BRICSCAD®

Updated for V18

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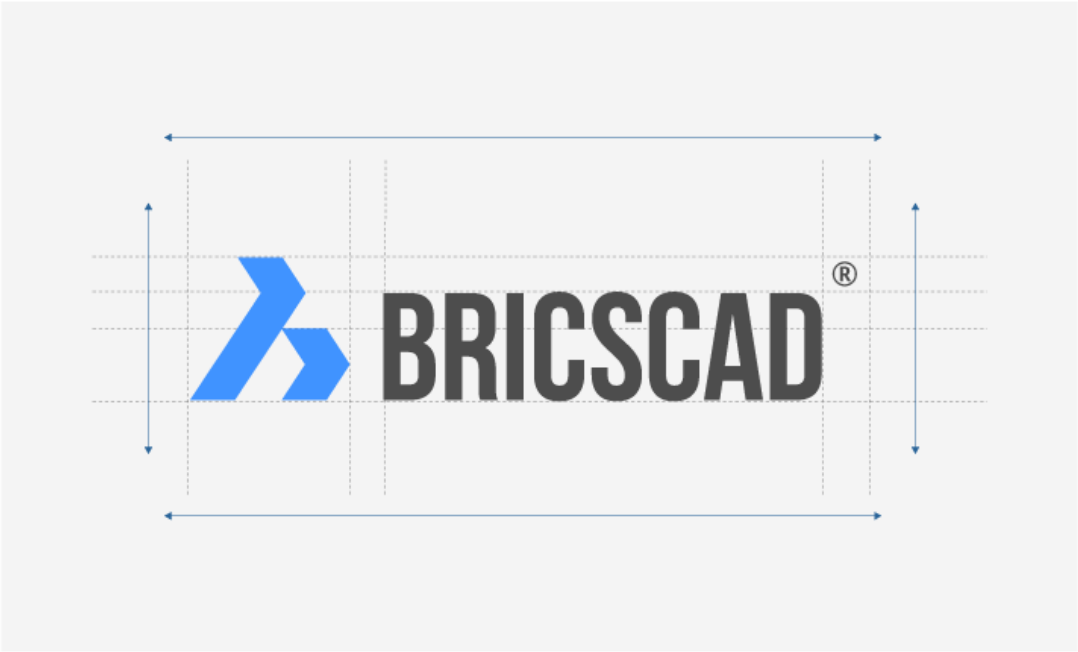
Welcome to BricsCAD

Whether you're a novice user or an experienced CAD professional, you'll soon be creating drawings using the numerous productivity-enhancing features in the software.

With hundreds of third party solutions, BricsCAD is the powerful CAD software platform unifying 2D CAD and 3D direct modeling for dwg on Windows and Linux.

These are just a few of the many features that we have included in the program to make the transition into CAD-based drawing a smooth one for new users. We have also incorporated many features that experienced CAD users have been requesting for years in a drawing package. You have chosen an affordable, high-quality software program to produce your drawings. We are convinced you will be pleased with the results!



This help file describes all the BricsCAD features. Some features do not apply to the Classic and/or Pro versions; some commands are not supported on the Linux and/or the Mac platforms.

Please see the Command Reference to check the availability of a command on the various platforms (Windows, Linux, Mac) and feature levels (Platinum, Pro or Classic).

We also recommend our TUTORIALS on the Bricsys blog.

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What's New in BricsCAD V18

Below is a brief description of the enhancements and new features. Click on the hyperlink keywords for a detailed description.

Please read the BricsCAD Release Notes with the latest changes (new features, improvements and bug fixes and development features).
You can find *ReleaseNotes.htm* in the *Help* subfolder of the BricsCAD program folder (e.g. C:\Program Files\Bricsys\BricsCAD V18 en_US\Help\en_US)

Important notes

- BricsCAD® (Windows) V18 installs and runs independently from previous BricsCAD versions.
- Pro or Platinum license is required for rendering, 3D modeling and Drawing Views.
- Platinum license is required for creation of 3D Constraints, Mechanical Assembly design, Deformable Modeling.
- BIM design requires a separate BIM license and a BricsCAD Platinum license.
- Sheet Metal design requires a separate Sheet Metal license and a BricsCAD Platinum license.
- BricsCAD V18 is not compatible with Communicator V17, an upgrade to Communicator V18 is required. However, at this point, Communicator V18 is not available yet.
- Applications: BricsCAD V18 is compiled with Visual Studio 2013 (platform toolset = v120). C++ extension dlls need to be compiled with the same platform toolset in order to be compatible.
- To report problems, please send a Support Request.

New in V18.2

AIDIMSTYLE command: creates Dimension Styles based on the properties of selected Dimension, Tolerance or Leader entities.

BLADE command: opens the advanced environment for editing and debugging LISP applications. Short for BricsCAD LISP Advanced Development Environment.

BoundaryColor user preference: controls the boundary highlight color.

Profile Recognition in BIMIFY: if solids are auto-classified as Column, Beam or Member and their profile matches a definition in the profile library, a link to the profile is added to the BIM properties.

BIMRECALCULATEAXIS command: Recalculates the axis of linear building elements and repositions it back on the center line of a linear element.

BMUNLINK command: breaks the connection between a component insert (e.g. a Window) and a 3D solid (e.g. a Wall) retaining the opening.

Commands for creating centerlines and center marks:

- CENTERLINE: creates a centerline entity associated with two selected lines.
- CENTERMARK: creates a center mark entity associated with a selected circle or arc.
- CENTERREASSOCIATE: recreates the association between a centerline entity and two selected lines, or between a center mark and a selected circle or arc.
- CENTERDISASSOCIATE: breaks the association of centerline and a center mark entities.
- CENTERRESET: resets centerline and center mark entities.

Following related system variables were added:

- CENTEREXE: length of centerline extensions.
- CENTERMARKEXE: determines whether centerlines extend automatically from new center marks.
- CENTERLTYPEFILE: specifies the line type file used to create center marks and center lines.
- CENTERLTYPE: specifies the line type used by center marks and center lines.
- CENTERLAYER: default layer for new center marks or center lines.
- CENTERLTSCALE: specifies the line type scale used by center marks and center lines.
- CENTERCROSSSIZE: size of the associative center mark.
- CENTERCROSSGAP: size of the gap between the center mark and its center lines.

LAYOUTMANAGER: Added option to copy layouts.

MBSTATE: system variable (read only) reflects the visibility state of the Mechanical Browser panel.

PDF UNDERLAY CACHE: A multi-resolution persistent image cache is used to display attached Pdf underlays, enabling (very) fast zoom and pan operations. The highest cached resolution is 5000 x 5000 pixels. Still, when zooming in very close, the display of the Pdf underlay will become pixelated. So a hybrid modus can be used which switches to real-time generation of crisp Pdf underlay display when zooming in very close. The initial generation of the image cache may take a few seconds, from then on processing gets (very) fast, and remains like that in subsequent sessions.

PDFCACHE: System variable that controls how pdf caching is applied

- 0 = don't use Pdf cache, always use real-time generation of the Pdf underlay image. (this mode was the default in previous BricsCAD versions)
- 1 = use Pdf cache, switch to real-time generation when zooming in very close.
- 2 = always use Pdf cache (default).

Profile Dialog: When a new profile is defined by picking a profile in the model, it is detected whether the profile has a predefined shape and saved accordingly in that case (instead of the default Custom Shape).

Profile Library: Added profiles of Australian Steel standard.

SHEET METAL

SmLispGet supports rib and miter features. Miter feature has unclassified faces, while rib has Top and Bottom. Added to SmLispGet new options for rib feature: RibControlCurve, RibProfileRadius, RibRoundRadius.

SMCONVERT command has the new option, which allows to recognize a control curve of a rib feature.

TEXT

In-place editing of text is supported now. The TEXTED setting controls the text edit behavior:

- 0 = in-place editor
- 1 = pop up dialog
- 2 = in-place editor with repeated input

TEXT STYLES and DIMENSION STYLES: Text Style and Dimension Style toolbar controls are now acting on active selection set.

VLIDE: New Visual Lisp Integrated Development Environment. The VLIDE command opens the LISP Development Environment for editing and debugging LISP applications.

New in V18.1

BricsCAD core application

DWG 2018 BricsCAD V18 supports the DWG 2018 format.

CIVIL 3D enabler makes it possible to load, save, display and snap to objects created with AutoCAD CIVIL 3D.

BRICSYS 24/7: Chapoo is being rebranded and becomes Bricsys 24/7. Chapoo commands are obsolete and are replaced by: CLOUDACCOUNT, CLOUDDOWNLOAD, CLOUDLOGOFF, CLOUDLOGON, CLOUDOPEN, CLOUDPROJECT and CLOUDUPLOAD.

MANIPULATOR

The Manipulator widget makes manipulation of selected entities straightforward and predictable. Use it to rotate, move, mirror or scale entities along an axis or plane. Dynamic dimension input allows for precise control. Keep the Ctrl-key pressed while starting an action to manipulate a copy of the selected entities.

The Manipulator system variable controls when the widget becomes available:

0 = not displayed

1 = display Manipulator whenever entities are selected

2 = display Manipulator if left mouse button was pressed longer than ManipulatorDuration.

CLIPPED SECTION VIEWS

Section clip property can be set different per viewport.

Section views can be printed in clipped state.

Insert clipped views by drag and drop from the Content Browser onto layout sheets.

NAVIGATE command: Allows to walk or fly through models using the well-known approach used in computer games.

CLEANSCREENON command: Maximizes the graphics screen by temporarily hiding document tabs, dockable panels, toolbars, the ribbon, the command line, the status bar and the menu bar.

CLEANSCREENOFF command: Unhides the temporarily hidden user-interface items.

LOCKUI system variable: Allows to lock the location and size of toolbars and dockable panels. Press Ctrl to temporarily override the locking and move items. A LOCKUI toggle button is available on the Status bar.

MTEXT command: Numbered and bulleted lists are supported.

CONTENT BROWSER: Blocks contained in drawings in a range of user-selected folders can be drag-and-dropped into the current drawing. The same insertion and alignment options are available as those applied when drag-and-dropping blocks from the Block Explorer, which, unlike the Content Browser, is not dockable... Dimension styles can also be drag-and-dropped into the current drawing.

VIEW TRANSITIONS are now animated, making it easier to keep one's bearings during view switches.

LAYOUTMANAGER command: Manages layouts through a dialob box. A button has been added to the left of the Model and Layout Tabs. The Layout manager dialog makes it easy to add, delete, activate, find or rearrange layouts.

CENTERLINE - CENTERMARKS Display and editing of center line and center mark entities is supported, creation not yet.

EDITABLE ROLLOVER PROPERTIES - Click a property when the rollover tips display to edit the selected property.

DWGCOMPARE command: compares a selected drawing with the current drawing during a comparison session. The ENDCOMPARE command must be used to exit the comparison session. During a comparison session, New, Modified and Missing entities are displayed using dedicated, user-configurable colors, and their DiffType is displayed in Properties Panel and Rollover Tips, only while the DwgCompare session is active. In the Structure panel all differences are displayed in a dedicated section. Note: default.cst configuration file should be used for optimal result.

KEEPME command: During a comparison session, both variants of modified entities are displayed. The KEEPME command allows easy visual merging of drawings, it keeps selected entities and discards the matching variants. When no more differences are listed in the Structure panel, the merge is complete.

FACE CAMERA property: Block definitions have a new 'always face the camera' property, in order to rotate inserts about their Z axis and making sure their local Y-axis is kept parallel to the current view direction. The feature is handy to apply to e.g. images of trees or persons, the fact that it applies to blocks means that it can be used for all types of dwg content. The property can be controlled using the newly added 'Face Camera' property column in the Block Explorer.

IMPORT command: Supported PMI (product and manufacturing information) for the following file formats: ACIS, CATIA V5, NX, Pro/E / Creo, SolidWorks, XCGM (Communicator license is required). PMI annotations are imported as graphical elements grouped in blocks.

MECHANICAL BROWSER PANEL: The BMBROWSER command has been replaced by the MECHANICALBROWSEROPEN command.

REPORT PANEL: This is a separate dockable panel now which is opened by the REPORTPANELOPEN command.

STANDARD PARTS PANEL: The BMHARDWARE command has been replaced by the STANDARDPARTSPANELOPEN command.

THUMBNAIL CACHE: thumbnail images generated for the Content Browser block library panel are cached now, enabling instant switching between drawings containing thousands of blocks.

BRICSYS 24/7: Chapoo is being rebranded and becomes Bricsys 24/7. Former Chapoo- commands are obsolete and replaced by Cloud- commands.

BIM

Modeling the design

BIMWINDOWCREATE command: Creates a fully parametric window based on a closed contour.

3D Rooms. Rooms now detect their 3d boundary and can optionally be displayed as a 3d solid in the model. The room volume is listed in properties.

Room stamps can be moved using one grip point.

Room stamps are based on a template drawing, which allows to customize their appearance.

Parametric arrays now enable to control the number of elements by a parameter. Parameters in the copied objects are also available on the array. This allows to create parametric stairs, curtain walls, etc. See commands ARRAYPATH, ARRAYPOLAR and ARRAYRECT.

BIMDRAG in copy mode now places multiple solids, and has a repeat option like the COPY command.

Structural modeling toolset

Linear solid recognition: Linear solids are elongated solids on which a constant cross section, called profile, and a linear extrusion path can be detected. Typical examples are columns, beams, railings, pipes, ducts, etc. This recognition is tolerant for clippings and openings.

BIMAPPLYPROFILE command: Applies a profile to a line or replaces the profile of a linear solid.

BIMLINEARSOLID command: Creates linear solids based on the line command.

BIMPROFILES command: Opens the library of profiles which is included in the installation.

The axis lines of linear solids can be displayed.

BIMOSMODE allows to specify snapping to axes of linear solids.

BIMMULTISELECT: select all linear solids with coplanar/parallel axis with the given input linear solid. If the input is a face of such a solid, the output are the faces at the same side of the linear solids with coplanar/parallel axes. Ctrl-widget has three options: all coplanar axes, axes that are coplanar and parallel, all parallel axes.

BIMDRAG is specialized for linear solids. On all side faces of the extrusion, a move or copy operation on the entire solid is performed. On the start and end faces, BIMDRAG executes a pushpull operation.

BIMCONNECT is specialized for linear solids. Linear solids can be connected with option smooth cut or planar cut. With smooth cut one solid is fully extended to connect to all the other solid's faces. With planar cut the solids are cut with straight planar cuts.

BIMSUGGEST allows to select 2 solids, analyze their connection, find and present similar situations in the model where the same connection can be applied. The user can toggle suggestions, the command applies the connection to the selected locations. At present, connections created by dragging one solid or its individual plies into the other solid are supported for wall-slab, wall-wall, beam-wall, column-slab.

Adding data to the model

BIMCLASSIFY now offers many more types and a dialog box to select a classification type. Classification types are grouped into four categories: core, architectural, structural, and building services.

Xrefs are supported as BIM objects. They can be classified and have a spatial location. The structure tree has an option to display the exploded contents of xrefs.

IFC import: many more ifc types are supported. Windows from imported ifc files are parametric and associative.

BIMATTACHSPATIALLOCATION has an option to automatically detect, create and assign buildings and stories.

BIMIFY runs automatic classification and spatial location assignment for the entire model.

Documenting the design

DATAEXTRACTION now supports ply quantities and materials.

BIMSECTION has an option to create interior elevations. Input is a room, output are a volume state bimsection entity for each wall segment and one for the floor plan. The bimsection entities have new types 'Interior Elevation' and 'Interior Floor Plan' and as such their callouts can be fully customized separately from other section types.

BIMSECTIONUPDATE accepts a room as input. In case interior elevations are attached to it, they will all be generated into a single file. This file is named by room name and room number.

A room now has a property 'Interior Elevations', values can be On or Off, to control visibility of the corresponding interior elevation bimsection entities.

IFCIMPORT command: Many more IFC types are supported, and IFC import is certified by BuildingSmart for Coordination View 2.0 exchange. Windows from imported IFC files are parametric and associative. Import of custom properties.

BIMPROPERTIES command: Custom properties can be assigned to building elements. A properties dialog is available to create, edit and delete property definitions, and to organize properties in property sets. A default set of IFC2x3 properties is available.

DESIGN TABLES: Design tables of parameters are supported now. The new DESIGNTABLE command allows importing .csv files containing sets of available parameter values. Drop-down lists with the parameters values from the tables have been added to the Mechanical Browser and parametric component properties. The -DESIGNTABLEEDIT command allows to edit design tables.

DMCOPYFACES command: allows copying a set of 3D solid faces forming a feature (e.g. hole, rib or protrusion) to a new position on the same or another 3D solid.

BMBALLOON command: creates associative balloon entities for assembly components in Model Space and for their generated views in a Paper Space layout. Each balloon contains an index of the component in the associated BOM-table created by BMBOM command.

BIMTAG command: Creates associative tags in generated BIM section drawings for the corresponding building entities in a 3D BIM model. The command can be used on section viewports in a Paper Space layout only.

BMEXPLODE command: Creates an exploded representation of an assembly by moving all components to make them visible, stores it in a new block and inserts the block in the Model Space at a user defined loacation. Table-style and Manual modes are offered in command options.

Drawing views can be generated from exploded representations of assemblies with the possibility to place BOM balloons on them using the BMBALLOON command.

ASSOCIATIVE ARRAYS: Allows to specify expressions for parameters of associative arrays created by ARRAYRECT, ARRAYPATH and ARRAYPOLAR commands. Expressions can be set in the array properties grid or via ARRAYEDIT command.

EXTENDED ASSOCIATIVE ARRAYS: Added a possibility to assign an expression for a parameter of a dimensional constraint (both 2D and 3D) associated with an entity which has been put into an associative array. Together with expressions used at arrays properties this opens a way to create fully parametric arrays. Expression can be assigned to a nested parameter using the Mechanical Browser panel, array properties or new 'Link to parameter' option of -BMPARAMETERS command.

MECHANICAL BROWSER: Arrays listing has been added. New context menu item 'Link to parameter' has been added for the parameters of arrays and components.

SHEET METAL

SMASSEMBLYEXPORT command: Performs batch processing of assemblies with sheet metal parts. It traverses assembly structure and for every component met recognizes encapsulated sheet metal design, saves unfolding to .dxf files, creates HTML summary report on the assembly.

