

Dongle License Keys for VehicleSim Products

Mechanical Simulation Corporation produces and distributes software tools for simulating and analyzing the dynamic behavior of motor vehicles. The simulation packages are organized into families of products named BikeSim®, CarSim®, TruckSim®, and SuspensionSim®. These products are based on the simulation architecture named VehicleSim®.

All of the VehicleSim (VS) products require a license key to run. The license management is handled by FlexNet software, and VS products support several FlexNet license management methods. One of these uses a license file linked to a hardware key installed on a USB port of the computer. The hardware key is called a *dongle*.

This memo describes how to install or update a dongle license for your VS product.

New Installation

If you have performed a new install, please proceed with the following steps:

1. With your dongle plugged in, launch the newly installed VS product.
2. A **FlexNet License Finder** window will appear. Select the **Specify the License File** option then click the **Next** button.

Note Mechanical Simulation will email you a license file for your dongle. Make sure your license file is saved to your computer. The recommended location is c:\flexlm.

3. Click the **Browse** button to navigate to the location of the license file.
4. Click the **Next** button.
5. Press the **Finish** button to continue.

Note If you experience a problem, the operating system cannot find an available license, and CarSim Cannot run. This could be caused by pointing to the wrong file or location, the file is expired, the file is for an older version of the software, or the file does not match the dongle. Email licensecontrol@carsim.com with the subject <product> <version> Cannot find available license. (E.g., CarSim 9.0 Cannot find available license). Attach the license file you are using (example file name: K100035.lic. You will receive a response within one business day.).

6. The program will look on your PC for a license file that matches your dongle. If the file is found, a **License Settings** window appears to show the set of available features. To

avoid viewing this window every time you start the VS product, check the box in the lower-left corner: **Don't show this window when starting** (Figure 1).

7. Click the **Select** button to run the software.

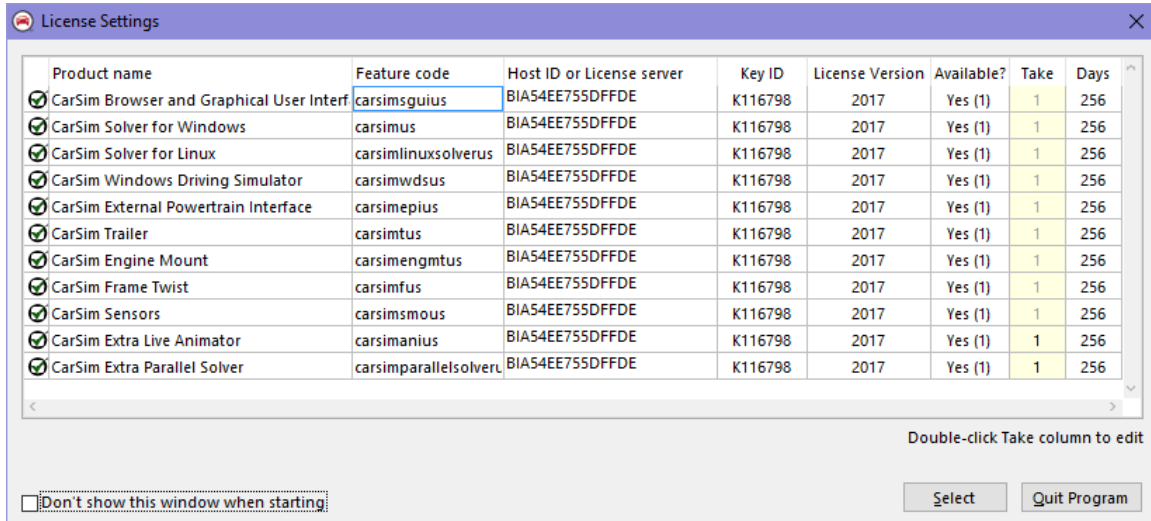


Figure 1. The License Settings window for a VS product (e.g., CarSim).

Product Upgrade

If you are upgrading a VS product in which either of the first two digits of the version number is changed for example, going from version 8.2.2 to 9.0 is an upgrade, please proceed with the following steps:

1. With your dongle plugged-in launch the newly updated VS product.
 - a. If the software doesn't find a valid license a **License Problem** window will appear.
 - i. Click the **Yes** button to launch the **License Utility**.

