

# XPRESSION MAPS RELEASE NOTES

Welcome to the XPRESSION MAPS 4.0 Release Notes. Please read this document to find important information on areas of XPRESSION MAPS that may not be covered in the User Guides or in the User help system.

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## VERSION 4.0 – OCTOBER 2025

### WHAT'S NEW

- **AZURE AND MAPBOX**

XPression Maps now supports Azure and Mapbox as additional map providers, expanding the available options for users to generate and render mapping data.

- **SHAPES**

**Shape** selection has been refined to ensure that shapes higher in the layer hierarchy are properly prioritized.

**Shape Masks** now behave more predictably. When a shape is transparent or invisible because it falls outside the zoom range, the mask continues to apply. However, if the shape is invisible due to the **Invisible** checkbox, the mask no longer applies.

If no shape with a mask exists, the mask is not applied.

Users can now add custom shapes as children of a selected shape, providing greater flexibility when building scene hierarchies.

**Shapes** can be scaled provided that scaling does not already exist in the parent hierarchy.

**Shapes** can be freely moved within the hierarchy, subject to structural constraints.

- **DRAWINGS**

**Text Drawings** now include Edge Decorations (Chevron) which can be placed on the left, right, top or bottom of a callout. The size of these edge decorations automatically adjusts to the background size. Edges are rendered on top of callouts for improved readability.

**Callouts** now support their own independent colors, even when used arrow types.

New properties have been added for **Background/TextFit**, including **TextFitsBackground**, **TextFitsBackgroundKeepAspect**, as well as a new **Scale Text Parameter**.

Drawings placed on an **overlay** now display point values in pixels within the GUI for more accurate positioning.

New drawing object types have been introduced, including **Container Drawings** and **3D Objects**.

**VideoInput** drawings now support a new **Misc Fullscreen** parameter.

A new parameter, **Auto Scale Content**, has been added to the **Drawing Management Editor** for **Inset Drawings**.

- **OPENSTREETMAP (OSM)**

OSM integration has been restructured with a new **OSM layer hierarchy** and the addition of an **Overview Tree** of all visible OSM objects. A new **Show Maritime** checkbox has been introduced for boundaries, while an **IsMask** flag for oceans allows water to be masked from satellite and OSM backgrounds.

Additional controls have been added to the **OSM Tile Editor**, including new sliders for **Water**, **Roads**, and **Signs**, providing more control over map rendering. Layers now include an **AllowSelect** checkbox, which is enabled by default for all layers except oceans.

- **MAP STYLE**

A new map style parameter, **Flatten At Street Level**, improves satellite map resolution when using Sphere projection, making street-level views clearer and more accurate.

- **USER INTERFACE**

XPression Maps now supports a **Dark Mode** interface option. On application startup, the system also tests whether the database version is compatible with the running application, reducing potential errors.

- **MAPS DATABASE CONFIGURATOR**

Root and mapuser accounts are now split in the database.

The database is automatically updated to the latest version during configuration.

Backup and restore functionality have been introduced for easier database management.

- **MAPS TEMPLATE EXCHANGE TOOL**

The **Maps Template Exchange Tool** has been updated to support the new split between root and mapuser accounts in the database.

- **INSTALLER**

The XPression Maps installer has been reworked, installation now separates root and mapuser accounts in the database. The application installs into **Program Files** and **Program Data** directories. **Upgrades** no longer require components to be reinstalled.

- **HTML5 CLIENT**

Enhancements to the **HTML5 Client** include, multiple **Flight Points** now enabled by default.

A new **Server Status** page provides administrators with improved system monitoring.

The **Water**, **Roads**, and **Sign** slider controls have been added. Flight Points now interpolate between slider values. An **Overview Tree** displays all visible OSM objects.

- **AUTOMATION**

A new drawing parameter, **OpacityFromAutomation**, has been introduced. This allows opacities defined by automation to be multiplied with existing opacity values.

- **INTERACTIVE MODE**

Interactive workflows have been expanded.

New commands (**addToPostActivateVisibleList**) and **clearFromPostActivateVisibleList (int delayFrames)** provide more control over visibility in interactive executions.

**Shape** searching is now visibility sensitive. Slot Interfaces can trigger **Rosstalk** events.

The **Macro Action Selection** dialog has been enhanced with filters and sorting.

Interactive executions now automatically start in fullscreen mode if not already running, and remain in fullscreen when returning, ensuring a smoother user experience.

Up to **10 Scene Slots** are now supported.

- **MACROS**

**Macro Variables** can now be combined with leading or trailing text.

**ExecuteMacroByName** now supports global searches across all layers.

Several new Macros have been added, including for **Fullscreen Animation** of **Drawings**, **Animate Line Drawing**, **Animate LineProgress**, **Blend Drawing**, **Wait for Flight End**, **Wait for Map Load**, **Init Flight**, **InitPlaybackNoWait**, and others. These allow users to create more dynamic workflows and automate complex interactions.

Container Macros now allow drawings to be numbered and loops to iterate only over shapes in the selected **Scene Slot**.

Conditional Macros now clear only if conditions have been set.

Additional Macros include:

**RegisterShapeToSimulateIDByName/Number**, **Simulate Button Click**, **Blend Other Shapes in Group**, **Check Equal**, and **Register Shape by Name to Simulate List**.

- **AWS**

XPression Maps is now **AWS-ready**. Setup is supported through the **Maps Database Configurator**, and the **Maps Exchange Tool** now includes **AWS** compatibility.

## IMPROVEMENTS

- **DRAWING TOOLBOX**

The Drawing Toolbox has been reorganized for improved usability.

- **OSM**

OSM rendering provides enhanced clarity with new masking and selection options.

- **DARK MODE**

The user interface benefits from Dark Mode and compatibility checks at startup.

- **DATABASE**

Database tools now include backup and restore capabilities, making upgrades more reliable and reducing the risk of data loss.

- **HTML5 CLIENT**

HTML5 Client improvements focus on flight interpolation and administrative controls.

- **INTERACTIVE MODE**

Interactive Mode expands macro functionality and scene slot management.

### GETTING HELP

- Our 24-hour hotline service provides access to technical expertise around the clock. After-sales service and technical support is provided directly by Ross Video personnel.
- During business hours (Eastern Standard Time), technical support personnel are available by telephone.
- After hours and on weekends, emergency technical support is available. A telephone-answering device will provide the names and phone numbers of technical support and field service personnel who are on call. These people are available to react to any problem and to do whatever is necessary to ensure customer satisfaction. For serious issues which need urgent attention and tracking, please ensure you are given a ticket number and refer to this in future communications.
- **Technical Support: (+1) 613-652-4886**
- **After Hours Emergency: (+1) 613-349-0006**
- **Toll Free Technical Support: 1-844-652-0645 (North America)**
  - **+800 1005 0100 (International)**