SMEXTRUDE command: Creates sheet metal parts from polyline by extrusion, converting every linear segment to a flange, arc to bend; hard edges in flanges are converted to bends automatically.

SMFLIP command: Swaps sides of a selected flange so that reference faces are on the other geometric side of the flange. Optionally shifts the flange over the thickness of the sheet metal part.

SMRIBCREATE command creates associative Rib form features on sheet metal parts from 2D profiles. The feature is updated automatically when its defining profile is changed.

SETTINGS dialog contains per-drawing values to initializes Sheet Metal Context on its creation. This allows to create template .dwt files with preferred values, i.e. thickness, bend radius, relief parameters. Introduced setting to control color of reference side of flange feature which remains to be fixed during thickness change.

VIEWBASE/VIEWEDIT commands

Select option allows selection of solids nested in components.

VIEWSECTION command: New "Sectionable" property has been added for mechanical components. Components for which the property is off appear non-sectioned in the section views.

Differences Between Platforms and Levels

	WINDOWS			MAC			LINUX		
	Platinum	**Pro**	**Classic**	**Platinum**	**Pro**	**Classic**	**Platinum**	**Pro**	**Classic**
CAD functionality	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
2D constraints solving	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Full lisp support	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Chapoo connectivity	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Direct modeling	●	●	-	●	●	-	●	●	-
Generated views	●	●	-	●	●	-	●	●	-
Rendering	●	●	–	●	●	-	●	●	–
VBA	●	●	–	-	-	-	-	-	–
BRX	●	●	-	● (1)	● (1)	-	● (1)	● (1)	-
3D constraints solving	●	●	–	●	●	-	●	●	–
3D constraints creation	●	-	-	●	-	-	●	–	–
Design intent recognition	●	-	-	●	-	-	●	–	–
Assembly modeling	●	-	–	●	-	-	●	–	–
BIM	● (2)	-	-	● (2)	-	-	● (2)	-	-
Sheet metal	● (2)	-	-	● (2)	-	-	● (2)	-	-
Communicator	● (3)	● (3)	-	● (3)	● (3)	-	● (3)	● (3)	-

(1) Without MFC classes

(2) Optional - Requires a specific license.

(3) Optional - Requires a specific license. Communicator is an additional module which allows to import and export 3D CAD data from and to all the major MCAD programs.

View the complete comparison chart on the Bricsys website.

Related topics

Licensing

Activation

Installation

- BricsCAD comes as a single download file.
- Each new major version can be installed next to a previous major version and can be run in trial mode first.

BricsCAD can be installed on :

- Microsoft Windows 10, 8, 7 and Vista on both 32 and 64 bits.
- Linux: Ubuntu, Fedora, OpenSUSE - 32bit, 64bit - gnome, kde
  Ubuntu 9.04 or later, Fedora 11 or later, OpenSUSE 11.0 or later
- Mac OSX 10.8 or higher.

Related Topics

Silent Installation

Increase the memory limit

Silent Installation

Silent installations are installations that run without a user interface. A normal (non-silent) installation receives the necessary input from the user in the form of responses to dialog boxes. However, a silent installation does not prompt the end user for input.

The user interface of an MSI installer (Microsoft Installer) typically queries the target system and displays an installation wizard (Setup Wizard) which enables the user to change various options that will affect the installation.

The same MSI can also perform a so-called 'quiet mode' or 'silent mode' installation whereby the User Interface of the Setup Wizard gets suppressed. This is done by running the msiexec.exe command-line utility with the /qn option (= quite no interface) and specifying on the command line all the information that the wizard would normally gather. Therefore, any actions that occur within the user interface sequence will not be performed during a 'silent' installation.

To silently perform a BricsCAD installation

1. Do one of the following:
   - open a Command Window, then change the directory (cd) to the location of the BricsCAD installer .msi file.
   - In the *Windows Explorer* dialog, browse to the location, then hold down the Shift key, right click and select *Open command window here* in the context menu.

2. Type *msiexec /i* then do one of the following:

   - type *"<BricsCAD installer filename>"* (e.g. "BricsCAD-Vxx.x.xx-x-en_US(x64).msi").
   - drag the BricsCAD installer file from the *Windows Explorer* dialog onto the command window.

3. Type * /qn * at the command prompt.
4. (option) To suppress the adding of a Desktop Shortcut:
   add *ADDDESKTOPSHORTCUT=""*.
5. (option) To suppress the display of the Release Notes when the installation completes:
   add *SHOWRELEASENOTES=""*.
6. (option) To install BricsCAD in a specific folder, different from the default folder:
   add *APPLICATIONFOLDER="your_app_folder"*
7. (option) To specify a folder for the license file if any of the properties *BRXLICENSEKEY*, *BRXLICENSEFILE* or *BRXLICENSESERVER* are defined. Default is *APPLICATIONFOLDER\BricsCAD.lic*.
   add *BRXLICENSEDESTFILE="path_to_lic_file"*
8. (option) To activate the license and store it in the folder specified by *BRXLICENSEDESTFILE*:
   add *BRXLICENSEKEY="your_license_key"*
9. (option) To copy the license file to the folder specified by *BRXLICENSEDESTFILE*:
   add *BRXLICENSEFILE="your_license_file"*
10. (option) To create a license file in the folder specified by *BRXLICENSEDESTFILE*, containing the server host specification:
    add *BRXLICENSESERVER="host"*, or *BRXLICENSESERVER="port@host"* if your license server is using a different port than the default port, being 5053.
11. (option on 32 BIT only) To not install VBA:
    add *INSTALLVBA="0"* or *INSTALLVBA=""*

    The complete entry at the command prompt might be: *msiexec /i "BricsCAD-Vxx.x.xx-x-en_US(x64).msi" /qn ADDDESKTOPSHORTCUT="" SHOWRELEASENOTES=""*

12. Press Enter to launch the installation.

NOTES

- For more options, type: *msiexec /?* at the command prompt.
- On the Microsoft website, you can find more information about the *msiexec* command.

Related topics

Installation

Increase the memory limit

Increase the Memory Limit

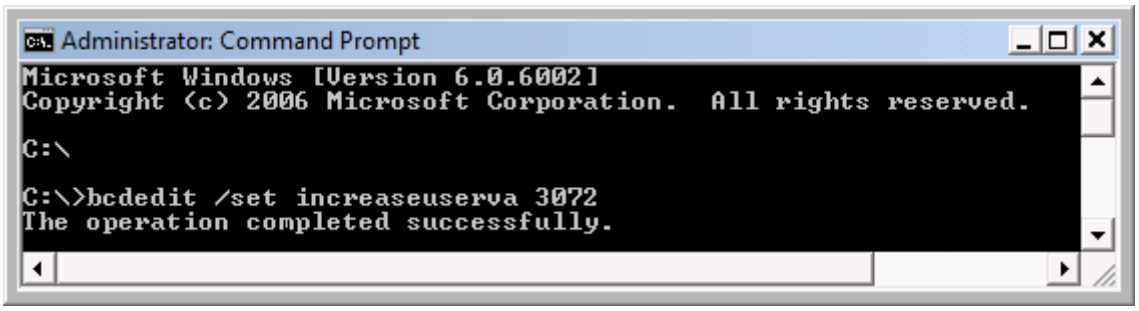
Until V10 the limit of the amount of memory that could be used by BricsCAD was around 1.6 GB. In V11 or higher this limit has been increased to 4 GB on 64 bit systems and 3 GB on 32 bit systems. On 32 bit systems additional manual changes to the boot process are required.

On a 32 bit *Windows Vista* or *Windows 7* system do the following:

1. Click the *Start* button on the left hand side of the Windows task bar.
2. Type *command* in the Windows *Start Search* field, then press Enter.

The *Administrator Command Prompt* window opens.

3. Type *bcdedit /set increaseuserva 3072* in the *Administrator Command Prompt* window, then press Enter.



The memory limit is increased to 3GB.

4. Close the *Administrator Command Prompt* window.

Related topics

Installation

Silent Installation

Licensing

Overview

Commands: LICENSEMANAGER, LICPROPERTIES, LICPROPERTIESBIM, LICPROPERTIESCOMMUNICATOR, LICPROPERTIESSHEETMETAL

BricsCAD is available with three types of commercial licenses combined to two platforms and three feature levels:

- Commercial licenses: Single, Volume, Network
- Platforms: Windows, Mac, Linux
- Feature levels: Classic, Pro, Platinum

See also the differences between platforms and between levels.

BricsCAD can also run in trial mode for evaluation.

TUTORIALS

Run your BricsCAD trial as Classic, Pro or Platinum

NOTE

- The procedures described in this chapter are also valid for BricsCAD Sheet Metal and BricsCAD Communicator.

View your Licenses

All your valid licenses can be viewed on the Bricsys website.

1. Log in to the Bricsys website.
   Make sure you log in with the Bricsys account containing your licenses. Contact your Bricsys account manager if needed.

2. In the upper right corner, click on your name. Your account page opens.

3. In the left menu choose *Licenses and support contracts*.
   All your active licenses are displayed.

4. (Optional) Click a license to see its details.

Manage your Licenses

Depending on the type and status, licenses can be activated, modified and deactivated.

Use the activation to:

- Activate a trial license.
- Activate a Single or Volume license.
- Use a Network license (beforehand activated on a network license server).

Use the modification to:

- Upgrade a license (e.g. from Single Classic to Single Platinum).
- Replace a license (e.g. a Single Classic by a Network Pro).

Use the deactivation to:

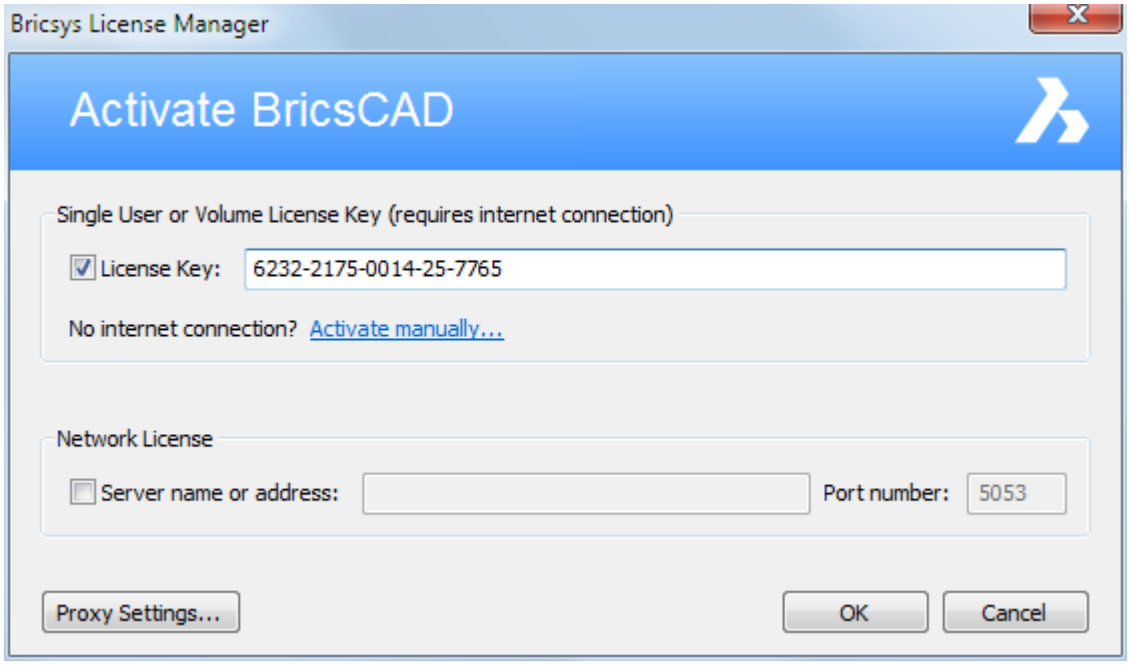
- Migrate a license to another computer.
- Deactivate a license.
- Be able to reactivate a license after installing a new hard disk, changing partitions or upgrading the operating system.

Proxy Settings

Some computers connect to a network or the internet through a proxy server. Therefore the proxy settings should be configured before activating or deactivating a license.

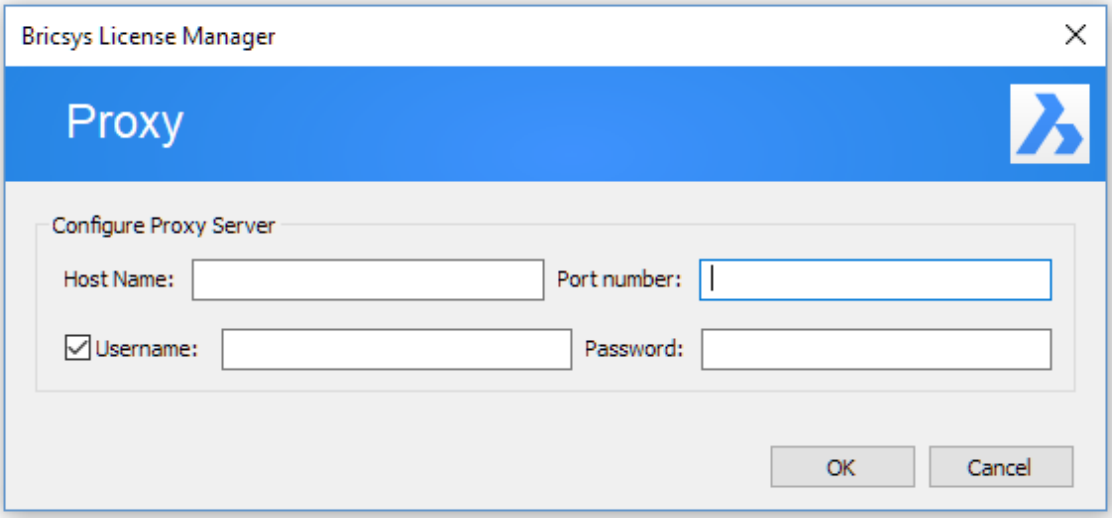
To configure the proxy settings

1. In the Activate Bricsys or the License Information dialog, click the *Proxy Settings...* button.



The Proxy dialog opens.

2. In the *Proxy* dialog, fill out the necessary fields.



3. Click the OK button to continue.

NOTE The proxy settings configuration remains active for the current BricsCAD session only. If you need to reactivate or deactivate a license in future session, you will have to reconfigure the proxy settings.

To configure the proxy settings permanently for Network License use

Using a Network license, BricsCAD needs to connect to the license server each time a session is opened. Therefore the proxy settings should be configured permanently.

Proceed as follows on the computer where BricsCAD is running:

1. Create the HTTP_PROXY system variable:

   HTTP_PROXY=[LicenseServer]:[PortNumber]

2. (Optional) If the proxy server supports basic authentication, create the HTTP_PROXY_CREDENTIALS variable:

   HTTP_PROXY_CREDENTIALS=[UserName]:[Password]

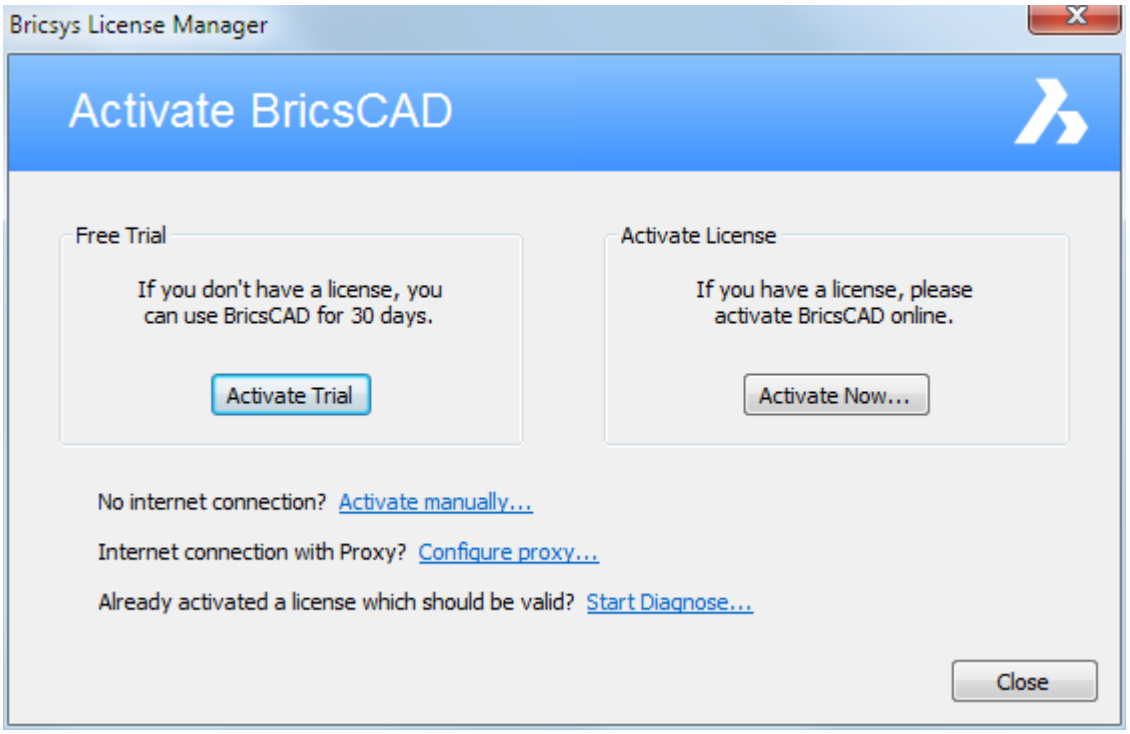
Activation

First Run

Use this procedure to:

- Activate a trial license.
- Activate a Single or Volume license.
- Use a Network license (beforehand activated on a license server).

The Activate BricsCAD dialog opens.



1. If your computer connects to the Internet through a proxy server, click the *Configure proxy...* link to configure the proxy settings.
2. Do one of the following:
   3. Click the Activate Trial button to activate a trial.
   4. Click the Activate Now... button to activate a Single or Volume license, or to use a Network license.

