

Release Notes 2026

DHI License Manager

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Introduction

Welcome to Release 2026.

In this Release Note you will find information about new features, improvements and fixes, and what you need to know to install and get started with Release 2026.

The new DHI License Manager is used to connect MIKE software products to an entitlement on either an Internet server, a local server or a network server, where a local server is a network server that is located on the computer where the MIKE software is installed.

For more information, see Licensing section below or the documentation here: [MIKE Entitlement Management and Licensing, User Guide](#).

System requirements

Supported Operating Systems

The supported operating systems listed below have been tested in accordance with MIKE's Quality Assurance procedures. DHI's warranty, as set out in the General Terms and Conditions ([Schedule 1](#)) for MIKE software and Software Maintenance Agreement ([Schedule 4](#)) only apply when MIKE software is installed and used on these supported systems:

DHI License Manager:

- Windows: Win 10 Pro 22H2, Win 11 Pro 24H2 & 23H2, Windows Server 2022 version 21H2
- Linux: Ubuntu: 20.04 LTS, 22.04 LTS, 24.04 LTS, Red Hat Enterprise 8 and 9 (installation only, no UI)

Any operating system **not listed** is considered **unsupported**. Installing or using MIKE software on an unsupported system is at Licensee's own risk and DHI provides **no warranty, no maintenance coverage**, and is **not obligated** to offer support or troubleshooting.

The supported Linux distributions are those that have been tested and verified by DHI for MIKE 2026. Other distributions may, or may not, work and are not recommended. However, past versions of MIKE Software have been successfully installed on other Linux distributions, including CentOS, Ubuntu Kylin, Galaxy Kylin (V10), AlmaLinux and Debian (all 64-bit).

Please note: Even if an operating system is listed as supported, it will be considered **unsupported** if MIKE software is run in a virtualized environment, e.g., a guest operating system or a Docker container.

Minimum hardware/software requirements

Processor	Compatible with x64 instruction set architecture, 2.2 GHz or higher*
Memory (RAM)	4 GB or higher*
Storage	64 GB or higher*

Display	Resolution 1024 x 720 (High-Definition) or higher, 24-bit color (true color)
Graphics adapter	64 MB RAM (256 MB RAM or higher recommended), 32-bit true color*
Software requirements	Microsoft .NET Framework 4.7.2 or higher

* The system requirements for the DHI License Manager are determined by the system requirements of the MIKE software being used.

Installation

The DHI License Manager does not require any additional installation. The setup program will automatically install all necessary files and folders onto your computer. Additionally, an entry is created in the Start Menu for DHI License Manager 2026.

A separate installation is only required to set up a network server. To install DHI License Manager (either locally or on a network server), please go to the 'DHI License Manager' product folder and execute the setup.exe file either on the MIKE 2025 USB or from the downloaded, un-zipped installation files. Press the 'Install' button to begin installation.

Please note that a separate installation guide, including system requirements, for MIKE Software for Linux is available.

Licensing

With Release 2026, we are introducing a new licensing system for MIKE software.

For on-line users, the new Internet License Server is more secure and robust, and less dependent on a stable internet connection. This should significantly increase the overall reliability of the Internet License Server.

For off-line users, the main difference is that dongles and license files are replaced by a Network License Server that is locked to specific computer. Just like the old dongles, a Network License Server can distribute licenses across a local network.

The existing Internet License Server will be phased out by the end of 2026. We will communicate more details of this phase-out to users of the existing system in Q2 2026.

In the new system,

- Every company needs an Administrator to manage Entitlements. This person will be created automatically by Customer Care.
- The Administrator can add Users in their company's Webportal.
- The Administrator can set up Local License Servers for off-line usage.
- Users can configure their connection to the Internet License Server or a Local License Server from the new desktop DHI License Manager.

All the required files will be installed during the MIKE Software installation. The details of the installation, configuration and connecting to your License Server are described in the documentation here: [MIKE Entitlement Management and Licensing, User Guide](#).

Note: Starting any MIKE Software without a valid license will cause the program to run in demo mode. When running in demo mode, the software has access to all editors, computational engines and editing facilities. The restrictions that apply to saving set ups and executing simulations are product specific.

Starting your MIKE Software

Launch DHI License Manager 2026 from the Windows Start menu.

Support

For general support, please refer to our [Customer Care Portal](#).

If you experience any difficulties, or if you have questions, please contact our Customer Care team at mike@dhigroup.com.

You can also contact your local Customer Care team for support in your local language. A list can be accessed from [here](#).

New features in Release 2026

Every new release of MIKE Software consists of new modules, new features and/or corrections to problems or significant inconsistencies discovered in previous releases. Please find below short descriptions of the most significant news.

Differences to Release 2025

Module/type	Error/Inconvenience
Dongle usage	<p>The new DHI License Manager does not support dongles. Dongles have been replaced by a soft-lock to the network server based on a computer identifier.</p> <p>...</p>
Off-line usage	<p>Off-line usage is supported via the soft-lock, whereby an entitlement is moved from the DHI Entitlement Portal to the network server.</p> <p>Once moved, there is no requirement for an internet connection.</p>
Lost Internet connectivity	<p>The default borrow period for a license is 10min. This means that when using the internet license server, the license system should tolerate an internet disruption of up to 10min.</p>
Opening multiple instances of MIKE+ simultaneously	<p>In MIKE+ up to version 2025, a single license allowed up to 4 licensed MIKE+ instances (i.e. 4 project databases) to be opened simultaneously, given that they were opened on the same computer.</p> <p>In MIKE 2026, it is no longer possible to open 4 instances simultaneously in licensed mode. This means that one MIKE+ license now only allows opening 1 instance in licensed mode.</p> <p>It is still possible to open additional MIKE+ instances in demo mode when no license is available, which allows, for example, viewing all the data. Results visualisation is not subject to a license, therefore it also remains possible to open as many MIKE+ instances as needed and view results as long as no project database is opened.</p> <p>Note that this change does not affect the number of simultaneous simulations allowed per license.</p>
Backwards compatibility	<p>The DHI License Manager for MIKE 2026 does not support opening and running simulations in older versions. To run an older version of MIKE software you must keep the old version installed and run the old simulations with the old license system – either the old internet license server or with a dongle and license file.</p>
Pre-MIKE 2026 internet license server	<p>Eventually, we will shut down the old internet license server, but the time frame has not been decided.</p>
Offline borrowing	<p>In MIKE 2025, you were able to borrow a license and use it off-line for up to 14 days. Short term borrowing is not yet supported in the 2026 version. Moving an entitlement to a network server does not require an internet connection after it is moved.</p>

