



VBrick Online Streaming Services

VBoss Live Management v1.5

Admin Guide

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Founded in 1997, VBrick Systems, an ISO 9001 certified vendor, is a privately held company that has enjoyed rapid growth by helping our customers successfully introduce mission critical video applications across their enterprise networks. Since our founding, VBrick has been setting the standard for quality, performance and innovation in the delivery of live and stored video over IP networks—LANs, WANs and the Internet. With thousands of video appliances installed world-wide, VBrick is the recognized leader in reliable, high-performance, easy-to-use networked video solutions.

VBrick is an active participant in the development of industry standards and continues to play an influential role in the Internet Streaming Media Alliance (ISMA), the MPEG Industry Forum, and Internet2. In 1998 VBrick invented and shipped the world's first MPEG Video Network Appliance designed to provide affordable DVD-quality video across the network. Since then, VBrick's video solutions have grown to include Video on Demand, Management, Security and Access Control, Scheduling, and Rich Media Integration. VBrick solutions are successfully supporting a broad variety of applications including distance learning and training, conferencing and remote office communications, security, process monitoring, traffic monitoring, business and news feeds to the desktop, webcasting, corporate communications, collaboration, command and control, and telemedicine. VBrick serves customers in education, government, healthcare, and financial services markets among others.

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Welcome

This online help is best viewed with **Internet Explorer 7.0** (Windows), **Safari 1.2** (Macintosh), or **Firefox 2.0** (Linux) at a minimum screen resolution of 1024x768. (The pages and the application may not display or function properly with earlier versions or other browsers.) For best results, please take a few minutes to upgrade your browser from the update pages at [Microsoft](#), [Apple](#), or [Mozilla](#). Copyright © 2009 VBrick, Inc. All rights reserved. Last updated: March 19, 2009

VBoss Live Management v1.5 Online Help

This online help system explains how to use VBoss (VBrick Online Streaming Services) Live Management. Our publications team is committed to providing first-rate documentation and your feedback is important to us. If you find errors or omissions in this documentation, please send your feedback to documentation@vbrick.com

Introduction	Provides an application overview, describes important features, and explains how to login and get started.
Home Page	Explains the features and functions on the home page including announcements, bandwidth statistics, and transaction history.
Managing the Viewing Page	Explains how to customize the viewing page with announcements, colors, images, and text. It also explains how to configure and record scheduled events.
Managing the Appliance	Explains how to enable or disable the live stream and how to configure the audio and video for best results.

Printer-Friendly

Click on the following link to print a hard copy of this document.

[VBoss Live Management Admin Guide](#)

▼ To save or print a PDF document

1. Click once to open the document in Acrobat Reader.
2. To save or print, right-click and select **Save Target As** or **Print Target**.



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Introduction

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Application Overview

VBrick Online Streaming Services (VBoss) provides best-in-class reliability for live video broadcasting on the Internet. VBoss Live Management enables video publishers to access this service in the most simple way. A live video source (including a camcorder, video mixer, or VCR deck) is connected to the ultra-reliable VBrick appliance. The video is automatically digitized for Internet delivery and streamed via a Content Distribution Network to a global audience. A simple, template-based, landing page is provided that can be linked from an existing site or e-mailed to viewers. Alternatively the publisher can use the direct streaming URL and simple embed code for easy integration into their existing site or blog.



Figure 1. VBoss Live Management Login Page

Notable Features

Live Management is ideal for corporate communications, public and media relations, training, event broadcasting, and similar applications. The Live Management application provides:

- Preconfigured, remotely managed VBrick Windows Media Appliance. No set up is required. Simply plug in power, your network, and video to broadcast live video on the Internet.
- Preconfigured integration with leading Content Distribution Networks for scalable Internet distribution. CDN bandwidth is included.
- Cross-browser and multi-operating system video playback templates including standard Windows Media plugins for IE and FireFox and SilverLight templates for Safari and FireFox on OSX.
- Direct access to streaming URL and player embed code for easy integration with your existing website or blog.
- Publisher Application for easy template configuration and usage reports.

Table 1. Supported Browsers †

Internet Explorer 6.0 or higher
Firefox 2.0
Safari 1.2

† On Macintosh desktops you must use the Silverlight Player.

Quick Start

VBoss Live Management is designed to let you start broadcasting live video in minutes. The VBrick appliance is preconfigured to auto-connect to the Internet as soon as it's plugged in.

