

Setting up License Harvesting

The information on this page refers to License Statistics v6.20 and newer, which added a new "Dry Run" option to the Release Methods. If you are using an earlier version, please refer to the [documentation for earlier versions](#).

To use [License Harvesting](#), you must:

- [Install License Statistics Agent and connect it to the License Statistics server](#).
- [Add one or more Agent groups](#), if none have yet been added.
- Configure the applications to be monitored for License Harvesting, as described in this section.

Configuring applications for License Harvesting

After you have connected License Statistics Agent to the License Statistics server and added one or more Agent groups, you can configure applications to use License Harvesting, as described below.

1. Select **Custom Applications** under the Administration section in the left pane.

Administration: Custom Applications

Applications

Advanced Settings

	IT Name	Executable Name	Agent Group	License Server	Harvesting Enabled	Harvesting Trigger				Harvesting User Confirmation		Harvesting Mode		Action
						Work Days	Work Hours	Max Inactivity	CPU Threshold	Show Popup	Popup Timeout	Release Method	Graceful Timeout	
1	notepad app	notepad	notepad group	notepad	No									
2	notepad app 2	notepad.exe	notepad group	notepad server	No									

+ Add < < Page 1 of 1 > > Rows 1 - 2 of 2 20 Save As

Application Events Application: notepad app

IT Name	User	Host	Event
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No application events

Delete All < < Page 1 of 1 > > Rows 1 - 2 of 2 20 Save As

2. Click the **Add** button located in the bottom left corner of the Applications grid to [add a new application](#), or click **Edit** to edit an existing application. The Custom Application form opens.
3. If you are adding a new application, see the [instructions on configuring the new application](#) before proceeding to the next step. If you are editing an existing application, continue to the next step.
4. Go to the **Harvesting** tab and toggle on **Enable Harvesting**.

Enable Harvesting ☒

Trigger

Inactive User Duration ☒ 120 (Seconds) ⓘ

or

CPU Activity Below ☒ 30 % during last 60 seconds

or

Outside Working Hours ☐

User Confirmation

Confirmation Required ☒

Confirmation Timeout ☒ 10 (Seconds) ⓘ

Mode

Release Method ☒ Graceful ☐ Force ☐ Suspend ☐ Dry Run

Graceful Wait Time ☒ 10 (Seconds) ⓘ

Features

Harvestable Features No features selected ▼

Save

Save and Close

Close

5. Complete the application configuration settings, as described in the next section.

6. After the application is configured, click **Save** at the bottom of the page. You return to the Administration: License Harvesting page, where you will see that License Harvesting is active for the application by looking in the Harvesting Enabled column for the application.

Applications

Advanced Settings

	IT Name	Executable Name	Agent Group	License Server	Harvesting Enabled	Harvesting Trigger				Harvesting User Confirmation		Harvesting Mode		Action
						Work Days	Work Hours	Max inactivity	CPU Threshold	Show Popup	Popup Timeout	Release Method	Graceful Timeout	
1	notepad app	notepad	notepad group	notepad	No									
2	notepad app 2	notepad.exe	notepad group	notepad server	Yes	Every day	24h	120	30	Yes	10	Graceful	10	

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Application configuration settings

The settings for configuring an application for License Harvesting include the following.

Setting	Description
Trigger (License Harvesting will be triggered when any of the enabled conditions are met. Each setting may be used alone or together.)	
Inactive User Duration	When toggled on, the maximum amount of time (in seconds) that the application is allowed to be idle (the user is not actively using the application), after which the License Harvesting procedure will begin for that application. You may either type the number of seconds, or use the increase/decrease arrows to adjust the number of seconds.
CPU Activity Below	When toggled on, the maximum percentage that the CPU activity is allowed to drop down during the specified duration (in seconds), after which the License Harvesting procedure will begin for that application.
Outside Working Hours	Days Days of the week that the application is available for use. For example, if you want to exclude weekend days from the times that the application can be used, you would toggle off Saturday and Sunday.

