



## *Catalyst™ Software Suite Version 9.8 Release Notes*

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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 [Catalyst Maker](#) 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 All Windows Operating Systems*
- *Resolved Issues for the Windows 7 Operating System*
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## Web Content

The Catalyst™ Software Suite 9.8 contains the following:

- Radeon™ display driver 8.64
- HydraVision™ for both Windows XP and Vista
- HydraVision™ Basic Edition (Windows XP only)
- WDM Driver Install Bundle
- Southbridge/IXP Driver
- Catalyst™ Control Center Version 8.64



**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: <http://support.amd.com/>.



**Note:** Although listed in the documentation, ADL\_Adapter\_ClockInfo\_Get is not available in the current version of the ADL. The code for obtaining the clock information was excluded due to inaccurate information being reported when the card is over-clocked. Future updates of ADL SDK will reflect this change. As an alternative, ADL\_Overdrive5\_ODParameters\_Get() can be used but this API is only supported on R600 and above ASICs.

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## 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 4890 Series	ATI Radeon™ HD 4550 Series
ATI Radeon™ HD 4870 X2 Series	ATI Radeon™ HD 4350 Series

ATI Radeon™ HD 4850 X2 Series	ATI Radeon™ HD 3800 Series
ATI Radeon™ HD 4800 Series	ATI Radeon™ HD 3600 Series
ATI Radeon™ HD 4700 Series	ATI Radeon™ HD 3400 Series
ATI Radeon™ HD 4670 Series	ATI Radeon™ HD 2900 Series
ATI Radeon™ HD 4650 Series	ATI Radeon™ HD 2600 Series
ATI Radeon™ HD 4600 Series	ATI Radeon™ HD 2400 Series

### AMD Multimedia Family Product Support

AMD Multimedia Family Product Support	
ATI Theater™ 550 PRO	ATI Theater 650™
ATI All-in-Wonder™ HD	ATI Theater 600™



**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 FireStream™ Product Family Support

AMD FireStream™ Product Support	
AMD FireStream™ 9270	AMD FireStream™ 9170
AMD FireStream™ 9250	

### AMD Chipset Product Support

AMD Chipset Product Support	
ATI Radeon™ HD 4200 Series	ATI Radeon™ 3100 Series
ATI Radeon™ HD 3300 Series	ATI Radeon™ 3000 Series
ATI Radeon™ HD 3200 Series	

## Operating Systems Supported

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

- Windows 7 32-bit version
- Windows 7 64-bit version
- Windows Vista 32-bit version
- Windows Vista 64-bit version

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- Windows XP Professional
  - Windows XP Home Edition
  - Windows XP Media Center Edition
  - Windows XP Professional x64 Edition



**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.

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## New Features

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

- *OpenGL™ 3.1 extension support*

### OpenGL™ 3.1 extension support

This release of ATI Catalyst™ provides OpenGL™ 3.1 extension support. The following is a list of OpenGL™ 3.1 features and extensions added in Catalyst 9.8:

- Support for OpenGL Shading Language 1.30 and 1.40
- Instanced rendering with a per-instance counter accessible to vertex shaders (GL ARB draw instanced)
- Data copying between buffer objects (GL EXT copy buffer)
- Primitive restart (NV primitive restart). Because client enable/disable no longer exists in OpenGL 3.1, the PRIMITIVE RESTART state has become server state, unlike the NV extension where it is client state. As a result, the numeric values assigned to PRIMITIVE RESTART and PRIMITIVE RESTART INDEX differ from the NV versions of those tokens
- At least 16 texture image units must be accessible to vertex shaders, in addition to the 16 already guaranteed to be accessible to fragment shaders
- Texture buffer objects (GL ARB texture buffer object)
- Rectangular textures (GL ARB texture rectangle)
- Uniform buffer objects (GL ARB uniform buffer object)
- SNORM texture component formats

## Performance Improvements

The following performance gains are noticed with this release of Catalyst™ 9.8:

- **Battleforge DirectX 10/DirectX 10.1** - performance improves up to 15-50% in CPU limited settings with the largest gains in CrossfireX configurations
- **Company of Heroes DirectX 10** - performance improves by up to 10-77% in CPU limited settings
- **Crysis DirectX 10** - Dual CrossfireX performance improves as much as 10% and Quad CrossfireX performance improves as much as 34% in CPU limited settings

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- **Crysis Warhead DirectX 10** - Dual CrossfireX performance improves as much as 7% and Quad CrossfireX performance improves as much as 69% in CPU limited settings
  - **Far Cry 2 DirectX 10** - Dual CrossfireX performance improves as much as 50% and Quad CrossfireX performance improves as much as 88% in CPU limited settings
  - **Tom Clancy's H.A.W.X. DirectX 10/DirectX 10.1** - Dual CrossfireX performance improves up to 40% in CPU limited settings with Quad CrossfireX performance improving up to 60% in CPU limited settings
  - **UnigineTropics OpenGL** - performance improves 5-20%
  - **UnigineTropics DirectX 10** - Quad CrossfireX performance improves 5-20% in CPU limited settings
  - **World in Conflict DirectX 10** - performance improves by 5-10%

