What's New

Saba Meeting | Release 8.5.15 (Update 50) | Aug 2021

saba®
now part of cornerstone

Contents

Notice

Limitations on Warranties and Liability

Saba Software, Inc. reserves the right to make changes in information contained in this document without notice.

In no event shall Saba or its suppliers be liable for any damages whatsoever (including, without limitation, damages for loss of business profits, business interruption, loss of business information, or any other pecuniary loss) arising out of or relating to this documentation or the information contained in it, even if Saba has been advised of the possibility of such damages and whether arising from tort (including negligence), breach of contract or otherwise.

This document may only be reproduced and distributed in whole for use by licensed users. No part of this document may be reproduced in any form for any other purpose without the prior written consent of Saba Software, Inc.

The software described in this documentation is copyrighted and is confidential information and a proprietary product of Saba Software, Inc.

U.S. GOVERNMENT RESTRICTED RIGHTS. If licensee is the United States Government or any contractor thereof, all licenses granted in the License Agreement accompanying this product are subject to the following: (i) for acquisition by or on behalf of civilian agencies, as necessary to obtain protection as "commercial computer software" and related documentation in accordance with the terms of this Commercial Software Agreement as specified in 48 C.F.R. 12.212 of the Federal Acquisition Regulations and its successors; (ii) for acquisition by or on behalf of units of the Department of Defense ("DOD") as necessary to obtain protection as "commercial computer software" and related documentation in accordance with the terms of this commercial computer software license as specified in 48 C.F.R. 227-7202-2 of the DOD F.A.R. Supplement and its successors.

Saba and the Saba logo are registered trademarks of Saba Software, Inc. and Saba product names are the trademarks of Saba Software, Inc. All other product names mentioned in this manual are the property and may be trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective owners, and are used for identification purposes only.

Change log

The following table summarizes the list of changes introduced in a particular version of this document.

Table 1: Summary of changes

Version	Date	Change description	Functional area	Feature
1.0	21-06-2021	Initial version	N/A	N/A
2.0	30-07-2021	Updated topic	App client	720p HD video support

New features at a glance

The following table summarizes the list of features introduced in the August 2021 release and their potential impact on your environment.

- **On by default** does not necessarily imply that the feature is immediately available to your users. It may require a user with an appropriate administrator role to turn on applicable functionality, settings, and so on.
- NEW indicates a new feature introduced in this update. Others are enhancements or changes to the existing functionality.

New features at a glance

Feature	On by default?	Admin setup required	Support ticket required	Affected audience
Third party support	✓			All
App client launch workflow enhancements	✓			Leader Co-presenter Participant
Enhanced Admin Downloads page for Saba Meeting App client	✓			System Admin
720p HD video support NEW			✓	Leader Co-presenter Participant
Voice Activity Detection support NEW			✓	Leader Co-presenter Participant
Default audio channels in a session are now set to 10	✓			All
Prevent deletion of chat messages from text chat			✓	Leader Presenter Participant

Feature	On by default?	Admin setup required	Support ticket required	Affected audience
Download Whiteboard results NEW	✓		✓	Leader Co-presenter
Download poll results NEW	✓		✓	Leader Co-presenter
Drag-and-drop support in the tree view of App-based Agenda Builder	✓			Leader Presenter
Express client participants can now engage in breakout rooms NEW	✓			Leader Co-presenter Participant
IE 11 - End of Support				All

Chapter

1

What's New in Saba Meeting 8.5.15

Topics:

- Third-party support changes
- App client launch workflow enhancements
- Enhanced Admin Downloads page for Saba Meeting App client
- 720p HD video support
- Voice Activity Detection support
- Default audio channels in a session are now set to 10
- Prevent deletion of chat messages from text chat
- Download Whiteboard results
- Download poll results
- Drag-and-drop support for level 3 of App-based Agenda Builder
- Express client participants can now engage in breakout rooms
- IE 11 - End of Support

This release for Saba Meeting contains the following new features, enhancements, and changes.

⚠️ **Attention:** To view and use any new or enhanced client-side features, it is mandatory to upgrade your Saba Meeting client.

Saba Cloud also includes additional new features and enhancements for Meeting Administrators in a Saba Cloud - Saba Meeting integrated environment. For details, refer to the Saba Cloud *What's new* in online community.

Third-party support changes

In this update, the following third-party software is now supported for Saba Meeting clients:

Table 2: Third-party support changes

Type of Software	Previously supported version	New version
Java (App client)	AdoptOpenJDK 11.0.7 (bundled with Saba Meeting App)	AdoptOpenJDK 11.0.11 (bundled with Saba Meeting App)

App client launch workflow enhancements

Note: These enhancements are available only on Firefox, Chrome, and Edge Chromium browsers on Windows OS.

⚠ **Attention:** With this update, legacy Edge browser support for the Saba Meeting App client has been discontinued.

Usability enhancements for client install and launch workflow

This update enhances the usability of the Saba Meeting App client install and launch workflow.

The enhanced workflow displays redesigned launch pages with intuitive and consistent messaging, which makes it easy for users to join a meeting or virtual event.

When users try to attend an event and if the Saba Meeting App client is not installed on their system, then the download and install workflow displays the following steps.

1. The browser displays the following page.

    - **For Firefox browser.** Click the **Click here to install** link.
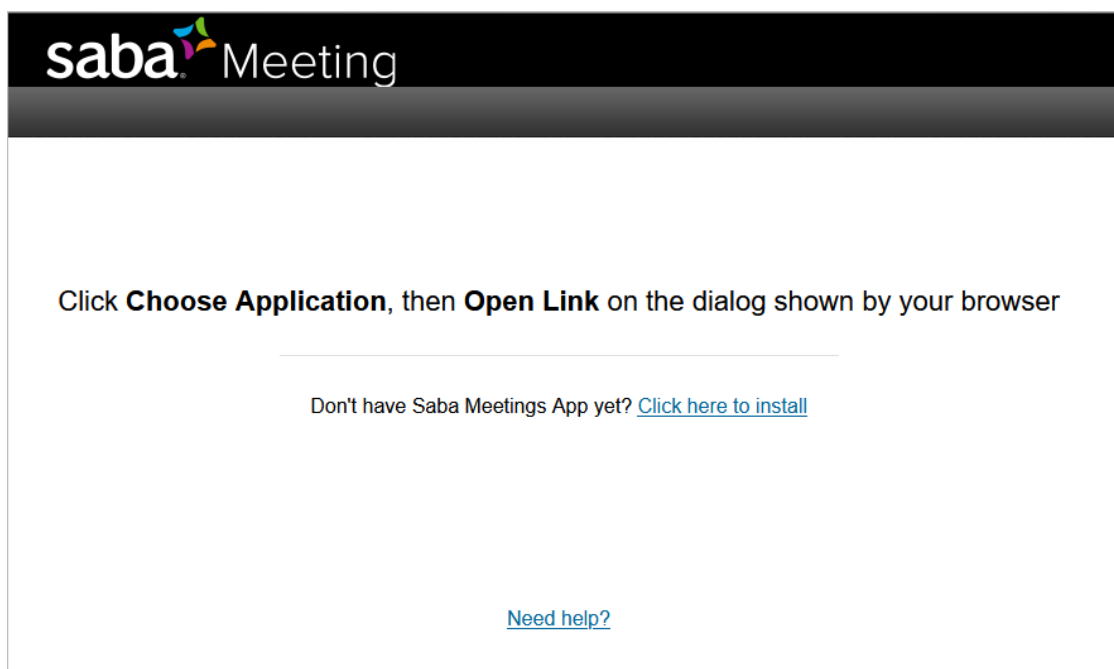
Figure 1: First time install on Firefox

