

## IMPORTANT BULLETIN

February 24, 2022

### MPEG-4 TO HEVC TRANSITION

ANIK F2 will reach end of life December 2025, at which time Shaw Broadcast will only have signals available on one satellite, ANIK G1. In order to accommodate the hundreds of video and audio signals offered on Shaw Direct and to Shaw Broadcast customers on one satellite, we must transition all services to HEVC, a more efficient compression technology. In addition to the transition to HEVC, all audio, whether dedicated audio stations or audio for video channels, will convert from AC3 to AAC audio.

At this time, the proposed plan is to migrate a limited number of signals to HEVC and AAC in September 2023, while the balance of the signals will be migrated during the spring/summer of 2025, with a view to be fully transitioned to HEVC no later than November 2025. This timeline may change, given recent technical anomalies (publicly disclosed by Telesat) which could shorten the serviceable life of Anik F2 and require a more expeditious transition.

To receive HEVC signals from ANIK G1, your head end must have an xKu LNB and your equipment must be HEVC capable and accommodate AAC audio. Customer equipment requirements will vary. We have attempted to provide some guidance below with respect to making the transition to HEVC. Please contact your preferred equipment supplier(s) prior to acquiring equipment to ensure compatibility.

- DSR7xxx series receivers can transcode from HEVC to MPEG-4 and can continue to be used provided that the set-top box supports AAC audio.
- DSR4410 MD - utilize the IP/ASI output of DSR4410MD and acquire a 3<sup>rd</sup> party transcoder to convert HEVC video and AAC audio into a supportable format.
- Shaw Direct DSR8xx receivers used in a head end are HEVC and AAC compatible.

We commit to providing as much notice as possible, as well as details of the transition, as our HEVC migration plans are finalized.

To explore alternative solutions for signal acquisition from Shaw, please contact your Shaw Broadcast account representative.

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