

# Freedom VMS Guide

## Creating eMaps in V3.5

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## About

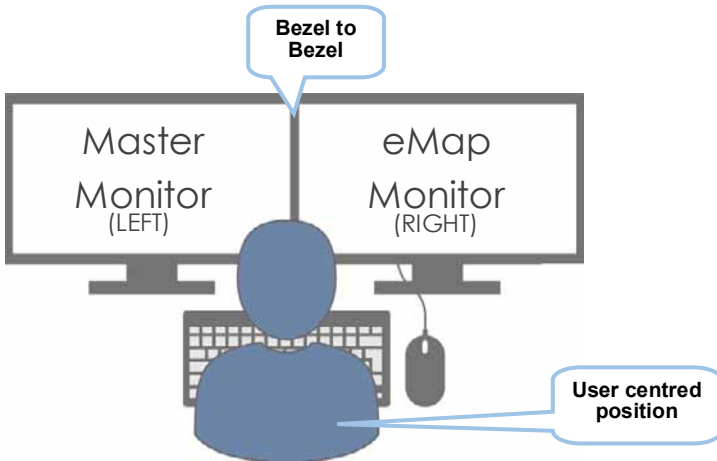
This guide is based on V3.5.16111 of Freedom VMS software.

eMaps allow the User to select cameras visually by dragging hyperlinks, which are icons representing a camera.

An eMap essentially just a background image, like a site plan with hyperlink icons representing cameras.

## eMap Requirements & recommended positioning

eMaps require a separate monitor and a conventional mouse, the positioning of the eMap monitor is important, for optimal usability, the eMap monitor should be positioned/mounted to the right of the master monitor bezel to bezel (see diagram below)



### eMap base image Size and format

The image format can either be .JPEG or BMP, for the best results, the image dimensions should match that of the monitor that is to display the eMaps, for example, if your eMap monitor is a 1080p monitor(Full HD), the eMap image dimensions should be 1920x1080px. If you have a 19" LCD monitor with a resolution of 1280x1024px the eMap image dimensions should be the same.

## Hyperlinks & map Controls

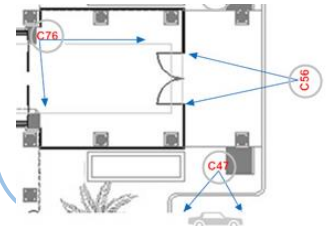
There are two types of hyperlinks, **Camera** and **Map**, each camera hyperlink has 2 states, the first state is known as the 'off' state this is when the camera is not being displayed in a video tile. The second state (on), is when the camera is being displayed in a video tile, the icons turn to a redish highlight.

There are two sets of default hyperlinks the directional 'blue' camera icons and the semi-transparent circular icons, which are designed to be used when you are using plans that already include, marked up camera locations.

Below are the typical Hyperlink icons that can appear on an eMap

Default camera Hyperlink (off state)	Default camera Hyperlink (on state)	Transparent camera hyperlink icon (off state)	Transparent camera hyperlink icon (on state)
Map hyperlinks			Zoom & move controls (exposed by right click)
<p>A Map hyperlink has 2 states, the button with the blue background indicates the name of the map currently open. The button with the grey background indicates that it is a link to another eMap that is currently NOT open.</p>			

You may be wondering why transparent camera icons? These icons are intended to be used when you have an existing CCTV plan marked up with camera numbers, the transparency allows you to see the actual number numbers.




The Control tool is hidden by default, to expose the Zoom Control tool, right click over eMap area and select 'Show Control Panel'.

## Using eMaps

To open the eMap window click the eMap icon in LiveView or Playback window as pictured below.



## Displaying a camera using eMaps

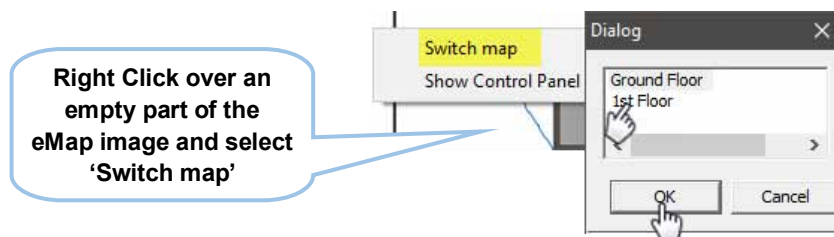
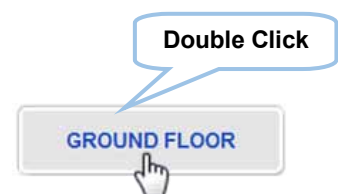
To open a camera for live or playback, simply drag the camera hyperlink  <sup>CX</sup> from the eMap image to any video tile. You can also double click on the hyperlink icon, this will open the camera in the currently selected tile, which is the tile with the blue border



