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System Requirements

- **Processor**

  1.0GHz, 32 bit Intel Pentium compatible processor (2.0GHz Intel Pentium 4 or better recommended)

- **Operating System**

  Windows XP SP3 (XP Professional recommended), Windows Vista SP2 (Vista Business or Vista Ultimate recommended), Windows 7 (Home, Professional or Ultimate recommended)

  Alphacam will install and run on the 'Home' editions of Windows XP and Windows Vista. However, this is not recommended and we cannot guarantee to fix any Alphacam issues specifically related to these operating systems.

  Alphacam is not supported on Windows 7 Starter Edition.

  ** Windows is a registered trademark of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and other countries*

- **Memory**

  1GB RAM (2GB or more highly recommended for 32-bit OS, 4GB for 64-bit OS)

- **Video Card**

  OpenGL® compatible with 64MB on-board memory (256MB or more recommended)

- **Monitor**

  1024x768 resolution (1280x1024 or higher recommended)

- **Hard Disk Space**

  1GB free hard disk space (minimum)

- **Disc Drive**

  DVD drive for software installation

- **Pointing Device**

  2 button, 3 button, or 2 button with wheel (recommended) Windows compatible mouse

- **Ports**

  USB 1.1 or 2.0 port for single user security key support

- **Network**

  TCP/IP required for network security support

Software Installation

Preparation

Please make sure you read this ***entire document prior*** to installation of the Alphacam software.

Before you start the installation process, it is recommended that you exit (close) all running applications. Closing all running applications prior to installing any new program will insure that you get a clean installation.

Ensure that your virus protection software is completely disabled. Please be aware, if this step is not taken, you may experience problems with the Alphacam program.

As there are numerous types of computers and software packages for virus protection, please contact your System Administrator or the manufacturer of the computer/software if assistance is required to disable these items.

The Alphacam "Key"

If you received a USB key, please do not insert the security key into the USB port until the installation has completed and the PC has rebooted.

If you have not received a USB key and are upgrading from a previous version of Alphacam, you will continue to use your existing key. It is recommended that you remove your existing key until the installation has completed and the PC has rebooted.

> If you have purchased a **network license** of Alphacam, you may not have received a key. Please see the *Network License Installation* section for more information.

> If using an existing legacy DESkey dongle, the DESkey drivers are not installed during the Alphacam installation process. However, the driver installation program is provided in the *Support\DesKey* folder on the Alphacam installation disc. These drivers can also be downloaded from the Downloads area on the DESkey web site (www.deskey.co.uk). If these drivers are needed, they must be installed manually after the Alphacam installation has completed.

You Are Now Ready to Begin

The AutoPlay Menu

Insert the Alphacam installation disc into the PC's disc drive. If your PC is configured to AutoPlay CDs/DVDs, the AutoPlay Menu will appear after a few seconds.

If the AutoPlay Menu does not appear automatically, open *My Computer*, double-click the disk drive that contains the Alphacam software and then double-click **StartHere.hta** to invoke the menu.

Or, if asked to confirm the AutoPlay via the dialog shown below, click **Run StartHere.hta**.

- **Installation Instructions** – Click this link to open the Alphacam Installation Guide.
- **What's New** – Click this link to open the Alphacam What's New document.
- **Install Alphacam** – Click this link to start the Alphacam Installation Wizard.
- **Install Part Modeler** – Click this link to start the Alphacam Part Modeler Installation Wizard.
- **Install Aspire for Alphacam** – Click this link to start the Aspire for Alphacam Installation Wizard.

- **Browse Extra Add-Ins on DVD** – Click this link to open and browse the Extra Add-Ins folder on the Alphacam installation disc within Windows Explorer. This folder contains a variety of additional Alphacam products, such as ***Alphacam CAD Links***, ***Alphacam APM Server***, and other add-ins.

- **Visit Product Website** – Click this to browse to the main Alphacam website

- **Read License Agreement** – Click this to browse to and read the Alphacam End User License Agreement at www.planit.com/eula.

Language Selection

To change the language displayed within the AutoPlay menu as well as the language for the Alphacam installation, simply select the desired from the menu in the upper-right corner of the AutoPlay menu.