- **For Edge Chromium browser.** Click the **Click here to install** link.
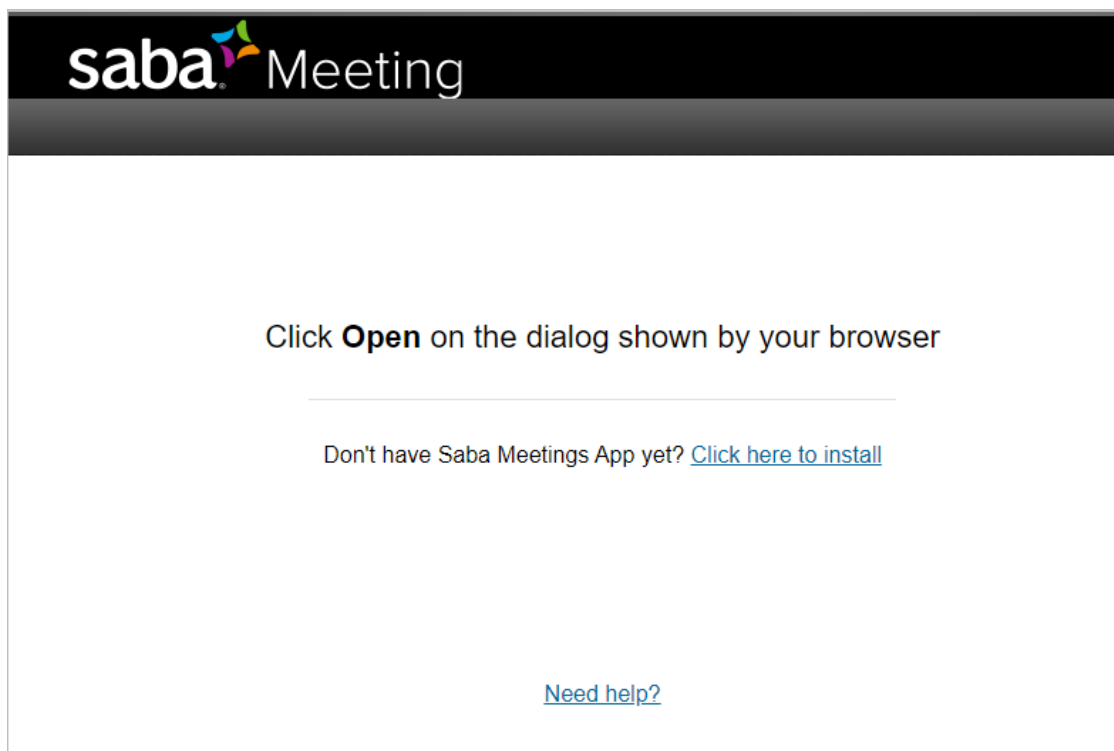
Figure 2: First time install on Edge Chromium

- **For Chrome browser.** This page is not displayed. Chrome detects and starts downloading the light installer immediately (step 2).

2. The browser begins downloading the light installer to the default download location. If prompted, then save the executable file to the required location.
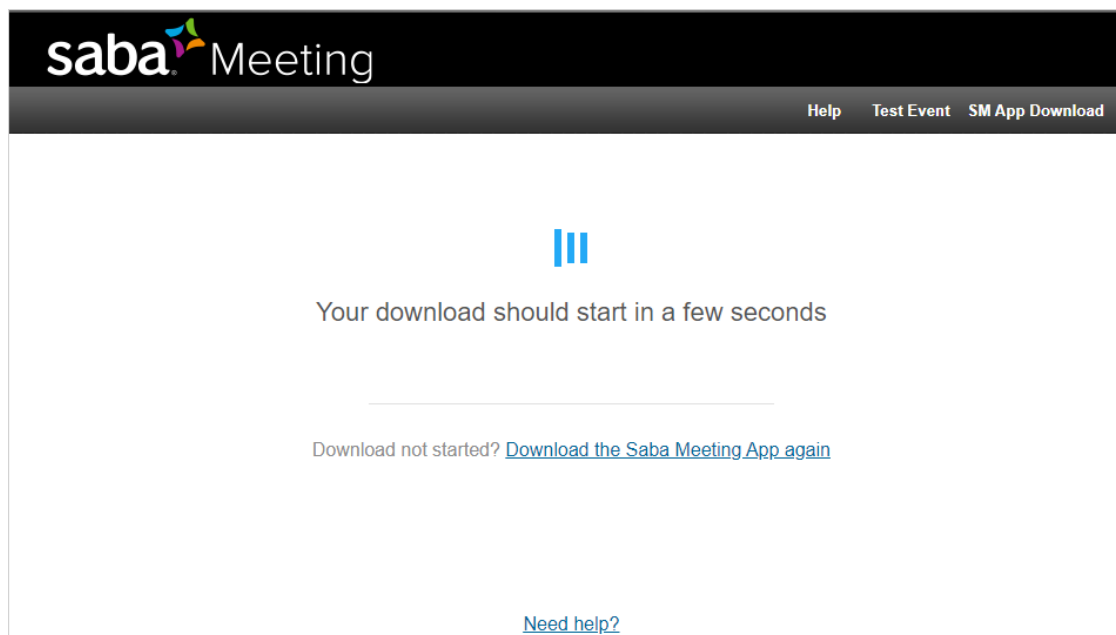
Figure 3: App client light installer download in progress

3. Once the light installer executable is downloaded completely, execute the installer to install the App client.
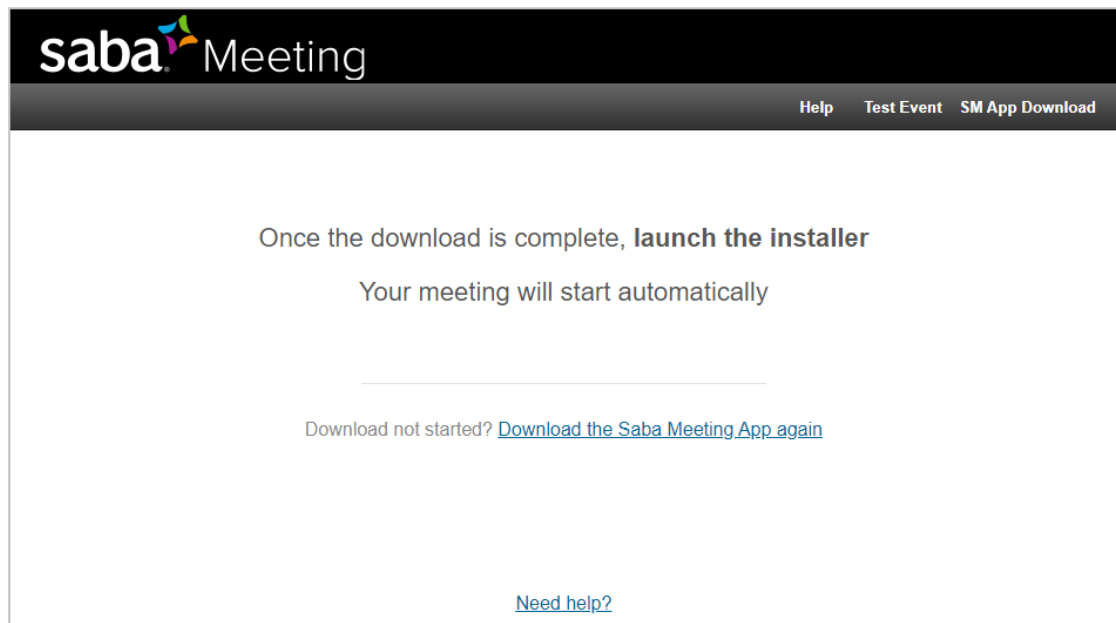
Figure 4: App client light installer download complete

Once the installation is complete, your meeting or classroom event launches automatically.

Note: If the light installer is not downloaded for some reason, you can click the **Download the Saba Meeting App again** link to try the download again.

If you are a participant and if the Saba Meeting Express client is already installed and enabled on your system, then you also see the **Join with the Express client** link to attend the event using the Express client.

Auto-launch client into session on first install

Prior to this update, if users did not have the Saba Meeting App client installed on their Windows machine, and when they tried to launch an event for the first time, then the system downloaded the Saba Meeting App client light installer for Windows and installed it. However, the installer did not automatically launch into the event that the user wanted to attend. Users had to click the **Proceed** button to launch into the event.

This update enhances the Saba Meeting App client light installer for Windows to provide a smooth and improved user experience. Now, if users who do not have the Saba Meeting App client installed, try to launch an event for the first time, then the light installer downloads and installs the Windows App client, and also launches the users into the required event.

If the App client light installer for Windows is not run for the purpose of launching into an event, then the installer launches into a test event. For example, when a user is simply installing the App client from the Downloads page.

Note: The enhanced installer works in both the scenarios where the Saba Meeting connector is installed or not installed.

