NVIDIA Professional Application Center

5 May 2017 Document version 2.0





Copyright Information

© 2017 NVIDIA Corporation. All rights reserved.

This document is protected under copyright law. The contents of this document may not be translated, copied or duplicated in any form, in whole or in part, without the express written permission of NVIDIA Corporation.

The information contained in this document is subject to change without notice. NVIDIA Corporation and its employees shall not be responsible for incidental or consequential damages resulting from the use of this material or liable for technical or editorial omissions made herein.

NVIDIA and the NVIDIA logo are registered trademarks of NVIDIA Corporation. imatter, IndeX, Iray, mental images, mental ray, and RealityServer are trademarks and/or registered trademarks of NVIDIA Corporation. Other product names mentioned in this document may be trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective companies and are hereby acknowledged.

Document build number 293914

Contents

	Preface	1
	About this document	1
	Audience	1
	What this document contains	1
1	Introduction to NVIDIA Professional Application Center	2
	1.1 Installing NVIDIA Professional Application Center	2
	1.2 Working with NVIDIA Professional Application Center	3
2	Verifying product states	4
3	Product updates	7
	3.1 Automatic update notification	7
	3.2 Manual check for product updates	8
	3.3 Manual installation of product updates	8
4	Accessing support resources	9
	4.1 Documentation	9
	4.2 User forums	10
	4.3 NVIDIA support	10
5	Enabling desktop analytics	13
6		14
	6.1 Accessing logs for troubleshooting	14
	6.2 Accessing the downloads directory	
7	Accessing NVIDIA Professional Application Center product information	
8	Licensing	
	8.1 Understanding license types	17
	8.1.1 Local license subscription	
	8.1.2 Network license subscription	17
	8.1.3 ProGPU subscription	17
	8.1.4 Free trial evaluations	17
	8.2 Obtaining software products	18
	8.3 Using your NVIDIA Enterprise Account	20
	8.3.1 Creating an NVIDIA Enterprise Account	21
	8.4 Using the NVIDIA license portal	
	8.4.1 Redeeming a Product Activation Key (PAK)	25
	8.4.2 Generating a license file	28
	8.5 Installing a local license	33
	8.6 Using a network license	34

Preface

About this document

This document introduces the NVIDIA Professional Application Center (NVPAC), which is used to manage subscription licenses for NVIDIA Advanced Rendering software. NVPAC is automatically installed when you install your NVIDIA product. It tracks the status of your subscription licenses for all of your NVIDIA products. From its user interface (UI), you click action buttons to start the processes for buying, activating, and adding subscription licenses.

Audience

This document is intended for anyone downloading and installing NVIDIA Advanced Rendering software.

What this document contains

This document introduces the NVPAC and the licensing process, as described in the following chapters:

- Introduction to NVIDIA Professional Application Center (page 2) provides a brief introduction to NVIDIA Professional Application Center and and its purpose.
- Verifying product states (page 4) describes how to verify the licensing status of NVIDIA products installed on your machine.
- Product updates (page 7) describes how to check for updates of NVIDIA products, including the NVIDIA Professional Application Center.
- Accessing support resources (page 9) describes links to product documentation, user forums, and NVIDIA Support.
- Enabling desktop analytics (page 13) discusses usage statistics.
- Accessing logs and download directories (page 14) describes how to access logs for troubleshooting and locate product downloads.
- Accessing NVIDIA Professional Application Center product information (page 16) describes how to find the product version number and link to the Terms of Service and the NVIDIA Privacy Policy.
- Licensing (page 17) provides an introduction to the types of subscription licenses, how to purchase and generate a license file, and how to install a local license.

1 Introduction to NVIDIA Professional Application Center

This chapter provides a brief introduction to NVIDIA Professional Application Center and its purpose.

1.1 Installing NVIDIA Professional Application Center

NVPAC is installed when you install an NVIDIA product. Depending on your operating system, a launch icon, is added to your desktop:

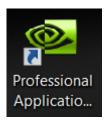


Figure 1.1

When you start the NVIDIA Professional Application Center, the UI is displayed:

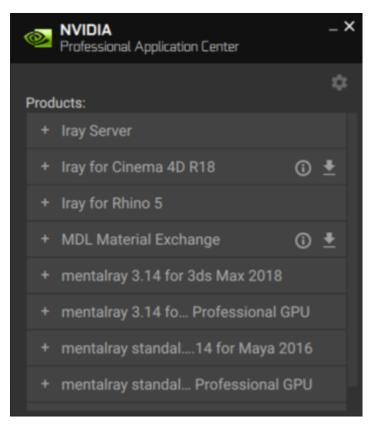


Fig. 1.2 – NVIDIA Professional Application Center home page

Any NVIDIA products installed on your machine are listed in the UI.

1.2 Working with NVIDIA Professional Application Center

The NVIDIA Professional Application Center helps you manage your NVIDIA products and licenses by automatically performing the following tasks:

- Listing all NVIDIA products installed on your machine, if any. Figure 1.2 (page 2) for example, lists the eight NVIDIA products installed on a particular machine. If there are no products installed, then the product list is empty.
- Announcing product updates, if any. Two icons are associated with product updates:
 - Information icon: Clicking this icon displays a web page that describes the new features.
 - Download and install icon: Clicking this icon starts the download and installation process.

In Figure 1.2 (page 7), these icons announce product updates for Iray for Cinema 4D and MDL Material Exchange.

