2019 CHINA TOWN HALL WEBCAST TECH REQUIREMENTS

For this year’s CHINA Town Hall live webcast, we will be using the Vimeo · LiveStream streaming platform. The hardware, software, and Internet connection requirements for the CHINA Town Hall webcast are all fairly standard and are usually included in today’s computers and networks. Nevertheless, we strongly suggest you conduct testing ahead of November 18, so that any potential issues can be identified and addressed ahead of the CHINA Town Hall webcast.

Before getting bogged down in specific technical requirement, we simply recommend trying to play a live video from the Vimeo · LiveStream platform. If your system receives clear video and audio, then by definition your system meets the 2019 CTH tech requirements. (If you need more technical information, please review Vimeo’s System Requirements for viewing live videos.)

TEST YOUR SYSTEM: SIMULATION

STEP 1: Please select one of LiveStream’s live offerings available at www.livestream.com/watch.

Verifying that the video is live: A live video will have a red “LIVE” label in the upper left corner. (Note: LiveStream offers live events frequently, but we cannot guarantee that there will be a streaming live event available 24/7. If no live videos are available when you first check the page, come back at another time.)

STEP 2: Make sure that your system can handle videos with a resolution of at least HD 720p. (If your system has the capacity for HD 1080p, great. Your video will look even sharper.)

Checking Livestream video resolution: Hover over the video and then click on the Settings gear that appears in the bottom right corner. You will get a pop-up showing the resolutions at which the selected video is available. (Your system will likely show that it has default setting of “auto.”) Manually change the settings to 720p or, if offered, to 1080.

Note: Some of Livestream’s live videos will have a top resolution below 720p; if that is true of the video you selected for your test, select a different test video. If necessary – if none of the live videos have a 720p resolution – return to the site to test at a different time.

Best Practices for Simulation Testing

Simulate as closely as possible the conditions and equipment you plan to use on Nov 18.

- Use the same computer, browser, and Internet connection (hard-wired, not Wi-Fi). Despite their convenience, Wi-Fi connections may not provide the bandwidth necessary to stream high-quality video.
- Use the same monitor/LCD projector and audio system.

To improve the performance of your computer, we strongly advise that all unnecessary programs running on the computer be closed; otherwise, these programs may take up memory that could impede the quality of the webcast.
STEP 3: Lastly, you will want to see how the video performs when you expand to full screen.

Switching from partial to full screen: The icon to the right of the Settings gear allows you to take the video full screen. View the test video at full screen, and check audio as well.

If you are seeing high-quality video (not choppy, pixelated, or buffering) and hearing high-quality audio that plays in sync with the video, then your system is in good shape.

If your tests are unsuccessful and/or you have questions or issues that you are unable to resolve after checking the Vimeo System requirements, please email cth@ncuscr.org with “Tech Issues” in the subject line. Include an explanation of the issue and a phone number at which we can reach you. We will respond and begin working with you on a solution.