

CSiBridge® 2015 Version 17.0.0

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CSiBridge 2015 v17.0.0 is a major upgrade from CSiBridge 2014 v16.1.0, and is distributed electronically by download from the internet using the CSI Installation Wizard.

PLEASE READ THIS FILE!

It contains important information that may be more current than what is in the Manuals.

Contents

1. Installation Instructions for CSiBridge 2015 Version 17.0.0
2. Installation Instructions for License Manager 8.5.0
3. New Features for CSiBridge 2015
4. File Compatibility with Older Versions
5. Changes from Version 16.1.0

1. Installation Instructions for CSiBridge 2015

CSiBridge 2015 Version 17.0.0 is available electronically as a full installation by download from the internet using the CSI Installation Wizard, or on DVD by request. Installing CSiBridge 2015 will not uninstall older versions of CSiBridge.

Whether you are using a standalone license or a network license, the full application must be installed on each workstation where CSiBridge 2015 will be used.

Use the Installation Wizard to guide you step-by-step through the process of installation and licensing. If you choose instead to use the DVD, follow the instructions provided in the installation browser that automatically starts up when the DVD is inserted into the drive on your computer.

Before installation, be sure you have your Activation Key available if you will be using a Standalone license. You should have received this by email from CSI or your dealer. If you will be using a Network license, it is necessary to have the licenses already activated on the license server that is accessible to the workstation.

To begin the CSI Installation Wizard, click this link:

<http://www.csiamerica.com/go/installation-wizard>

The Wizard will start and guide you through the process. The actual files needed for installation will be downloaded as necessary. An active internet connection is required throughout the installation and licensing process.

The license activation server ports are 80 and 443. If either of these ports is blocked, they need to be opened. Otherwise license activation will not be possible.

Windows User Account Control (UAC)

For recent versions of the Windows operating system (Windows 8, 7, Vista, and XP SP3), User Account Control (UAC) is enabled by default. When UAC is turned on, you must explicitly give permission to any program that wants to use "Administrative" privileges. Any program that tries to use Administrative privileges without your permission will be denied access.

The installation of CSiBridge and the activation of the license require "Administrative" privileges to run. When installing CSiBridge with UAC enabled, you should expect to be prompted to allow the installer access to system folders and Windows registry. Please allow it to continue so that the installation can complete.

2. Installation Instructions for License Manager 8.5

The information in this section does not apply if you are using Standalone licenses.

Important: If you are using a network license and you have already installed the Sentinel RMS License Manager 8.5 Utilities described below, please re-install them now as these Utilities have been updated.

If you will be using a network license to run CSiBridge 2015, the License Manager and Utilities should be installed on a license server, which is usually not one of the client workstations. The Installation Wizard (and DVD) provide the following installations:

Sentinel RMS License Manager 8.5

- If you have an earlier version of Sentinel RMS License v8.x.x running, uninstall it after making sure no licenses are currently in use and no commuter licenses are checked out. Make a backup of the license file "lservrc", and then proceed with the installation of License Manager 8.5.
- If you are already running the Sentinel RMS License Manager 8.5 or a later version, you can skip this installation.
- If you have an earlier version of Sentinel RMS License v7.x.x running, you will need to leave this installed as v8.5 does not recognize v7.x.x licenses. Install the Sentinel RMS License Manager 8.5 on a different server.

Sentinel RMS License Manager 8.5 Utilities

- The Sentinel Utilities for License Manager 8.5 needs to be installed even if you are running a later version of the License manager. The Utilities are to be installed on the same license server as License Manager. During the installation you will be prompted for a Network Activation Key. You should have received this by email from CSI or your dealer. Enter the key and click on Activate; a Network license will then be generated and copied to the server location or appended to an existing license at the server location. Note that the License Manager 8.5 needs to be running to activate the license.

On the client workstations

To speed up finding a network license when CSiBridge is launched, you can do either or both of the following:

- Create a text file, LEVEL.TXT, and enter the *ProgramLevel* in a single line. The *ProgramLevel* should be one of the following:

```
ADVANCEDRATING / ADVANCED / PLUSRATING / PLUS /  
ADVANCEDRATINGC / ADVANCEDC / PLUSRATINGC / PLUSC /  
ADVANCEDI / PLUSI
```

Save this file to the folder where CSiBridge 2015 is installed. This file will cause the program to find the license faster.

- Create a text file, LMHOST.INI, and enter the network name or IP address of the machine that is running the License Manager. If you are serving licenses on more than one machine, enter each name or IP address on a separate line of text. Save this file to the folder where CSiBridge 2015 is installed.
- Either the LEVEL.TXT file or the LMHOST.INI file can also be placed in the user settings folder, which can be found by entering “%LocalAppData%\Computers and Structures\CSiBridge 2015” (without quotes) in Windows Explorer. Accessing this folder does not require administrative permissions like the installation folder does. Files located in the user settings folder will take precedence over those in the installation folder.

As an alternative to using the LEVEL.TXT file, you can specify the program level as a command-line option. To do this, use the Windows Run command or create a shortcut pointing to CSiBridge.exe in the installation folder. Add the following text to the command line after “...\CSiBridge.exe”

```
/L ProgramLevel
```

where *ProgramLevel* is one of the values listed above for the LEVEL.TXT file. Specifying *ProgramLevel* on the command line will supersede the value in the LEVEL.TXT file.

3. New Features for CSiBridge 2015 Version 17.0.0

CSiBridge 2015 v17.0.0 is a major new release, and significant new features have been added or enhanced since Version 16.1.0.

For a full list of features and capabilities, please visit the CSiBridge news page at <http://www.csiamerica.com/products/csibridge/news>

4. File Compatibility with Older Versions

CSiBridge 2015 Version 17.0.0 can open model files (*.BDB), from older versions of CSiBridge, as well as import older CSiBridge database files (*.B2K, *. \$BR, *.XLS, and *.MDB). Note that once you save or run these models in Version 17.0.0, they will not be usable by older versions of the program, so you should save them under a new name after opening or importing them in v17.0.0.

It is generally advisable to update the linked bridge model for all bridge objects after opening a model file in a newer version. However, if you had modified the linked bridge model after last updating it, these changes may get overwritten, so do so with caution.

CSiBridge 2015 can import model files having the *.SDB file extension from SAP2000 v15 or older by using the *File > Import > SAP2000* command. Note that once you save or run these models in CSiBridge, the new files will not be usable by SAP2000 v15, so you should save them under a new name after importing them in CSiBridge. The name is changed automatically by CSiBridge, which will append “_V17” to the imported filename.

When importing a SAP2000 model v14 that contains bridge objects into CSiBridge, you will receive a message suggesting that you update the linked model for all bridge objects. This will make sure that the linked model is fully compatible with CSiBridge v17. However, you should be aware that any changes you may have made to the linked model in SAP2000 after last updating it may be overwritten by this process, and you may need to make these changes again in CSiBridge.

5. Changes from Versions 16.1.0

For a complete list of all changes, please see the separate file ReleaseNotes.PDF in the Manuals subfolder of the CSiBridge 2015 installation and available by using the *File > Resources > Documentation* command in CSiBridge 2015.