## Switching between multiple eMaps

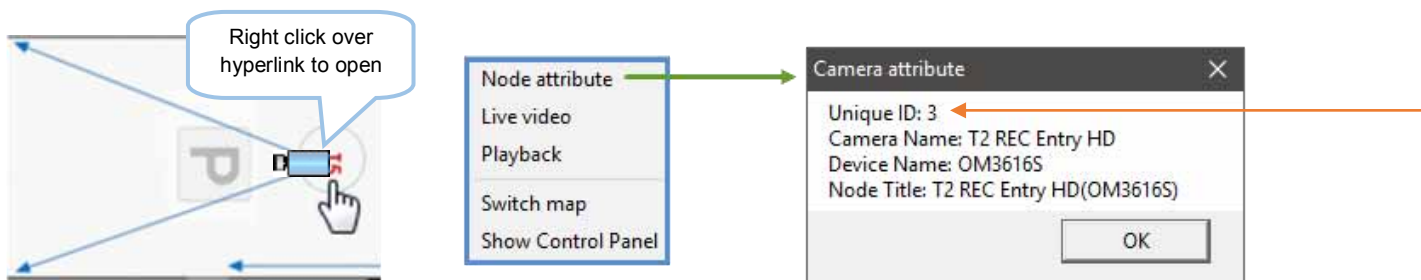
There are two methods of navigating to another eMap. The first is by double clicking on the 'Map' button as pictured on the right .

The second method is by **'Right Clicking'** over any area of the map that doesn't contain a hyperlink & clicking the **'Switch Map'** option. (pictured below)



## Hyperlink Right Click options

By 'right clicking' over a camera hyperlink you can view information about the camera name and what device the camera is attached to as well as the "Unique ID". You can also Open the camera to view or playback

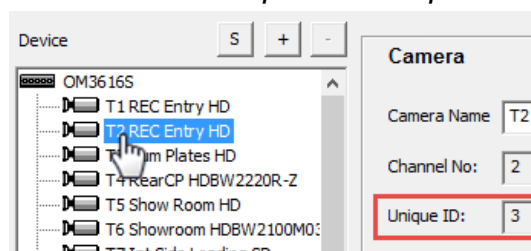


## Understanding Unique IDs & eMap hyperlinks

In Freedom, whenever a new device or camera is added or even the same device is re-added, it is assigned a **NEW** 'Unique ID', this unique ID is listed in the Device Setup 'Camera' window (see image on right).

When you create an eMap camera hyperlink, the 'Unique ID' is taken from the Unique ID as displayed in the 'Device Setup' window. This will ensure the hyperlink you drag will open the correct camera.

Below: Extract from **Setup** → **Device Setup** window



## When you need to re-configure eMap hyperlinks

It's important to understand that, if the device that an eMap hyperlink is configured for is deleted, or even deleted then re-added with all the same name and address details. All eMap hyperlinks associated with the device that was deleted will need to be re-configured because the Unique ID has now changed.

Conversely, if you import an eMap file from one Freedom software, into another, because these Unique IDs will most likely be different, you may need to re-configure all camera hyperlinks. The exception to this, is if you import an entire Freedom software configuration into another Freedom software, camera hyperlinks will not need to be re-configured.

Note: You cannot import a Freedom Client configuration into a Freedom Server recorder configuration or vice versa.