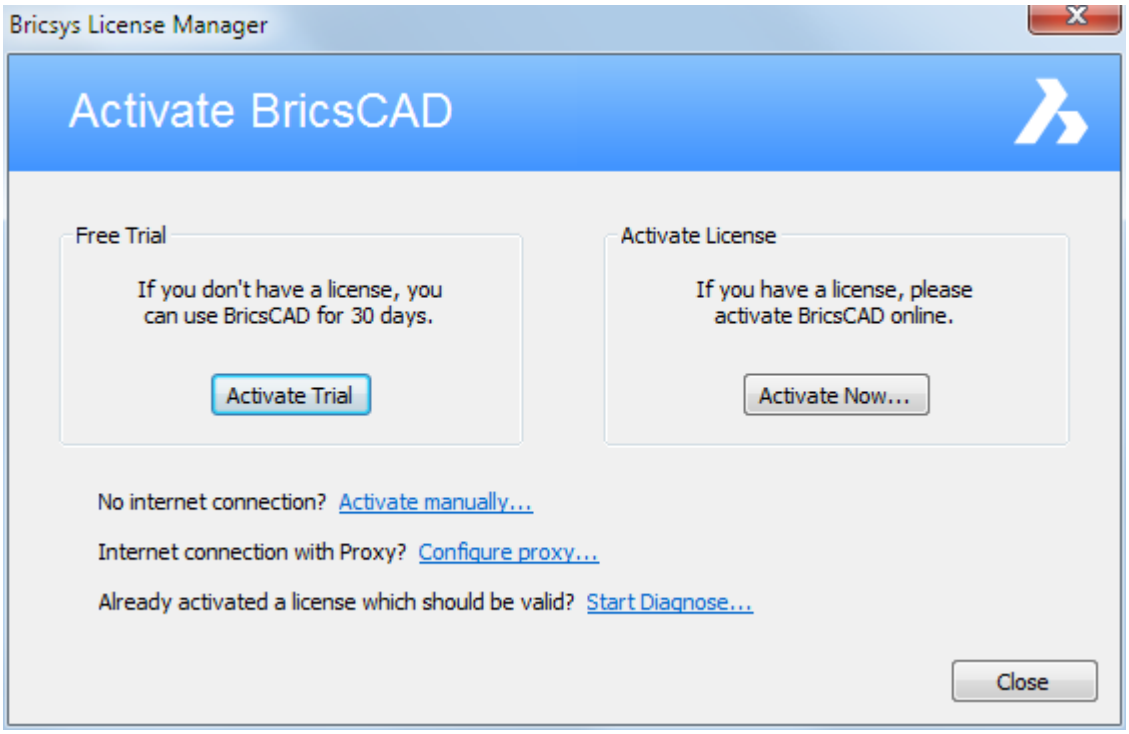
Trial Mode

BricsCAD can run in trial mode for a 30 days period. After this period, a valid commercial license needs to be activated.

To activate BricsCAD in trial mode

If your computer is not connected to the Internet, activation can be done manually via another computer (which is connected to the Internet). See Activate a trial manually.

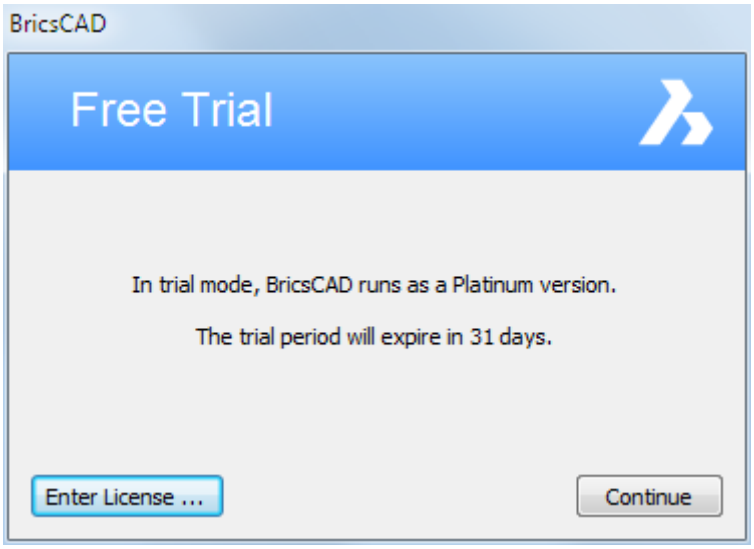
1. Launch the BricsCAD executable, e.g. double click the BricsCAD desktop icon.
   The *Bricsys License Manager* - Activate BricsCAD dialog opens.



2. If your computer connects to the Internet through a proxy server, click the *Configure proxy...* link to configure the proxy settings.
3. Click the *Activate Trial* button.

Running BricsCAD in trial mode

Each time you start BricsCAD in trial mode the BricsCAD - Free Trial dialog opens.



- Click the Continue button to open BricsCAD in trial mode.
- Click the *Enter License...* button to activate a Single or Volume license, or to use a Network license.

Feature levels

In trial mode BricsCAD runs as full Platinum version without any feature restrictions.

The RunAsLevel preference setting allows to run BricsCAD in a lower license level mode, e.g. a Platinum version can be run as a Pro or a Classic, a Pro can be run as a Classic.

This facilitates evaluation of the features available for each license level.

1. In BricsCAD, in the Settings dialog box, go to the RunAsLevel preference or, on the command line, type "RunAsLevel".
2. Enter the value for the level you want to try: 0 = Classic, 1 = Pro, 2 = Platinum (default).
3. Restart BricsCAD to apply the changes.

Related topics

Configure the proxy settings

Activate a Single or Volume license

Use a Network license

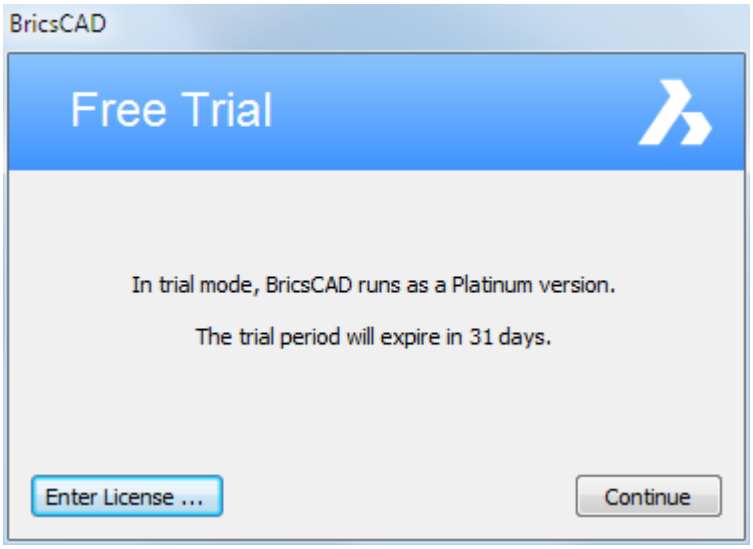
Bricsys Knowledge Base

When Starting BricsCAD in Trial mode

Use this procedure to:

- Activate a Single or Volume license.
- Use a Network license (beforehand activated on a license server).

The Free Trial dialog opens.



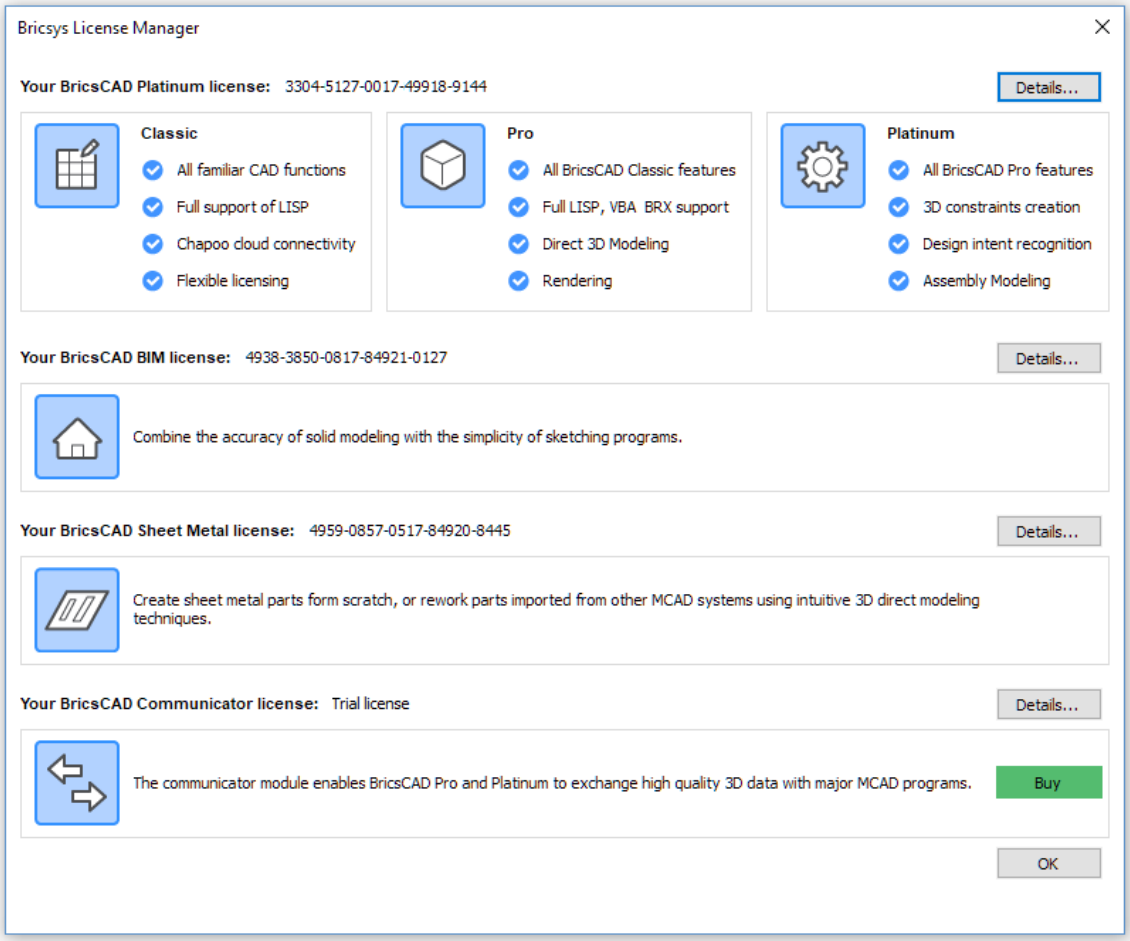
Click the Enter License... button to activate a Single or Volume license, or to use a Network license.

Replacing or Upgrading an Existing License

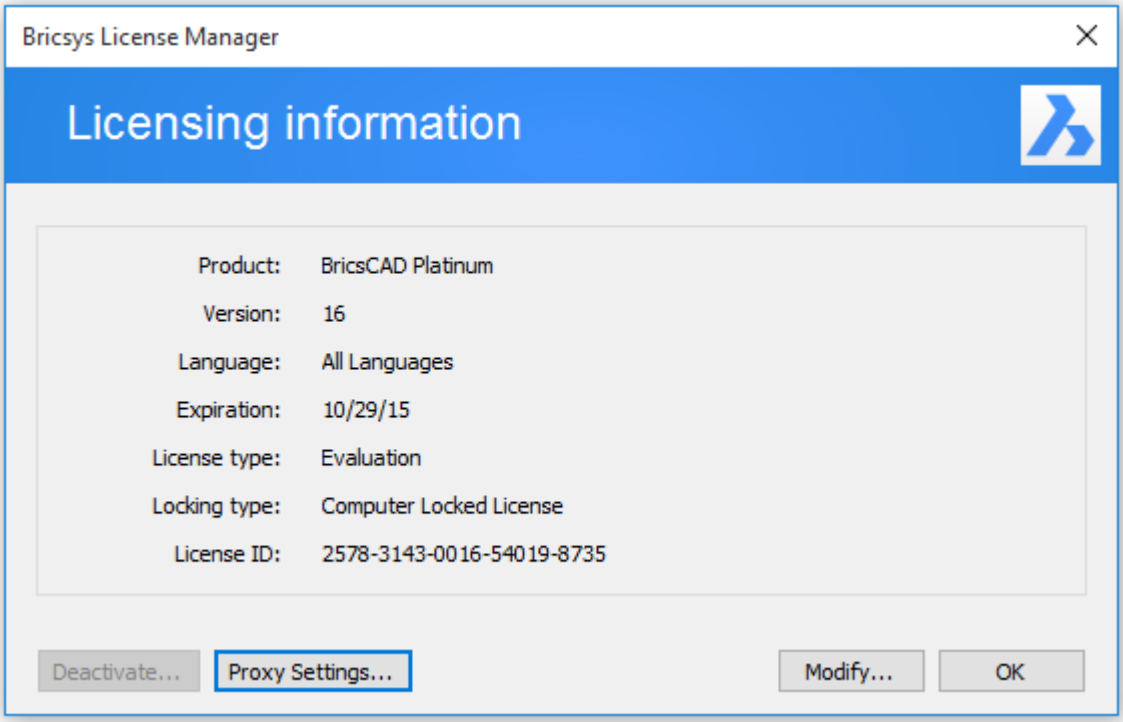
Use this procedure to:

- Activate a Single or Volume license.
- Upgrade a license (e.g. from Single Classic to Single Platinum). The old key is no longer valid then.
- Replace a license (e.g. a Single Classic by a Network Pro). The old key is deactivated automatically and is available to be activated on another computer.

1. In the *Help* menu, choose *License Manager...*. The *Bricsys License Manager* dialog opens.



2. In the *Bricsys License Manager* dialog, click the *Details...* button next to the application you want to manage the license. The *Licensing Information* dialog opens.



3. Click the *Modify...* button to activate another Single or Volume license, or to use another a Network license.

Related topics

Configure the proxy settings
Activate a trial license
Activate a trial license manually
Activate a Single or Volume license
Activate a Single or Volume license manually
Use a Network license

Manage a BricsCAD Communicator license

Bricsys Knowledge Base

By license type

Single or Volume License

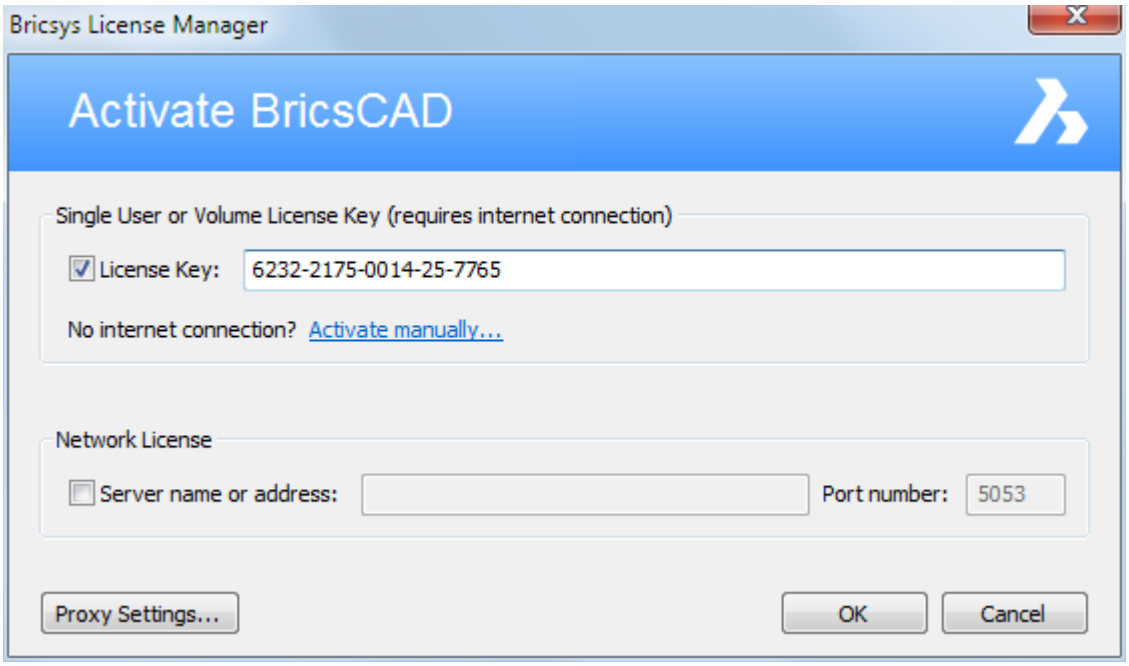
To activate a Single or Volume license

If your computer is not connected to the Internet, activation can be done manually via another computer (which is connected to the Internet). See Activate a Single or Volume license manually.

1. Do one of the following:
   - The first time BricsCAD is started - In the Activate BricsCAD dialog, click the *Activate Now...* button.
   - When starting BricsCAD in trial mode - In the Free Trial dialog, click the Enter License... button.
   - When replacing or upgrading an existing license - In the Help menu, choose BricsCAD License... . The Licensing Information dialog opens. Click the *Modify...* button.

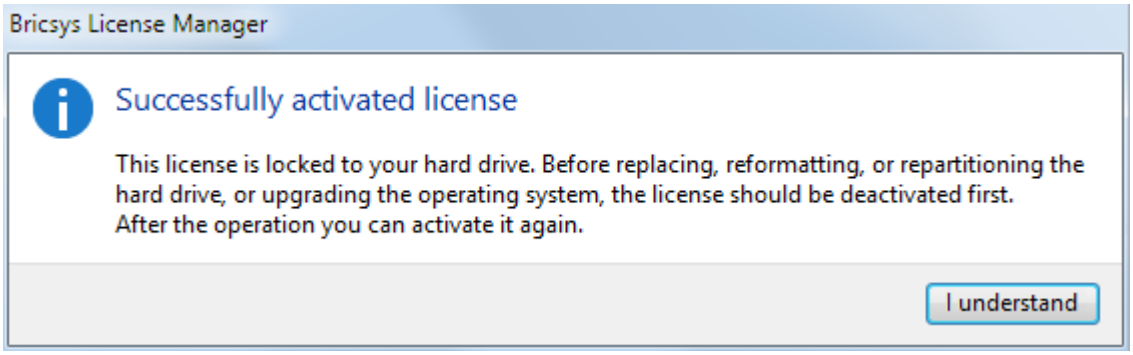
   The Activate BricsCAD dialog opens.

2. Check the *Single User or Volume License Key* option.
3. Enter or copy/paste your license key in the *License Key* field.



4. If your computer connects to the Internet through a proxy server, click the *Proxy Settings...* button to configure the proxy settings.

