

# Support Portal

# Older Versions Release Notes

## Userful 8.8

### New Hardware Support

- Certified Intel® Core™ i3 "Skylake" PCs for small video wall deployments
- Added support for new Blackmagic DeckLink capture cards

### Preset Settings

- Added Preset Station Mapping feature that allows user to launch variety of preset settings (i.e station mapping configuration) from any device
- Redesigned the Preset Remote Control mobile application

### Session Management

- Added Session Management allowing administrators to define various settings related to use of a particular session (including login method, usage agreement, inactivity logout and session length).

### Video Wall Enhancements

- Added Intel® GPU Offload for 6th generation Core™ i3 PCs for the low-cost video wall deployments
- Added UI option to edit Rotation Offset while configuring artistic video walls
- Added experimental support for 100 displays from one Userful host, please contact your Userful sales representative for more details
- Added functionality to play zones with overlapping stations simultaneously

### Control Center UI improvements

- Restructured Display scaling and Nvidia Offload Card options under Control Center > System Operations > Performance Settings
- Added Nepali (ne) language support
- Updated non-English language translations

- Improved UI to include Zone names on the top of video wall icon under Station Mapping
- Added GUI option to crop the captured external device under Blackmagic DeckLink Capture and Video Capture session containers

### **Core Enhancements**

- Optimized switching of content and zones (reduced switching time from many seconds down to a fraction of a second)
- Added Direct Sync support for non-Nvidia systems
- Updated Blackmagic DeckLink driver to support the latest Blackmagic DeckLink capture cards.
- General stability improvements

### **Session Containers**

- Integrated Beabloo Player CMS session container

Miscellaneous new features, GUI improvements and bug fixes. For a comprehensive list see the changelog.

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## **Useful 8.7**

### **New Hardware Support**

- Certified new hardware system as Useful Standard Appliance
- Added support for Nvidia GeForce GTX 1060 and Nvidia GeForce GTX 1080 graphics card

### **Nvidia (GPU) Acceleration Support**

- Integrated Nvidia GPU Acceleration
- Nvidia GPU can aide the rendering of dynamic content (i.e. Web Browsers, Linux and Cloud Desktops) for better performance.

### **Video Wall Enhancements**

- Enabled "Artistic Grid" layout for 90 degree rotation in "professional" license module
- Substantially reduced time required for calibration & station mapping/remapping

### **Control Center UI improvements**

- Added option to enable Session (GPU) Acceleration under zone settings dialog
- Added Desktop Software suite under Control Center > Additional Software and Package for pdf viewer and text editor packages
- Reorganized the User Management link under System Operations
- Improved tooltips for all the session containers
- Updated translations strings for Control Center UI

### **Core Enhancements**

- Upgraded VirtualBox to version 5.1 (large number of improvements. See [VirtualBox.org](https://www.virtualbox.org) for details.)
- Upgraded Gstreamer package to version 1.9.1 for stability

### **Session Containers**

- Integrated TDM Signage and Display5 player session containers
- Integrated RTP Streamer session container for IPTV projects
- Added GUI option to enable audio for stand alone displays under Network Streamer session container

Miscellaneous new features, GUI improvements and bug fixes. For a comprehensive list see the changelog.

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## **Userful 8.6**

### **New Hardware Support**

Support for Intel® Skylake (6th generation) CPUs & GPUs

### **Initial Setup**

Enabled post-install configuration via a “First boot” Initial Setup GUI that can be accessed from any station, streamlining installation and facilitating appliance distribution

### **Direct Sync Support**

- Added Direct Sync feature under Nvidia Offload Support for:
- Performance improvements
- Synchronization (improvements to video wall synchronization)

### **Video Wall Enhancements**

- Substantially reduced time required for calibration & station mapping/remapping
- Added GUI option to set zone name under Video Wall Zone Settings
- Seamless switching of content and zones, switch content sources, video wall zones and session containers
- (reduced switching time from many seconds down to a fraction of a second)

### **Limited User Access**

- Access to station mapping but not to admin level functions

### **Control Center Improvements**

- Added feature to Power off all displays on idle stations between the specified time
- Added option to "Set Root Password" via Control Center > System Operations
- Added option to "Create Staff User" via Control Center > System Operations
- Added tooltips for video wall zone settings
- Added Thai and Ukrainian translations
- Improved Diagnostics & Warnings notifications

### **Core Enhancements**

- Upgraded base OS to CentOS 7.2 architecture
- Upgraded kernel to version 4.4
- Updated VirtualBox to version 5.0.18

### **Improved Failover Process**

- Automated live video wall failover allows 2 PC's to automatically back one another up

Miscellaneous new features, GUI improvements and bug fixes. For a comprehensive list see the changelog.

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## **Useful 8.5**

### **Nvidia Offload Card Support**

- Added Nvidia Offload Card support with significant improvements to:
- Scalability (supports up to 60+ displays)
- Performance (supports up to a 6K source canvas)
- Synchronization (improvements to video wall synchronization)
- Substantially improved scaled image quality (switched from linear scaling to cubic / lanczos scaling)
- Freed up CPU resources (by offloading 50%+ of the typical workload from the CPU to the Nvidia Offload Card)

### **VDI Support**

- Added support for outputting Virtual Machines directly to a station or video wall
- Upgraded from VirtualBox 4.x to 5.x (large number of improvements including para-virtualization support. See [Virtualbox.org](https://www.virtualbox.org) for a full list)
- Added support for Windows 10 guest OS
- Supports Windows desktops displayed on the video wall using a locally run virtual machine

### **Mirroring Support**

- Source content is rendered once and output to multiple stations (saving significant server resources) and allowing a perfectly synchronized mirrored video stream of a single content source to be output to multiple displays or video walls within the network.
- Mirroring works across all session containers.

## **Control Center (UI) Improvements**

- Added GUI option to "Change Hostname" via Control Center > System Operations
- Added GUI option to "Change IP Address" via Control Center > System Operations
- Added tooltips for video wall zone settings
- Additional languages: Added Persian translations

## **Video Wall Enhancements**

- Added negative bezel support in grid layout to support projectors and projected video walls
- Improvements to static image playlist playback

## **Peer Database Synchronization & Video Wall Failover**

- Automated live video wall failover allows 2 PC's to automatically back one another up
- Should the primary PC fail, the secondary will take over without human intervention
- Automated Database synchronization means session containers added to one machine can be automatically added to the failover machine as well

## **Core Enhancements**

- Upgraded to the Useful 8.x architecture (dramatically faster boot time, scalability and stability improvements)
- Added FTP support to copy the large content files to the host PC/server

Miscellaneous new features, GUI improvements and bug fixes. For a comprehensive list see the changelog.