

OpenWeatherMap Installation and Usage Guide



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chowmainsoft

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Overview

OpenWeather is a team of IT experts and data scientists that has been practising deep weather data science since 2014. For each point on the globe, OpenWeather provides current and forecasted weather data.

The Chowmain OpenWeatherMap agent brings all of this data into Control4 for use in the home automation system. This is useful for automating services within the home based upon the external environment.

Note This is built as a Control4 Agent and will only work on Control4 OS 3.1.3 and above.

Note This is not a replacement for a personal weather station. We recommend utilising Cumulus Weather Stations or WeatherHawk weather station drivers/hardware if you require accurate readings as these provide real time local weather information.

Features

- The agent utilises project's Location and Temperature scale automatically to ensure that the data you receive is specific to your project and is returned in imperial or metric
- Auto polls for weather information every 15 minutes
- Bindings for current temperature and current humidity allows you to connect to temperature display driver and other thermostat drivers
- Current Weather Conditions for:
 - Sunset (time)
 - Sunrise (time)
 - Temperature Minimum
 - Temperature Maximum
 - Wind Speed (miles/hour or meters/sec)
 - Wind Direction (degrees)
 - Temperature (degrees celcius / fahrenheit)
 - Pressure (hPa)
 - Humidity (percentage)
 - Dew Point (degrees celsius / fahrenheit)
 - Clouds (percentage)
 - Rain (mm)
 - Snow (mm)
- Forecasted Weather Conditions for (Today & Tomorrow):
 - Temperature Minimum (degrees celcius / fahrenheit)
 - Temperature Maximum (degrees celcius / fahrenheit)
 - Wind Speed (miles/hour or meters/sec)
 - Wind Direction (degrees)
 - Pressure (hPa)
 - Humidity (percentage)
 - Dew Point (degrees celsius / fahrenheit)
 - Clouds (percentage)
 - Precipitation
 - Rain (mm)
 - Snow (mm)

FAQ

I've created an account on OpenWeatherMap and I have double checked that the API key is correct but the driver still won't populate the Properties fields, why?

OpenWeatherMap now require you to *subscribe* to the free plan, which requires you to enter credit card details.

1. Log in to your account
2. Navigate to **Billing plans**

[New Products](#) [Services](#) [API keys](#) [Billing plans](#) [Payments](#) [Block logs](#) [My orders](#) [My profile](#) [Ask a question](#)

If you have some problem with activation your billing subscription please send us a message with the Ask a question form

"One Call by Call" subscription plan

The "One Call by Call" subscription is a subscription that includes only **One Call API 3.0** and allows you to pay for the number of API calls made to this product.

Name	Calls per day (no more than)	Price (excl. VAT)	Status
Base plan	2,000 	Free limit per day: 1,000 calls After: 0.12 GBP per 100 calls	Subscribe

Professional collections

Current weather and forecasts

Please note that these limits do not apply to **One Call API 3.0**.

Name	Calls per minute (no more than)	Price per month (excl. VAT)	Status
Free plan	60	Free	Default
Startup plan	600	30 GBP	Subscribe
Developer plan	3,000	140 GBP	Subscribe
Professional plan	30,000	370 GBP	Subscribe
Enterprise plan	200,000	1500 GBP	Subscribe

[Detailed pricing](#)

3. For the free version, select the **Subscribe** button next to the **Base plan**
4. Follow the prompts to enter your credit card details

5. Once the credit card details have been verified by OpenWeatherMap, they'll accept requests from our driver with your API key *this might take 30 min* to complete

Notice

You have successfully subscribed. Please wait, we are processing your request!

[New Products](#) [Services](#) [API keys](#) [Billing plans](#) [Payments](#) [Block logs](#) [My orders](#) [My profile](#) [Ask a question](#)

If you have some problem with activation your billing subscription please send us a message with the Ask a question form

"One Call by Call" subscription plan

The "One Call by Call" subscription is a subscription that includes only **One Call API 3.0** and allows you to pay for the number of API calls made to this product.

