

R_volution Installation and Usage Guide



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Authors: Alan Chow

chowmainsoft

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Overview

R_Volution media players deliver high-performance home entertainment with advanced video and audio support. Models like the PlayerMini, PlayerOne 8K, and PlayerPro 8K handle formats such as Dolby Vision, HDR10+, and Dolby Atmos for an immersive experience. The flagship PlayerPro 8K includes dual SATA racks for up to 64TB storage and a high-performance power supply. All devices feature the R_video Media Center, offering a seamless interface with rich cover art and animated backgrounds. These players ensure smooth playback of various media formats, making them a strong choice for home theater enthusiasts.

Now with Control4 integration you can effortlessly browse and start playback of your movie and TV show library from any Control4 onscreen interface, touchscreen, or remote control.

With two-way control and feedback, your cinema can respond dynamically to movie playback—automatically dimming the lights when a movie begins and gradually brightening them when it pauses or stops for an immersive experience.

You can also mark favorite movies and TV episodes for quick access on your touchscreen, ensuring instant playback. Easily start your child's favorite movie directly from keypads and other interfaces, making entertainment more convenient and enjoyable for the whole family.

Features

- Navigation & Transport Controls
- Library Integration
 - Ability to browse movies, tv shows and more on navigator. View movie information including synopsis, cast, artwork and more
 - Grid view and List view
 - Favoriting of movies
- Ability to programatically start a movie or tv episode via composer programming.
- Feedback
 - Play
 - Pause
 - Stop
 - Currently Playing Movie Name
- Auto Room On / Room Off upon media playback or stop.
- Support for Zappiti players (requires R_Video subscription)

Setup Driver

Requirements

- Control4 OS 3.3.2 is the minimum required. Earlier Control4 OS Versions are not officially supported.
- An active internet connection is required to access and browse your movie and TV show library, as the system depends on cloud-based data for content indexing and retrieval.
- Note that players must remain powered on, as they cannot be turned on or off via the API.
- We recommend that you put the system on a static IP address or a DHCP reservation to ensure that there is no IP address changes.

1. Click on System Design
2. Select the R_volution Player driver
3. Choose the appropriate Model from the dropdown menu. Note: Player models are used for legacy Zappiti products. If transport controls do not function properly, try selecting the other option in this dropdown.
4. If using a Zappiti unit, set R_Video Launch Command to Zappiti.
5. Enter IP Address of the player in the properties tab.
6. Input your R_Video email address and password (required for library browsing).
7. To enable automatic room power control, select the Auto Room Select property and choose the room that should turn on when R_volution starts playback.
8. If Auto Room Select is enabled, adjust the Room Off After Seconds property. Setting it to 0 disables automatic room shutdown.
9. Customise button mappings as needed.
10. Bind the Video and Audio connections to the AV switch, receiver, television or projector you are connecting it to.
11. Refresh Navigator to apply changes.

Troubleshooting

I can't control the player

- The player requires a static or reserved IP address
- Note that players must remain powered on, as they cannot be turned on or off via the API.
- There are two APIs for navigation / transport control. You can switch between them by using the 'model' drop down box in the driver's properties.

I can't browse the library

- An active internet connection is required to access and browse your movie and TV show library, as the system depends on cloud-based data for content indexing and retrieval.
- Please make sure the username and password is typed in correctly.

I am using a Zappiti player. Why is it not launching my movies?

- Please make sure you select 'Zappiti' under the R_Video Launch Command property.

My TV is automatically turning off when I use this driver. I don't want it to do that.

- You have selected a room in the 'Auto Room Select' property. The 'Room Off After Seconds' property will turn off a room after x seconds if it is more than 0.

FAQ

Why is this product so exciting?

- Easily browse and start playback of your movie and TV show library directly from any Control4 onscreen interface, touchscreen, or remote control.
- With two-way control and feedback, you can program your cinema to respond seamlessly to movie playback. Automatically dim the lights when a movie starts and gradually brighten them when it pauses or stops, creating an immersive and dynamic viewing experience.
- Favorite movies and TV episodes for quick access on your touchscreen. Easily start your child's most cherished movie directly from keypads and other interfaces.

What hardware will this work on?

- The driver will work on the entire range of [R_Volution Media Players](#)
- It will also work on the entire range of Zappiti Media Players. Note that Zappiti products require a subscription to [R_video](#) for it to operate.

I purchased a Zappiti driver from you previously. Can i get a discount?

