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DevTalk – What's new for Zebra developers in Android 10

Darryn Campbell

SW Architect, Zebra Technologies

15th July 2020

What's new for Zebra developers in Android 10

Android 10 support for Zebra devices



TC21 / TC26



MC3300x



TC52x / TC57x

Plus, existing devices will receive an upgrade to Android 10

What's new for Zebra developers in Android 10

Android 10 support for Zebra devices

Plus, existing devices will receive an upgrade to Android 10

Support and Downloads > TC52 Operating System for GMS Devices

TC52 OPERATING SYSTEM FOR GMS DEVICES

Zebra Software
Download Types:



Unrestricted



Unrestricted
With Login



Demoware



Restricted



Subscription

- OPERATING SYSTEM FOR ANDROID 10

Expand Versions

VERSIONS

FACTORY AND ENTERPRIS

+ For Any BSP

ANDROID 10 UPDATE INST

+ For Android 10

BSP 10.12.13

+ Full Image

PS20 OPERATING SYSTEM GMS

- OPERATING SYSTEM FOR ANDROID 10

Expand Versions

VERSIONS

FACTORY AND ENTERPRISE RESET FILES

+ For Any BSP

ANDROID 10 UPDATE INSTRUCTIONS

+ For Android 10

BSP 10.12.13

+ Full Image

TC72 OPERATING SYSTEM FOR GMS DEVICES

Zebra Software
Download Types:



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- OPERATING SYSTEM FOR ANDROID 10

Expand Versions

VERSIONS

BSP 2.21.09

+ LifeGuard Update 01

Release Date: July 2020

+ OPERATING SYSTEM FOR PIE

+ OPERATING SYSTEM FOR OREO

What's new for Zebra developers in Android 10

Trends over time



Running in the background	Job Scheduler	Doze mode	Doze “on the go”	Background restrictions	Machine learning for intelligent restrictions	New permission for background location
Notifications	Quick settings & notification shade	Long press to access options	Direct reply & bundled notifications	Notification channels & snooze	Enhanced messaging experience	Smart Replies
One or Two other major changes affecting Enterprise	Material design	Runtime permissions	Multi-window	Changes to the Google Play Store policies	Non-SDK methods actively discouraged	Scoped Storage Device identifiers
Android Enterprise features	Android for Work, app restrictions	DO mode, lock task mode, managed configs	DPM API enhancements	DPM API enhancements	DPM API enhancements	Transition to DO mode

What's new for Zebra developers in Android 10

Google's highlighted features

- Foldables
- 5G
- Smart reply
- Dark theme
- Gesture navigation
- Settings panels
- Sharing shortcuts
- **User privacy**
- **Security (Storage encryption, TLS 1.3 by default, Platform hardening)**
- New audio and video codecs

What's new for Zebra developers in Android 10

Scoped Storage

- Change in behaviour how an application can handle device mass storage
 - Previously: Application had unrestricted access so long as the appropriate permissions were granted
 - Scoped storage: Applications only have access to an app-specific directory on external storage
- Impact:
 - Ability to read files from external storage is severely curtailed:
 - Media files (images, videos, audio) can be accessed via the Media API & use dedicated shared folders.
 - Any file can be chosen and opened with the Storage Access Framework but that requires a user file picker
 - Only affects applications targeting Android 10 (API level 29)
 - Use case examples:
 - Reading a configuration file from external storage
 - Sharing a log file via external storage
 - Etc.

What's new for Zebra developers in Android 10

Scoped Storage

- Many challenges from the consumer developer community when this change was introduced
 - Resulted in less aggressive rollout in Android 10
 - **Can make a manifest change to defer to 'legacy behaviour'**
 - Full rollout will take place in Android 11

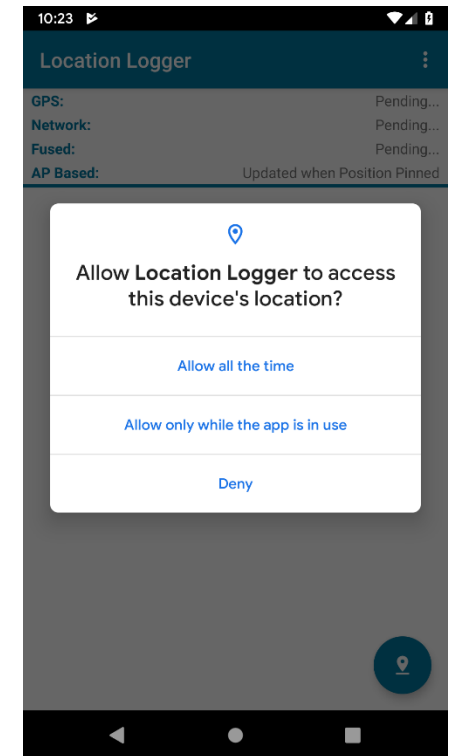
```
<manifest ... >
  <!-- This attribute is "false" by default on apps targeting
        Android 10 or higher. -->
  <application android:requestLegacyExternalStorage="true" ... >
    ...
  </application>
</manifest>
```