The Installation Wizard

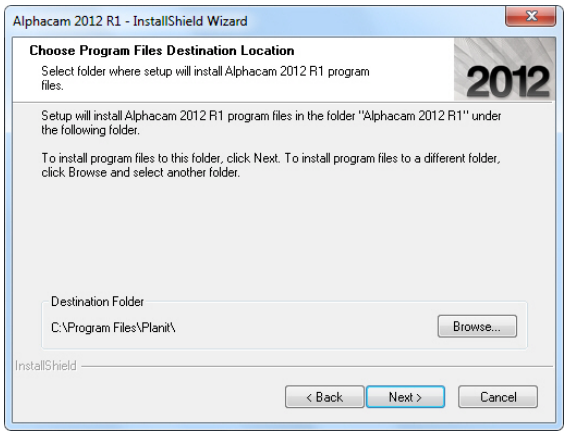
Click the **Next** button to continue the installation wizard.

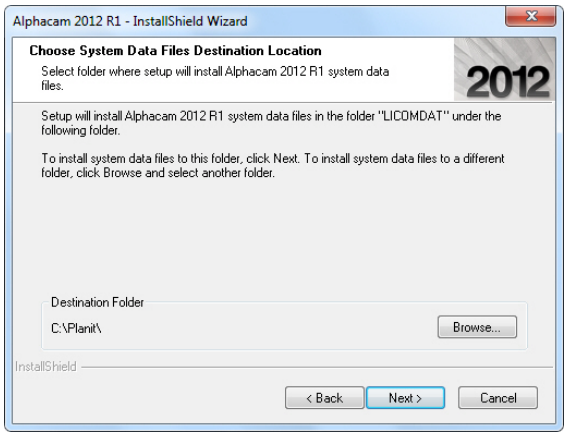
After accepting the License Agreement, click on **Next** to continue. You will then be asked to select the location on your computer to install Alphacam.

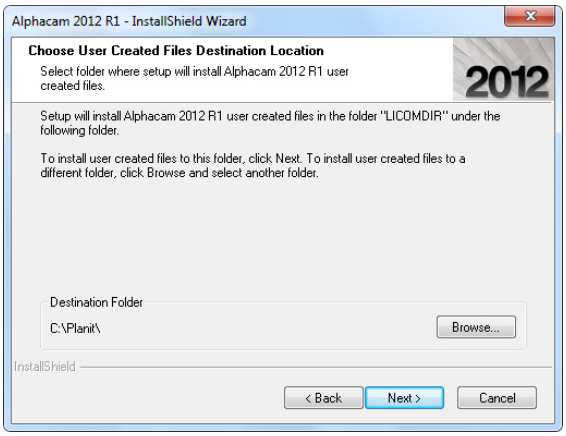
If this is the first time Alphacam is being installed, the default location for the program files folder will be **C:\Program Files\Planit**. This will in turn contain a folder which is named the same as the current program release (e.g., **C:\Program Files\Planit\Alphacam 2012 R1**). The default location for the data and user files is **C:\Planit**. The LICOMDAT and LICOMDIR folders will then be created automatically within the selected location (e.g., **C:\Planit\LICOMDAT** and **C:\Planit\LICOMDIR**). If you already have a version of Alphacam installed on your PC, these default values will be set with the existing locations.

You may change the proposed locations to any path on your PC or on your network. To select another location, click the **Browse** button and select the desired location. Click on **Next** to assign and confirm the chosen paths.

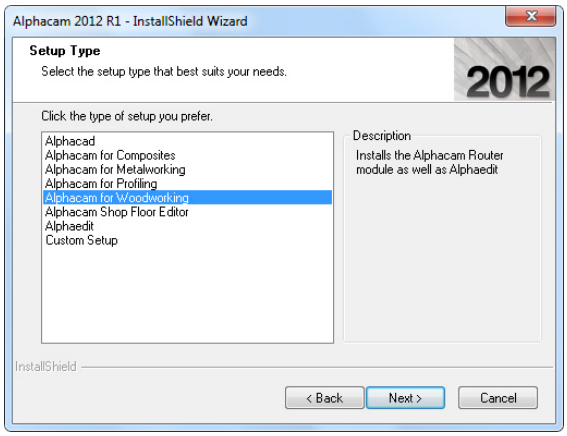
The LICOMDAT and the LICOMDIR directories should be backed up on a regular basis to prevent major data loss.







After setting up the destination locations, you will then be asked to select the desired setup type. You may select one of main manufacturing types that the Alphacam software covers; opt to install Alphacad, Alphaedit, or Alphacam Shop Floor Editor individually, or opt to do a custom setup.



