

**XLL+ Development Library**  
**Class Library and Development Tools for**  
**Developing Excel Add-In Libraries**

# License Server

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# Planatech License Server

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## What is the License Server ?

Planatech development tools can be purchased with **floating licenses**. Each floating license can be used by any one machine on a network at a time. As soon as the development tools are no longer in use on that machine, they become available for other users on the network.

To support these floating licenses, a license server must be present on the network. The license file is installed on the server, and the server process reads the license file.

The license server is packaged as a Service, which means it can easily be configured to start automatically whenever the machine on which it is installed is rebooted. It has no user interface, and writes all its errors and other messages to the Windows Event Log.

The license server contains the following files:

File	Description
PLELICSVR42.EXE	Planatech License Server executable
PLELICSVRMSG42.DLL	Internationalised message file
PLELICSVR42.LIC	License file

## Requirements

Unlike other Planatech tools, the License Server does not run on Windows 95 or 98. It is supported only on the following operating systems:

- Windows NT Workstation
- Windows NT Server
- Windows 2000 Workstation
- Windows 2000 Server
- Windows XP Workstation
- Windows XP Server

## Installing the License Server

You must have Administrator privileges to install the License Server.

To install the service on the chosen machine, follow these steps:

1. Copy all three files to a directory on a fixed drive.
2. At the command line, navigate to the installation directory and type:  
`plelicsvr42 -install`
3. The following message should appear:  
`Planatech License Service installed.`  
Any other message indicates an error. Consult the ***Troubleshooting*** section below.

## Uninstalling the License Server

You must have Administrator privileges to uninstall the License Server.

To uninstall the service, follow these steps:

1. At the command line, navigate to the installation directory and type:  
`plelicsvr42 -remove`
2. The following message should appear:  
`Planatech License Service removed.`  
Any other message indicates an error. Consult the ***Troubleshooting*** section below.

## Starting and stopping the License Service

### ***Starting the Service***

To start the service, follow these steps:

1. On the license server, open the **Control Panel** and start the **Services** applet.
2. Select **Planatech Licensing Service (4.2)**, and click on **Start** to start the service.
3. You can also click on **Startup** to ensure that the service starts up automatically whenever the computer is rebooted.

### ***Stopping the Service***

To stop the service (for instance when you are upgrading your license file):

1. On the license server, open the **Control Panel** and start the **Services** applet.
2. Select **Planatech Licensing Service (4.2)**, and click on **Stop** to stop the service.

**Note:** Whenever you start or stop the service, messages will be written to the Application Event Log. In the event of an error, inspect the Event Log (See ***Troubleshooting*** below).

## **License Files**

The license file you install on a computer must be the file generated specifically for that machine. It will not work on other machines.

The license file is in plain text, and can be viewed, but it should never be edited. It is delivered as read-only file, and it should usually be left as such.

