

callas License Server

Table of Contents

1. License Server general information	3
1.1 What is callas License Server?.....	4
1.2 License Server versus other licensing models.....	5
1.3 Using the License Server	7
1.4 Using the License Server in a Dispatcher environment	9
1.5 Cartridge types.....	10
2. License Server on-premise – Installation, activation and deactivation	11
2.1 Installation	12
2.2 Activation	13
2.3 Migrate to a different location.....	15
2.4 Deactivation	17
2.5 Getting help.....	18
2.6 Preparing for failover.....	22
2.7 Using a cache folder	23
2.8 Update to a newer version	24
3. License Server on-premise – Working with cartridges	25
3.1 Installing and uninstalling cartridges	26
3.2 Assign cartridges using cartridge pools.....	30
4. License Server on-premise – Using the License Server	32
4.1 Running the License Server on-premise.....	33
4.2 Using the License Server on-premise	35
4.3 Using License Server in failover mode.....	40
4.4 Using a license from the License Server	42
4.5 Logging with License Server.....	44
4.6 Retrieving status of callas License Server using REST interface	46

1. License Server general information

1.1 What is callas License Server?

callas License Server offers an alternative way to license callas products. Rather than authorizing a particular product to run on a specific (real or virtual) computer, it offers the opportunity to get licensing information from a central License Server. Additionally, the License Server offers both process-based and credit-based (time-based) licensing in a much more flexible way than traditional licensing models used by callas products.

callas License Server does not take away anything from alternative license models, it simply offers an alternative. callas License Server is a standalone application without any user interface. It is always run and configured from the command-line or through scripting.

The use of callas License Server makes additional usage models for the callas tools possible:

- It supports "load on demand" or "capacity on demand" models where callas tools are installed and run on new systems as they are needed.
- It supports "peak processing" by using both process-based and credit-based usage models. The combination of the two is ideal for environments where a certain baseline processing power is needed, but occasionally peaks occur that also have to be dealt with quickly.
- It supports "usage-based" payment. After the initial cost of the License Server, credit cartridges can be used to pay only for the time actually being used while processing PDF files.

Read the [next article](#) for more information on the different licensing models.

1.2 License Server versus other licensing models

The callas License Server is a way to license callas software products, but it does not replace any of the traditional licensing models.

Hardware-based licensing

Traditionally, all callas software solutions use hardware-based licensing. This means that the software needs to be installed and activated on the machine (real or virtual) on which it is running. This activation binds the purchased license to the computer on which the software is used. This activation model requires:

- Several manual operations (for the CLI products: create a license request on the console terminal, request activation by email, move the received Activation.pdf back to the host, and use the console terminal again to complete the activation)
- Static hardware identifier (which does not work well in environments where this ID can change, e.g. Docker, Amazon AWS or Microsoft Azure)

License Server-based licensing

In some environments, such as auto-scaling setups hosted in the cloud, the traditional callas licensing mechanism that requires activation to a particular computer (real or virtual), is not convenient. In auto-scaling setups, you want to be able to dynamically create new virtual machines that can immediately perform pdfToolbox tasks. In order to deal with this, callas has a separate product called callas License Server. There are two License Server-based models.

License Server

In this model, there is no need to install and activate the License Server, because it is a SaaS solution. All that is required

to reference the License Server on the CLI is a URL and a wallet ID. For more information about using the License Server, see the [next article](#).

License Server on-premise

Alternatively, there is the License Server on-premise. This model also does not require classic hardware-based licensing. However, it is worth mentioning that the License Server on-premise uses the hardware-based licensing for itself. This means that the License Server on-premise must always be activated, running and have valid cartridges installed. Only after that the callas product can run without activation. For more information on using the license server on-premise, please refer to the following chapters.

- [License Server on-premise: Installation, activation, deactivation](#)
- [Using the License Server on-premise](#)

1.3 Using the License Server

Info

This article refers to the use of the License Server as a SaaS solution. If you are interested in the License Server on-premise, please refer to the following chapters:

- [License Server on-premise: Installation, activation, deactivation](#)
- [License Server on-premise: Using the License Server](#)

There is no need to activate the License Server or to install Cartridges in it. Instead, each user has a Wallet in which the associated resources ([Cartridges](#)) are saved. The Wallet is referenced via a Wallet ID, that the user will receive when the first Cartridge is purchased. (Cartridges can be purchased from those partners where also regular pdfToolbox Licenses are available.)

The URL for License Server is

`licenseserver.callassoftware.com`

Using the License Server

It is straightforward to use License Server on command line or in the SDK.

The parameter to reference a License Server needs to specify the URL of License Server and an additional parameter "`lsmesssage`" needs to specify the Wallet ID.

Example

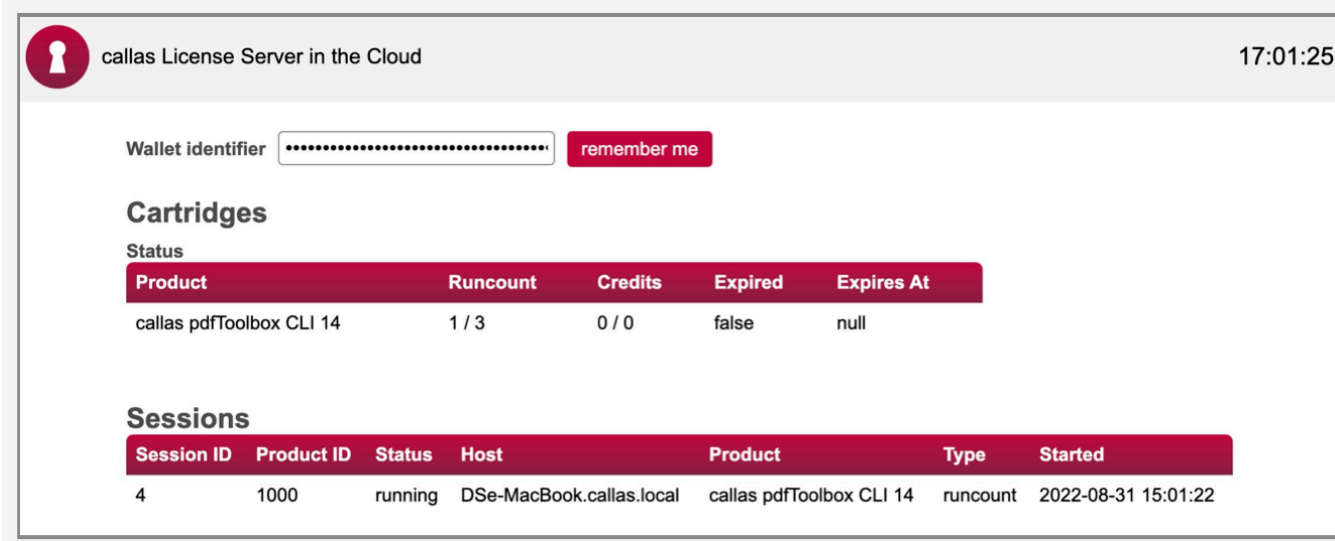
```
./pdfToolbox --licenseserver=licenseserver.callassoftware.com --lsmesssage=<Wallet ID> sample.kfpx sample.pdf -o=output.pdf
```

Monitoring the License Server

In order to monitor what Cartridges are available for a Wallet ID and what Cartridges are currently in use the License Server webinterface can be used:

<https://licenseserver.callassoftware.com>

The Wallet identifier is then to be entered into the input field to display the information for that Wallet.



