Flash Air™ FAQ

What is the difference between FlashAir™ and a Standard SD Card?

The FlashAir™ SD Card incorporates flash memory and can be used as a standard SD Memory Card for storing any kind of digital data. It is fully compliant with the SD Card standards defined by the SD-Association. In addition to that FlashAir™ includes a Wireless LAN chip set plus antenna for wireless communications.

What are the main benefits of using FlashAir™?

By offering this Wireless LAN functionality, FlashAir™ provides the advantage of allowing access to the data stored on the SD Card without the need to remove the card or plug a cable to the device. Simply connect the remote host by linking it to the Wireless LAN Access Point of the FlashAir™ SD Card, start a browser tool and all the data on the card can be read and transferred from the FlashAir™ SD Card to the remote host. This basic functionality does not require any special driver or software installation on either side. The Wireless LAN function transfers any type of data and can be secured with WPA2.

What are the basic functions of FlashAir™ which works in all SDHC™ compatible cameras?

The FlashAir™ SD Card will create a Wireless LAN (WLAN) Access Point (AP). Any other device which has a WLAN function (e.g. PC, Tablet, Smartphone) can connect to this AP and create a direct communication channel to the FlashAir™ SD Card inside the camera. There is no need to remove the card or to plug a cable into the camera. FlashAir™ includes a HTML Server function which allows easy access to all data stored on the card by simply using anykind of browser on the remote Host (e.g. PC, Tablet, Smartphone). Now you can see all pictures or movies taken by the camera inside the browser window. You may decide to store a local copy of the files to the remote Host.

How is the connection between FlashAir™ and the receiving host established?

As soon as the FlashAir™ SD Card is powered up, it starts offering a Wireless LAN Access Point. This can be easily identified by the receiving host by searching for new wireless networks. The SSID named "flashair_xxxxxx" will appear as a connectable network and the receiving host can establish a direct connection to the FlashAir™ SD Card. NOTE: By default the WPA2 security feature for the WLAN communication is enabled and requires entering an initial password. This is by default: "12345678". We strongly recommend changing this password. The new password you enter needs to have at least 8 characters.

I'm prompted for a password to connect to the wireless LAN channel of my FlashAir™ SD Card. What is the password?

FlashAir™ SD Cards are delivered with an active WPA2 secured Wireless LAN channel. The default password is "12345678". We strongly recommend changing this password. The new password you enter needs to have at least 8 characters. Please read the manual inside the FlashAir™ package for further details.

How can I change the password for the WPA2 secured Wireless LAN channel?

There are 3 options:

When you unpack the FlashAir™ SD Card the very first time, you may use it in the SD Card slot of your PC. On the Downloads tab you will find a small installation file which you can start and install the configuration tool for FlashAir™. After launching the configuration tool, you will find the option in the Menu "Card Setting". Here you can change the password and if you like also change the SSID name. This password needs to have at least 8 characters. If you delete the default password and do not enter a new password, the Wireless LAN channel of the FlashAir™ SD Card will not be secured anymore and anyone could connect to its Access Point.

When you unpack the FlashAir™ SD Card the very first time you can immediately insert it into your camera and start taking pictures. Connect a remote host via Wireless WLAN with the FlashAir™ access point. Enter the default password of "12345678" and access the card with a browser using the address http://flashair/. You can change the password and the SSID if needed using the menus. The password needs to have at least 8 characters. If you delete the default password and do not enter a new password, the WLAN channel of the FlashAir™ SD Card will not be secured anymore and anyone could connect to its Access Point.

You can use the iOS or Android App to configure the FlashAir SD Card by selecting the appropriate menu in the app.

The FlashAir™ Wireless LAN access point suddenly disappeared. What happened?

