

Issue Date: June 26, 2020

Summary

As all major browser suppliers intend to remove support for Flash based applications at the end of December 2020, clients will need to take a proactive action to maintain the ability to operate their Unigy systems via the Unigy Management System (UMS) UI. The UMS interface provides customer administrators access to all management and configuration screens associated with managing a Unigy system. In order to maintain access to your management system the following options are available to the client:

- 1) Upgrade your existing Unigy platform to Unigy v4.3 P4 or higher. This software supports HTML5/angular technology for UMS access. While IPC has supported some UMS screens in HTML5/angular since Unigy v4.3, IPC recommends patch 4 as it supports all UMS screens and has addressed some software related issues seen in earlier versions.
- 2) Disable your Unigy administration PC's from receiving automatic browser updates. This will allow you to continue to use Flash based technology until you can upgrade your Unigy platform.
- 3) As a final option, IPC will maintain the ability to provide remote programming and configuration support to clients on a MAC (fee) basis. Clients can call IPC to make programming or configuration updates to their system. Remote access to the client Unigy system is required and standard IPC MAC rates will apply.

IPC's legacy Alliance platform also uses Flash technology for management access in Alliance v16.1 and higher systems. The only alternative for clients remaining on the Alliance platform is to disable automatic updates for your Alliance management system PCs. As software updates to Alliance ended in December 31, 2016, and the product is only supported via the Extended Maintenance program terms and conditions, IPC does not have an alternative solution for managing Alliance systems

History

With the pending end of support of Flash (an Adobe product), the major browser suppliers including Microsoft (Internet Explorer, Edge), Google (Chrome) and Mozilla (Firefox) in coordination with Adobe announced their intention to remove FLASH support starting in December 31, 2020 via automatic updates. No workaround is expected to be provided by the browser suppliers.

As open standard based solutions such as HTML5 and Angular have continually matured over the years, they have now become the standard option to replace legacy Flash based solutions. IPC has migrated our legacy Flash based UMS to HTML5/Angular. IPC initially introduced some support for HTML5/Angular UMS screens in Unigy v4.3 in August 2019 (Unigy v4.3 Release Notes on the IPC xchange portal):

<http://xchange/Pages/IPCContent/ReleaseNotes.aspx?lib=technicaldocuments>

Additional screens and further enhancements were added in Unigy v4.3 P2 and Unigy v4.3 P4. See the Unigy v4.3 P4 release notes for more details on the specific enhancements and fixes introduced in those versions.

Affected software versions

Unigy version 4.3 Patch 3 and prior

Alliance v16.1 and higher systems (OneMS)

Workaround

Customers who didn't upgrade in Unigy 4.3, before the end of 2020, will have to stop the automatic updates of Internet Explorer and / or Edge browsers for the targeted PCs used for UMS administrators.

IPC Recommendation

IPC strongly recommends upgrading to Unigy v4.3 P4 prior to the end of December 2020 to address the pending impact of the browser suppliers no longer supporting Flash. Please contact your account representative to coordinate scheduling an upgrade of your software.

If that is not possible, IPC would strongly recommend setting aside PC(s) to not get automatic updates to preserve your ability to access the UMS until the upgrade can be completed.

If you have any questions regarding this update, please contact your account representative.