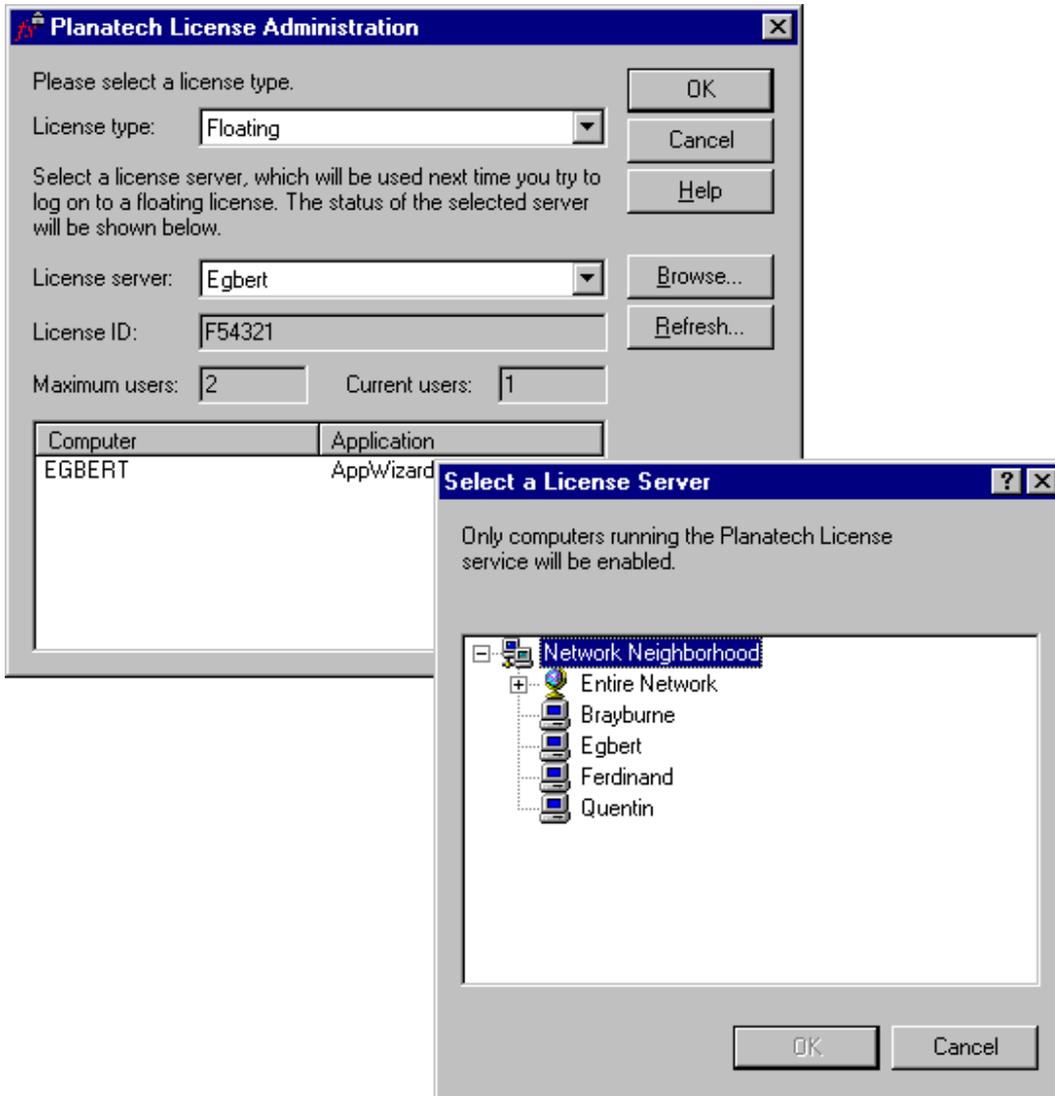
If your license expires, or if you wish to increase the number of users, contact [sales@as-ltd.co.uk](mailto:sales@as-ltd.co.uk).

If you wish to move your license file to a different machine, contact [support@as-ltd.co.uk](mailto:support@as-ltd.co.uk).

## **Installing Floating Licenses on Workstations**

To install a floating license on a workstation, use the License Administration Tool to select a floating license type and to select the license server (see below).

## License Administration Tool



The Planatech License Administration tool (PLELICADMIN.EXE) is installed as part of the XLL+ setup program on all client machines. The tool can be used for three purposes:

1. Inspecting the status of any license server on the network.
2. Listing the current clients of any license server.
3. Selecting which machine a client will use as its license server.

See the on-line help (PLELICADMIN.HLP) for the License Administration tool for further details.

## Troubleshooting

### Event Log

In the event of problems, the first place to look is in the Event Log.

Start the Windows **Event Viewer** application, and select Application on the Log menu. Events generated by the license service have the source **PleLicense**. You can use the **Filter Events** option on the **View** menu to filter out all other messages.

There should be a type 1 event each time the service starts and a type 2 event each time it is stopped. If the service fails to start or stops after error, then there will be an error message.

You may be able to solve the problem yourself based on the information in the error message. If not, contact your supplier, or Planatech Solutions at support@as-ltd.co.uk.

### Administration Tool

If the service appears to be running, but users are still having trouble logging on, use the **License Administration Tool** (see above) to inspect the license server.

You may find that a license is being held open by an apparently dead process. Microsoft Visual Studio, in particular, can die leaving an orphaned thread still running. If this is the case, use the **Task Manager** on the client machine to find process MSDEV.EXE and kill it.

## Registry Settings

The following keys are used by the various license programs. Care should be taken when altering them by hand.

Key	Program(s)	Purpose
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SYSTEM\CurrentControlSet\Services\EventLog\Application\PleLicense	PLELICSVR42.EXE	Location of event log message file
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Planatech\XIIPlus\4.2\License\LicenseType	All development tools & PLELICADMIN.EXE	License type: FIXED, FLOATING or DEMO
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Planatech\XIIPlus\4.2\License\LicenseServer	All development tools & PLELICADMIN.EXE	Name of computer running license server, if workstation is using a floating license
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Planatech\XIIPlus\4.2\License\LicenseFile	All development tools & PLELICADMIN.EXE	File containing license, if workstation is using a fixed license
HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Planatech\XIIPlus\4.2\PleLicAdmin\Settings\AllServers	PLELICADMIN.EXE	List of all servers that have been inspected, separated by \
HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Planatech\XIIPlus\4.2\PleLicAdmin\Settings\RefreshPeriod	PLELICADMIN.EXE	Refresh period, in seconds