- **Either make changes to your app in line with Google's recommendations or defer until Android 11**

What's new for Zebra developers in Android 10

User control over location in the background

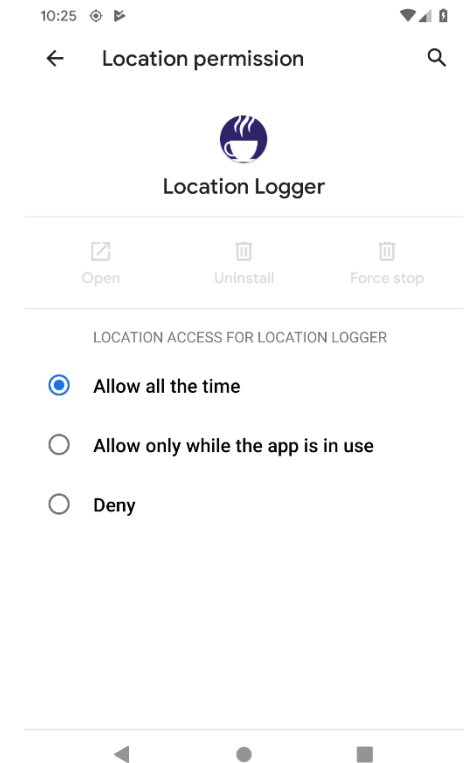
- New differentiation between when an application can access user location
- In Pie and earlier: Granting an app location permission allowed the app to use location in the **foreground and background**
- In Android 10: Only foreground access is permitted by default.
 - Apps desiring background access need to request a new permission, `ACCESS_BACKGROUND_LOCATION`
- Even if application requests both foreground and background access, user can choose to only grant foreground permission (or deny permission)



What's new for Zebra developers in Android 10

User control over location in the background: Enterprise implications

- These are still runtime permissions
 - EMMs and StageNow will grant runtime permissions automatically without user interaction. (Configurable on EMMs)
 - Applications targeting 10 still need to request `ACCESS_BACKGROUND_LOCATION` otherwise it will not be granted
 - Applications with a target SDK of Pie (28) and earlier will automatically have `ACCESS_BACKGROUND_LOCATION` granted
- Workaround in Oreo / Pie was to use a foreground service for location
 - In Android 10, need to ensure this **foreground service is of type “location”** (no additional impact to doing this in Android 10 but Android 11 likely to make greater use of this feature)
- Typically the user will be denied access to the app permission screen in enterprise deployments
 - If the user does have access, they can change permissions post-install



What's new for Zebra developers in Android 10

Access to device identifiers

- All device identifiers including the [serial number](#), [IMEI](#), [device id](#), [MEID](#), [SIM serial number](#) and [subscriber ID](#) are not available
- In Android 9 these identifiers were protected by the READ_PHONE_STATE runtime permission.
- In Android 10 these identifiers are protected by the READ_PRIVILEGED_PHONE_STATE permission, only assigned to system apps
- Some exceptions exist for EMMs acting as the Device Owner
- Recommendation is to use a self-generated GUID rather than rely on device characteristics
 - Or, [Settings.Secure.Android ID](#) (tied to user – resets on new user or factory / enterprise reset)
 - Or, less realistically for Zebra customers, an advertising ID
 - More info: <https://developer.android.com/training/articles/user-data-ids>

What's new for Zebra developers in Android 10

Access to device identifiers on Zebra devices running Android 10

- Zebra DOES allow developers to access the **serial number** and **IMEI**
- New content provider exposed, specific to Zebra devices
- Does **not** modify the behaviour of the existing Android API
- Requires the administrator to specifically grant access to the particular app's signature (Example for StageNow on next slide)
- Sample:
 - <https://github.com/darryncampbell/EMDK-DeviceIdentifiers-Sample>

```
String URI_SERIAL = "content://oem_info/oem.zebra.secure/build_serial";
Uri uri = Uri.parse(URI_SERIAL);
Cursor cursor = getContentResolver().query(uri, null, null, null, null);
cursor.moveToNext();
String serial =
    cursor.getString(cursor.getColumnIndex(cursor.getColumnName(i)));
```