Name	Calls per day (no more than)	Price (excl. VAT)	Status
Base plan	1,000 	Free limit per day: 1,000 calls After: 0.12 GBP per 100 calls	Activated Unsubscribe

Can you give us some examples of how we could use this agent?

- Humidifiers can be turned on automatically if it is going to be a dry day
- Towel rails can be turned on if its going to be a humid day
- If it is going to be a hot and sunny day, close the shutters to shut the heat out
- If it is hotter indoors than it is outdoors and the wind direction is facing the motorised windows then open the windows.
- If it is going to be a hot day turn on the AC
- If it is going to rain don't automatically water the garden (I would also put in some additional logic to ensure that it will water the garden if it is extremely hot and if it hasn't watered the garden in X amount of days).
- If it is going to be a cloudy day and the customer has solar then don't turn on the smart appliances until tomorrow.
- If it is going to snow turn on the driveway heater

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 (<http://www.chowmainsoft.com>). Sign up to our newsletter to get notified when new drivers out.

Usage Scenarios

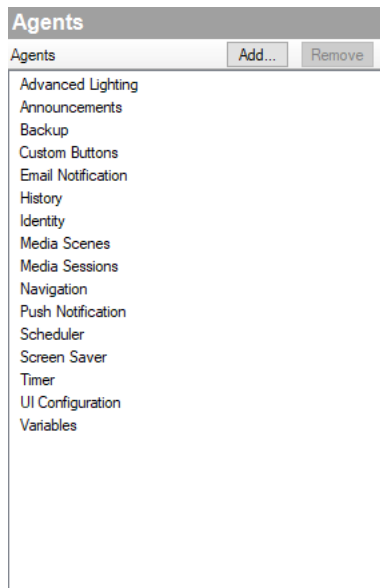
- Humidifiers can be turned on automatically if it is going to be a dry day
- If it is going to be a hot and sunny day, close the shutters to shut the heat out
- If it is hotter indoors than it is outdoors and the wind direction is facing the motorised windows then open the windows
- If it's going to snow tomorrow, turn on the Heated Driveway System in advance
- If it is going to be a hot day turn on the AC
- If it is going to rain don't automatically water the garden
- Water the garden if it is extremely hot and if it hasn't watered the garden in X amount of days
- If it is going to be a cloudy day and the customer has solar then don't turn on the smart appliances until tomorrow
- Combine with our Advanced Announcements driver to read the weather forecast out in the morning

Disclaimer

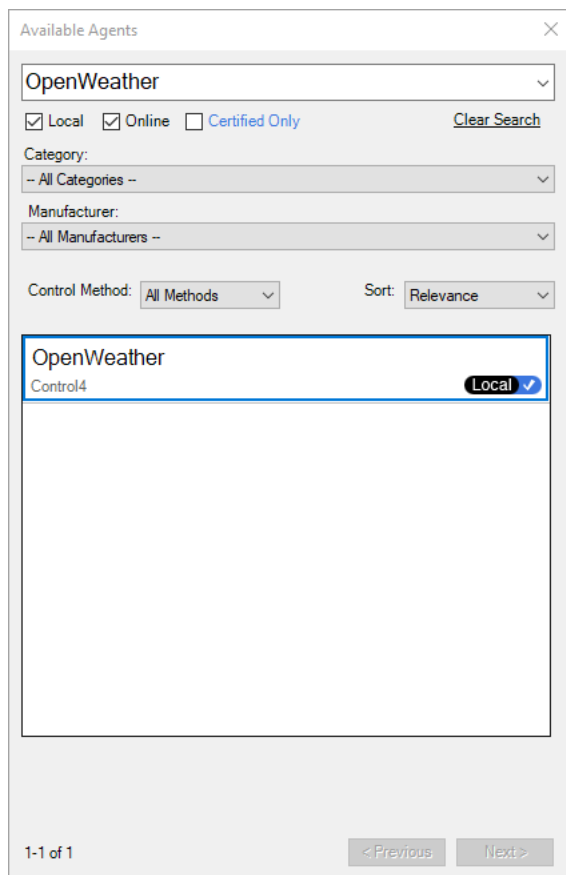
This driver relies on a 3rd party online weather service (<http://openweathermap.org>) and as such Chowmain cannot guarantee the uptime or indefinite availability of these services. Chowmain will however to the best of its ability implement new API's if API's change. Do not utilise this driver for any safety systems or systems that cannot handle any form of down time from this driver. Internet downtime or weather service downtime can potentially cause failure to execute the irrigation system. If you utilise this driver for irrigation purposes you do so at your own risk.