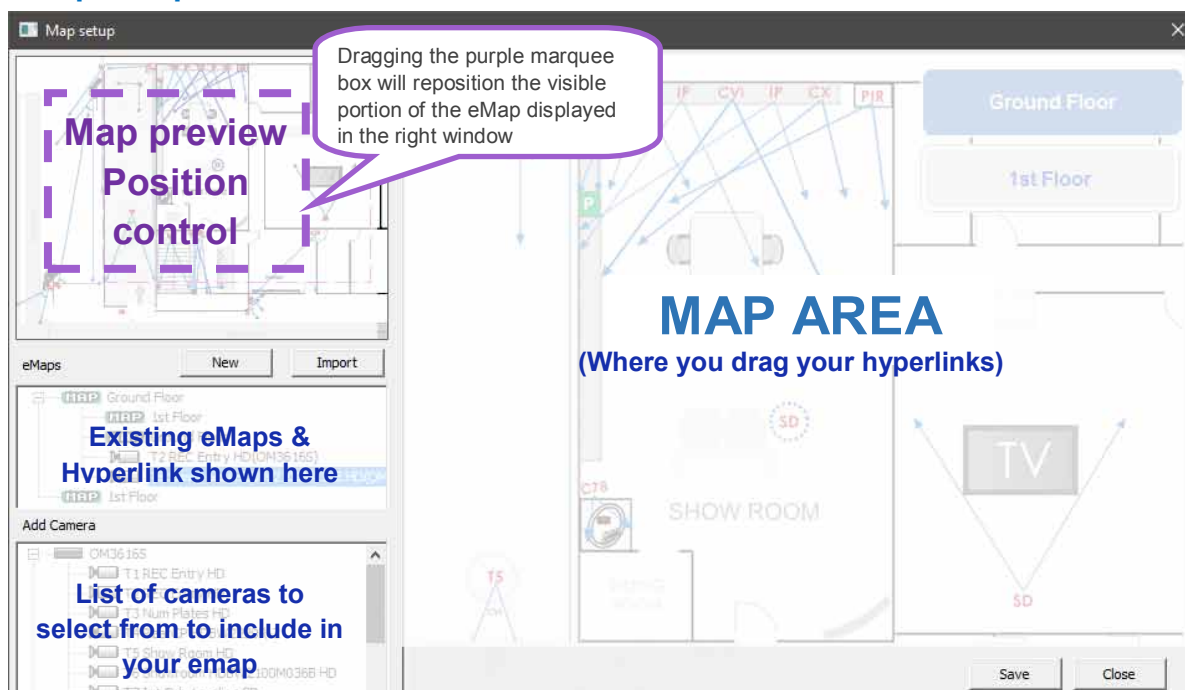
## Creating eMaps

### eMap setup

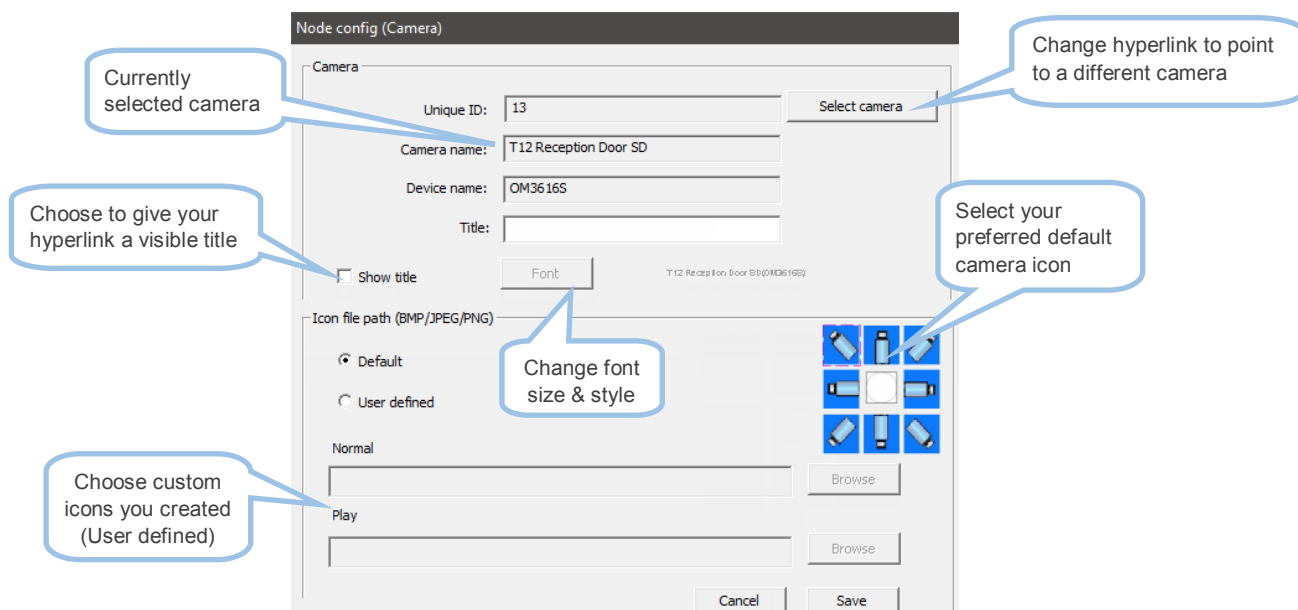
To open the eMap setup, click on the menu icon and select 'E-map setup' from the menu.




### Emap Setup Window Overview

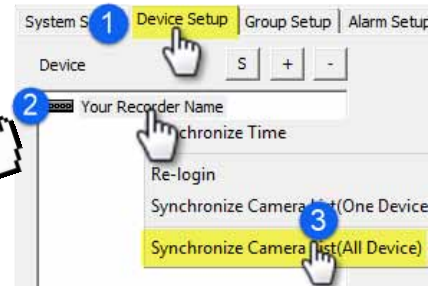


The image below shows the camera 'Node config' window



## Before editing an eMap

Before creating or editing an eMap you need to make sure all cameras have been installed and added to the appropriate recorder/s and all cameras are listed in the 'device list'. To ensure the device list is up to date you should perform a 'camera list synchronization'. This will ensure you have the latest up-to-date list of cameras in your Freedom VMS software. You do this by navigating to **Setup → Device Setup** and right clicking over the device  icon and select "Synchronize camera list (all Device)"

