CFS Network License Instructions

1. Create Network Server Share Folder

Requirements:

- The CFS network license must be hosted on a physical server running Windows Server 2008 or later, or a Windows PC running Windows 7 or later. The server or computer chosen should be running and available at all times for CFS users to access.
- The server must be on your Local Area Network (LAN) where CFS users are connected. The license may be accessed over a Wide Area Network (WAN) or Virtual Private Network (VPN) although performance may be affected. The CFS network license cannot be used outside the country where the license server is located.
- A Network-Attached Storage (NAS) device cannot be used to host the license file.
- An external server (e.g., AWS, SharePoint, DropBox) cannot be used to host the license file.

a. Create a subfolder on the server to host license file.

b. Share the folder with all CFS users with permission to read, write, and delete files. For more details on folder sharing and permissions, please seek Windows networking support or find online assistance such as this article: https://pureinfotech.com/setup-network-file-sharing-windows-10.

2. Ensure Sufficient Internet Access

The CFS application (CFS.exe) must be able to communicate with https://secure.softwarekey.com using port 443. This is required for the computer used to activate the CFS license, and for all users of the CFS software. Make sure any firewalls or other security measures enable this communication.

If you are using a proxy server for Internet access, the CFS application should be white-listed to bypass the proxy server and communicate directly with the license management system. If this is not done, CFS will display a message about contacting RSG Software for the necessary registry settings for proxy server authentication.

3. Activate License

a. Download the latest version of CFS Desktop Application from https://rsgsoftware.com/?cfsfiles and install it on any Windows PC (Windows 7 or later) connected to your network. This software should not and cannot be installed on Windows Server.

b. Run the CFS software and choose *Network License Settings* from the *Tools* menu.

c. Enter the *Company* name as the CFS users want it shown on CFS outputs, including proper case and punctuation. All users will need to use the Company name underline exactly as you enter it for activation.

d. Enter the *Share folder* name using the UNC path (\\server\share\folder) where "server" is the actual name of the server. It cannot be a drive mapping, DFS path, or any alias for the server. You may use the server IP address instead of server name, but this is not recommended.

e. Click [Activate License] and enter the *License ID* and *Activation Password* provided with the CFS Network License purchase invoice, then click [Activate]. If successful, the license file will be created

in the *Share folder* and the license information will be shown in the status window. If not, refer to **Common License Errors** below.

4. Automate Client Settings

Each CFS user will need the *Company* name and *Share folder* settings made on their computer, <u>exactly</u> as entered for the license activation. These are registry settings which may be pushed out to each user's computer by following these steps.

a. Click the [Automate Clients] button, which will post the necessary registry content to the Windows Clipboard.

b. Paste this registry content into a text editor and save it as a .reg file.

c. Push the registry settings to each CFS user's computer using your normal deployment tools. You may alternatively distribute this registry file to each user, which they can double-click to merge the settings. Note, this will require administrator permission running under their own user name.

Alternatively, each user may manually enter the *Company* name and *Share folder* entries into CFS (see **Acquire License** below).

5. CFS Installation

Each user may download and install CFS themselves. If you want to push the installation to their computers, use the following syntax to run the installer silently on their computer.

    cfs14XXinst.exe /s

If CFS is already installed, you should silently uninstall it first using a command line similar to:

  "C:\Program Files (x86)\RSG Software\CFS 14\Uninstall.exe" /s

6. Acquire License

If the network license settings were not pushed out to each user as described in **Automate Client Settings**, each user must manually enter the settings in CFS.

a. Provide them with the <u>exact</u> entries for *Company* name and *Share folder* that were used to activate the license. Do this electronically so they can use Copy and Paste and prevent typing errors.

b. The user should start CFS on their computer and choose *Network License Settings* from the *Tools* menu.

c. The user should enter the *Company* name and *Share folder* entries <u>exactly</u> as provided to them, then click [Acquire License].

d. The user should click [Close] to close the *Network License Settings* window.

7. License Usage

The number of network license seats purchased corresponds to the number of concurrent users of the CFS license. For each network license in use, a network semaphore file is created in the license share folder with the name CFSsema00?.net. When CFS is closed, the license is released and the semaphore file is deleted.

The license share folder also contains the file CFSLicense.log, which is a log of all the license activity. If all licenses are in use, this log file can help determine who is currently using a license.

If a user disconnected from the network before closing CFS, or if CFS was terminated abnormally, an orphaned license semaphore file may remain. The operating system will eventually close these files so they can be deleted. But if necessary, you can manually close an open semaphore file using *Computer Management* as an administrator on the server. Choose *System Tools → Shared Folders → Open Files →* CFSsema00?.net → *Close Open File*.

8. Common License Errors

0: No error (but Network license not established). This can occur when activating the license using a server that does not meet the requirements outlined in **Create Network Server Share Folder** above.

5013: No Remaining Activations. The license has already been activated. If you need to change the *Company* name or *Share folder*, you must deactivate the license first. Refer to the CFS help topic https://rsgsoftware.com/cfshelp/?license-activation.

5018: No Remaining Deactivations. There are a limited number of deactivations for a license, provided to help you deal with hardware changes or machine failures. If you run out of deactivations, contact RSG Software and provide the License ID you need to deactivate.

9101: Web service call failed. CFS was unable to communicate with https://secure.softwarekey.com. Make sure your computer is connected to the Internet and CFS is not restricted from accessing this site. Refer to **Ensure Sufficient Internet Access** above.

9200: License not found – activation is required. The CFS license file does not exist in the specified *Share folder*. Activation is required or the *Share folder* must be corrected before the license can be acquired.

9400: The system could not be identified as the one to which this license was issued. The *Company* name or *Share folder* entries are different from those used to activate the license. Refer to any computer which successfully retrieves a license to determine the correct entries. Otherwise you may need to deactivate the license and activate it again. Refer to the CFS help topic https://rsgsoftware.com/cfshelp/?license-activation.