- ▼ To quickly get started broadcasting live video
 1. Open the box and inspect the components. Each shipment will have:
 - VBrick WM appliance
 - Welcome letter
 - VBoss Live Management documentation
 2. Connect a video source (for example a camera or a VCR) to **Composite In** or **S-Video In** on the appliance.
 3. Connect an Ethernet cable to the **Ethernet** port on the appliance.
 4. Use the power cable to connect a power source to the **Power In 24VDC** connector on the VBrick. The green **Power In** LED will illuminate and the front panel will display status messages during self-test and reboot.
 5. Open a browser, type <http://broadcast.VBrick.com> to launch the Live Management portal page (Figure 1), and then enter the **User Name** and **Password** provided by VBrick.
 6. When the dashboard page (with the bandwidth gauges) is displayed, click on the **Click here to view your live video stream** link to display the live stream from your video source in the default viewing page (Figure 3) on the web.



Figure 2. Viewing Page with Windows Media Player



Figure 3. Viewing Page with SilverLight Player



Home Page

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Home

The VBoss Live Management "Home" page is displayed in a "dashboard" format that provides quick access to important features, functions, and statistics.

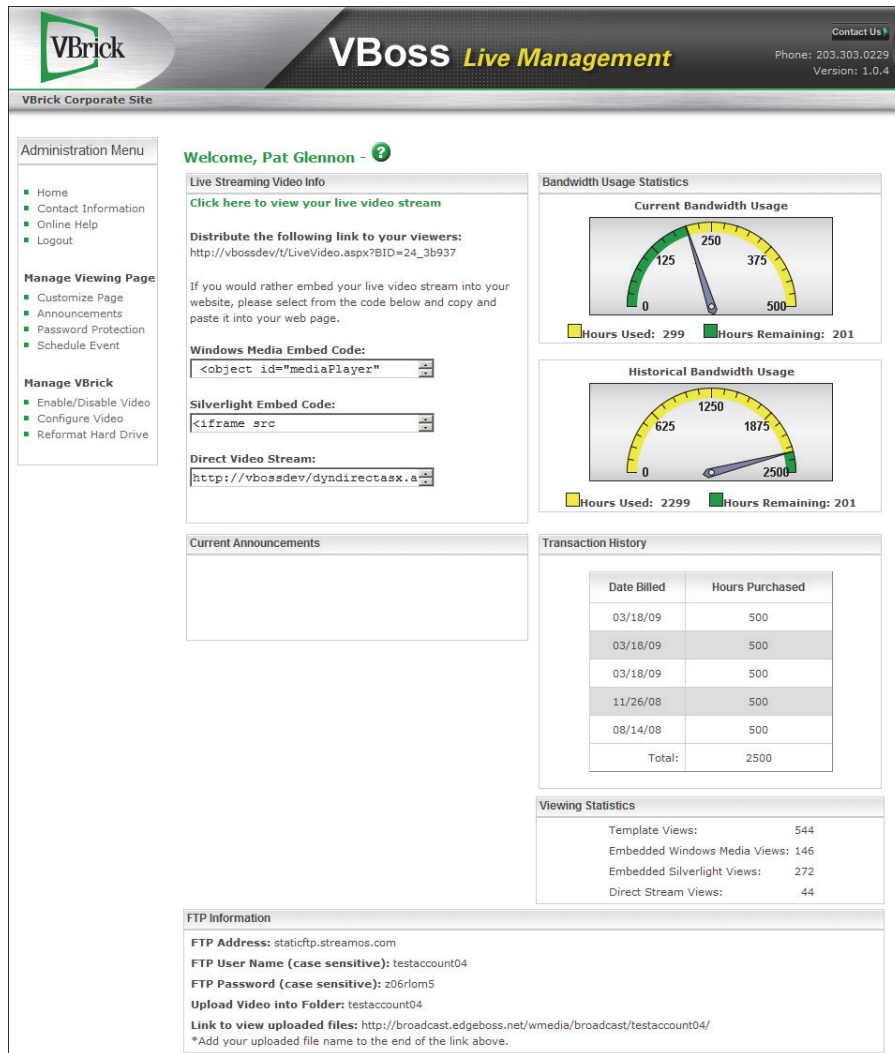


Figure 4. VBoss Live Management Home Page

Live Streaming Video Info

One VBrick appliance is associated with each VBoss Live Management account. The appliance is preconfigured before shipment to your site and allows you to broadcast one live stream. This section on the home page shows various ways make that stream available to viewers.

