

Soma Connect Installation and Usage Guide



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Overview

SOMA Smart Shades turns the existing shades in your home into smart shades with no screws and no additional wiring. These Bluetooth based controllers are battery operated, can be either USB charged or solar panel charged and provide you with the ability to move your shades up, down, stop or to a specific level. It is compatible with chain based shading solutions and also tilt (rod) based solutions. As such it can be easily retrofit into existing homes with ease.

Usage Scenarios

- Automate existing shades in the home without additional wiring!
- Program shades to open on sunrise and close on sunset
- Program shades to close when you arm the home
- Program shades to close when the forecast for the day is above a certain temperature and it is sunny
- Program shades to close when you start up your movie

Features

- Bi-directional control and feedback via local API
- Import of all soma shades (including tilt)
- Up / Down / Stop / Level based commands
- Position feedback
- Battery level feedback

Change Log

Version 20211004

- Improve Debugging
- Fix LUA Error which occurs intermittently before devices are imported

Version 20210810

- Fixed Up / Down commands inverted

Version 20210802

- Initial release

Adding the driver to your project

1. Launch the **Composer Pro** and connect to your project
2. In the **Agents** page click on **Add**
3. Click on **Soma**
4. Select the **Soma** agent on the left hand side.
5. Enter in the **IP Address** of your Soma Connect device (Note you should reserve an IP address in DHCP for the Soma Connect device)
6. If required adjust the poll interval for the driver.
7. Click on **Actions**
8. Click on **Import Devices**
9. In the **System Design** page select the **Search** tab on the right hand side
10. Search for **Soma**
11. For each shade double click the **Soma (Shade Driver)**
12. Click on the **Connections** tab and select the **Soma** agent.
13. Bind each **Soma (Shade Driver)** to the drivers you installed earlier

Control & Audio Video Connections				
Soma				
Name	Type	Connection	Input/Output	Connected To
Control Outputs				
shades	Control	SOMA_SHADE	Output	shades->SOMA CONNECT
tilt	Control	SOMA_SHADE	Output	

14. The driver will automatically rename itself to the name on the Soma app. If you wish to name this something else please make sure change the **Auto Rename Device** property to False

Auto Rename Device	True
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15. Select **File** then **Refresh Navigators**

File	Driver	Go	Tools	Help
Clear Project...				Ctrl+N
Load Project...				Ctrl+O
Cloud Management...				
Backup to Cloud...				
Connect to Director...				
Disconnect from Director				
Back Up				Ctrl+S
Back Up As...				
Refresh				F5
Refresh Navigators				Shift+F5
Validate Project				Ctrl+F5
Exit				

16. Congratulations you have set up the Soma Driver

Device Commands

The Soma drivers have the following commands. These commands are listed below

Shades Driver

Command Name	Command Parameters
Open	N/A
Close	N/A
Toggle	N/A
Stop	N/A
Target Level	Level (0-100)

Device Feedback

Proxy Feedback

The Soma drivers have the following feedback.

Shades Driver

- Position
- Battery Level (Variable)

FAQ

Where can i purchase these devices from?

Soma is available for international purchase from their website

<https://www.somasmarthome.com/>

Alternatively if you are in Australia you can purchase it from our friends at OzSmartThings

<https://www.ozsmarththings.com.au/>

How long does it take to charge via USB?

The full charge takes up to 10 hours and the battery will last up to 25 days on a single charge, depending on the number of triggers and manipulations with the device.

What about charging via solar panel?

Solar panel is expected to be connected to the device constantly and it does not charge the device fully to 100%.

Installation instructions

- Plug in the charging cables audio jack, see detailed instructions [here](#)
- The protective film needs to be removed from the solar panel
- The panel has to be attached to the window glass facing outdoors
- The panel does not work or has limited effectiveness with the following types of windows
 - Frosted glass windows
 - Windows with spectrally selective glazing
 - Windows with tinted, coated or reflective glasses
 - Triple pane windows
- Make sure that the solar panel is fully open to the sunlight and that it is not covered even partly by physical items or that it is not partly covered by shadow (for example shadows might be caused by nearby buildings or trees)
 - Check the Charging Level. In the Smart Shades app > Device Settings > Troubleshooting > Charging Level. The Charging Level changes according to the light entering the panel. Move the panel to find the best position for it
 - Make sure that you have the latest firmware installed to see this option in the settings. See [Checking for Firmware Updates](#).
- The panel may have limited effectiveness if attached to the windows facing north
- The panel may have limited effectiveness during certain seasons in certain geographical locations
 - Use USB charger during these periods

How do we know when the battery level is low?

