What's New In Adobe Connect 9.3

The Adobe Connect 9.3 & 9.2 releases provide new features and functionality across many different areas of the product. Here’s a summary of the new features you can find in Adobe Connect 9.3, which will include the 9.2 enhancements also. For additional details please refer to the release notes.

Video Conferencing Changes

Filmstrip Mode

Adobe Connect 9.2/9.3 provides a new mode for Video Pod which has one main video and the rest of the videos appear as smaller feed within a strip. This allows participants to focus on the main speaker of the session while still able to see who all are sharing their webcam feeds.

Only Hosts can switch between the current mode (Grid Mode) and the new Filmstrip mode using the toggle button on the Pod.

Main Video

On selecting the new mode, the first main video will be of the user (with a video feed) who triggered the Film Strip mode or the user (with a video feed) who joined the session earliest. Thereafter, both Hosts and Presenters can choose a video feed and pin it as the main video as and when desired.

Once selected, the main video will be preserved if modes are switched again.

Film Strip

Any feed in the strip can be selected as the main video. This will make it the main video while the previous main video will go the rightmost end of the strip.

Users can scroll the strip on either side to see other available feeds. This scrolling is for the individual user and will not affect what other users see. The scroll icon will only be available if a feed is hidden from the view on that side.
Both the main video and strip video will scale when the size of the pod changes. However, while main video can keep on scaling to fit the pod, strip videos will have a maximum scale limit after which the strip will expand to accommodate more videos.

**Tip:** Using Film Strip mode results in valuable saving of bandwidth and computing requirement over Grid Mode and hence results in better experience for participants.

### Full Screen Option

Users now have the option to make Video Pod as full screen (just like the share pod) and fully utilize the available screen area with a single click of the button. When a user chooses to go full screen with Video Pod, the title bar is automatically hidden. User can easily bring back the title bar by moving the mouse close to the top of the meeting area.

While ‘Full Screen’ is available as an individual option, presenters can choose to force their view on all users where every participant will have to be in full screen video conferencing.

**Note:** Force Presenter view for Video Pod is not available in Break Out rooms.

### Meeting Related Changes

#### Recording Start Indication

When a user starts a meeting recording, it might take a few seconds to start depending upon whether or not UV line is connected. Now, users will get a proper indication with a swirly to indicate that recording for the meeting is still starting.
Screen Sharing Enhancements

We are redefining one of the most important workflow in Adobe Connect – Screen Sharing. The aim is to make it easier for presenters to continue engaging with participants and exercise key meeting functions, while doing Screen Sharing.

Here’s what you can expect with C9.3:

Preview of Windows and Applications

The screen sharing option dialog is redesigned to give you visual feedback of the available windows and applications.

This allows you to be sure of your current running applications. The blocked or blacklisted applications will not be shown in this screen.

The selected applications and windows will be highlighted in this dialog.

Screen Sharing Control Panel

Once you start screen sharing, the meeting room will give way to the new Screen Share Control Panel. This panel provides tools that the presenter will need to control his meeting without having to end screen sharing or go back to the meeting room.

All these options can be accessed by clicking on the individual icons. The panel itself is totally transparent to a participant, i.e. it will not cast any shadow on the screen being shared and users will see anything underneath it.
Note: this panel position is the bottom right corner of your screen by default. You can move this by clicking and dragging the top bar of the panel. The changed position will be honored only for that session.

Let’s take a closer look at the available options in the Panel:

**Share Area**

The first option is the most useful functionality and shows what exactly is being shared with the end user.

It also provides the option to Stop Share and return to the full meeting room.

**Chat Control**

This option provides the ability to read and respond to all the chat messages in the meeting room. No more switching back to the meeting room just to check who is responding on the chat. This great new feature lets you be interactive during Screen Sharing.

The panel on minimized mode notifies you about any new message received. If you want to read it, simply click on the chat control icon. What’s more, you can receive and respond to both public and private messages from here!
Attendee Control

Access all controls to manage attendees from this option. You can change roles, grant rights and much more.

Camera, Speaker and Microphone Controls

The next three set of options let you control your Web Camera, Speaker audio and Microphone audio respectively.

You have a fully functional web cam pod here to start, pause and stop web cam feeds.

The Speaker and Microphone controls let you change the volume, mute and unmute your audio I/O devices.

Notification Control

This option allows you to manage all your notifications such as allow/reject participants from joining the meeting and will show all the pending notifications that need your attention.
Minimize the Screen Share Control Panel

The panel is transparent to end user, however if you still feel its obstructing your view, then it can be easily minimized. This can be done either of the following two ways:

- Click again on the icon of the current open view. For eg: if Share Area view is open, click on it again for the panel to minimize
- Double click on the top bar of the panel

As mentioned earlier, you can also move the panel by clicking and dragging the top bar.

Revert to Full Meeting Room

In case the presenter needs to go back to the full meeting room to access functionalities not available in the panel, the option is available on the right corner of the panel.

Clicking on the icon will open up the full meeting room without stopping the screen share.

The presenter can come back to the compact screen sharing mode by simply click on the icon on the share pod or from the Notification provided in the main meeting room.

Other Screen Sharing Enhancements

Stepped Zoom levels for participants

Users will now have more zoom level options available to them than the two levels available currently. The number of steps available will depend on the display monitor size.

Note: this option is available to all attendees except the presenter who is screen sharing