From NVPAC, you can perform the following tasks:

- Licensing (page 17)
- Installing updates (page 7)
- Verifying product states (page 4)
- Accessing support and documentation (page 9)
- Sending usage statistics (page 13)
- Accessing logs and download directories (page 14)

2 Verifying product states

This chapter describes how to verify the licensing status of NVIDIA products installed on your machine.

To check the status of a particular NVIDIA product installed on your machine, click the expand/collapse (+) icon next to the product name:

- If you uploaded a subscription license to NVIDIA Professional Application Center and you are still within the subscription period: The following information should be displayed in the user interface:
 - The version number of the product
 - The type of subscription license
 - The start and end dates of the subscription period

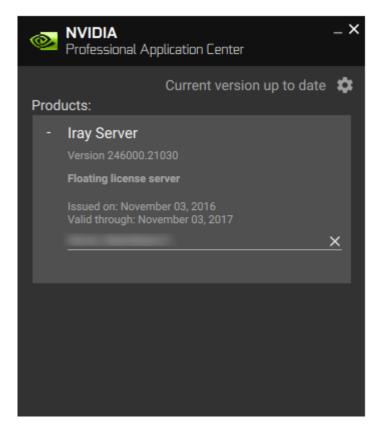


Fig. 2.1 – *Subscription license*

If this information is not displayed, open the Settings menu and click the [Verify product states] command. The status of your license subscriptions is verified for all your NVIDIA products.

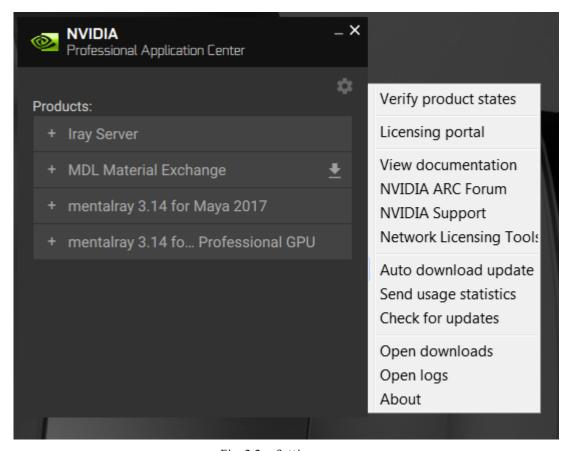


Fig. 2.2 – Settings menu

- If a subscription license was not uploaded to NVIDIA Professional Application Center: One of the following messages is displayed in the user interface:
 - No license found
 - License status unknown

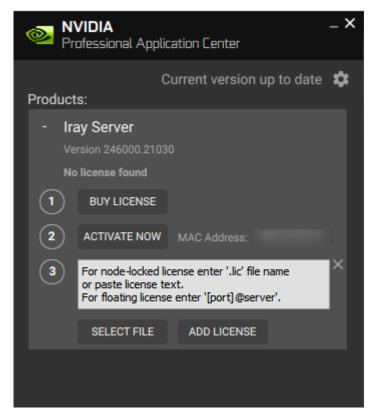


Fig. 2.3 – In this example, no license was found for Iray Server Version 246000.21030

The Licensing (page 17) chapter guides you through the licensing process.

3 Product updates

This chapter describes how to check for updates of NVIDIA products, including NVIDIA Professional Application Center.

3.1 Automatic update notification

NVIDIA Professional Application Center automatically notifies you when an NVIDIA product update is available for download and installation:

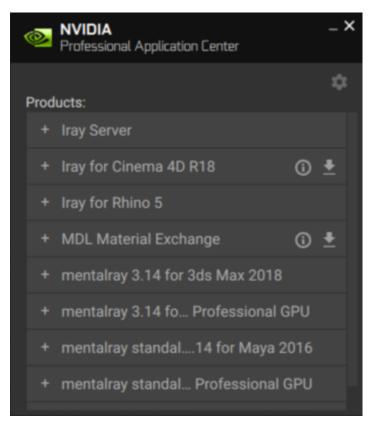


Fig. 3.1 – In this figure, product updates are available for Iray for Cinema 4D and MDL Material Exchange

Two icons are displayed to the right of the product name:

- Information icon: A link to a description of product update
- Download icon: Clicking this icon starts the download and install process

3.2 Manual check for product updates

If you want to turn off the automatic notification process for product updates and check for updates manually:

- 1. Open the Settings menu.
- 2. Deselect the checkbox next to the [Auto download updates] command.
- 3. To check for product updates, click the [Check for updates] command.

3.3 Manual installation of product updates

When you download a product update, you can always postpone the installation of the update to a time that is more convenient for you.

To link to NVIDIA product downloads, open the Settings menu and click the [Opendownloads] command. The directory containing the downloads is opened.

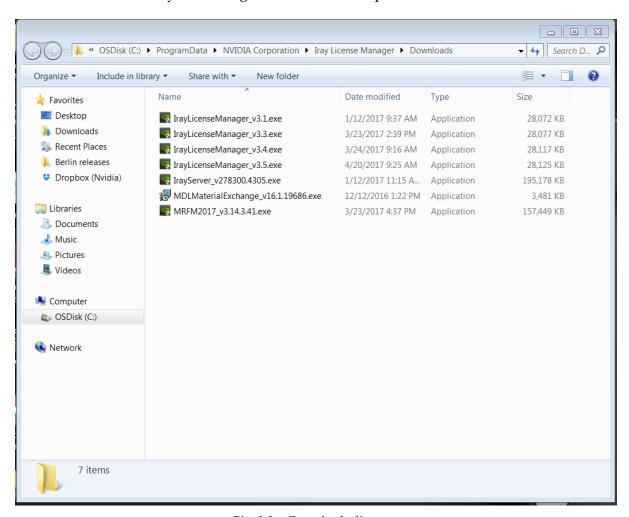


Fig. 3.2 – Downloads directory

Click the *.exe file to start the installation of the product update.

