Avid® MediaCentral Platform Services

Technology Preview - HTML5 Player

Important Information

Avid® recommends that you read all the information in this document thoroughly before installing or using any new software release.

Important: See the links on the Avid MediaCentral Platform Services Documentation page on the Avid Knowledge Base at http://www.avid.com/learn-and-support for the most up-to-date ReadMe file, which contains the latest information that might have become available after the documentation was published.

What is a Technology Preview?

Avid Technology defines a "Technology Preview" as a feature that is offered to customers for experimentation with the understanding that Avid expects to fully implement the feature in a future release. Technology Preview features are officially unsupported and potentially incomplete or unsuitable for production systems. It is possible that due to unforeseen circumstances, the feature will be altered or altogether removed from the shipping product. In the future, Technology Preview features might be licensed and sold by Avid and use of the feature does not constitute receipt of a permanent license.

Customer feedback regarding the technology preview is welcome. Customers may contact Avid Customer Care to create support cases regarding the feature. However, cases specifically related to the Technology Preview will not be escalated to critical status and might not be resolved.

Revision History

Date Revised	Changes Made
October 23, 2020	A process has been added to disable this tech preview. For details, see "Disabling this Tech Preview" on page 3.
	As you might be aware, Avid leverages Adobe® Flash to provide asset playback in the MediaCentral UX Media Pane. As of December 31, 2020, Adobe is ending support for Flash. When this change occurs, the Flash plug-in for Google Chrome and Apple Safari will be blocked and the existing Flash-based player will no longer be functional. For more information on this announcement, see https://www.adobe.com/products/flashplayer/end-of-life.html.
	As of v2.10.7, the HTML5 player officially replaces the original Flash player and becomes the only supported media player within MediaCentral UX
	⚠ **Do not enable this tech preview if you are running MediaCentral UX v2.10.7 or later.**

Date Revised	Changes Made
March 30, 2017	Added limitation MPLAY-3023
	Updated limitation MPLAY-2671
December 22, 2016	First Publication

Contents

Overview

MCS v2.9 introduces a Technology Preview of the HTML5 player for frame-based playback. This feature lets an administrator replace the Adobe® Flash player for playback of assets through the Media pane and for voice-over recording.

> *The HTML5 player does not currently support file-based playback.*

> *The HTML5 player is supported for media playback and voice recording in Chrome v42 and later and for media playback only in Safari 9 and later. For more details on supported browsers, see the Software Compatibility Matrix on the Avid Knowledge Base.*

Additional information for Safari users:

If accessing MediaCentral UX through Safari, users who want to enable the HTML5 player must add a self-signed certificate for MediaCentral Platform Services to the browser.

For more information, see "Configuring Safari" in either the *Self-Signed Certificate for Avid MediaCentral Single Server v2.5* or *Self-Signed Certificate for Avid MediaCentral Cluster v2.5* documents on the Avid Knowledge Base.

Enabling the HTML5 Player

The following process details how to open and edit the application.properties file to enable the technology preview.

To edit the application.properties file:

1. Log in to the MCS server as the 'root' user. If you have a clustered configuration, log into the master node.

2. Enter the following command to navigate to the directory containing the file:

   `cd /opt/avid/etc/avid/avid-interplay-central/config`

3. This directory contains an "application.properties.example" file. The example file includes information on some features that can be adjusted. If "application.properties" does not already exist, use the following command to rename this file to exclude the ".example" extension:

   `mv application.properties.example application.properties`

If a copy of the application.properties file (without the .example extension) already exists, this step can be skipped.

4. Edit the file using a text editor (such as vi):

   `vi application.properties`

5. Add the following line to the end of the file:

   `system.client.player.html5.enabled=true`

6. Save and exit the vi session. Press <ESC> and type: `:wq`

7. (Cluster configurations only) Repeat steps 1 – 6 on the slave node.

