

4. License Management - Windows

Gridgen uses the FLEXlm and Native CAD Reader (NCR) license managers to manage Gridgen processes at your site. Our floating license model means that you install a license server on only one workstation on your network, and Gridgen can be run on any workstation on the same network. Furthermore, Gridgen's floating licenses are heterogeneous meaning that a single license server can serve licenses to all supported Gridgen hardware versions including Unix, Linux, and Windows. FLEXlm and the NCR license manager controls your Gridgen processes by metering six parameters:

1. the version number of concurrent Gridgen processes
2. the total number of concurrent Gridgen processes
3. the calendar date on which your Gridgen licenses will expire
4. the number of optional modules
5. the type of optional modules
6. the optional module port number

There are several basic concepts that you must understand regarding the Gridgen license managers.

1. The Gridgen license file provided to you (`pointwise_flexnet.lic`) combines information about your Gridgen license and information about your FLEXlm server (via the host ID). If you have licensed a Native CAD Reader, your Gridgen license file will also contain information, such as the port number, linking it to the Native CAD Reader license file (`pointwise_ncr.dat`) you will also receive. If information about your server changes, your license file(s) may become invalid.
2. In order for Gridgen to run it must be able to contact the FLEXlm server and the Native CAD Reader server (for licensed NCR processes only). The implication is that the workstation on which you run Gridgen must be on the same network as the license server(s).
3. If Gridgen loses contact with the FLEXlm server while it is running, its license will be lost, and Gridgen will terminate. However, Gridgen will automatically export the current grid and database to Gridgen and composite files, respectively, before terminating.
4. If Gridgen exits abnormally, it may take up to three minutes for the FLEXlm server to release the license so that you can start Gridgen again. The time required to free the license is designed to be this slow to prevent the FLEXlm server from releasing the license for reasons other than an abnormal Gridgen exit (for example, a slow network connection).

The remaining subsections in this section address specific tasks.

4.1 Installing a New License File

Periodically you will have to install a new license file or files (for NCR processes) for an existing server. Perhaps your license term has expired, and you require a new license file to reflect the term of your renewed license. Or perhaps a hardware change has invalidated your license. Regardless of the reason you will need a new license file or files.

First you must determine whether your host ID or host name have changed. The host ID is the numeric string that identifies the workstation on which the license server is running. It was generated during your First Time Installation and your license file was generated for that host ID. The host name is simply the name of your workstation. If these aspects of your license server workstation have not changed, we can re-use the host ID and host name reported to us during your First Time Installation to generate your new license file.

If you have licensed an NCR process, you will also need to determine whether your NCR host ID has changed. If it has not changed, we can re-use it to generate your new NCR license file.

4.1.1 Obtaining Your Host ID and Host Name

Your host ID and host name can be obtained through the following steps.

1. Press **Start**, **All Programs**, **Pointwise**, **GridgenV15**, **LMTOOLS**.
2. Click on the **System Settings** tab.
3. Your workstation's host ID is listed in the field labeled **Ethernet Address**.
4. Your workstation's host name is found in the field labeled **Computer/Hostname**.
5. Email your workstation's host name and host ID to licenses@pointwise.com or to your local Gridgen distributor. If you have licensed an NCR process, please include in this email your NCR host ID (see [Section 4.1.2](#)).
6. You will receive in reply a new license file. Save this file using the name and path listed on the pane tabbed **Config Services** (typically `$GRIDGEN_HOME\licenses\pointwise_flexnet.lic`).
7. Make the license server reread the license file by clicking the **Start/Stop/Reread** tab and pressing the **ReRead License File** button.

4.1.2 Obtaining Your Native CAD Reader Host ID

Your Native CAD Reader (NCR) Host ID can be obtained through the following steps. Please note that Gridgen's Native CAD Readers are optional modules.

