OctoWare® Software
Version 3.4.0.0
Release Notes
May 1, 2007

This document outlines:
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OctoWare Java-based system administration tool Version Information and Software Compatibility
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Version 3.4.0.0 of OctoWare software is intended to be used with the following OCTET® system firmware versions:

- KV170x switch	revision 3.6.0.0
- KV1710 user station	revision 4.1.3.2
- KV1711/KV1712 user stations	revision 4.3.1.9
- KV1711-R2/KV1712-R2/KV1713 user station	revision 4.5.0.0
- SAM-SRL module	revision 1.0.1.4
- SAM (all other types) modules	revision 4.3.0.0

Version 3.4.0.0 of OctoWare software uses *.bbx files for firmware update of OCTET switch products.

Only versions of OctoWare software from 2.2.1.1 will support the KV1700 switch, KV1713 user station and the KV1725A, KV1726A and KV1727A SAMDM modules correctly.
Only versions of OctoWare software from 3.0.0.3 will support the KV1703 switch correctly.

Version 3.4.0.0 of OctoWare software will successfully update firmware from all of the following versions:

- KV1701/KV1702 switches	From revision 3.0.0.1
- KV1700 switch	From revision 3.3.0.17
- KV1703 switch	From revision 3.5.0.10
- All user stations	All revisions
- All SAM modules	All revisions

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Important Installation Guidelines
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You should be aware that when you update to this version of OctoWare software, the database tables may be modified and updated to a new format that includes extra feature information about the system.

This means that pre 3.4.0.0 versions of OctoWare software may not be able to either open or read the newer database files.

For example, if you update OctoWare software, you cannot subsequently downgrade to a previous version of OctoWare software without first un-installing and re-installing. The process of un-installing and re-installing OctoWare software will cause you to lose your database files.
Therefore, if you think that you may wish to downgrade back to a pre 3.4.0.0 version of OctoWare software sometime in the future, you should make a backup copy of the database files. The database files that you would need to backup are: msa.data, msa.properties, msa.script and msa.backup.

These database files will be located in the OctoWare software installation folder, which is defaulted to:
C:\Program Files\Black Box OctoWare\

When making a copy of the database files, it is important that OctoWare software is not running. Likewise, when replacing the database files, it is also important that OctoWare software is not running.

NOTE:
From version 3.0.0.3 of OctoWare software, you may backup and restore the database files, to and from any location, as part of the standard OctoWare software features set. Go to *Admin Tools ->Database* to use this feature.

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How to Upgrade
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When you update to OctoWare software 3.4.0.0, it is also recommended that you update the firmware on your KV170x switches, user stations and SAM modules to the latest firmware versions to enable all of the existing features of the OCTET switching system.
Go to ftp.downloads.black-box.de for information on getting the latest firmware versions for all OCTET devices.

1. Ensure that the correct database information is distributed across the system by performing a 'Synchronize System Database' command from your existing installation. Use the OctoWare software database as your synchronization database source and use the Overwrite option.
2. When synchronization has completed, close the OctoWare software.
3. Make a backup of the database files: The files that you should backup are: msa.data, msa.properties, msa.script and msa.backup. These database files will be located in the OctoWare software installation folder. The default location is : C:\Program Files\Black Box\ OctoWare. (From version 3.0.0.3, you may backup as part of the standard OctoWare software features set. Go to *Admin Tools -> Database* to use this feature.)
4. Place the install CD for your new version of OctoWare software into your CD-drive, and run setup.
5. Follow the on-screen instructions; you may install the new version of OctoWare software over the old version, and you may choose to keep your existing database intact.
6. Proceed to the "Completing the installation" section below.

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Completing the installation
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1. Run the OctoWare software. You will be prompted for a password. The default password is password. We recommend that you change the password from its default setting.
2. After updating OctoWare software, set the Network Settings from the Admin menu.
3. You now need to either discover or add your KV170x switches.

NOTE:
If you have not already updated the firmware on your KV1700, KV1701, KV1702 or KV1703 switches, then you may not be able to successfully synchronize the system databases. You will need to update the firmware on the KV170x switches, then continue to step 4. For information on upgrading the KV1700, KV1701, KV1702 or KV1703 switches, see the release notes for these switches.

4. When you have either discovered or added each of the KV1700, KV1701, KV1702 or KV1703 switches, perform a Synchronize System Database command on your newly configured system.

   During installation, if you chose to delete the old OctoWare software database, then:
   a. Choose one of the KV170x switches as your database source.
   b. Select the Overwrite option.
   c. Click the Start button.

   or
   If you did not delete the old OctoWare database:
   d. Choose OctoWare as the database source.
   e. Select the Overwrite option.
   f. Click the Start button.

