

Introduction

With the move from Autodesk Suites to Collections, many customers have been inquiring as to the best way to administer their new multi-user software. Fortunately, there are just minor updates required to keep Autodesk software up and running when transitioning to the new license model or deploying new versions of the software.

In this document you'll find a glossary that defines the new Autodesk licensing terminology, and a series of frequently asked questions (FAQ) regarding the licensing changes that includes best practices on how to administer the new multi-user subscription licenses.

Glossary

Suite – the previous method of bundling Autodesk software focused around an industry

Collection – the current method of bundling Autodesk software focused around an industry

Point Product – individual software title (like AutoCAD, Revit, Civil 3D)

Multi-user – the new term for network licensing. Multi-user licensing creates a “pool” of licenses that can be accessed by individual users via a network license manager installed on a sever

Single-user – the new term for standalone licenses with named user access intended for use on a single workstation

Subscription – method of licensing Autodesk software on a term basis; all new software purchases are in the Subscription model

Perpetual License – the previous method of purchasing Autodesk software no longer offered for new licenses; however existing perpetual licenses can be renewed as maintenance

Maintenance - the ongoing support method for perpetual licenses formerly referred to as maintenance subscription

Autodesk Account – the administration portal where Autodesk licensing, contracts, subscriptions, and product downloads are accessed; formerly the Autodesk Subscription Center

FAQ

What needs to be done on my license server to prepare for this switch?

Make sure the current Network License Manager (NLM) version is installed.

<https://knowledge.autodesk.com/customer-service/network-license-administration/get-ready-network-license/download-the-network-license-manager>

Request a new 2018 license file by contacting your CADD Microsystems representative or through Autodesk Account.

What software do I need to install from my new Collection?

Collections are no longer bundled into one installer; the Collection software is a series of point products. Therefore, you can install any or all the software from the Collection as it suits your needs. With the large number of titles available in the Collections, this is a much easier way to download, manage, and monitor installs on multiple machines.

Making the Switch // From Suites to Collections: Multi-user Guide

When deploying a Collection, can I create a deployment of multiple software titles?

No, there is not a deployment method for multiple titles as previously established with the Suites. Each product must be made into its own deployment image and pushed out individually.

Do I need to create new deployments to access my new Collection licenses?

To access your new Collections, ensure you have an updated license file which contains the version being deployed and the updated NLM. Any new software titles or versions require new deployments.

Do I need to recreate old deployments to access my new Collection licenses?

Any previously created deployments will be able to use the updated licenses and will not need to be recreated.

Should I uninstall my Suites?

No, there is no need to uninstall existing Suite software when installing the new Collection software because the Collection license file will recognize the Suites installations.

Is it okay to have Suite and Collection software installed on the same computer?

Yes, Suites and Collections may be installed on the same computer.

What is the cascading order when I have a mixed environment of Collections, Suites, and Point Products?

When the product is launched on the end user's workstation, the product makes a call to the network license server for an available license. The license manager will parse the licenses in the following order until it finds an available license:

1. Point Product - multi-user subscription
2. Point Product - perpetual license
3. Industry Collection - multi-user subscription
4. Suite - perpetual license

To help control access to specific licenses on a more granular level, an Options File can be used.

When I want to use a previous version of my AEC Collection software, what serial number and product key do I use?

To use a previous version of an AEC Collection, enter the serial number for the Collection for the most current version and the product key for the point product version installed. *Example: when installing AutoCAD 2016 as a previous version, enter the AEC Collection current version serial number and use the AutoCAD 2016 product key.*

Can I use older versions of my software?

Yes, a benefit of subscription and maintenance is previous version access. Autodesk allows access to the most current version and up to three releases back. Special exceptions may be made for older versions, but the number of prior releases varies per product and is contingent on the number of licenses available on the contract at that time.

Do I need to assign the software and/or cloud services to a named user?

In the multi-user license environment, users continue to access products from the license server. If access to cloud services and support is also needed, the administrator can assign permissions to these benefits. Three named users are associated to one multi-user license.