1. Press **Start**, **All Programs**, **Pointwise**, **GridgenV15**, **NCR Tools**
2. Your workstation's NCR host ID is found in the field labeled **Host ID**.
3. Email your workstation's NCR host ID along with its host name and host ID ([Section 4.1.1](#)) to licenses@pointwise.com or to your local Gridgen distributor.

4.2 Starting the Gridgen License Server Manually

If you are unable to start Gridgen it may be because the license server has stopped running. This often occurs when your workstation is rebooted. To start the license server manually:

1. In the **Start** menu, go to **All Programs**, **Pointwise**, **GridgenV15**. Right-click on **LMTOOLS** and choose *Run as Administrator*.
2. Click on the **Start/Stop/Reread** tab.
3. Press the **Start Server** button.

4.3 Starting the Native CAD Reader License Server Manually

If you are unable to import a database file type for which you have licensed a Native CAD Reader, it may be because your Native CAD Reader license server has stopped running. To start the license server manually:

1. In the **Start** menu, go to **All Programs**, **Pointwise**, **GridgenV15**. Right-click on **NCR Tools** and choose *Run as Administrator*.
2. Press the **Start** button. This will bring up the **Start Server** utility.
 - a. Set **License File** to `$GRIDGEN_HOME\licenses\pointwise_ncr.dat`.

- b. Set **Log File** to `$GRIDGEN_HOME\licenses\pointwise_ncr.log`.
- c. Set **Username** to your username.
- d. Set **Password** to your password.
- e. Press the **Ok** button to start the NCR Server.

4.4 Starting the Gridgen License Server Automatically

If you would prefer that Gridgen's license server be started automatically each time your workstation is booted (instead of performing the manual procedure each time) do the following:

1. In the **Start** menu, go to **All Programs, Pointwise, GridgenV15**. Right-click on **LMTOOLS** and choose *Run as Administrator*.
2. Click on the **Config Services** tab.
3. Check **Start Server at Power Up**.
4. Press the **Save Service** button.

4.5 Starting the Native CAD Reader License Server Automatically

The NCR license server is set up to automatically start each time your workstation is booted after you have installed it manually the first time. If your NCR license server does not start automatically, you will have to start it manually (see [Section 4.3](#)).

4.6 Stopping the Gridgen License Server

From time to time, you may need to stop your Gridgen license server. To do so, please use the following steps:

1. In the **Start** menu, go to **All Programs, Pointwise, GridgenV15**. Right-click on **LMTOOLS** and choose *Run as Administrator*.
2. Click on the **Start/Stop/Reread** tab.
3. Press the **Stop Server** button.

4.7 Stopping the Native CAD Reader License Server

If you need to stop your Native CAD Reader license server, you will need to follow these steps:

1. In the **Start** menu, go to **All Programs, Pointwise, GridgenV15**. Right-click on **NCR Tools** and choose *Run as Administrator*.
2. Press the **Stop** button.

Be aware that it may take 2 to 3 minutes for the NCR server to completely stop all processes.

4.8 Troubleshooting

4.8.1 Stopping the NCR Server

If stopping, then immediately restarting the NCR Server fails, try waiting a few minutes before attempting to start the server again. Dependent on the machine, the NCR server can take up to two minutes to stop.

4.8.2 Distant License Server

If the license server is on a different subnet from the workstation running Gridgen it is possible that Gridgen won't find the license server and, hence, a license to run will not be granted. In these instances you can set an environment variable called `PWID_LICENSE_FILE` that defines the license server's host name or license file path that Gridgen will read upon start-up.

For Windows 95 and 98 you must edit your `autoexec.bat` file. For Windows NT, 2000, and XP you set this variable via System in the Control Panel. For example, if the license server is running on a computer named `saturn` you would set `PWID_LICENSE_FILE` to `@saturn`. Or, if you know that the license file path and name is `/venus2/distribution/gridgen/licenses/pointwise_flexnet.lic` you would set `PWID_LICENSE_FILE` to `/venus2/distribution/gridgen/licenses/pointwise_flexnet.lic`.