Click here to view your live video stream	This launches your live stream in a browser on your local PC with the current customization options. This is useful when you are customizing the viewer page.
Distribute the following link to your viewers	Read-only. Use this link to distribute your live stream to viewers, for example you can paste it into an e-mail message.
Windows Media Embed Code	Use this code to embed the live stream on your own web page in a Windows Media Player.
Silverlight Embed Code	Use this code to embed the live stream on your own web page in a Microsoft Silverlight player. If Silverlight is not installed, your viewers may be prompted to download the plug-in from Microsoft
Direct Video Stream	Paste this code into a browser (or into an e-mail message) to launch your live stream in a standalone Windows Media Player.

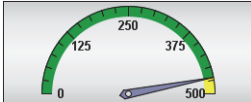
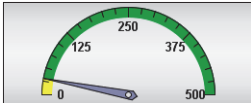
Current Announcements

This section is read-only. If desired, you can display informational text and links in the Announcement area, under the embedded player, on the viewer page. These customizable items are explained in [Announcements](#) on page 10. If no announcements are configured, this heading is not shown on the viewing page.

Announcements
<p> Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Maecenas sit amet odio sed mi cursus biben Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Maecenas sit amet odio sed mi cursus bibendum. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing</p>

Bandwidth Usage Statistics

This section has graphical gauges showing current and historical bandwidth usage. The graphs are updated daily. Bandwidth is allocated and billed in 500 hour increments and automatically rolls over to a new 500 hour balance when the currently available bandwidth is exhausted. All bandwidth rollover increments and billing dates are shown in the [Transaction History](#).

Current Bandwidth Usage		This gauge shows the remaining bandwidth available on the current 500 hour increment.
Historical Bandwidth Usage		This gauge shows all bandwidth usage since account inception.

Transaction History

This window shows the complete billing and transaction history for this account. It has a separate entry for each 500 hour bandwidth rollover and a cumulative total of all hours purchased since account inception.

Date Billed	Hours Purchased
08/14/08	500
Total:	500

Viewing Statistics

This window shows how many times the live stream was viewed, and what method was used for viewing, since account inception. These statistics are updated in realtime.

Template Views	The number of times the stream was viewed from the customizable template page.
Embedded Windows Media Views	The number of times the stream was viewed in an embedded Windows Media Player.
Embedded Silverlight Views	The number of times the stream was viewed in an embedded Silverlight player.
Direct Stream Views	The number of times the stream was viewed from a standalone Windows Media Player.

FTP Information

Use the read-only information in this section to upload video files to the VBoss Live Management server or to view files that have already been uploaded. You can upload any existing files in .wmv format. The FTP fields are read-only and are populated with values that are unique to your site. Use these values in your own FTP application to upload files to the Live Management server. You can also *view* files in a standalone media player by pasting the read-only URL into a browser and appending the file name at the end of the link.

FTP Address	FTP address of VBoss Live Management server.
FTP User Name	FTP address of VBoss Live Management server.
FTP Password	FTP address of VBoss Live Management server.
Link to view uploaded files	Use to view files locally. Paste this read-only URL into a browser and add your uploaded file name at the end. For example: http://broadcast.edgeboss.net/wmedia/broadcast/vboss0001/my_video

Contact Information


This page is used to update **Bill-To** and **Ship-To Information** associated with your company. Verify that this information is accurate and make any changes as necessary. To change your company information, simply make any necessary changes and click **Update**. This page is also used to manage the *users* who have access to the Live Management Publisher. Only those

users who are defined here can access the Live Management Publisher. To add Live Management users, click **Add a New Contact**, complete the required fields, and click **Add This Contact**. To edit or delete existing users, select the desired user to populate the window, and then click **Update** or **Delete** as necessary.

The screenshot shows the VBoss Live Management interface. At the top, the VBrick logo and 'VBoss Live Management' title are visible, along with contact information and version details. The main content area is titled 'Manage Contact Information - ?' and includes a navigation menu on the left. The form contains two main sections: 'Bill-To Information' and 'Ship-to Information'. The 'Bill-To Information' section includes fields for Company Name (Pat's Company), Address (12 Beaumont Road), City (a412), State (Connecticut [CT]), and Postal Code (a62). The 'Ship-to Information' section includes fields for Ship-to Address (s address), City (a422), State (Connecticut [CT]), and Postal Code (a622). There are buttons for 'Update', 'Add New Contact/User', and 'Contacts / Users'.