Adding the agent to your project

1. Launch the Composer Pro application and connect to your project
2. Select **Agents** view button



3. Select the **Add...** button
4. Search for **OpenWeather** and double click on the listed **OpenWeather** agent



5. Enter in your free OpenWeatherMaps API Key (if you do not have one, sign up at http://home.openweathermap.org/users/sign_in) and press **Set**



A screenshot of a web form. On the left, there is a label 'API Key' in a small, light gray box. To the right of this label is a text input field. The input field contains a long, black, monospaced alphanumeric string, which is an API key. The entire form is enclosed in a thin gray border.

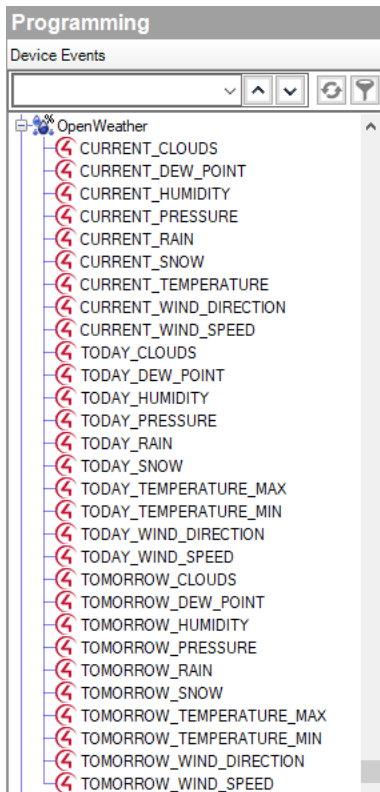
The fields in the Properties tab will now populate and update every 15 minutes.

Now you're ready to program your system and devices against the agent's available variables.

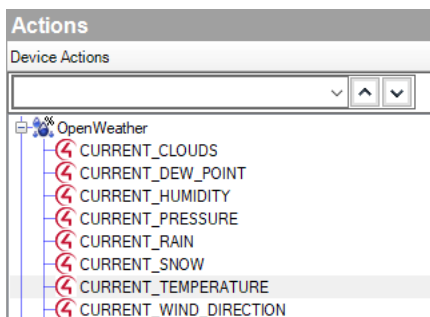
How to use Variables

For each of the examples below, start with these steps;

1. Select the **Programming** view
2. Under **Device Events** select and expand **Open Weather Map**



3. Select the appropriate variable, for example **TODAY_TEMPERATURE_MAX**
4. Under **Device Actions**, select and expand **OpenWeather**
5. Select the appropriate variable, for example **CURRENT_TEMPERATURE**



6. Now select the **Conditionals** tab and build your programming

TODAY_TEMPERATURE_MAX Actions

? If OpenWeather->TODAY_TEMPERATURE_MAX GREATER THAN 30

Commands Conditionals Loops

☒ Is > 30

☐ Is = the value of

->CURRENT_CLOUDS

7. Drag the question mark into the script section
8. Drag an action over the question mark (make sure it is over the icon)