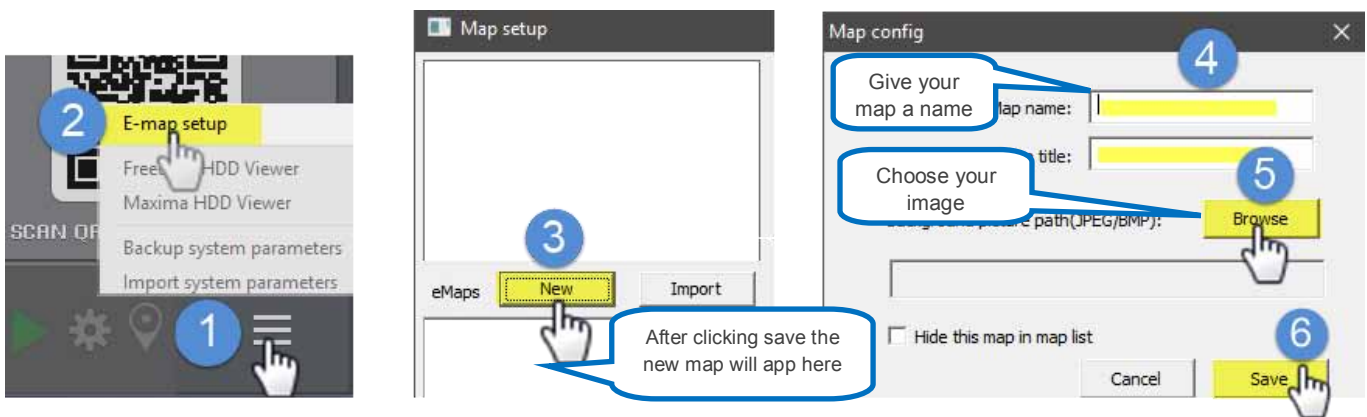


## Creating a new eMap & selecting an image

To create a new eMap, Click the Menu button and select 'E-map setup' (see steps below).

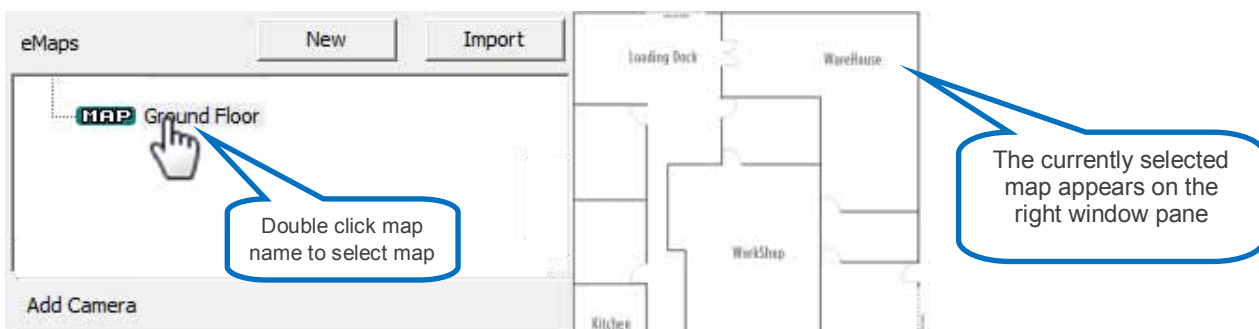
Then click the 'New' button and give you map a name, then click the 'Browse' and select an image to use as your background (JPG or BMP), then click 'Save'.

**Note:** The image should be resized to match the same pixel resolution of the eMap monitor that the map is to be used on.




