Automation License Manager V5.3 SP4, 32-bit and 64-bit Edition

The information in this readme is more up-to-date than information in other documents. Please read these notes carefully because they contain important information about the installation use of the product.

Siemens provides copy protection to some of its software. Protected programs can only be run when license keys or authorizations are available for the program or software package.

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1 What's new in Automation License Manager V5.3?

- The Automation License Manager V5.3 is delivered both as a 32-bit and 64-bit edition in a common setup. The supported operating systems are listed in paragraph 2.4.
- Check out log
  The check out log shows all not yet completed actions relating to the checkout of license keys. It shows all license keys that have been checked out by the server but not yet checked in again.
  If a license key was checked out and then checked in again, this action is completed and is therefore no longer shown in the check out log.
- Check for unused upgrade license keys
  When the program starts, your computer is checked for available but not yet used upgrade license keys.
  If such upgrade license keys are found, a note appears informing you of this.
  You can disable this function in the Automation License Manager settings.

2 Automation License Manager

2.1 Introduction

The Automation License Manager is a product of SIEMENS AG Industry Automation Group. It is used to manage license keys.

2.2 Scope of Delivery

The Automation License Manager is supplied within the framework of software products by the Siemens AG.

License keys are provided with the respective software product on specially created data storage media. You have the option to purchase license keys from the SIEMENS AG as download in the Internet.

2.3 Hardware Requirements

You will need approximately 30 MB of space on your hard disk for the installation of the files. You will need additional space for the log database.

2.4 Software Requirements

The 32-bit version of the Automation License Manager V5.3 SP4 is a program which has been released for the following operating systems:

- MS Windows XP SP2, SP3
- MS Windows 7 SP1
- MS Windows 8.1
- MS Windows 10

The 64-bit version of the Automation License Manager V5.3 SP4 has been released for the following operating systems:

- MS Windows Server 2008 R2
- MS Windows 7 SP1
- MS Windows 8.1
- MS Windows Server 2012
- MS Windows 10
- MS Windows Server 2016

Note

Operating system upgrades are not supported.

2.5 Additional Information

You can search for floating license keys throughout your network using the Automation License Manager. Refer to the supplied online help for more detailed information about the features of the Automation License Manager.

3 How to Transfer License Keys

Use the Automation License Manager functions to transfer license keys that:

- are not transferred during the setup of a product (for example, STEP 7),
- belong to licenses bought at a later time.

Note

The easiest way to transfer the license keys is by drag and drop.

3.1 Drag and Drop

1. Select the view via the menu command **View > Management**.
2. Open the storage location on the local or network computer to which you wish to transfer the license keys.
3. Open the storage location on the local or network computer where you wish to remove the license keys.
4. Select the license keys and drag them to the folder where you wish to save the license keys while keeping the left mouse button pressed.
   Result: The license keys are transferred.

3.2 Connect Computer

With the Automation License Manager, you can only connect computers on the network on which the Automation License Manager is also installed. You do this with a right-click on "My Computer" in the navigation area and by selecting "Connect Computer" in the shortcut menu. A dialog is displayed, in which you can:

- Specify the name of the computer you want to connect or
- Browse the network for computers.

In the "Display Name" dialog box, enter the name under which the computer is to be displayed. Then click on "OK". The computer is now connected.

Note

We highly recommend that you install the same version of the Automation License Manager on all computers involved.

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4 Upgrading and Using Older Software Products

Note

Please note that authorizations are no longer supported on 64-bit operating systems.

Note

You have to distinguish between:

- Upgrading a license key to a new license key
- Upgrading an authorization to a license key
- Upgrading an authorization to a new authorization

4.1 Upgrade Requirements

Earlier License Key → New License Key

You require:

- the CoL (Certificate of License) and the license key of the earlier version
- the CoL (Certificate of License) and the upgrade license key of the target version

Earlier Authorization → New License Key

You require:

- the earlier authorization
- the CoL (Certificate of License) and the upgrade license key of the target version

Earlier Authorization → New Authorization

You require:

- the earlier authorization
- the CoL (Certificate of License) and the upgrade authorization of the target version

4.2 License Upgrade

The following steps show you how to upgrade a license key and an authorization. The approach is the same for the license key and authorization, however, reference is made to "license key" only in the text.

Proceed as follows:

1. Select the view via the menu command **View > Management.**
2. Transfer the License Keys of the previous version and the Upgrade License Keys to the hard disk on which the upgrade is to be performed.
3. In the navigation area, select the location of the license key for which the upgrade is to be performed.
4. Execute the menu command "License Key > Upgrade".
   Result: The upgrade is executed.