- Reach out to us with a copy of your driver invoice as proof of purchase and we will provide you with a 50% discount on the R_Volution driver.

Are there any considerations?

- An active internet connection is required to access and browse your movie and TV show library, as the system depends on cloud-based data for content indexing and retrieval.
- Note that players must remain powered on, as they cannot be turned on or off via the API.

Do you offer any other cool drivers?

Control4 is a major part of our business. We develop new drivers all the time. You can see all of our drivers on our website (<https://chowmain.software>). Sign up to our newsletter to get notified when new drivers are released.

I want to try this driver out before buying it?

- All Chowmain drivers for Control4 come with a 90 day trial.

Licensing

Marketplace

To Purchase drivers

Chowmain Drivers are only available to authorized dealers. Integrators can sign up to a Chowmain account via the [Chowmain Website](#). Authorization of dealers can take up to 48 hours; however, you can trial the drivers without an account.

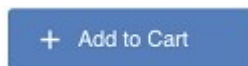
1. Navigate to the login page of Chowmain website: [Chowmain - Login](#)
2. Sign in using credentials provided after sign up request approval
3. Ensure you are logged into the website using website's header: registration and sign up buttons are replaced with cart icon and user icon



4. Navigate to the drivers page: [Chowmain - Drivers](#)
5. Alternatively, you can use the global search input in the header to find the driver



6. Search for and locate the driver you are interested. Click *Add To Cart*



7. Once you have added all drivers to your cart, navigate to the shopping cart: [Chowmain - Cart](#)
8. Click *Checkout & Pay*. Follow the directions



9. Purchase confirmation will be sent to your email, all orders can be viewed in the [Chowmain - Orders](#)
10. Once the payment is processed, the driver will be available in your account: [Chowmain - My Drivers](#)

Create Chowmain Project and obtain Project Code

Note:

- Showroom Projects contain all drivers of its Control System
- Paid licenses cannot be assigned to Showroom Projects
- Only 1 Project is required per home
- If the Project has already been created, do not create a second one
- If controller already has a Project code created by another installer, please contact the original installer for access. If the original installer is unavailable, contact [Chowmain - Support](#)

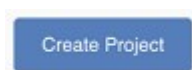
- If the controller has been replaced and the license needs to be transferred to a new controller you can do so yourself via the website

1. Ensure you are signed into the [Chowmain Website](#)

2. Navigate to [Dashboard => Projects](#)



3. Click *Create Project*:



4. Complete the details for the Project (*Project Name, Customer Name, Control System*)

5. Upon completion, take note of the **Project Code**. This is required to link the Control System to the newly created project

To Assign purchased drivers to Project

NOTE: Driver must already be purchased and a Project Code must be created as per above 'Create Chowmain Project and obtain Project Code' section

1. Navigate to [Chowmain Software - Projects](#). Click the *Project Name* you wish to assign the driver to

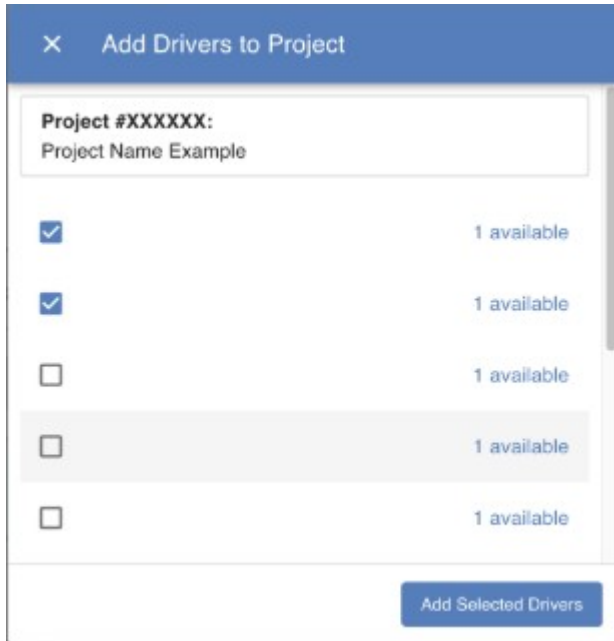
Project Name	Project Code	Licensed	Showroom	Platform
100	XXXXXX			
101	XXXXXX			

Rows per page: 15 1-2 of 2

2. Click the *Add License(s)*:



3. Select Drivers you wish to assign to the project, and click *Add Selected Drivers*:



4. Alternatively you can add in drivers via the [Chowmain - Drivers](#)

5. The driver will be added to the project with the license status *Licensed*

	Driver Name	Version	License	Health	Autoupdate	Logging Approved	Log Level
☐ ▾			licensed	-	false	-	-
☐ ▾			licensed	-	false	-	-

Control4

To Download and install Chowmain drivers:

NOTE: Licensed Chowmain drivers come with a complimentary 90-day trial period. To license the driver, installation of the Chowmain Project Agent is required. The Project Agent is also required for automatic driver updates. Throughout the 90-day trial period, Chowmain Drivers operate without any limitations. After this period, the driver will be disabled unless properly licensed.

