Using
Strobe Media Playback

Beta 1

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Using Strobe Media Playback

Introduction

Strobe Media Playback lets you quickly and easily integrate an Open Source Media Framework (OSMF) media player into your website. Strobe Media Playback is built on OSMF. Unlike OSMF, Strobe Media Playback comes with a predefined user interface.

Strobe Media Playback supports all the same video formats as OSMF, including Progressive Download, RTMP streaming, and HTTP Dynamic Streaming.

The interface can be controlled through HTML embed tags. You can control the player dimensions, set auto start and auto hide behavior, add full screen support, and much more.

Strobe Media Playback is great for bloggers, small business, and enterprise websites who want to get started with the best web-based video experience available.

Strobe Media Playback encapsulates much of the complexity of connecting to your media source, while giving your customers a high-quality experience. Strobe Media Playback includes an interface that you can control and customize.

System requirements

Windows or Mac	**Minimum**	**Recommended**
Resolution	1024x768, 1280x720	Stretch: 1920x1080
Processor speed	1 Ghz	2 Ghz
RAM	1 GB	2 GB
VRAM	128 MB	512 MB

In addition to Strobe Media Playback recommendations, see the Adobe Flash Player system requirements.

DRM & HTTP Streaming

To use the DRM and HTTP streaming features, use the Strobe Media Playback version compiled against Flash Player 10.1. Your viewers are required to have Flash Player 10.1installed.

Note: *Because Flash Player 10.1 has not yet been released, use the default Flash Player 10.0 version unless you require the DRM or HTTP Streaming features.*

Getting started

1 Download the zip file from www.osmf.org (it contains documentation, StrobeMediaPlayback.swf, and a test page).

2 Open the zip file and put the contents in a folder at the root of your web server. Look for the folder where you installed the web server. Create a folder below the root folder of the web server.

- Windows:

  Web server root: `C:\Program Files\Apache\htdocs\`

  Create folder: `C:\Program Files\Apache\htdocs\strobe`

- Mac or Linux:

  Web server root: `/var/www/htdocs`

  Create folder: `/var/www/htdocs/strobe`

3 Open your browser and point it to the demo page.

Configuring the player

Strobe Media Playback can be configured using FlashVars.

Name	Required	Default value (other choices)	Description
Embed parameters			
movie	Yes	-	The location of the SWF file
height	Yes	-	The overall height of the player
width	Yes	-	The overall width of the player
FlashVars			
src	Yes	-	The location of the media file.
loop	No	false (true)	Restart media playback when the end is reached.
autoPlay	No	false (true)	Automatically start playing the media.
controlBarPosition	No	bottom (over, none)	Control bar position
backgroundColor	No	-	The background color of the player
streamType	No	liveOrRecorded (live, recorded, dvr)	Media stream type. The DVR functionality only works if streamType = dvr. Otherwise you would only see the recorded part (if the mode is recorded) or the live part (if mode is live OR if mode is liveOrRecorded.
autoHideControlBar	No	true (false)	Auto hide the user interface controls.
scaleMode	No	letterbox (none, stretch, zoom)	Controls the scaling mode

Note: *FlashVar names are not final. The names can change between the beta and the Strobe Media Playback 1.0 release version.*

Configuring plug-ins

Strobe Media Playback supports loading OSMF plug-ins by specifying them as flashvars:

```
plugin_myplugin=http://mysite.com/plugins/myplugin.swf
myplugin_namespace=http://www.mysite.com/namespace/1.0
myplugin_retry-live=true
myplugin_retry-interval=10
```

The separator between the plug-in name and the property name is the underline character "_".

The namespace property is used to group multiple properties. Namespaces allows you to organize the properties you want to send to your plug-in. There is no limit on the number of namespaces or properties set on a namespace.

Here is a sample that uses two namespaces:

```
plugin_myplugin="http://mysite.com/myplugin.swf",
myplugin_namespace=http://mysite.com/namespace/1.0/,
myplugin_videoName="Video Name",
myplugin_description="Video Description",
myplugin_namespace_ns2=http://mysite.com/namespace/2.0/,
myplugin_ns2_videoName="Video Name2",
myplugin_ns2_description="Video Description2"
```

As illustrated by this sample, a namespace alias is used to specify an additional namespace.

Plug-in and namespace rules:

- The name of the plug-in cannot be "plug-in".
- The name of a namespace alias cannot be namespace
- The plug-in name must match the following regular expression:`/[a-zA-Z][0-9a-zA-Z]*/g`For example, the plug-in names and namespace aliases cannot contain the special separator underline character "_".
- Only the plug-in URL is validated. The remaining parameters are passed unchanged and unchecked to the plug-in. The plug-in can validate or ignore invalid values.
- All parameter names are case-sensitive. Parameter names are not altered in any way.
- A plug-in namespace parameter is mandatory if custom parameters are sent to the plug-in. No namespace is required to simply load a plug-in SWF file.

