Adobe® Connect™

The complete solution for web conferencing, delivering exceptional experiences for meetings, eLearning, and webinars

Adobe Connect 8 software lets you go beyond screen sharing and collaborate more effectively, providing quick and easy participant access from a vast array of devices. Adobe Connect offers the ability to adjust the interface and layout to completely define the participant experience, and lets you share rich media with confidence, knowing that all participants can view it without any additional software.

Internal and external participants can easily join meetings from virtually all Internet-connected computers (no downloads required), as well as from a variety of mobile devices, including iOS, Android™, and BlackBerry®, enabling much broader reach than Microsoft Lync Online. In addition, Adobe Connect offers more sophisticated security features; licensed, hosted, and managed service deployment options; tight integration with existing communications infrastructures; and extensibility to handle web meetings, webinars, eLearning, and myriad use cases.

Rating: Strong ● 　　　Weak ❭ 　　　Feature currently not available ○

Feature*	Adobe Connect	Microsoft Lync Online
Broader reach with better ease of access		
Universally installed client—Adobe Flash® Player is already installed on virtually all Internet-connected computers—no waiting for attendees to set up. With Lync Online, users must download a 50MB web client to get full functionality, making it problematic for users in locked-down IT environments to attend.	●	○
Richer, more engaging experiences		
Complete branding and personalization—Users can change colors, layout, and arrangement to meet specific needs.	●	○
Content sharing—Users can share and playback content without additional downloads.	●	○
Fully interactive meeting recordings and on-demand content—With Adobe Connect, meetings can be recorded and replayed for users who aren't able to attend. In addition, all interactive, hands-on components remain interactive in recorded meetings, such as links, attendee list, quizzes, simulations, and content available for download. Lync Online does not have the ability to record a meeting nor can it deliver interactive on-demand sessions.	●	○
Breakout rooms—Users can meet in subgroups for sharing, discussion, and collaboration.	●	○
In-meeting PDF support—Users can present and collaborate on PDF files in the meeting while synchronizing the navigation using the whiteboard overlay.	●	○
Import documents on-the-fly—Users can import a wide range of document formats, including PDF, PPT, PPTX, SWF, JPEG, GIF, PNG, MP3, MP4, and F4V, as well Adobe Captivate® and Adobe Presenter content. Lync Online can import PowerPoint files only.	●	❭

Feature*	Adobe Connect	Microsoft Lync Online
Extensibility beyond web conferencing		
Customized in-meeting extensions to handle myriad use cases—Users can take advantage of customized applications in online meetings and extend the rich media experience to meet specific business needs, leveraging a library of preexisting extensions, a broad set of integration partners, and the Flex, ActionScript® 3, and Flash technology developer communities.	●	○
Large-scale webinar and webcasting capabilities—Adobe Connect includes webinar and large-scale webcasting capabilities, enabling up to 1,500 attendees for webinars, and up to 80,000 through Adobe Connect Webcast. Lync Online is limited to 250 attendees.	●	○
Virtual classrooms with training functionality—Trainers or subject matter experts can create virtual classrooms for enhanced learner management and communication.	●	○
Curriculum viewer—Learners can view training curriculums and better understand course agendas.	●	○
Trainer tracking tools—Trainers can monitor each individual learner's progress in live and on-demand courses through sophisticated tracking tools. Trainers can even define documents (including PDF files) as training courses and include them in curriculums. Learners can obtain credit for the completion of a PDF reading assignment, which in turn can feed overall training program completion requirements.	●	○
Training group management—Training managers can manage their own groups for enrollment and tracking purposes. Meeting hosts can explicitly deny meeting access to specific users or groups to enforce communications boundaries.	●	○
Prebuilt integration with Learning Management Systems—Prebuilt integration with SumTotal, Blackboard, and Plateau, or use the Adobe Connect integrated LMS.	●	○
Editable recordings—Users can edit recordings online without an additional tool.	●	○
Indexed recordings—Users can index recordings for easy reference and playback online and offline, making it easy to resume previously viewed recordings and to complete courses faster.	●	○
Searchable content library—Users can easily find and access content, including files and recordings.	●	○
More sophisticated security and control features		
Group access control—Training managers can define their own groups within Adobe Connect to assist with learner enrollment and tracking.	●	○
Permission-based catalog folder access—Administrators can limit access through a set of highly configurable controls.	●	○
Archiving and retention of communication—Administrators can mandate the recording of all meeting sessions and the generation of chat scripts.	●	◗

Current Microsoft Live Meeting users might be considering a migration to Lync Online because the Live Meeting product line is being discontinued. However, customers might be losing significant capacity with Lync Online, as well as some key features, including breakout rooms, recorded meetings, and attendance reporting. As shown in the following chart, Adobe Connect provides the features that users often require in an easily accessible, extensible, and highly collaborative web conferencing experience.

Feature*	Adobe Connect	Microsoft Live Meeting	Microsoft Lync Online
Meeting capacity (maximum number of attendees per meeting)	1,500 (80,000 if webcast)	1,250	250
Branding and meeting room layout customization	●	●	○
Virtual breakout rooms	●	●	○
Participant testing and grading	●	●	○
Attendance reporting	●	●	○
Hosted recording, online storage, and playback	●	●	○
Scheduling meetings via the web	●	●	○
Searchable content library	●	●	○
Integration with Outlook and Lotus Notes	●	●	◗ (Outlook only)

*Adobe Connect 8, Adobe Presenter 7, and Adobe Connect webcast features were compared to Microsoft Lync Online and Live Meeting.

For more information
To learn more about Adobe Connect, visit *www.adobe.com/products/adobeconnect*.