Figure 5. Contact Information Page

Online Help

Click on the link in the Administration Menu to launch the online help system. Use the online help button on each page  to get detailed context-sensitive help for the configuration items on that particular page.

Managing the Viewing Page

The "viewing page" (see [Figure 2](#) on page 3) is the web page that end users will see when viewing a stream. This page is highly customizable and comes with a pre-built selection of color schemes and images.

Topics in this section

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Schedule Event	12

Customize Page

You can use this page to customize the viewing page that end users will see. You can quickly changes the colors, images, or the media player type, and you can add title, text, and copyright information. When done click **Update** and **View Template** to see your updated web page.

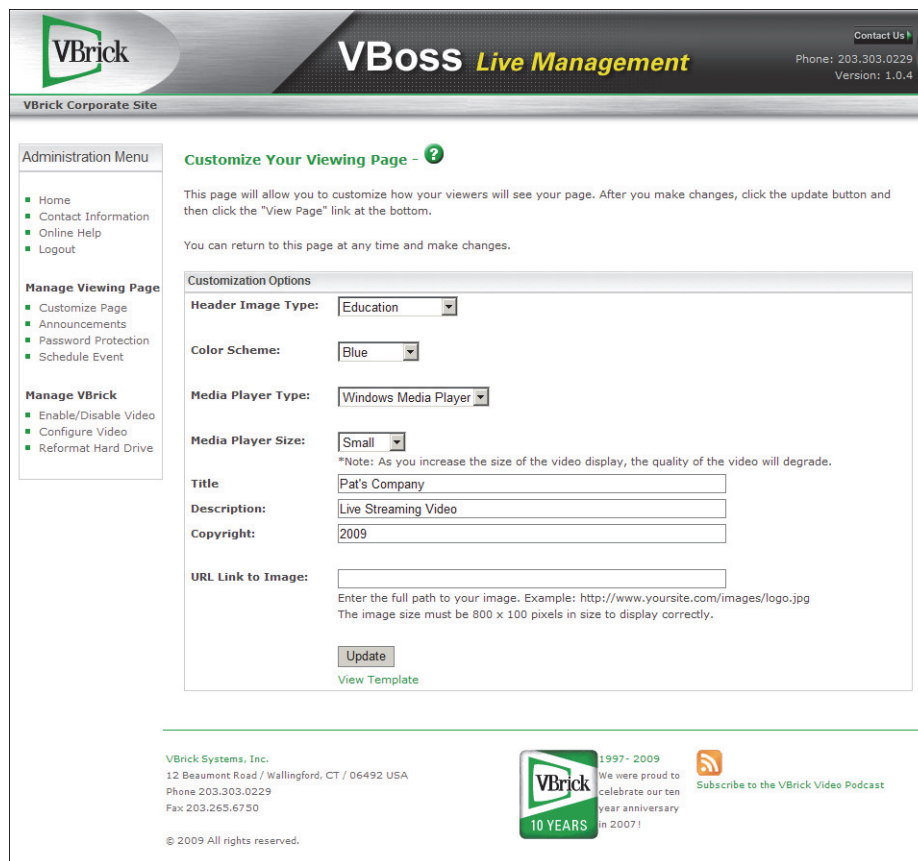


Figure 6. Customize Viewing Page

Customization Options

Header Image Type	Select header image (or no header image) from the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Default• Corporate• Education• Faith Based• Government• Sports
Color Scheme	Sets the web page background color: Black, Blue, Green, Light Grey, Red, and White.
Media Player Type	Select one: Windows Media Player or Silverlight. Windows Media Player is installed on all Windows computers. Silverlight is an optional, downloadable player. If Silverlight is not installed, your viewers may be prompted to download the plug-in from Microsoft
Media Player Size	Select one: Small, Medium, or Large. Note that As you increase the size of the video display, the quality of the video will degrade.
Title	Displayed in bold above the embedded player on the viewer page.
Description	Displayed above the embedded player on the viewer page.
Copyright	Displayed above the embedded player on the viewer page.
URL Link To Image	Enter the full path to an image on your web server, For example: http://www.yoursite.com/images/logo.jpg . The image size must be 800x100 px to render correctly.