The battery level can be checked via the Soma Smart Shades app. The driver also pulls in the battery level information as a variable. As such you can program against the battery level. We highly recommend you add a push notification to advise the home owner when the battery level is low.

Do you offer any other cool drivers?

Control4 is a major part of our business. We develop new drivers all the time. You can see all of our drivers on our website (<http://www.chowmainsoft.com>). Sign up to our newsletter to get notified when new drivers out.

Licensing

- How does the trial period work?

All Chowmain drivers are free to use for a set trial period. When the trial expires the driver will cease to function until you purchase a licence and apply it to the driverCentral project.

- Where do I buy a Licence from?

This driver is developed by Chowmain software & Apps and is distributed by driverCentral, Inc <https://www.drivercentral.io/chowmain-ltd>

To purchase a driver:

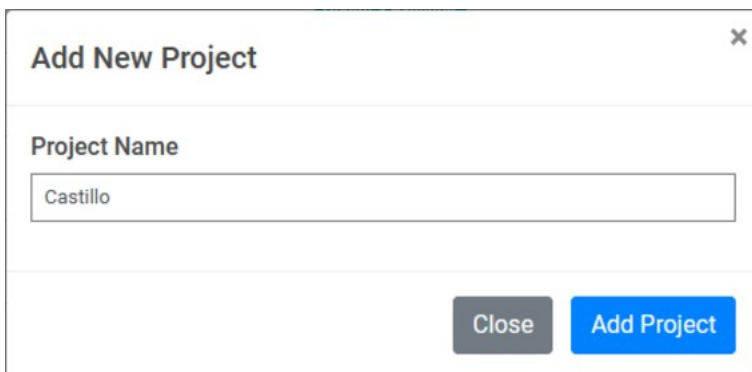
1) On driverCentral, purchase a license and register it to your project

1) If the driver is not already installed in your project, download it and install it

1) If necessary, use the cloud driver's Action: "Check Drivers" to force the licence to download into the project

Creating a Project on Driver Central

1. Visit <http://www.drivercentral.io>
2. Log into your driver Central dealer account
3. Click **Portal**
4. Click **New Project**
5. Enter the project name

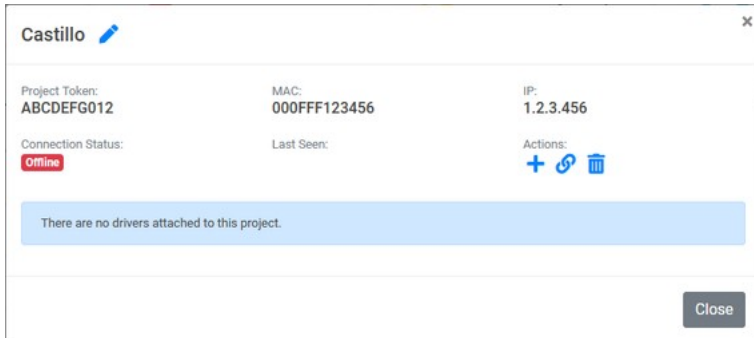


The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Add New Project" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. Below the title bar, there is a label "Project Name" and a text input field containing the word "Castillo". At the bottom right, there are two buttons: a grey "Close" button and a blue "Add Project" button.