Samples

The following examples illustrate how you can embed code in your web page to satisfy different usage scenarios.

Basic playback

Basic Playback

```
<object width="470" height="320">
  <param name="movie"
    value="http://myserver.com/strobe/StrobeMediaPlayback.swf"></param>
  <param name="flashvars"
    value="src=http://myserver.com/mymovie.flv"></param>
    <param name="allowFullScreen" value="true"></param>
  <param name="allowscriptaccess" value="always"></param>
  <embed src="http://myserver.com/strobe/StrobeMediaPlayback.swf"
        type="application/x-shockwave-flash"
        allowscriptaccess="always" allowfullscreen="true"
        width="470" height="320"
        flashvars="src=http://myserver.com/mymovie.flv">
  </embed>
</object>
```

Using DVR

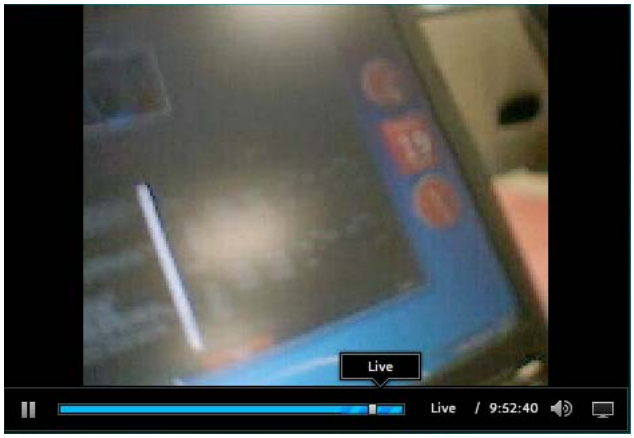
The DVR feature makes sense only when you are also delivering live content through the same player.

This is how the player looks like when enabling DVR.

In this screen shot the scrub bar indicator is positioned in the DVR area. The viewer is able to see recorded broadcast content, and can also switch to what is being broadcast live:

Viewing recorded portion of broadcast content during DVR playback

In the screen shot below the viewer has switched to live view:



Viewing live broadcast during DVR playback.

This example illustrates how to embed a player for DVR playback:

```
<object width="470" height="320">
    <param name="movie"
        value="http://myserver.com/strobe/StrobeMediaPlayer.swf"></param>
    <param name="flashvars"
        value=
"src=rtmp://myserver.com/dvrcast_origin/recorded&streamType=dvr&autoHideControlBar=false">
    </param>
    <param name="allowFullScreen" value="true"></param>
    <param name="allowscriptaccess" value="always"></param>
    <embed src="http://myserver.com/strobe/StrobeMediaPlayer.swf"
          type="application/x-shockwave-flash" allowscriptaccess="always"
          allowfullscreen="true" width="470" height="320"
          flashvars=
"src=rtmp://myserver.com/dvrcast_origin/recorded&streamType=dvr&autoHideControlBar=false">
    </embed>
</object>
```

Playing live content

In this case the player only shows the live broadcast.

Playing live content only (scrubbing is, of course, not possible).

This example illustrates how to embed the player to show live content:

```
<object width="470" height="320">
  <param name="movie" value="http://myserver.com/strobe/StrobeMediaPlayer.swf"></param>
  <param name="flashvars"
value="src=rtmp://cp34973.live.edgefcs.net/live/Flash_live_bm_500K@9319&streamType=live"></p
aram>
  <param name="allowFullScreen" value="true"></param>
  <param name="allowscriptaccess" value="always"></param>
  <embed src="http://myserver.com/strobe/StrobeMediaPlayer.swf"
       type="application/x-shockwave-flash" allowscriptaccess="always" allowfullscreen="true"
          width="470" height="320"

flashvars="src=rtmp://cp34973.live.edgefcs.net/live/Flash_live_bm_500K@9319&streamType=live"
>
  </embed>
</object>
```

Playing encrypted content

Playing encrypted content is done in the same way as for basic content: point the player to the encrypted stream. Your viewers must install Flash Player 10.1 to be able to play encrypted content.

Known Issues

- When you set streamType=dvr and use a stream does not include live broadcast, pausing moves the scrub indicator to the beginning of the recording.
- If the url to the stream has query string parameters, is must be URL encoded.
- If you are using a proxy plug-in that blocks the playback of the media (to insert a mid-roll ad), the player does not detect the removal of PlayTrait. If the viewer clicks the play button, an exception is triggered.