The screenshot shows the 'callas License Server in the Cloud' web interface. At the top right, the time is 17:01:25. Below the header, there is a 'Wallet identifier' input field with a 'remember me' button. The interface is divided into two main sections: 'Cartridges' and 'Sessions'.

Cartridges

Product	Runcount	Credits	Expired	Expires At
callas pdfToolbox CLI 14	1 / 3	0 / 0	false	null

Sessions


Session ID	Product ID	Status	Host	Product	Type	Started
4	1000	running	DSe-MacBook.callas.local	callas pdfToolbox CLI 14	runcount	2022-08-31 15:01:22

For automated monitoring purposes it is also possible to receive the monitoring data in a .json format.

The following example uses the *curl* command. This will return a list of all cartridges and a list of all current sessions.

Example

```
curl -XGET https://licenseserver.callassoftware.com/status.json -H "content-type: application/json" -H "X-Wallet-ID: <the wallet ID>"
```

 Click to copy

1.4 Using the License Server in a Dispatcher environment

The License Server provides a means to store licenses in a centralized repository. It can make sense to combine this with distributed processing organized from a centralized entity. This entity can be a [callas pdfToolbox Dispatcher](#) or [callas pdfaPilot Dispatcher](#) (Dispatcher). You should read the linked article if you are not familiar with Satellite, Dispatcher and Client in a distributed processing environment in order to understand this article.

The Dispatcher needs to be activated as usual, however, in a License Server environment this could be done using the License Server. This requires a special Run Count cartridge for the Dispatcher (the Dispatcher cannot be used with Credits) on that License Server; pricing is the same as for a regular Dispatcher license. The Dispatcher would then be started using the `--licenseserver` command, same as any other instance that wants us activate itself using the License Server.

When a Satellite is started and connected to the Dispatcher it should at the same time use the `--licenseserver` option to also connect to the License Server. Since a Satellite is not started per job but rather runs in listening mode this call would not use any of the Cartridge assets (Run Count or Credits) on the License Server. But when then a job is submitted from a Client via the Dispatcher to the Satellite it would use these assets in the same way as a "normal" pdfToolbox instance would do.

There is no need to use the `--licenseserver` option in a call to the Dispatcher on a Client, however if that option is present it is also passed to the Satellite and consolidated with the License Server list that was established when the Satellite was started.

1.5 Cartridge types

Cartridges allow the License Server to give permission to other callas software applications to run. Each cartridge is linked to a specific callas software product. In an environment where you would like to use pdfToolbox and pdfChip, the License Server would need a cartridge for pdfToolbox and one for pdfChip. The License Server can have as many cartridges installed as required and those cartridges can be of different types.

This article describes the two types of cartridges supported.

Process cartridges

Process cartridges enable the License Server to allow a specific number of processes to run in parallel. The cartridge specifies *how many* parallel processes are allowed. Each callas software application that wants to process a PDF document requests permission to the License Server and will get permission to run if there are still unclaimed processes available.

Credit cartridges

Credit cartridges enable the License Server to allow an unlimited amount of parallel processes to run. Each time a callas software application asks permission to process a file, the License Server will grant permission. After the file has been processed, the License Server will subtract a number of credits from the available credits in the cartridge. One credit is subtracted per second of processing time.

2. License Server on-premise – Installation, activation and deactivation

2.1 Installation

On Mac or Windows, the License Server is installed by double-clicking the setup application. On Linux, it is installed by downloading the installation archive and extracting it in a folder of your choice.

The License Server has no external dependencies, the complete application is contained in the folder where it is installed.

By default, the License Server will be installed in a folder named "callas License Server", with the name of the executable "licenseServer". The License Server has no user interface, you can only use it through command-line interaction (using terminal or command prompt), or through some sort of scripting.

2.2 Activation

Please note that the License Server itself has to be *always* activated and loaded with cartridges. Only after that the enabled callas product can run without activation.


Activating the License Server

The License Server can be activated using a purchased license. Trial licenses are not supported, but temporary (time-limited) licenses are available for test scenarios.

Requesting a permanent license

To request a permanent license for the License Server, use the "keycode" command.

PLEASE NOTE: If the license server data shall be installed in a non-default location, the --cachefolder option must be used.


-  After activation, the cache folder cannot be changed without deactivating the license server first.

The specified cache folder must be writable for the license server. The proper selection of the cache folder is especially important if the license server shall run as a daemon without a user account. [More information here.](#)

```
licenseServer --keycode <name> <Company name> <path to License PDF>
OR
licenseServer --keycode [--cachefolder=cachefolder] <name> <Company name> <path
to License PDF>

// Example
```

```
./licenseServer --keycode "David van Driessche" "Four Pees" "License.PDF"
```

 Click to copy

The license server now outputs information you need to copy and paste into an email and send to the activation email address. The generated information contains all instructions to do this.

Activating using the activation email


Once you receive an email from the callas software activation server (this can take a few minutes), use the attached activation PDF to complete activation or as below

PLEASE NOTE: Since the information about the cache folder is included in the Activation.pdf no --cachefolder option is available for the --activate command

```
licenseServer --activate <path to Activation PDF>
```

```
// Example
```

```
./licenseServer --activate "Activation.PDF"
```

 Click to copy

The License Server will confirm activation if you provided the correct path to a valid activation PDF. Remark that an activation PDF can only be used on the same system it was requested and that it is only valid for 7 days after it has been requested.

2.3 Migrate to a different location

Since version 1.1.008, there is an easier way to move the activation to a different location (different machine or different user account) including all activated Cartridges with much fewer steps.

Please note: in a failover setup, the following steps have to be performed on all instances that change their computer (real or virtual device) .

Deactivate on old location

The License Server has to be stopped first.

To start the migration process, a CLI call with the following syntax has to be entered:

```
licenseServer --migrate [--cachefolder=  
cachefolder] <archive path>
```

When executing this call, an archive file will be created in the defined archive path and the LicenseServer and the Cartridges will become deactivated.

Now move this file to the new location.

Restore on new location

After moving the archive file to the new location, just use the following CLI command to restore the Cartridge and the License Server license.

```
licenseServer --restore [--cachefold-  
er=cachefolder] <archive path>
```

Where "archive path" is the accessible and valid path to the archive file.

The output on the STDOUT has to be sent to the email address mentioned at the beginning of this output.

This will register the deactivation of the old License Server as well as the activation on the new location at the callas activation system and you will receive a reply email containing a new 'Activation.pdf'.

Store this "Activation.pdf" at a place which is accessible for the License Server and call the following command:

```
licenseServer --activate <activation>
```

Now the License Server and the Cartridges are activated and can be used for production again.

2.4 Deactivation

If you want to move the License Server from one server to another you would use the migrate parameter as explained in the [related article](#). Normally there never is a need to deactivate License Server: If you do not want to use it you can simply shut it down and if you want to use it on different hardware you would use migrate.

Even worse: If you deactivate a License Server without uninstalling its Cartridges beforehand there is no way to restore them. It is still possible to deactivate but you should be careful with that and only do so if you know why.