Be sure to select the manufacturing field that contains the module(s) that you have purchased.

Composites
Alphacam Essential Stone
Alphacam Standard Stone
Alphacam Advanced Stone
Alphacam Ultimate Stone

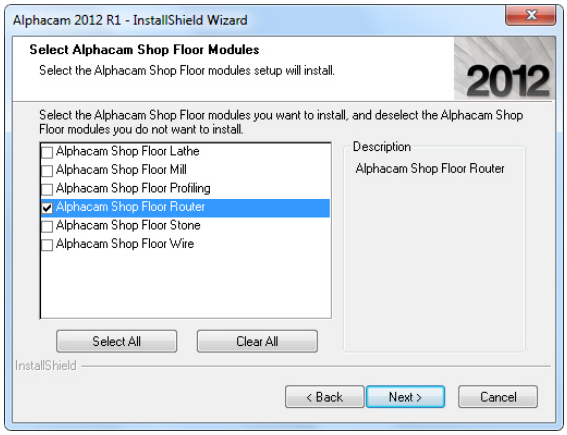
Metalworking
Alphacam Essential Mill/Lathe
Alphacam Standard Mill/Lathe/Wire
Alphacam Advanced Mill/Lathe/Wire
Alphacam Ultimate Mill/Lathe

Profiling
Alphacam Advanced Profiling
Alphacam Ultimate Profiling

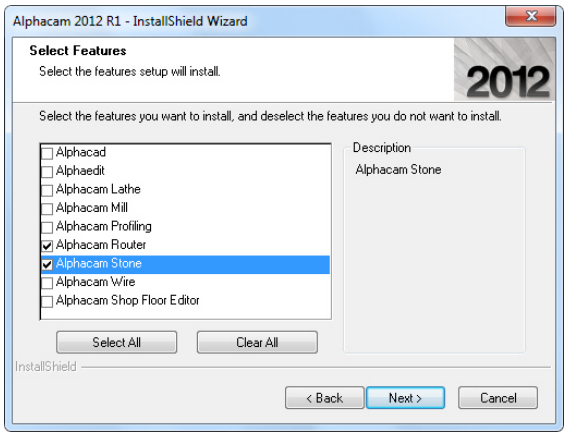
Woodworking
Alphacam Essential Router
Alphacam Standard Router
Alphacam Advanced Router
Alphacam Ultimate Router

All main setup types include Alphaedit (Alphacad and Alphacam Shop Floor Editor do not).

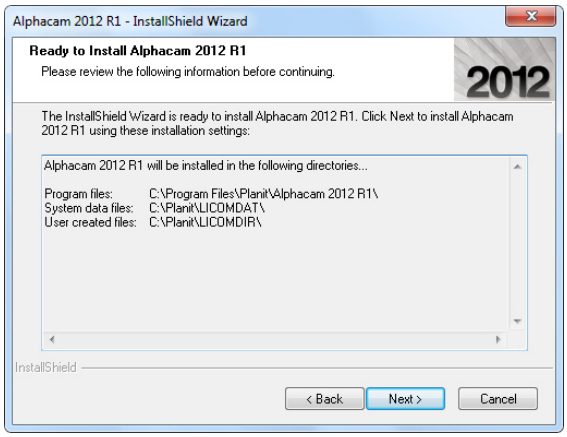
If selecting Alphacam Shop Floor Editor, you will also be asked to which Shop Floor module(s) to install.



You can also install a combination of modules by selecting Custom Setup.



After selecting the module(s) to install, click on **Next** to confirm the installation destinations.

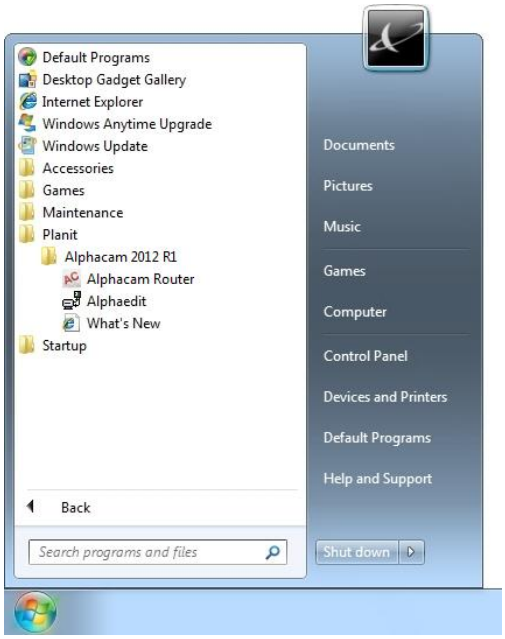


If the displayed program paths are correct, click on **Next** to continue the installation process.