## Selecting the correct eMap

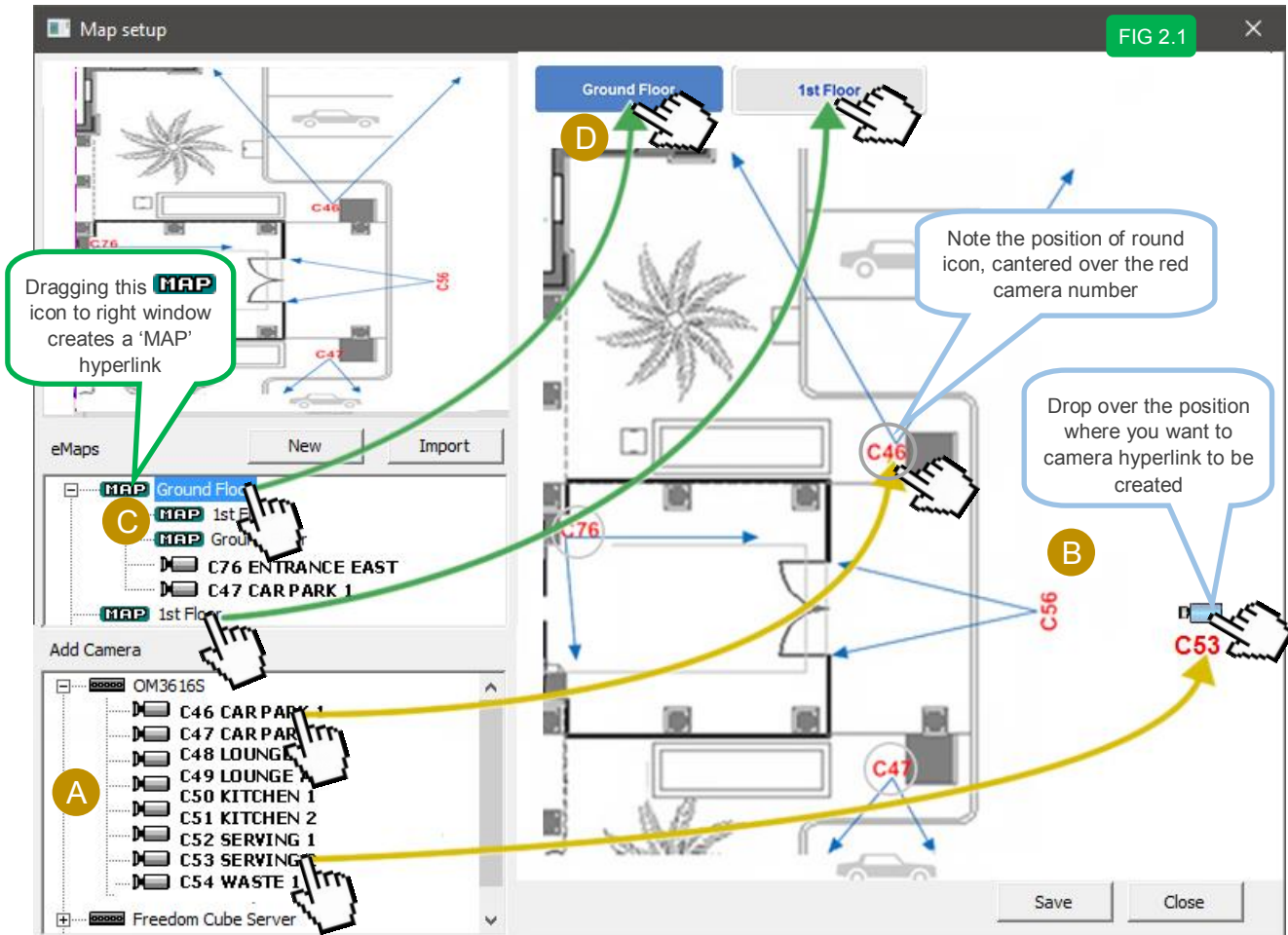
Before adding hyperlinks to a map you must make sure the correct map is open, you do this by looking in the right window, which contains an image of the currently selected map.






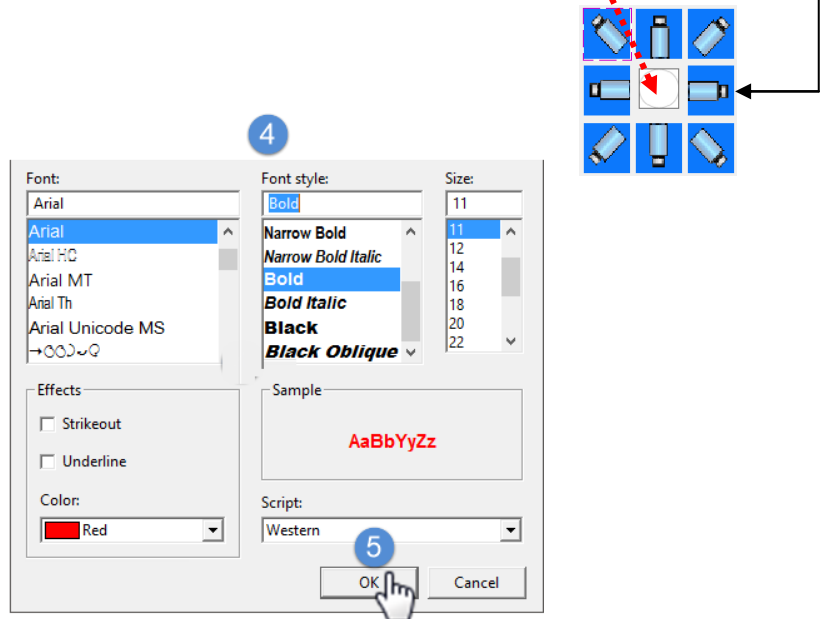
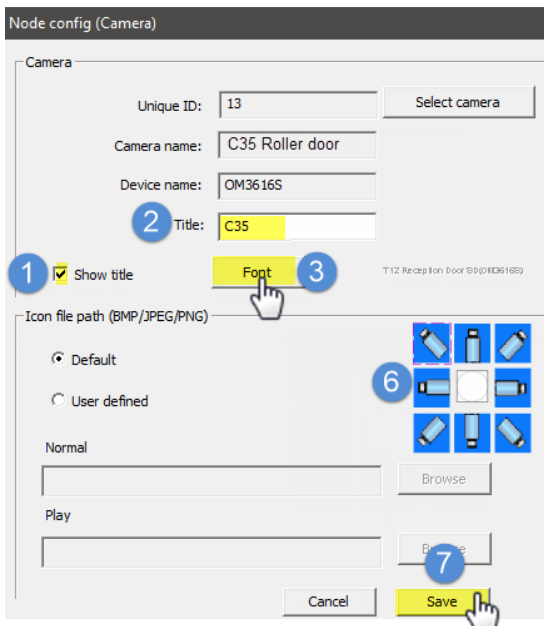
## Adding camera hyperlinks to the eMap

