Order extended audio description (EAD) with Content Lab

Content updated: 08/04/2026

This article is designated for all users.

About

Extended audio description (EAD) is a text-based track rendered in real time using your browser's speech synthesis engine by pausing the video when necessary.

Before you start

- Video must be in "Ready" status (transcoded)
- Video must be 60 seconds or more in length
- Your account must have Content Lab enabled
- Your account must have an active REACH profile enabled with relevant catalog item(s)

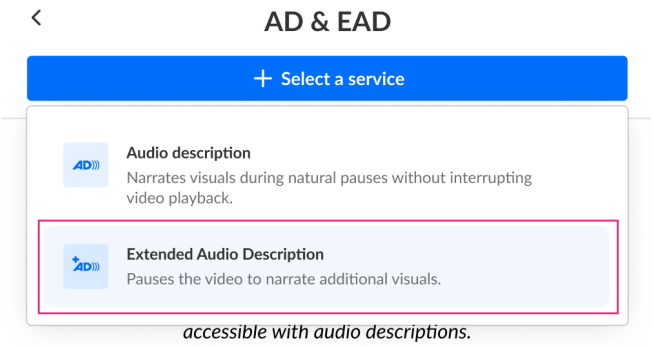
Extended audio description ordering via Content Lab is not currently available for Kaltura Virtual Events & Webinars.

Looking for more information about Content Lab? Feel free to contact your Kaltura representative.

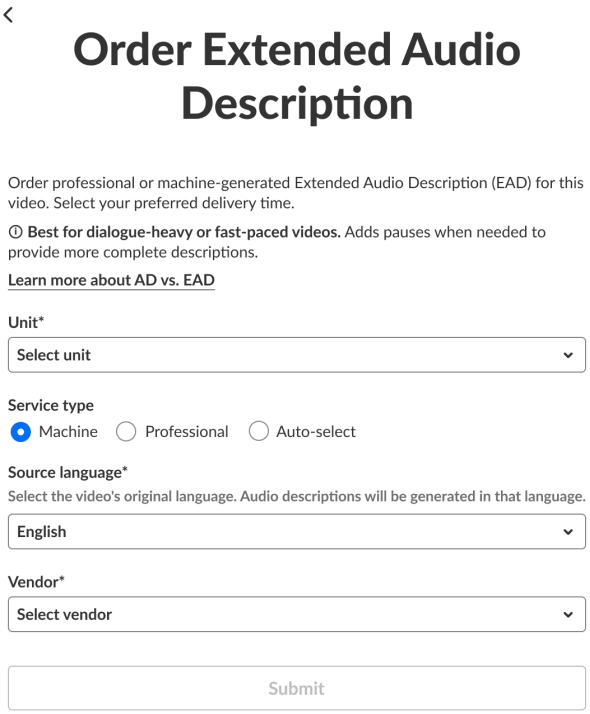
Order extended audio description

1. Open **Content Lab**. For instructions, see Access Content Lab in your Kaltura application.
2. Click **Audio description**.
3. Click **+ Select a service** and select **Extended Audio description**.

Copyright © 2025 Kaltura Inc. All Rights Reserved. Designated trademarks and brands are the property of their respective owners. Use of this document constitutes acceptance of the Kaltura Terms of Use and Privacy Policy.



The **Order Extended Audio Description** screen displays.



4. Complete the following fields:
   - **Unit** – This option only appears in the event that different Reach profiles (budgets) are configured for each unit in your account. The selected unit will be charged for the extended audio description request.
   - **Service type** - Select one of the following:
     - **Machine** - Automatically generated extended audio descriptions.
     - **Professional** - Human-created and reviewed extended audio descriptions.
     - **Auto-select** - Machine-generated extended audio descriptions that are reviewed by humans only when needed.

       Defaults to Machine if all are available. Options that are unavailable are greyed out. If you choose **Professional**, one optional field displays

Copyright © 2025 Kaltura Inc. All Rights Reserved. Designated trademarks and brands are the property of their respective owners. Use of this document constitutes acceptance of the Kaltura Terms of Use and Privacy Policy.

- Instructions.

- **Source language** - Select the video's original language from the drop-down menu. Audio descriptions will be generated in that language. The options in the menu are dependent on your REACH plan.
- **Vendor** - Select the vendor from the drop-down menu. Corresponding turnaround time and catalog item name are also shown. The options are dependent on your REACH plan.