4 Accessing support resources

NVIDIA Professional Application Center provides links to supporting documentation, user forums, and support services.

4.1 Documentation

Comprehensive documentation is provided for all NVIDIA Advanced Rendering software, including the NVIDIA Professional Application Center:

- NVIDIA Professional Application Center guide:
 - Open the Settings menu and click the [View documentation] command, or
 - Go to the NVIDIA *Network licensing tools*¹ web page and click the appropriate link.

All other guides are accessible from the plugins themselves or from the NVIDIA *Network licensing tools*² web page.

• Product and licensing-specific guides: Accessible from your licensed software.

 $^{{}^1} h ttps://www.nvidia.com/object/advanced-rendering-licensing-tools.html\\$

²https://www.nvidia.com/object/advanced-rendering-licensing-tools.html

4.2 User forums

The user forums are the first and best point of contact for any issues you have with your NVIDIA Advanced Rendering products. To link to these forums, open the Settings menu and click the [NVIDIA ARC Forum] command.

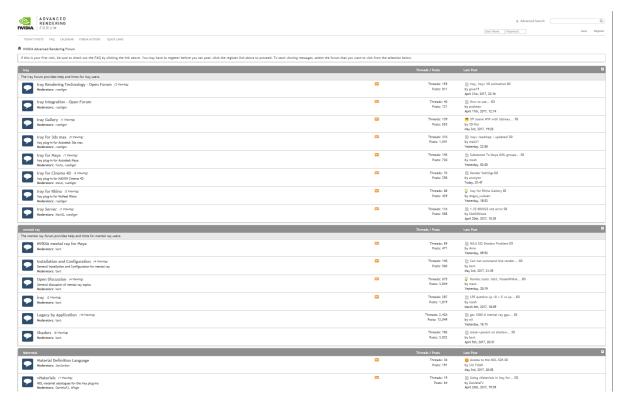


Fig. 4.1 – NVIDIA ARC Forum landing page

The user forums provide help and hints for:

- *Iray and Mental Ray products:* Specific threads are dedicated to the various products that integrate Iray and Mental Ray renderers.
- Material Definition Language (MDL): Covers the MDL SDK and vMaterial catalogs.

4.3 NVIDIA support

For issues not addressed or adequately explained in the forums, a link is provided to NVIDIA support: Open the Settings menu and click the [NVIDIA Support] command.

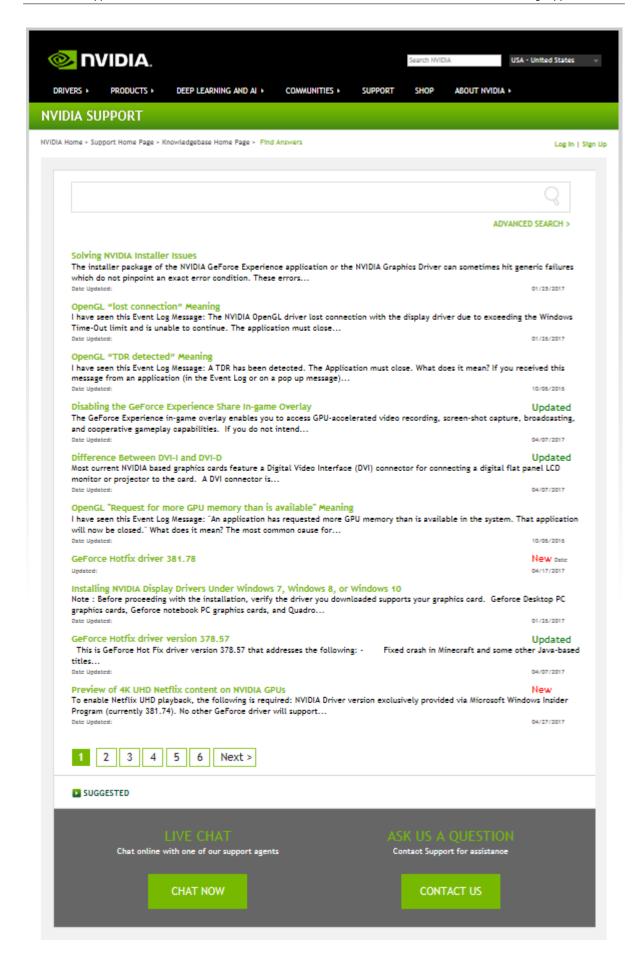


Fig. 4.2 – *NVIDIA Support web page*

This link takes you to the NVIDIA Support Knowledge Base page, where the most recent Knowledge Base articles are displayed in question and answer format. Use the search bar to look for specific information or scroll to the bottom of the page where links are provided to contact the NVIDIA Customer Support team.

5 Enabling desktop analytics

When you first install NVIDIA Professional Application Center, the system asks you if you agree to send anonymized usage statistics to NVIDIA. The collected information is used for error reporting, product recommendations, and improvements to Advanced Rendering software.