Once again: Before a license server is deactivated, **all cartridges installed on this License Server must be uninstalled first.**


Therefore, there are some preconditions if you really need to deactivate: If License Server is used in failover mode (with more than one instance as described here: [Using License Server in failover mode](#)) and still holds Cartridges you can't deactivate it at all. Instead a message will be displayed: "This License Server activation is part of a failover mode and deactivating a License Server in failover-mode is not supported. Please use --migrate instead."

When you have uninstalled all Cartridges you may deactivate License Server using the *force* option in the *deactivate mode*:

```
licenseServer --deactivate --force [--cachefolder=cachefolder] <activation code>
```

Example:

```
./licenseServer --deactivate --force 55XXXXXXXXXXHEU9R7DUTDAYYYYYYYYPA
```

 Click to copy

If a single License Server instance is used (not in failover mode) you may deactivate it without these mechanisms, which means that you should use even more caution.

2.5 Getting help

Next to this documentation, the License Server also integrates basic help functionality. To access this, use the help command:

```
licenseServer --help
```

[Click to copy](#)

The License Server shows all supported commands:

Commands:

```
licenseServer --command [options]

-h  --help          show help
    --version      show version information
    --activate     activate license
-k  --keycode       request activation code
    --deactivate   deactivate license
    --server       launch as a server
    --status       show server status
    --install      install cartridge
    --cartridge    request cartridge installation code
```

[Click to copy](#)

Getting help for a specific command

For each command, you can use the short or long version. You can also get more explanation for a specific command, by adding its name to the help command, as in:

```
licenseServer --help keycode
```

[Click to copy](#)

Replace "keycode" with the name of the command you want further information about. Another example and an important one, the `--status` command. It retrieves information about the status of a specific license server. It can also be used locally or remotely. If used local, the `--cachefolder` option must be used with the same value as during installation.

Otherwise the IP address and the password must be provided for the running server.

```
$ ./licenseServer --status
```

Serialization:

License details:

```
Product: callas License Server
License: Time limited
Activation code: 55XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXR7DUTDACL894FLL4PA
S/N: 200000481
Expiration date: 2019-06-30
Name: ulrich
Company: callas
EMail: u.frotscher@callassoftware.com
Failover: yes
Failover count: 3
```

Cartridge license details:

```
Product: callas pdfToolbox CLI 10
Activation code: XRXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXB86P7FDQE7ATLYEQDA
S/N: 200000483
License: Time limited
Expiration date: 2019-06-30
LS S/N: 200000481
Name: ulrich
Company: callas
EMail: u.frotscher@callassoftware.com
RunCount: 2
Credits: 0
Used Credits: 0
PostPay: No
```

Cartridge license details:

```
Product: callas pdfToolbox (Desktop) 10
Activation code: 2SXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXQCABK7A3MB6764KTNS
S/N: 200000487
License: Time limited
Expiration date: 2019-06-30
LS S/N: 200000481
Name: ulrich
Company: callas
EMail: u.frotscher@callassoftware.com
RunCount: 2
```

```
Credits: 0
Used Credits: 0
PostPay: No
```

Cartridge license details:

```
Product: callas pdfToolbox CLI (Dispatcher) 10
Activation code: V7XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXNY8C2LEHQ2CUHC6AS
S/N: 200000514
License: Full
LS S/N: 200000481
Name: ulrich
Company: callas
EMail: u.frotscher@callassoftware.com
RunCount: 1
Credits: 0
Used Credits: 0
PostPay: No
```

Locations

```
Server 55XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXR7DUTDACL894FLL4PA callas License Server /Users/
u.frotscher/Documents/_test/LSServer/Failover/1/License.txt
Cartridge XRXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXB86P7FDQE7ATLYEQDA callas pdfToolbox CLI
10 /Users/u.frotscher/Documents/_test/LSServer/Failover/1/Cartridges/200000483.
txt
Cartridge 2SXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXQCABK7A3MB6764KTNS callas pdfToolbox (Desk-
top) 10 /Users/u.frotscher/Documents/_test/LSServer/Failover/1/Cartridges/
200000487.txt
Cartridge V7XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXNY8C2LEHQ2CUHC6AS callas pdfToolbox CLI (Dis-
patcher) 10 /Users/u.frotscher/Documents/_test/LSServer/Failover/1/Cartridges/
200000514.txt
```

Errors

```
None
```

Cartridge summary:**Cartridge:**

```
Product: callas pdfToolbox CLI 10
Product ID: 1000
Runcount: 2
Status: OK
```

Cartridge:

```
Product: callas pdfToolbox CLI (Dispatcher) 10
Product ID: 1012
```

Runcount: 1

Status: OK


Cartridge:

Product: callas pdfToolbox (Desktop) 10

Product ID: 1100

Runcount: 2

Status: OK

 Click to copy

2.6 Preparing for failover

In the most simple configuration, the License Server is installed and activated on a single system. Other callas tools talk to this License Server to get permission to run.

Obviously, this makes this single system a single point of failure which is not acceptable in some environments. To remedy this, it is possible to run the License Server in *failover* mode.

Getting a suitable license

Running callas License Server in failover mode is only possible with a suitable license. The *user number* of the license you receive must be 3 (three) instead of 1 (one). If you don't have or are not sure you have a suitable license, please contact us:

<https://www.callassoftware.com/en/contact>

Installing License Server for failover

To work in failover mode, you will need to install and activate License Server on three different machines. Those machines will need to be on permanently, and will need to have a fixed IP address assigned to them.


This article [Failover restrictions](#) explains what happens when License Server instances become unavailable (in a failure situation).

2.7 Using a cache folder

In some cases, it is necessary to override the default folder where License Server stores licensing and temporary information. callas License Server only supports using a different folder when this has been setup during activation.

If such a custom folder needs to be used, the same folder needs to be used for all of the following commands:

```
licenseServer --keycode --cachefolder=<path> <user> <company> License.pdf  
licenseServer --cartridge --cachefolder=<path> LicenseCartridge.pdf  
licenseServer --server --cachefolder=<path>
```

 Click to copy

Changing the cache folder location

Once the License Server and / or cartridges have been activated, the specified cache folder location cannot be changed. The only way to modify it, is to deactivate the cartridges and the License Server and then specify the new cache folder location during re-activation.

2.8 Update to a newer version

Updating the License Server or Cartridges is straightforward.

License Server

The running version needs to be stopped first and thereafter the executable can be exchanged with a newer version.

If you are using multiple instances of License Server in failover mode and are upgrading to a new minor version (e.g. v1.1 to v1.2), it is recommended that you install the new License Server version in a separate folder in parallel with the existing installation. To minimize downtime and the risk of failed license requests, shut down all instances of the old version and then start the new version.

You can also upgrade the license server installations one at a time. Note that if you upgrade multiple instances, at least half of the instances must always be on the same version (for example, if you have a three-instance setup, at least two instances must always be on the same version). Otherwise, no licenses can be obtained from the license server.

However, license requests may fail because the license servers are asked for a license in the order in which they are defined, e.g. in the CLI call.

Of course all parameters such as a cachefolder need to be used with the new version as well.

