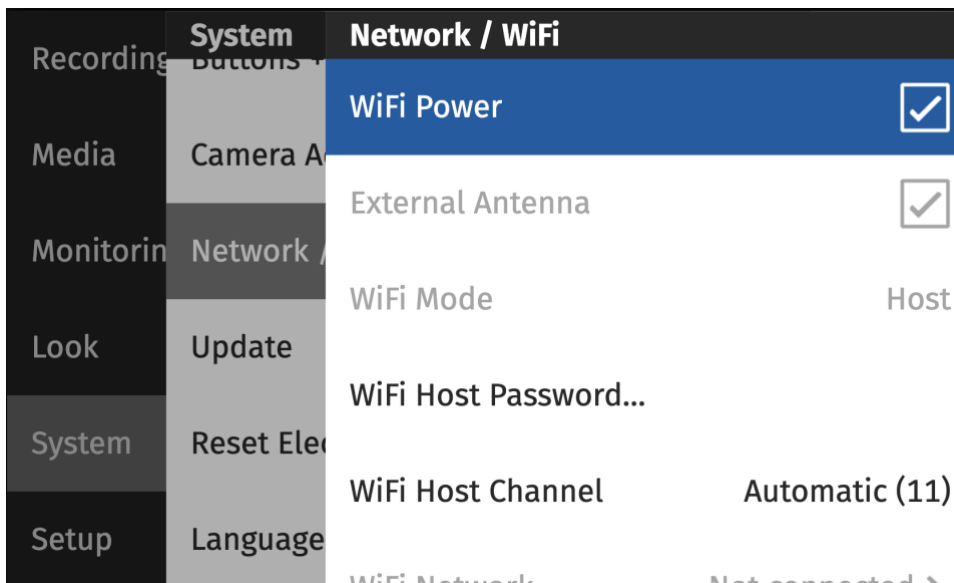
#### Updated WiFi firmware

With ALEXA Mini LF SUP 7.2 a new firmware for the WiFi module has been included, which should provide for generally better performance of the WiFi functionality.

#### WiFi host channel: Automatic

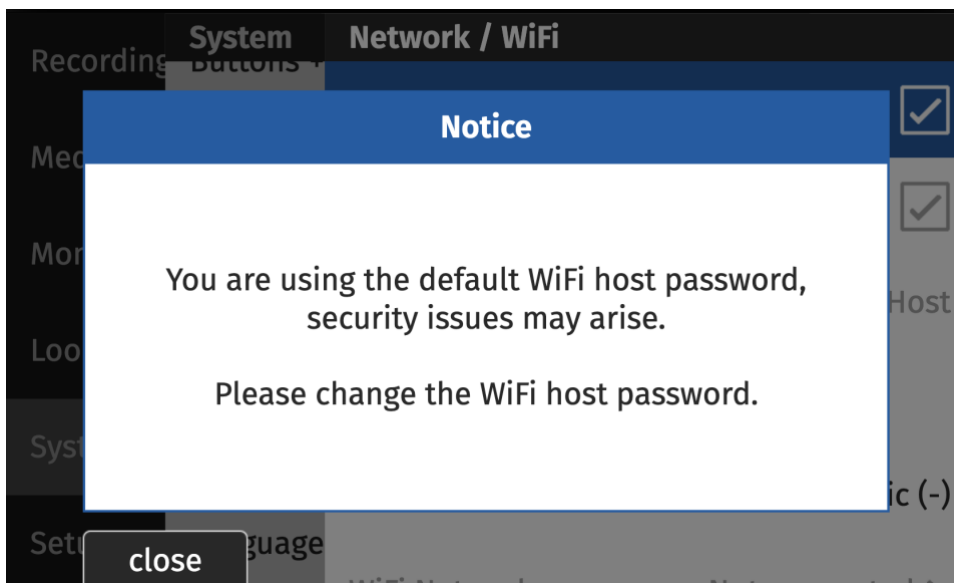
It is now possible to choose an automatic channel selection in the WiFi menu in addition to the manual selection of a WiFi channel. After choosing Automatic, the best available WiFi channel is searched for and used. The automatically selected channel is displayed in brackets. The channels designated to the white radio for ECS are excluded, disregarding if white radio is on or off in the camera.

