VMS Software

Licensing on OpenVMS x86-64

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Table of contents

1. Installing a License 3
2. Updating a License 4
3. Installation Operating Environment 5

1. Installing a License

OpenVMS licenses are provided to you in the form of Product Authorization Keys (PAKs) generated by VSI. To register a license, perform these steps:

1. Create a command procedure file (.COM):

```
$ EDIT filename.COM
```

2. Paste the text of your PAK into the file.
3. Add `$ LICENSE LOAD` at the end. Your file should now look similar to the following:

```
$ LICENSE REGISTER OPENVMS-X86-BOE -
/ISSUER=VSI -
/AUTHORIZATION=1-VSI-SAMPLAUTH-0001 -
/PRODUCER=VSI -
/UNITS=32 -
/TERMINATION_DATE=31-AUG-2026
/OPTIONS=(PCL,X86_64) -
/CHECKSUM=X-XXXX-XXXX-XXXX-XXXX
$ LICENSE LOAD
```

4. Press `Ctrl` + `Z` to save the changes.
5. Run your command procedure file:

```
$ @filename.COM
```

6. Verify license installation:

```
$ SHOW LICENSE
```

   You should see output similar to the following:

```
------- Product ID --------    ---- Rating ----- -- Version --
Product            Producer    Units PCL   Activ Version Release
Termination
OPENVMS-X86-BOE    VSI             0  1     0      0.0   (none)      31-
OCT-2023
```

2. Updating a License

To update a product license, you must first unload and delete the old one. Perform these steps:

> **Warning**
>
> To perform this task, you need CMKRNL, SYSNAM, and SYSPRV privileges.

1. Display all licenses active on your system:

   ```
   $ SHOW LICENSE
   ```

2. Find the license that you want to update, then enter these commands in this order:

   ```
   $ LICENSE UNLOAD license-name
   $ LICENSE DELETE license-name
   ```

   If you enter `SHOW LICENSE` again now, the license you have deactivated should not be listed.

3. Follow the instructions in Installing a License to install your new license.

3. Installation Operating Environment

With the release of OpenVMS V9.2-3, a new convenience feature called the Installation Operating Environment (OE) was introduced to streamline the setup process for freshly installed systems.

The Installation OE is a license that is limited in both scope and time and is generated during installation. It has a termination date of midnight of the 4th day after the date of installation. For example, if you install OpenVMS on Monday, the license will terminate at midnight on Friday. The Installation OE will be installed even if the customer chooses to register license PAKs during the installation dialogue.

Note that only the following products are included in the Installation OE license:

- The base OpenVMS operating system
- TCP/IP Services for OpenVMS
- DECnet end node

> **Note**
>
> An operating system installation takes place when the `INITIALIZE` option is selected in the installation menu, causing the software to be placed on the target disk without preserving any previous content on the target device. A system upgrade occurs when the `PRESERVE` option is selected and the target device contains a previous version of the OpenVMS operating system, preserving the existing content of the target disk while the new software is installed. The Installation OE applies only to installations, not upgrades.

The benefits of the Installation OE include:

- The ability to use a (virtual) serial terminal line to set up the system rather than requiring access to the system console terminal.
- The ability to configure and start TCP/IP or DECnet network services, which may then be used to copy files to the new node directly.
- Removing the necessity to type in initial license PAKs by hand during installation.
- Permitting automatically enabling DHCP for initial TCP/IP configuration upon system installation.

After the system is configured, you may delete or disable the `OPENVMS-X86-INSTOE` PAK to prevent messages about an expired PAK during boot.