5. Click the *OK* button.



Related topics

Configure the proxy settings

Bricsys Knowledge Base

Network License

TUTORIALS

How to roam with a network license

Before using the following procedure, the network administrator needs first to set up a network license server. The license server must be started and the Network license must be activated on the server.

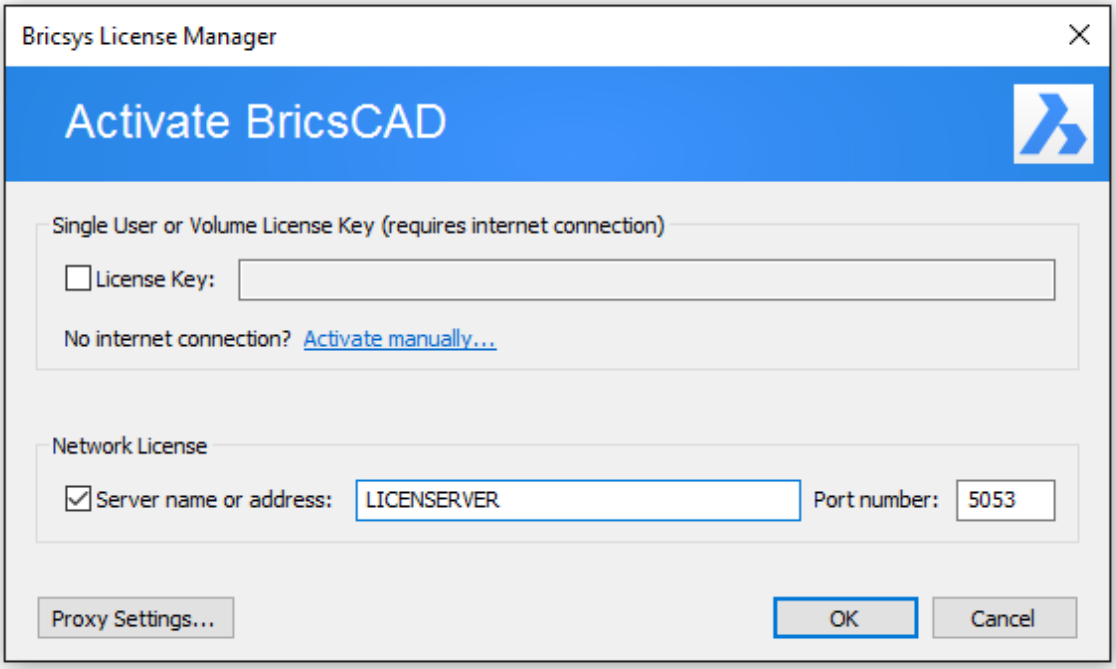
To use a network license on a client computer

Once the Network license is activated on the license server, the Network license can be used on clients computers.

1. Do one of the following:
   - The first time BricsCAD is started - In the Activate BricsCAD dialog, click the *Activate Now...* button.
   - When starting BricsCAD in trial mode - In the Free Trial dialog, click the Enter License... button.
   - When replacing or upgrading an existing license - In the Help menu, choose BricsCAD License... . The Licensing Information dialog opens. Click the *Modify...* button.

   The Activate BricsCAD dialog opens.

2. Check the *Network License* option.
3. Type the host name or IP address of the license server in the *Server name or address* field.



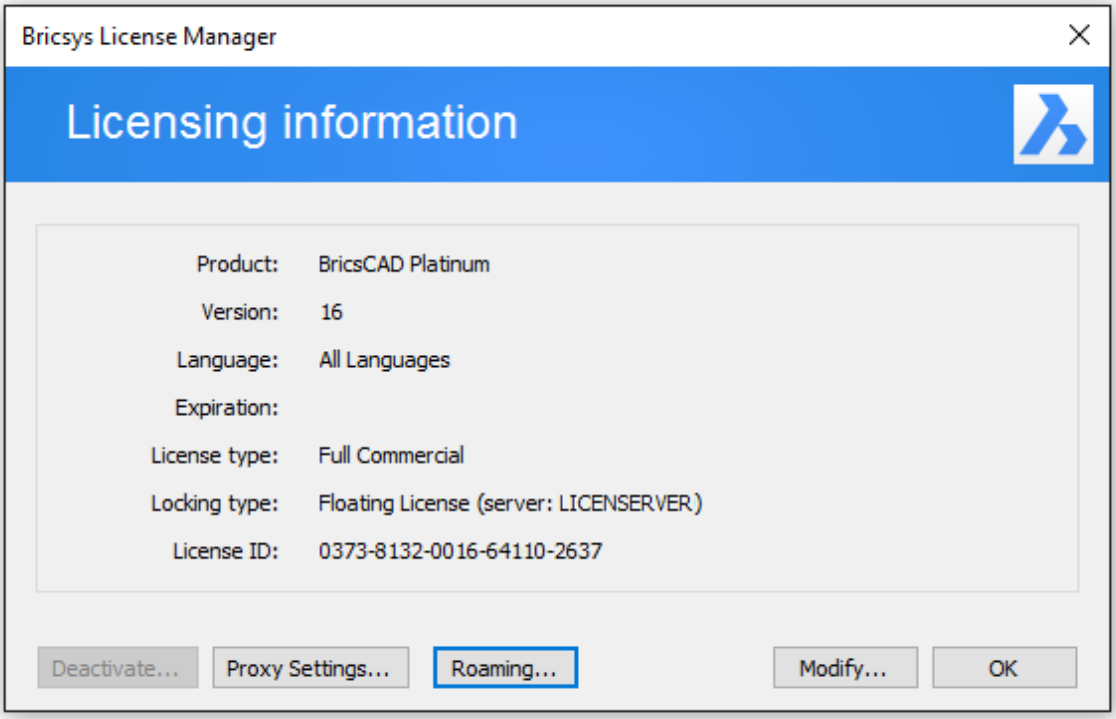
4. (Optional) Type the port number in the *Port Number* field.

5. If your computer connects to the license server through a proxy server, click the *Proxy Settings...* button to configure the proxy settings for a network license.
6. Click the *OK* button.

To roam a network license on a client computer

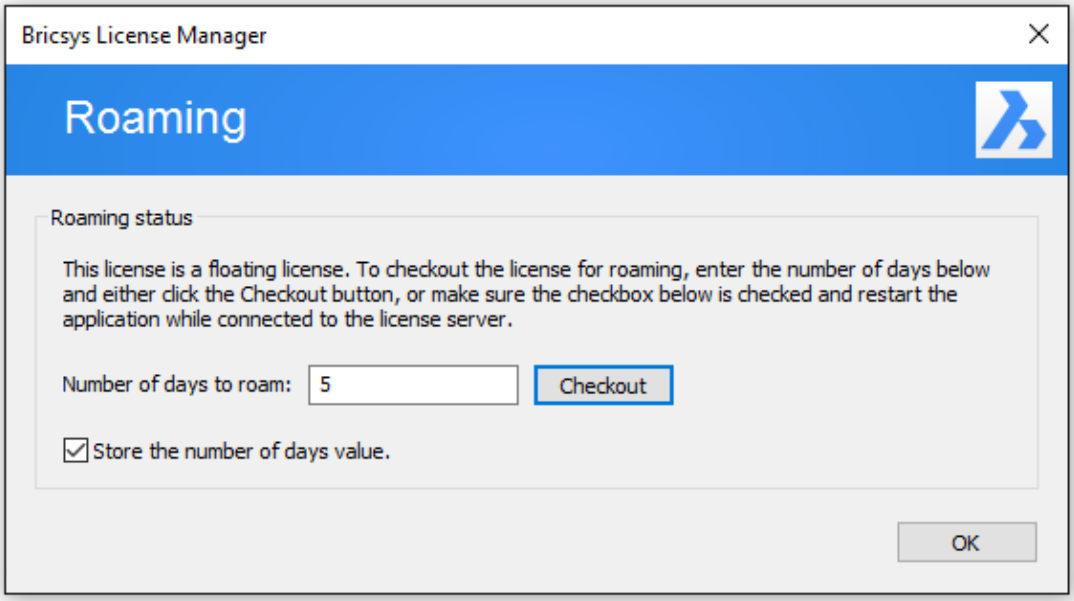
A network license can be roamed in order to use BricsCAD without connection to the license server (work outside of the office, at home, ...).

When a network license is used on the client computer, the Roaming... button is displayed in the In the Licensing Information dialog.



1. Click the Roaming... button.

   The Roaming dialog opens.

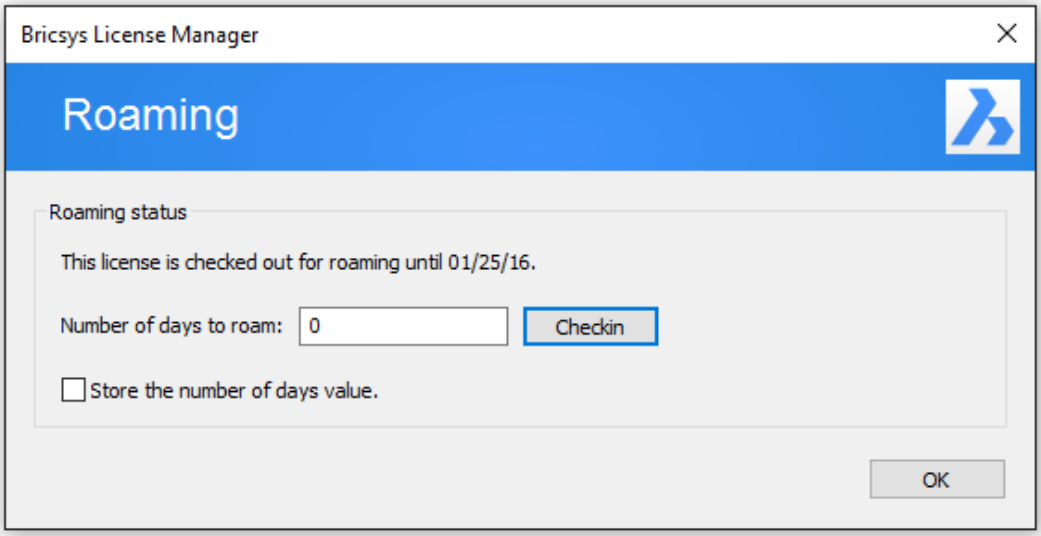


2. Enter the number of days you want to checkout the license for roaming, then click the *Checkout* button
3. (Optional) Check the check box if you want to automatically refresh the roaming period whenever your computer is connected to the server.
4. Re-start BricsCAD to apply the changes.

To return a roamed license to the server

If you are connected to the server, a roamed license can be returned to the server.

1. In the Licensing Information dialog, click the Roaming... button.
   The Roaming dialog opens.



2. Click the Checkin button
3. Re-start BricsCAD to apply the changes.

Related topics

Configure the proxy settings

Network license server setup

Roaming licenses (server side)

Bricsys Knowledge Base

Modification

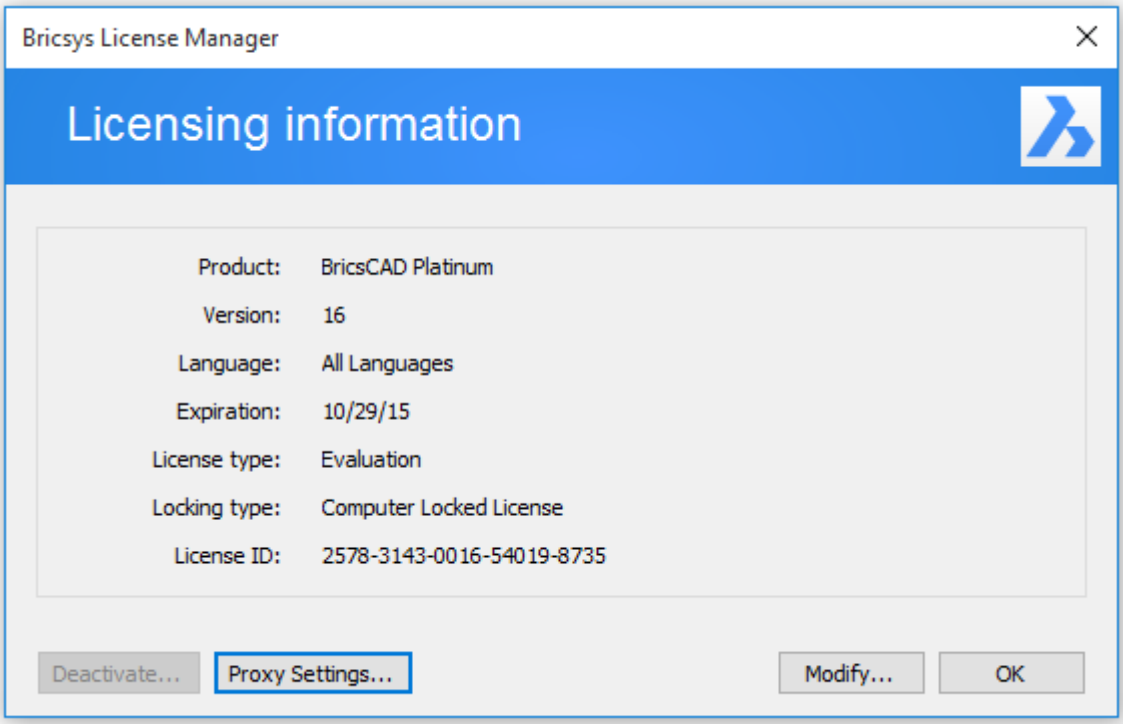
The BricsCAD license modification always requires an Internet connection.

To modify a BricsCAD license

Use this procedure to:

- Upgrade a license (e.g. from Single Classic to Single Platinum). The old key is no longer valid then.
- Replace a license (e.g. a Single Classic by a Network Pro). The old key is deactivated automatically and is available to be activated on another computer.

1. In the *Help* menu, choose *BricsCAD License...*. The *Licensing information* dialog opens.



2. Click the *Modify...* button to activate another Single or Volume license, or to use another a Network license.

Related topics

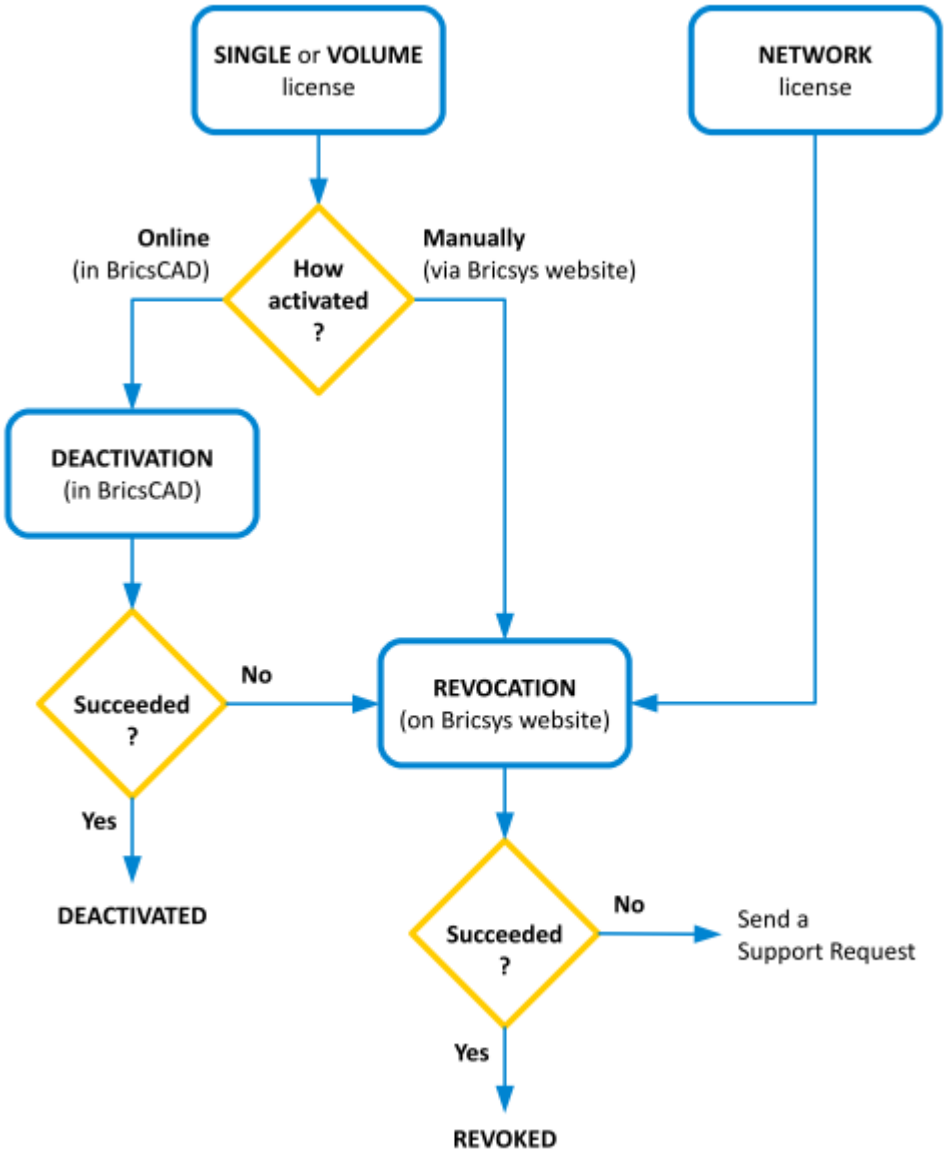
Configure the proxy settings

Deactivation

The BricsCAD license deactivation always requires an Internet connection. Licenses cannot be deactivated manually via another computer (which is connected to the Internet).

Single and Volume licenses manually activated, Network and trial licenses cannot be deactivated.

The chart below explains how a BricsCAD license can be deactivated. If the deactivation is not possible, the license can be revoked.

