

Packaging License Files with Installer

Instructions for Altova Desktop Applications and Excel XBRL Add-Ins

If you want to perform a silent installation of any of the Altova desktop products listed below, you may want to modify the MSI database so that it includes your license file(s). This way, the installer will not only install the product but also license it. The instructions described in this document will help you achieve this goal.

- MissionKit
- XMLSpy
- MapForce
- StyleVision
- UModel
- SchemaAgent
- DatabaseSpy
- DiffDog
- Authentic Desktop
- EBA XBRL Add-In for Excel
- ESEF XBRL Add-In for Excel
- EIOPA (Solvency II) XBRL Add-In for Excel
- WIP XBRL Add-In for Excel

The instructions are based on Version 2025 of our software, though they support Version 2019 Release 3 and newer. For other versions, please adjust the major version number as required.

Preparatory steps

Before being able to package your license file(s) with the installer, you need to take the following steps:

1. [Download the relevant program's installer from our website.](#)
2. Install and run the program at least once in order to create the license-activation files (*see Ways of Handling Licensing below*).
3. Copy the files listed below to an empty folder:
 - The product's installer executable (e.g., XMLSpyEnt2025_x64.exe).
 - The license file(s) that you want to install with the product (*see Ways of Handling Licensing below*). For the MissionKit, you may provide license files for as many products as you wish. Do not keep any other .licbin or .licsvr files in that folder. Note the following points:
 - In case you observe the text _new as part of the .licbin file name, remove that from the copied file.
 - The script *will not* process the license file attached to your permanent license e-mail message (i.e., the one with the extension altova_licenses or altova_license_server).

- The Visual Basic script. Ensure the file name has a `.vbs` extension. The complete script is listed below in the subsection *Visual Basic Script* below. It is also available as a `.vbs` file and in the DOCX file named *Altova_VBScriptForSilentInstall.docx*., which are in the ZIP archive at https://www.altova.com/documents/AltovaProducts_SilentInstallWithLicense.zip.

Ways of handling licensing

The name of the license file you need to package with the installer depends on the way you license your software:

- You can use Altova LicenseServer to register your product with this LicenseServer and centrally administer, monitor, and assign the software's licenses. The registration information is stored in a `.licsvr` file in the product's ProgramData folder (e.g., `C:\ProgramData\Altova\XMLSpy2025\xmlspy.licsvr`). If you use this licensing method, you will need to package the `.licsvr` file with the installer.
- You can use a local license file that you will need to upload in the **Software Activation** dialog of your software. This creates a `.licbin` file in the product's ProgramData folder (e.g., `C:\ProgramData\Altova\XMLSpy2025\xmlspy.licbin`). If you use this licensing method, you will need to package the `.licbin` file with the installer.

The instructions in this document take both methods into account.

Execution

Packaging the license files with the installer consists of two parts: (i) installing Microsoft's `makecab` utility and (ii) running the Visual Basic script. For details, see the subsections below.

Install makecab utility

To package the license files with the installer, you will need Microsoft's `makecab` utility. If the command `makecab` does not show the following output in a console window, [download and install the Windows SDK from Microsoft](#).

```
> makecab
Cabinet Maker - Lossless Data Compression Tool[...]
```

Run VB script

Open the command prompt or PowerShell console as an administrator and change to the prepared folder using the `cd` or `dir` command. Then execute the following command at the ">" prompt.

```
> cscript.exe <VisualBasicScript_NAME>.vbs
```

Follow the installation instructions at the end of the console output, which will look similar to the following:

To install you need following files in the same folder:
MissionKitEnt2025.exe
LicsvrFiles.cab
MissionKitEnterprise2025_LicFile.mst
On a command prompt change to that folder and call:
MissionKitEnt2025.exe TRANSFORMS=MissionKitEnterprise2025_LicFile.mst
For silent installation use the option '/q '
For logging use the option '/L*xv! <log_file_name> '

Incorporate the command and options into your deployment scheme as appropriate.

Migration of license files

The installer will attempt to migrate any .licbin or .licsvr file found in the previous major version's ProgramData folder (e.g., C:\ProgramData\Altova\XMLSpy2023). This means that you may have both .licbin and .licsvr files in the new ProgramData folder (e.g., C:\ProgramData\Altova\XMLSpy2024).