All Chowmain Licensed drivers require a minimum of OS 3.1.3 to operate correctly unless specified.

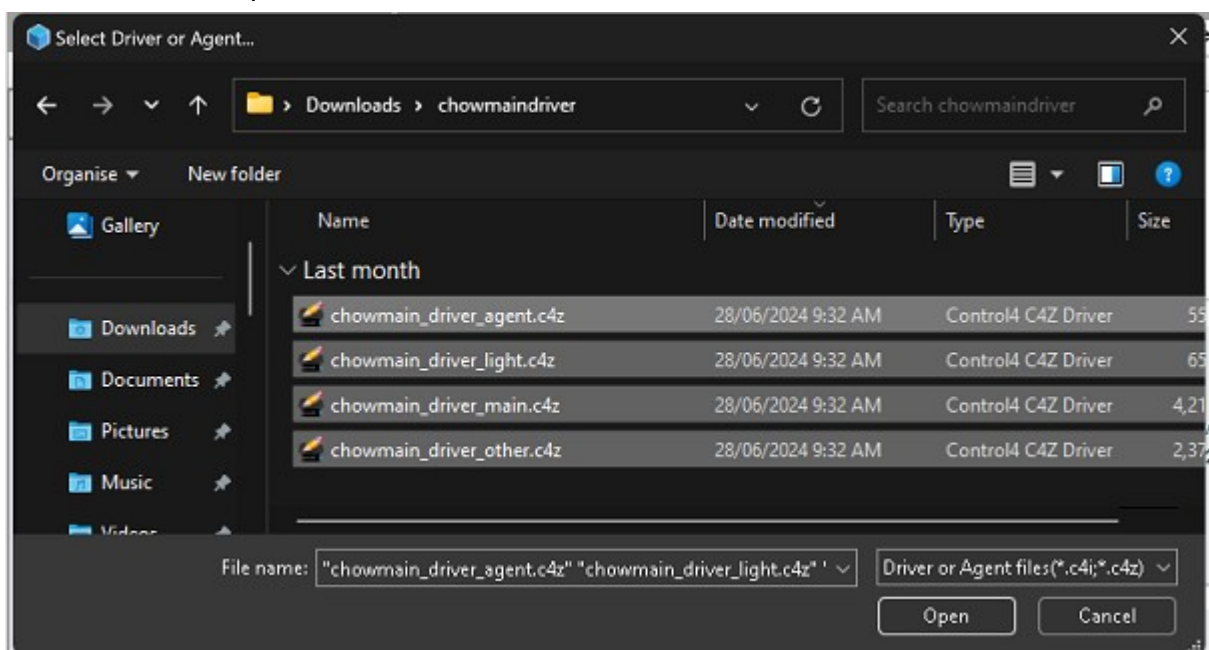
1. Visit: <https://chowmain.software>
2. Search and locate your driver, and click into the details by clicking the picture or heading.
3. Select Download. And extract the contents of the downloaded Zip file to a temporary directory



4. **Please note: For many drivers, it is no longer recommended to copy the contents of most modern drivers directly to your Control4/drivers directory.** The recommended method of updating drivers or installing drivers is in Composer Pro, navigate to the Driver=>Add Or Update Driver Or Agent menu item.



5. Locate the temporary directory containing your C4Z files. You can select and install/update all drivers simultaneously by selecting one and using Ctrl+A. Alternatively, click the top driver+shift+click the bottom. Click the open button. You will be alerted when drivers are installed



6. Install drivers as per normal. Please note, some drivers may be agents, and you must use the Agents tab in Control4 to install the driver. Composer Express does not support Agents, and Composer pro is recommended for all installers.