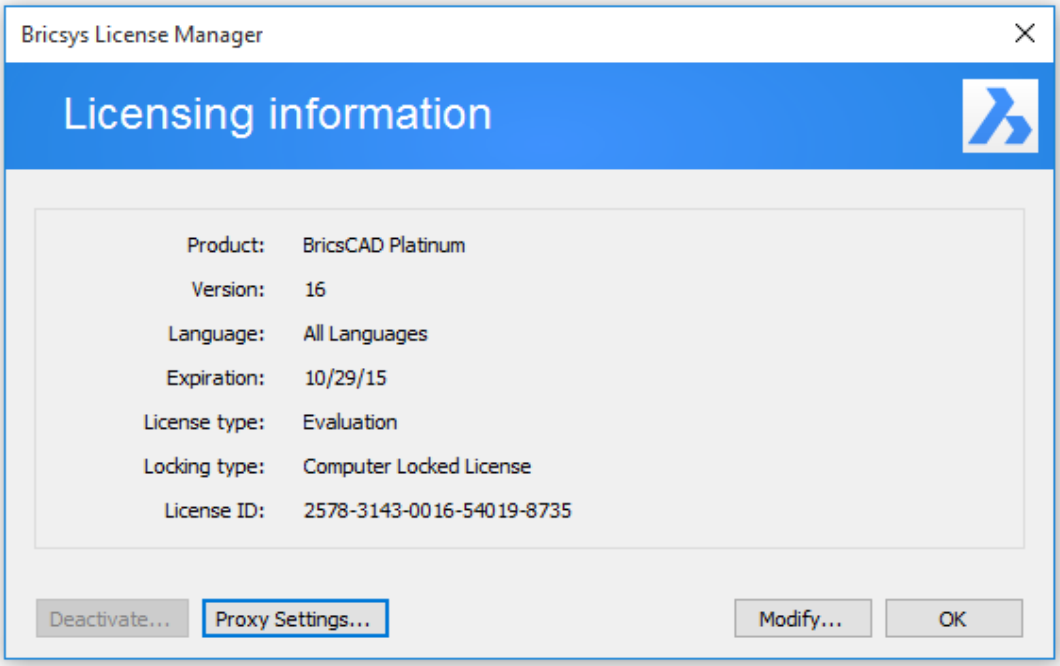


To deactivate a license

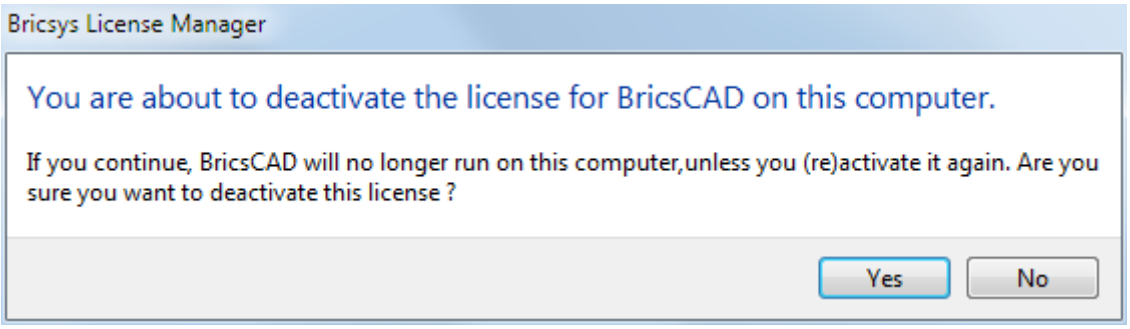
Use this procedure to:

- Migrate a license to another computer.
- Remove BricsCAD permanently from a computer.
- Be able to reactivate BricsCAD after installing a new hard disk, changing partitions or upgrading the operating system.

1. In the *Help* menu, choose *BricsCAD License...*. The *Licensing information* dialog opens.



2. If your computer connects to the Internet through a proxy server, click the *Proxy Settings...* button to configure the proxy settings.
3. Click the *Deactivate...* button.



4. Click the *Yes* button on the confirmation dialog box to deactivate the license.

   The license is deactivated now and is available to be activated on another computer.

To revoke a license

In last resort, only if deactivation is not possible.

Use this procedure to:

- Deactivate a Single or Volume license manually activated, or a Network license.
- Be able to reactivate BricsCAD after a hard disk crash.
- Be able to reactivate BricsCAD after installing a new hard disk, changing partitions or upgrading the operating system.
- Migrate a license to another computer.
- Remove BricsCAD permanently from a computer.

1. Log in to the Bricsys website.
   Make sure you log in with the Bricsys account containing your licenses.
2. Once you are logged in, click on your name in the menu above right.
   A page opens, with informations linked to your account.
3. In the left menu choose *Licenses and support contracts*.
   All your active licenses are displayed.
4. Next to the license you want to revoke, click the *Manage...* button then click the *Revoke Activation* icon ✕.

Related topics

Configure the proxy settings

Network license server

To make a Network license available in BricsCAD on client computers, a network license server from Reprise Software needs to be installed first by the network administrator.

The *Bricsys Network License Manager* is a separate program which will install the server.

After starting the network license server, it can be completely configured by using a web interface.

Just like BricsCAD needs a license file to run, the server also needs a Network license file that can be activated online or manually.

A Network license can only be activated once and it is locked to the server.

Once the Network license is activated and the server is started, it is possible to use the Network license in BricsCAD, on a client computer.

NOTE

- Reprise Software doesn't offer a network license server on Mac. However, it is possible to install a Windows or Linux network license server in order to serve licenses on Mac client computers.

Related topics

Windows network license server setup
Linux network license server setup
Server administration
Use a Network license

Bricsys Knowledge Base
RLM License Administration Manual
RLM

Windows server setup

TUTORIALS

BricsCAD License Server Setup

Install the Bricsys Network License Manager

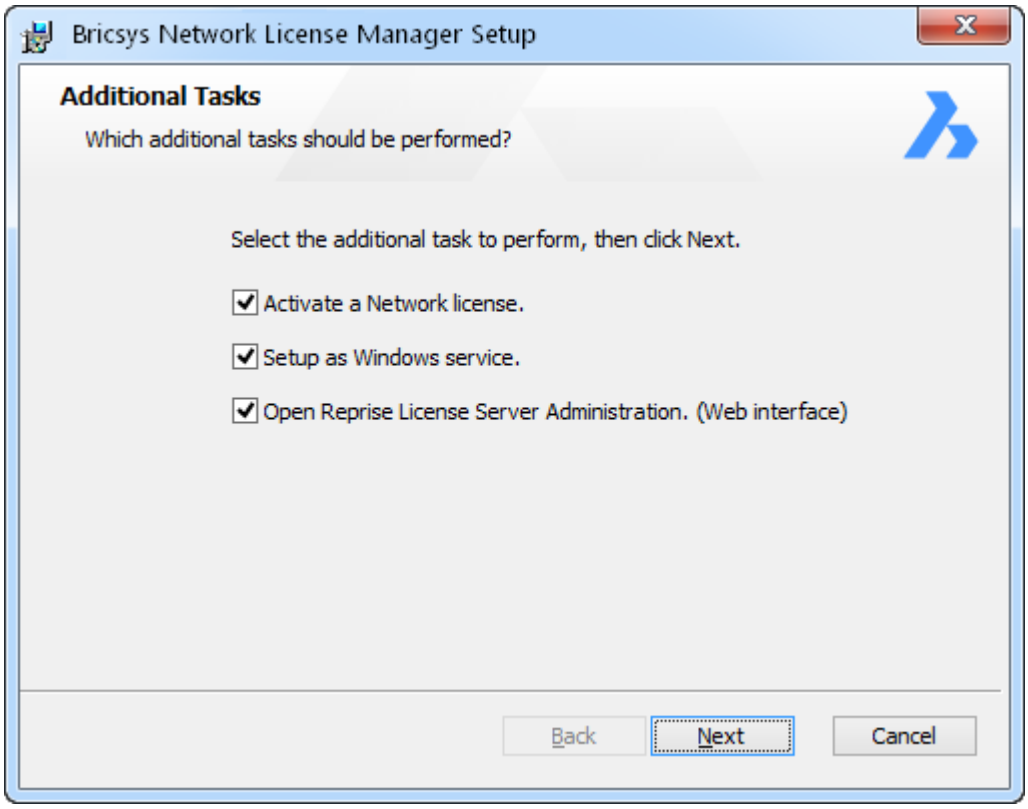
Download and install the Bricsys Network License Manager on the computer that will be used as network license server.

Download Bricsys Network License Manager (Windows)

Double-click the installation MSI file in order to proceed with the installation:

1. Accept the terms of End User License Agreement
2. Accept the Destination folder
3. Click the Install button

The Additional Tasks dialog displays 3 options. If checked, these options will be performed after the installation.



Activate a Network license

After the installation, opens the Bricsys Network License Manager, asking you to activate a Network license.

You can later open the Bricsys Network License Manager by clicking the License activation shortcut in the Start menu.

Setup as Windows service

Each time you start Windows, the license server will be automatically started as a service.

Open Reprise License Server Administration (Web interface)

After the installation, open the Reprise License Server Administration web interface where you can manage all about the network license.

You can later open the Reprise License Server Administration by clicking the License Server Administration shortcut in the Start menu.

NOTE By default, these 3 options are disabled when installing via the command line. See Installation from the command line.

New installation

In the Additional Tasks dialog, all options should be checked.

To install a new network license on an existing license server

1. In the Start menu, click the License activation shortcut to open the Bricsys License Manager.
2. In the Bricsys License Manager, enter the new network license, then click the OK button.
3. In the Start menu, click the License server administration shortcut to open the Reprise License Server Administration.
4. In the Reprise License Server Administration, click the Reread/restart servers option in the left menu.
5. Click the REREAD/RESTART button.

To upgrade the Bricsys Network License Manager

Download and install the Bricsys Network License Manager on the computer is used as network license server.

In the Additional Tasks dialog, all options should be unchecked.

The installation restarts the license server.

Installation from the command line

The Network License Manager can be installed from the command line.

By default, options Activate a Network license, Setup as Windows service and Open Reprise License Server Administration (Web interface) are disabled when installing via the command line.

To enable these options, use the respective parameters *ACTIVATELICENSE*, *INSTALLSERVICE* and OPENWEBINTERFACE.

For example, **msiexec /qb /i Bricsys-NetworkLicenseManager.msi ACTIVATELICENSE=1 INSTALLSERVICE=1** will just show the activation dialog and install as a service without showing the web interface.

NOTES

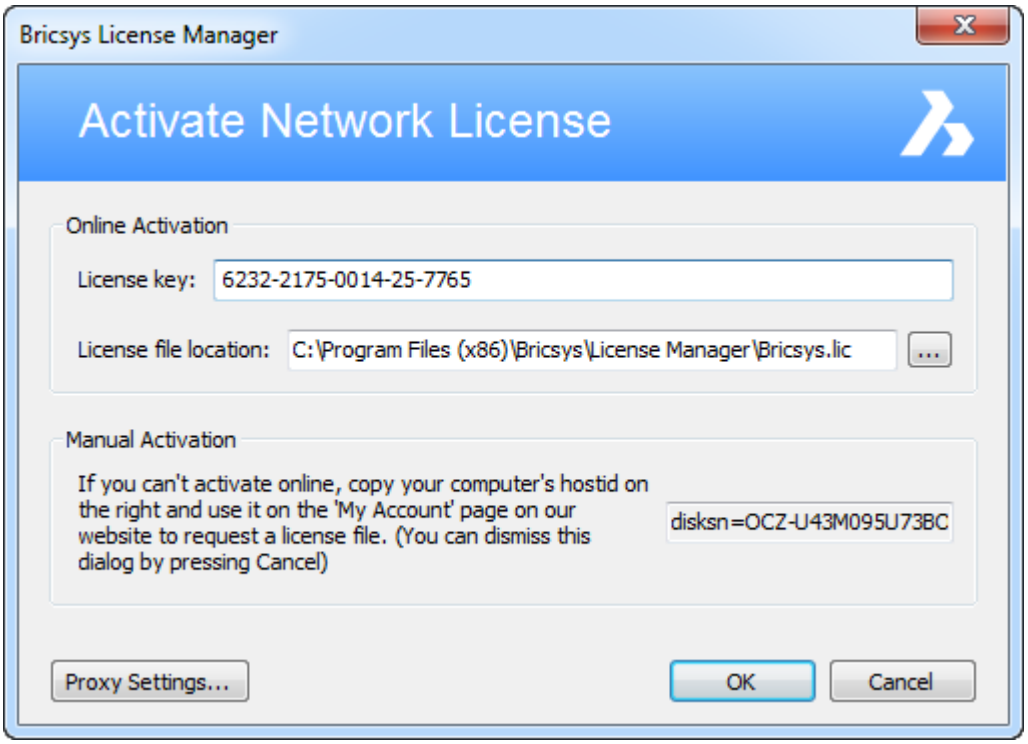
- For more options, type: *msiexec /?* at the command prompt.
- On the Microsoft website, you can find more information about the *msiexec* command.

Activate the Network license

The Network license must be activated on the license server.

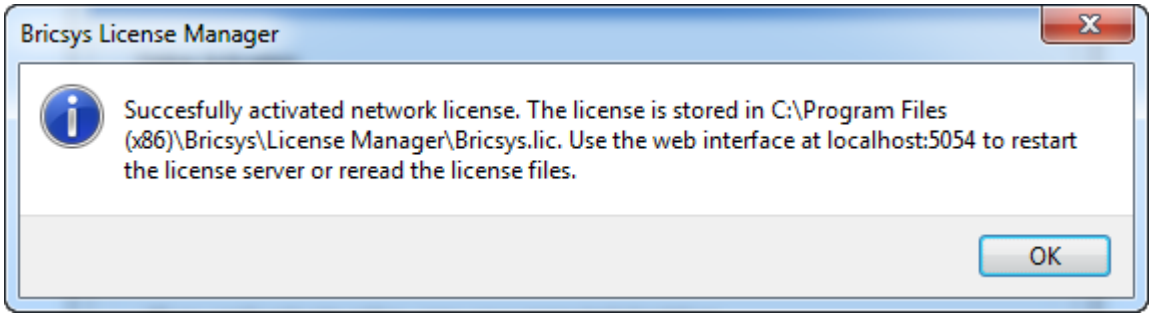
If your computer is not connected to the Internet, activation can be done manually via another computer (which is connected to the Internet). See Activate a Network license manually.

1. In the Start menu, click the License Activation shortcut. The Activate Network License dialog box opens.



2. In the License key field, enter your Network license.
3. In the License file location field, the location of the license file must be the Bricsys Network License Manager installation folder.

4. Click the OK button.



NOTE • Network licenses cannot be deactivated.

Start the Network license server

The Network license server is automatically started/restarted after the installation. However, you can start it manually if necessary.

In the Start menu, click the License Server shortcut.

The server is now started and can be now configured via the Network License Server Administration.

Once the Network license is activated and the server is started, the server is ready to serve licenses.

It is now possible to use the Network license in BricsCAD, on a client computer.

Roaming

With a Network license, you have the ability to allow a floating license to roam to a system which will subsequently be disconnected from the network. The resulting license can be used for the number of days specified when the license was set to roam, and is checked back in automatically at the end of this time. In addition, you can return the roamed license back to the license pool early if this is desired.

The license file(s) on the network license server contain(s) a parameter *max_roam_count*. This is set to the total number of seats on a network license by default.

See also Roaming on the client side.

Related topics

Configure the proxy settings
Linux Network license server setup
Server administration
Use a Network license
Roaming licenses (client side)

Bricsys Knowledge Base
RLM License Administration Manual
RLM FAQ

Linux server setup

Install the Bricsys Network License Manager

Download and install the Bricsys Network License Manager on the computer that will be used as network license server.

Download Bricsys Network License Manager (Linux)

1. Extract Bricsys-NetworkLicenseManager.tgz into any folder (command line: tar xvzf Bricsys-NetworkLicenseManager.tgz).
2. Start the application rlm in that folder (command line in that folder: ./rlm).
3. Open a browser at http://localhost:5054.
4. On that web page, click the System Info button on the left. Copy an ethernet hostid and use this to activate your license on your My Account page on the Bricsys website.
5. When you download a license file from the Bricsys website, store it in the folder where you extracted Bricsys-NetworkLicenseManager.tgz.
6. Click the Reread/Restart Servers button.
7. Click the Status button to see the server status, on the next page click the bricsys button in the table to view Bricsys licenses.
8. Click the RLM Manual... button to learn how to configure the license server in detail. Among other things, it is explained on that page how to automatically start rlm when the server boots.

Once the Network license is activated and the server is started, the server is ready to serve licenses.

It is now possible to use the Network license in BricsCAD, on a client computer.

Related topics

Configure the proxy settings
Windows Network license server setup
Server administration
Use a Network license

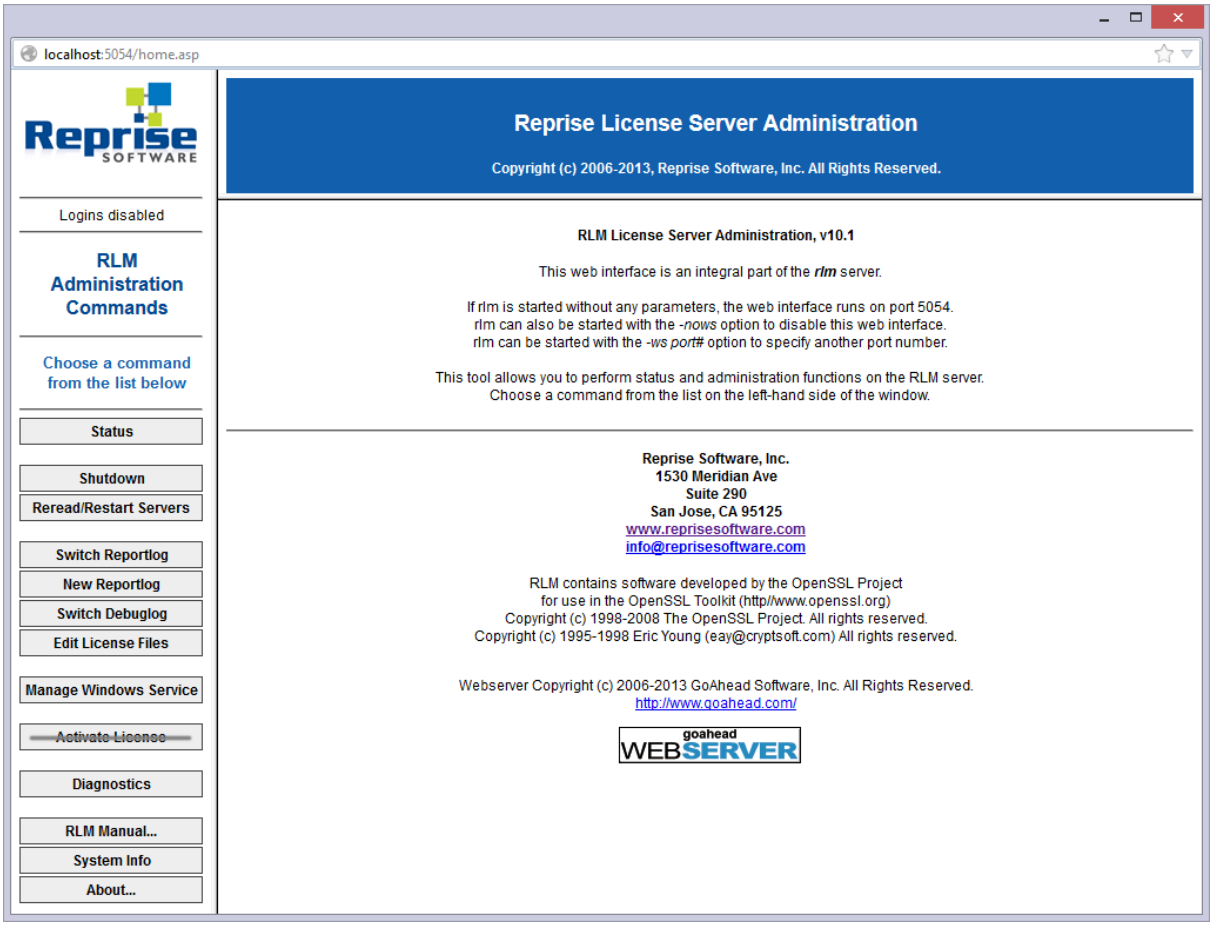
Bricsys Knowledge Base
RLM License Administration Manual
RLM FAQ

License server administration

The web interface

1. (If the network license server is not running) In the Start menu, click the License Server shortcut (on Windows Vista or higher: right-click > Run as administrator).
   A console window opens.