Enhanced Admin Downloads page for Saba Meeting App client

This update enhances the Saba Meeting App client **Admin Downloads** page for the Saba Meeting System Administrators. The page now clearly defines the App installers based on the operating system (Windows or Mac) and the user requirements, which allows administrators to download the App client as per their organizational requirement.

Admin Downloads

Welcome to the Saba Meeting App installer downloads page. Download the App as per your requirement. This is a one-time install. Once the installation is complete, users can quickly join Saba Meeting events using any of the supported browsers from their Windows or Mac systems.

Saba Meeting App - Single User Installer for Windows (Recommended)

If you are an IT Administrator, then use this Saba Meeting App installer to silently roll out the Saba Meeting App to your Windows users simultaneously. This installer installs the App in '%appdata%\Centra\App' folder on each user's system. It installs the App on each system for a single user only.

Download

Saba Meeting App - Multi-User Installer for Windows

This installer is suitable for installing the Saba Meeting App for multiple users who share the same system with different credentials as part of their daily activity. For example, students sharing the same system in their school IT lab. If you are an IT Administrator, then use this Saba Meeting App installer to silently roll out the Saba Meeting App to your Windows users simultaneously. The installer installs the App in 'C:\Program Files (x86)\SabaMeeting' folder on each user's system. **Note:** Ensure that the Auto-Upgrade policy of the App is not enabled on the server when this App installer is used.

Download

Saba Meeting App - Single User Full Installer for Windows

This is the UI version of the Saba Meeting App full installer for Windows. The installer installs the App in '%appdata%\Centra\App' folder on each user's system. After downloading the App, right-click the EXE file and select 'Run as administrator' to run the installer. It installs the App on each system for a single user only.

Download

Saba Meeting App - Single User Installer for Mac

This is the Mac version of the Saba Meeting App installer. This DMG installer requires Administrator privileges for installation. The installer installs the App in '/Users/<username>/Applications' folder on your system. It installs the App on each system for a single user only.

Download

Figure 5: Enhanced Admin Downloads page

Table 3: Installer Types for System Admin

Installer Type	Number of Users	Operating System
Saba Meeting App Silent Installer	Single User	Windows
Saba Meeting App Silent Installer	Multiple Users	Windows
Saba Meeting App Full Installer	Single User	Windows
Saba Meeting App DMG Installer	Single User	Mac

To install the Saba Meeting App client:

1. Login to the Saba Meeting Server.
2. Under the **Administrator** menu, click **Admin downloads**.
3. For the required installer type, click the **Download** button.

    Note: Download the app version based on your operating system (Windows or Mac).

    The Silent Installers will proceed to install silently in the background.

4. For the UI-based installers, follow the on-screen instructions to complete the installation of the app.

720p HD video support

This update enhances the video capabilities of the Saba Meeting App client such that it now supports 720p High Definition (HD) resolution videos.

With HD video support, Saba Meeting now improves 1-on-1 meeting experience with larger side-by-side video without content. It also facilitates an immersive training experience through virtual classes that require large-sized HD videos.

Note: To use this feature, it is mandatory to upgrade your Saba Meeting App client. It is also expected that Saba Meeting HD videos would require a higher bandwidth usage than traditional non-HD video experience.

Salient features

720p HD video support provides the following features and benefits:

- Up to 8 channel video gallery mode when no content is being shared
- 16:9 video resolution support for HD and non-HD video resolutions with improved layout and quality
- Single channel video and two channel side-by-side video at 1280x720p HD quality
- Improved virtual class experience with 720p primary video resolution with content
- Secondary video channels at 180p resolution
- Automatic video undock to secondary screen for dual screen systems
- Collapsed/floating people and text chat panels to allow more screen space for video and content
- App Host can view video while sharing application

Configuration

By default, the HD video capability is disabled for the App client.

To enable HD video, only Saba Meeting administrators can configure the required **Video** domain properties.

Note: To enable the feature, submit a request. For more details, contact Support.

Video panel layouts

When HD video is enabled, the App client supports the following video panel layouts:

- **Gallery view**

  When no content is displayed in the client and users turn on their video, the videos of all participants are displayed in the Gallery view by default. The video panel occupies most of the available screen area besides the slim toolbar.

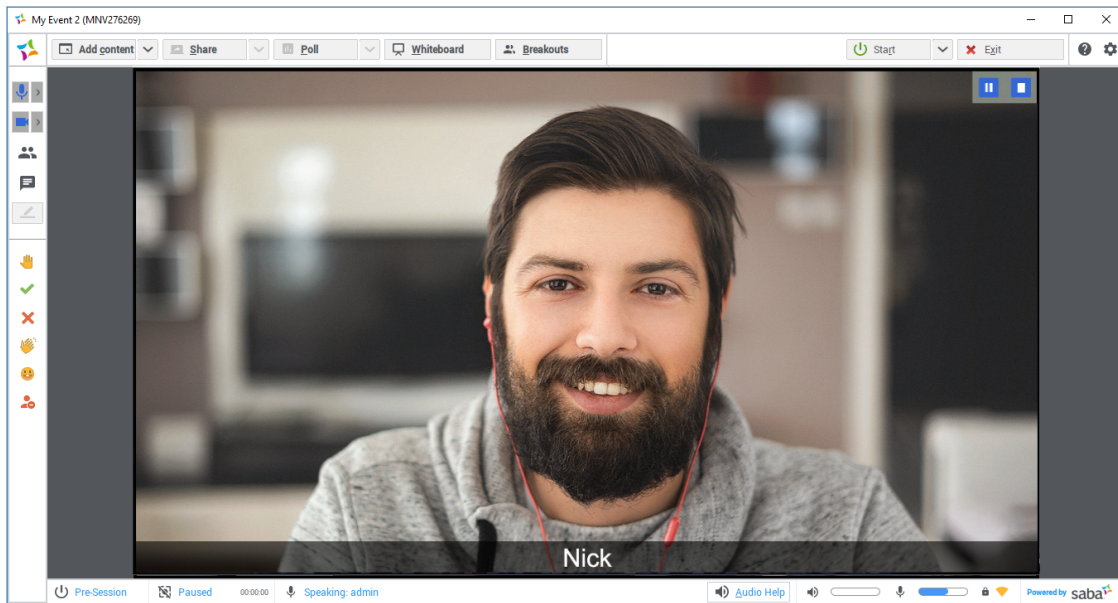 The Gallery view does not allow you to undock the video panels.

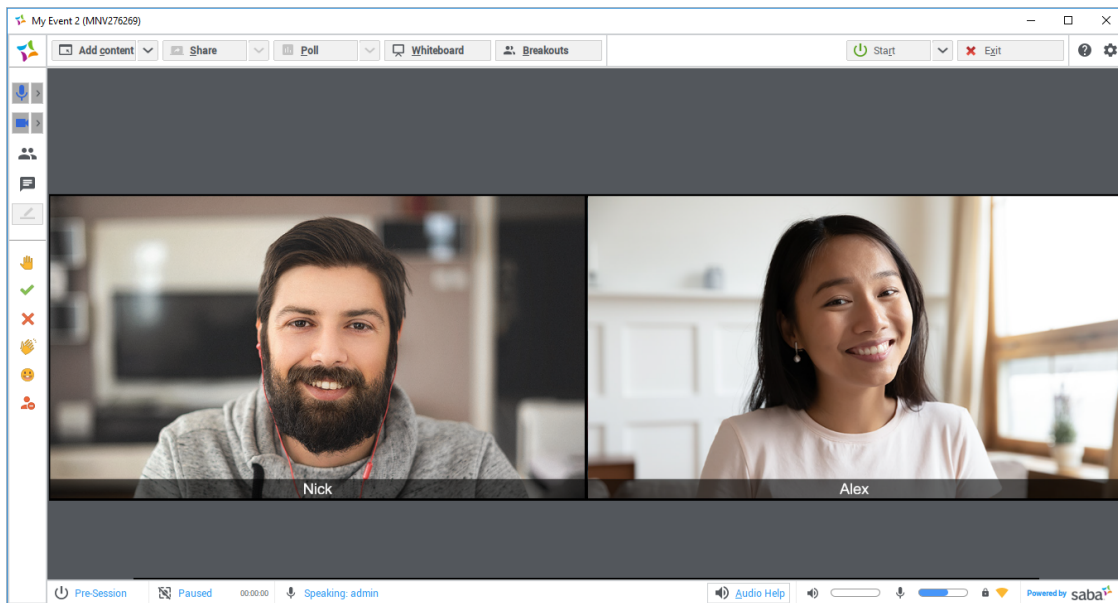**Figure 6: HD video in Gallery view - Single panel (1280x720)**