	Hours Time range (24-hour clock) that the application is available for use. For example, if you want to limit the hours of usage from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., you would enter From: 07:00 To: 19:00. You may either type the time or select it from the drop-down list.
User Confirmation	
Confirmation Required	When toggled on, when License Harvesting detects that the application is in an idle state, a confirmation message will be sent to the end-user asking them to confirm closing the application. When this option is not toggled on, the application will be closed immediately with no alert to the end-user.
Confirmation Timeout	This option may be toggled on only when Confirmation Required has been toggled on. When this option is toggled on, it sets the time (in seconds) to display the confirmation message to the user, after which License Harvesting will automatically close or suspend the application. When this option is not toggled on, the user confirmation alert will remain on the end-user's machine until the end-user dismisses the alert.
Mode	
Release Method	Toggle to select the desired release method to use when releasing the application license due to idle state detection. Release methods include the following: - The Dry Run method gathers information about application usage, and optionally, issues an alert to the end-user, informing them that the application is idle and recommending that the user close it. Regardless of the user action, all application events are reported so the administrator knows the history of the application's usage. - The Graceful method asks the application to close, but allows the application to wait and remain open if there is user action required to resolve unsaved state questions or confirmations. - The Force method immediately closes the application and ignores any unsaved state questions or confirmations. - The Suspend method "freezes" the application so it can be released to the license pool. Although the application cannot be used while suspended, it remains visible to the end user, and no unsaved data is lost. You can unsuspend the application at any time. See Setting up Suspend mode for information on requirements for using Suspend mode.
Graceful Wait Time	Applies only when using Graceful release method. When toggled on, the time (in seconds) to wait for unsaved state questions or confirmations to be resolved, after which the application will be forced to close. When not toggled on, the application will remain open indefinitely if there are unsaved state questions or confirmations needed.
Features	
Harvestable Features	Allows remote session closing for features of applications configured for License Harvesting. When a feature has been enabled for harvesting, after License Harvesting closes an application on the end-user host, License Statistics will automatically force the session to release on the corresponding license server and return the license to the available pool.  This setting is applicable only for LM-X and FlexNet license manager types.

Configuration scenarios

The following table illustrates combinations of configuration settings that serve end-user experiences ranging from the least to most aggressive handling of license harvesting.

- The most gentle end-user experience (intensity level 1) uses the Dry Run method without confirmation.
- The most abrupt end-user experience (intensity level 14) employs the Force release method, which does not allow for any user confirmation /timeout periods.

Intensity	User Confirmation	User Confirmation Timeout	Dry Run Method	Suspend Release Method	Graceful Release Method	Graceful Timeout	Force Release Method
1	✗	-	✓	-	-	-	-
2	✓	✓	✓	-	-	-	-
3	✓	✗	✓	-	-	-	-
4	✓	✗	-	✓	-	-	-

5	✓	✓	-	✓	-	-	-
6	✗	-	-	✓	-	-	-
7	✓	✗	-	-	✓	✗	-
8	✓	✓	-	-	✓	✗	-
9	✓	✓	-	-	✓	✓	-
10	✗	-	-	-	✓	✗	-
11	✗	-	-	-	✓	✓	-
12	✓	✗	-	-	-	-	✓
13	✓	✓	-	-	-	-	✓
14	✗	-	-	-	-	-	✓

✓ = enabled ✗ = disabled - = not applicable

Considerations for using the Dry Run method

The Dry Run method is the least intense method, and is particularly useful for the following:

- Testing how License Harvesting works with specific applications without closing those applications
- With confirmations disabled, you can monitor how end-users are using particular applications without sending alerts or taking any other actions that disrupt their work
- With confirmations enabled, you can notify end-users that they have idle applications running, and allow the users the choice to close the application, without taking any automatic action to close it

Considerations for using Graceful timeout

The Graceful release method is similar to closing the application using its Close button. For most applications, the Graceful release method results in an indefinite wait for the user to respond to a prompt to close the application. However, some applications may handle the request from License Harvester differently than the Close button, any may perform custom operations or fail to save the current state. Since License Harvester is set up for all applications instead of individual applications (and therefore License Statistics is not able to monitor how individual applications behave), be sure to test results for each application being monitored and apply the correct intensity level for your needs.

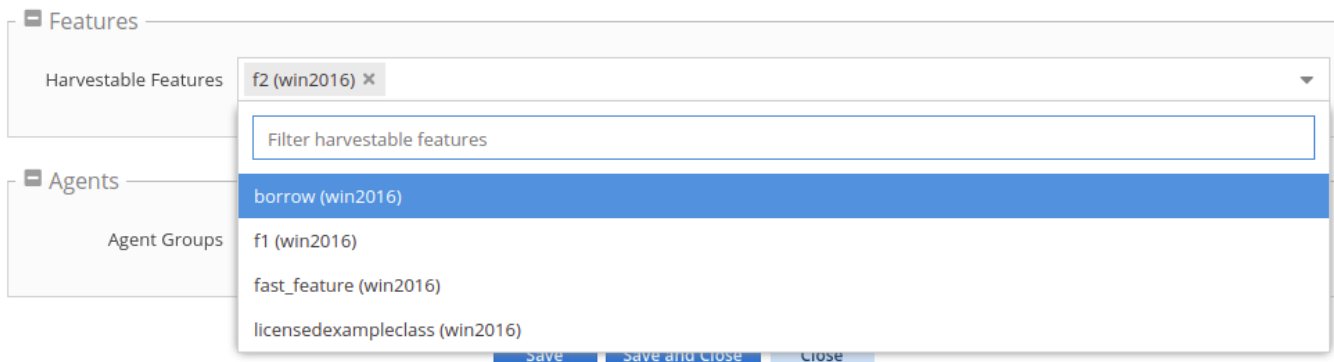
If an application does not save the state automatically, consider using intensity level 1, which most closely simulates an infinite popup prompt from the application to save the state, including:

- Prompting the user to close the application, but won't close the application without the user's confirmation
- Keeping the confirmation prompt open with no timeout
- Enabling the user to postpone closing the application or to save the state manually and then close the application

Enabling remote closing for features

 For LM-X License Manager this functionality is supported as of [v4.9.24](#).