If your deployment involves a change from a local license (*.licbin) to a LicenseServer registration (*.licsvr), incorporate a step manually to remove the unwanted file from the previous major version's ProgramData folder prior to the installation of the new version.

Visual Basic script

Provided below is the complete Visual Basic script (see *Step 3 in the subsection Preparatory Steps above*). Copy the code listing to a file with a .vbs extension. The cod is also available as a VB script and in a DOCX file, both of which are in the ZIP archive at https://www.altova.com/documents/AltovaProducts_SilentInstallWithLicense.zip.

```
Rem -----
Rem v2024, 2023-11-10T14:06:
Rem 1. added support for Excel XBRL add-ins.
Rem 2. Corrected Fail message in Function getProductname to refer to licFileBaseName
rather than licFileName.
Rem 3. Incorporated numerous Debug messages.
Rem v2019r3:
Rem 1. Updates to work beginning with this release - names of directories and
features changed.
Rem -----
Const msiOpenDatabaseModeReadOnly = 0
```

```

Const msiOpenDatabaseModeTransact = 1
Const msidbFileAttributesCompressed = 16384
Const msiViewModifyInsert          = 1
Rem -----

Dim objShell, objFSO, strCurDir
Set objFSO = CreateObject("Scripting.FileSystemObject")
Set objShell = CreateObject("WScript.Shell")

objStartFolder = objShell.CurrentDirectory

REM find the installer executable
installerFileName = getFileWithExtension("EXE")
if installerFileName = "" then
    Fail "You need to run this script from the directory where the installer EXE
and the .licsvr files are prepared."
end if

Rem extract the MSI contained in the installer executable.
Set oExec = objShell.Exec(installerFileName & " /u /qn+")
Do While oExec.Status = 0
    WScript.Sleep 100
Loop

Rem locate the MSI file
msiFileName = getFileWithExtension("MSI")
if msiFileName = "" then
    Fail "Failed to extract MSI from installer executable."
end if

Rem parse out attributes from installer file name
Rem product name, edition and major version year

```

```

pos = InStr(installerFileName, "Ent")
if pos > 0 then
    editionName = "Enterprise"
    productName = Left(installerFileName, pos - 1)
else
    pos = InStr(installerFileName, "Prof")
    if pos > 0 then
        editionName = "Professional"
        productName = Left(installerFileName, pos - 1)
    else
        pos = InStr(installerFileName, "Cmu")
        if pos > 0 then
            editionName = "Community"
            productName = Left(installerFileName, pos - 1)
        else
            pos = InStr(installerFileName, "Basic")
            if pos > 0 then
                editionName = "Basic"
                productName = Left(installerFileName, pos - 1)
            else
                pos = InStr(installerFileName, "SchemaAgent")
                if pos > 0 then
                    editionName = ""
                    productName = "SchemaAgent"
                else
                    pos = InStr(installerFileName, "ESEFXBRLAddIn")
                    if pos > 0 then
                        editionName = ""
                        productName = "ESEFXBRLAddIn"
                    else
                        pos = InStr(installerFileName, "WIPXBRLAddIn")
                        if pos > 0 then

```

```

        editionName = ""
        productName = "WIPXBRLAddIn"
    end if
end if
end if
end if
end if
end if
end if

Debug.WriteLine("installerFileName: " & installerFileName)
Debug.WriteLine("installerFileName: " & installerFileName)
Debug.WriteLine("editionName: " & editionName)
Debug.WriteLine("productName: " & productName)

if ( productName = "" ) then
    Fail "Internal error: failed to extract product name or edition from installer
file name."
end if

pos = InStr(installerFileName, "20")

if pos = 0 then
    Fail "Internal error: failed to extract major version year from installer file
name."
end if

majorVersionYear = "20" + Mid(installerFileName, pos + 2, 2)

WScript.Echo "Creating license transformation file for " & productName & " " &
editionName & " " & majorVersionYear

Rem cab all lic files
createCabFile "LicsvrFiles.cab", "LICSVR", "LIC", "LICBIN"

Rem open the MSI database
On Error Resume Next

Dim installer : Set installer = Nothing

Set installer = Wscript.CreateObject("WindowsInstaller.Installer") : CheckError