Figure 7: HD video in Gallery view - 2 panels (1280x720)

Figure 8: HD video in Gallery view - 4 panels (640x360)

Figure 9: HD video in Gallery view - Maximum 8 panels (424x240)

- **Carousel view**

  When content is displayed in the App client and users turn on their video, the content is displayed in the larger area of the App screen while videos of all participants are displayed in the Carousel view by default.
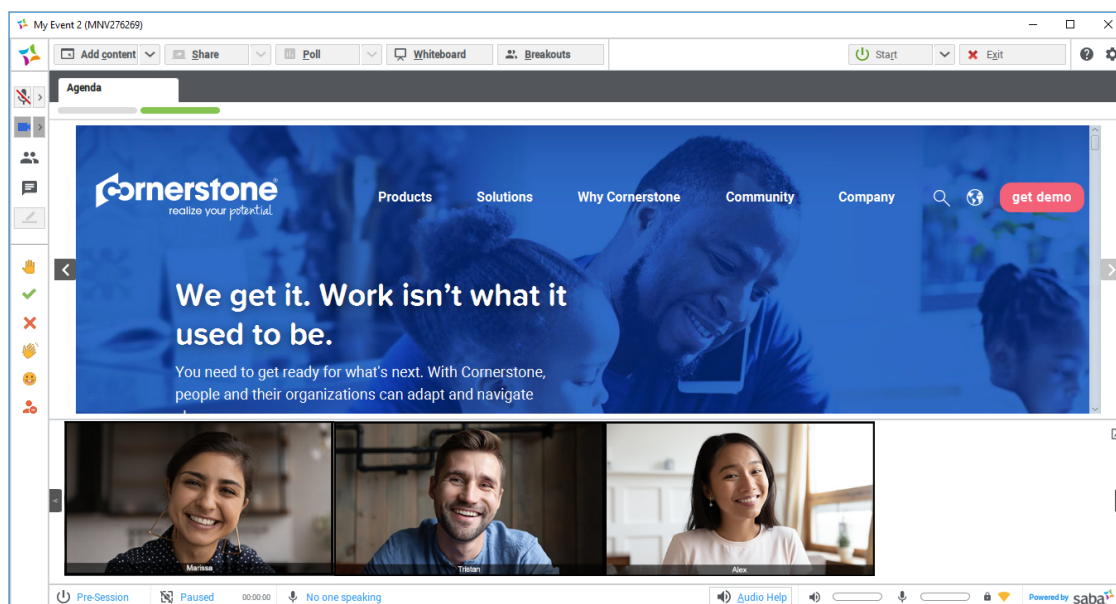
Figure 10: HD video in Carousel view along with content

If a video is marked as primary by selecting the star icon (⭐) in the video's panel, then the content screen is split into two halves and the primary video moves to the right half of the screen. All other videos appear in the carousel.
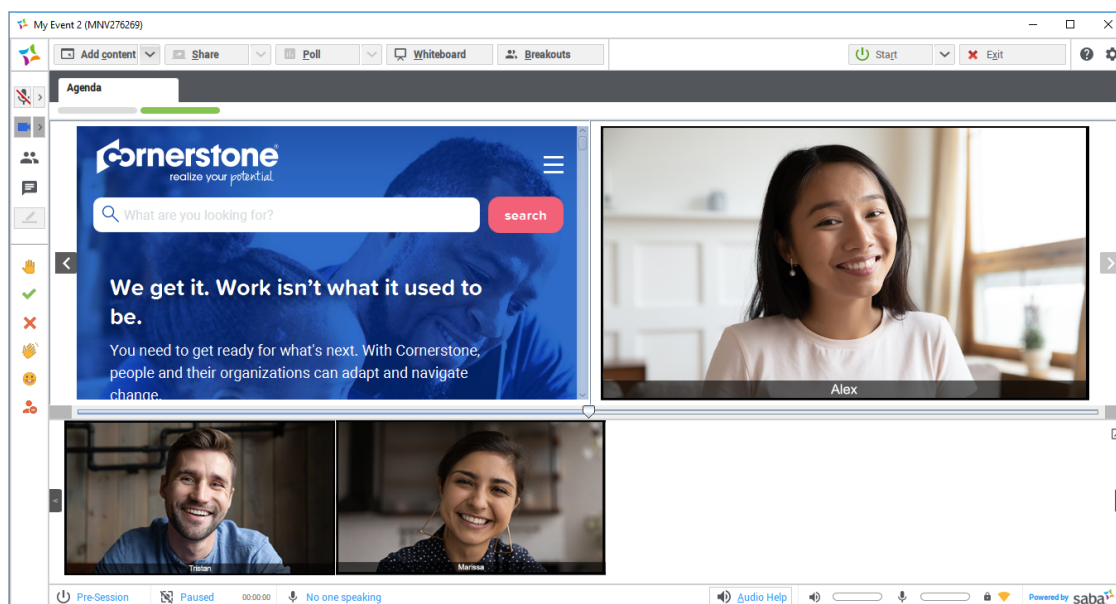

Figure 11: Primary HD video along with content

You can change the size of the content and primary video panels by dragging the slider under the primary video and content panel.
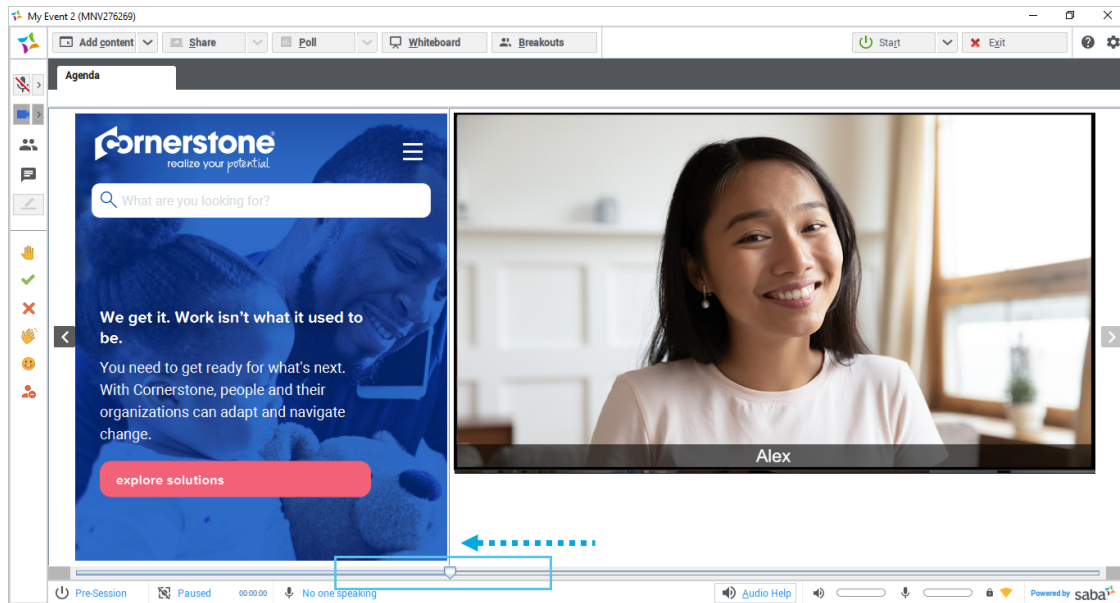
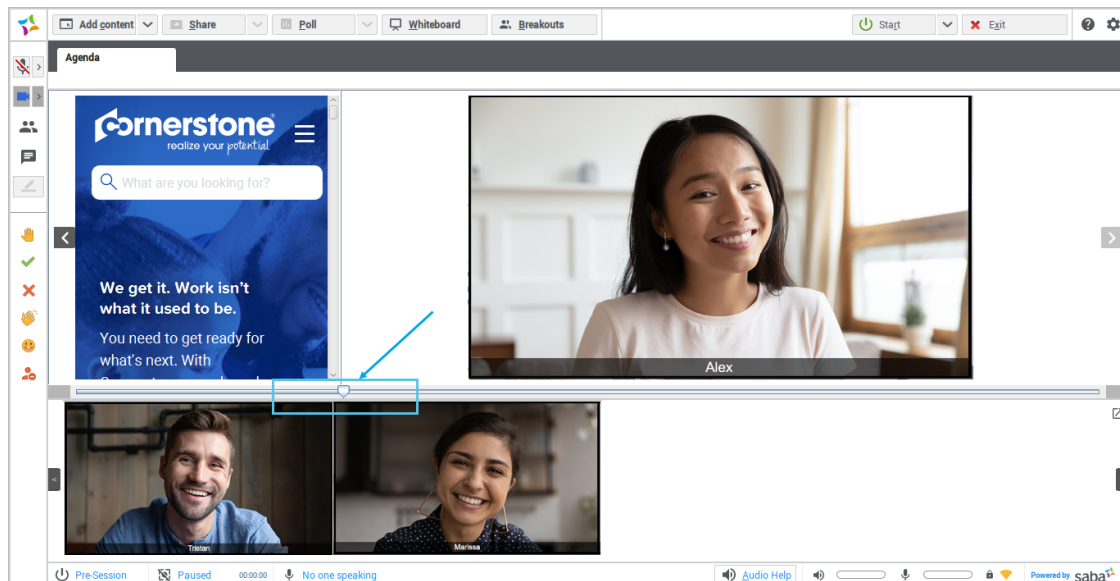**Figure 12: Use the slider to change the size of content and primary video panels**