Announcements

Announcements consist of text data that is displayed below the embedded player on the viewing page (if no announcements are configured, the Announcements heading is not displayed). Using the calendar, you can select a **Start Date** and an **End Date** for each announcement. The announcement will automatically be removed from your page when the end date passes. You also have the option to link to a document (for example a PDF or a PowerPoint spreadsheet) that can be downloaded, or link to any web page on the public Internet. All links open in a new window that will not interfere with your live broadcast.



Figure 7. Manage Announcements Page

Title	The announcement title is displayed in bold text.
Start Date	Use calendar to select start date.
End Date	Use calendar to select end date. The announcement will automatically be removed from your page when this date passes.
Text for the Link	The text that will be displayed as a hyperlink, for example: VBrick Website
Full URL to Link to	Complete path to a website or a document on a web server, for example: http://www.VBrick.com <u>or</u> http://www/VBrick.com/mydocument.pdf
Announcement Text	This is typically descriptive text and is displayed on the line immediately below the announcement title.

Password Protection

This page will allow you to password-protect the video in your viewing template page. *This password applies to a template viewing page only.* It does not apply to a video that is embedded in your own web page. In Figure 8, the stream is not protected and anyone who knows the URL can view it. In Figure 9 the stream is protected and you are prompted for a password before viewing.