For a more detailed description of the collected information, refer to the End User License Agreement (EULA) and the NVIDIA Professional Application Center Terms of Service. To access these documents, open the Settings menu and click the [About] command. Links to these documents are displayed on the About page.

You can change your preference at any time by activating or deactivating the [Sendusage statistics] command in the Settings menu.

6 Accessing logs and download directories

6.1 Accessing logs for troubleshooting

In some cases, NVIDIA support agents may need product logs to help identify and resolve an issue.

To link to NVIDIA product logs, open the Settings menu and click the [Open logs] command. The directory containing the logs is opened:

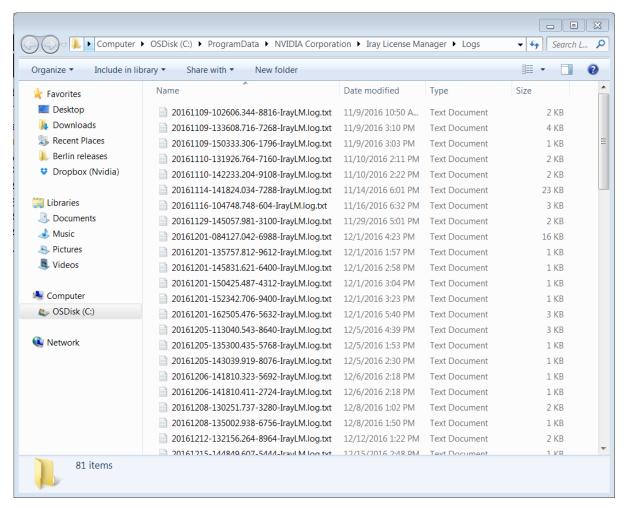


Fig. 6.1 – Logs directory

From this directory, download and send the appropriate logs to the NVIDIA support agent.

6.2 Accessing the downloads directory

To link to NVIDIA product downloads, open the Settings menu and click the [Opendownloads] command. The directory containing Advanced Rendering product downloads is opened.

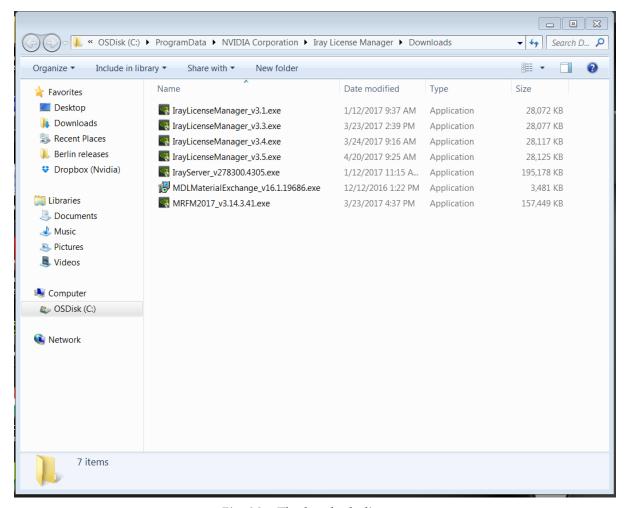


Fig. 6.2 – *The downloads directory*

7 Accessing NVIDIA Professional Application Center product information

To access additional information about your NVIDIA Professional Application Center installation, open the Settings menu and click the [About] command. The About window is displayed.

From this window, you can:

• Access the product version, which may be requested by Customer Service when you file a help request.

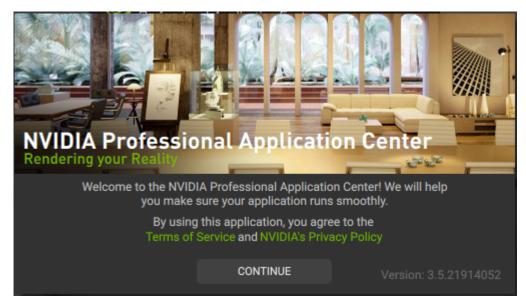


Fig. 7.1 – About window. The version number is displayed in the bottom-right corner.

• Link to the Terms of Service and the NVIDIA Privacy Policy.

8 Licensing

This chapter explains:

- The difference license types
- How to buy a license and receive your production activation key
- How to register you product activation key and generate a license
- How to redeem a product activation key
- How to generate a license file
- How to install a local license or a ProGPU license
- How to point clients to a license server

8.1 Understanding license types

This chapter describes the subscription licenses offered by NVIDIA.

8.1.1 Local license subscription

A local license is locked to a single machine. For most customers, a local license is the most suitable. Installation is a simple process.

8.1.2 Network license subscription

A network license is downloadable from a license server and available to network users. Setting up a network license configuration is obviously more complex than installing a license on a single machine. You need to install a license server and ensure that the machine that runs your NVIDIA product always has network access to the machine running the license server. For large enterprises with an experienced network administrator, and many users, a network license setup may be ideal.

8.1.3 ProGPU subscription

The ProGPU is a specialized local license, specifically created for machines with Professional GPUs. If you have installed a Fermi Class (or better) Quadro or Tesla GPU, you are eligible for a Professional GPU license.

8.1.4 Free trial evaluations

For evaluation purposes, NVIDIA offers Iray product downloads with a 90-day free trial license. Before you purchase a license, you will receive notification about how many days remain in your free trial period. Unless you purchase a license by the end of the free trial period, your NVIDIA product will stop working.

8.2 Obtaining software products

The following procedure describes how to buy a license and receive your product activation key, or keys.