Cartridges

Process Cartridges need to be updated to work with newer versions of the program (e.g. pdfToolbox). To do so you should have received an update License PDF using the same serial number as the Cartridge to be updated. You can then update the Cartridge (as usual) with `--cartridge` and `--install`.

Credits Cartridges can be used with all versions and do not have to be updated at all.

3. License Server on-premise – Working with cartridges

3.1 Installing and uninstalling cartridges

Before installing cartridges, the License Server itself must be activated! See the article on [activating the License Server](#).

Cartridge license PDF

To install a cartridge, you need to obtain a License PDF for the process or credit cartridge you want. This is a PDF document; you can open it to see the details of the cartridge before you install it.


Installing a cartridge


Once you have the cartridge license PDF, use the following command to install it in a License Server:

```
licenseServer --cartridge <Path to Cartridge License PDF> --licenseserver=<existing licenseserver>

// Example

./licenseServer --cartridge "Cartridge License.PDF" --licenseserver=localhost
```

 Click to copy

 A "remote" setup using the `--licenseserver` option is recommended to prevent potential file system permission issues.

Local:

If the `--cartridge` command is used locally, the `--cachefolder` option must be set to the same value that was used with the `--keycode` command. Installing car-

tridges directly into the filesystem is **not recommended**. It's better to do the installation remotely using the `--license-server` option. Otherwise, you would need to know the exact location of the cache folder and manually handle any necessary filesystem permissions.

Remote (recommended):

If the `--cartridge` command is used remotely on a running license server the `--cachefolder` must not be used, instead the `--licenseserver` option must point to the running License Server. If the remote License Server was started with the `--password` option, the `--password` option must be used with the same value.



If you use multiple License Servers for fail-over reasons, it is advisable to install all cartridges on one single License Server. They will synchronize the cartridge information amongst themselves automatically.

The License Server now outputs information you need to copy and paste into an email and send to the activation email address. The generated information contains all instructions to do this. After receiving the resulting reply email from the callas activation server, activate the cartridge with the License Server as follows:

```
// Example

licenseServer --install [--password=<server password>] [--licenseserver=<license-server address>] <Path to Cartridge Activation PDF>


licenseServer --install --password=1234 --licenseserver=localhost "Cartridge Activation.pdf"
```

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Please note:

Since the information about the cache folder is included in the Activation Cartridge.pdf, no `--cachefolder` option is available for the `--install` command.

The License Server will confirm activation if you provided the correct path to a valid activation PDF. Remark that an activation PDF can only be used on the same system it was requested from and that it is only valid for 48 hours after it has been requested.

-  What if you want to upgrade only some of your processes to a newer major version (e.g. version 11) while leaving the rest using the older version (e.g. version 10)?

This is definitely possible. pdfToolbox 11 could use the version 11 Cartridge and pdfToolbox 10 would use the version 10 Licenses first and would fall back to the v.11 if there are no more v.10 Licenses available.

In other words: switching to 11 would not exclude the use of pdfToolbox 10.

Uninstalling cartridges

Cartridges can be uninstalled by using the `--uninstall` command.

This command deletes the cartridge from the License Server and outputs information that must be sent to activate@callassoftware.com in order to reset the activation counter. Only if the activation counter is reset, a new activation can be requested.

The `--uninstall` command requires the activation code for the cartridge to uninstall. The activation codes for all installed cartridges can be retrieved by using the `--status` command. Like some other call the `--uninstall` command can be used locally by providing the `--cachefolder` option or remotely by using the `--licenseserver` and `--password` options.

```
$ ./licenseServer --uninstall --cachefolder=./1/ V7XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXC-  
NY8C2LEHQ2CUHC6AS
```

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Watch a video about 'Installing cartridges' here:

3.2 Assign cartridges using cartridge pools

Cartridges allow the License Server to give permission to other callas software applications to run. The different types of cartridges are explained here: [Cartridge types](#).

Cartridge pools allow assigning some of the licenses available on the License Server for specific tasks. This provides a way to establish dedicated licenses for time-critical tasks for example.

Each cartridge can be assigned to exact one cartridge pool. A client can request a license for any number of pools by specifying the cartridge pool on the command line by using the `--lspool` parameter. An example of how to use this parameter on the CLI can be found [here](#).

 Cartridge pools are a feature for the License Server on-premise. If you are interested in using cartridge pools on the License Server (via a separate wallet ID), please contact [your reseller](#).

Assign a cartridge to a pool


It is recommended to derive the serial number for the respective cartridge on the CLI via the `--status` command first, which will also show an overview about already existing cartridge assignments to existing pools:

```
licenseServer --status
```

 Click to copy


Then assign a cartridge to a named cartridge pool:

```
licenseServer --assign <cartridge serial number> <POOLNAME>
```

 Click to copy

To unassign a cartridge from a pool, just use an empty string (""):

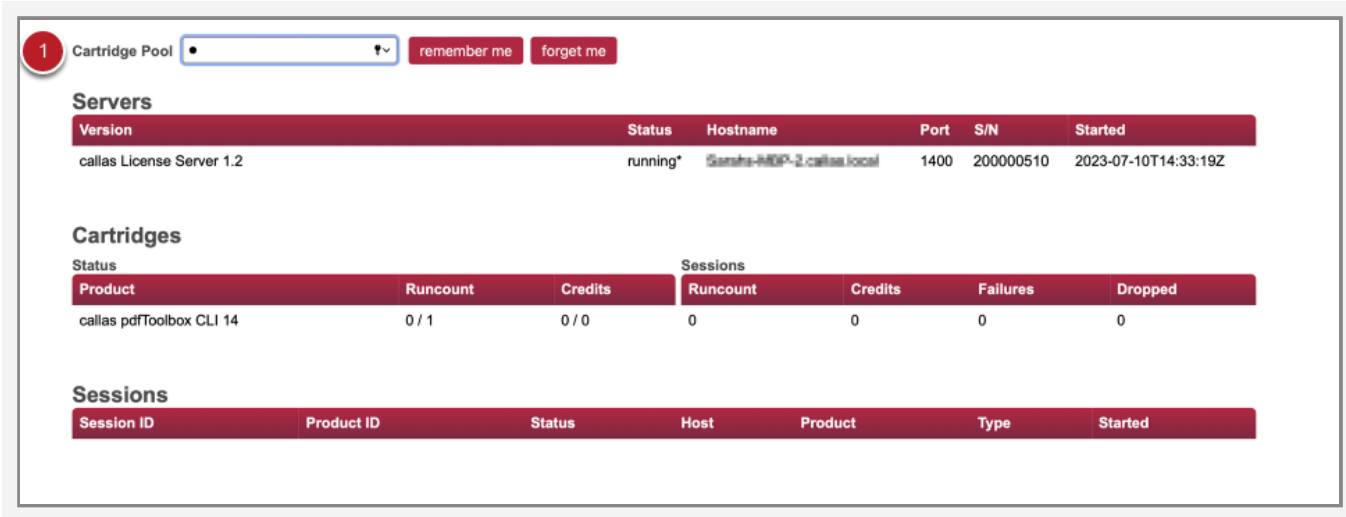
```
licenseServer --assign <cartridge serial number> ""
```

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Retrieving status of callas License Server using REST interface

If cartridge pools are used, this is also visible in the [REST interface](#).