5. Click **Submit**.
   A confirmation message displays.

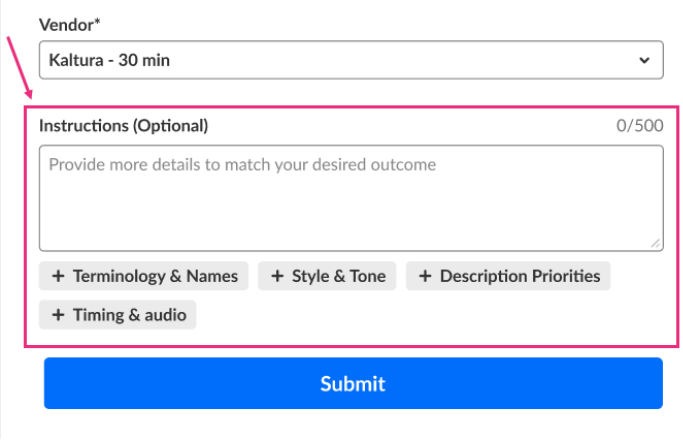
6. Click the **X** at the top right to close the message. Your audio description order appears in the "In Progress" area of the AD & EAD screen and is labeled as "Pending". When the audio description is ready, it is automatically added to the video.

Add instructions for professional extended audio description

If you select **Professional** as the service type, you can use the **Instructions** field to share terminology or guidance specific to the media with professional reviewers.

You can:

- **Type your own instructions** in the **Instructions** field.
- **Click a preset tag** to populate the **Instructions** field, then select one of the suggested completions.
- **Click a preset tag** to populate the **Instructions** field, then edit or complete the text manually instead of selecting a suggested completion.



Preset tags are grouped into the following categories:

- **Terminology & names** – Define acronyms, speaker names, proper names, and

Copyright © 2025 Kaltura Inc. All Rights Reserved. Designated trademarks and brands are the property of their respective owners. Use of this document constitutes acceptance of the Kaltura Terms of Use and Privacy Policy.

consistent terminology.

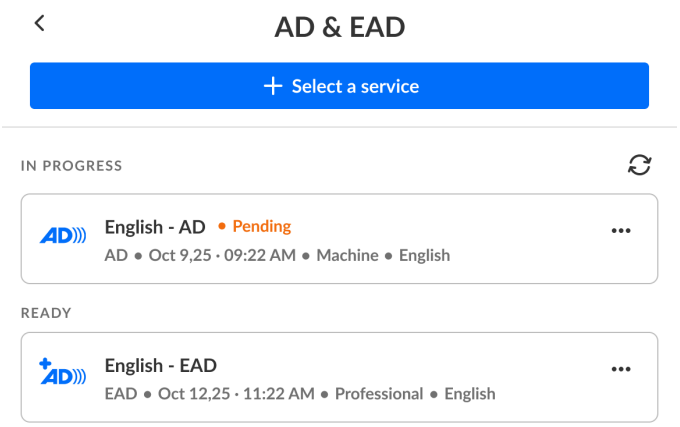
- **Style & tone** – Match video's tone, keep descriptions concise, use objective language, maintain consistent narration
- **Description priorities** – Prioritize visual information, Describe on-screen text, gestures, facial expressions, and scene changes, include non-speech elements, identify speakers when needed.
- **Timing & audio** – Use available natural pauses, preserve important dialogue, preserve important sound effects, prioritize descriptions when time is limited.

View orders

Navigate back to the Content Lab's main menu. The number of requests are displayed in the Audio description box.

Click on the Audio description box to open the **AD & EAD** screen.

In our example below, there are two existing audio description orders - one is In Progress (Pending status) and one is Ready.



Status types

The following statuses are available for captions requests:

- **Pending** - when generating new request
- **Pending for Moderation** - requests in approval queue
- **Rejected** - requests that were rejected on moderation. This status must include reject reason.
- **Processing** - sent to the vendor and vendor received request (you cannot cancel a request when the status is Processing)
- **Completed** - when captions were received from the vendor
- **Error** - an error was sent from the vendor

