

Video Storm IRUSB Installation and Usage Guide



Video Storm

Version: 2024.7.29
Date: Monday, July 29, 2024
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chowmainsoft

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Overview

The Videostorm IRUSB device allows us to control any Android set top box including the Nvidia Shield, Amazon Fire TV, Foxtel Now and more.

The Chowmain IRUSB driver for Nice Home Management provides IP control over the IRUSB with keyboard text entry, direct app launching, transport controls and more.

It adds additional IR outputs to Nice Home Management by replicating the Global Cache protocol allowing for control over local IR devices via the built in Nice Home Management Global Cache drivers.

Lastly it also can detect when audio starts and stops. This is useful for automating selection of the device for Android TV boxes that have Chromecast built in. Now you can cast YouTube, Netflix or Stan via your mobile phone/tablet or by voice using Google Home and have Nice Home management automatically select the box as a source with full transport control over the casted content.

Features

- IP control over the majority of Android based devices such as Amazon Fire TV, Nvidia Shield, Foxtel Now, Xiaomi Mi Box and more.
- Detection of Audio Signal or Absence of Audio Signal for automated room on.
- Ability to direct launch many of the popular applications
 - Amazon
 - DirecTV
 - Disney
 - ESPN
 - HBO
 - HD Homerun
 - Hulu
 - iHeartRadio
 - Kodi
 - Netflix
 - Pandora
 - PBS
 - Showtime
 - Spotify
 - Tunein
 - VEVO
 - Vimeo
 - Youtube
- Three custom config strings for custom app launching for apps not listed above (note Android intent required for launching).
- Keyboard support for text entry (perfect for inputting username, password or search text).
- Global Cache emulation allows you to add additional IR outputs.

FAQ

What hardware will this work on?

This driver will work for the following models. It should also work with the majority of Android Boxes including:

- Nvidia Shield
- Amazon FireTV
- Xiaomi MiBox
- Foxtel Now

Note you will need to purchase and plug in the IRUSB dongle from Videostorm and install/configure the IRUSB application from Google Play store.

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

- Automatic Room on via Audio Detection assists with integration of AndroidTV boxes with Chromecast built in. The user just casts to the box and Nice Home Management turns on the TV and selects the correct source. The HR remotes can then control the transport controls of the app including play, pause, stop, fast forward, rewind, skip previous and skip next.
- Add additional controlled AV zones to Nice Home Management by simply adding an Android box. Control the TV using the IR emitter and control the Android box via IP.
- Devices such as the Nvidia Shield and Amazon Fire TV have problematic control. For example in 2017 Amazon broke ADB control in their 4K lineup of Fire TV's. This hardware / software combo gets around these issues and ensures it won't happen again.

Do you offer showroom discounts?

We offer dealers a free showroom licence for demonstration and educational purposes. More information is available from the [Chowmain Website](#)

Setup

Requirements

- Nice Home Management Core 8.8.600 or later is required
- This driver requires a valid licence for use. More information is available on the [Chowmain Website](#). Customers can also trial the driver for 90 days prior to licence purchase. Dealers who have showrooms can demonstrate the driver for free via the Chowmain Dealer Showroom Licence. You can apply for a showroom licence via the Chowmain website.
- An IRUSB transmitter

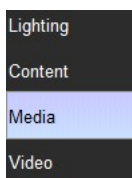
IR Output Configuration

The IRUSB can emulate the global cache protocol. This is enabled via the Google Play Store application. Once enabled add a Global Cache communications device and IR Sender. You will need to enter in the IP address of the Android box in the communications device and also configure which Module:Device to use in the IR Sender. Note if you only have one leave it as 1:1

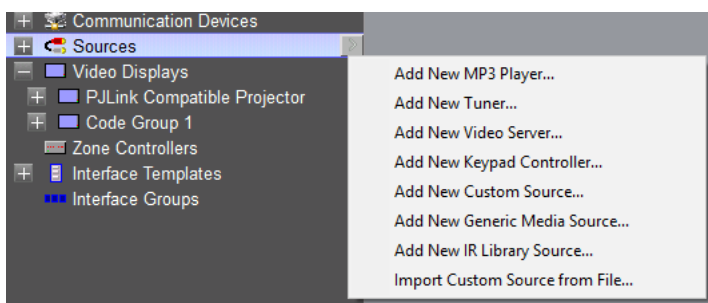
Installation Process

Please follow connect the IRUSB to the android box's USB port and install/configure the required IRUSB android application from Google Playstore before proceeding with the Nice Home Management Configuration steps below.