```

```

Dim database, openMode
tempMSIFile = "tmp.msi"
objFSO.CopyFile msiFileName, tempMSIFile, true

Set database = installer.OpenDatabase(tempMSIFile, msiOpenDatabaseModeTransact) :
CheckError

Rem find out next free file sequence number
firstFreeSequenceNumber = msiFindNextFreeSequenceNumber()
actualSequenceNumber = firstFreeSequenceNumber

Rem add installation of every lic file to MSI database
For Each objFile in objFSO.GetFolder(objShell.CurrentDirectory).Files
    If UCase(objFSO.GetExtensionName(objFile.name)) = "LICSVR" or
    UCase(objFSO.GetExtensionName(objFile.name)) = "LIC" or
    UCase(objFSO.GetExtensionName(objFile.name)) = "LICBIN" Then

        Rem in case of MissionKit the product name and cannot be used
        appName = getProductname(productName, objFSO.GetBaseName(objFile.name))

        Rem add license file to file table
        msiAppendToFileTable objFile.name, actualSequenceNumber
        actualSequenceNumber = actualSequenceNumber + 1

        Rem add component that will install this license file
        licenseDirectory = appName & "COMMONAPPDATA"
        If Instr(productName, "WIP") > 0 Then licenseDirectory =
"WIPTemplateCOMMONAPPDATA"
        msiAppendToComponentTable objFile.name, objFile.name, licenseDirectory

        parentFeatureName = appName & "_Binaries"
        If Instr(productName, "ESEF") > 0 Then parentFeatureName =
"ESEFAddInBinaries"
        If Instr(productName, "EBA") > 0 Then parentFeatureName =
"EBAAddInBinaries"

```

```

        If Instr(productName, "SolvencyII") > 0 Then parentFeatureName =
"SolvencyIIAddInBinaries"

        If Instr(productName, "WIP") > 0 Then parentFeatureName =
"WipTemplateBinaries"

        Debug.WriteLine("parentFeatureName: " & parentFeatureName)

        Rem add feature that will install component

        msiAppendToFeatureTable objFile.name, parentFeatureName

    End If

Next

Rem append LicsvrFiles.cab to media table
msiAppendToMediaTable "LicsvrFiles.cab", actualSequenceNumber - 1

Rem save database
database.Commit

Rem create MSI database transform as a difference between original and modified
database

WScript.Echo "Creating transformation..."

transformationFileName = productName & editionName & majorVersionYear &
"_LicFile.mst"

Dim databaseOriginal : Set databaseOriginal = installer.OpenDatabase ( msiFileName,
msiOpenDatabaseModeReadOnly ) : CheckError

Dim different:different = database.GenerateTransform(databaseOriginal,
transformationFileName) : CheckError

database.CreateTransformSummaryInfo databaseOriginal, transformationFileName, 0, 0

Set database = Nothing
Set databaseOriginal = Nothing
Set installer = Nothing

Rem clean-up
rem objFSO.DeleteFile(tempMSIFile)
rem objFSO.DeleteFile(msiFileName)

```



```

WScript.Echo "Success!"
WScript.Echo ""
WScript.Echo "To install you need following files in the same folder:"
WScript.Echo "    " & installerFileName
WScript.Echo "    " & "LicsvrFiles.cab"
WScript.Echo "    " & transformationFileName
WScript.Echo "On a command prompt change to that folder and call:"
WScript.Echo "    " & installerFileName & " TRANSFORMS=" & transformationFileName
WScript.Echo "For silent installation use the option '/q'"
WScript.Echo "For logging use the option '/L*xv! <log_file_name>'"

Rem -----
Rem create a cab file that contains all files with specified extension.
Rem -----
Sub createCabFile(cabFileName, fileExtension1, fileExtension2, fileExtension3)
    Rem create the DDF file needed to cab eventually more than one file
    set ddfFile = objFSO.CreateTextFile("LicsvrFiles.ddf", true)
    ddfFile.WriteLine(".SET CabinetName1 = LicsvrFiles.cab")
    ddfFile.WriteLine(".SET Compression = LZX")
    ddfFile.WriteLine(".SET CompressionMemory = 21")
    ddfFile.WriteLine(".SET Compress=ON")
    ddfFile.WriteLine(".SET Cabinet=ON")
    ddfFile.WriteLine(".Set MaxDiskSize=CDROM")
    ddfFile.WriteLine(".SET DiskDirectoryTemplate = ")
    ddfFile.WriteLine(".SET infFileName=LicsvrFiles.inf")
    ddfFile.WriteLine(".SET rptFileName=LicsvrFiles.rpt")

    For Each objFile in objFSO.GetFolder(objShell.CurrentDirectory).Files
        If UCase(objFSO.GetExtensionName(objFile.name)) = fileExtension1 or
        UCase(objFSO.GetExtensionName(objFile.name)) = fileExtension2 or
        UCase(objFSO.GetExtensionName(objFile.name)) = fileExtension3 Then
            Rem append file to DDF