To create a 'camera' hyperlink simply drag  Camera from the bottom left 'Add camera' pane (A) over to the right map image (B) and drop over the location you wish the hyperlink to be located.





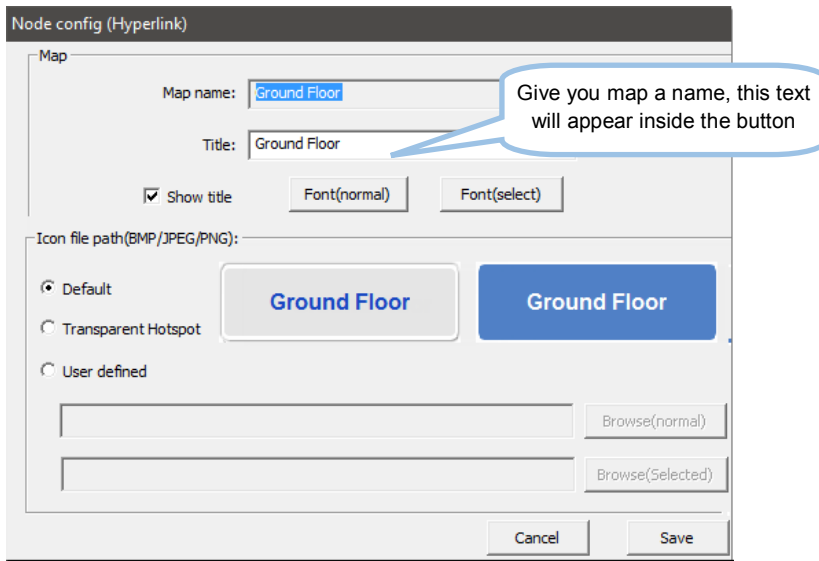
After dropping the hyperlink, the 'node config' window will open. (see below)

If you don't have a base image with pre-marked camera numbers and fields of view, select from one of the **blue** directional camera icons ( See image on right), if you want to give your hyperlink a title, tick 'Show title' and enter a name, you can also customize the font and colour used. The example below shows, a title of 'C35' using the Arial font, colour red and bold weight with a size of 11. If you do have pre-marked up plan showing camera numbers use the centre transparent  hyperlink icon.



## Creating map labels or buttons

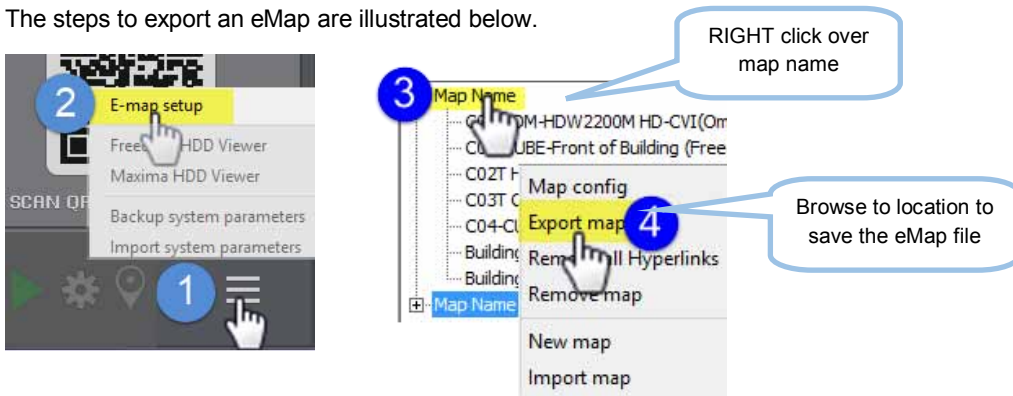
Dragging the 'MAP' icon  of the **currently displayed** map allows you to create a **title label for this map**. (See Fig 2.1C) Dragging the 'MAP' icon  of a different map, other than the one currently displayed, allows you to create a MAP hyperlink button, that allows the user to navigate easily between different maps, you must create the additional maps before they can be selected. When the 'Node config' window opens, in the 'Title' field, give your map a name, it's a good idea to keep the name short so it doesn't exceed the width of the button. You can modify the font if you wish by clicking the 'Font' buttons.