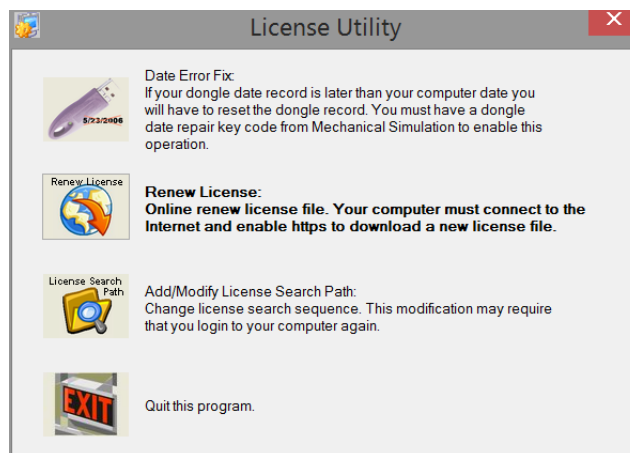


Figure 2. License Utility window.

- ii. Click the **Renew License** button (Figure 2). The **License File Renewal** window will appear and display the Key ID of the dongle that is plugged in to your computer (Figure 3). The window also shows the location for the license file.

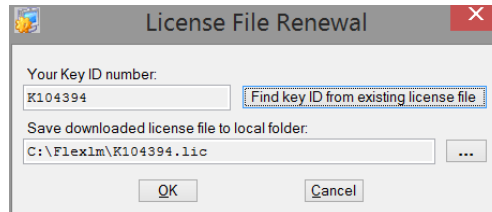


Figure 3. License File Renewal window.

- iii. Click the **OK** button. There will be a response message:
 1. If the download was successful, then go to the next step 6
 2. Email to licensecontrol@carsim.com with the subject <product> <version> License Key Download Failed. (E.g., CarSim 9.0 License Key Download Failed).
6. Launch your new VS product. For example, consider the case of CarSim 9.0:
 - Use the start menu shortcut (e.g., **Programs>CarSim 9.0>CarSim**)
 - Or, double-click the icon on your desktop (e.g., CarSim 9.0)
7. When you run with a dongle key, the program will look on your PC for a custom license file. If the file is found, a **License Settings** window appears to show your license and the set of available features. For example, (Figure 4) shows features for a specific CarSim installation. To avoid viewing this window every time you start the VS product, check the box in the lower-left corner: **Don't show this window when starting**.
8. Click the **Select** button to run the software.

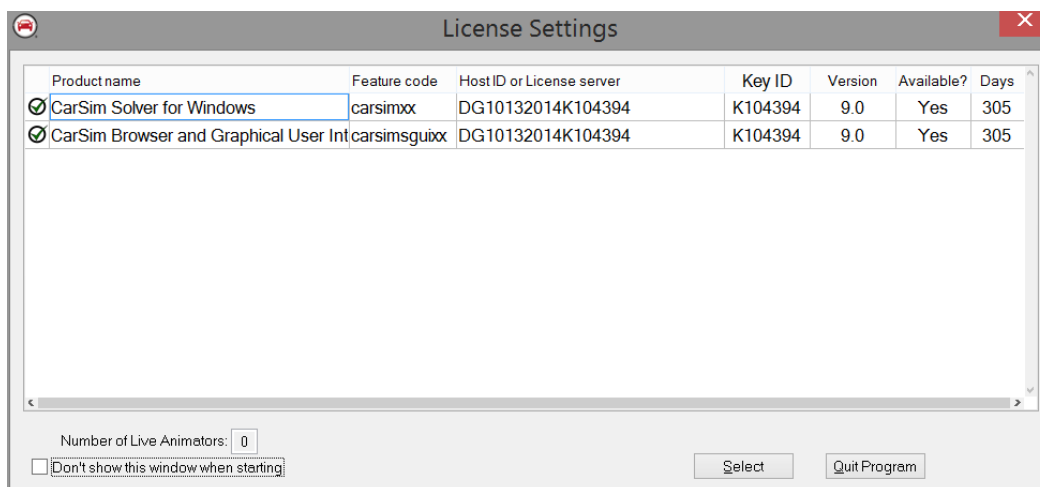


Figure 4. The License Settings window for a VS product (e.g., CarSim).

Product Updates

A minor update of a VS product does not require a change to the license. A minor update is one in which the first two digits of the version number are unchanged. For example, going from version 9.0 to 9.01 is a minor update. The new version will run with the old license file so you can use your new software immediately.

Note Letters after a number (e.g., version 7.01b) have no effect on the license control.

Alert If this happens, you must be logged in with Administrator permission for your PC. Otherwise you will not be able to complete the installation.

Annual Key Renewal

Purchased VS product licenses are permanent. However, the key file is designed to time out once a year and must be renewed. This feature allows Mechanical Simulation to maintain an accurate customer and user database, enhance customer service, and ensure that all users have access to software upgrades. Multiple reminders are used to ensure that customers/users have an opportunity to renew the license key prior to expiration, thus ensuring uninterrupted access to the software. Forty-five (45) days prior to the license key expiration date, you will get a warning message when launching the software. Prior to expiration of a license key, you can use the "Renew License" feature to extend the key for another year.