If asked to reboot after the installation is complete, do so prior to running Alphacam.

Running Alphacam

Upon completion of the Installation Wizard and reboot (if needed), Alphacam can be launched from the ***Planit - Alphacam 2012 R1*** folder within the Windows Start Menu.

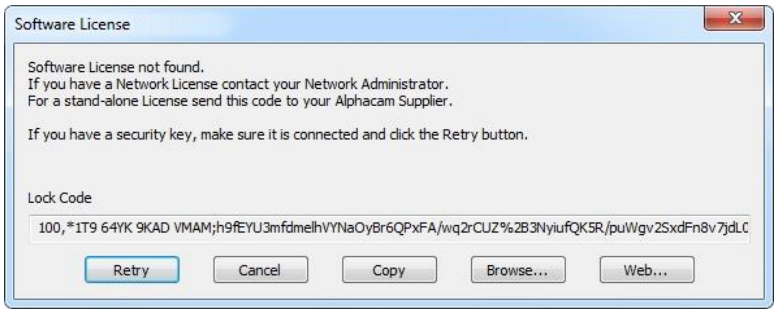


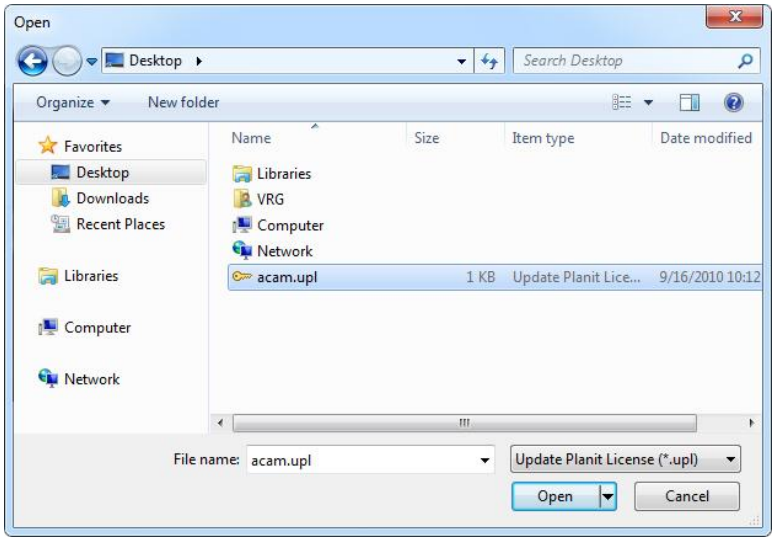
Obtaining and Using an Alphacam License File

Upon Alphacam (or Part Modeler) startup, it will look for a local license first. If that fails, it then looks for a license on the network. If that also fails, the message shown below is displayed. From here, you can either browse to an existing license update or start the license request process. You can start the license request process by either emailing the Lock Code to your Alphacam supplier, or by submitting your Lock Code to the Request License web site.

To submit your Lock Code to the Request License web site, click the **Web** button and follow the instructions on the web page. Once the license file is authorized and generated, an email will be sent to the address registered in your *My Support* account with instructions on how to retrieve your license. Note that your license files will remain on your *My Support* page and can be re-downloaded at any time.

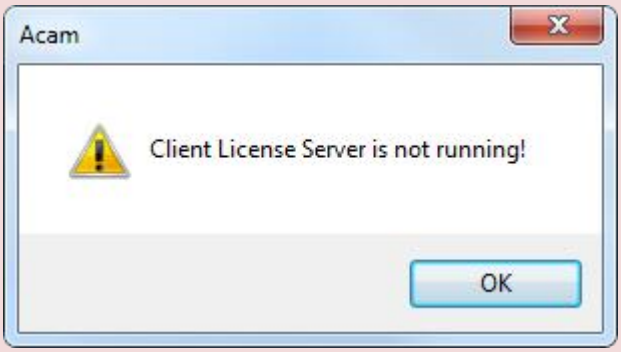
Once your license file has been downloaded and saved, click the **Browse** button to select your license update file. If your license file was successfully updated, you can then click the **Retry** button to restart Alphacam.