The REST API delivers information about cartridges and sessions for the default pool. That means if a cartridge is not assigned to a pool, it is listed directly in the REST API. The cartridges that are assigned to a specific pool are not displayed in the status until the cartridge pool name is entered (1).



The screenshot shows the REST interface for the callas License Server. At the top, there is a 'Cartridge Pool' dropdown menu with a red '1' in a circle next to it, and two buttons: 'remember me' and 'forget me'. Below this, there are three sections: 'Servers', 'Cartridges', and 'Sessions', each with a table of data.

Version	Status	Hostname	Port	S/N	Started
callas License Server 1.2	running*	Sasha-MBP-2.callas.local	1400	200000510	2023-07-10T14:33:19Z

Cartridges

Product	Runcount	Credits	Sessions Runcount	Credits	Failures	Dropped
callas pdfToolbox CLI 14	0 / 1	0 / 0	0	0	0	0


Sessions

Session ID	Product ID	Status	Host	Product	Type	Started
------------	------------	--------	------	---------	------	---------

For automated monitoring purposes it is also possible to receive the monitoring data in a .json format.


The following example uses the *curl* command.

```
curl -XGET localhost:1401/status/data.json -H "X-Pool-ID:Test"
```

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4. License Server on-premise – Using the License Server

4.1 Running the License Server on-premise

 If you intend to use License Server in failover mode, the content of this article doesn't apply to you. Please refer to the article on [using License Server in failover mode](#).

In order to be able to use the License Server, it has to be started. This is done using the "server" command as follows:


```
licenseserver --server
```

 Click to copy

In order to run the license server the `--cachefolder` option must point to the cache folder that was specified during installation (`--keycode` command). The `--server` command has several options for setup of failover, logging, REST interface and remote installation of cartridges.

When using this command, the License Server starts listening for incoming connections on port 1400 (default). The port can be changed using the "port" option.


```
licenseserver --server --port=1444
```

 Click to copy

Password

In order to disallow the remote installation and deinstallation of cartridges for everybody with access to the host, a password can be specified. If no password option is given, a default password is used and anyone who has a copy of the license server application and network access to the license server can `--install` and `--uninstall` cartridges remotely!

```
licenseserver --server [--password=password]
```

 Click to copy




Now that you have reached this article, you should also go through this Event video explaining everything about callas License Server

4.2 Using the License Server on-premise

In order to avoid having to activate a callas software product, you can use a reference to a running License Server in the call to that product. The License Server on-premise needs to be activated, it needs to be running and it needs to have valid cartridges installed.

The `--licenseserver` command points the callas software product to the License Server on-premise so it can get permission to run your call.

```
./pdfToolbox --licenseserver=<ip or hostname of licenseserver> <other command-line parameters>
```

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The command specifies the IP address of the License Server you want to use. Please note that all callas products also support DNS names for the `--licenseserver` option. Optionally, this can be followed with a colon and a port number. If you use the default License Server port (1400), the port doesn't have to be specified.

Support for 'configuration file' with defined IPs


There is a way to change all usages of our configurators if new or extra IPs are to be defined. It is possible using a 'global' configuration file.

This can be done by storing a "LicenserServer.txt" that contains IPs (and ports) at the same place where a "License.txt" would usually be searched. The system path for different Operating Systems are mentioned [here](#).

Please note:

The formatting of this "LicenserServer.txt" should be a single LicenseServer per line, like:

```
10.0.0.15:<valid port if required>
10.0.1.2
internalLS.callas.local
```

 Click to copy


Important to note:

- If a LicenseServer.txt exists, a --licenseserver command is not necessary. If --licenseserver is defined nonetheless, these IPs will be tried first
- Needless to say that in order to initialise and use the LicenseServer, at least one --licenseserver option OR LicenseServer.txt is needed

Using a developer cartridge

Cartridges can be obtained for production or development purposes (e.g. for internal testing). For development purposes you have to request a license from a DEV cartridge with the `--lsdev` command in addition to the `--licenseserver` command.

```
./pdfToolbox --licenseserver=<ip or hostname of licenseserver> <other command-line parameters> --lsdev
```

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Set a cartridge pool

[Cartridge pools](#) allow assigning some of the licenses available on the License Server for specific tasks. To request a license for any number of pools you have to specify the cartridge pool on the command line by using the `--lspool` parameter.

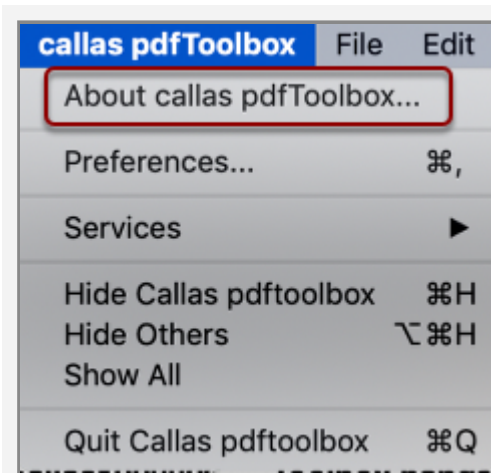
```
./pdfToolbox --licenseserver=<ip or hostname of licenseserver> <other command-line parameters> --lspool=<POOLNAME>
```

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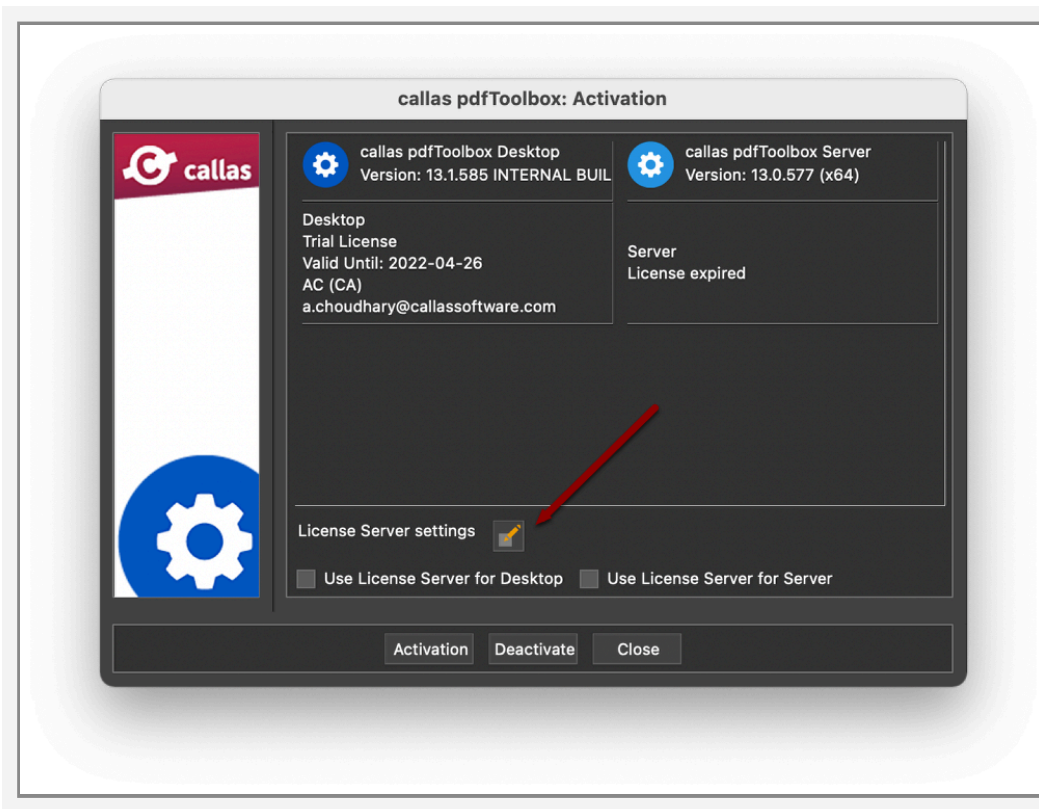
Using the License Server with Desktop products