2. Start a web browser.
3. Go to http://localhost:5054. The Reprise License Server Administration web interface opens.



NOTES

- Do not use the Activate License button!
- To get an overview of all options, click the RLM Manual... button on the left or go to the RLM License Administration Manual.

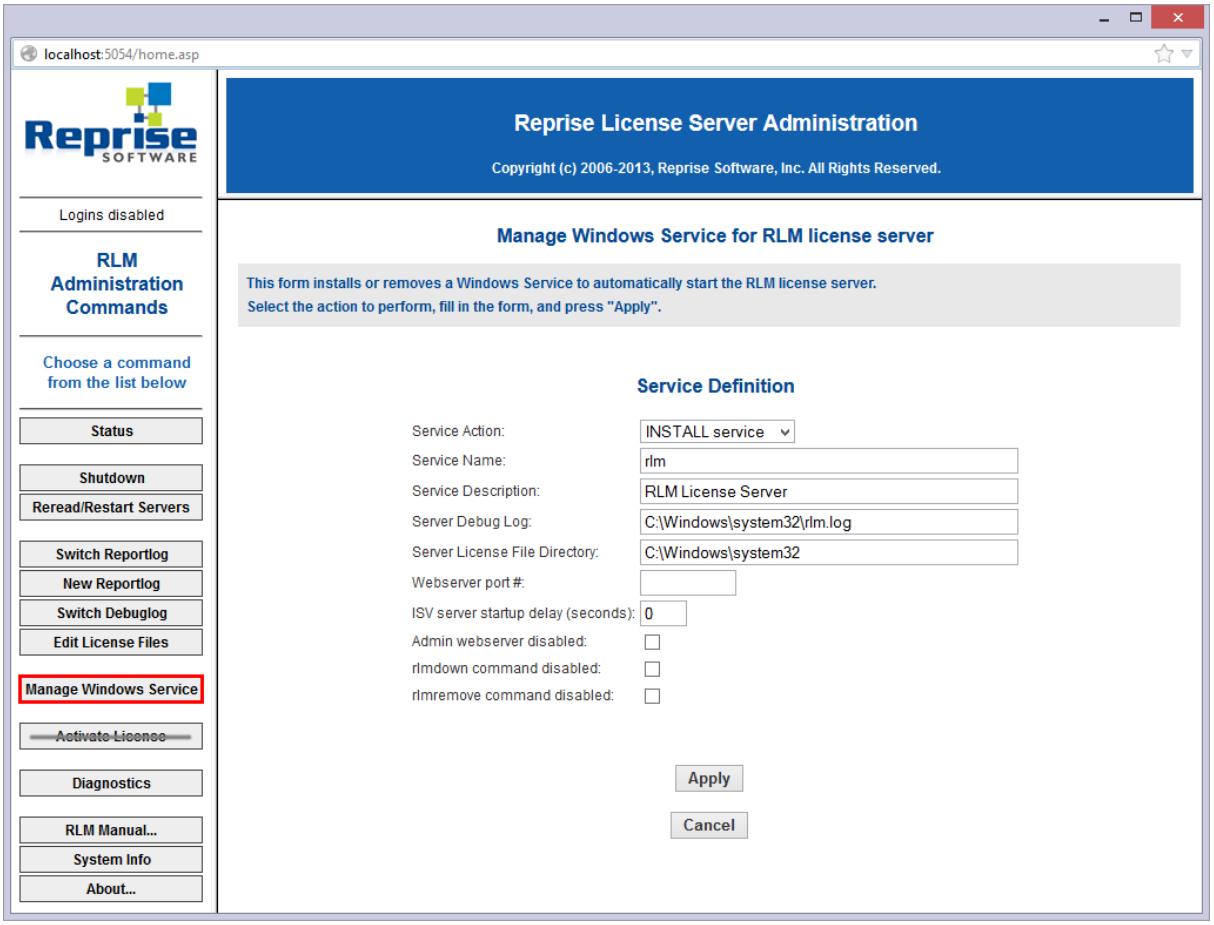
Start the server automatically

The network license server can be started automatically when booting the license server computer.

NOTES

- On Windows Vista or higher, the network license server must be started with administrator rights. Otherwise the service installation will fail.
  See Start the Network license server.
- The procedure below is for servers on Windows platform only. To automatically start a network license server on a Linux platform,
  see the RLM License Administration Manual.

1. Click the Manage Windows Service button on the left. The Manage Windows Service for RLM license server page opens.



2. Click the Apply button.

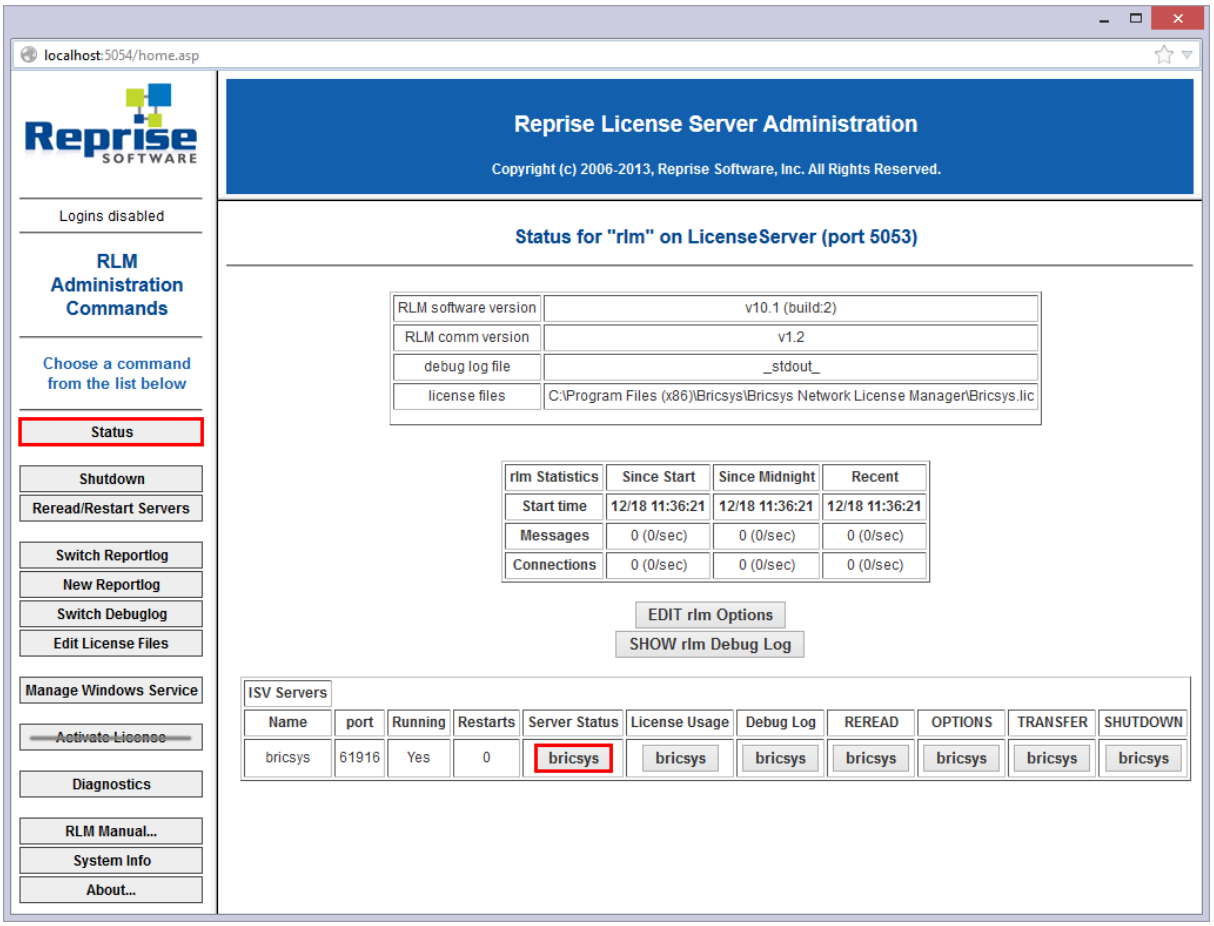
The service is now installed but not started because the server is already running.

The next time the server computer will be booted, the service will start the network license server automatically.

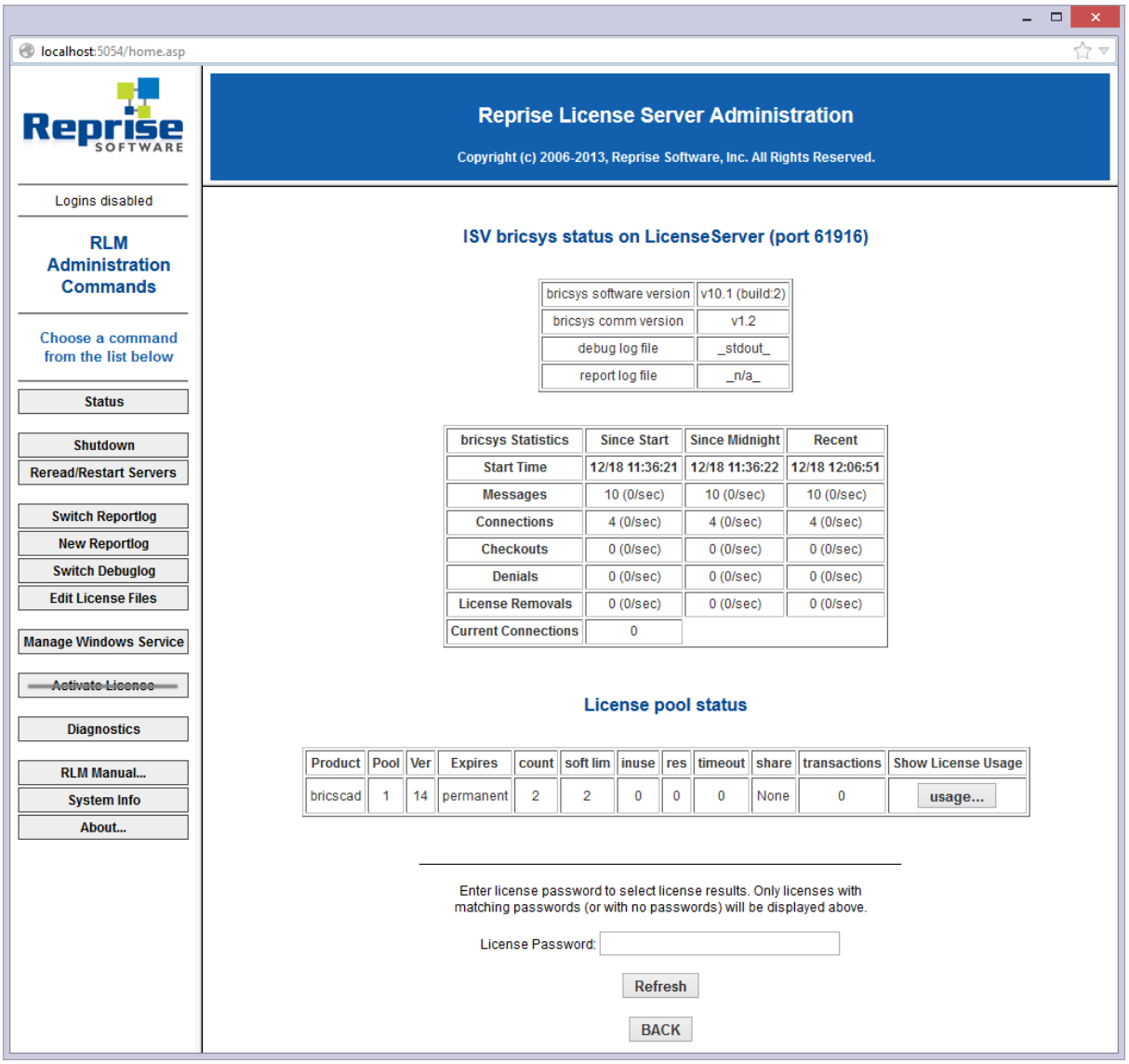
Check the license and server status

You can check the status of all network licenses and of the server.

1. Click the Status button on the left. The page Status for "rlm" on [LicenseServer] (port 5053) opens.



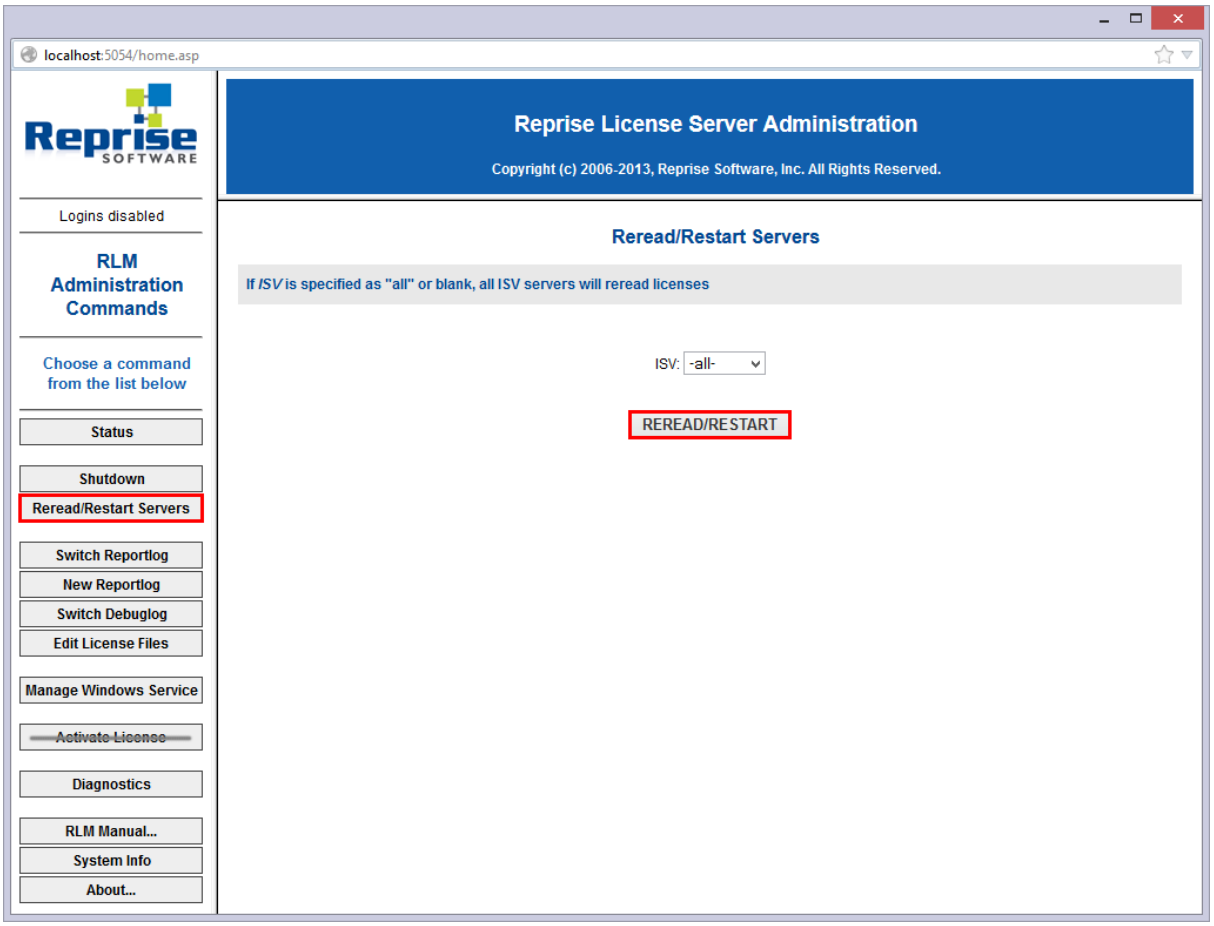
2. Click the bricsys button in the Server Status column of the ISV Servers table to view the status of the Bricsys Network license.


localhost:5054/home.asp
Reprise SOFTWARE
Logins disabled
RLM Administration Commands
Choose a command from the list below
Status
Shutdown
Reread/Restart Servers
Switch Reportlog
New Reportlog
Switch Debuglog
Edit License Files
Manage Windows Service
Activate License
Diagnostics
RLM Manual...
System Info
About...
Reprise License Server Administration
Copyright (c) 2006-2013, Reprise Software, Inc. All Rights Reserved.
ISV bricsys status on LicenseServer (port 61916)
bricsys software version v10.1 (build:2)
bricsys comm version v1.2
debug log file _stdout_
report log file _n/a_
bricsys Statistics | Since Start | Since Midnight | Recent
Start Time | 12/18 11:36:21 | 12/18 11:36:22 | 12/18 12:06:51
Messages | 10 (0/sec) | 10 (0/sec) | 10 (0/sec)
Connections | 4 (0/sec) | 4 (0/sec) | 4 (0/sec)
Checkouts | 0 (0/sec) | 0 (0/sec) | 0 (0/sec)
Denials | 0 (0/sec) | 0 (0/sec) | 0 (0/sec)
License Removals | 0 (0/sec) | 0 (0/sec) | 0 (0/sec)
Current Connections | 0
License pool status
Product | Pool | Ver | Expires | count | soft lim | inuse | res | timeout | share | transactions | Show License Usage
bricscad | 1 | 14 | permanent | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | None | 0 | usage...
Enter license password to select license results. Only licenses with matching passwords (or with no passwords) will be displayed above.
License Password:
Refresh
BACK

Reread the license / Restart the server

After activating a Network license while the server was running, you have to reread the license / restart the server.