1. Download the latest version of the driver
2. Extract the file to your preferred driver storage location.
3. In configurator click on the Media tab

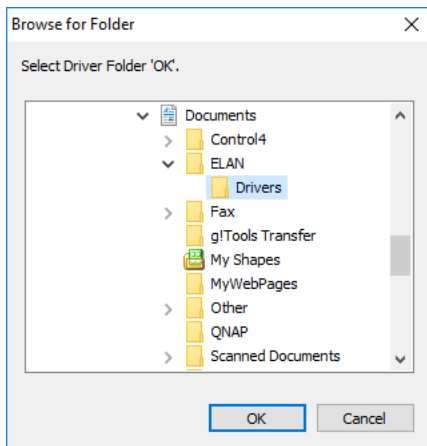


4. Click on the arrow next to Sources Devices
5. Click on Add New Generic Media Source

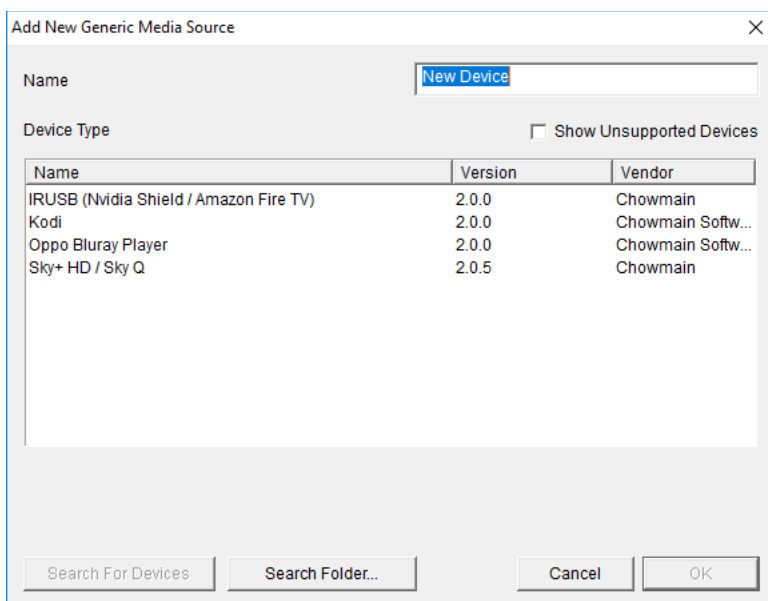


6. Click on the Search Folder button

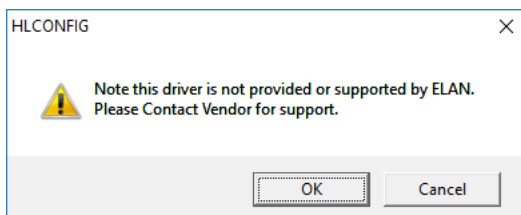
7. Select your driver folder and press ok



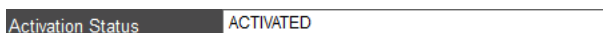
8. Select the IRUSB driver.



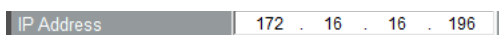
9. Configurator will warn you that the driver is not provided or supported by Nice/Elan. Click on OK.



10.Highlight the IRUSB driver with the music symbol next to it.



11.Enter the IP Address of the Android box.



12.Click on each Page Layout and modify to delete the apps buttons/images not used or modify each interface to suit other applications which you may want to use. Note other applications have been added as Universal Functions as well so please choose the apps your customer wants.