Script

Script Execute

When scheduled event 'Sunrise' executes

Programming Controls

Else & And | Or ➡ Break ➡ Stop ➡ Delay 5 seconds

Comment

Script Actions

? If OpenWeather->TODAY_TEMPERATURE_MAX GREATER THAN 30

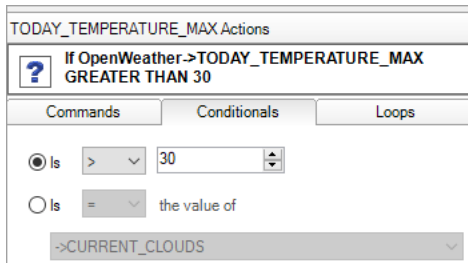
- ➡ Set the blind target level on Lounge Room->Left Somfy Shades to Closed
- ➡ Set the blind target level on Lounge Room->Right Somfy Shades to Closed

Congratulations! You have set up the conditional logic based upon weather information.

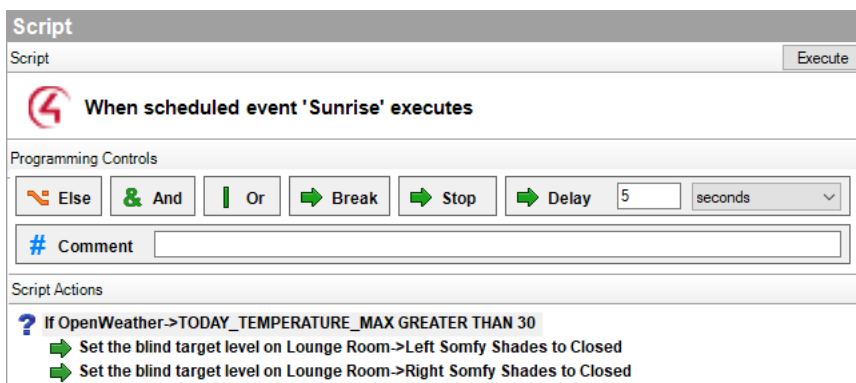
Usage Examples

If it is going to be a hot and sunny day, close the shutters to shut the heat out

1. Under Device Actions, using the Conditionals tab Actions, build your programming



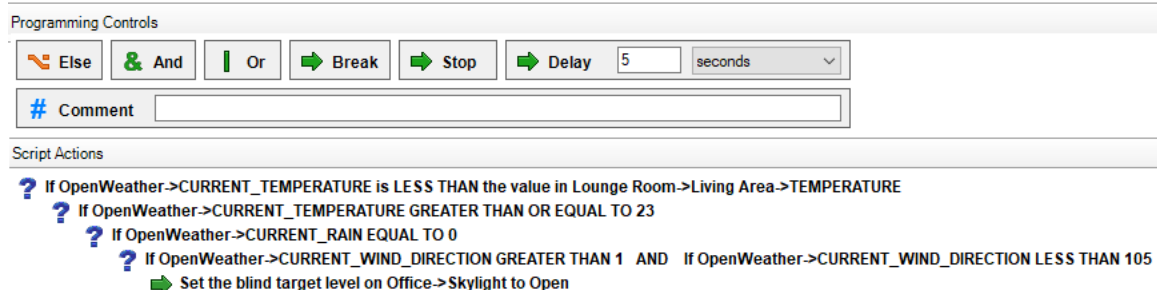
2. Drag the question mark into the script section
3. Drag an action over the question mark (make sure it is over the icon)



If it is hotter indoors than it is outdoors and the wind direction is facing the motorised windows then open the windows.



When the variable OpenWeather->CURRENT_WIND_DIRECTION changes



If it's going to snow tomorrow, turn on the Heated Driveway System in advance

 When the variable OpenWeather->TOMORROW_SNOW changes

Programming Controls

5 seconds

Comment

Script Actions

? If OpenWeather->TOMORROW_SNOW GREATER THAN 0

➡ Turn the Driveway->Driveway Heater on

If it is going to be a hot day turn on the AC

 When the variable OpenWeather->CURRENT_TEMPERATURE changes

Programming Controls

5 seconds

Comment

Script Actions

? If OpenWeather->CURRENT_TEMPERATURE GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO 23

➡ Set the cool setpoint on Lounge Room->Living Area to 23C

Combine with our Advanced Announcements driver to read the weather forecast out in the morning.