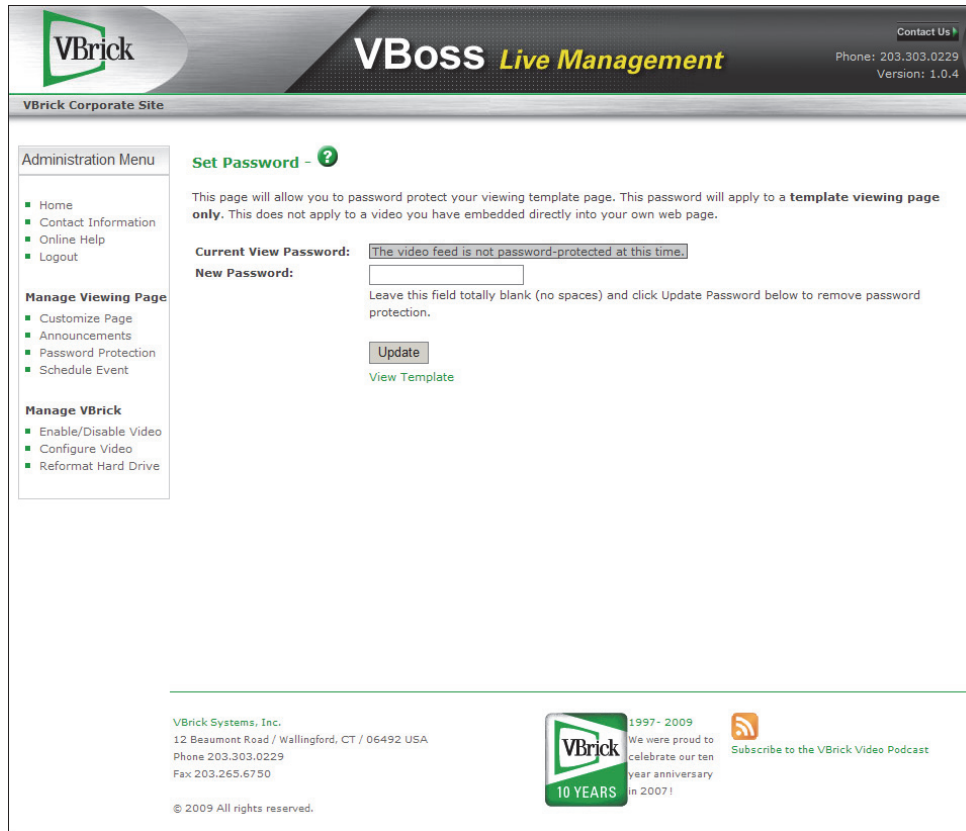


Figure 8. Set Password Page

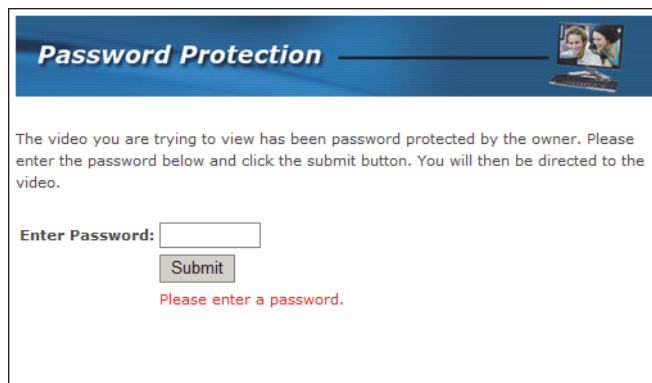


Figure 9. Enter Password Prompt

Schedule Event

This page lets you schedule future events. You can specify a **Start Date** and an **End Date** for each scheduled broadcast. VBoss will automatically activate the video stream at the specified time, and optionally record and FTP your file when done. Use the **Enable/Disable Video** option (on the left navigation panel) to stop the stream when the event is over.

Selecting Stream Quality

You can record one or all of the stream(s) enabled on the [Configure Video](#) page. However the streams you select are encoded as one file and there are limits on size. **The file size of all recorded streams cannot exceed 4 gigabytes or 12 hours—whichever comes first.** The following table shows typical files sizes and record times. The recording will stop when it reaches the maximum file size or duration.

Table 2. Maximum Recording Size/Duration

Stream Type	Max File Size	Max Duration
Standard Quality	4 GB	11 hours
Enhanced Quality	4 GB	6.5 hours
Highest Quality	4 GB	10.5 hours
All 3 streams at once	4 GB	5.25 hours