In order to run Alphacam on multiple PCs, the license file will need to be copied to any PC in which the security key will be used. The easiest way to copy this file is to export it by using the **Export License File** button located on the Alphacam About Box, which can be accessed via the **Help | About** menu item within Alphacam. Upon exporting, you will be asked to save the *acam.upl* file. Once saved, you can then transfer that file to your other PCs via email or copying to a shared location

If you have installed the **Part Modeler** after installing **Alphacam**, or if you have install the **Part Modeler** on a system without installing **Alphacam**, you may receive the message shown below the first time to run the **Part Modeler**.



This can be fixed by merging the appropriate **.reg** file located in the **Support** folder on the Alphacam DVD. If running a 32-bit version of Windows, simply double-click the **PartModeler_LicFix_x86.reg** file and then click **Yes** if asked to verify. If running a 64-bit version of Windows, double-click the **PartModeler_LicFix_x64.reg** file instead. Then restart Part Modeler.

Network License Installation

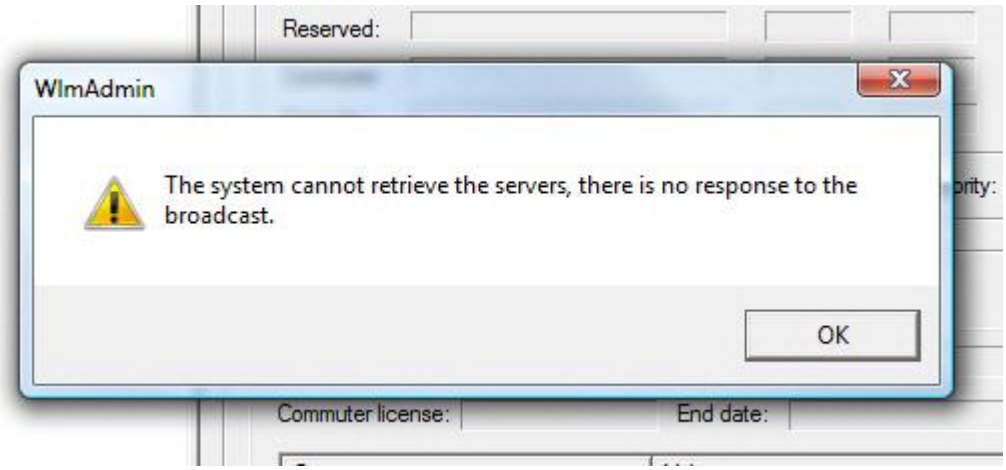
For network license implementation, the Sentinel License Manager must first be installed onto a network server. This can be done via the steps below.

1. Insert the Alphacam installation disc and click the **Browse Disc Contents** link from the AutoRun dialog. If the AutoRun dialog does not appear, browse to the disc drive via Windows Explorer.
2. Run (double-click) the **InstallLM.bat** file located in the disc's root folder (e.g. D:\InstallLM.bat) to start the Sentinel License Manager install. Alternatively, you can browse to the **Sentinel_RMS_Licensing\License_Manager_Installation** folder (e.g. D:\Sentinel_RMS_Licensing\License_Manager_Installation) and double-click the **Setup.exe** file within that folder to start the installation process.
3. Upon completion of the License Manager install, browse to the **Sentinel_RMS_Licensing\Generate Lock Code** folder on the Alphacam installation disc (e.g. D:\Sentinel_RMS_Licensing\Generate Lock Code).
4. Run the **echoid.exe** file within that folder to generate the lock code.
5. Make a note of this lock code and send it to the Alphacam supplier via email, or by submitting your Lock Code to the Request License web site.
   Once the license file is authorized and generated, an email will be sent to the address registered in your *My Support* account with instructions on how to retrieve your license. Note that your license files will remain on your *My Support* page and can be re-downloaded at any time.

> This can be to any PC that is part of the network and it is not required to have Alphacam on the PC which is running the License Manager.