Please see *Advanced Announcements documentation* for a detailed guide to building announcements and how to locate the *PARAM(x,y)* details

 When scheduled event 'Weekday Morning' executes

Programming Controls

5 seconds

Comment

Script Actions

➡ Convert Good Morning Alan. Today's temperature is expected to reach PARAM{1374,1011} degrees. to speech

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](#)

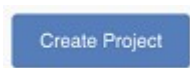
- If the controller has been replaced and the license needs to be transferred to a new controller you can do so yourself via the website

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

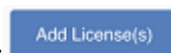
NOTE: Driver must already be purchased and a Project Code must be created as per above 'Create Chowmain Project and obtain Project Code' section

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	0	✓	
101	XXXXXX	0	✗	

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*:

×

Add Drivers to Project

Project #XXXXXX:
Project Name Example

☒

1 available

☒

1 available

☐

1 available

☐

1 available

☐

1 available

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.

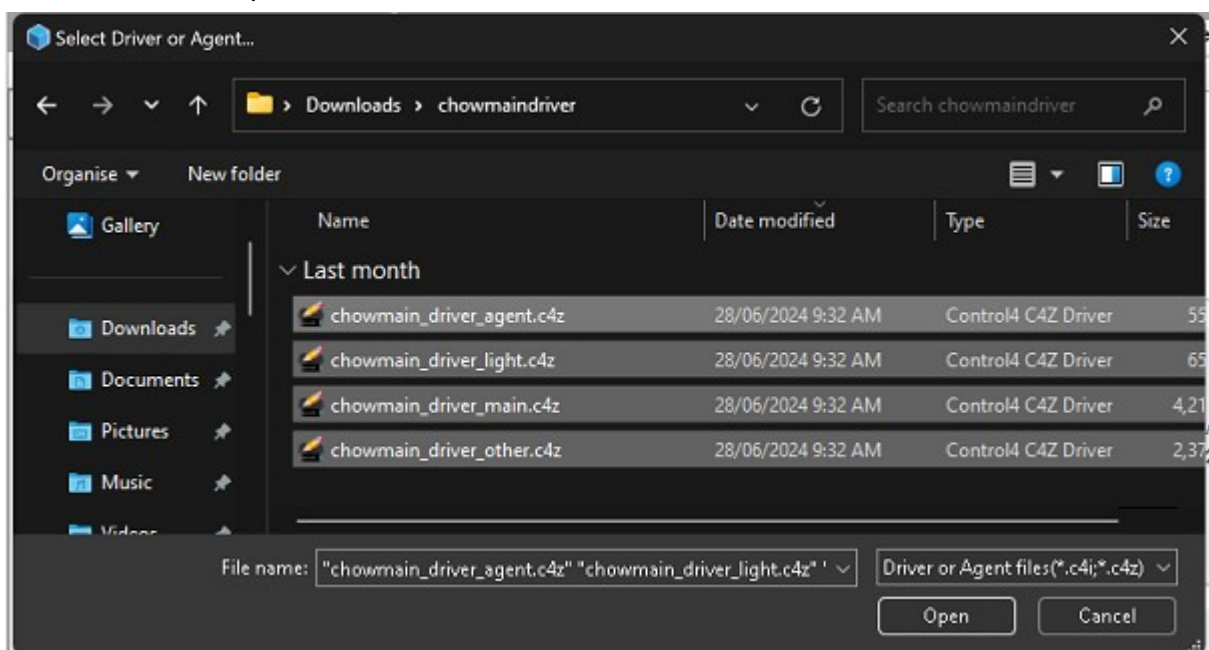
1. Visit: <https://chowmain.software>
2. Search and locate your driver, and click into the details by clicking the picture or heading.
3. Select Download. And extract the contents of the downloaded Zip file to a temporary directory