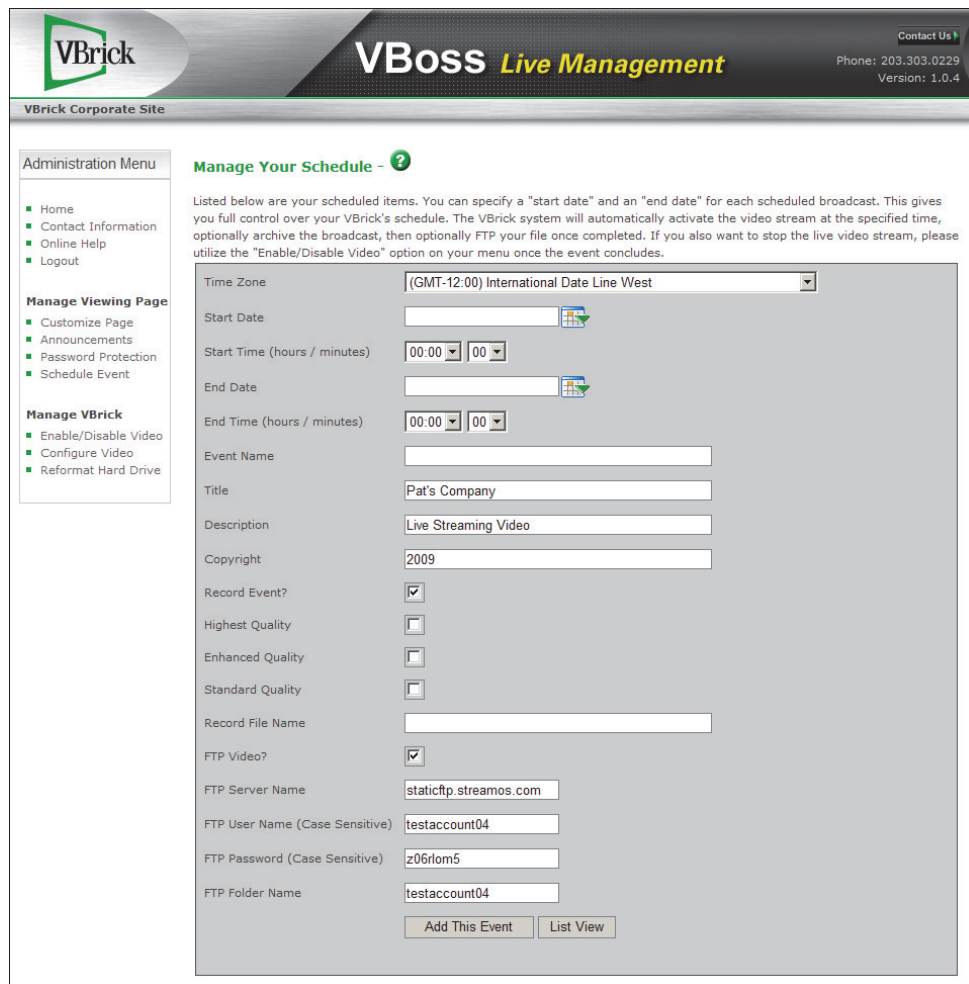


Figure 10. Manage Your Schedule Page

Time Zone	Select your local time zone from the dropdown list.
-----------	---

Start Date	Use the calendar to select a start date.
Start Time	Select a time (in 30 minute increments) to start streaming.
End Date	Use the calendar to select an end date.
End Time	Select a time (in hours and minutes) after which the recording will end.
Event Name	Required.
Title	Optional. Enter a title for this streaming event.
Description	Optional. Enter a name for this particular program.
Copyright	Optional. Copyright year.
Record Event?	Check this box to enable Quality settings. Select the streams (Standard, Enhanced, Highest) you want to record. These streams must be enabled on the Configure Video page.
FTP Video?	Check this box to enable FTP settings. You can FTP the recorded video to the specified FTP Server. Enter an FTP File Name for the recorded stream(s). The other FTP values will be provided by your VBrick VBoss administrator.

Managing the Appliance

This page is used to enable/disable the live stream and to set configuration parameters for the encoded video. All configurable parameters are set using this page and this is the only way you can access the VBrick appliance. There is no direct access or web access to the VBrick appliance.

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Enable/Disable Video

Enable/Disable Live Stream

This page lets you manually stop or start your live stream at any time, for any reason. Note that it will take up to a minute and a half to actually start or stop the video stream.

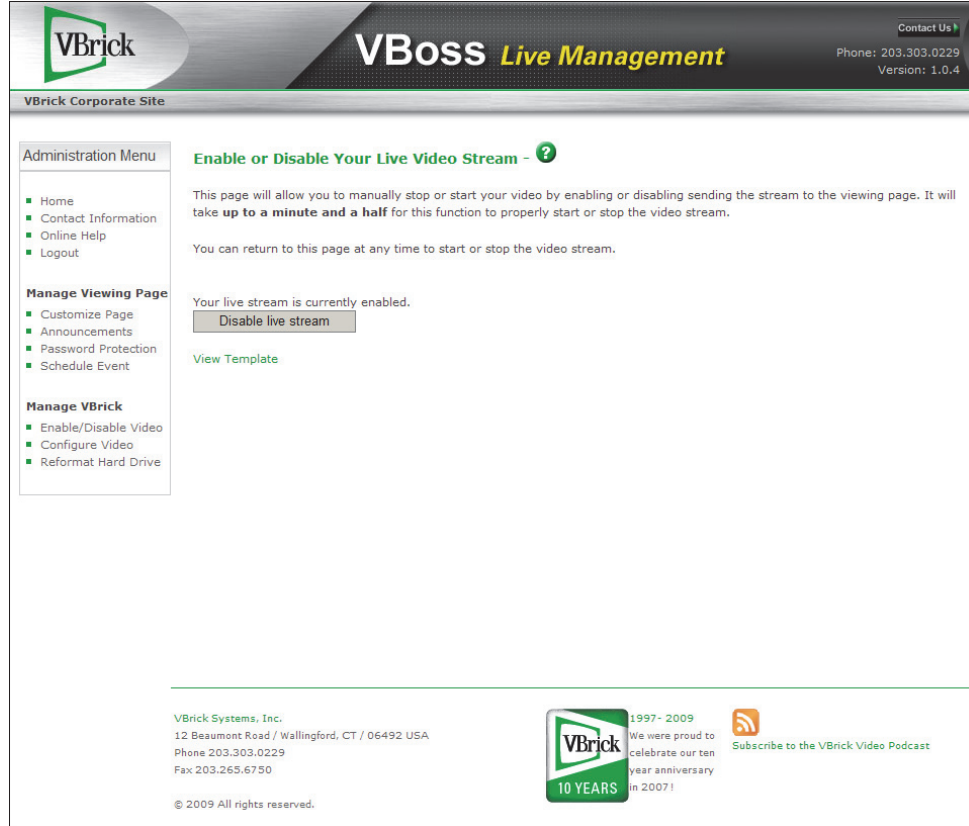


Figure 11. Enable/Disable Live Stream Page

Configure Video

The following page lets you modify configuration settings for the VBrick appliance. It shows the settings you are currently using to broadcast your video and audio. After you make changes and click **Update**, you will need to allow up to one and a half minutes before the changes take effect and the appliance is reconfigured.

