



CmActLicense

Datasheet

Important Notice

Edition 2019-08
Updated: 08/05/2019

Published by
WIBU-SYSTEMS AG
76137 Karlsruhe, Germany

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Overview

CmActLicenses are the alternative for protecting and licensing software without any hardware component. The CmActLicense technology is based on a signed and encrypted license file. ISVs can decide whether and how these licenses are bound to the devices of their users. The unique encryption of the license file itself also allows symmetric and asymmetric keys to be stored safely and confidentially on the users' devices.

CmActLicenses enable ISVs to encrypt and decrypt data symmetrically or asymmetrically, to sign data, and to verify signatures. AES 128-Bit, ECC 224-Bit, RSA 1024-Bit, and RSA 2048-Bit are available as the standard procedures for symmetric and asymmetric encryption.

To use CmActLicenses, CodeMeter Runtime, CodeMeter Embedded, or CodeMeter μ Embedded need to be available on the target system.

CmActLicenses are available in two versions: As CmActLicenses with a Firm Code 5.xxx.xxx and with Universal Firm Codes 6.xxx.xxx. Licenses for Firm Codes 5.xxx.xxx can only be used as CmActLicenses, whereas licenses for Universal Firm Codes 6.xxx.xxx can be used either as CmActLicenses or CmDongles.

CodeMeter SmartBind

CodeMeter SmartBind is the patented solution for binding a CmActLicense to a specific device that balances security and flexibility. CodeMeter SmartBind creates a digital fingerprint of the user's computer with several factors weighing a selection of identifying traits, such as the hard drive, motherboard, network card, or main processor of the computer. This fingerprint is automatically adjusted to match the environment and operating system in question. Specific factors for virtual environments are enforced automatically whenever a virtual environment is recognized.

The patented tolerance algorithm ensures that the CmActLicense and the cryptographic keys stored within remain valid even if the end user changes the hardware within a defined degree of tolerance. There are three levels of tolerance:

- SmartBind Tight
- SmartBind Medium
- SmartBind Loose.

CodeMeter Binding Extension

With CodeMeter Binding Extension, ISVs can create a custom binding for a CmActLicense to a trait of their choice. CodeMeter Runtime then uses this trait.

CodeMeter Runtime Extension

With CodeMeter Runtime Extension, ISVs create a custom binding for a CmActLicense with a trait of their choice and enable read / write functions in their custom implementation. CodeMeter Runtime, CodeMeter Embedded, and CodeMeter μ Embedded use the chosen trait and the function enabled by the ISV to read and write the license data.

Individual Binding

SmartBind automatically selects the optimum binding type for each CmActLicense. CodeMeter offers the following options for ISVs wishing to pre-set the binding type:

- A custom selection of hardware traits: hard drive (D), network card (N), CPU (C), motherboard (B)
- Random number generator
- Machine SID
- IP address
- Custom implementation by binding extension

License without Activation

ISVs can create CmActLicenses that can be used without activation. This type of CmActLicense is preactivated; it does not use any hardware fingerprint of the user's computer and can be imported into any other device. After the import, it is bound to the user's computer and provides safe storage for licenses and cryptographic keys. Licenses without activation are available as Trial and Protection Only Licenses.

Trial License

Temporary licenses that users can import once on each device can be used for demo and test license purposes. In this case, the ISVs need the "CodeMeter Trial License" option.

Protection Only License

If CodeMeter Protection Suite is used to protect software against reverse engineering without specific licensing, a license without activation is the ideal choice. The cryptographic keys used to protect the software are securely stored in the CmActLicense, which is separate from the protected software itself. This virtually prevents all reverse engineering attempts. To do so, ISVs need the "CodeMeter Protection Only License" option.

System Requirements

CmActLicense is integrated in CodeMeter Runtime, CodeMeter Embedded, and CodeMeter μ Embedded and cannot be used separately. The system requirements of the systems listed in the CodeMeter Runtime, CodeMeter Embedded, and CodeMeter μ Embedded datasheets apply.

Open Source Licenses

CmActLicense is integrated in CodeMeter Runtime, CodeMeter Embedded, and CodeMeter μ Embedded and cannot be used separately. The open source components listed in the datasheets for CodeMeter Runtime, CodeMeter Embedded, and CodeMeter μ Embedded apply.

Compatibility

Binding Type	CodeMeter Runtime	CodeMeter Embedded	CodeMeter μ Embedded
CodeMeter SmartBind	Yes/Yes	-/-	-/-
CodeMeter Binding Extension	Yes/Yes	-/-	-/-
CodeMeter Runtime Extension	Yes/-	Yes/Yes	Yes/-
License without activation (Protection Only / Trial)	Yes/Yes	-/-	-/-
Hardware Binding (DCBN)	Yes/Yes	-/-	-/-
Machine SID	-/Yes	-/-	-/-
Random Number	-/Yes	-/-	-/-
IP Address	-/Yes	-/-	-/-

Universal Firm Code (6.xxx.xxx) / CmActLicense Firm Code (5.xxx.xxx)

Order Numbers

The following order numbers include the right to create CmActLicenses.

xxxxx: stands for the individual ID of the specific license:

1305-01-xxxxx	License per CmContainer (for Universal Firm Code)
1305-02-xxxxx	License per Transaction (for Universal Firm Code)
1305-03-xxxxx	Protection Only License (for Universal Firm Code, 1 year)
1305-04-xxxxx	Trial License (for Universal Firm Code, 1 year)
1305-05-xxxxx	Unlimited Licenses (for Universal Firm Code, 1 year)