In a multi camera environment we advise to first assign ECS channels to all cameras, as those channels will be then avoided by WiFi as soon as it is switched on.



#### Warning when default password is in use

A warning appears after activating the WiFi radio if the default password 'arriarri' is still in use. For security reasons, we strongly recommend changing the default password in any case.



#### Deactivated support of WPA secured networks

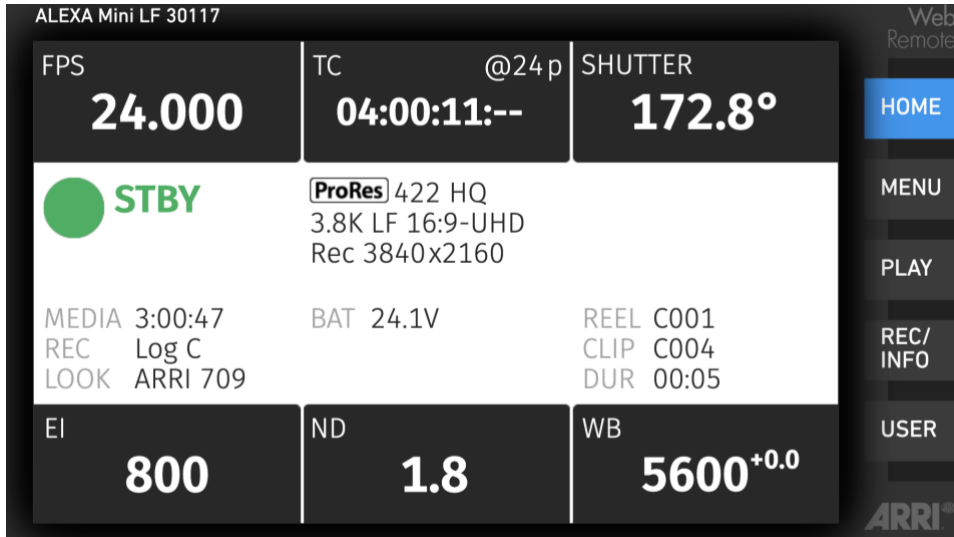
For security reasons, support for the deprecated WPA security certification program from the camera's functionality has been removed. ALEXA Mini LF with SUP 7.2 only supports WPA2 secured networks.

## Web Remote improvements

The Web Remote has been improved and updated in many respects and now corresponds to the functionality and design of the Web Remote as it is available on the ALEXA 35.

Amongst others, these improvements include:

- Improvements in legibility and consistency
- Go-to link appears when outdated components are attached
- Connection stability improvements
- Compatibility fixes on iPad and Android devices



## Camera Access Protocol (CAP) additions and bugfixes

The Camera Access Protocol in the ALEXA Mini LF SUP 7.2 was updated to CAP Version 1.8. This version includes bug fixes and additional commands. These additional commands allow new features to be available from the Camera Companion App. They can also be used by 3<sup>rd</sup> parties in their products.

## Others

This software version includes several bug fixes and overall stability improvements of the camera.

## C. Known Issues – Software

### Lenses

#### **ALURA 1.4x and 2.0x Extender are not recognized**

ALURA 1.4x and 2.0x Extender are not recognized by the camera and therefore the lens information shown in the menu, the SDI overlays and the WCU-4 show the information of the lens without considering the use of the extenders.

#### **Delayed motor response on EF lenses without data**

On the EF Mount with LBus when a lens without data contacts is attached the motor response is delayed. Use a CForce RF motor connected to LBus power in this case.

### Monitoring

#### **MVF-2 can show subtle flickering in upper part**

Sometimes a subtle flickering can be observed in the upper part of the image of the MVF-2 viewfinder (through the eyepiece, not the flip-out monitor).