Figure 13: Use the slider to change the size of content and primary video panels

To undock the videos from the carousel, click the undock icon ( ) at the top right corner of the carousel pane. To undock a primary video panel, click the undock icon ( ) on the panel.

- **Undocked view**

   The undocked video panel view is supported only when a content is shared, be it slides, whiteboard, polls, evaluations, or shared applications. This allows you to appropriately display what is important to the user, especially if they have a second monitor.

   To undock a video panel, click the undock icon ( ) on the panel. To dock the video panel back, click the doc icon ( ) on the undocked panel.

Figure 14: Undocked video panels with primary video

In the undocked view, when there are multiple videos, users can switch between the horizontal and vertical video panel modes by clicking the 3 horizontal dots icon (•••) or 3 vertical dots icon (⋮) respectively on the video panel window.

Figure 15: Undocked video panels - Horizontal layout
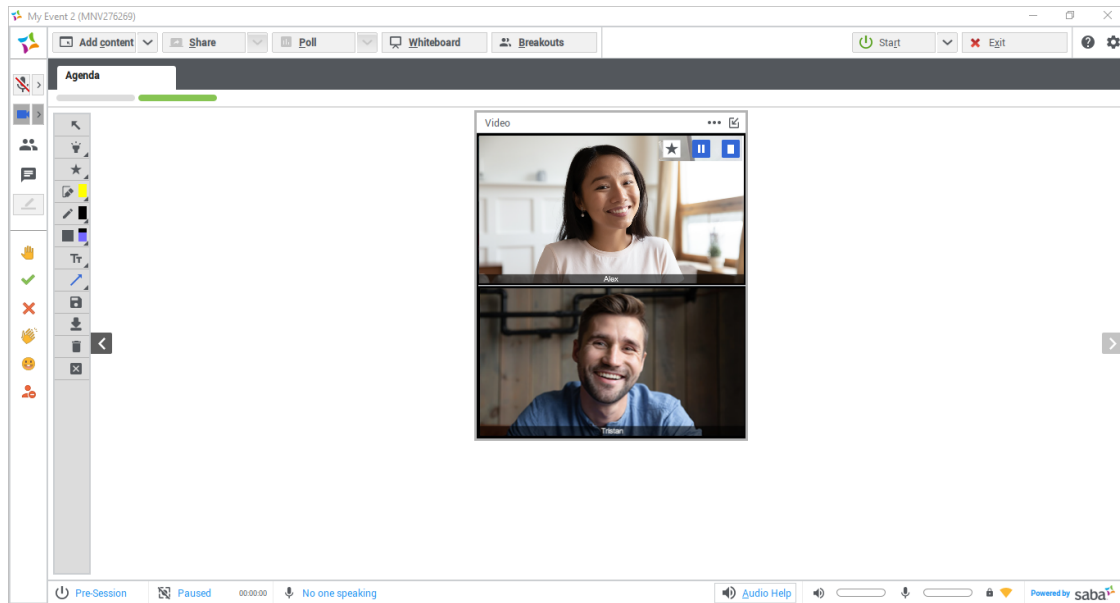
Figure 16: Undocked video panels - Vertical layout
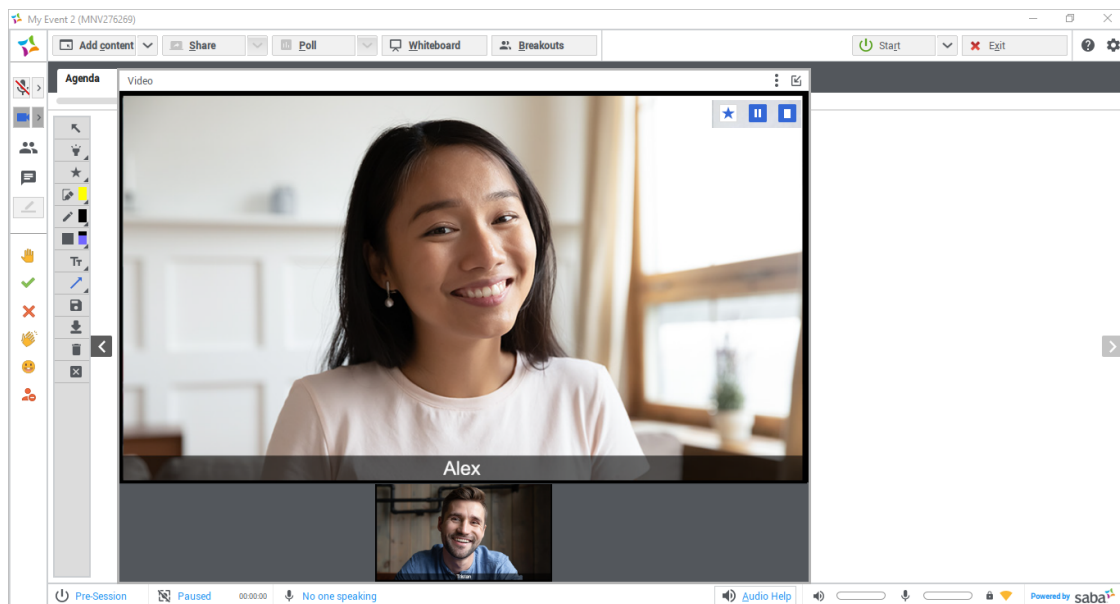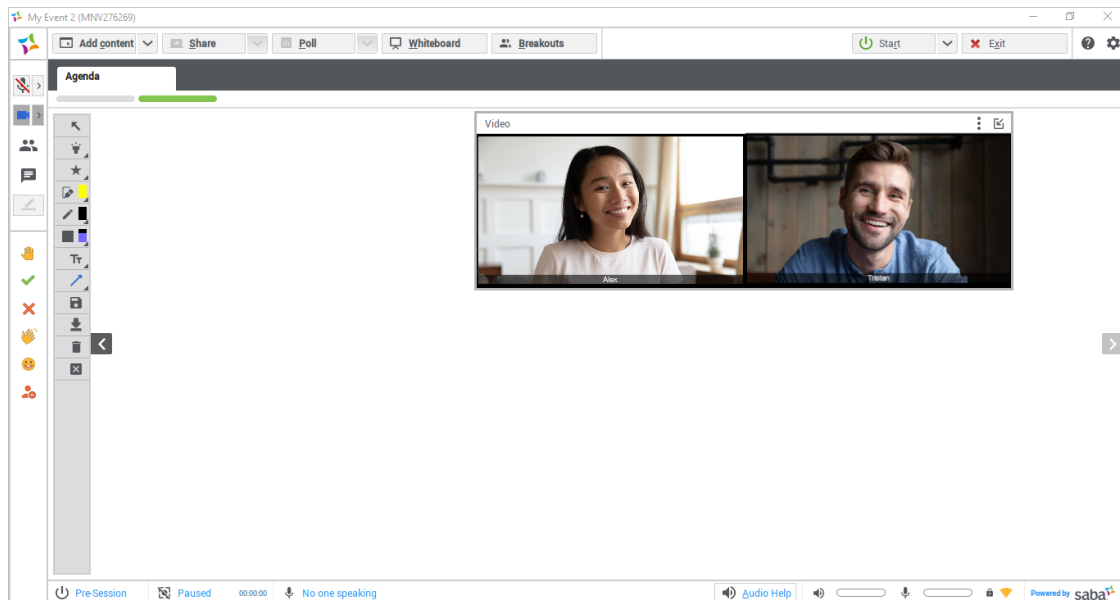
Note: The undocked video panel view is available for both HD and non-HD videos.