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

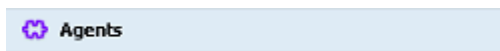
1. Download Chowmain Project Agent From the [Chowmain Project Agent Page](#)
2. Open Project In Composer Pro. Composer Express does not Support Agents and cannot be used
3. Navigate to the *Driver=>Add Or Update Driver Or Agent* menu item



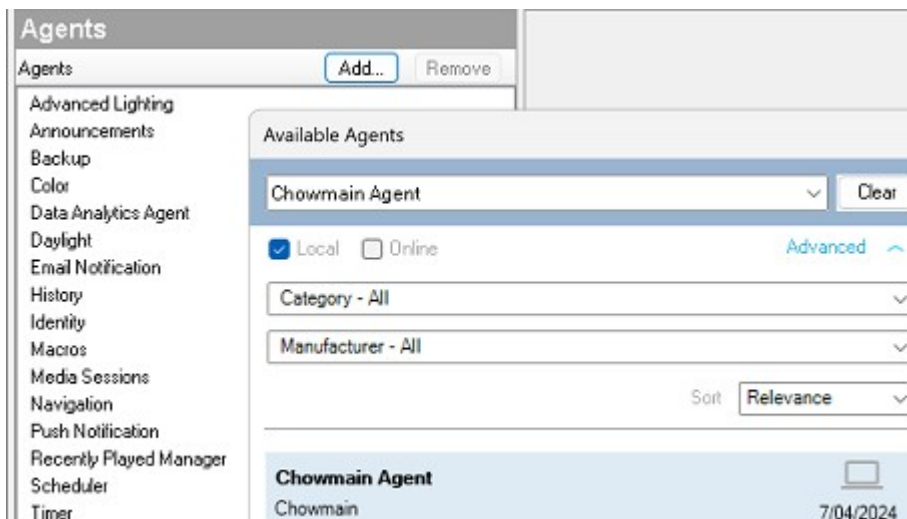
4. Add the *agent_chowmain.c4z* file



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

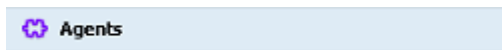


7. *Chowmain Agent* should be listed in the project.



Link Project Code to Control4 Project

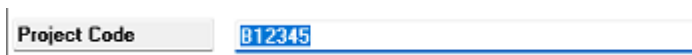
1. Ensure *Chowmain Agent* is installed on primary Control4 Controller. If not, follow the previous information
2. Navigate to the Agents View in Composer Pro



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?

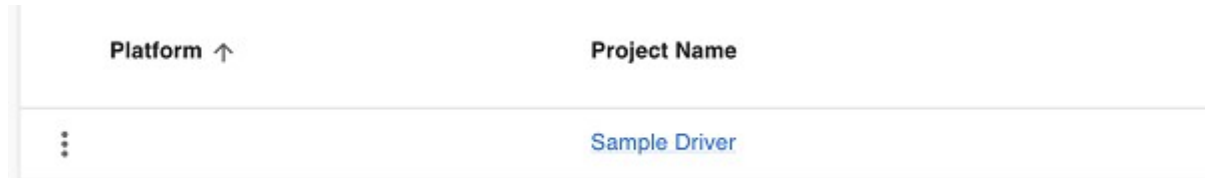
- There are multiple ways:

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

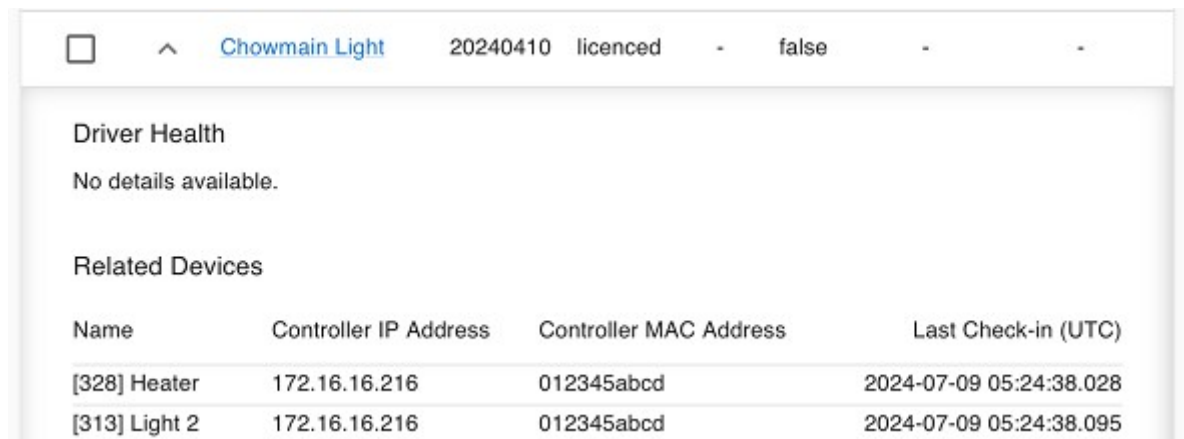


2. If the *Project Code* has been correctly entered in Chowmain Project Agent and the project is registered, you can find the list of Chowmain-licensed drivers deployed on your controller using the Chowmain website.

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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All information contained herein is, and remains the property of Chowmain Ltd and its suppliers, if any. The intellectual and technical concepts contained herein are proprietary to Chowmain Ltd and its suppliers and may be covered by U.S. and Foreign Patents, patents in process, and are protected by trade secret or copyright law. Dissemination of this information or reproduction of this material is strictly forbidden unless prior written permission is obtained from Chowmain Ltd.

Information stated in this document is current as of January 2026 and may change. For latest information please visit <https://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 20260706 - 06-JUL-2026

- Updated to support API version 4.0

Version 20240814 - 14-AUG-2024

- Support for Chowmain Licencing
- Improved Troubleshooting
- Performance Improvements

Version #20230724 - 24-JUL-2023

- Added feedback in Lua Output when connection to openweathermap fails due to an authentication issue
- Add additional notes to the documentation regarding the need to subscribe to the Professional Collection

Version #20220822 – 22-AUG-2022

- Added support for 3.0 endpoint
- Low Level OS 3 Optimisations. Requires Controller Reboot

Version #20211006 – 06-OCT-2021

- Improve Debugging

Version #20220803 - 03-AUG-2022

- New Troubleshooting and Diagnostics system

Version 20211006

- Improve Debugging

Version 20201102

- Added UV Index

Version 20201030

- Driver completely rewritten to match the changes to the OpenWeatherMap API
- Driver converted to a Control4 Agent

Version 20151016

- Starting from 9 October 2015 openweathermap's API requires a valid APPID for access. Note that this does not mean that their API is subscription-only now - please take a minute to register a free account to receive a key. http://home.openweathermap.org/users/sign_in

Version 20150917

- Fixed issue effecting OS 2.8 systems

Version 20150818

- Implemented Dealer Demo Licencing

Version 20150618

- Changed Pressure from string to number type variable

Version 20150407

- Resolved issue where logs on 2.6 systems would fill out controller storage causing system stability issues. This only effects systems where people have set the debug logs to 'print and log' or 'log' and have forgotten about it over longer periods of timexxxxxxxxxx Resolved issue where logs on 2.6 systems would fill out controller storage causing system stability issues. This only effects systems where people have set the debug logs to 'print and log' or 'log' and have forgotten about it over longer periods of timeInitial release

Version 20141118

- Converted from c4i to c4z filetype

Version 20140514

- Initial release