#### **Brightness flicker when EVF Zoom is activated or EVF Surround view is off**

Brightness flicker in the upper part of the OLED display can be noticed.

#### **Magnification Limits**

Depending on the recording format, the MAGNIFICATION feature can sometimes reach maximum magnification before the top value of 200% is reached. In this case, higher value numbers will be shown in the menu, but actual image magnification will not increase further.

#### **Magenta Image after Mode switch**

Sometimes after switching Recording Modes the SDI image may display a magenta tint for up to 5 seconds before returning to the normal image.

### Playback

#### **Lower Audio levels in Playback**

When playing back a clip with Audio the headphone output on MVF-2 is 3dB less than in Live/Recording.

### Post

#### **No Mirror image function for MXF/Apple ProRes in DaVinci Resolve**

The vertical "Mirror image" function does not work for MXF/Apple ProRes in DaVinci Resolve. However, it will work with ARRIRAW.

### Remote Control

#### **Web Remote reconnect takes long after switching WiFi power OFF and back ON.**

Sometimes the reconnect of the Web Remote takes unexpectedly long after switching WiFi power OFF and back ON.

#### **SmallHD Cine 7 partial functionality**

When remote controlling the camera with a SmallHD Cine 7, not all features will work as expected.

#### **CAP-controlled axis behavior with unstable Hand Unit connection**

If an axis is controlled via CAP and a Hand Unit gains control of that axis the CAP values can be set whenever that Hand Unit loses connection. Make sure to unassign axes from the Hand Unit that are being controlled via CAP.

#### **Web Remote: Periodic connection issues**

When using the Web Remote with certain OS / Browser combinations the camera may not be found. Use the LAN IP address of the camera in those cases.

Check MENU > INFO > NETWORK INFO LAN IP for the current IP address.

#### **WiFi - No successful reconnection to access point after reboot in client mode**

In rare cases the WiFi driver can get stuck after a reboot or resolution change when the camera is in client mode. In this case the camera does not reconnect to the previous access point and the list of discovered networks is empty.

In this case, please reboot the camera to regain WiFi functionality.

## Sync

### **SDI out of sync**

If two cameras are being synchronized by syncing only one of them to timecode, the recorded images will be in sync, but the SDI outputs will be slightly out of sync. Supply timecode to both cameras to mitigate this issue.

### **Warning message unavailable**

A camera in setting Slave mode inherits all settings from the master camera. When attempting to change settings on a camera in settings Slave mode not all items prompt the warning that these settings can only be changed on the master camera, but instead are not modifiable.

### **Disabling EXT Sync leads to error message**

When disabling EXT Sync the camera can display a software error (#4) and prompt the user to reboot. After rebooting the camera will resume working as expected.

### **Timecode offset after exiting playback through recording**

When exiting playback by pushing the REC button, it is possible for timecode to be offset by one frame. To avoid this, exit playback by pushing the physical playback button on the viewfinder or through the 'close' button in the menu.

## Usability

### **Cannot overwrite existing User Pixel Mask**

Saving a User Pixel Mask on the USB stick is only possible when the sensor folder on the USB stick does not already contain a User Pixel Mask. If you want to save a User Pixel Mask, make sure the folder is empty or re-name any existing User Pixel Masks. Even then, sometimes a new User Pixel Mask cannot be saved, and the monitor gets stuck with the message 'Exporting user pixel mask, please wait...'. Restarting fixes all of this.

### **Active ND Filter indication can be wrong**

In rare cases after quickly toggling through ND Filters the Overlay may not show the accurate ND Filter. After changing ND Filters again the Overlay will be accurate.

### **MVF-2 stays black on camera start**

In rare cases the MVF-2 can stay black after the camera has booted completely. Replug the Viewfinder in this case.

## Updating

### **ALEXA Mini SUP camera update might fail**

In a few cases the camera update may fail with the message 'Last SUP installation was incomplete. Please re-install SUP. (#135)'. In this case, please re-install SUP.