Supported video resolutions

When HD video is disabled, the App client displays the primary (starred) video with a resolution of 640x360 pixels and the remaining videos in the carousel with 160x90 pixels.

When HD video is enabled, the App client displays primary (starred) video with a resolution of 1280x720 pixels and the remaining videos in the carousel with 320x180 pixels.

In Gallery view, the default resolution of video depends on the number of panels being displayed as noted in the table below.

Table 4: Supported default video resolutions for HD videos

Video Panels	Default Resolution (Pixels)
1 and 2	1280x720
3 and 4	640x360
5, 6, 7, and 8	424x240

Enhanced slim toolbar

When HD video is enabled for the App client, the left navigation panel is replaced with a slim toolbar where the icons are reorganized in an intuitive manner. You can click the video icon to turn on the video. The undocked video appears on the right side of the slim toolbar.

The slim toolbar cannot be expanded to see any activity in the panels. So, when there is any activity in the People panel or the Chat panel, the panel icons change to a blue color. You need to undock the panels to view the activity in the panels. The panels appear on top of the video panel.

Table 5: Enhanced slim toolbar

Toolbar without Activity	Toolbar with Activity	Toolbar with Floating Panels

Video panels during Appshare

During Appshare, the HD video is always displayed in the undocked panel view by default for the Appshare host. If the user has more than one monitor with a dual screen setup, then the undocked video panel is displayed in the secondary monitor.

To close the video panel, click the dock icon on the panel. To display it again, click the video undock icon on the Appshare toolbar/panel.

Note: The undock icon in the Appshare toolbar/panel is only available to in the Appshare host.
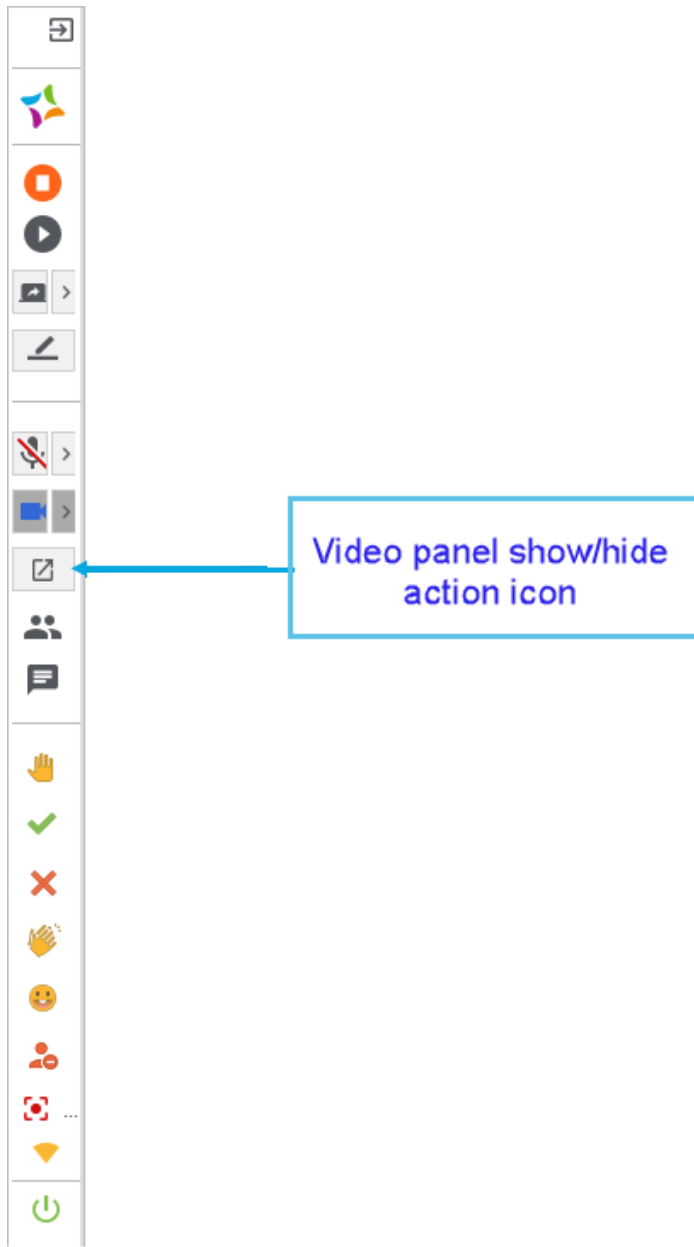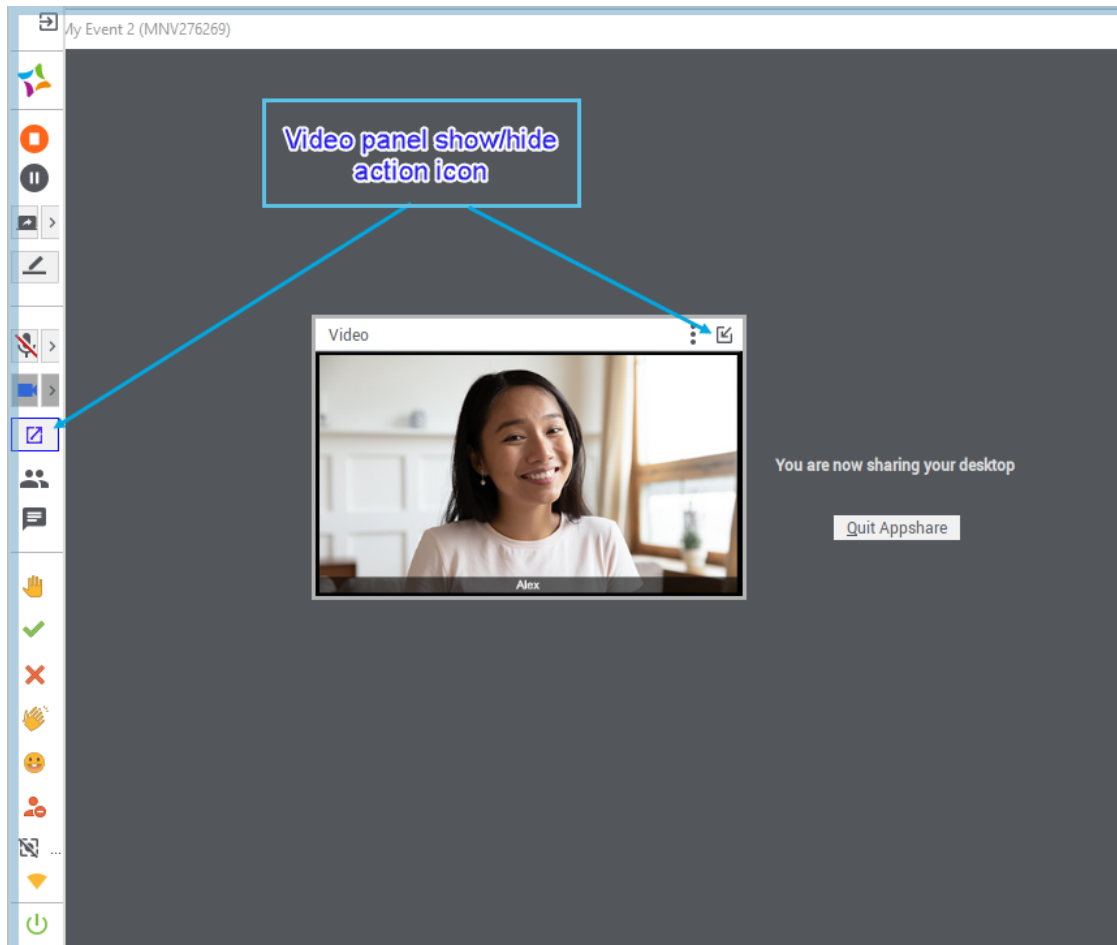
Figure 17: Toolbar during Appshare