Once the License Server is activated and running with a valid cartridge for pdfToolbox/pdfaPilot Desktop installed, you can

run your Desktop and Server products without activating a hardware bound license to it. Simply go to callas pdfToolbox
> About callas pdfToolbox

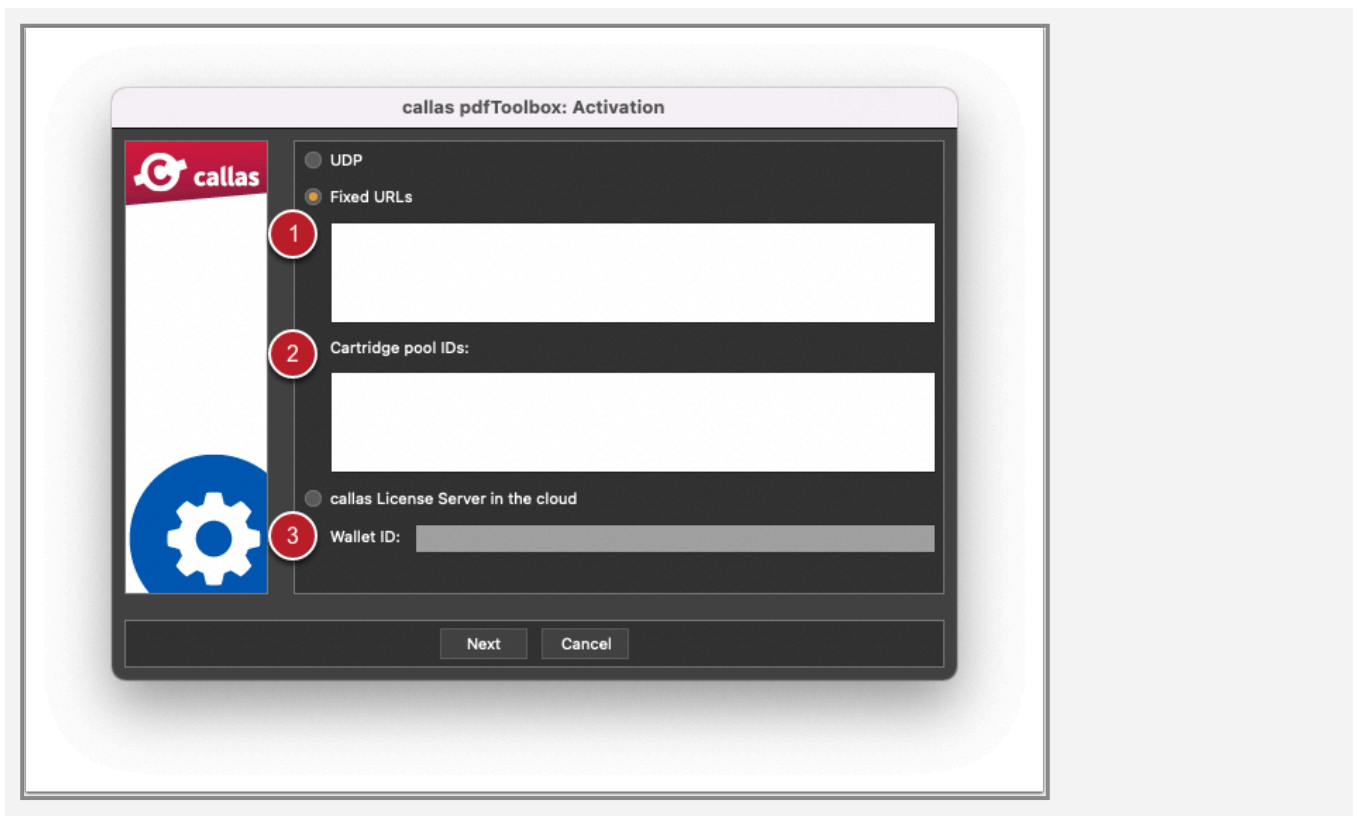


Once a new window pops up, you can click on the checkbox 'Use License Server'.



Then click on the 'License Server settings' edit button in order to define your IP to use License Server via the desktop product. Here you have several options:

1. To use the License Server on-premise to activate pdfToolbox Desktop, you must enter the IP address of the server here. More information on how to activate the License Server on-premise can be found [here](#).
2. Input field to specifying a cartridge pool. More information can be found [here](#).
3. To use the License Server (SaaS solution) to activate pdfToolbox Desktop, you must enter the Wallet ID here. More information on how to use the License Server can be found [here](#).



License server details in 'LicenseServer.json'

A "licenseserver.json" can alternatively be placed manually in User-Preferences OR AllUser-Preferences OR Program-folder, which defines if a license server is available over UDP or IP (in case of the latter, over which IPs it is available). The format of 'LicenseServer.json' is as follows:

```
{  
  "use": true,  
  "udp": false,  
  "fixed": true,
```

```
"url": ["10.0.0.25", "xx.x.x.xx", ...]  
}
```

[Click to copy](#)

While looking for pdfToolbox, it checks for License.txt but if a LicenseServer.json exists, the keys are searched there while overwriting the original application settings.