You can enable remote session closing for individual features of applications being monitored by License Harvesting.



When a feature has been enabled for harvesting, after License Harvesting closes an application on the end-user host, License Statistics will automatically force the session to release on the corresponding license server and return the license to the available pool.

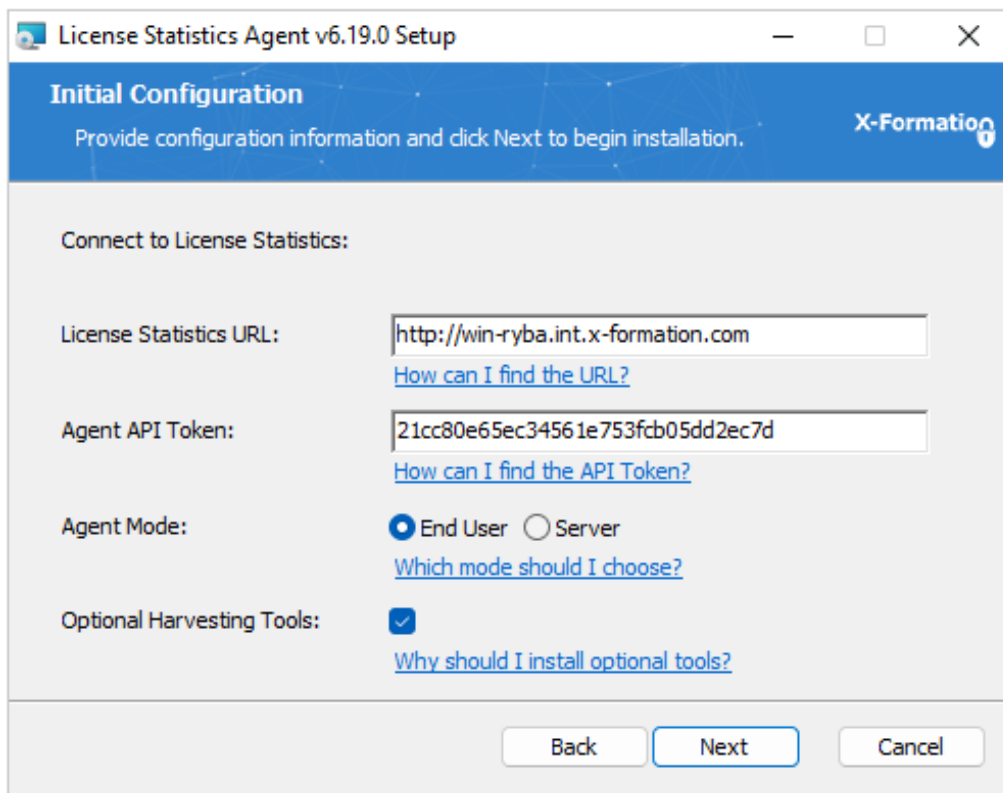
Setting up Suspend mode

To use the Suspend mode for License Harvesting, the following requirements must be met:

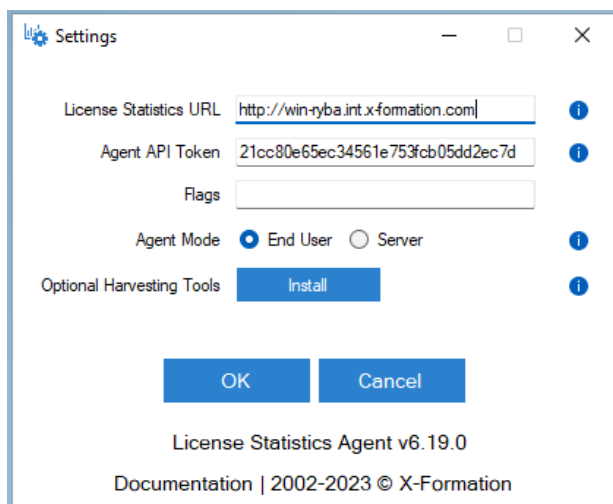
- The License Statistics Agent version must be v6.19 or newer. If the Agent version is older than v6.19, the Suspend configuration won't be applied and no harvesting will be used on those hosts.
- Agent must have Optional Harvesting Tools installed.

Optional Harvesting Tools installation

The tools are installed by default when using the installer for installation or update. Make sure Optional Harvesting Tools is toggled on in the Initial Configuration pane of the installation:



Alternatively, you can install the Optional Harvesting Tools at any time using License Statistics Agent Manager:



For instructions on installing the Optional Harvesting Tools from a command line, see [Installing and configuring License Statistics Agent](#).

Results of installing Optional Harvesting Tools

Installing the Optional Harvesting Tools will automatically download the required PSTools libraries from the [Microsoft website](#) (these libraries cannot be included directly in License Statistics due to licensing restrictions; however, they are free to use).

Agent will use the PSSuspend.exe application to execute the operation.