

BSD LinkMan-E Installation Instructions

BSD LinkMan-E (LME) can be installed on a network for multiple users, or on a standalone computer for individual use. LME requires the prior installation of BSD SpecLink-E (SLE) on the network or on the same standalone computer. It has two main installation options; the Standalone Computer Setup, and the Network Server Setup option. If you have SLE standalone and Revit on the same machine, you will usually want to choose the standalone install. For all network configurations of SpecLink-E and if Revit installations are on a different machine than that of SLE, select the Network Server Setup. Please call BSD technical support at 1-800-266-7732, or consult BSD's web site (www.bsdssoftlink.com) if further assistance is needed.

Overview

The content of this document provides detailed instructions on the two main types of installations.

To do a Standalone install:

- Perform a standalone setup on the computer using Standalone Computer Setup option.

To do a network install on a single server or shared workstation:

- Perform a network setup on that computer as described
- If needed, enable file and print sharing, and port number exceptions in firewall
- If needed, enable shared permissions on the client setup folder
- Perform a client software setup on each user computer by running setup.exe from the client setup location established during the network install.

Installation Requirements for the LinkMan-E Software:

Internet Connection. A connection to the Internet is required for successful installation. A test will be made for a connection at the beginning of the setup.

Hardware Requirements.

Recommended server configuration

- Intel-compatible processor, 2 GHz or better
- Windows Server 2008 or Windows 2003 Server software
- 4 GB or more RAM
- 1 GB minimum available disk space (5 GB recommended), high performance drives
- XGA or higher resolution monitor
- CD-ROM or DVD reader

Recommended client configuration

- Intel-compatible processor, 2 GHz or better
- Windows™, Windows 7, Vista, , or XP ,
- 2 GB RAM
- 1 GB available disk space
- XGA or higher resolution monitor
- Laser printer

- Internet Explorer 6.0 SP1 or higher

Recommended laptop or standalone configuration (runs both server and client applications)

- Intel-compatible processor, 2 GHz or better
- Windows™7, Vista, XP; or Windows™ 2008 Server
- 2 GB or more RAM
- 2 GB minimum available disk space (6 GB recommended)
- XGA or higher resolution monitor
- CD-ROM or DVD reader
- Laser printer
- Internet Explorer 6.0 SP1 or higher

Storage Requirements. The servers or standalone computers used by LME need to have a minimum of 1GB of disk space available to perform the install. BSD recommends that 4GB of disk space be allocated for the LME Projects database on an ongoing basis. The LME Master database requires at least 250MB and will grow over time.

Standalone Computer Setup

This setup is ONLY useful if the SpecLink-E has been installed using the Standalone option AND Revit is installed on the same computer as SLE. The standalone setup is used to perform a complete installation of LinkMan-E (LME) to a single computer and includes all components of a network setup (see above) as well as the client software and Revit Plug-in. The setup prompts for a location for the databases and the client setup packages installation (see default locations below). The client setup will begin automatically at the end of the installation. No further software installation is necessary.

The setup will install client software on the user's computer and place an entry for LinkMan-E under Building Systems Design, Inc. in the Windows Start Menu. It will also install the Revit Plug-in if one or more copies of Revit are found on the computer. If no Revit installation is found on the computer, the process will discontinue and will give the user a message. LinkMan-E will display a page from BSD's website on the My Start Page tab when it first starts up. My Start Page lets you browse BSD's website (and other locations) from within the LinkMan-E application.

Note: Microsoft .NET framework 3.5 will be installed during the setup if not already present.

Database default location: C:\Program Files\Building Systems Design\Data

Client setup package default location: C:\LME Setup Packages\LME Client Setup

Unlike the network setup option, there is no separate Revit Add-in setup deployed at c:\LME Setup Packages

Network Server Setup

Installation

Network setup is used for local area networks (LANs), wide area networks (WANs), virtual private networks (VPN's, or peer-to-peer networks.) The components of a LinkMan-E network setup include the following:

- The LinkMan-E databases, used as a data foundation for all software functionality
- A client setup package, used to install the end user computer software

- A Revit Add-In component that handles Revit's communications with LME. The Add-In works with both Revit 2009 and 2010, in all flavors of Revit (Architectural, Structural, and MEP).

Find the computer where the SLE Server (BSD Data Server) and the SLE databases are installed. In a network server setup, you can select the location of the Client Setup package and the Revit Add-In on this computer, but the database files will be installed at the same drive location as the pre-existing SpecLink-E databases. The Network Server setup will install the LinkMan-E databases, and deploy the client setup package, and the Revit Add-in component.