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Enhancements
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This release of software contains the following enhancements, since version 3.3.0.3
1. Support for Dual Matrix Configuration. The KV1711-R2, KV1712-R2 and KV1713 user stations can now be connected to two OCTET matrix switches.
2. When OctoWare software was used to set up Follow mode and LDAP authentication only was enabled, the follow mode connections failed to be made in the system. Now if you are using Follow mode while the authentication setting is configured to "LDAP user-login authentication only", the lead user station is authenticated through a configured LDAP server and makes a connection to the lead server. The other following user stations (that are part of the group) are now logged in automatically by OctoWare software with the same username as the lead user station and the follow mode connections are made successfully. This means that the LDAP user at the lead user station now has to provide the LDAP password only once to login. The user's LDAP password is not stored anywhere in the OCTET system and when the lead user station logs out, all user stations in the Follow mode group are logged out too.

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Fixes
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This release of OctoWare software contains the following fixes, since version 3.3.0.3
1. Help files have been updated to clarify some issues.
2. The manipulation of a large OctoWare database with multiple server groups has been improved.
3. The Admin Tools->Export server names would only export the first 256 server names that exist in the Octoware database. This issue has been fixed.
4. The Resource Routers->NVISION->Add tab to add an nVision router is grayed out with only KV1712-R2 user stations in the currently connected devices list. This issue has been fixed.

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Known Issues
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This release of OctoWare software contains the following known issues:

1. If the upgrade/downgrade of a KV1711-R2, KV1712-R2 or KV1713 user station using OctoWare software fails, the user station could be left in bootloader (running boot code). If a KV1711-R2, KV1712-R2 or KV1713 user station is left in bootloader it will display a message asking for the update to be performed again. To update a user station that is in bootloader, in OctoWare software, perform a Device Discovery in OctoWare and check that the user station was discovered. If the user station was discovered it will have the device name "InBootLoader." Now you can perform the update/downgrade again on this user station. Once the update has completed, check that the user station now has the correct Application Version by clicking on that user station in the OctoWare software device tree.

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Notes
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1. When OctoWare software is running on Windows XP Service pack 2: Windows XP SP2 installs a firewall (and turns it on) by default.
    This firewall blocks FTP transfer, which the OCTET switching system requires in order to successfully perform firmware updates. Secure Client (VPN) software may also block FTP transfer. In order to successfully update firmware, you may need to disable your firewall service (and/or Secure Client service) for the duration of the firmware updates.
2. The "Force Connect" and "Force Disconnect" features will not be enabled unless there is at least one user logged into the system.
3. When using the "Configure Matrix" feature, you need to ensure that there is a user logged into the user stations on the configuration: otherwise, this feature may not work as expected.
4. When using the "Follow Mode" feature in the cases of dual- or multi- video-card servers, the 2nd (and 3rd, and 4th and so on) video output from the server must be attached into a SAM-USB module. The USB port of the SAM-USB module must be inserted into a USB port on the server, in order to supply power to that SAM-USB module.
5. When using Follow Mode all server names must be unique. Servers cannot be added to a Follow-Mode-group if they have duplicate names.
6. User stations can only exist in one Follow-Mode-group. Servers can exist in many Follow-Mode-groups, unless they are the leader of a group, in which case they can only appear in one.
7. If Follow Mode is configured and a Leader User station makes a connection to a server (other than a group-leader) that doesn't appear in a Follow-Mode-server-group, Follow Mode will still be activated (i.e. all user stations in the Follow-Mode-user-station-group will connect to the server).
8. When operating over a slow and busy network, OctoWare software may encounter difficulty transferring firmware update files to the OCTET switching system. This is because the OCTET switching system may timeout and aborts the operation if the file-transfer is taking too long.
    If this is the case, there are a number of approaches that will help to resolve the problem:
    a. Perform the updates when the network is less busy.
    b. Update the KV170x switches individually (not in parallel).
    c. Increase the network capacity of your network switch.
    d. Put the OCTET switch equipment onto a dedicated network switch/hub.
9. If your "sync status" indicator is RED even after you have performed a "System Synchronization" command it may be because you need to perform a "Device Discovery" command.
    Follow these steps:

     a. Perform a "Device Discovery" command.
     b. Perform "System Synchronization" command.
     c. If the sync status indicator is still RED, see the OctoWare software online help Troubleshooting section.

10. OctoWare software requires that TCP port number 9734 is open in order to allow full TCP communication with the OCTET switching system devices. In order for automatic device-discovery to work correctly, UDP port number 9737 must also be open.

11. As with previous versions of OctoWare software, we recommend that when using Groups, administration should be done only from OctoWare software. However, we have made the following change in order to maintain system synchronization in case of inadvertent administration via the user station:
When a user is associated with one or more groups, and subsequently that user's rights are modified from a user station, then that user will be automatically removed from groups on OctoWare software, and OctoWare software will remain in sync. The user's effective rights remain consistent with those set from the user station.

12. As with previous versions of OctoWare software, when performing a database- synchronization in overwrite mode (and taking a KV170x switch as the database source), all grouping information will be lost on OctoWare software. In order to ensure that grouping will not be lost inadvertently, we have introduced a warning message when this option is selected. The users' effective rights will remain unchanged.

13. As with previous versions of OctoWare software, when performing a change environments, if the master KV170x switch is powered and still in sync with the rest of the cluster. The latest user rights are retrieved from the master KV170x switch. If a user has group rights to a server these will become individual rights.