1. From the NVPAC, display the plugin details by clicking the + icon next to the product name:

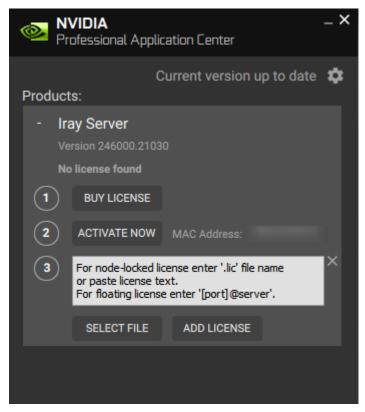


Fig. 8.1 – After clicking on the + icon, licensing information is displayed

- 2. Click the Buy License button. The web page for the NVIDIA Advanced Rendering Software Store is displayed.
- 3. From the web page, select the appropriate link:
 - Buy Now if you are purchasing your product inside the US and Canada
 - Buy Outside the US and Canada
 - Find a Reseller

If you choose to buy directly from NVIDIA, the web page for the NVIDIA Advanced Rendering Software Store is displayed:

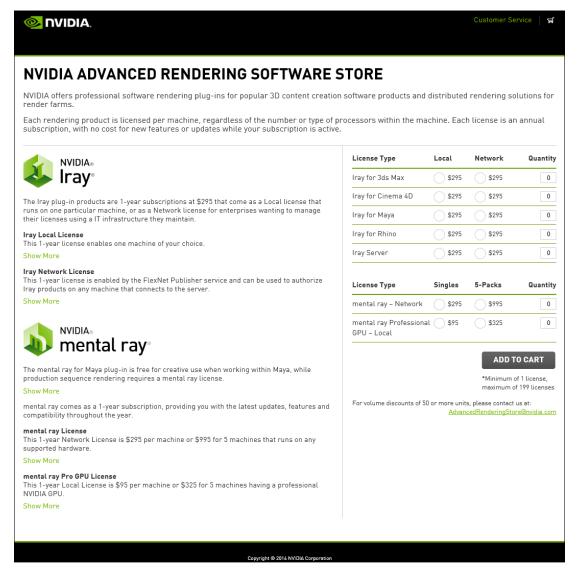


Figure 8.2

To choose a product, click on the version of the product that you would like to buy — Local, Network, or ProGPU — and select either Single or 5-pack. Enter Quantity and click Add to Cart. You can choose only one version of software at a time, for example, network or local license. If you need several versions — for example, network and local license: complete the process for purchasing a network version, click the Continue Shopping button which returns you to the home screen, and initiate the process for purchasing a local license.

Note:

- For a description of local and network licenses, see the section Understanding license types (page 17)
- For most customers, a local license is the most suitable. Installation is a simple process.

- 4. Complete the buying process. After completing the buying process, a Product Activation Key (PAK) is provided; the PAK is also included in a follow-up email.
- 5. After you receive your PAK, continue with Using the NVIDIA license portal (page 24).

8.3 Using your NVIDIA Enterprise Account

The following procedure describes how to register your product activation key and generate a license.

1. Open the NVPAC window and click the Activate Now button.

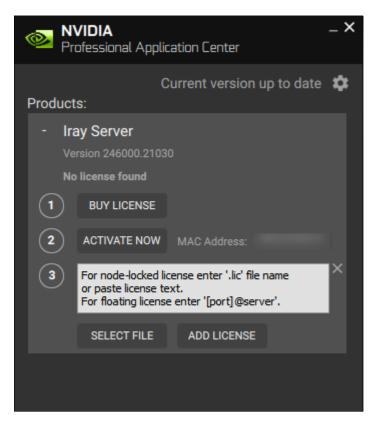


Figure 8.3

The NVIDIA Enterprise Account log in page³ is displayed:

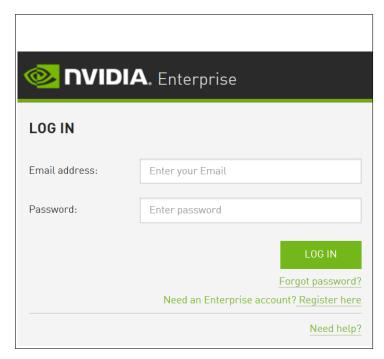


Figure 8.4

Do one of the following:

- If you have an NVIDIA Enterprise Account, log in⁴ and register your key as explained in Using the NVIDIA license portal (page 24).
- If you do not have an NVIDIA Enterprise Account, go to Creating an NVIDIA Enterprise Account (page 21).

8.3.1 Creating an NVIDIA Enterprise Account

To create an NVIDIA Enterprise Account, perform the following steps:

1. From the Log In window, click **Register here**. The NVIDIA Enterprise Account registration page⁵ is displayed:

³https://nvid.nvidia.com/dashboard/#/apps

⁴https://nvid.nvidia.com/dashboard/#/apps

⁵https://nvid.nvidia.com/nvidiautilities/#/createNewuser?