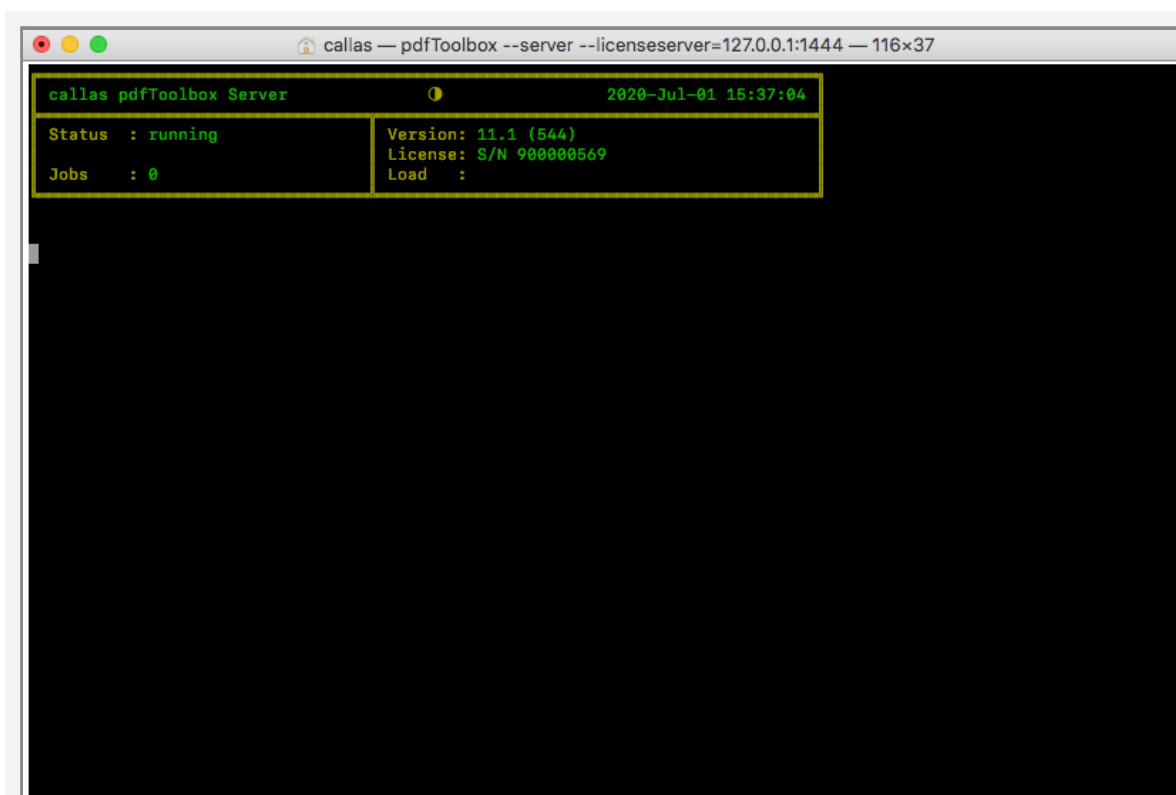
Using the License Server with pdfToolbox/ pdfaPilot Server/CLI

- Start the server via the CLI with: `pdftoolbox --server --licenseserver='URL'`

```
/Applications/callas pdfToolbox Server 13/cli/pdftoolbox --server --licenseserver="127.0.0.1:1444"
```

[Click to copy](#)

This would open the status window:



- With "Connect with remote server" or "Start a server" the jobs should be visible and can be started.

4.3 Using License Server in failover mode


In failover mode, License Server typically runs on three different systems. The way you work with License Server in this case is slightly different than the simple use case where it's running on a single system. (The failover count is part of the license for the license server and must be specified during the purchase of the license server)

Please note: pdfToolbox 10.2 and higher have support for license server. Fail over mode is only available in pdfToolbox 10.2 (508) and higher.

Launching License Server

In failover mode, each License Server needs to be aware of the other License Servers involved. Assuming the three License Servers are installed on systems with IP addresses <IP1>, <IP2> and <IP3>, they would be launched on each system as:

```
On LicenseServer 1:
licenseServer --server --licenseserver=<IP2> --licenseserver=<IP3>
On LicenseServer 2:
licenseServer --server --licenseserver=<IP1> --licenseserver=<IP3>
On LicenseServer 3:
licenseServer --server --licenseserver=<IP1> --licenseserver=<IP2>
```

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PLEASE NOTE: It is possible to run multiple license servers on the same computer with different ports and cache folder settings.

Using License Server

In failover mode, whenever a callas tool, such as pdfToolbox, requires a license, it should refer to all three license servers while doing so:

```
pdfToolbox --licenseserver=<IP1> --licenseserver=<IP2> --licenseserver=<IP3> <fur-
```

```
ther command line>
```

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Failover restrictions

In failover mode, one (1) License Server can fail and other software will still continue to work and receive valid licenses. As soon as two (2) License Servers fail, the remaining License Server will refuse to distribute licenses.

4.4 Using a license from the License Server

pdfToolbox 10.2 and higher have support for license server. Fail over mode is only available in pdfToolbox 10.2 (508) and higher.

License server access is initiated by the `--licenseserver` option. Since pdfToolbox 10.2 (508) multiple `--licenseserver` options can be used for failover mode. The license from the first license server that provides a license is used by pdfToolbox. If the `--licenseserver` option is given local licenses are ignored.

The `--licenseserver` option takes an IP number or hostname and a port separated by a colon. If the port is omitted, the default port 1400 is used.


License type

There are two types of cartridges available: Runcount or processes and Credits.

Process cartridges set the number of parallel process that are allowed to run concurrently.

Credit cartridges are based on processing time without the limitation of the number of parallel processes.

If process and credit cartridges are installed the license server tries to use a license from process cartridge first and in case no process cartridge license is available it tries to use a credit based license. By using the `--licensetype` option the license type can be set to a specific cartridge type.

 What if you want to upgrade only some of your processes to version 11 while leaving the rest to version 10?

This is definitely possible. pdfToolbox 11 could use the version 11 Cartridge and pdfToolbox 10 would use the version 10 Licenses first and would fall back

to the v.11 if there are no more v.10 Licenses available.

In other words: switching to 11 would not exclude the use of pdfToolbox 10.

Timeouts

The pdftoolbox with `--licenserver` option tries to get a license from all specified license servers for 60 seconds before giving up. This time out can be modified by the `--timeout_licenserver` option.

Message

There is an option to specify a message string that is written to the REST interface and log files on the license server side. This message can be set by using the `--message` option.

```
$ ./pdfToolbox --help

[...]
  --licensetype                Use only specific license type on license server
                               all (default)
                               credits
                               runcount
  --timeout_licenserver        Time interval in seconds before search for avail-
able license is cancelled, if < 0: wait forever, default: 60)
  --licenserver                Use a callas license server instead of local li-
cense

                               Syntax: --licenserver=<IP Adress>:<PORT>

[...]
```

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4.5 Logging with License Server


The License Server has two logging facilities:

Logging to console and Log files.

Logging to console

The first is logging to the console. The amount of information that is written to the console can be set by the `--verbosity` parameter.

```
licenseServer --server [--verbosity=<level>]
```

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The different level of reporting can be set as below:

Level	Value
0	None
1	Base
2	Errors
3	Warnings (Default)
4	Log
5	Debug

Log files

There are two different types of log files.

Daily log files

The license server writes all sessions to log files located in a "Logs" folder inside the cache folder. A new log file is created every day with file name of the form `<YEAR>-<MONTH>-<DAY>.log` (e.g. 2019-06-06.log). These files provide status information.

Note that generation of daily log files can be suppressed if the `--logverbosity=0` option is used.

log.json

This log file is located directly in the AppData folder and contains relevant information regarding licensing and activation.

4.6 Retrieving status of callas License Server using REST interface


The license server is listening on to two ports: the first one for license requests, already described in one of the previous [articles](#).

The second port is used for the REST interface. The default port for this purpose is 1401 it can be changed by using the `--api-port` option. If no `--api-port` option is given and the main port was set using the `--port` option the license server uses the next port (`--port +1`) for the API port.

The license server provides one REST interface that provides information about the current status of the license server, the cartridges, the failover network and information about running sessions.

The license server provides an HTML status page that uses the `/status/data.json` interface internally:

```
<HOSTNAME>:<API_PORT>/status/index.html
```

 Click to copy

The screenshot shows the callas License Server 1.0 web interface. The top navigation bar includes the title 'callas License Server 1.0' and the time '1:50:16 PM'. The main content area is divided into three sections: Servers, Cartridges, and Sessions.

