

CMAF Migration Checklist (2026)

Twenty-six items every team should verify before declaring a CMAF migration complete.

Brand declarations

- ☐ ftyp / styp boxes declare a structural brand (cmf2 for new content, cmfc for legacy compatibility).
- ☐ compatible_brands list includes the codec profile brand (cfhd / chd1 / cud1 / cav1 / cdm1 / cvvc).
- ☐ Audio profile brand declared (caac / cec3 / caca / cmac).
- ☐ Every rendition declares the same structural brand; codec brand may differ per rendition.

Encryption

- ☐ cbcs scheme used for all new content (ISO/IEC 23001-7:2023 §10.4) — never cenc-only.
- ☐ Subsample pattern set to 1:9 for video; audio fully encrypted (pattern 0:0).
- ☐ Single Key ID (KID) per Representation across all DRMs; no per-DRM key duplication.
- ☐ FairPlay, Widevine, and PlayReady license servers configured against the same KID.
- ☐ Audit content packaged before 2018 — re-encrypt to cbcs if still in active rotation.

Segment alignment

- ☐ segmentAlignment='true' in every DASH AdaptationSet.
- ☐ GOPs aligned across renditions: every IDR frame at the same wall-clock timestamp.
- ☐ All renditions use the same chunk duration (333 ms is the production default).
- ☐ Init segment (init.mp4) static for the duration of the stream.

Manifest discipline

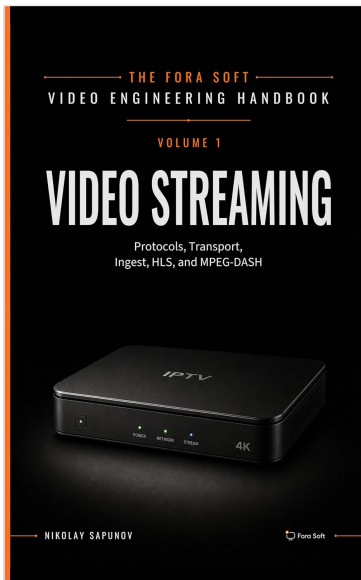
- ☐ HLS playlist uses #EXT-X-MAP referencing the init segment; #EXT-X-VERSION ≥ 6.
- ☐ DASH manifest declares urn:mpeg:dash:profile:cmf:2019 in the profiles attribute.
- ☐ Both manifests reference the same .m4s files at the same URLs.
- ☐ Segment URLs free of session-specific query parameters that defeat CDN caching.

CDN cache keys

- ☐ CDN normalizes cache key to path-only — query string stripped or whitelisted.
- ☐ Cache TTLs sized to the timeShiftBufferDepth (segments) and 1–2 s (manifests).
- ☐ Cache hit ratio measured before and after CMAF cutover; target ≥ 85% for hot content.
- ☐ Origin shielding deployed; mid-tier coalesces requests for the same .m4s.

Player & device matrix

- ☐ iOS / Safari plays cbcs-encrypted CMAF (test back to iOS 12 minimum).
- ☐ Android / ExoPlayer plays the same files under Widevine L1.
- ☐ Smart TV matrix tested: Tizen 4+, webOS 4+, Roku OS 9+, Fire TV, Android TV.
- ☐ Legacy MPEG-TS HLS fallback shipped only for pre-2018 devices that still need it.



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This checklist covers the 26 items that prove a CMAF migration is done, from brands and cbcs encryption to cache keys and the device matrix. Volume 2 covers the packaging layer in depth: HLS, MPEG-DASH and CMAF segments, live and VOD packaging, and the latency budget behind chunk sizes.

WHAT YOU WILL FIND INSIDE

- HLS, MPEG-DASH and CMAF packaging
- Segment and chunk sizing for live
- Glass-to-glass latency budget
- Ingest and contribution: RTMP, SRT, RIST

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