1. Click the Reread/Restart Servers button on the left. The Reread/Restart Servers page opens.



2. Click the Reread/Restart Servers button. The server restarts and rereads the Network license.

Related topics

Configure the proxy settings
Windows network license server setup
Linux network license server setup
Use a Network license

Bricsys Knowledge Base
RLM License Administration Manual
RLM FAQ

Advanced configurations

Antivirus

If a antivirus software is running on the server and blocking the License Server program (rlm.exe on Windows, rlm on Linux/Mac), the RLM service needs be unblocked in the antivirus.

See your antivirus configuration on how to unblock services.

Firewall

If a firewall is installed between the server and BricsCAD, two port numbers need to be opened in the firewall: the port number 5053 and the port number assigned to the Bricsys license server

This port number is dynamically assigned when the License Server starts. To open this port in the firewall, it must be first set in the Bricsys.lic file on the server.

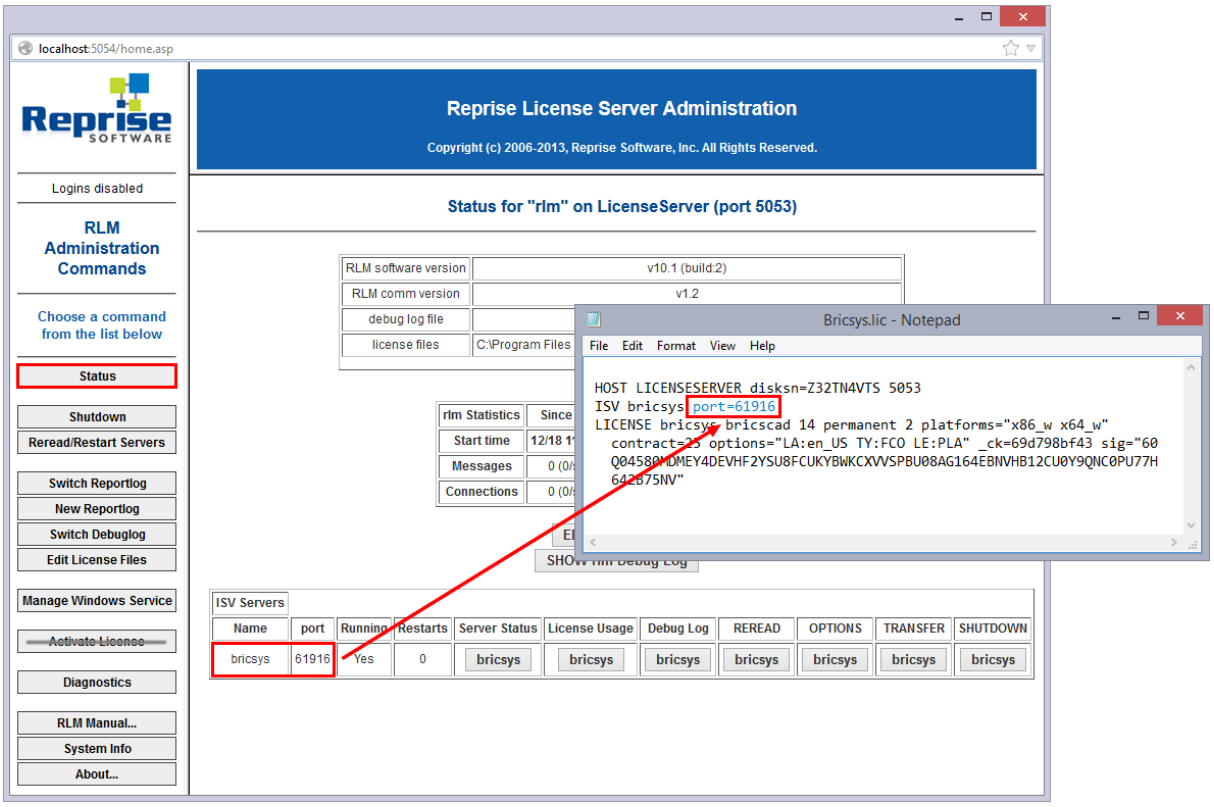
Proceed as follows:

1. Open the License Server Administration web interface at http://localhost:5054.
2. Click the Status button on the left. The page Status for "rlm" on [LicenseServer] (port 5053) opens.
3. In the ISV Servers table, look at the bricsys row. The port number is displayed in the second column. Copy this port number.
4. Open the Bricsys.lic file in a text editor (Notepad, Gedit, ...). The default location of the file is C:\Program Files (x86)\Bricsys\Bricsys Network License Manager.

   You can fix the port number by modifying the line ISV bricsys into:

   ISV bricsys port=[port number]

   where [port number] must be replaced by port number copied from the ISV Servers table.



5. In the firewall, open both numbers 5053 and the port number you added in the Bricsys.lic file.
6. Shut down and restart the License Server program.

NOTE If this does not solve it, add the License Server program (rlm.exe on Windows, rlm on Linux/Mac) as an exception onto the firewall exceptions, then restart the License Server again.

Proxy

If a proxy server exists between BricsCAD and the License Server, proxy settings should be configured in BricsCAD.

See how to configure the proxy settings permanently for Network License use.

Related topics

Configure the proxy settings
Network license server setup
Bricsys Knowledge Base

Addenda

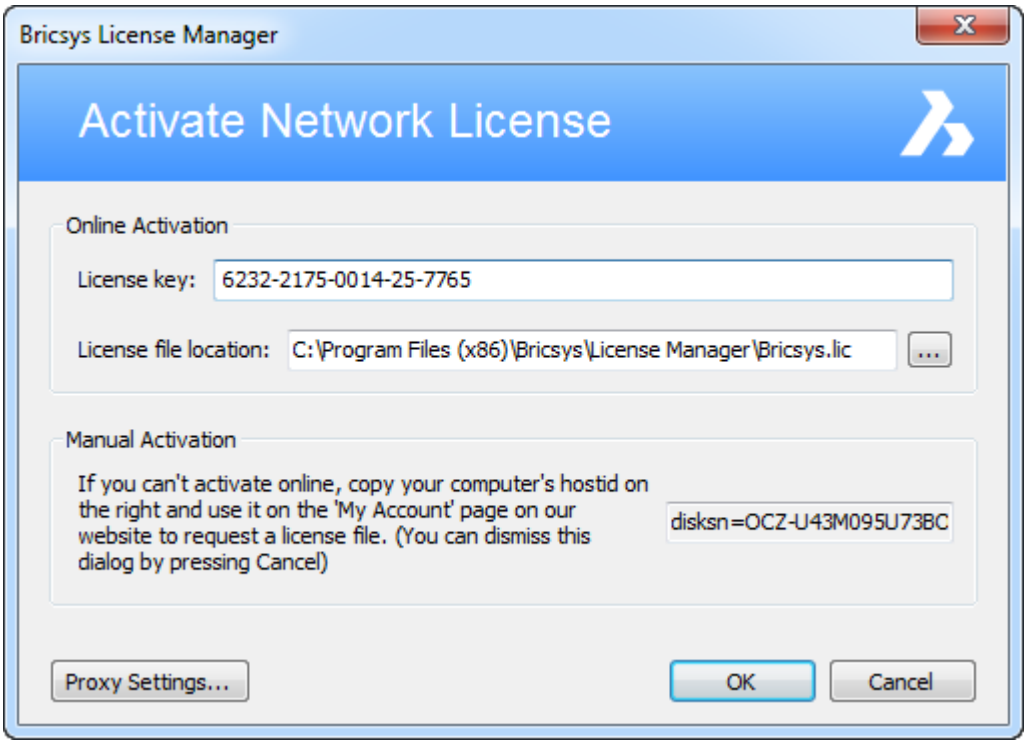
Network license manual activation

The BricsCAD license activation always requires an Internet connection.

However, if your computer is not connected to the Internet, the license can be activated manually via another computer (which is connected to the Internet).

To activate a Network license manually

1. In the Start menu, click the *License Activation* shortcut. The Activate Network License dialog box opens.



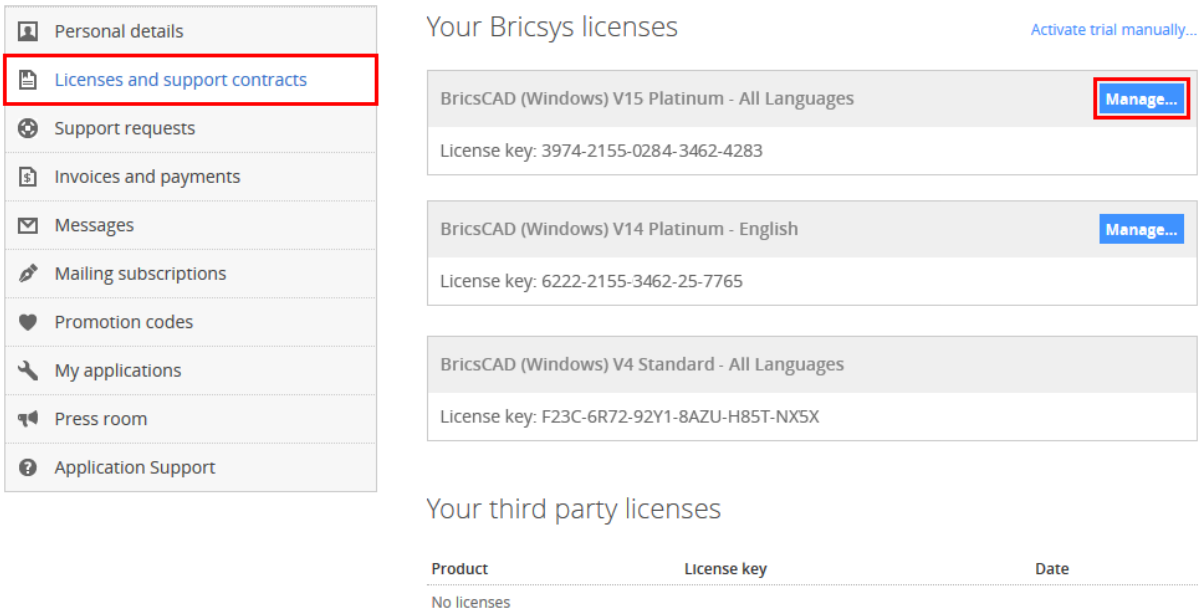
2. Copy the full content of the Computer Hostid field.

3. With the Internet connected computer, go to the Bricsys website.

4. In the Support menu, choose My Account (login required).
   Make sure you have the Bricsys account of your company which contains the Volume license. Contact your Bricsys account manager if needed.

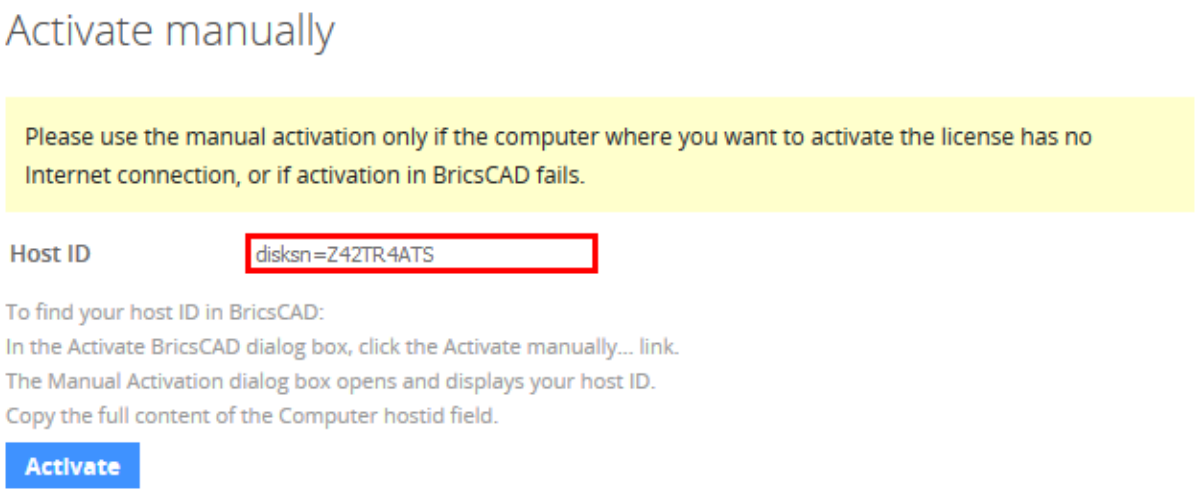
   The *My Account* page opens.

5. In the left menu, choose *Licenses and support contracts*.



6. Click the Activate button of the license you want to activate.

7. In the Host ID field, paste the computer host ID of the computer you want to install BricsCAD on.



8. In the *Host ID* field, paste the computer host ID of the computer you want to install BricsCAD on.

9. Click the *Activate* button.
   A license file is generated and made available for download.
10. Click the *Download License File* button.
    The license file *BricsCAD.lic* is downloaded to your default download folder.

11. Copy the license file to the server, in the Bricsys Network License Manager installation folder (by default : *C:\Program Files (x86)\Bricsys\Bricsys Network License Manager*).

NOTE Manually activated licenses cannot be deactivated.

Single or Volume manual activation

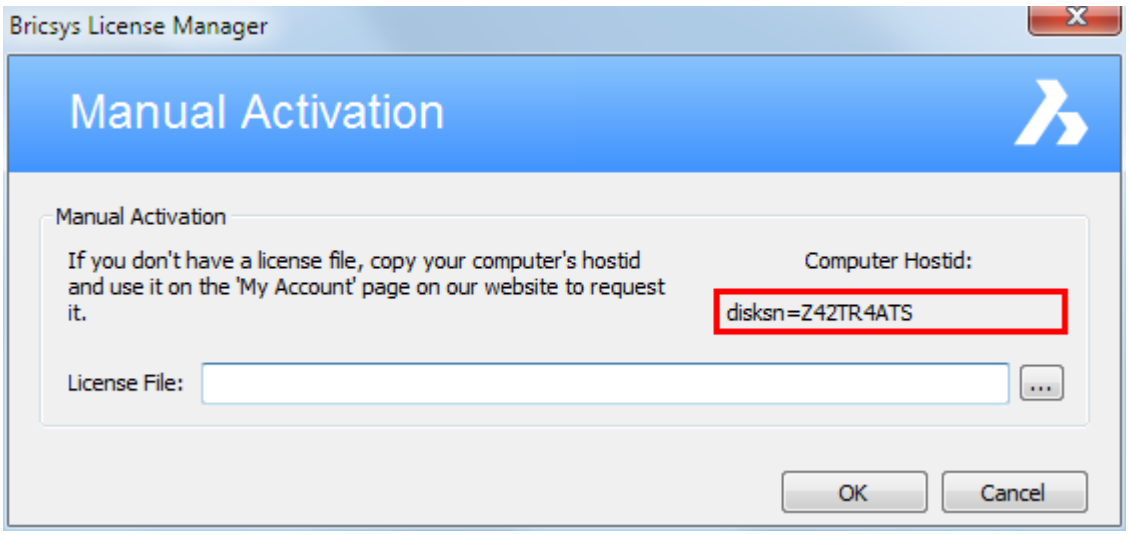
The BricsCAD license activation always requires an Internet connection.

However, if your computer is not connected to the Internet, the license can be activated manually via another computer (which is connected to the Internet).

To activate a Single or Volume license manually

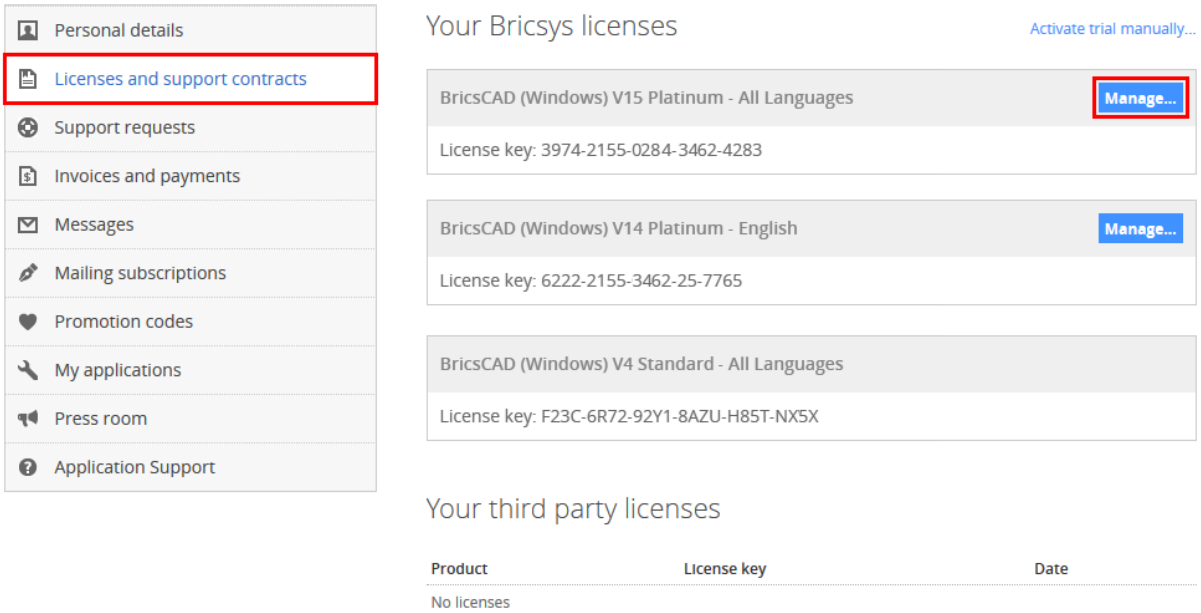
1. Do one of the following:
   - The first time BricsCAD is started - Go to next step.
   - When starting BricsCAD in trial mode - In the Free Trial dialog, click the Enter License... button.
   - When replacing or upgrading an existing license - In the Help menu, choose BricsCAD License... . The Licensing Information dialog box opens. Click the *Modify...* button.
2. The Activate BricsCAD dialog box opens. Click the *Activate Manually...* link.