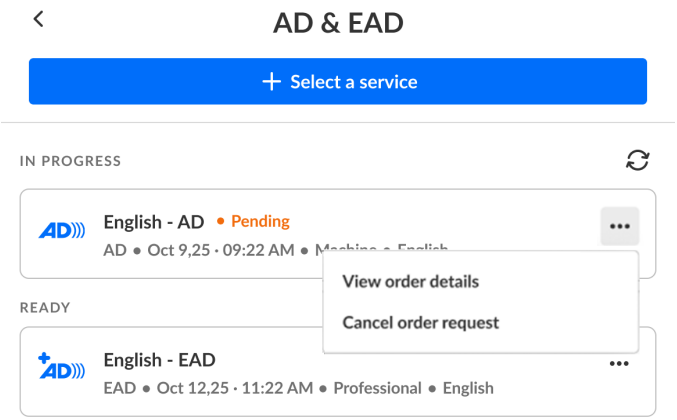
Copyright © 2025 Kaltura Inc. All Rights Reserved. Designated trademarks and brands are the property of their respective owners. Use of this document constitutes acceptance of the Kaltura Terms of Use and Privacy Policy.

- **Aborted**

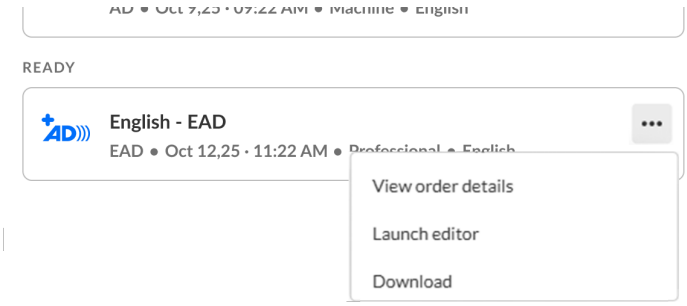
Additional tasks

Click on the **three dots** to the right of the request and choose from the available options depending on status type:

- **View order details** - available for all statuses
- **Cancel order request** - only available for Pending
-



- **Launch editor** - only available for Ready EAD assets
- **Download** - only available for Ready
-

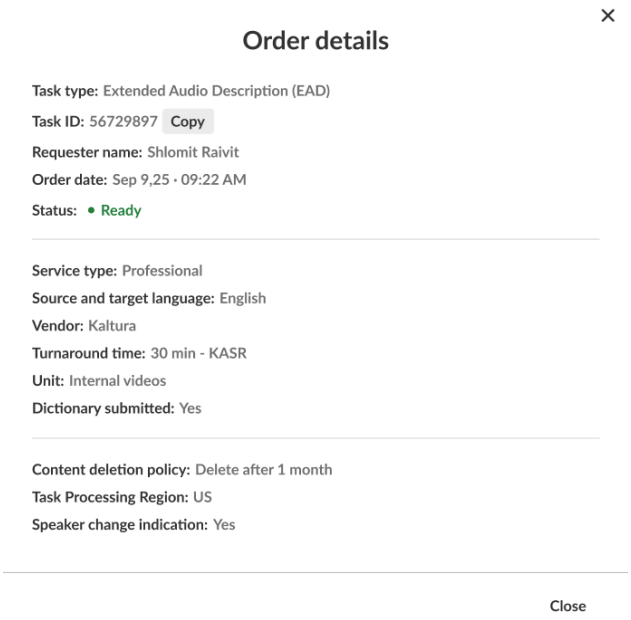


View order details

In the **three-dot menu**, select **View order details**.

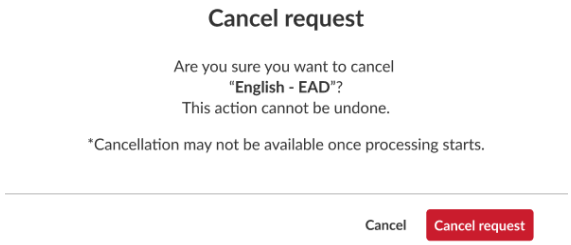
The Order details screen displays.

Copyright © 2025 Kaltura Inc. All Rights Reserved. Designated trademarks and brands are the property of their respective owners. Use of this document constitutes acceptance of the Kaltura Terms of Use and Privacy Policy.



Cancel order request

1. Click **Cancel order request**. Note, any action items associated with the request will be canceled. A confirmation message displays.



2. Click **Cancel request**.
   If you try to cancel a request that's already in progress, a message displays: *The request is already in progress, therefore cannot be canceled.*

Launch editor

See our article Use the EAD editor in Content Lab for details.

Copyright © 2025 Kaltura Inc. All Rights Reserved. Designated trademarks and brands are the property of their respective owners. Use of this document constitutes acceptance of the Kaltura Terms of Use and Privacy Policy.