## Exporting (saving) an eMap.

To transfer an eMap to another PC, you can use the 'Export' option. See image below for steps. Navigate to **Setup → E-map setup**, then, right click over the eMap name and choose 'Export map', then browse to a location to save the file.

The steps to export an eMap are illustrated below.



## Importing eMap file/s into the Freedom VMS.

To import a saved (exported) eMap file into a Freedom Client or Server follow the steps illustrated below. **Important!:** After an eMap has been imported, all camera hyperlinks must be re-associated with the correct camera. See '[Associating a hyperlink to a camera](#)', Note: Emap files have a **.map** file extension







## Updating existing eMaps

Emaps must be updated when cameras have been added, repositioned, removed or re-ordered.

**Steps involved in updating an existing eMap may include:**

- Replace the JPEG backup image.
- Create, Re-configure, re-position the camera hyperlink icons (red **CX** or blue camera icon)
- Apply and save the changes.
- Test all hyperlinks on the eMap/s working by dragging them into a tile or double clicking on them.

If there were significant changes made to the site you may be given new emap files. These files have a (**.map extension**), they have to be 'Imported' into the Freedom software. They contain all the hyperlinks in the correct position, but each

hyperlink   must be re-configured, which is a process of pointing the hyperlink to the correct camera from the correct recorder.

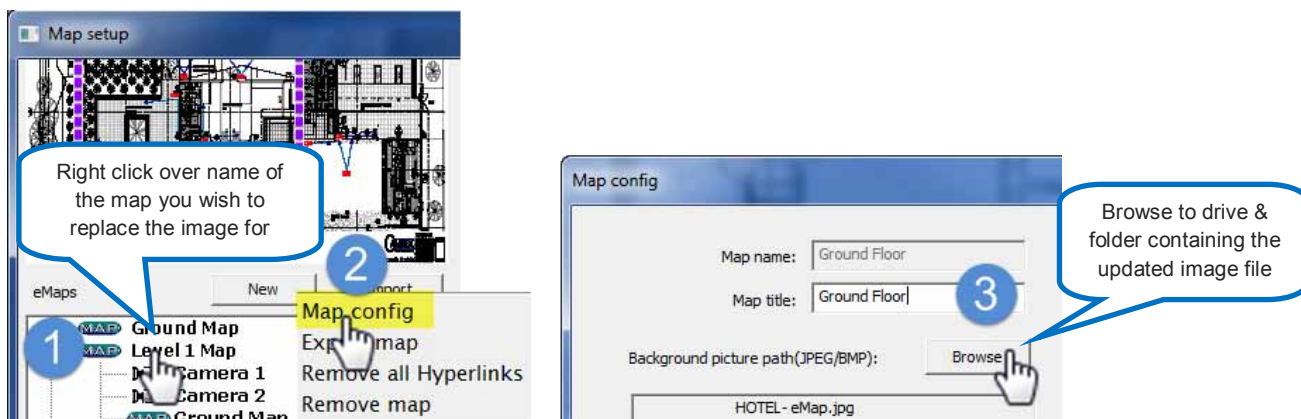
## Changing an eMap background Image

Navigate to eMap setup.



The image below illustrates the steps for replacing the background image of an emap.

**Right click over the map name text on the left hand window. (Fig 3) and select 'Map Config'**



Click on the **'Browse'** button and navigate to the updated image (USB stick/Drive) highlight the image file and click **'Open'** then click the **'Close'** button.

## Associating a hyperlink to a camera


To associate a camera hyperlink to a camera follow the steps below.  
You will need to 're-associate' a camera hyperlink when:

- An eMap file is imported that has different logical IDs (was created on a different PC)
- When an analogue camera has been replaced with an HD-IP or HD-CVI camera.
- When a device containing a camera that a hyperlink was configured for, was deleted and or re-added.
- When the cameras input has been changed / re-ordered.
- 