Servers

Version	Status	Hostname	Port	S/N	Started
callas License Server 1.0	running*	[REDACTED]	1400	200000510	2019-06-26T17:04:40Z
callas License Server 1.0	running	[REDACTED]	1400	200000510	2019-06-26T18:59:46+02:00
callas License Server 1.0	running	srv-testing.callassoftware.com	1400	200000510	2019-06-26T18:57:48+02:00

Cartridges

Product	Runcount	Credits	Sessions			
			Runcount	Credits	Failures	Dropped
callas pdfToolbox CLI	0 / 0	2155 / 100000	0	0	0	0
callas pdfToolbox CLI 10	7 / 8	0 / 0	32548	0	5	5522

Sessions

Session ID	Product ID	Status	Host	Product	Type	Started
5806	1000	running	iPro.callas.local	callas pdfToolbox CLI 10	runcount	2019-06-27T11:50:04Z
7691	1000	running	iPro.callas.local	callas pdfToolbox CLI 10	runcount	2019-06-27T11:50:06Z
7697	1000	running	ip-[REDACTED]	callas pdfToolbox CLI 10	runcount	2019-06-27T11:50:16Z
19514	1000	running	ws-linux-cabs	callas pdfToolbox CLI 10	runcount	2019-06-27T11:50:00Z
19515	1000	running	iPro.callas.local	callas pdfToolbox CLI 10	runcount	2019-06-27T11:50:03Z
19516	1000	running	ws-linux-cabs	callas pdfToolbox CLI 10	runcount	2019-06-27T11:50:04Z
19517	1000	running	ws-linux-cabs	callas pdfToolbox CLI 10	runcount	2019-06-27T11:50:14Z

Internally used JSON interface:

```
<HOSTNAME>:<API_PORT>/status/data.json
```

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Example:


```
{
  "cartridges": [
    {
      "product_id": 1000,
      "major_version": 0,
      "product": "callas pdfToolbox CLI",
      "runcount": 0,
      "credits": 100000,
      "postpay": false,
      "statistic": {
        "licenses": {
          "runcount": 0,
          "credits": 0,
          "failed": 0
        }
      }
    },
  ],
}
```

```
        "used_credits": 2155,
        "remaining_credits": 97845,
        "runcount_in_use": 0,
        "sessions_dropped": 0
    },
    "locations": []
},
{
    "product_id": 1000,
    "major_version": 10,
    "product": "callas pdfToolbox CLI",
    "runcount": 8,
    "credits": 0,
    "postpay": false,
    "statistic": {
        "licenses": {
            "runcount": 32398,
            "credits": 0,
            "failed": 5
        },
        "used_credits": 0,
        "remaining_credits": 0,
        "runcount_in_use": 3,
        "sessions_dropped": 5490
    },
    "locations": [
        {
            "server_id":
"FAB348C4CD3C14E974730F83A0BFE4705428A9683880C967C9F2134",
            "serial_number": 200000512,
            "runcount": 8,
            "credits": 0,
            "postpay": false
        },
        {
            "server_id":
"FAB348C4CD3C14E974730F83A0BFE4705428A9683880C967C9F2134",
            "serial_number": 200000556,
            "runcount": 0,
            "credits": 100000,
            "postpay": false
        }
    ]
}
```

```
    }
  ],
  "sessions": [
    {
      "server_id": "6FC347863C741C475FB3511AF0B9452FA1011F4ADDED5BE7322405",
      "session_id": 7603,
      "status": "finished",
      "host": "ip-172-31-xx-xx",
      "ip_address": "52.59.xxx.xxx",
      "started": "2019-06-27T11:48:08Z",
      "message": "hello AWS world",
      "licenses": []
    },
    {
      "server_id": "FAB348C4CD3C14E974730F83A0BFE4705428A9683880C967C9F2134",
      "session_id": 19472,
      "status": "running",
      "host": "ws-linux-cabs",
      "ip_address": "90.187.xx.xx",
      "started": "2019-06-27T11:48:02Z",
      "message": "",
      "licenses": [
        {
          "product_id": 1000,
          "major_version": 10,
          "product": "callas pdfToolbox CLI",
          "type": "runcount"
        }
      ]
    },
    {
      "server_id": "FAB348C4CD3C14E974730F83A0BFE4705428A9683880C967C9F2134",
      "session_id": 19473,
      "status": "running",
      "host": "ws-linux-cabs",
      "ip_address": "90.187.xx.xx",
      "started": "2019-06-27T11:48:02Z",
      "message": "",
      "licenses": [
        {
          "product_id": 1000,
          "major_version": 10,
          "product": "callas pdfToolbox CLI",
```

```
        "type": "runcount"
      }
    ]
  },
  {
    "server_id": "FAB348C4CD3C14E974730F83A0BFE4705428A9683880C967C9F2134",
    "session_id": 19477,
    "status": "running",
    "host": "ws-linux-cabs",
    "ip_address": "90.187.xx.xx",
    "started": "2019-06-27T11:48:07Z",
    "message": "",
    "licenses": [
      {
        "product_id": 1000,
        "major_version": 10,
        "product": "callas pdfToolbox CLI",
        "type": "runcount"
      }
    ]
  },
  {
    "server_id": "FAB348C4CD3C14E974730F83A0BFE4705428A9683880C967C9F2134",
    "session_id": 19478,
    "status": "running",
    "host": "iPro.callas.local",
    "ip_address": "90.187.xx.xx",
    "started": "2019-06-27T11:48:09Z",
    "message": "",
    "licenses": []
  }
],
"servers": [
  {
    "server_id": "FAB348C4CD3C14E974730F83A0BFE4705428A9683880C967C9F2134",
    "status": "running",
    "serial_number": "200000510",
    "version": "1.0.7",
    "hostname": "ip-172-31-xx-xx",
    "ip_address": "172.31.xx.xx",
    "port": 1400,
    "platform": "Ubuntu 18.04.2 LTS Linux x86_64 4.15.0-1040-aws",
    "started": "2019-06-26T17:04:40Z",
```

```
    "coordinator":
      "FAB348C4CD3C14E974730F83A0BFE4705428A9683880C967C9F2134"
    },
    {
      "server_id": "2FE184D50FA29586ECF93185526FDC38CB40004FD464412A8FFDBFD",
      "status": "running",
      "serial_number": "200000510",
      "version": "1.0.7",
      "hostname": "213.160.xx.xx",
      "ip_address": "213.160.xx.xx",
      "port": 1400,
      "platform": "Linux Mint 19 Tara x86_64 4.15.0-20-generic",
      "started": "2019-06-26T18:59:46+02:00"
    },
    {
      "server_id": "6FC347863C741C475FB3511AF0B9452FA1011F4ADDED5BE7322405",
      "status": "running",
      "serial_number": "200000510",
      "version": "1.0.7",
      "hostname": "srv-testing.callassoftware.com",
      "ip_address": "213.160.xx.xx",
      "port": 1400,
      "platform": "Debian GNU/Linux 9.9 stretch x86_64 4.9.0-9-amd64",
      "started": "2019-06-26T18:57:48+02:00"
    }
  ]
}
```

 Click to copy



In case you find any problems in retrieving the status, please write to us at support@callassoftware.com

You can also watch a short video about REST interface below: