

Audio Notetaker Network Licensing

For further help contact support@audionotetaker.com.

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Overview

Audio Notetaker Licence Server distributes licences to networked workstations running Audio Notetaker.

The server is installed as a Windows service application, under an unprivileged user account for increased security. The service is started automatically with the operating system at boot time, and does not require a local user to be logged on.

The server may also be run as a standalone application for troubleshooting purposes - see Running in Standalone Mode below.

You have an option to restrict the workstations permitted to use licences provided by the server, by means of machine keys. Each machine requesting a licence sends a unique key generated from the machine's hardware configuration. If the key does not match any of those installed on the server, the request is denied. See Machine Authorisation Configuration for details of how to set this up.

(NOTE: Machine authorization is disabled by default).

Server Installation

Audio Notetaker Licence Server requires Windows XP or later, or Windows Server 2003 or later.

Microsoft .NET Framework version 2.0 is also required, and is downloaded and installed automatically by the setup program if it is not already installed.

The setup package configures Audio Notetaker Licence Server to start at boot time.

The server must be activated before it can be used. To activate, start the Server Monitor application using its Start Menu shortcut. Once activated, the server may be started by selecting "Start server" from the Tools Menu in the Server Monitor application.

If you are using firewall software, it must be configured to allow incoming connections (the default port number is 42574) to the programs LicensingService.exe and, if the standalone server is to be used, Monitor.exe, in the installation directory.

Server Configuration

The Server Monitor application installed alongside Audio Notetaker Licence Server can be used to configure, start and stop the server, read log messages, view details of active connections to the server (and disconnect selected user sessions) and monitor the number of licences in use. You must be logged on as a member of the Administrators group in order to use the Server Monitor.

Alternatively, Windows' built-in Services and Event Viewer control panels can be used to start and stop the server and to read log messages.

Machine Authorisation Configuration

You can turn on machine authorisation from the Monitor Tools menu. Once machine authorisation is enabled, workstations must be registered with the server before they can request licences.

The server searches a specific directory for machine key files corresponding to the authorised workstations. By default, the following directory is used:

```
C:\Program Files\Sonocent\Audio Notetaker Licence Server\Machine Keys
```

Machine key files have the extension .mkey.

(NOTE: The machine key directory must be readable by the user the server is running as, which is the Network Service user when running as a service).

The server watches the key directory for new, modified or deleted files, updating the list of authorised workstations within a few seconds of any changes.

The MachineKeyTool.exe command-line tool can be used to generate a machine key file for the workstation it is run on. It has the following syntax:

```
MachineKeyTool /out:<filename> [/overwrite]
```

where **<filename>** is the name of the machine key file to write to and can most easily be set to the environment variable **%COMPUTERNAME%**, unless this is not unique on the entire network. Existing files are not overwritten unless the **/overwrite** option is specified.

The process of generating machine keys for a large number of workstations may be automated using the following example method:

1. Share the machine key directory on the licence server, allowing access to administrators only.
2. Using systems management software, remotely execute the following command under the domain Administrator account on each of the workstations to be authorised:

```
MachineKeyTool /out: \\SERVER\Share\%COMPUTERNAME%.mkey
```

This creates a machine key file named the same as the workstation it is run on in the machine key directory on the server.

Running in Standalone Mode

If the Windows service does not install properly, you can run the server in standalone mode. To do this, start Monitor.exe with the command-line argument **/standalone**, and then start the server from the Tools menu.

Client Installation

Audio Notetaker may be installed on workstations either manually using the standalone installer, or by using the Windows Installer package, which is suitable for remote installation.

Using the standalone installer

The standalone installer is supplied as a single .EXE file, which installs Audio Notetaker and all of its prerequisite components, but does not support unattended installation. It is suitable for small-scale deployments and single-user PCs.

The latest version of the standalone installer is available to download at <http://www.audionotetaker.com/updates/>.

Using the Windows Installer package

To obtain the Windows Installer package, run the standalone installer with the `/x:<DIR>` command-line switch, where `<DIR>` is the full path to the directory in which the extracted files should be placed. The directory is created if it does not exist.

Alternatively, drag and drop the standalone installer onto the `ExtractMSIFiles.js` script file included with this distribution. This will extract the files to a directory named `AudioNote` on the desktop.

Audio Notetaker requires some additional software that is not installed automatically by the Windows Installer package:

- Microsoft Windows Installer 3.0 (included with Windows XP SP2 and later)
- Microsoft .NET Framework 2.0 (included with Windows Vista and later)
- Microsoft Visual C++ 2008 Redistributable

A Windows Installer package for the Microsoft Visual C++ 2008 Redistributable is automatically extracted from the standalone installer using the steps described above, and is available in the `vc redistrib_x86` folder. Unfortunately, packages for the other two dependencies are not available.

Please note that the .NET Framework must be installed before Audio Notetaker, or the installation will fail.

Client Configuration

After installing Audio Notetaker on each client machine, you must place a configuration file in the following location:

```
%ALLUSERSPROFILE%\Sonocent\Audio Notetaker\Network Licensing\Config.xml
```

on Windows Vista or later, and:

```
%ALLUSERSPROFILE%\Application Data\Sonocent\Audio Notetaker\Network  
Licensing\Config.xml
```

on Windows XP, else Audio Notetaker will attempt to use the single user licensing system instead.

The Audio Notetaker installer automatically creates this directory and sets permissions to ensure that it is read-only for all users except those in the Administrators group, who are given full control. *(Note that the permissions are not changed if the directory exists before installation).*

A sample configuration file ([Config-Example.xml](#)) is provided with the setup files, and contains comments describing its structure. You must supply the correct host and port details in the **ServerAddress** and **ServerPort** elements. The other settings are optional, and allow you to tailor the messages displayed to the user if a licence cannot be obtained, to provide e-mail or telephone contact details for example.