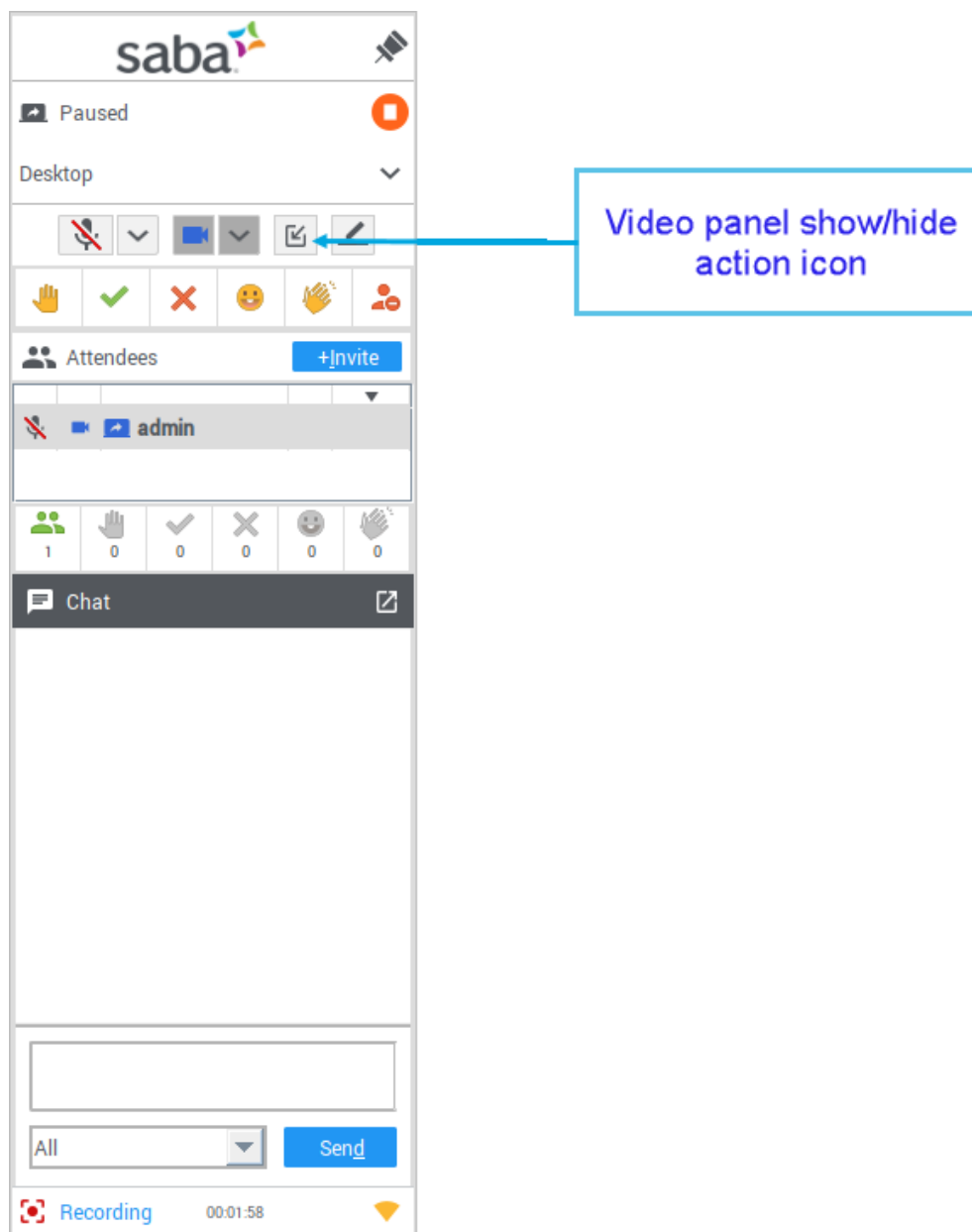**Figure 18: Video panel shown during Appshare**

Figure 19: Expanded toolbar panel during Appshare

Limitations

Currently, 720p HD video support is not available for:

- Saba Meeting Express client
- Saba Meeting mobile clients

Therefore, any incoming video on the Express client or Mobile clients is not displayed in the larger frame size.

Voice Activity Detection support

This update introduces the **Voice Activity Detection** feature for Saba Meeting App client.

⚠️ **Attention:** This feature is disabled by default. To enable the feature, submit a request. For more details, contact Support.

Note: To use this feature, it is mandatory to upgrade your Saba Meeting App client.

Overview

The Saba Meeting App client is now enhanced to support voice activity detection. Voice activity detection is the ability of the internal voice engine to detect when a user is speaking. When voice activity detection support is enabled, audio is transmitted on a channel only when an activity is detected on the microphone.

For example, if there are 15 users in a session and everyone is on the latest version of the Saba Meeting App client, then all 15 users can have microphone. The microphone is ready to detect voice activity as soon as a user unmutes their microphone the first time. After that, when they start speaking, they will be audible in the event. To avoid transmission of background audio in the session, users can use the mute button on their headsets to mute the audio. To speak again in the session, they can simply press the mute button on the headset again.

Voice activated App clients can interoperate in a session with older clients that do not support voice activity detection. Users with the older version of App client do not have voice activity detection enabled microphone option available to them. They have to press the microphone button in the client to be audible in the session each time.

Although, all users in a session can have the voice activated microphone (in the Inactive state), only up to 10 microphones can be active in the session simultaneously. For more details, see Default audio channels in a session are now set to 10.

Enable voice activity detection support

This feature is disabled by default.

Only Saba Meeting administrators can configure the audio properties for your domain to enable voice activity detection support for App clients.

Mic behavior with voice activity detection enabled

When voice activity detection is enabled for the Saba Meeting App client, the participant's microphone is muted by default at the beginning of a Saba Meeting session. This is indicated to the participants by the following brief start-up message.
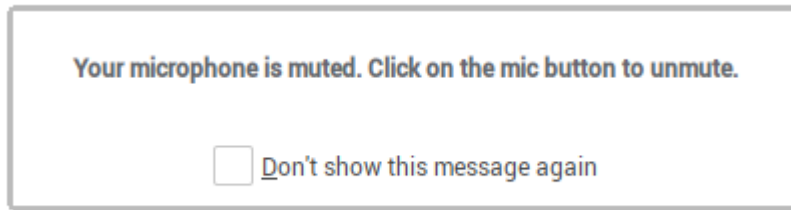
> Your microphone is muted. Click on the mic button to unmute.
>
> ☐ Don't show this message again

Figure 20: Start-up message

Participants must manually click the mic icon in their App client to unmute the mic. Once the mic is unmuted, it remains inactive until it detects a voice.

The changes in mic states and their corresponding mic icons are indicated in the following table:

Table 6: Mic states and icons

Mic State	Scenario	Mic icon
Mic is **disabled**	Leader has taken the mic away. For example, at the beginning of a class event.	🔇
Mic is **enabled/muted**	Client has mic, but is muted	🔇
Mic is **enabled/unmuted/inactive**, where inactive = 'not talking'	Client is not talking (Voice activated state)	🎤
Mic is **enabled/unmuted/active**, where active = 'talking'	Client is broadcasting audio	🎤

Note: Muting the microphone on the headset stops the audio from broadcasting. However, it does not impact the mic icon state. It remains Black (Enabled/Inactive) rather than changing to the Muted icon.

Limitations

Currently, Voice Activity Detection is not available for:

• Saba Meeting Express client
• Saba Meeting mobile clients

Default audio channels in a session are now set to 10

Prior to this update, the audio channels for using VOIP in a session were set to a 4 by default and the events were created with a default of 4 concurrent speakers in the Saba Meeting App Client. To increase these values, users had to submit a request to support.

With this update, all users of the Saba Meeting App Client have the default audio channels in a VOIP session set to 10, and the events are created with a default of 10 concurrent speakers.