## Resolved Issues for All Windows Operating Systems

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

- Catalyst Control Center: Diagnostic warning message now appears in CrossFire aspect when the only display is removed from the CrossFire chain
- Catalyst Control Centre will now launch properly with CrossFire disabled on multi-adapter enabled/configured systems
- Catalyst Control Center: Some of the missing "Monitor Attributes" options in the Displays tab are now available
- Refresh rates are now applied properly for standard and optimized HDTV modes in Catalyst Control Center
- Catalyst Control Center: Missing update for Windows 7 localized help content is now available
- TV Properties tab now properly displays "Image Quality" instead of "TV Properties" for Catalyst Control Center user interface

## 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:

- Display and mouse rotation now functions properly after reboot with 3 or more displays in clone mode
- "Unreal Tournament 3" no longer fails to respond after performing a taskswitch to desktop
- Hotplugging a secondary display during HD playback with WinDVD no longer causes desktop to go blank
- Intermittent block noise no longer visible during MPEG2-TS content playback with Windows Media Player
- Windows 7 logo no longer displays flickering distortion during Windows 7 loading screen (system reboot up)

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## 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:

- “Call of Duty: World at War” no longer exhibits flickering water corruption when Software CrossFire is enabled

## 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:

- Catalyst Control Center: Predefined and custom HDTV formats can now be applied via HDTV support
- Intermittent video artifacts no longer visible when playing a DVD in stretched desktop mode

## Known Issues Under All Windows Operating Systems

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

- Launching Hotkeys Manager in Catalyst Control Center may result in unhandled exception error to appear
- The "Desktop Rotation" page in Catalyst Control Center may display additional information for the second display when the secondary adapter is connected
- HDMI may be detected as DTV (DVI) instead of DTV (HDMI) when HDMI display is hotplugged for the first time
- Catalyst Control Center might not revert back to default settings for "Dynamic Range" after settings are modified
- In extended/cloned mode, the secondary display status may appear incorrect in the "Available Display Devices" page under Catalyst Control Center Basic view
- Catalyst Control Center: AVIVO Advanced Color page may display "Color vibrance", "Flesh tone correction" and "Video Gamma" in English instead of proper translation string
- Catalyst Control Center stopped working error may pop up when specific HDMI displays are hot unplugged and hotplugged back

## 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:

- With OverlayMixer filter, Blu-ray disc playback with PowerDVD may display black video with audio and counter still running
- Display may go blank after resuming from hibernation during SD DVD playback in Windows Media Center Edition (MCE)

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- In some HDTV extended mode configurations, some audio breaks may intermittently be heard when connected through HDMI audio
  - SD DVD playback may halt and display error message when DVI + S-VIDEO displays are set to clone mode in Windows 7
  - Enabling Screen Space Ambient Occlusion option in "Riddick 2 Dark Athena" may cause the game to fail under MGPU configurations

## Known Issues Under the Windows Vista Operating System

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

- With CrossFire enabled, some DX10 games (Tom Clancy's H.A.W.X., Lost Planet: Colonies, etc.) might not have HDMI audio
- With some system configurations a delay may be noticed when task switching between the desktop and a game in progress
- Media playback with WinDVD, Windows Media Player or Windows Media Center may output static sound over HDMI when connected to Sony TVs
- Playback of certain Picture-in-Picture titles may exhibit transparent overlay effects or turn black in the secondary stream
- Corruption may be visible in the "Change Outfit..." menu text in "The Sims 3"
- Catalyst Control Center may show HDMI displays as DVI for both connecting via HDMI port and to DVI port via HDMI-DVI dongle for specific ASICs
- Enabling Screen Space Ambient Occlusion option in "Riddick 2 Dark Athena" may cause the game to fail under MGPU configurations

## 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:

- Resuming video playback after S1 sleep may result in no HDMI audio, although Display Manager in Catalyst Control Center reports display as DTV (HDMI)
- Catalyst Control Center: Hotplugging back a HDMI display might not restore its original DTV (HDMI) Pixel Format setting, if a DVI display was hotplugged and unplugged during the interval to the same port
- Changes to AVIVO Basic color settings might not be retained after Catalyst Control Center is re-opened with specific ASICs
- AVIVO Basic color setting changes might not be applied during HD DVD playback on specific ASICs on XP Media Center Edition

## 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: [How to Install Your ATI Product](#).

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## 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](#).