```

```

        ddfFile.WriteLine("""" & objFile.name & """)
    End If
Next

ddfFile.Close

Rem create the CAB file based on information in the DDF file
Set oExec = objShell.Exec("makecab /F LicsvrFiles.ddf")
Do While oExec.Status = 0
    WScript.Sleep 100
Loop
if oExec.ExitCode <> 0 then
    WScript.Echo "Creation of LicsvrFiles.cab failed."
    WScript.Quit 4
end if

Rem delete all temporary files
objFSO.DeleteFile("LicsvrFiles.ddf")
objFSO.DeleteFile("LicsvrFiles.inf")
objFSO.DeleteFile("LicsvrFiles.rpt")

End Sub

Rem -----
Rem helper function to get first file with specified file extension
Rem -----
Function getFileWithExtension(fileExtension)
    For Each objFile in objFSO.GetFolder(objShell.CurrentDirectory).Files
        If UCase(objFSO.GetExtensionName(objFile.name)) = fileExtension Then
            getFileWithExtension = objFile.Name
            Exit Function
        End If
    Next

```

End Function

Rem -----

Rem hard-code product name to get them in correct writing

Rem -----

Function getProductName(installerBaseName, licFileBaseName)

 Debug.WriteLine("installerBaseName: " & installerBaseName)

 Debug.WriteLine("licFileBaseName: " & licFileBaseName)

 if UCase(licFileBaseName) = "XMLSPY" then

 if UCASE(installerBaseName) = "AUTHENTIC" then

 getProductName = "Authentic"

 else

 getProductName = "XMLSpy"

 end if

 elseif UCase(licFileBaseName) = "MAPFORCE" then

 getProductName = "MapForce"

 elseif UCase(licFileBaseName) = "STYLEVISION" then

 getProductName = "StyleVision"

 elseif UCase(licFileBaseName) = "UMODEL" then

 getProductName = "UModel"

 elseif UCase(licFileBaseName) = "SCHEMAAGENT" then

 getProductName = "SchemaAgent"

 elseif UCase(licFileBaseName) = "DATABASESPY" then

 getProductName = "DatabaseSpy"

 elseif UCase(licFileBaseName) = "DIFFDOG" then

 getProductName = "DiffDog"

 elseif UCase(licFileBaseName) = "" then

 getProductName = "XMLSpy"

 elseif UCase(licFileBaseName) = "XMLSPY" then

 getProductName = "XMLSpy"

 elseif UCase(licFileBaseName) = "EBAADDINFOREXCEL" then

 getProductName = "EBAAddInForExcel"

```

elseif UCase(licFileBaseName) = "ESEFADDINFOREXCEL" then
    getProductName = "ESEFAddInForExcel"
elseif UCase(licFileBaseName) = "SOLVENCYIIADDINFOREXCEL" then
    getProductName = "SolvencyIIAddInForExcel"
elseif UCase(licFileBaseName) = "WIPADDINFOREXCEL" then
    getProductName = "WIPAddInForExcel"
else
    Fail "Product '" & installerBaseName & "' or license file '" &
licFileBaseName & "' not supported by this script"
end if
end Function

Rem -----
Rem find the highest sequence number used in the file table and return +1
Rem -----
Function msiFindNextFreeSequenceNumber()
    Dim view
    Set view = database.OpenView("SELECT Sequence from File") : CheckError
    view.Execute : CheckError

    Dim record, maxRow, tempRow
    maxId = 0
    Do
        Set record = view.Fetch : CheckError
        if record is Nothing Then Exit Do
        if not record is Nothing Then
            tempId = record.IntegerData(1)
            if ( tempId > maxId ) Then
                maxId = tempId
            End If
        End if
    Loop