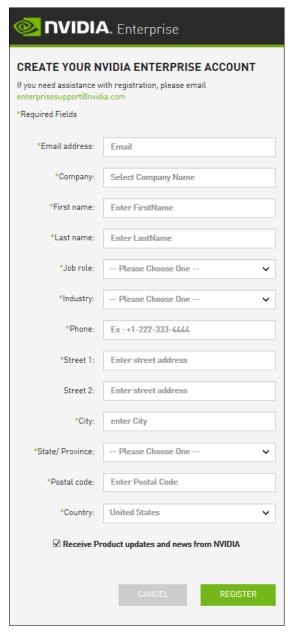


Figure 8.5

2. Fill in the required fields and click the Register button. A confirmation window is displayed:

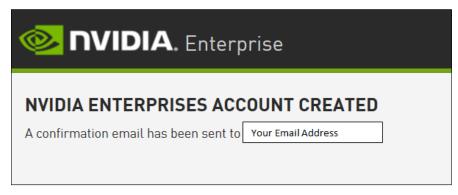


Figure 8.6

In addition, an email is sent to the address you specified in the registration page.

3. From your mailbox, open the confirmation email:

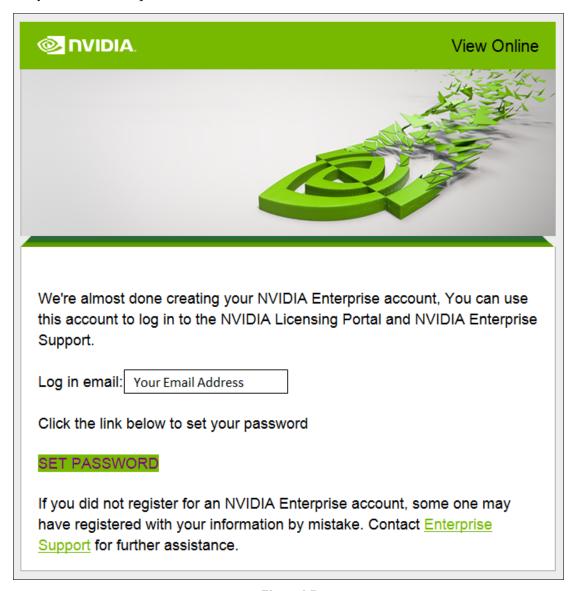


Figure 8.7

This email asks you to set your password.

4. Click the **Set Password** link. The Create New Password window is displayed:

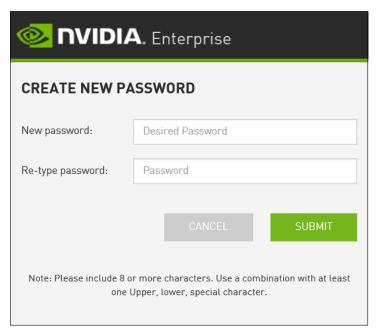


Figure 8.8

5. Enter your password and click the Submit button.

Note: A valid password:

- Must be eight (8) or more characters long
- Must include uppercase and lowercase characters
- Must include a special character

When you enter a valid password, a confirmation window is displayed:



Figure 8.9

Now that you have an Enterprise Account, you can log in⁶ and register your key as explained in the following steps.

⁶https://nvid.nvidia.com/dashboard/#/apps

- 8.4 Using the NVIDIA license portal
- 8.4.1 Redeeming a Product Activation Key (PAK)
 - Click the NVIDIA Licensing Portal button.
 Your Product Information page is displayed:

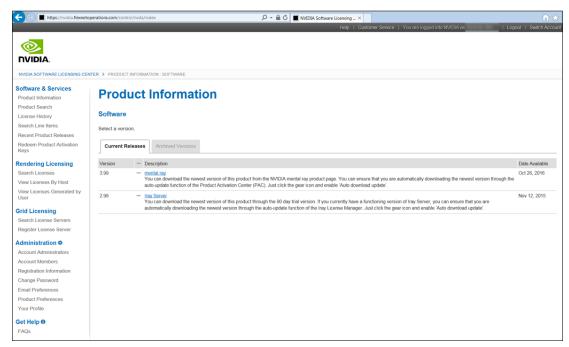


Figure 8.10

From this page you start the process to you redeem you Product Activation Keys, as explained in the next step.

Note: If this is the first time you are activating a Product Activation Key, no products are listed on this page.

2. Go to the Redeem Product Activation Keys page⁷ by clicking the link in the side bar, under Software & Services.

Perform the following steps to redeem your Product Activation Keys (PAKs):

Thttps://nvidia.flexnetoperations.com/control/nvda/registeradditionallicensetokens

2.1. Copy and paste your PAKs in the provided input fields and click the Redeem button:

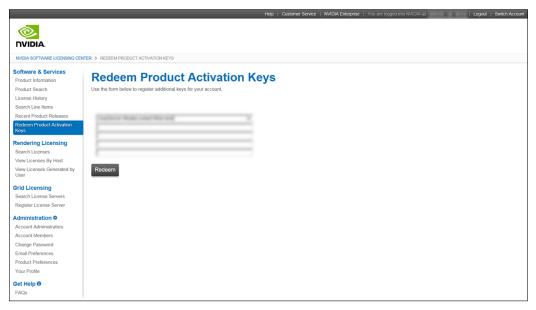


Figure 8.11

2.2. The system will ask you to verify the primary application that you will be using with your NVIDIA product:

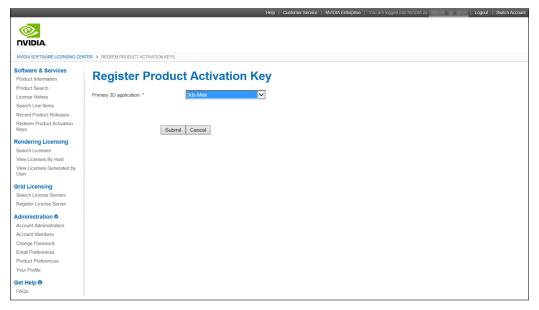


Figure 8.12

2.3. After verifying your platform, you are prompted to click **Submit** again:

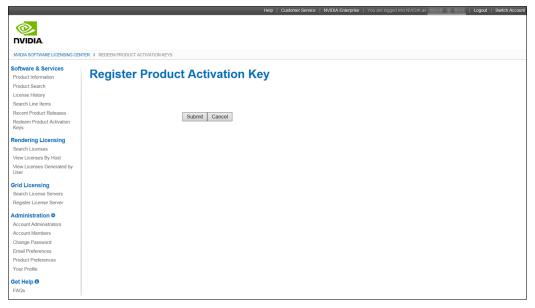


Figure 8.13

The following confirmation page is displayed:

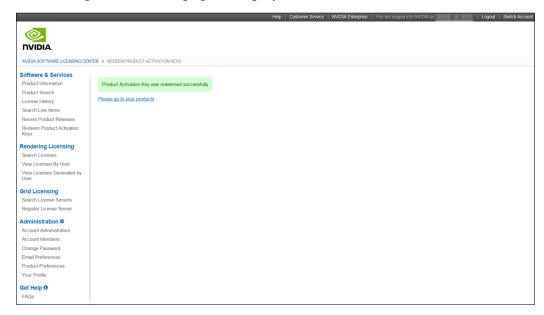


Figure 8.14

Now that your PAK is redeemed, you need to generate your license as described in the next step.

8.4.2 Generating a license file

To generate a license, perform the following steps:

1. In the side bar, under Software & Services, there is a tab named License History:

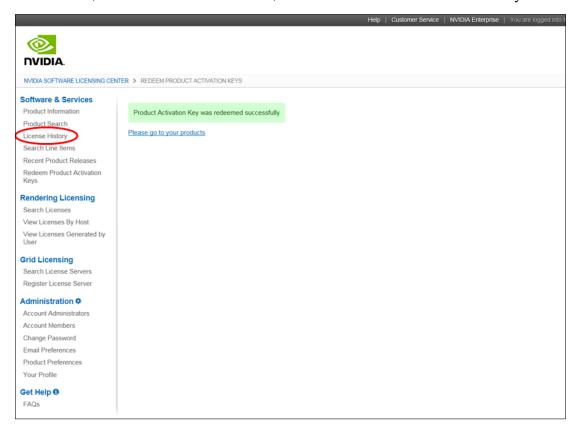


Figure 8.15

The License History window lists the PAKs you have redeemed. To generate your license, you need to find the key for the PAK you need a license for.

2. Hover over the icon in the Manage Licenses column and click the License(s) pop up:

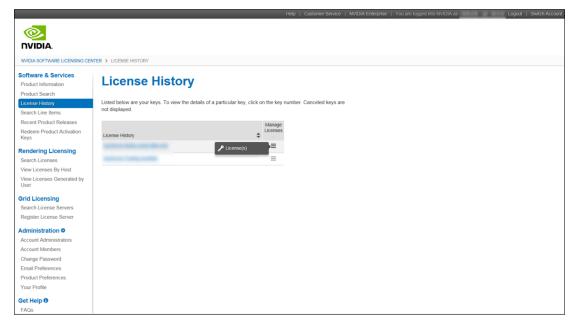


Figure 8.16

The License Information page is displayed:

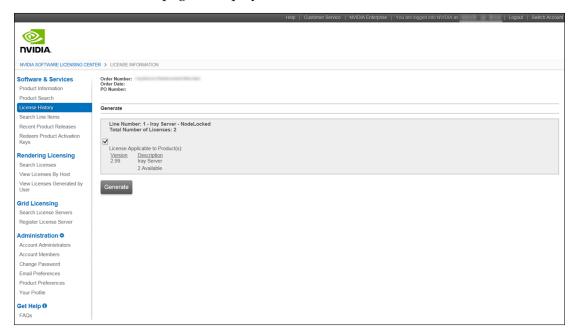


Figure 8.17

- 3. Click the Generate button to generate your license.
 - If you are setting up a local license, the following Generate Licenses page is displayed:

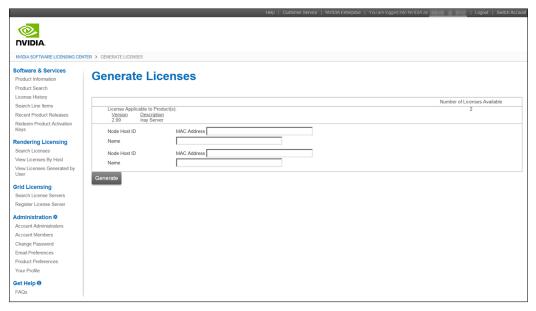


Figure 8.18

• In the Node Host ID field, fill in the MAC address.

The MAC address for your machine is listed next to the Activate Now button in NVPAC. Copy the MAC address and paste it into the Generate Licenses page.

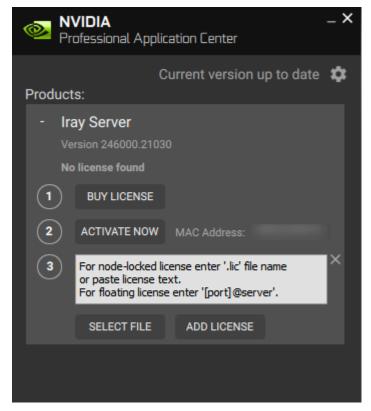


Fig. 8.19 – The MAC address is right of the Activate Now hutton

• In the Host Name field, fill in your machine's host name.