Install Chowmain Agent

Installation of the Chowmain Agent is required to licence drivers

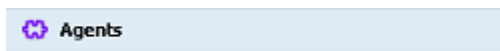
1. Download Chowmain Project Agent From the [Chowmain Project Agent Page](#)
2. Open Project In Composer Pro. Composer Express does not Support Agents and cannot be used
3. Navigate to the *Driver=>Add Or Update Driver Or Agent* menu item



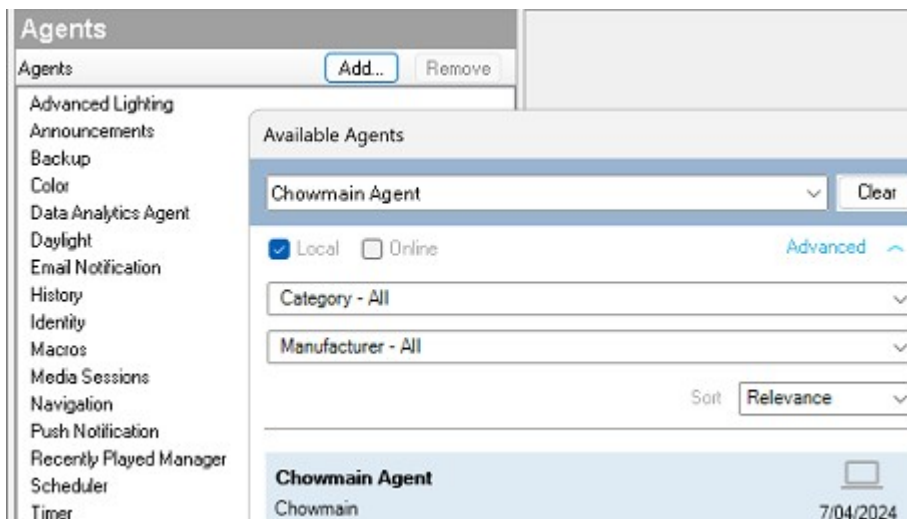
4. Add the *agent_chowmain.c4z* file



5. Navigate to the Agents View in Composer Pro



6. If *Chowmain Agent* is not already added to project, select the *Add* button in Agents and add the *Chowmain Agent* to Project

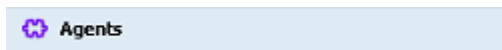


7. *Chowmain Agent* should be listed in the project.



Link Project Code to Control4 Project

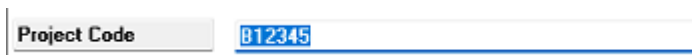
1. Ensure *Chowmain Agent* is installed on primary Control4 Controller. If not, follow the previous information
2. Navigate to the Agents View in Composer Pro



3. Select *Chowmain Agent* in the project



4. Enter the Project Code into the Project Code Property. You would have previously set this up on the *Chowmain* website as outlined in the Website portion of this document. If you have not set up a project you can do so via the [Chowmainsoft - Projects](#) webpage.



5. The status property will provide feedback on driver licencing status



6. **Please note:** If project code has been used previously on another controller you can revoke the licence for use again.

LICENCING FAQ

What are the Requirements for Chowmain licencing?

- Driver trials do not require Agent to be installed.
- To activate licenced drivers, *Chowmain Project Agent* must be installed.
- Composer Pro 3.1.3 or later is required to install and configure *Chowmain Project Agent*
- Internet is required during the licence registration process.
- If Internet is lost then the licence will persist the last state.
- If the *Chowmain Project Agent* is removed then licencing will be invalidated. Do not remove the *Chowmain Project Agent* once installed.

How do I know if the deployed driver is using Chowmain Licencing?

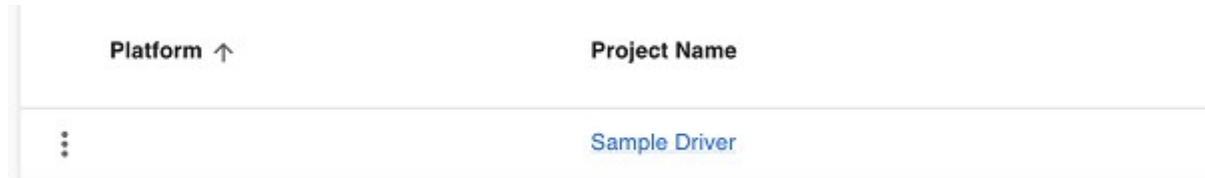
- There are multiple ways:

1. Chowmain licensed drivers have CM: in their cloud status property

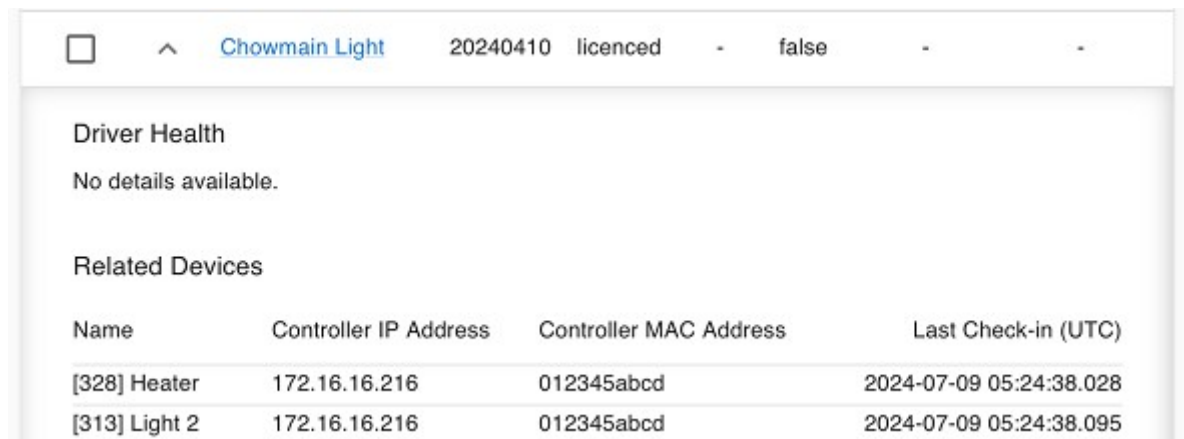


2. If the *Project Code* has been correctly entered in Chowmain Project Agent and the project is registered, you can find the list of Chowmain-licensed drivers deployed on your controller using the Chowmain website.

1. Navigate to [Chowmainsoft Website - Projects](#)
2. Select your Project Code



3. Known Chowmain Drivers will be listed, and if you select the driver, it will list which drivers in the project are known to be CM Licenced. Please note, this list may not update immediately



How does the trial period work?

All Chowmain drivers are free to use for 90 days. When the trial expires the driver will cease to function until you purchase a licence and apply it to the project.

What benefits does Chowmain Project Agent provide?

Chowmain Project Agent provides a number of benefits for projects

- Required for activation of driver licences. Enables the linking of Control4 Projects to Chowmain Project Codes.
- Required for Auto Updates of Chowmain Licenced drivers
- Provides local access to all Diagnostics for all known licenced Chowmain drivers on Control4 system in 1-click
- Bulk Enable and Disable of Automatic Updates of drivers
- Display local licencing information for all known driver
- Update All Drivers in 1 click to latest versions available for that driver

Where do I buy a Licence from?

- Chowmain Control4 Drivers are only available to Control4 installers. Installers can sign up to a Chowmain account using: <https://chowmain.software/signup>. If you are a home owner you should contact your automation installer for support, purchase and installation of drivers
- This driver is developed by Chowmainsoft and can be purchased from the [Chowmain Software Website](#).
- All licences are site licences. This means the one licence can be used to unlock as many instances of the same driver in the same project.

Can I upgrade old versions of drivers from other marketplaces to Chowmain?

- This process is mostly automated.
 1. Install Chowmain Project Agent, and assign a Project Agent as required
 2. Ensure all drivers are up to date, and replace obsolete drivers with updated builds.
 3. Wait 10 mins.

Developer Information



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Information stated in this document is current as of January 2025 and may change. For latest information please visit <http://www.chowmainsoft.com>

Support

Ticket / Live Chat Support

We provide ticket based support and live chat support for those who can't contact us via phone. Click the button below to visit our online helpdesk.

Support Centre	Hours of Operation	URL
Australia / New Zealand / United Kingdom	Monday - Friday - See website for hours of operation	https://chowmain.software/for-integrators/ technical-support

Phone Support

Region	Hours of Operation	Phone Number
Australia	Monday - Friday - See website for hours of operation	[+61 3 9028 6999](tel:+61 3 9028 6999)
United Kingdom	Monday - Friday - See website for hours of operation	[+44 29 2000 5551](tel:+44 29 2000 5551)
United States	Monday - Friday - See website for hours of operation	[+1 206 944 5444](tel:+1 206 944 5444)

Driver Documentation

All of our drivers come with detailed instructions on how to install and configure the driver for use in different projects. Please refer to the documentation included with the driver you downloaded, or [contact us](#) if you are unable to locate the documentation for your driver.

Change Log

Version 20250224 - 24-FEB-2025

- Initial release