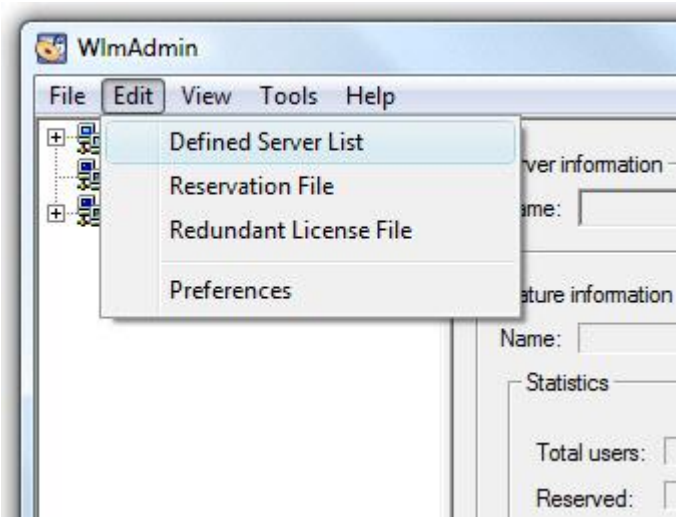
6. Browse to the Alphacam installation disc and copy the entire **Sentinel_RMS_Licensing\Administer and Monitor** folder to a local PC (or server), preferably the same PC that the acam.upl file was saved to.
7. Once copied, run the **WlmAdmin.exe** file within that folder to start the License Monitor.
8. From within the License Monitor, find the license server by expanding the Subnet Servers node.

   NOTE: If the server name is not listed, or if you receive the message shown below, it may be necessary to manually add your server.

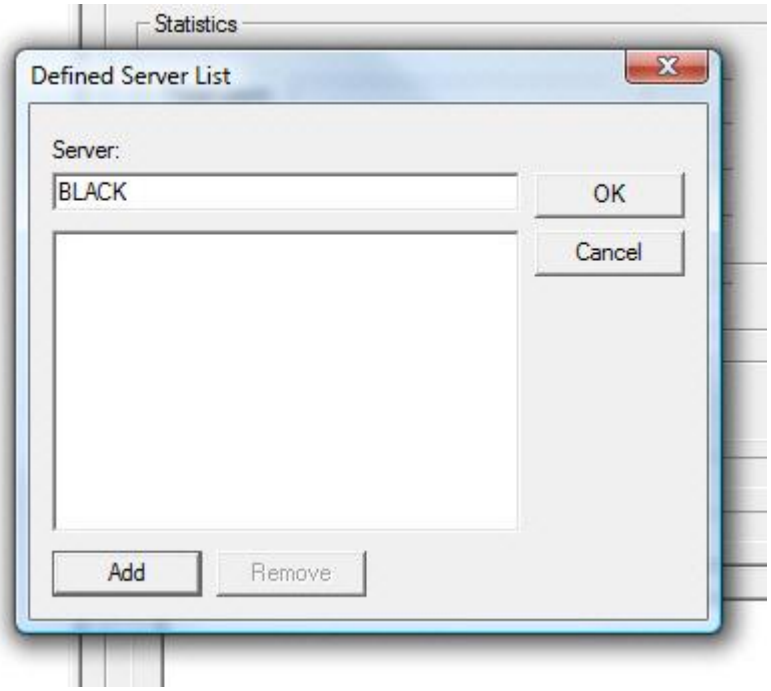


   To manually add a server, please perform the following steps. Once these steps are complete, the added server should be listed under the **Defined Servers** node rather than **Subnet Servers** node.

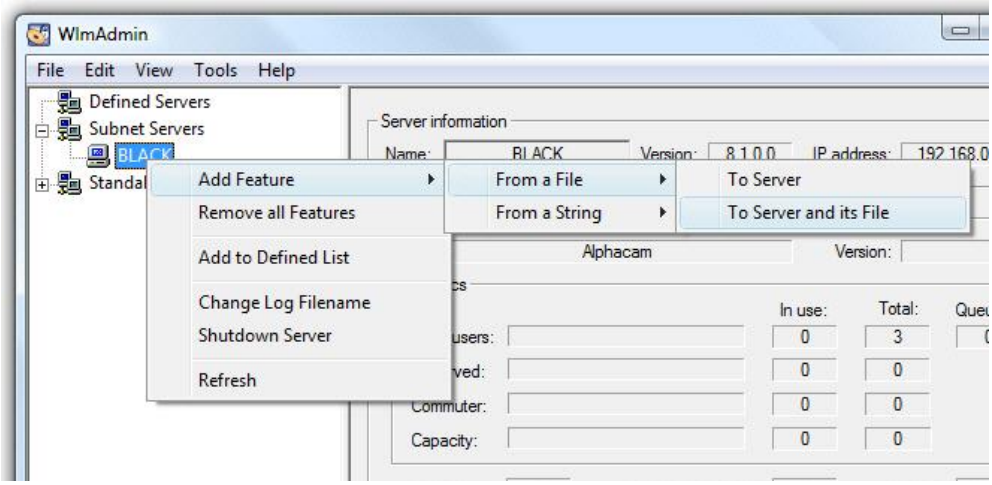
1. Click the **Edit** menu and then **Defined Server List**