Note As shown in the following screenshot, you cannot make configuration changes to this page while a scheduled event is in progress.



Figure 12. Configure Video Page

Video Settings

Video Input	The input can be set to accept either Composite or SVID (S-Video).
Video Aspect Ratio	This option describes the ratio of the width (in pixels) of the image to the height of the image. Standard TV images generally use an aspect ratio of 4:3. Set this value to match the video input source, either (4:3) 320x240 or (16:9) 384x216.

Streaming Settings

VBoss can send up to three streams of varying quality to your service provider (for example Akamai). Your viewers will receive and play the highest bit rate stream that their network and desktop can handle. Use this page to configure the video settings that are best for your

environment and to select stream(s) to send. For best results select all streams. As shown below, the streaming settings vary by bit rate. Note that you cannot change the streaming settings while a live scheduled event is in progress.

Standard Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 268K video • 32K audio (mono L + R)
Enhanced Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 512K video • 64K audio (stereo)
Highest Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 768K video • 96K audio (stereo)
Audio Gain	This setting controls the audio attenuation (or gain) applied to the audio input: from 49 dB to -53 dB and mute. Default = 0 dB. A setting of 7 dB is full volume and -53 dB effectively mutes the appliance.

Reformat Hard Drive

Use this page to reformat the VBrick WM Appliances's hard drive. It will remove all files recorded by previously scheduled live events. (This does not affect VOD files stored on the Akamai server.)

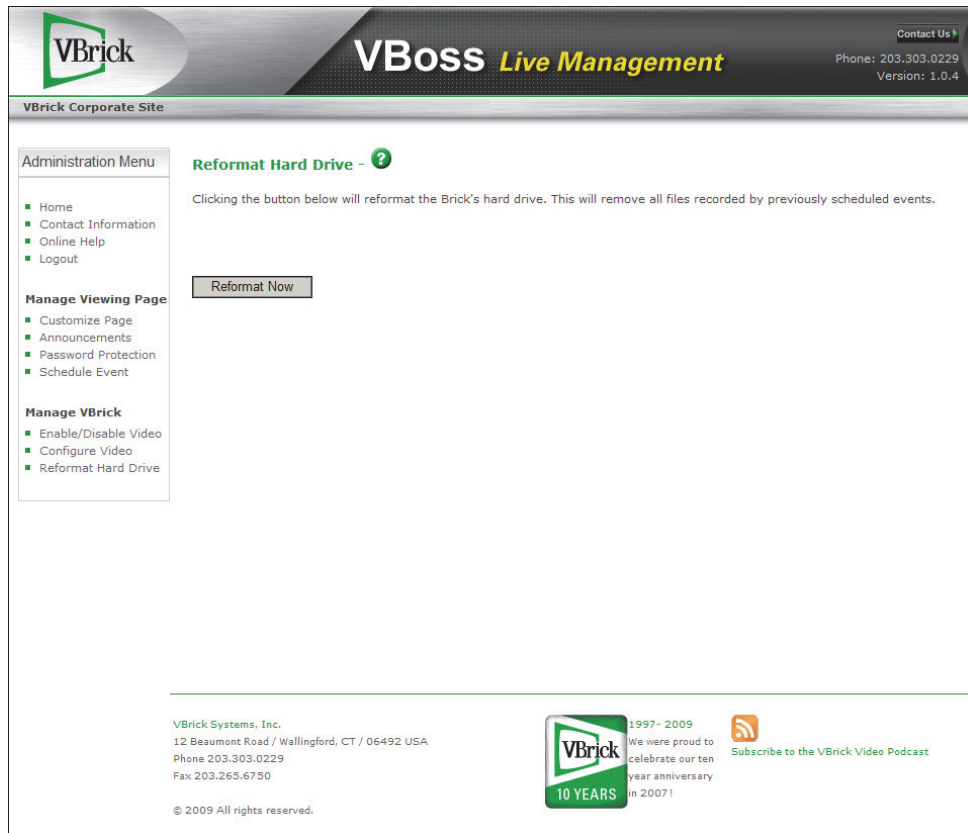


Figure 13. Reformat Hard Drive Page



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