

EMA Technical Support

Locking Methods

Network License

A network license (also known as a "floating" license) allows you to use the software on any computer on your network. Multiple licenses allow multiple concurrent users on your network.

You can also configure your license to limit access to specific users, or to a specific computer or computers.

Network licensing used by a single user

While it's true that network licensing allows licenses to be shared across a network, many Cadence and OrCAD customers have a single license dedicated to a single user, and their machine is often not on a network. The network licensing used for Cadence and OrCAD can work in this capacity as well.

Single machine installation

Network licensing works by installing the license server software on a central machine, and then installing the Cadence or OrCAD software on other machines. The software is secure because the license file is locked to the license server by its MAC address. The Cadence or OrCAD software then requests licenses from the license server upon invocation. For a single machine, the simplest installation is to install both the license server software and the Cadence or OrCAD software on one machine. Then the Cadence or OrCAD software can be run whether the machine is on a network or not. This is a common way to install on laptops.

Multi-machine, single user

Sometimes customers want to take their work home to work on a home computer. For this to work, the network license software cannot be tied to a MAC address. The solution to this problem is to tie the network license software to a USB dongle. With this solution, a user can install both the license server software and the Cadence or OrCAD software on multiple machines. Now by moving the dongle from machine to machine, the user can run the software anywhere necessary. It's as if the software is on the dongle.

Network licenses can be locked to a Host ID or a FlexID key:

Host ID: The software checks for a unique ID supplied by a network interface card (NIC) on your network. This can be any NIC on your network, preferably on a computer that is always on (such as a server). If you choose to use this locking method, you need to supply the host ID in order to complete your order.

To determine your host ID:

1. Log on to the computer you want to use as the license manager.
2. Click on Start, then click on Run, then enter `CMD` and click OK.
3. In the command window that pops up enter `ipconfig /all`
4. The number you need is identified as "Physical Address". It is 12-digits long with alphanumeric characters.
Example: 00-06-25-B9-81-E6

FlexID key: The FlexID key, sometime called a "dongle" is a device that attaches to your computer's USB port. The FlexID key works the same way as the Host ID described above, but the unique ID is provided by the FlexID key instead of a network interface card.

The advantage of the FlexID key is that it is more portable than the Host ID. The Flex ID key can be moved easily from computer to computer.

Solaris and Linux

Networking licensing is also available for Solaris and Linux. Contact either your EMA Sales Representative or EMA Tech Support for assistance on these locking methods.