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Question:

What are the features of Advantage software (or green SSL hardware key) licenses and the M5 software (or blue M5 hardware key) licenses?

Answer:

GE Common Licensing, also called Advantage Licensing, currently offers two primary licensing methods: configurable Advantage licensing and non-configurable M5 licensing. This document will discuss the features of the two primary types of licenses.

Advantage:

- Fast order time for new licenses or updating licenses, usually less than one business day for code delivery.
- Easily add new product activations or change license limits to already existing devices or keys.
- Small 2GB USB drive for storage on hardware keys.
- Freedom to choose between many activation methods: a direct activation on a physical system, a license server activation for virtual or many systems, or a hardware key activation. These activations are swappable at any time by returning the license to the GE Cloud.
- Offline activations are available for non-Internet connected systems. This requires at least one system connected to the Internet with the GE Common Licensing client installed. The generated license request file and the license response file can be emailed to other users.
- Once activated, the system is not required to maintain its online connection using any activation method.

M5:

- No onboard USB drive on hardware keys. May be a requirement for high security environments.
- Does not require an online system at any time; licenses are delivered on keys or as activated files.
- License numbers are printed on a label on the M5 hardware keys.
- Not sensitive to computer name changes.
- Requires special operating system configurations to allow for GE programs to run as a service.

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