License Management

Version 5.11

Product Description

📄 Document: Product Description -
License Management.docx

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Product Description

Concept

FORCAM FORCE™ introduces License Management with the release version 5.10.
For a correct installation and execution of FORCAM FORCE™, a valid license is required, which can be viewed via a configuration page in the Workbench. Besides the licenses for the use of FORCAM FORCE™, maintenance licenses are also available.

Licenses basically concern workplaces. They regulate how many workplaces may be connected to FORCAM FORCE™. The maximum number of licensed workplaces cannot be exceeded. A license can be extended by one or more workplaces at a later date.

Messages in certain time periods will be sent to inform the user about the expiration date of a license. It is not possible to use FORCAM FORCE™ without a valid license. This ensures that sales and maintenance contracts are correctly recorded and adhered to on both sides.

ⓘ   For details and configuration instructions for the Workbench, see the Master Data and System Configuration manual.
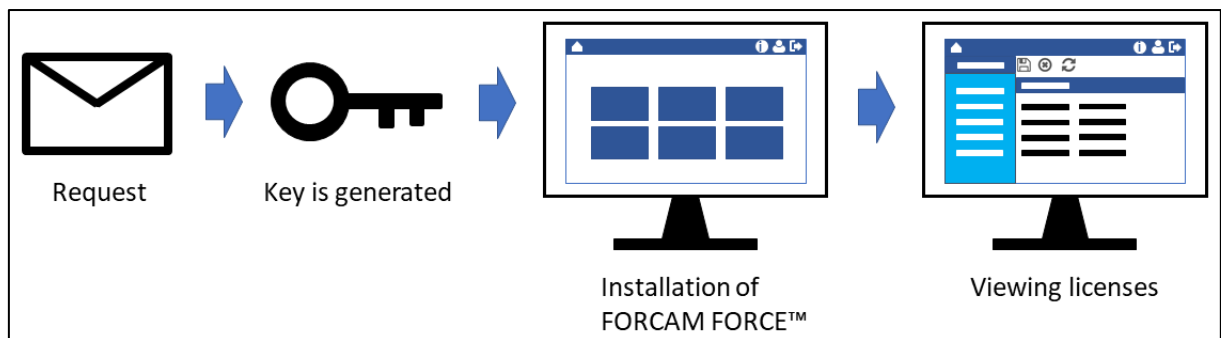
Fig. 1: Procedure for licensing FORCAM FORCE™ during installation

Types of Licenses

Licenses are always generated, imported and maintained online. This ensures a smooth process, which reduces the effort on all sides to a minimum. FORCAM can view licenses remotely at any time and support them if necessary.

Isolated installations, which for example are used for security reasons without an internet connection, can also be licensed offline. An encrypted license file is generated and manually read into the workbench. It is only decrypted again when it is imported.
In contrast to the online license, the offline variant involves a considerable amount of effort.

There are different types of licenses. A license can be permanent, temporary or part of a subscription. The following types of licenses are available:

Permanent

The license is permanently valid. No expiration date is displayed.

Temporary

A license that can be applied for and generated at short notice. This can be used, for example, to license an additional workplace spontaneously or unscheduled. The temporary license key is displayed in the configuration page.

Subscription

The license is only valid until an agreed time. Can be used to test FORCAM FORCE™, for example. The expiration date is displayed on the configuration page.
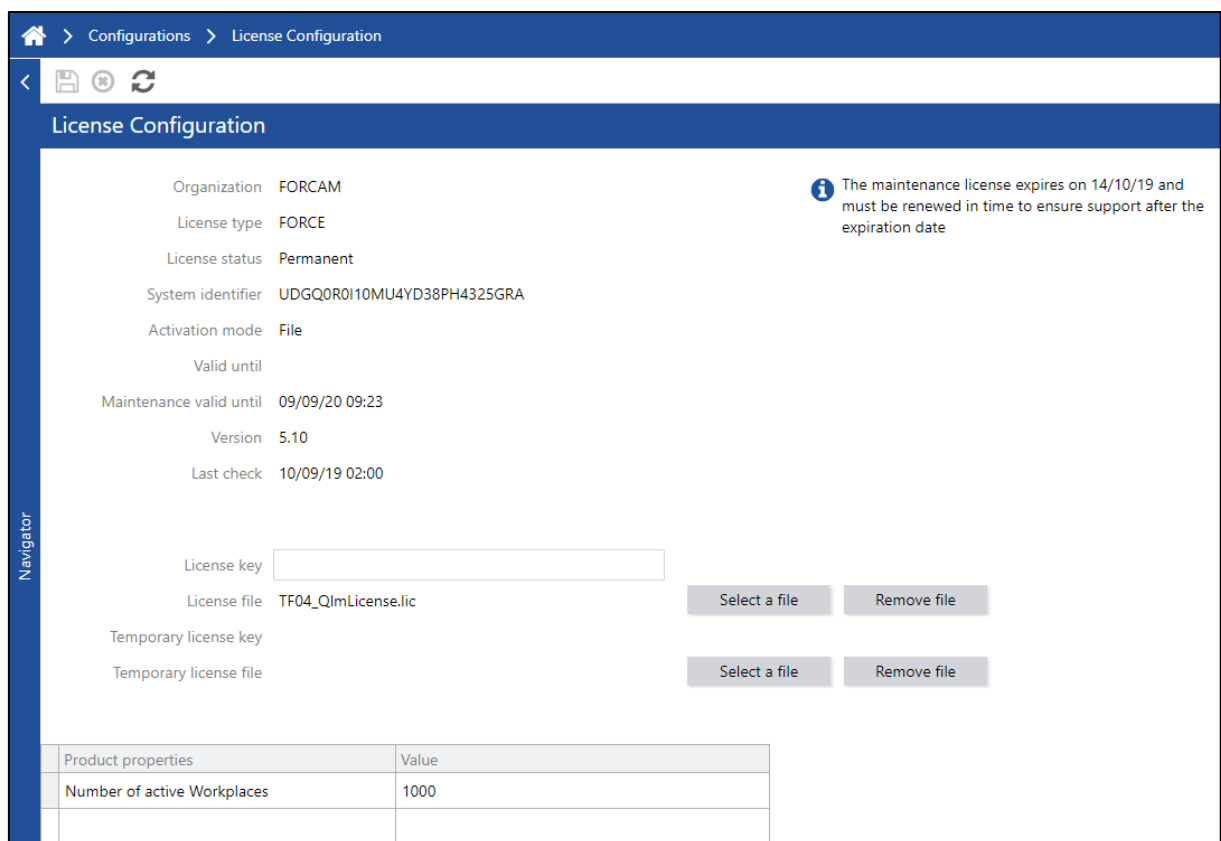
Grant and View License

Path (Workbench): Configurations > License Configuration

Product and maintenance licenses are read in this configuration page to license FORCAM FORCE™ or its maintenance. The validity of licenses can also be viewed here.

Licenses are provided exclusively by FORCAM. A key is generated for an online license. For an offline license, a license file is used.

ⓘ   If an invalid license key is entered, an error message appears in the lower bar of the Workbench.

Fig. 2: License Configuration in the Workbench

Table 1: Parameter of the License Configuration in the Workbench

Parameter	Description
Organization	Licensing organization
License type	Product for which the license is issued
License status	Type of product license (permanent, temporary)
System identifier	Unique identification of the system used
Activation mode	Activation form of license (e.g. "File" when using offline activation)
Valid until	Expiration date of the product license. No date is displayed for a permanent license.
Maintenance valid until	Expiration date of the maintenance license
Version	Currently used version of FORCAM FORCE™
Last check	The system automatically checks the validity of licenses on a daily basis. The date displayed here indicates when this check last took place. An automatic check also takes place if, for example, an additional workplace has been added. The refresh button in the upper bar updates the license configuration and triggers the check manually. The date then changes accordingly.
License key	The license key is entered here to license FORCAM FORCE™ online.
License file	The license file is uploaded here to license FORCAM FORCE™ offline. An uploaded file is displayed here. The same file cannot be used more than once.
Temporary license key	The temporary license key is entered here to extend the license for FORCAM FORCE™ by one or more workplaces.
Temporary license file	The temporary license file is uploaded here to extend the license for FORCAM FORCE™ by one or more workplaces.
Product properties table	Table indicating the licensed products (e.g. FORCAM FORCE™ for a certain number of workplaces)

License Expiration

Before a license expires, the user is informed in time. Messages in the header bar of the module and in the license configuration of the Workbench warn against expiration.

If a maintenance license expires, all modules can still be used. In this case, FORCAM simply no longer maintains them.

If the product license expires, only the Office and Workbench modules are blocked. A pop-up dialog appears in the Shop Floor Terminal. The Workbench can be called-up, but only the license configuration can be accessed.

Even the Shop Floor Terminal can no longer be used 14 days after the license expires. All interfaces including API are blocked.

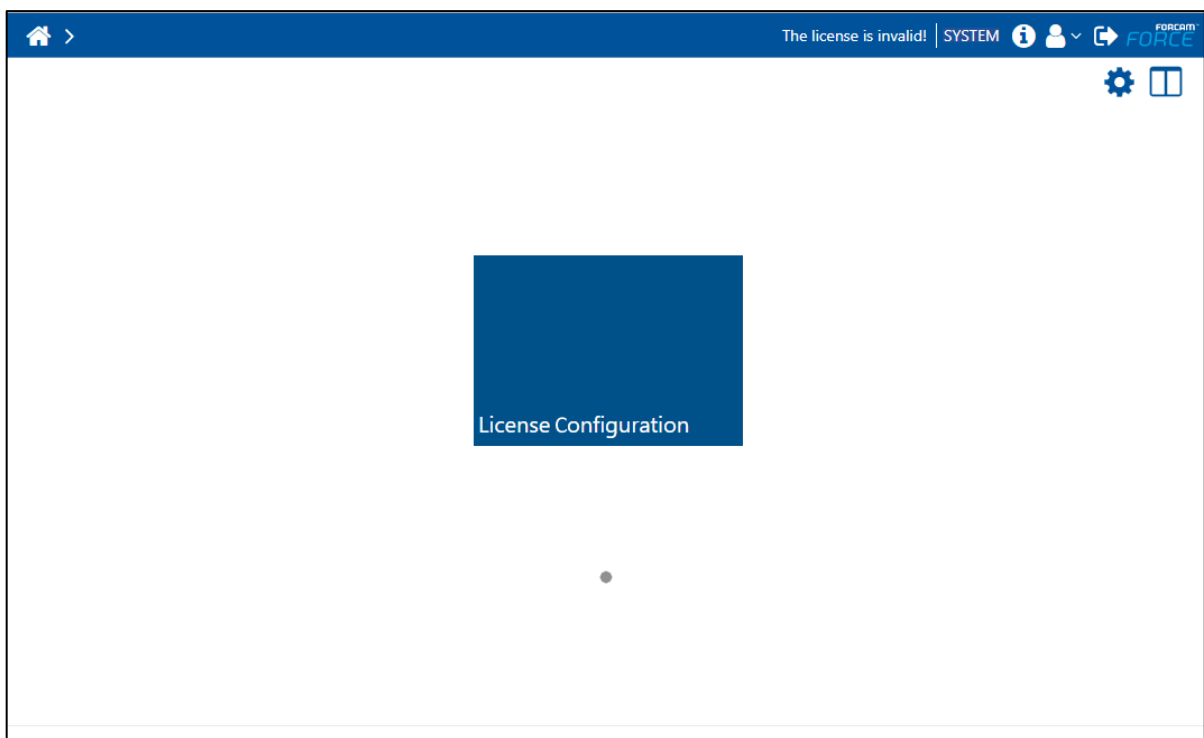ⓘ The Workbench tiles are also locked if no license is stored during the initial call-up.

Fig. 3: Locked entry page of the Workbench

Table 2: Times and reactions of expired licenses

Time	Reaction
Maintenance license	
3 months before expiration	Message in License Configuration
Maintenance license expired	– Message in License Configuration – Message in the Workbench header bar
Product license	
14 days before expiration	– Message in License Configuration – Message in the Workbench header bar ⚠ The product license message overrides the maintenance license message.
License expired, 14 days not yet elapsed	– Pop-up message in the Shop Floor Terminal – Locking the Office module – Only the license configuration can be called up in the Workbench.
14 days after expiration	– Locking of all interfaces including API

Scope of Functions

- Licensing of workplaces for the use of FORCAM FORCE™
- Maintenance licenses for support and assistance
- Different types of licenses
  - Permanent
  - Temporary
  - Subscription
- Online licensing with support via remote access
- Offline licensing for isolated installations (associated with expenses)
- Viewing licenses in the Workbench
- Messages before, during and after expiration of licenses
- Blocking of modules in case of missing or expired license