For any event created before the upgrade, the Leaders or Presenters can increase the number of concurrent speakers to 10 from the **Settings** panel.
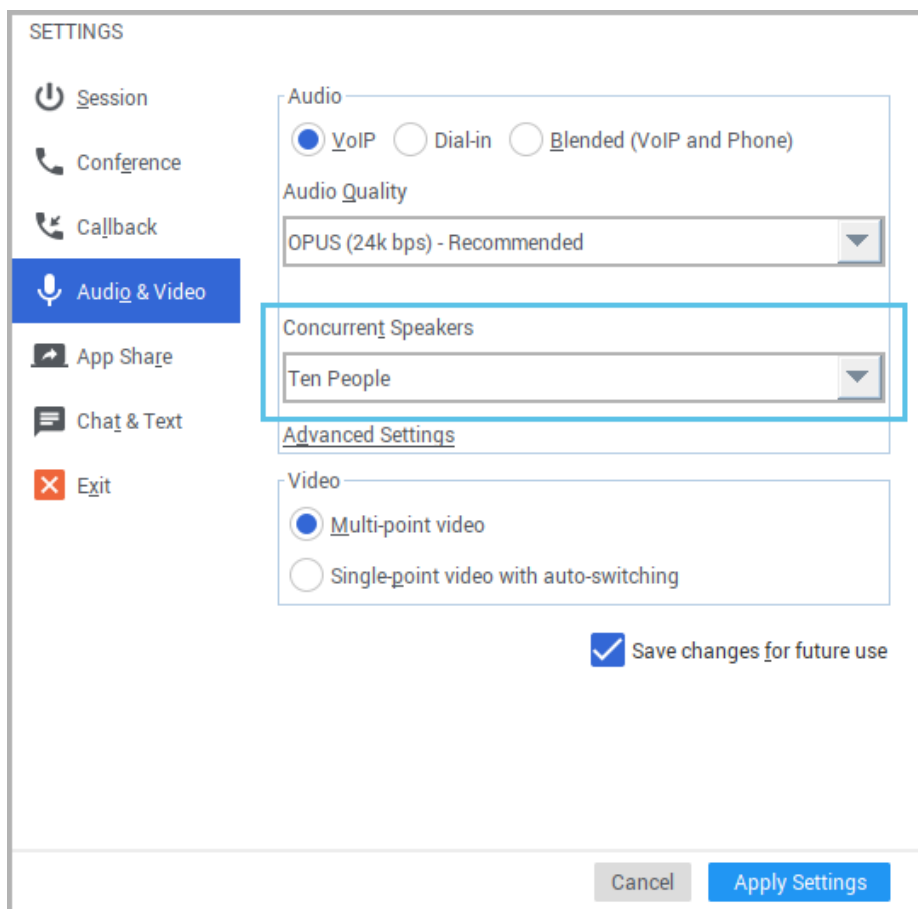

Figure 21: Audio settings

Prevent deletion of chat messages from text chat

Prior to this update, participants were allowed to delete their own chat messages while leaders or presenters could delete anyone's chat messages from the text chat window of the App client. Saba Meeting Administrators did not have any setting to enable or disable this action.

This update provides the ability to configure the deletion of chat messages from the text chat window in the Saba Meeting App client, using the following new **Client** domain property:

- **Allow deletion of text chat messages**

   If set to 'Yes', then participants can delete their own chat messages while leaders or presenters can delete anyone's chat messages in the text chat window. This is the default setting.

   If set to 'No', then the ability to delete text chat messages is disabled on the domain and cannot be enabled at the event level. So, neither event leaders or presenters nor participants are not allowed to delete chat messages from the text chat window using the **Delete message** context menu action. Additionally, event leaders or presenters are not allowed to clear all messages in the text chat window using the **Clear all messages** context menu action.

Only Saba Meeting Administrators can configure this domain property. To disable this property, submit a request. For more details, contact support.

Note: Older versions of the Saba Meeting App client will allow deletion of text chat messages even when this domain property is set to 'No'. Therefore, to use this feature, it is recommended to upgrade your Saba Meeting App client.

This change does not affect the text chat log.

Download Whiteboard results

Prior to this update, there was no option to download whiteboard results. Therefore, event leaders had to take a screenshot of the whiteboard and save it as an image manually for future reference.

This update provides the ability to download the whiteboard image at the click of a button. Leaders can click the 'Save as Image' ( ) icon on the markup toolbar to download the whiteboard results as a PNG image.

Figure 22: Download whiteboard icon

This ability can be configured using the following new **Client** domain property:

• **Enable downloading whiteboard image?**

If set to 'Yes', then leaders get the option to download the whiteboard as an image. This is the default setting.

If set to 'No', then the whiteboard image cannot be downloaded.

Only Saba Meeting Administrators can configure this domain property. To disable this property, submit a request. For more details, contact support.

Note: To use this feature, it is mandatory to upgrade your Saba Meeting App client.

Download poll results

Prior to this update, there was no option to download the poll results.

This update provides the ability to download the poll results at the click of a button. Leaders or presenters can click the **Download Results** button on the poll screen to download the poll results as an HTML file.

Note: A breakout room leader, who is not an event leader or presenter, cannot save the poll results.

Figure 23: Download poll results

This ability can be configured using the following new **Client** domain property:

• **Enable downloading poll results?**

If set to 'Yes', then leaders get the option to download the poll results as an HTML file. This is the default setting.

Only Saba Meeting Administrators can configure this domain property. To disable this property, submit a request. For more details, contact support.

Note: To use this feature, it is mandatory to upgrade your Saba Meeting App client.

Drag-and-drop support for level 3 of App-based Agenda Builder

Prior to this update, the App-based Agenda Builder did not support the ability to drag and drop agenda items, folders, and the content into level 3 folders consistently and easily in the agenda tree view.

This update enhances the App-based Agenda Builder such that it now supports the ability to drag and drop agenda items, folders, and the content across the agenda tree view and multiple levels of content efficiently and smoothly. This allows leaders or presenters to effectively build the agenda and change the content order quickly.

Note: To use this feature, it is mandatory to upgrade your Saba Meeting App client.

Express client participants can now engage in breakout rooms

Prior to this update, if the leader initiated breakout rooms in a blended client session, then participants using the Express client remained in the main room. Therefore, the participants were not able to engage in breakout room activities.

This update introduces support for breakout rooms for participants using the Express client. When the leader initiates breakout rooms in a blended client session, participants using the Express client are moved to their assigned room as participants, and not as leaders. This allows them to engage in breakout room activities.

Most of the breakout room support for participants in App client is also applicable to the Express client participants.

- The People panel of the Express client participant displays only participants in that breakout room.
- When the leaders/presenters move into the breakout room, the People panel displays them. When they leave the room, it removes them.
- Supports audio from the breakout room, including any telephony audio and public announcements.
- If your system is configured to allow video in breakout rooms, then video from the App client users is available in the breakout room.
- If the App client user in a breakout room starts Appshare, then the Express client participant can view the Appshare.
- Displays the room number besides the event name at the top of the breakout room window.

Note: To use this feature, it is mandatory to upgrade your Saba Meeting Express client.

IE 11 - End of Support

In order to keep up with browser security requirements and the latest software enhancements and to continue our focus on bringing you the most innovative technology, we will not continue to develop or test for Microsoft applications beyond their own support commitment. With the December 2021 release, we will withdraw support and compatibility testing of IE11.

Our support retirement will follow the schedule below:

- Between now and Saba Meeting 8.5.16 (Saba Cloud Update 51), we will fix critical bugs with the use of IE11 browsers.
- Beginning with Saba Meeting 8.5.17 (Saba Cloud Update 52), we will no longer be testing IE11.
- Support will completely end after Saba Meeting 8.5.16 (Saba Cloud Update 51) is available in production (General Availability: December 6th, 2021). After that time, use of Saba Meeting with IE11 may not provide a seamless user experience.

We strongly recommend that you partner with your IT teams to review your browser usage and encourage your team to upgrade to supported browsers. Microsoft recommends the use of Microsoft Edge.

End of Support for Saba Meeting Browser Client

Since the Saba Meeting Browser Client is only supported on IE 11, it will follow the same support retirement schedule as noted above for IE11. Support for the Browser Client will completely end after Saba Meeting 8.5.16 (Saba Cloud Update 51).