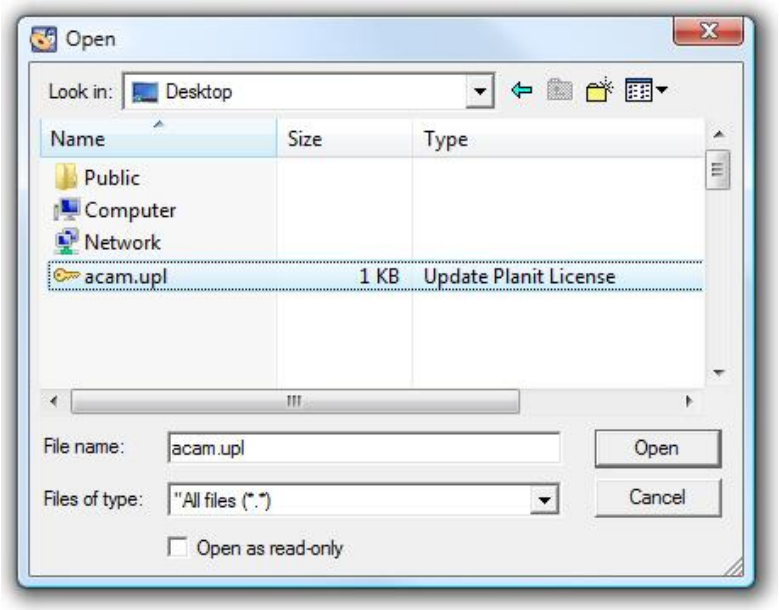
2. Enter the server name into the Server field, then click **Add** and then **OK**



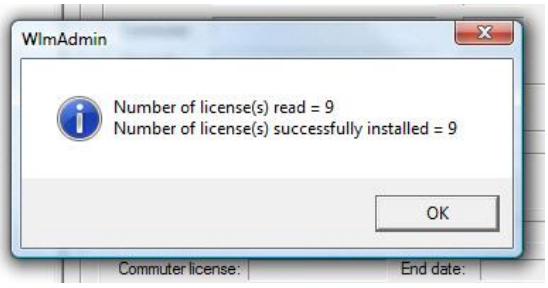
3. Once the server is detected, right-click on the server name to invoke the menus shown below and click the **To Server and its File** option. Note that if the server was manually defined, it will be visible within the **Defined Servers** node rather than the **Subnet Servers** node as shown here.



4. Browse to and select the **acam.upl** that was saved in Step 6 of the *Network License Installation* process.



The license(s) should now be installed and it is now safe to close the WlmAdmin application. Note that this application is not needed for the license server to work. It is only needed to install or monitor active licenses.



IMPORTANT NOTES

- If Alphacam fails to find the Sentinel Network License Manager, it may be required to set the license server name. This can be done one of two ways...

  Option 1

  1. Add an environment variable named LSHOST to the PC which is running Alphacam, **not** the License Manager
  2. Set the value of this variable to the name or IP address of the License Manager server (e.g. SERVER_NAME or 192.168.0.100)
     Please contact your System Administrator or Alphacam Technical Support for assistance in setting this system variable.

  Option 2

  1. Create a new text file and name it LSHOST, with no extension. An example file can be found in the **Sentinel_RMS_Licensing\Sample LSHOST File** folder on the Alphacam installation disc.
  2. Edit the LSHOST file (e.g. open in Notepad) and enter the name or IP address of the License Manager server in the first line of the file (e.g. SERVER_NAME or 192.168.0.100)
  3. Save and close the LSHOST file
  4. Copy or move the LSHOST file to the main Alphacam folder (e.g. C:\Program Files\Planit\Alphacam 2012 R1)

  With either method, you can provide a list of license server names if multiple servers are to be searched. Each name must be separated by a **:** symbol (e.g. SERVER_ONE:SERVER_TWO). Alphacam will try each license server in the list, beginning with the first.