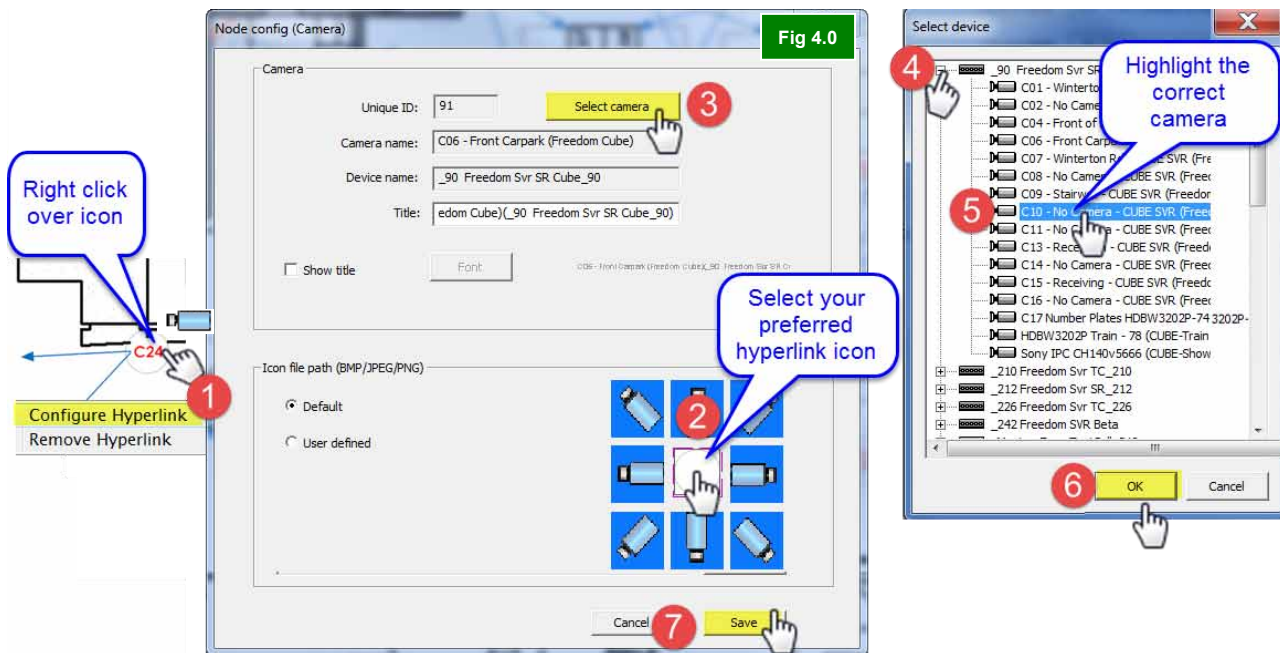
### Follow these Steps:

1. Right Click over the camera hyperlink you wish to remap.
2. Select the appropriate icon.
3. Click the 'Select Camera' button and click the correct camera from the list.
4. Click the + to expose the camera
5. Click the correct camera from the list.
6. Click OK.
7. Click Save.

Video tutorials are available, click the blue text on the right [eMaps configuration video tutorial](#).

**Note:** in the following examples the camera hyperlink icon that will be used will be the semi-transparent circular icon  but you could use one of the blue camera icons to represent the camera if you wish.

The image below illustrates the steps involved in re-mapping an existing eMap hyperlink icon to the correct camera on-site.



## eMap monitor and Startup options

There are 3 startup options that can be configured, these are:

1. Open eMap window automatically when the software starts. (recommended if eMaps are configured)
2. Choose which monitor the eMaps appear in.
3. If you have more than 1 eMap, which eMap to you want to open first?

### Open eMap window on Startup

For Freedom Server & Freedom Client (32bit) version, navigate to Setup → System Setup, then tick 'Load E-map on startup' (Step 3) option. (see image below)

Freedom Server & Freedom Client (32bit) version	Freedom Client 64bit version (all 3 startup options in same place)

In this example the eMap monitor is monitor 2 & the emap named 'Ground floor' is configured to open when the software starts



### Specifying which monitor the eMap opens in (Freedom Server & Client 32bit version)

### Specifying which map opens first (Server & 32bit Client)

If you have more than one eMap, you can choose which map opens by default (first). Navigate to Menu → E-Map setup then 'Right' click over the map name you want to start first, than tick 'Start up' (pictured right)  
 Note: only one map should have the 'Start Up' option ticked.

## Testing eMap functionality

After modifying emaps you should always test your hyperlinks. To do this follow the steps below.

1. You must close any 'open' emap window by clicking on the **X** icon at the top right of the emap window.
2. Re-open the emap window by click the  icon.
3. Temporarily change to the single tile layout to make is easier to see the camera. 
4. Drag each camera (**CX** number) or blue camera icon, from the eMaps to the Liveview tile and check that the camera you dragged over is the same one that appears in the Live view tile. The camera icon should change to a highlighted color like red when the camera is being displayed, if you see multiple hyperlink icons highlight at the same time, this may indicate that some hyperlinks are incorrectly configured.
5. Close the Freedom software, then re-open to ensure the eMap window opens automatically when the software starts (if applicable)



If there are more than 1 eMap you should test the **'Map hyperlink'** button/s to see if it switches to the correct map, you can switch between the map by 'double clicking on the map button. The example on the right shows a custom button usually located on the top right of the emap window.