What's new for Zebra developers in Android 10

Access to device identifiers on Zebra devices running Android 10

The screenshot shows the 'AccessMgr' configuration screen. At the top left is the 'AccessMgr' logo. Below it is a description: 'Perform Management of Access features (e.g. Authentication, Whitelist, etc.)' with an edit icon. A 'Create New Setting' tab is active. There is a checkbox for 'Save Setting for Re-use' and a 'Cancel changes' button. The 'Operation Mode' section has two buttons: 'Single User without Whitelist' (selected) and 'Single User with Whitelist'. The 'Service Access Action' is a dropdown menu set to 'Allow Caller to Call Service'. The 'Service Identifier' field contains the text 'content://oem_info/oem.zebra.secure/build_serial'. The 'Caller Package Name' field contains 'com.zebra.emdk_deviceidentifiers_sample'. The 'Caller Signature' field contains the file path 'L:\Downloads\ZebraSigTools\signed-debug\debug.crt'. A three-dot menu icon is visible at the bottom center of the form area.

AccessMgr

Description: Perform Management of Access features (e.g. Authentication, Whitelist, etc.)

Create New Setting

Save Setting for Re-use

Cancel changes

Operation Mode: ?

Single User without Whitelist | Single User with Whitelist

Service Access Action: ?

Allow Caller to Call Service

Service Identifier: ?

content://oem_info/oem.zebra.secure/build_serial

Caller Package Name: ?

com.zebra.emdk_deviceidentifiers_sample

Caller Signature: ?

L:\Downloads\ZebraSigTools\signed-debug\debug.crt

What's new for Zebra developers in Android 10

Bluetooth and Wi-Fi APIs require FINE location permission

If your app targets Android 10 or higher, it must have the **ACCESS_FINE_LOCATION** permission in order to use several methods within the Wi-Fi, Wi-Fi Aware, or Bluetooth APIs

Telephony

TelephonyManager

getCellLocation()

getAllCellInfo()

requestNetworkScan()

requestCellInfoUpdate()

getAvailableNetworks()

getServiceState()

TelephonyScanManager

requestNetworkScan()

PhoneStateListener

onCellLocationChanged()

onCellInfoChanged()

onServiceStateChanged()

Wi-Fi

WifiManager

startScan()

getScanResults()

getConnectionInfo()

getConfiguredNetworks()

WifiAwareManager

WifiP2pManager

WifiRttManager

Bluetooth

BluetoothAdapter

startDiscovery()

startLeScan()

BluetoothAdapter.LeScanCallback

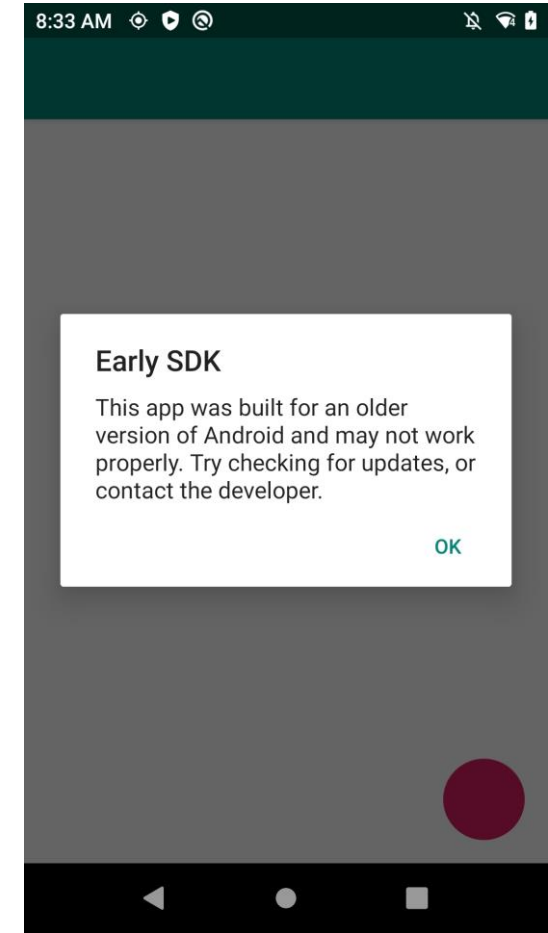
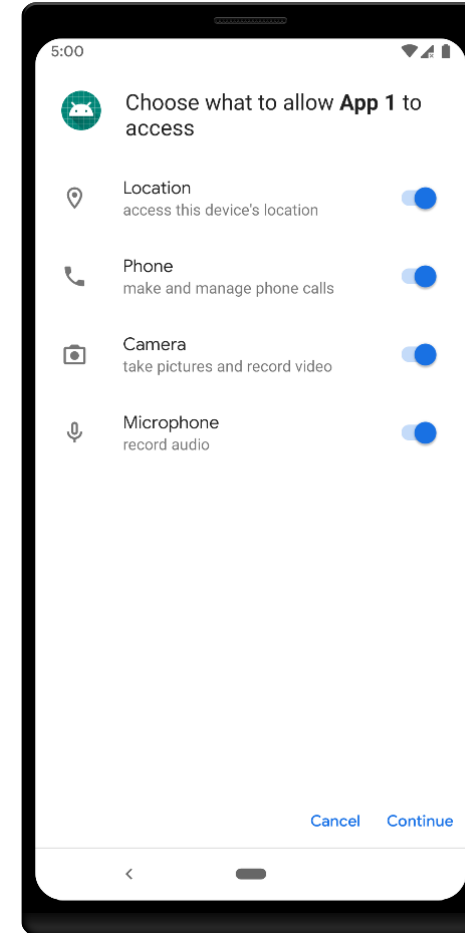
BluetoothLeScanner