6. Click **Add Project**
7. Click on the project we just created

Project	Status	Created
Castillo	Unassigned Project	1999-12-31 23:59:56

8. Take note of the **Project Token** as this will be used later when we install the Cloud Driver

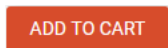


9. Click **Close**

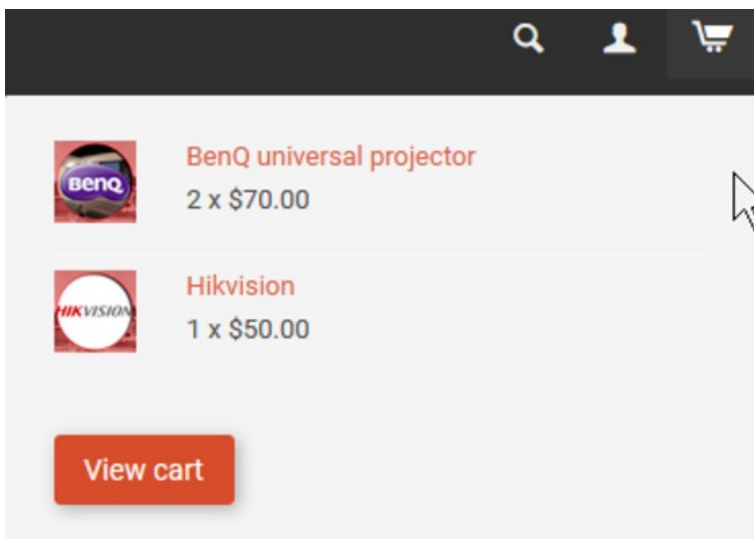
Purchasing a Driver Licence

1. Visit <https://www.drivercentral.io/chowmain-ltd/> and find the product/driver you want to purchase a licence for

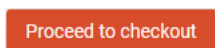
2. Click on **Add to Cart**



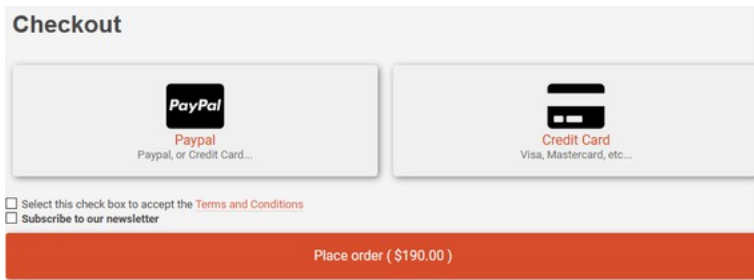
3. Now click the shopping cart icon (top right) and click **View cart**



4. Confirm that your order is correct and click on **Proceed to checkout**



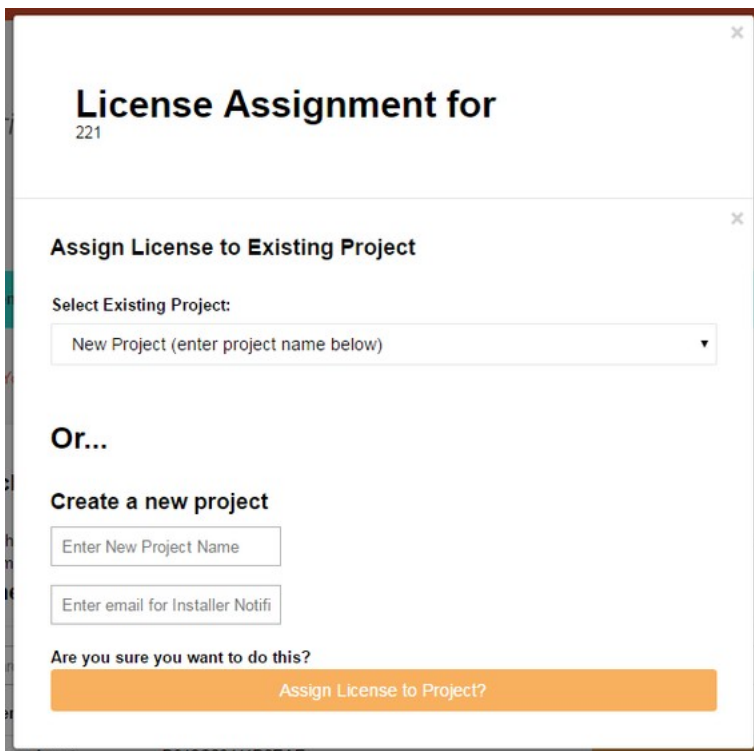
5. Choose your payment option, provide the relevant details and click **Place order**



6. You will now be at a page where you can see your purchased licence

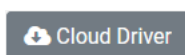


7. From here assign the licence to the project we created or if you did not follow that step create a new project



Install the driverCentral cloud driver

1. Visit <http://www.drivercentral.io>
2. Log into your driver Central dealer account
3. Click **Portal**
4. Click **Cloud Driver**



- Copy the C4Z driver to My Documents\Control4\Drivers directory
- Add the driver to your project
- Click on the driver to view it's properties

Cloud Status	Please enter cloud project token below...
Project Information	(1) Total, (0) Licensed, (0) Trials, (1) Expired, (0) Updates.
Driver Version	1001
Project Token	<input type="text"/>
	Project token from driverCentral.io project portal
Driver Actions	<input type="button" value="v"/>
Debug Mode	Off <input type="button" value="v"/>

- Type in the project token we took note of earlier
- Click **Actions** tab
- Click **Check Drivers**

Install Chowmain driver

- Install the Chowmain driver
- You will notice that the Activation Status reflects a Licence Activated state
- Any driver that does not have a purchased licence will have a trial licence activated via the marketplace
Note that there is no way to reactivate the trial so please use wisely
- If you do not then press the Check Drivers action in the driverCentral Cloud driver again

Activation Status	Update Available!!! License Activated
Driver Version	1002
Driver Information	Navigate to connections tab and make serial binding
Automatic Updates	Off <input type="button" value="v"/>