

# Technical Bulletin – Kollektor H.264 Compression

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## General Description

A major addition to ViconNet version 6 is the **option** to use H.264 compression in the Strike and Force Kollektors (Kollektor Bridge is based on Kollektor Force and therefore supported as well). Kollektor Elite, Pro, Lite, and Net cannot be updated to allow them to do H.264 compression instead of ViconNet.

## Functionality and Supported Models

Any Kollektor Force or Strike running version 6 will have the option, in set up, to select ViconNet **or** H.264 compression as its algorithm.

- The default setting for all Kollektors is ViconNet compression
- The selection applies to the entire DVR not per camera
- The selected compression determines the FPS performance parameters of the DVR:
  - o KF1 and KS1 – 120 fps ViconNet or 60 fps H.264
  - o KF2 and KS2 – 240 fps ViconNet or 120 fps H.264
  - o KF3 and KS3 – 480 fps ViconNet or 240 fps H.264
  - o KF4 and KS4 – 480 fps both ViconNet and H.264 (when released)

ViconNet version 6 product descriptions have been updated to reflect this and will be in the marketing Sales Alert.

- Note: **Compression is different** from display; a ViconNet-based unit can display an H.264 stream from another unit if it meets the minimum requirements.

## H.264 Bandwidth Setting

When choosing H.264 compression, an option for the bandwidth to use is provided:

1. Variable Bit Rate (VBR) – Lets the Kollektor use whatever bandwidth it requires, depending on the motion in the picture. VBR protects the picture quality but in high motion environments will produce high bandwidth and storage.
2. Constant Bit Rate (CBR) – Allows setting a fixed bandwidth per channel and the DVR will not exceed this setting. CBR provides a predictable bandwidth and storage but does not have the high and low bandwidth changes like VBR; on high motion, VBR might over-compress the video in order to keep the bandwidth limit.

The default setting is VBR and is very similar to the way the Kollektors have always worked, which allows the unique compression in Kollektor to keep the image quality at its best while using the bandwidth required by the motion in the picture.

## Limitations

There are a few limitations when using H.264 compression on the DVRs:

1. Supported in Kollector Strike, Force and Bridge only
2. DVR must be running ViconNet version 6
3. FPS will be half than when using ViconNet compression on the same unit
4. The compression method selection is for the entire DVR, not per channel
5. Displaying H.264 requires a stronger PC than displaying ViconNet; older PCs might present slow display performance (refer to ViconNet version 6 TB for requirements)