Catalyst™ Software Suite Version 9.3 Release Notes

This release note provides information on the latest posting of AMD's industry leading software suite, Catalyst™. This particular software suite updates both the AMD Display Driver, and the Catalyst™ Control Center. This unified driver has been further enhanced to provide the highest level of power, performance, and reliability. The AMD Catalyst™ software suite is the ultimate in performance and stability.

For exclusive Catalyst™ updates follow <u>Catalyst Maker</u> on Twitter.

This release note provides information on the following:

- *Web Content*
- *AMD Product Support*
- *Operating Systems Supported*
- *New Features*
- *Performance Improvements*
- *Resolved Issues for the Windows Vista Operating System*
- *Resolved Issues for the Windows XP Operating System*
- *Resolved Issues for the Windows 7 Operating System*
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- *Installing the Catalyst™ Vista Software Driver*
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Web Content

The Catalyst™ Software Suite 9.3 contains the following:

- Radeon™ display driver 8.591
- HydraVision™ for both Windows XP and Vista
- HydraVision™ Basic Edition (Windows XP only)
- WDM Driver Install Bundle
- Southbridge/IXP Driver
- Catalyst™ Control Center Version 8.591

> **Caution:** The Catalyst™ software driver and the Catalyst™ Control Center can be downloaded independently of each other. However, for maximum stability and performance AMD recommends that both components be updated from the same Catalyst™ release.

> **Caution:** The Catalyst™ Control Center requires that the Microsoft .NET Framework version 2.0 be installed. Without .NET version 2.0 installed, the Catalyst™ Control Center will not launch properly and the user will see an error message.

> **Note:** These release notes provide information on the Radeon™ display driver only. For information on the ATI Multimedia Center™, HydraVision™, HydraVision Basic Edition, WDM, Remote Wonder™, or the Southbridge/IXP driver, please refer to their respective release notes found at: *https://support.ati.com/*.

AMD Product Support

The Catalyst™ Vista driver for both the 32bit and 64bit versions of the Microsoft Windows Vista operating system is supported on the following ATI Radeon™ products.

AMD Desktop Product Family Support

AMD Desktop Product Family Support	
ATI Radeon™ HD 4350 Series	ATI Radeon™ HD 4850 X2 Series
ATI Radeon™ HD 4670 Series	ATI Radeon™ HD 4870 X2 Series
ATI Radeon™ HD 4650 Series	ATI Radeon™ HD4600 Series
ATI Radeon™ HD 4550 Series	ATI Radeon™ X1300 Series
ATI Radeon™ HD 4800 Series	ATI Radeon™ X1050 Series
ATI Radeon™ HD 3800 Series	ATI Radeon™ X850 Series
ATI Radeon™ HD 3600 Series	ATI Radeon™ X800 Series
ATI Radeon™ HD 3400 Series	ATI Radeon™ X700 Series

ATI Radeon™ HD 2900 Series	ATI Radeon™ X600 Series
ATI Radeon™ HD 2600 Series	ATI Radeon™ X550 Series
ATI Radeon™ HD 2400 Series	ATI Radeon™ X300 Series
ATI Radeon™ X1950 Series	ATI Radeon™ 9800 Series
ATI Radeon™ X1900 Series	ATI Radeon™ 9700 Series
ATI Radeon™ X1800 Series	ATI Radeon™ 9600 Series
ATI Radeon™ X1650 Series	ATI Radeon™ 9550 Series
ATI Radeon™ X1600 Series	ATI Radeon™ 9500 Series
ATI Radeon™ X1550 Series	

AMD Multimedia Family Product Support

AMD Desktop Product Family Support	
ATI All-in-Wonder™ HD	ATI All-in-Wonder™ 2006 Edition
ATI All-in-Wonder™ X1900 Series	ATI All-in-Wonder™ 9800 Series
ATI All-in-Wonder™ X1800 Series	ATI All-in-Wonder™ 9600 Series
ATI All-in-Wonder™ X800 Series	ATI Theater™ 550 PRO
ATI All-in-Wonder™ X600 Series	ATI Theater 600™
ATI Theater 650™	

Note: ATI All-in-Wonder™ boards operate with AMD's Windows Vista ready display and capture drivers under the Windows Vista operating system. However, the Windows Vista Media Center application does not support TV/Capture functionality provided by the ATI All-in-Wonder™. TV/Capture functionality is qualified to function with Snapstream's BeyondTV 4.6 for Windows Vista. Other third party solutions (such as Arcsoft's Total Media 3) may support TV/Capture with the ATI All-in-Wonder™, but these applications have not been fully tested by AMD.