startScan()

What's new for Zebra developers in Android 10

Legacy applications: Permissions and warnings

- Applications targeting SDK 21 (Lollipop) or earlier installed on Android 10 will present 2 screens when first run:
 - Re-confirm the user is happy with the permissions the application uses.
 - Addresses apps who are still circumventing the runtime permissions introduced in Marshmallow
 - **Not possible to silently grant runtime permissions on applications targeting Lollipop or earlier.**
 - Warning that the app was built for an older version of Android
 - No current way to circumvent
- We still have a large install base of Lollipop devices – these customers may be affected if they upgrade.



What's new for Zebra developers in Android 10

Changes to the Google Play Store requirements

- To be allowed in the Google Play Store applications need to target a recent API level
 - May well change application behaviour. Google have an [extensive & detailed documentation](#).
- The required API level updates annually (changes apply in August & November)
- This will affect more and more of our customers as organizations move to managed Android and the Managed Play Store
- Customers should also consider other Play Store policies such as content restrictions & harmful app scanning
- Latest SDK levels ([link](#)):

API level requirement	Starting date
Android 8.0 (API level 26)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• August 1, 2018: Required for new apps• November 1, 2018: Required for app updates
Android 9 (API level 28)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• August 1, 2019: Required for new apps• November 1, 2019: Required for app updates
Android 10 (API level 29)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• August 3, 2020: Required for new apps• November 2, 2020: Required for app updates