   The Manual Activation dialog box opens.

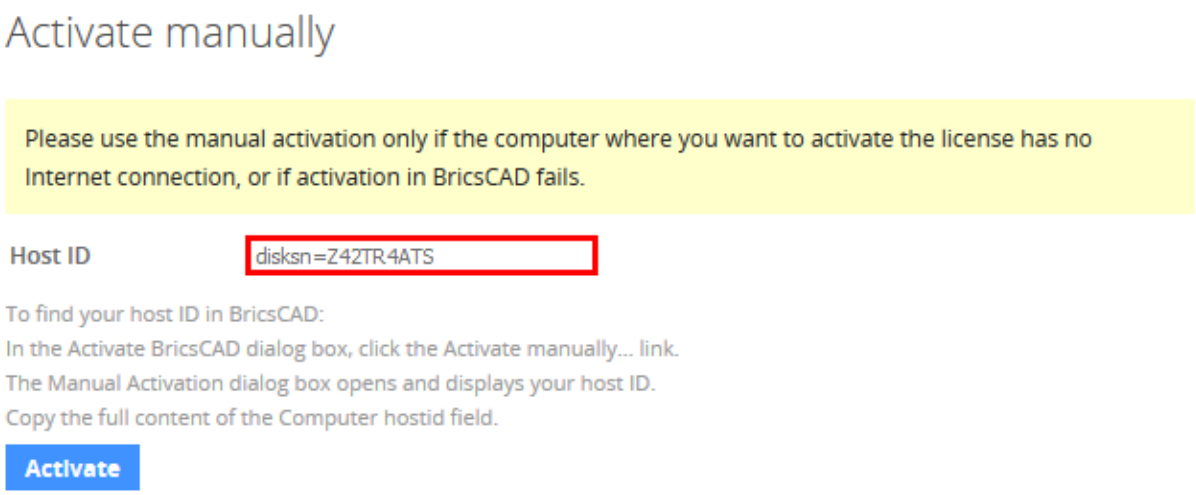


2. Copy the full content of the Computer Hostid field.
3. With the Internet connected computer, log in to the Bricsys website.
   Make sure you log in with the Bricsys account containing your licenses.
4. Once you are logged in, click on your name in the menu above right.
   A page opens, with informations linked to your account.

5. In the left menu choose *Licenses and support contracts*.



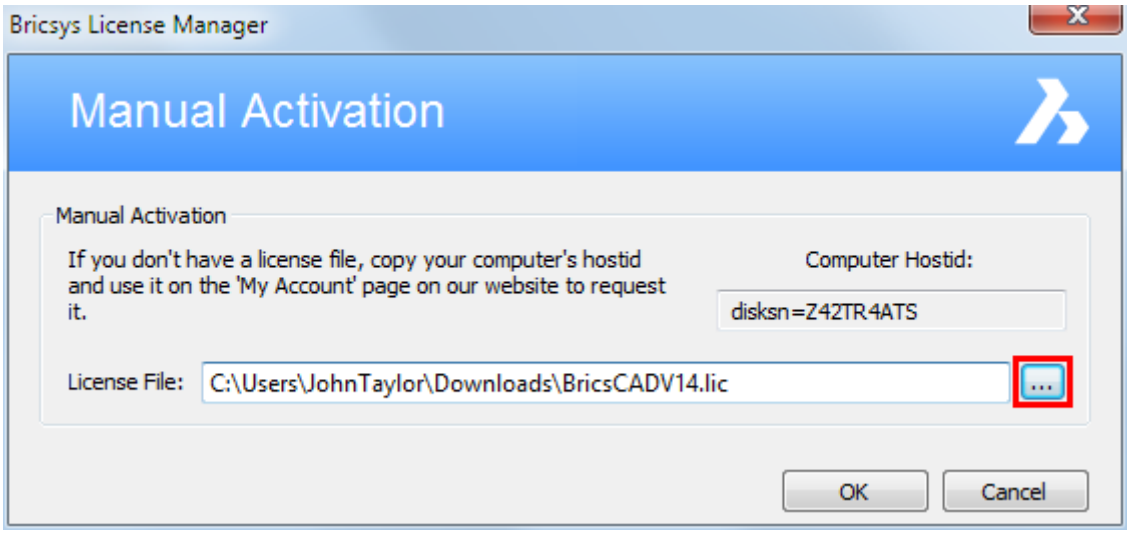
7. Click the Manage... button of the license you want to activate.
8. In the *Host ID* field, paste the computer host ID of the computer you want to install BricsCAD on.



9. Click the *Activate* button.

A license file is generated and made available for download.

10. Click the *Download License File* button.
    The license file *BricsCADVxx.lic* is downloaded to your default download folder.
11. Copy the license file to the computer you want to install BricsCAD on.
12. In the *Manual Activation* dialog box, click the browse button (...).
    Open the folder where you copied the *BricsCADVxx.lic* license file to and select the file.



13. Click the OK button. BricsCAD is launched.

NOTE Manually activated licenses cannot be deactivated.

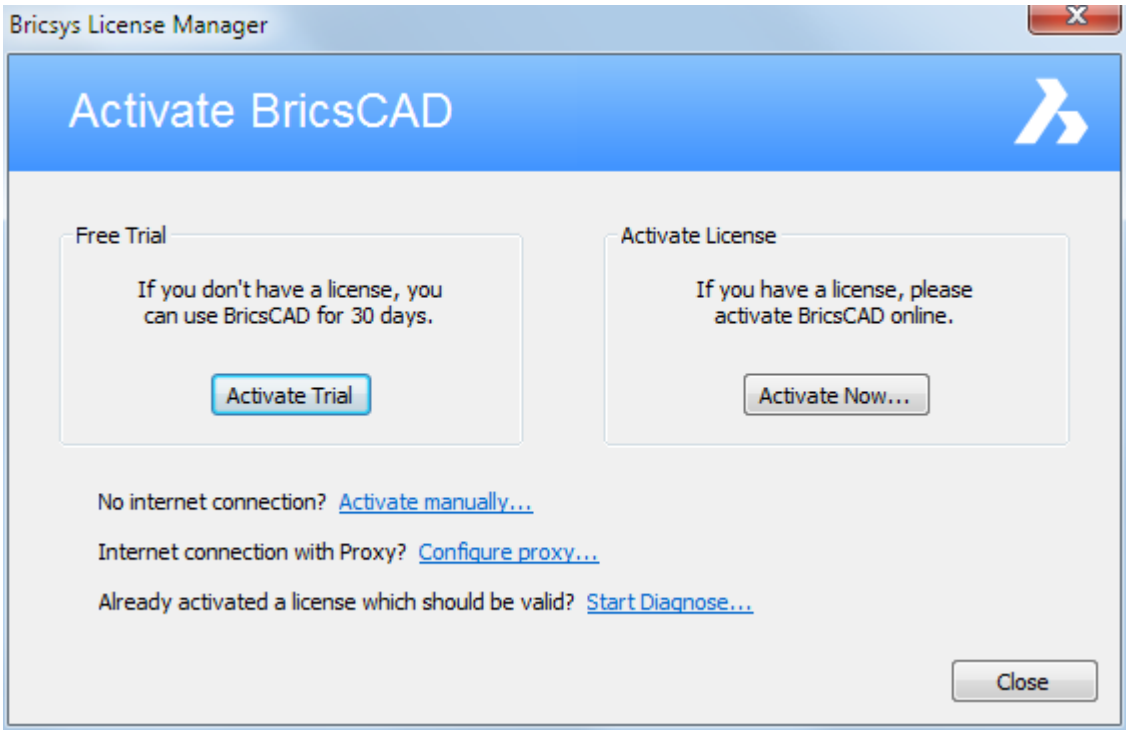
Trial manual activation

The BricsCAD activation always requires an Internet connection.

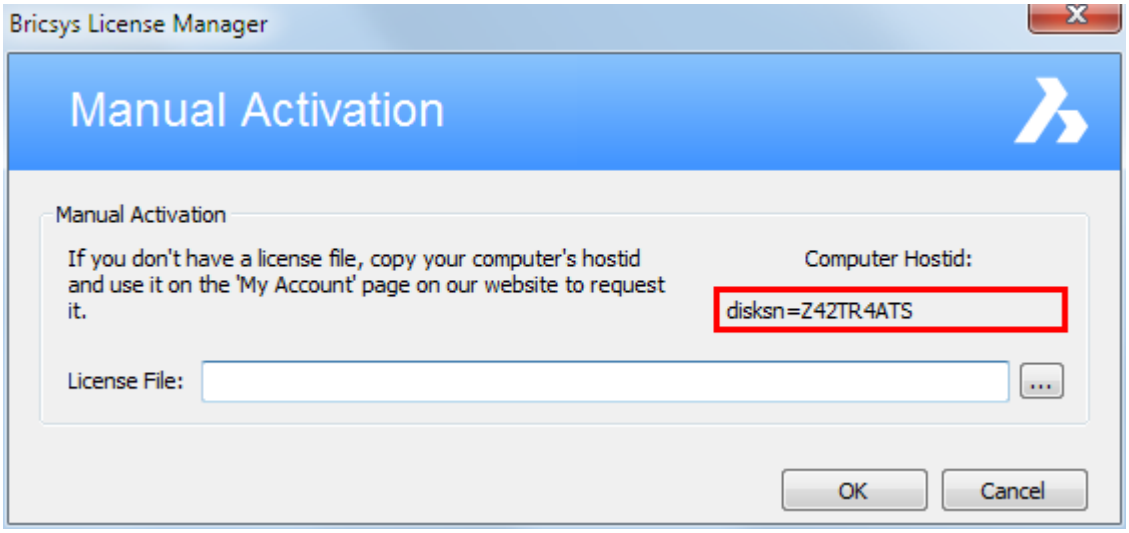
However, if your computer is not connected to the Internet, activation can be done manually via another computer (which is connected to the Internet).

To activate a trial manually

1. Launch BricsCAD.
2. In the Activate BricsCAD dialog box, click the Activate Manually... link.



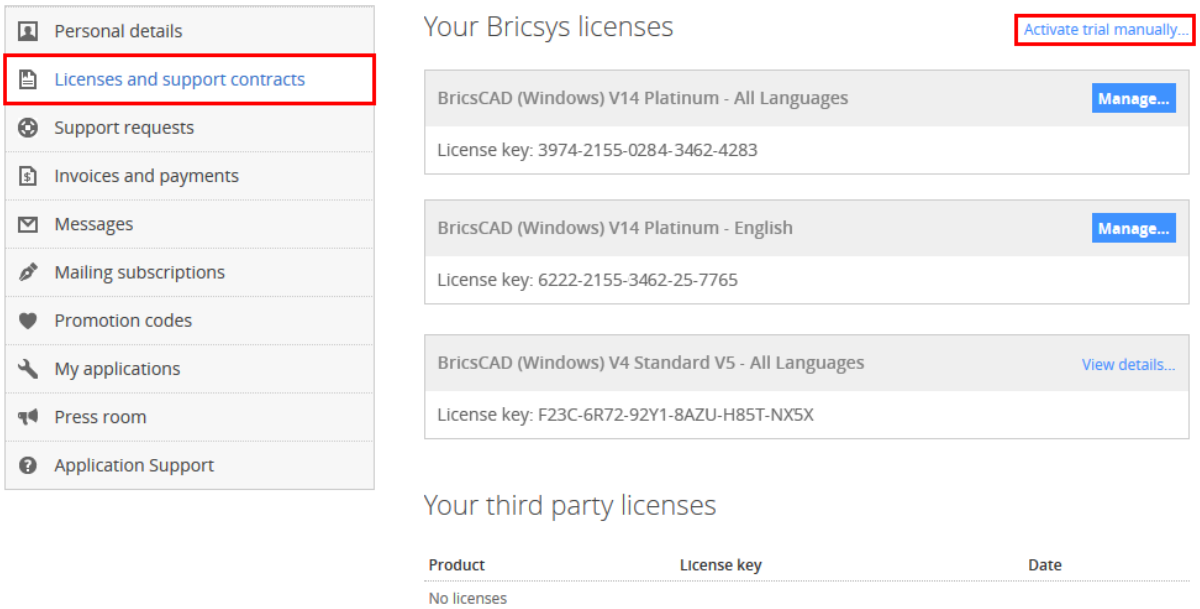
The Manual Activation dialog box opens.



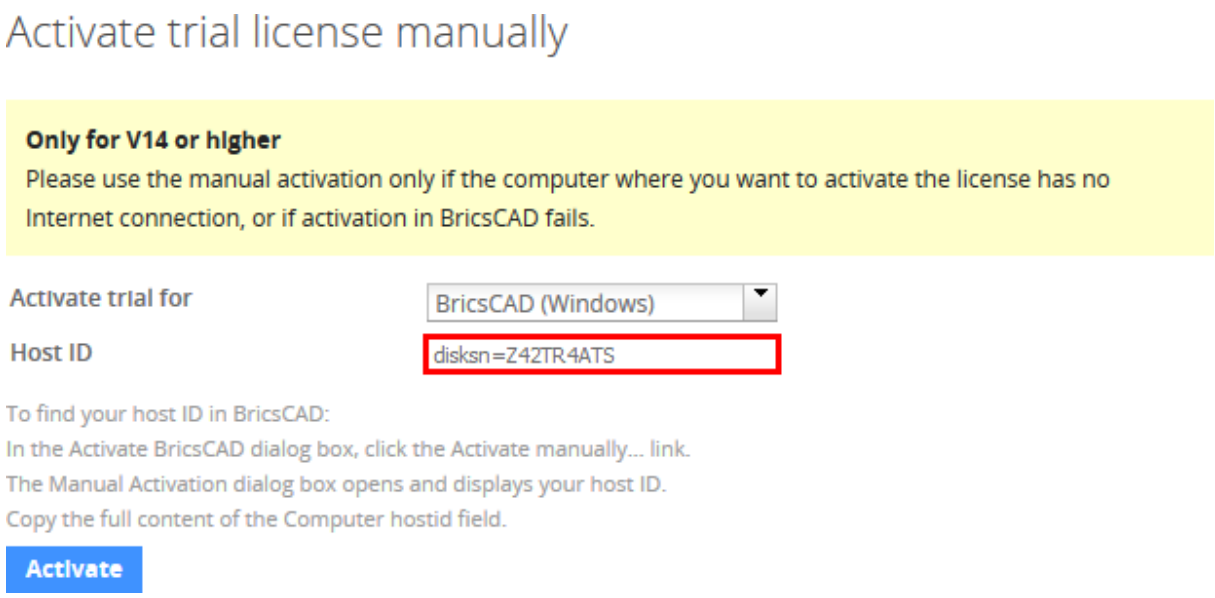
3. Copy the full content of the Computer Hostid field.

4. With the Internet connected computer, go the Bricsys website.
5. In the Support menu, choose My Account (login required).

   The My Account page opens.
6. In the left menu, choose *Licenses and support contracts*.

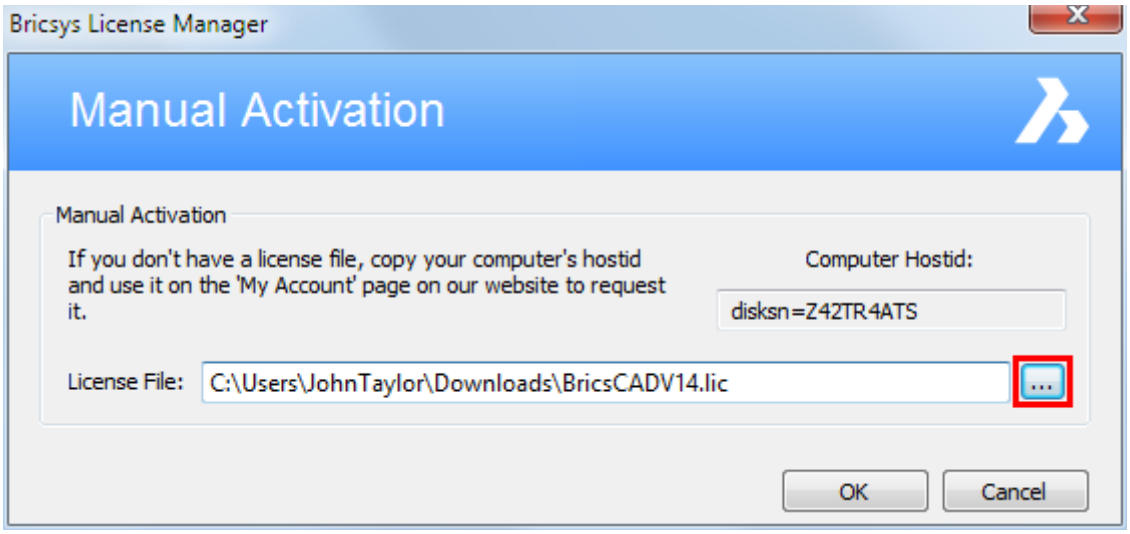


7. Click on *Activate trial license manually...*



8. In the *Host ID* field, paste the computer host ID of the computer you want to install BricsCAD on.
9. Click the *Activate* button.
   A license file is generated and made available for download.
10. Click the *Download License File* button.
    The license file *BricsCADV14.lic* is downloaded to your default download folder.
11. Copy the license file to the computer you want to install BricsCAD on.

12. In the *Manual Activation* dialog box, click the browse button (...).
    Open the folder where you copied the *BricsCADV14.lic* license file to and select the file.



13. Click the OK button.
14. In the Free Trial dialog box, click the *Continue* button. BricsCAD is launched.

Developer Reference

The *Developer Reference* is only available online on the Bricsys website.

Open the Developer Reference.