AMD Chipset Product Support

AMD Desktop Product Family Support	
ATI Radeon™ HD 3300 Series	ATI Radeon™ Xpress 3200 CrossFire
ATI Radeon™ HD 3200 Series	AMD 690 Series Chipset
ATI Radeon™ HD 3100 Series	AMD 580X Series Chipset
ATI Radeon™ HD 3000 Series	ATI Radeon™ Xpress 1150 Series
ATI Radeon™ HD 2100 Series	ATI Radeon™ Xpress 1100 Series
ATI Radeon™ X1250 Series	ATI Radeon™ Xpress 200 Series
ATI Radeon™ X1200 Series	ATI Radeon™ Xpress 1250 Series

Operating Systems Supported

The latest version of the Catalyst™ software suite is designed to support the following Microsoft Windows platforms:

- Windows Vista (32 and 64 bit versions)
- Windows XP Professional
- Windows XP Home Edition
- Windows XP Media Center Edition
- Windows XP Professional x64 Edition
- Windows 7

> **Note:** When installing the Catalyst™ Vista driver for Windows Vista, the user must be logged on as Administrator or have Administrator rights in order to successfully complete the installation of the Catalyst™ Vista driver.

New Features

This section provides information on new features found in this release of the **Radeon™** Display Driver. These include the following:

- *ATI Catalyst™ 9.3 Unified driver for Windows 7 and Windows Vista*
- *ATI Catalyst™ 9.3 Folding@Home performance enhancements*
- *ATI Catalyst™ 9.3 – Windows Vista HDMI audio driver support integrated into all ATI Catalyst 9.3 packages*
- *New AMD Display Library (ADL) SDK*

ATI Catalyst™ 9.3 Unified driver for Windows 7 and Windows Vista

- AMD has delivered a single unified graphics driver for both Windows 7 and Windows Vista – demonstrating AMD's Windows 7 graphics driver leadership and focus on delivering a stable and robust Windows 7 experience on AMD hardware
- Delivers full WDDM 1.1 support under Windows 7 on the ATI Radeon HD 4000 Series, ATI Radeon HD 3000 Series, and ATI Radeon HD 2000 Series of products
- Delivers improved gaming performance under Windows 7 vs. Windows Vista
- All future ATI Catalyst postings will deliver one single unified driver for Windows 7 and Windows Vista

ATI Catalyst™ 9.3 Folding@Home performance enhancements

- Using ATI Stream™ technology, owners of the ATI Radeon™ HD 4000 Series, ATI Radeon™ HD 3000 Series, and ATI Radeon™ HD 2000 Series of graphics accelerators will see a performance boost in their Folding@Home scores when running the latest Folding@Home client and upcoming cores in conjunction with ATI Catalyst™ 9.3

ATI Catalyst™ 9.3 – Windows Vista HDMI audio driver support integrated into all ATI Catalyst 9.3 packages

- As of ATI Catalyst 9.3 the Windows Vista HDMI audio driver is automatically included in the ATI Catalyst 9.3 package
- The HDMI audio driver will only be installed if the AMD graphics accelerator has an HDMI display connector and there is no 3rd party HDMI audio driver installed

New AMD Display Library (ADL) SDK

- AMD Display Library (ADL) SDK is designed to access display driver functionality for all ATI Radeon graphics accelerators and FirePro graphics accelerators
- The SDK supports Windows XP, Windows Vista and Linux - 32 and 64 bit variants
- The SDK can be used from both unmanaged (C/C++) and managed (C#) applications - samples are provided within the SDK
- The ADL SDK is available to the public via the Developer relations site

Performance Improvements

Catalyst™ 9.3 brings performance benefits in several cases where framerates are CPU-limited. Some measured examples are:

- **Lost Planet: Colonies** gains up to 20% on 4800 series products, and up to 50% on 4600, 4500 and 4300 series products