What's new for Zebra developers in Android 10

Restrictions on Non-SDK interfaces

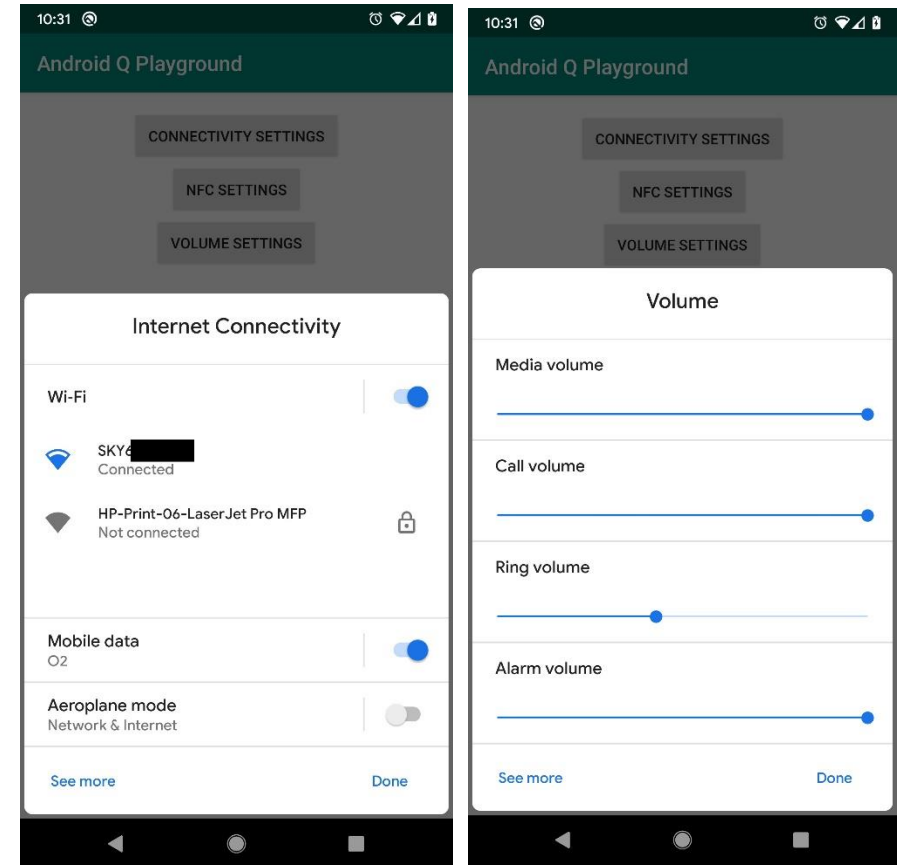
- Designed to prevent access to APIs not part of the public API set
- APIs are classified into whitelist (allowed), graylist (allowed with caveats) or blacklist (disallowed)
- Google have [dedicated documentation](#) for this and we have [an article on the developer portal](#)
- Various forms of analysis exist for a developer to detect if they are calling any forbidden APIs

```
darryncampbell@DESKTOP-D8I10HS: ~  
#75: Reflection greylist-max-o Ljava/lang/reflect/Proxy;->generateProxy use(s):  
    Lcom/facebook/common/classmarkers/DynamicClassMarkerCreation;-><clinit>()V  
    Lcom/facebook/common/classmarkers/DynamicClassMarkerCreation;-><clinit>()V  
#76: Reflection greylist Llibcore/icu/ICU;->addLikelySubtags use(s):  
    LX/6D4;-><clinit>()V  
#77: Reflection greylist Lsun/misc/Unsafe;->allocateInstance use(s):  
    LX/7pf;-><init>(Ljava/lang/Class;Ljava/lang/reflect/Type;)V  
#78: Reflection greylist Lsun/misc/Unsafe;->theUnsafe use(s):  
    LX/7pe;-><init>()V  
    LX/7pf;-><init>(Ljava/lang/Class;Ljava/lang/reflect/Type;)V  
78 hidden API(s) used: 17 linked against, 61 through reflection  
    65 in greylist  
    1 in blacklist  
    2 in greylist-max-o  
    10 in greylist-max-p  
To run an analysis that can give more reflection accesses,  
but could include false positives, pass the --imprecise flag.  
darryncampbell@DESKTOP-D8I10HS:~$
```

What's new for Zebra developers in Android 10

Settings panels

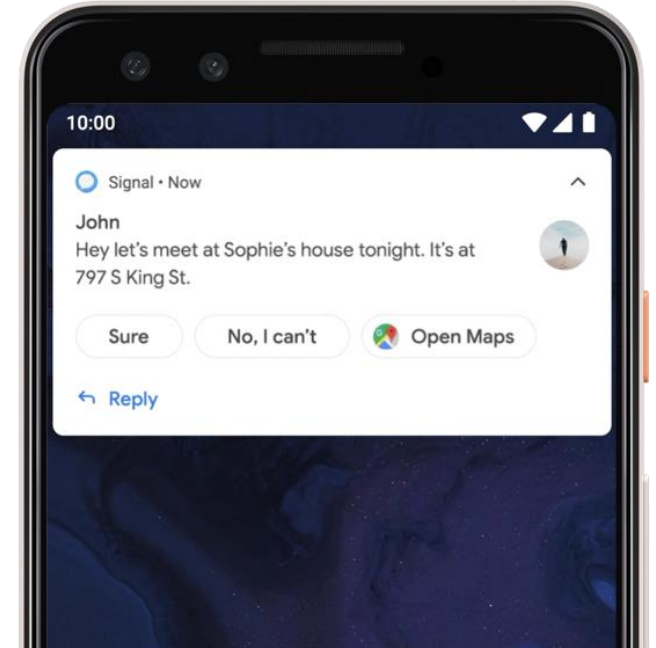
- Apps have a very simple interface to show limited settings
- Designed to allow the customer to fix issues (e.g. connect to WiFi) without leaving the app context
- Not all settings are available.
 - Currently connectivity, NFC and volume are exposed.
- More feature-rich version of the quick-settings pull down
- Typically enterprise devices will have most (or all) settings locked down.
 - **Recommendation: It is bad practice for an application to rely on the availability of the settings panels**



