

ASPEN Software

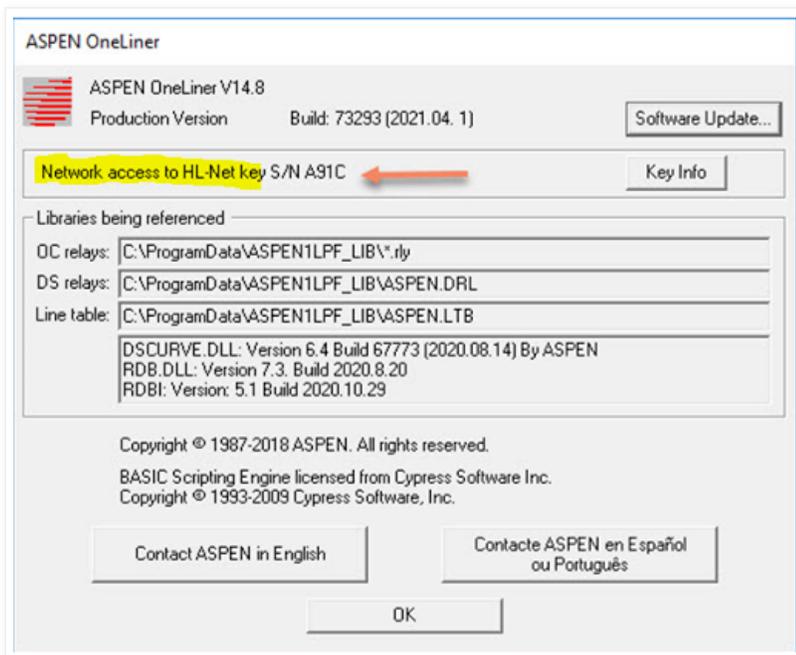
ASPEN Inc. Official Blog

Wednesday, June 16, 2021

Network Access to HASP HL-Net Key will be discontinued

ASPEN OneLiner, Power Flow, and DistriView software (ASPEN software) released after January 1, 2022, will no longer work with the configuration “Network access to HL-Net key”.

The best way to find out the key type and the method of access you are using is to start your ASPEN software and execute the Help | About This Program command. You will see a dialog box that looks like this:



If the text left of the arrow reads “Network access to HL-Net key S/N xxxx”, then please read on. Otherwise, you can stop because the change will not affect you.

First, we suggest you write down the 4-digit hex serial number xxxx of your existing key (the key number in this example is A91C).

The “Network access to HL-Net key” configuration requires a network connection to the Hasp License Manager software. This software has not been updated for many years and it is becoming obsolete. In many cases, it adversely affects ASPEN software’s reliable and secure operation.

To continue using ASPEN software with a shared network license key you will need to replace your HL-Net key with one of the following:

- A USB key (hardware key) known as “HL-Net key with a Sentinel Sector”
- A software key, also known as an “SL key”.

Both of the above key configurations have been available in all the existing major versions of ASPEN software: OneLiner/Power Flow since version 12, and DistriView since version 10.

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These license key types utilize the Sentinel® license manager, which is bundled in the same package as the key driver and requires no separate new installation. The license manager also comes with an easy-to-use Sentinel Control Panel that lets users monitor and manage the license usage. For example, you can use the Sentinel Control Panel to reset inactive network sessions to make the seats on the key available for other users. The Sentinel® license manager is actively maintained by the vendor (Thales) with regular security updates and feature enhancements.

For more information on the installation of these keys, please download the following manuals:

- Hardware key: [OneLiner Getting Started Manual](#) or [DistriView Getting Started Manual](#)
- SL Key: [SL-Key Administration Manual](#)

You need to take the following steps as soon as possible:

1. Contact ASPEN support <support@aspeninc.com> with a request to exchange your existing HL-Net key for a new HL-Net key with Sentinel Sector, or an SL key. Please provide ASPEN the serial number of your existing HL-Net key, and in the case of a hardware key, the shipping address for the new key. The exchange for "HL-Net key with Sentinel Sector" is free of charge for all users with an active software maintenance subscription.
2. Install the latest Sentinel® LDK and Sentinel HASP® Run-time Environment on the license server computer, and connect/install the new key to the computer that host the network key.
3. Change the ASPEN program configuration on each application PC to match the new key type.

Q. How can I tell if "HL-Net key with a sentinel sector" (hardware key) or "Sentinel Software SL key" (software key) is the right choice for me

A. You will need to take the following into account:

- ASPEN programs will work the same way with both key types.
- Both key types require the latest Sentinel® LDK and Sentinel HASP® Run-time Environment software on the license server.
- The hardware key requires a USB port on the license server computer.
- The software key is created based on a "fingerprint" of the license server computer. The SL key can stop working, be damaged, and even lost if changes are made to the server hardware or operating system when the key is active in the system. A hardware key is unaffected by these changes.

Posted by [ASPEN Support](#) at 12:35 PM

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