Resolved Issues for the Windows Vista Operating System

This section provides information on resolved issues in this release of the ATI Catalyst™ Software Suite for Windows Vista. These include:

- Video combing effects no longer visible during movie playback while fast forwarding or rewinding
- Avivo Video Color Settings are now retained after resume from Sleep/Hibernate
- Overlay Theater Mode is now enabled with component video or composite video in extended modes
- Catalyst Control Center: Avivo Video Advanced Color page is no longer grayed out and preview is now functional
- OGL games now play properly with "Show Crossfire logo…" option enabled
- Rotation now works if Aero mode is turned off

Resolved Issues for the Windows XP Operating System

This section provides information on resolved issues in this release of the ATI Catalyst™ Software Suite for Windows XP. These include:

- Avivo Video Color Settings will now be applied in the video when played using PowerDVD

- FJ online game no longer changes resolution slowly in full screen mode with some ASICs
- Quake 4: Screen corruption no longer appears in CrossFire using two bridge cables with some ASICs
- Composite video no longer goes black when disabling Overlay Theater Mode using Catalyst Control Center
- Resolved issues for Open GL 3.0 "CreateContext" function
- Toggling between 3D games in full screen mode to the desktop is no longer slow when using the Alt-Tab key

Resolved Issues for the Windows 7 Operating System

This section provides information on resolved issues in this release of the ATI Catalyst™ Software Suite for Windows 7. These include:

Known Issues Under the Windows Vista Operating System

This section provides information on known issues that may be experienced under the Windows Vista operating system with the latest version of Catalyst™. These include:

- AVIVO converter may fail to convert h.264 avi video to another format
- "Unsupported file formats" error message dialog may occur when selecting H.264, mp4 and VC1 file formats
- "CCC Host application..." error message dialog may occur when cancelling a transcoding process
- Output media file size differs after transcoding multiple times to the same format
- The ATI AVIVO video transcoder does not currently use GPU acceleration under Windows Vista 64-bit edition
- "World of Warcraft" and "World of Warcraft: Wrath of the Lich King": Flickering may occur when Shadow is set to medium/high using CrossFire
- Google Sketchup may show blank screen
- Certain resolutions above 10 x 7 might not full screen for specific HDMI displays
- Both LCD and CRT may go blank when hotplugging the CRT to the system, and will not recover until it is switched to discrete GPU

Known Issues Under the Windows XP Operating System

The following section provides a summary of open issues that may be experienced under the Windows XP operating system in the latest version of Catalyst™. These include:

- In this Catalyst 9.3 release, the Compute Abstraction Layer (CAL) driver will not function properly under Windows XP
- OS Display Settings shows extra resolutions for Component Video
- Transcoding a VOB DVD file (18min source file) results in 2.27min output file
- Transcoding falls back to CPU after transcoding to DVD/MPEG2 multiple times in XP
- Media files transcoded using CPU instead of GPU in XP MCE OS

Known Issues Under the Windows 7 Operating System

The following section provides a summary of open issues that may be experienced under the Windows 7 operating system in the latest version of Catalyst™. These include:

- Desktop may jitter and flicker during HD playback under WinDVD9 on some ASICs
- Certain resolutions above 10 x 7 might not full screen for specific HDMI displays
- Express driver uninstall may result in a device manager error
- Avivo Video Converter option is not available for Windows 7
- Moving a video clip across an extended desktop may cause the desktop to flicker or the media player to stop functioning
- Changes to display resolutions may fail to apply for composite video and S-Video
- Restricting the maximum refresh rate and resolution via Catalyst Control Center may fail to apply
- Catalyst Control Center page is missing under OS Display Properties
- Confirmation dialog box might not appear when applying HDTV 720p and 1080i formats; the resolution will be applied automatically
- Display configuration changes in extended desktop may take longer than normal to apply
- Catalyst Control Center: Image Scaling settings might not be applied

Installing the Catalyst™ Vista Software Driver

For further information and general help on software driver installation, game issues, and more, visit *AMD Customer Care*.

Installation information can be found at: *www.ati.com/install*.

Catalyst™ Crew Driver Feedback

This driver release incorporates suggestions received through the Catalyst™ CREW Driver Feedback program. To provide us with your feedback, visit *Catalyst™ Crew Driver Feedback*.