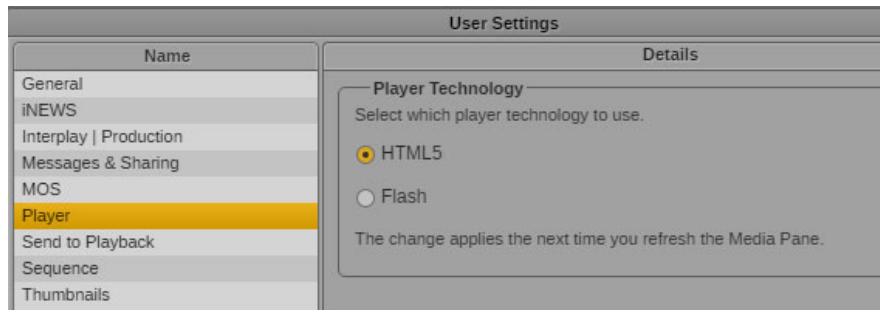8. Once complete, the avid-interplay-central service must be restarted.

This step will disconnect any users currently working on the system.

▶ If running a single server configuration:

   `service avid-interplay-central restart`

▶ If running a clustered configuration, the avid-interplay-central service is restarted through the AvidIPC cluster resource. Issue following command from any node in the cluster:

   `crm resource restart AvidIPC`

Disabling this Tech Preview

If you have already enabled this tech preview, you can complete the following steps to disable it. If you are running MediaCentral UX v2.9 through 2.10.6, the Flash player becomes the default player. If you are running MediaCentral UX v2.10.7 or later, the HTML5 player is used be default.

After you disable the tech preview, the Player Technology option is removed from the User Settings.

To edit the application.properties file:

1. Log in to the MCS server as the 'root' user. If you have a clustered configuration, log into the master node.

2. Enter the following command to navigate to the directory containing the file:

   `cd /opt/avid/etc/avid/avid-interplay-central/config`

3. Edit the application.properties file using a text editor (such as vi):

   `vi application.properties`

4. Delete the following line from the file:

   `system.client.player.html5.enabled=true`

5. Save and exit the vi session. Press <ESC> and type: `:wq`

6. (Cluster configurations only) Repeat steps 1 – 6 on the slave node.

7. Once complete, the avid-interplay-central service must be restarted.

This step will disconnect any users currently working on the system.

▶ If running a single server configuration:

   `service avid-interplay-central restart`

▶ If running a clustered configuration, the avid-interplay-central service is restarted through the AvidIPC cluster resource. Issue following command from any node in the cluster:

   `crm resource restart AvidIPC`

User Information: HTML5 Player

If an administrator has enabled the HTML5 Player, an option is displayed in the User Settings under a new "Player" category.

Enabling HTML5 activates the setting on a per-user basis. Note the following:

• The recording device for voice-over is set through the operating system settings. Unlike the Flash player, the Input Source menu option in the Media pane menu is unavailable.

• The HTML5 player does not currently support file-based playback.

To enable the HTML5 player:

1. Select Home > User Settings.

2. Select HTML5.

3. Click Apply.

   If the user already has the Media pane open, the user must refresh the pane to complete the process of enabling the HTML5 player. To do this, take one of the following actions:

   - Close and open the Media pane

   - Refresh the browser tab

   - Sign out and sign back in to MediaCentral UX

To enable the Flash player, select Flash and follow the steps above.

Known Limitations

As a reminder, Technology Preview features are officially unsupported and potentially incomplete or unsuitable for production systems. Additional limitations might exist beyond the items listed below.

➤ **Bug Number:** MPLAY-2746. Exporting an asset or sequence as an MP4 file might fail. Instead of a download link, the Messages pane reports the following: "The conversion to mp4 failed. Contact your system administrator for more information".

➤ **Bug Number:** MPLAY-2671. On a low-bandwidth network, playback might stop abruptly. If this occurs, the Play button continues to flash and the Media pane controls become unresponsive.

Workaround: Reload the page to refresh the Media pane in MediaCentral v2.9.x or upgrade to version 2.10 where this issue has been resolved.

➤ **Bug Number:** MPLAY-2676. The HTML5 player does not support playback of EWC (Edit While Capture) assets.

➤ **Bug Number:** MPLAY-3023. Playback of remote assets does not work. If you search for a remote asset, then double-click to open it in the Media viewer, nothing happens.

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