What's new for Zebra developers in Android 10

Smart replies

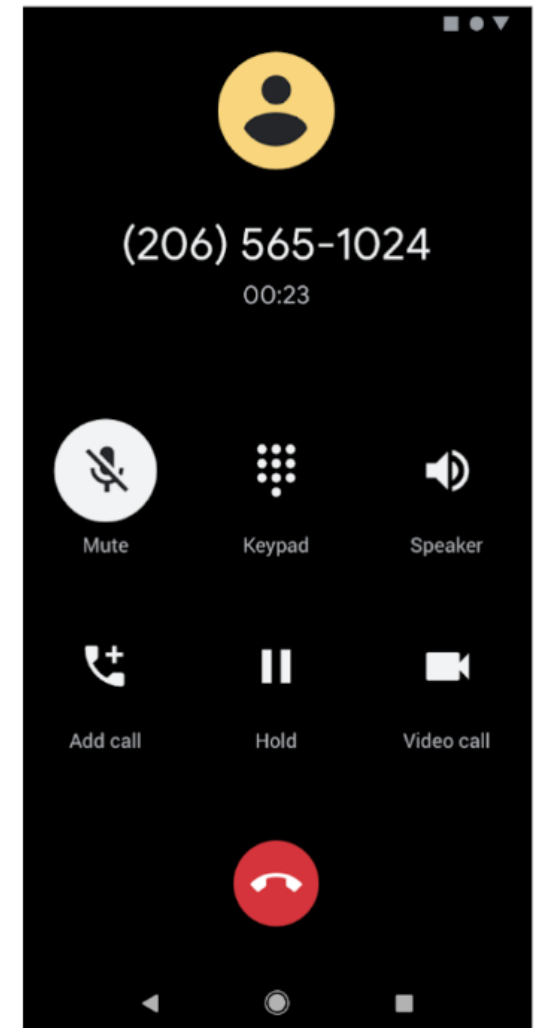
- Android 10 will suggest contextual actions in notifications
 - Applies to notifications built to handle inline replies
 - Logic to determine replies is entirely on-device
 - Smart replies for messages or opening a map for an address in the notification.
- Enabled by default but applications can opt-out by calling [setAllowGeneratedReplies\(\)](#) and [setAllowSystemGeneratedContextualActions\(\)](#)
- Personally I would recommend *disabling* smart replies for Enterprise apps. Must be done at the app level – no way to achieve via EMM.
 - I have seen some irrelevant or inappropriate suggested replies both online and when using my personal phone.
 - Google maps or other apps to handle the contextual actions may not be enabled



What's new for Zebra developers in Android 10

Dark theme

- Dark theme is popular amongst many users and Android 10 implements native support for the feature
 - Settings → Display → Dark
- There are no current plans for Zebra to expose the ability to enable dark mode
- Applications can use the standard theming model mechanism to provide a dark theme that respects user preference
- According to Google dark mode can reduce the power consumption of devices regardless of the display technology, though AMOLED savings are higher.



What's new for Zebra developers in Android 10

Conclusions

Android 10

- Emphasis on giving more power & privacy to the end user continues
 - Enterprise implications particularly around:
 - Scoped storage
 - Background location
 - Device identifiers
 - Developers should be aware of potential code changes required

Latest Android Pie & 10 features for your Enterprise Application

Resources

- Zebra best practices for Android migration: <https://techdocs.zebra.com/bestpractices/migration/>
- What's New for Android 'P' and the impact on Zebra Developers:
 - [[Developer portal post](#) | [DevTALK on YouTube](#)]
- What's New for Android 10 and the impact on Zebra Developers:
 - [[Developer portal post](#)]
- Serial number / IMEI example: <https://github.com/darryncampbell/EMDK-DeviceIdentifiers-Sample>
- Google published documentation for each new release (samples, behaviour changes, API changes)
 - [Lollipop](#), [Marshmallow](#), [Nougat](#), [Oreo](#), [Pie](#), [10](#)
- Google published documentation for new Android Enterprise features (primarily EMM focused)
 - [Nougat](#), [Oreo](#), [Pie](#) , [10](#)
- Recommended Google resources for specific Pie features:
 - [Android Enterprise talk on Power changes](#) | [Background execution advice \(blog\)](#)



Questions?

<http://developer.zebra.com>



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