Executive Summary

- We will retire the native Skillpipe apps by end of June 2019.
- We will shut down the legacy Windows Vista / 7 Reader by end of June 2019.
- We will lose the offline support for MOC and Community courses for the time being.
- We will transform Skillpipe from a web app to a progressive web app moving forward.

Many Platforms – One Destination
Whether you are using a phone, tablet or PC, your destination is always www.skillpipe.com.

1) What is the current status?

In addition to www.skillpipe.com, we currently offer native Skillpipe apps for mobile platforms like iOS or Android. These apps were built for MOC and Community Courses a long time ago and are incompatible with newer course formats such as MOC On-Demand and role-based ILT. This creates a confusing situation for users in which some courses are available in the apps, and some other are not.

2) What will change?

We want to focus our development efforts on one application, which is available for everyone on any device, and which supports all existent and future course types: www.skillpipe.com.

This will increase the speed of feature development and deployment moving forward. All new features and functionalities will be instantly available on all platforms, as we do not have to publish separate updates anymore. Furthermore, users will have a consistent user experience on all devices.

In the process, we will retire the native Skillpipe apps by end of June 2019. This means that we remove the Skillpipe apps from the iOS, Google Play and Windows Store and do not support them any longer. In addition, we will shut down the legacy Windows Vista / 7 Reader and the associated support of .bd2 files.

With this discontinuation of the native Skillpipe apps and the Windows Vista / 7 Reader, we will lose the offline support for MOC and Community Courses for the time being.

Please note that other course types such as role-based ILT and MOC On-Demand have never been accessible in an offline mode, as they are currently not supported by the native Skillpipe apps.
3) What’s the future mobile strategy?

Moving forward, we will transform www.skillpipe.com from a web app to a progressive web app, which is a responsive website that acts and feels like a native app. For example, it is installable on the user’s home screen. Once installed, the PWA can take over the user’s entire screen.

Please note that this new functionality is not yet developed, but it’s on our product roadmap.

After I’ve navigated to www.skillpipe.com, a window pops up which asks me to install Skillpipe on my home screen.

After I click on the share icon, I can select the option “Add to Home Screen”.

I can select a name for my Skillpipe home screen icon.

Once I confirm, I am located on my home screen and see the Skillpipe icon.

If I click on that Skillpipe icon, Skillpipe opens in full screen mode.
4) Questions & Answers

What is the best way to access Skillpipe with my smartphone or tablet?

The best way to experience Skillpipe on your mobile devices is through www.skillpipe.com. Mobile browsers on Android, iOS and Windows devices support all available Skillpipe features and course formats.

Why should I go to www.skillpipe.com instead of using the Skillpipe apps?

In contrast to www.skillpipe.com, the apps only support a limited set of course formats. The native Skillpipe apps did not receive any functional updates since more than two years and will not receive any further updates.

When do the native apps disappear from the app stores?

We will remove the native Skillpipe apps from all app stores by end of June 2019.

What happens with my installed native Skillpipe app?

From July 2019, the native Skillpipe apps are no longer supported. If you try to open the app, there will be a message which says: This app is no longer available.

What happens to the Windows Vista / 7 Reader?

From July 2019, the Windows Vista / 7 Reader will no longer be available. Also the required .bdb2 files for the course will no longer be available for download.