4.3 Using Earlier Software Product Versions with a New License Key

Software products activated with a License Key

Software products to be activated for operation with license keys can also use later license keys. The following applies to these products:

- Later versions of license keys can always be used to operate different software versions.

Note

You recognize a license key in the Automation License Manager by its 20-digit license number.

Software products activated with an authorization

These software versions cannot be operated with a license key. License keys for later versions can only be used for software versions in which a license key is used.

Note

You recognize an authorization in the Automation License Manager by its 10-digit license number.

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5 Installation and Removal

5.1 How to Install the Automation License Manager

The Automation License Manager is installed with a user-guided setup program.

Note

Close all other programs before you start the setup.

5.2 How to Remove the Automation License Manager

The removal of the Automation License Managers must conform to the standard Windows routine for removing programs via Control Panel.

6 Additional Notes

6.1 Optimizing Hard Disks

A specially marked cluster is created on the target drive when you install a license key. Some disk utilities show this cluster as "bad." Do not attempt to recover this cluster.

If you use an optimization program that is capable of moving fixed blocks, you should first transfer the license keys from the hard disk to the license key diskette before using this option.

If a backup of your hard disk contains copies of license keys, there is the danger that restoring the disk from a backup will overwrite the currently valid license keys and destroy them. Due to this danger, we strongly recommend removing all license keys before performing the backup or explicitly exempting them from the backup.

Do not forget to remove the license keys before formatting, compressing or restoring your hard disk or installing a new operating system.

6.2 Corrupt License Keys

You cannot remove corrupt license keys from the Automation License Manager. Please contact the Hotline when this occurs. They can usually help you to recover such license keys.

You can find support in the Internet at http://support.automation.siemens.com

6.3 Special Case: Lacking Access Rights for Upgrading

When an upgrade is performed for an authorization and the target is also an authorization, you may experience problems due to lacking access rights. In this case, use AuthorsW V2.5.2, to carry out the upgrade.

6.4 Special Case: SIMATIC Logon Access Protection

An installation of SIMATIC Logon is required for enabling the SIMATIC Logon access protection. Only under this condition will the corresponding menu be displayed (File > Settings > General > Activate SIMATIC Logon access protection).

If this access protection has already been activated, uninstalling SIMATIC Logon will prevent access to any of the license keys.

Note

SIMATIC Logon access protection must be deactivated before you uninstall SIMATIC Logon.

6.5 Automation License Manager as License Key Server

You will have to enter one of the following exceptions in the Windows firewall:

- Either the port (default = 4410) you have specified or
- The Automation License Manager service (almsrvx.exe).

You need administrator rights to make these settings.

Note

You can only use the Automation License Manager as License Key server, if incoming remote connections are permitted (see paragraph 6.7).

6.6 Changing Compatibility Mode

You will have to restart the Automation License Manager with the corresponding dialog if you switch to compatibility mode.
Due to possible incompatibility issues concerning Windows networks organized in workgroups, we recommend that you update older Automation License Manager versions (<V4.0) to the latest version.

Note

You will have to explicitly activate compatibility mode and you can only use it, if incoming remote connections are permitted (see paragraph 6.7).

6.7 Increased Security through Connection Settings

You can configure the Automation License Manager so that incoming remote connections from other Automation License Manager installations are not possible.

You configure this setting using the menu command "File>Settings>Connection".

Note

You will have to restart the Automation License Manager service if you change this option.

Also see paragraph 6.5.

6.8 Changing the Connection Settings under Windows XP

If you change the connection settings using the menu command "File>Settings>Connection", you will have to restart the Automation License Manager service.
If you want to enable these changes immediately, acknowledge the action in the Windows dialog that appears automatically which notifies you that the computer and data are protected from unauthorized program activity.

Note

Please note that the option "Protect my computer and data from unauthorized program activity" has to be cleared.

6.9 Rental License Keys and Changing the System Clock

Changing the system clock can have an effect on the rental license keys. Putting the system time back can damage the rental license keys. Putting the system time forward can reduce the time remaining.

Note

Make sure that time synchronization via network (NTP service) is executed before you assign the rental license keys.

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7 Known Limitations

7.1 Canceling the License Key Transfer

When license keys are transferred between computers with different versions of the Automation License Manager, an error message is sometimes displayed and the transfer is canceled.

Remedy:

Install the same version of the Automation License Manager on all computers involved.