After the network setup has completed, any user on the network with access to the client setup package location can start the Client Software Setup – see instructions below.

Database default location: C:\Program Files\Building Systems Design\Data

Client setup package default location: C:\LME Setup Packages\LME Client Setup

Revit Add-in setup package default location: C:\LME Setup Packages\LME Revit Plugin Setup

Client Software Setup

In both the standalone and a network environment, the Client software is a separate application that runs on each individual user's computer, using the master databases stored on a server or shared workstation. Once the installation of the setup packages is complete, each user will need to run the setup.exe file for one or both of the setup packages from their computer (the client software package for the end user and the Revit package to set up communications with Revit) depending on which applications they need. The Revit Add-In should be installed on every computer that runs Revit and from which you might want to collect modeling data. The Client package setup.exe should be run from each computer at which someone might want to access LinkMan-E for status information on assemblies and products being used in Revit or specified in SpecLink-E.

Client software setup is started by navigating to the client setup package *location established during the network setup*. Each user must have access to that location to start. The software is designed to be run on a local area network,(LAN), a wide area network, and /or using a virtual private network (VPN) over the Internet.

During the Client installation, you may be presented with a License Agreement for Crystal Reports Basic. Click Accept to continue with the installation.

NOTE:: Client software setup does not need to be run for a Standalone installation, because this task is accomplished automatically.

The setup will install client software on the user's computer and place an entry for LinkMan-E under Building Systems Design, Inc. in the Windows Start Menu. Once the LinkMan-E Client Setup is complete, the client software will start automatically and you will encounter a dialog box with instructions for entering the name of the server computer where the databases are located. This is a one time task. You will be instructed to click on the Tools tab and then click the Set Server Name button. In a standalone install situation the port number (9047) and the name for your computer should be the correct defaults. If the name of your computer is missing, you can use the substitute name "localhost".

If you have done a Network install you should see the port number (9047) and a dropdown list of server names on your network. You will need to choose or type in the name of the server where you installed the SLE server and LME server software. This will be the same computer where your databases are installed as well. You do NOT need to enter slashes or any other punctuation with the name.

For either install, once you have entered the server name click the Save button. The software will restart and if you see a green 'ON' sign in the bottom right border of the main window, all is well and you are up and running. See the Troubleshooting section if you don't see the green 'ON' sign. LinkMan-E will display a page from BSD's website on the My Start Page tab when it first starts up. My Start Page lets you browse BSD's website (and other locations) from within the LinkMan-E application.

The client application is automatically installed in a Microsoft-approved location within the user's Local Settings directory. Among other things, this greatly simplifies installation, improves security, and obviates the need for administrative privileges during installation and updating processes.

After the initial installation of the client software by the end user, updates are handled automatically. Each client software instance checks its installation package location each time it starts. When an update arrives from BSD either by download or CD/DVD, it can be installed to the network server at the system manager's discretion. When the client software discovers the new package on its next startup, it replaces itself with the new version and restarts. Even on slow networks this update is typically completed in one to two minutes. No administrator login or other support is required and the process is virtually transparent since no input is required of the user on either initial or subsequent installs.

Updating the Server and Standalone Installations. To update the network installation or the Standalone computer installation, run the same option or options used to install the original software. This will update the server services files and the client setup package with the latest files.

Updating the Client Software. The client software automatically checks the client setup package each time it starts up. If the client setup package has been updated (above) the client software updates and restarts itself. The user does not need to do anything else.

Updating the Revit Plugin Software: If you are using a standalone installation, your revit plugin will be automatically updated along with your other LME components. If you are using a network setup, each of your Revit machines will need to run the Revit Plugin setup manually to get the latest version on that individual machine.

Uninstalling the Software. Uninstall will only remove the LinkMan-E Revit Plug-in files. The LME databases will be removed when a SpecLink-E server uninstall is performed. In Control Panel, locate the entry named "BSD LinkMan-E Revit Plug-in" to perform the uninstall. Note: the External Applications entries for the Revit Plug-in must be removed from the Revit.ini file by editing in this version.

Troubleshooting:

Problems connecting to the Server in a network environment. If a connection to the server could not be found, or if the Ribbon Bar menu is grayed out and there is a red “OFF” sign in the bottom right border of the main window, it is possible that the client has not obtained the correct location of the server. Make sure you have installed the server.

If you still have problems, please call BSD Support at 1-800-266-7732 to get help.