There are most likely 2 reasons for this: The camera in which the FlashAir™ SD Card is inserted turned off automatically or went into Stand-By mode because it was not used for a certain time. In this case the FlashAir™ SD Card does not get power from the camera anymore and the Wireless LAN turns off. Solution: Check the settings of the camera and extend the time until the camera goes to stand-by or will turn off. FlashAir™ has a time-out function. If there was no Wireless LAN communication for a certain time, FlashAir™ will automatically turn off the Wireless LAN function to save power. Solution: With the FlashAir™ configuration tool you can set the time until the Wireless LAN is turned off according to your preference.

Do I need an existing Wireless LAN network to use FlashAir™?

No, FlashAir™ offers an individual Access Point, so it will work independent from the presents of another Wireless LAN network. Even outside a building you will be able to transmit the pictures to your host device right after you shoot them.

I want to use a FlashAir™ SD Card in my digital camera. Do I need a special type of camera?

The only requirement to use the basic functions of FlashAir™ is that the camera needs to have an SDHC™ compatible slot. SDHC™ means, that your camera can handle SD Cards with more than 2GB Capacity. So if you have already used an SD Card with more than 2GB with your camera, the FlashAir™ SD Card will also function in your camera.

Can I transfer data other than pictures or videos from the FlashAir™ SD Card to the remote Host?

Yes, it is possible to transmit any kind of file format via Wireless LAN from the FlashAir™ SD Card to a remote Host. It can be pictures, videos, text, machine code, presentation slides, music etc.

Do I have to create any online account to use FlashAir™?

No, this is not needed. Just directly connect to the FlashAir™ access point.

Can my Android or Apple iOS Smartphone connect to FlashAir™?

Yes, any Smartphone independent from the operating system can connect to FlashAir™. It just requires a Wireless LAN function and a browser or app installed. The apps for iOS and Android are available free of charge in the app stores.

Are there any FlashAir™ compatible devices other than digital cameras?

Any device with an SDHC™ slot can potentially be used.

How far is the wireless communication distance?

It depends on the neighbouring environment. Wireless communication is possible at a distance of just a few centimetres and up to ten meters.

Can I turn on/off the wireless LAN transmission of the FlashAir™ manually?

The WLAN of the FlashAir™ is always started whenever it gets power from the camera. It may turn off when it is unused after a time you can define in the settings of the card. Alternatively you can configure the FlashAir™ to react on the status of a dedicated picture on the Card. This requires the camera to be able block/unblock pictures in the viewer screen. On every FlashAir™ SD Card sold in the market there is a pre-loaded small picture. If you use the camera menu and block this picture, the WLAN function of the FlashAir™ will turn off. If you unblock it again, the WLAN function will turn on again.

I have another Wireless LAN router in my room. Will this cause problems with communication with FlashAir™

Not normally, because FlashAir™ automatically searches for a free channel for communication, avoiding interfering with existing Wireless LAN access points. Of course the number of Wireless LAN channels is limited to 12 channels, which means if there are many more Wireless LAN hotspots active in the same room, for example on fairs or in offices, this could limit the available free channels for FlashAir™.

Are other versions with higher capacity than 8GB planned for FlashAir™?

A 16GB version is available now and by end of 2013 we will introduce a 32GB version as well.

Where and when can I buy FlashAir™ in my country?

This depends on the sales strategy of our local distributors in your region. As we do not sell FlashAir™ directly to shops, we cannot predict a dedicated time of sales start, nor in which shops it

will appear first. We recommend checking regularly for online announcements or offers of your local retailer.

Is FlashAir™ App compatible with newly release iOS13 and IpadOS?

We would like to inform that we have released the latest update of iOS App to solve the incompatibility with iOS13 and IpadOS. Kindly take note that from iOS 13 and iPadOS 13 or later, FlashAir App needs location access to check the connection status with FlashAir. Thus, when opening the app, you will see the alert and are recommended to select "Allow While Using App". Please select "Allow While Using App" or "Allow Once". If you do NOT allow FlashAir to access your location, iOS 13 or iPadOS 13 device may face problem for accessing the card.