• If you are setting up a network license, the following Generate Licenses page is displayed:

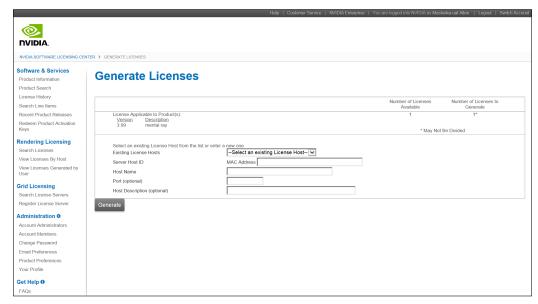


Figure 8.20

- For the Node Host ID, enter the MAC address of the license server.
- In the Host Name field, fill in your machine's host name.

Note:

- It is unlikely that the license server and the machine on which you run your NVIDIA products are the same. However, if you are running the license server and your NVIDIA products on the same machine, enter the MAC address displayed in NVPAC.
- See the *Network licensing guide*⁸ for information on determining the MAC address and host name of the license server.

4. After you have filled in the required information, click the Generate button to generate the license. The View Licenses page is displayed:

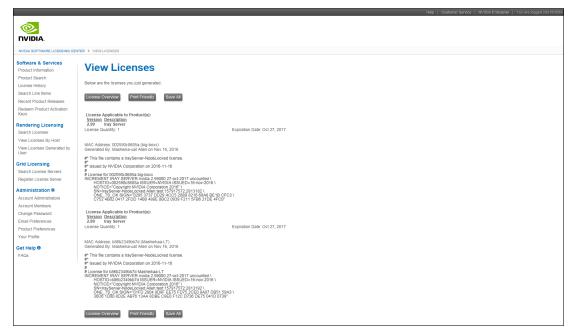


Figure 8.21

The page lists the version of the product that has been licensed along with the quantity of licenses and the expiration dates. The MAC address is also displayed along with information about who generated the license and at what time. The remainder of the information is used by NVPAC to license your system. You may input this information into NVPAC in two ways:

- You can click Save All to generate a license file which is saved on your computer for you to upload during the next step of the process, or
- You can copy all data displayed after the Generated by field to your clipboard and paste it into NVPAC during the next step of the process.

```
#* This file contains a license NODE LOCKED license
#*
#* issued by NVIDIA Corporation on 2016-06-27
#
# License for 305A3A541009 RHODICKE-DT
INCREMENT IRAY.SERVER nvidia 2.99000 01-dec-2017 uncounted \
```

Figure 8.22

Note: Even if you were logged out of the system or moved away from the View Licenses page before you were able to save the .lic file or copy the data, you can always access the license information:

- 1. Click on License History in the sidebar.
- 2. Click the icon in the Manage Licenses column next to the license you need.
- 3. Click the Licenses pop-up. This will take you to the View Licenses page where you can save your .lic file or copy the data.

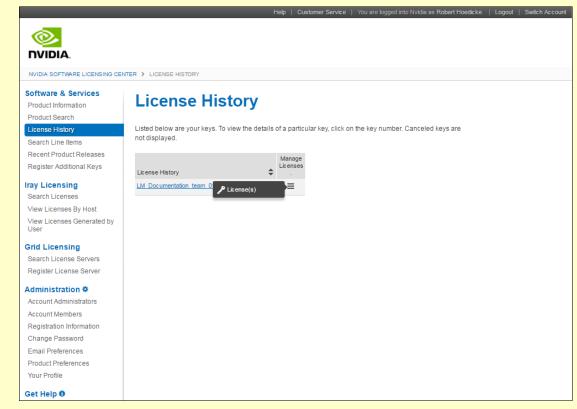


Figure 8.23

8.5 Installing a local license

To install a local license or a ProGPU license:

- 1. For the product that you are licensing, expand the NVPAC window. If you are installing a ProGPU license, expand the ProGPU box for your product. Go to step 3 and do *one* of the following:
 - Click Select File and browse to the .lic file you downloaded from the NVIDIA FlexNet Operations Portal (see Using the NVIDIA license portal (page 24)).
 - Directly paste the license text copied from the NVIDIA FlexNet Operations Portal View Licenses page.
- 2. Click **Add License** to install your license. After you install the license, a message is displayed to confirm whether or not the installation of the license succeeded or failed.

If installation was successful, the type of license, the start and end date, and the license key are displayed.

3. To use the installed license, restart the product.

8.6 Using a network license

Note: Refer to the *Network licensing guide*⁹ for information about how to install and run a license server.

You cannot upload a network license directly into NVPAC. You need to:

- Install a license server.
- Upload your license or licenses to the license server.
- Point your client or clients to the license server.

To point clients to the license server, use one of the following options:

• In the NVPAC window for your product, go to step 3 and enter the license server address using *one* of the following formats:

Format	Example
@[server host name]	@Allen-WS
@[server IP address]	@1.27.323.22.1

To specify a port, use one of the following formats:

Format	Example
27000@[server host name]	27000@Allen-WS
27000@[server IP address]	27000@1.27.323.22.1

- Click **Add License** to enable your client to access licenses from your license server. After you complete this step, a message is displayed to confirm whether or not the connection to the license server succeeded. If the connection was successful, the type of license, the start and end date, and the license key are displayed.
- To use the installed license, restart the product.