

# What is Compatibility Mode?

FileWave 13.1 introduced new security options and a mode to allow older clients to connect.

Compatibility Mode was removed in FileWave 15.4.0 in favor of only using secure connections.

## Problem

I don't know what compatibility mode is and what enable and disable do for me.

The screenshot shows the FileWave administration interface with the following sections:

- General** (selected), Organization Info, Mobile, Chromebooks, LDAP, Kiosk, VPP & DEP, Inventory, Mail, Education, Imaging, Editor
- SSL Certificate Management**:
  - CA chain: DST Root CA X3 -> Let's Encrypt Authority X3.
  - Common Name: [Redacted]
  - Expiration Date: May 19, 2019 9:47:41 AM PDT
  - Buttons: Details..., Upload PKCS12 Certificate, Get Current Certificate
- Server Settings**:
  - Limit Bandwidth for each connection to: 100 KB/s
  - Compatibility mode for versions older than FileWave 13.1
  - This option should be enabled if any component is not up-to-date.
  - FileWave 13.1 uses secured communication channels for compatible clients, boosters, and imaging servers running version 13.1 or newer.
- Local Settings**:
  - Auto logout and quit admin after : 10 minutes of inactivity
  - More confirmation dialogs
  - Show non-generic unix owner and group names
  - Make new associations Kiosk by default (not including Software Update or Policy)
  - Use alternating row colors for list and tree views (applies only to this machine)
  - Ctrl-C copies just the active cell, when unchecked Ctrl-C copies the whole row (applies only to this machine)
  - Client Monitor Port: 20010

## Environment

FileWave 13.1 introduces a new method of certificate-based security for communication between components (client, booster, server and IVS). Only 13.1 and greater components are able to generate and properly use certificates to communicate with other components using the new method. Therefore, if your server is running 13.1 but you have components that are older than 13.1 they can not generate the needed certificates to have the highest level of security, and will not be able to communicate together.

## Resolution

### Compatibility Mode Enabled

The server allows older clients, boosters, and IVS to communicate with the server with or without valid certificates

### Compatibility Mode Disabled

The server will not allow any client, booster, or IVS to communicate with the server unless it has a valid and unique certificate. Boosters and clients are also checking peer certificates and will only communicate if the peer certificate is valid.

## Additional Information

When you disable compatibility mode (uncheck the box in preferences) you will receive a warning of clients, boosters, and imaging appliances (AKA IVS), that may potentially be disconnected by you enabling this mode. If you get this warning, it is recommended that you cancel, and resolve the issue before compatibility mode is disabled.



**Warning: clients, boosters, and imaging servers must be on version 13.1 or greater to support full security mode.**

**Do you really want to enable full security mode? The following components will no longer be able to communicate with the FileWave Server:**

**1 client(s)**

**1 booster(s)**

**0 imaging server(s)**

Out-dated components will no longer connect to the FileWave Server. They must be updated and re-enrolled.

Note: This change will automatically logout other FileWave Admin sessions.

Cancel

OK

## Related Content

- For approving devices see: [Enrolling Computer Clients](#)
- For approving boosters see: [Booster installation](#)

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