13.Expand on your Video Display or your Zone Controller

14.Click on the input you want to configure

15.Assign the IRUSB driver as the source device

16. Congratulations you have successfully setup the IRUSB driver. Please note, a licence purchase will be required to use this driver outside of the initial trial period

Configuration

The following table provides settings used in Configurator when connecting to IRUSB devices. Please refer to the Configurator

Reference Guide for more details.

Devices	Variable Name	Setting	Comments
Generic Media Device (Oppo Bluray Player)	Name	"User Defined"	
	System#	"Auto Detect"	
	Driver Version	"Auto Detect"	
	Driver Vendor	Chowmain Software & Apps	
	Device Type	IRUSB (Nvidia Shield/ Amazon Fire TV)	
	Activation Key	"User Defined" This is the driverCentral activation Key	See Note 1
	Activation Status	"Auto Detect" This provides the licence status feedback	See Note 1
	CustomApp A, B, C	"User Defined" This is the custom string to launch each app via Android Intent	
	Debug Mode	"User Defined" This sets the logging for the driver.	See Note 2
	IP Address	"User Defined" This is the IP Address of the Android Box.	See Note 3

Notes:

1. The driver requires a valid licence for use. All of the licences are site licences. This means that you can use as many instances of the driver as you want in a single system with the one licence. The driver also comes with a built in 90 day trial. The driver will provide feedback as to the state of the licence in the Activation Status field.
2. Debug Mode – This is used for troubleshooting. By default it is set to off. print is used by technical support for live troubleshooting.
3. This is the IP Address of the Android Box. Please make sure that it is on a static IP address or resevation. Change of IP address will result in loss of control.

Common Mistakes

1. IP Address needs to be on a static IP address or IP reservation
2. IRUSB dongle needs to be permanently plugged in and the IRUSB app from google play store needs to be installed/setup. See Videostorm's installation documentation for details.

CHANGELOG

2024.7.29 - JUL 29 2024

- Modernise Backend
- Add Improved Troubleshooting and Submit Diagnostics support
- Upgrade Communication Stack

2.1.7 - MAY 09 2021

- Implemented Channel Up and Channel Down buttons

2.1.6 - APR 27 2021

- Resolved issues with trial licencing no activating.

2.1.5 - FEB 02 2020

- Implemented Stratus Feedback

2.1.3 - NOV 27 2018

- Updated to latest Chowmain library.

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2.0.2 - MAR 1 2018

- Added audio detected true and false events. This is useful for automating automatic selection of the android box as a source for things like casting on AndroidTV boxes that have built in Chromecast.

2.0.1 - JAN 12 2018

- Added Australian apps for Foxtel Now - ABC iview, PLUS7, Stan, tenplay
- Initial Release

Licensing

- How does the trial period work?

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

- Where do I buy a Licence from?

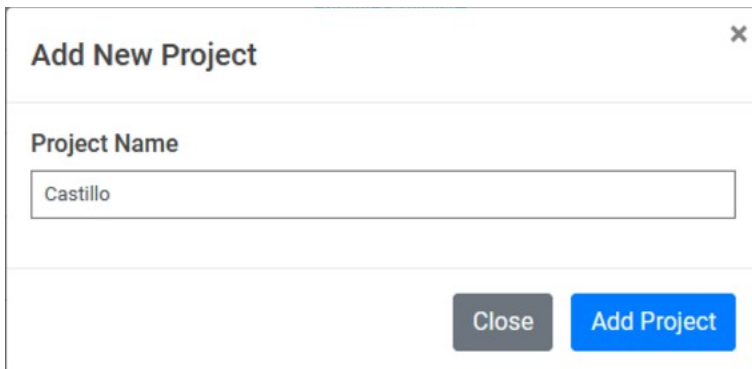
This driver is developed by Chowmain software & Apps and is distributed by driverCentral, Inc
<https://www.drivercentral.io/chowmain-ltd>

To purchase a driver:

1. On driverCentral, purchase a license and register it to your project
2. If the driver is not already installed in your project, download it and install it
3. If necessary, use the cloud driver's Action: "Check Drivers" to force the licence to download into the project


Creating a Project on Driver Central

1. Visit <http://www.drivercentral.io>
2. Log into your driver Central dealer account
3. Click **Portal**
4. Click **New Project**
5. Enter the project name

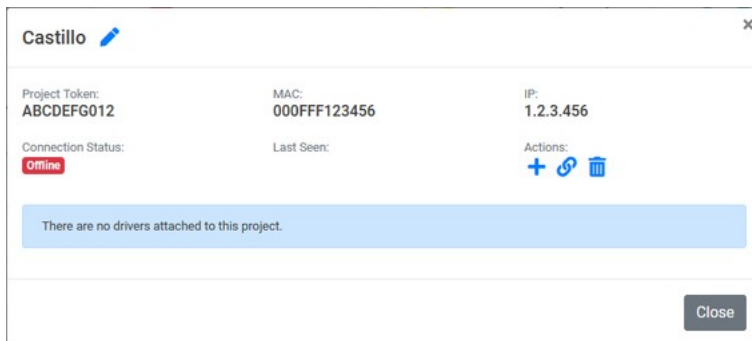


The screenshot shows a modal window titled "Add New Project" with a close button in the top right corner. Below the title, there is a label "Project Name" and a text input field containing the text "Castillo". At the bottom of the modal, there are two buttons: a grey "Close" button and a blue "Add Project" button.

6. Click **Add Project**
7. Click on the project we just created

Project	Status	Created
 Castillo	Unassigned Project	1999-12-31 23:59:56

- Take note of the **Project Token** as this will be used later when we install the Cloud Driver



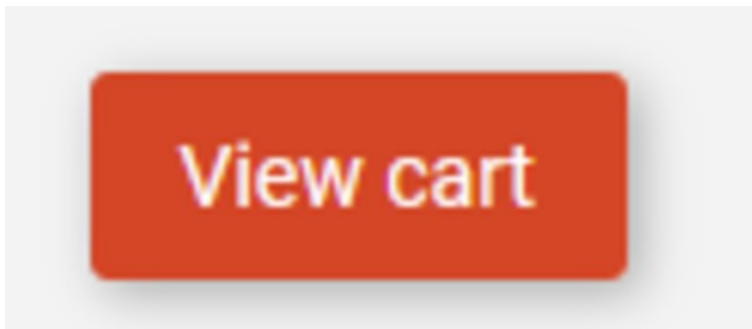
- Click **Close**

Purchasing a Driver Licence

- Visit <https://www.drivercentral.io/chowmain-ltd/> and find the product/driver you want to purchase a licence for
- Click on **Add to Cart**

ADD TO CART

- Now click the shopping cart icon (top right) and click **View cart**




- Confirm that your order is correct and click on **Proceed to checkout**


Proceed to checkout

- Choose your payment option, provide the relevant details and click **Place order**

Checkout



Paypal
Paypal, or Credit Card...



Credit Card
Visa, Mastercard, etc...

☐ Select this check box to accept the [Terms and Conditions](#)

☐ [Subscribe to our newsletter](#)

Place order (\$190.00)

6. You will now be at a page where you can see your purchased licence

License Name	License Key	Project Assigned	Action
			Assign to Project

7. From here assign the licence to the project we created or if you did not follow that step create a new project

✕

License Assignment for

221

✕

Assign License to Existing Project

Select Existing Project:

New Project (enter project name below)

▼

Or...

Create a new project

Enter New Project Name

Enter email for Installer Notifi

Are you sure you want to do this?

Assign License to Project?

Developer Information



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Information stated in this document is current as of July 2020 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
American Support Desk	8:30AM – 4:30PM Mountain Time	https://help.drivercentral.io/

Phone Support

Support Center	Hours of Operation	Phone Number
Australian Support Desk	6:30AM – 5:30PM Australian Eastern Time	+61 3 9028 6999

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.

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