```

```

        view.Close

        msiFindNextFreeSequenceNumber = maxId + 1
end Function

Rem -----
Rem append file entry to file table
Rem -----

Sub msiAppendToFileTable(fileName, sequenceNumber)

    WScript.Echo "Adding license file to MSI database..."

    Set view = database.OpenView( "SELECT File, Component_, FileName, FileSize,
Attributes, Sequence, Version from File" ) : CheckError

    view.Execute : CheckError

    ' Create the new Record
    Set record = Installer.CreateRecord (7)
    Dim lLicFileObject, updateMode
    Set lLicFileObject = objFSO.GetFile ( fileName ) : CheckError

    record.StringData (1) = fileName      ' file ID - name in CAB
    record.StringData (2) = fileName      ' component name
    record.StringData (3) = fileName      ' target file name
    record.IntegerData(4) = lLicFileObject.Size
    record.IntegerData(5) = msidbFileAttributesCompressed
    record.IntegerData(6) = sequenceNumber
    record.StringData (7) = "1.0"

    view.Modify msiViewModifyInsert, record

    view.Close

end sub

```

```

Rem -----
Rem add new component entry. component name is the same as the file id
Rem directoryId must be listed in the directory table
Rem -----

Sub msiAppendToComponentTable(fileId, componentId, directoryId)
    WScript.Echo "Adding component to MSI database..."
    ' Components

    Set view = database.OpenView( "SELECT Component, ComponentId, Directory_,
Attributes, KeyPath from Component" ) : CheckError
    view.Execute : CheckError

    ' Create the new Record
    Dim guidForNewComponent, TypeLib
    Set TypeLib = CreateObject("Scriptlet.TypeLib")
    guidForNewComponent = TypeLib.Guid

    Set record = Installer.CreateRecord (5)
    ' SELECT Component, ComponentId, Directory_, Attributes, KeyPath from Component
    record.StringData (1) = componentId
    record.StringData (2) = left(guidForNewComponent, len(guidForNewComponent)-2)
    record.StringData (3) = directoryId
    ' a permanent component so that the lic file doesn't get uninstalled with the
product
    record.IntegerData(4) = 16
    record.StringData (5) = fileId

    Rem Wscript.Echo "Inserting row: " & fileId & ", " & left(guidForNewComponent,
len(guidForNewComponent)-2) & ", " & sDirectoryParameter & ", " & sLicShortFileName
    view.Modify msiViewModifyInsert, record
    view.Close

    Set TypeLib = Nothing
end sub

```

```

Rem -----
Rem add new component entry. component name is the same as the file id
Rem directoryId must be listed in the directory table
Rem -----

Sub msiAppendToFeatureTable(componentId, parentFeatureId)
    WScript.Echo "Adding feature to MSI database..."
    'FeatureComponents

    Set view = database.OpenView( "SELECT Feature_, Component_ from
FeatureComponents" ) : CheckError

    ' SELECT Feature_, Component_ from FeatureComponents
    view.Execute : CheckError

    ' Create the new Record
    Set record = Installer.CreateRecord (2)
    ' SELECT Feature_, Component_ from FeatureComponents
    record.StringData (1) = parentFeatureId
    record.StringData (2) = componentId

    Rem WScript.Echo "Insert feature " & parentFeatureId & " - " & componentId
    view.Modify msiViewModifyInsert, record
    view.Close
end sub

Rem -----
Rem add new media table entry
Rem -----

sub msiAppendToMediaTable(cabFile, maxSequenceNumber)
    WScript.Echo "Adding media entry to MSI database..."

    Set view = database.OpenView( "SELECT DiskId, LastSequence, Cabinet from Media"
) : CheckError

    view.Execute : CheckError

    ' Create the new Record
    Set record = Installer.CreateRecord (3)

```

```

' SELECT DiskId, LastSequence, Cabinet from Media
record.IntegerData(1) = maxSequenceNumber
record.IntegerData(2) = maxSequenceNumber
record.StringData (3) = cabFile

view.Modify msiviewModifyInsert, record
view.Close
end sub

Rem -----
Rem Check for error during last call including MSI and quit script in case of
Rem failure.
Rem -----
Sub CheckError
    Dim message, errRec
    If Err = 0 Then Exit Sub
    message = Err.Source & " " & Hex(Err) & ": " & Err.Description
    If Not installer Is Nothing Then
        Set errRec = installer.LastErrorRecord
        If Not errRec Is Nothing Then message = message & vbNewLine &
errRec.FormatText
    End If
    Fail message
End Sub

Rem -----
Rem Quit script
Rem -----
Sub Fail(message)
    Wscript.Echo message
    Wscript.Quit 2
End Sub

```