## D. Known Issues – Mechanical Accessories

### **RAB-1 Clamp 2 may experience poor clamping performance**

Some early RAB-1 Clamp 2 units (K2.0023406) ran into assembly issues leading to poor clamping performance or the inability to release adequately. If a RAB-1 Clamp 2 is found to slip on the Rear Accessory Bracket RAB-1 (K2.0013937) or not to release correctly, please contact ARRI Service to get the part repaired or exchanged.

### **Compact Bridge Plate CBP-1 and CBP-2 lever malfunction**

To release the Compact Bridge Plate CBP-1 or CBP-2 from a balance plate, the safety catch on the main locking lever of the CBP must be released for the main locking lever to be moved from the BALANCE to the RELEASE position. Some early CBP-1 and CBP-2 units could have the main locking lever moved directly from the LOCK position to the RELEASE position. In that case, please contact ARRI Service to get the part repaired or exchanged.



## E. Update Procedure

### Where to download the new Software Update Package (SUP)

You can find the Software Update Package in the [Software Update Package download section](#). A SUP can be installed on the camera by using a USB stick as described in detail below.

### Camera Update Procedure

The ALEXA Mini LF software is updated from a USB memory stick. The SUP Software Update Package (SUP) will update the ALEXA Mini LF camera along with the Viewfinder (MVF-2) and the lens mount – provided they are connected to the camera.

The update can be started through the menu of the MVF-2 viewfinder or through the Web Remote. The Web Remote requires a connection to the camera via WiFi or Ethernet (with ALEXA Ethernet/RJ-45 Cable KC-153-S, K2.72021.0). Open a web browser and enter the URL: <http://mini-lf-xxxxx.local> (replace xxxxx with your camera's 5-digit serial number). For further information on the Web Remote, please refer to the User Manual.

- After the download, please double click the downloaded file (\*.zip) to unpack it or unpack it manually. This will place two update files (\*.SUP and \*.lic) onto your computer.
- If not done beforehand, prepare the USB memory stick for use with ALEXA Mini LF by connecting it to the camera. Then choose *Menu > Media > Prepare USB Medium...* in the camera's menu on the MVF-2 flip-out monitor and press CONFIRM. This will create the required folder structure on the USB stick.
- Connect the USB stick to your computer and place the downloaded \*.SUP file in the folder ARRI/A-MINI-LF/SUP on the USB stick. Then place the downloaded \*.lic file in the folder ARRI/A-MINI-LF/LICENSES on the USB stick.
- SUPs contain not only updates for the camera body but also for the MVF-2 viewfinder and the LPL lens mount. Therefore, the MVF-2 viewfinder and the LPL lens mount should be attached to the camera when performing an update.
- Make sure the camera is connected to a power supply (best) or is powered with a full battery to avoid power loss during the update process.
- Perform a factory reset on the camera with the menu item *Menu > Setup > Factory Reset...*
- NOTICE: Remove the recording media from camera!
- *Connect the USB stick to the camera and navigate to the menu item [Menu > System > Update > Update Camera...](#)*
- *Select the SUP file from the list and click the item.*
- *In the following message, press INSTALL to start the installation.*
- *Press CONFIRM to start the installation.*
- *The camera will present a screen presenting the update progress. Please do not shutdown the camera or unplug power until the camera reboots.*
- *After the update process has finished, a success message is displayed. Please note, that the update can take up to 20 minutes.*
- *Please repeat the last six steps (marked in purple) and update the camera for a second time.*
- It may happen that the Viewfinder goes black during the update and does not provide any further information. In this case do NOT cut off power but check SDI 1 for a red ERROR icon or connect via Web Remote. If you get a "fail", re-run the update.
- Make sure you set the correct time zone in *Menu > System > System Time & Date*.
- If the MVF-2 viewfinder or LPL lens mount were not connected to the camera during the update process, the camera will still store the new software for those devices. The next time those devices are connected and have an older software than the one stored in the camera, the camera will offer to update those devices.