

Floating Licenses

There are two ways to use floating licenses, and they are mutually exclusive:

1. Floating for terminals using terminal services
2. Floating using local area network.

Due to complex hardware definitions and installed drivers It is strongly recommended not to use floating licenses for computers being used as registers.

All floating licenses must belong to the same store and can't belong to a store that is not on the same LAN. (Remote store).

Marking the licenses that are floating:

Every license participating in the floating licenses pool must be marked as floating in the license control screen. To access the license control screen click on the licensing link:

The screenshot displays the Visual Retail Plus software interface. At the top left, it says "Ver 6". On the right side, there is a logo for "vrp visual retail plus Inc." with a blue background and white text. Below the logo, there are two buttons: "OK" with a hand icon and "Bye Bye" with a door icon. In the center, there is a "User Code" dropdown menu showing "admin" and a "Password" text box. At the bottom left, there is a "Change My Password" link. In the center bottom, there is a "Licensing" link circled in black. At the bottom right, there is an "Expiration Date" field showing "12/31/2098". The status bar at the very bottom shows "Welcome to Visual Retail Plus", the date "8/24/2008", and the time "10:38 AM".

Select the licenses that you want to participate in the floating pool.

Store	Reg	ExpDate	LicenseNo	Encrypted	Machine	IPAddress	Last Remote Login	Floating	Upgrade
01	01	12/31/2099	11943308	429173.8				<input type="checkbox"/>	
01	02	12/31/2098	11959645	173509.3				<input type="checkbox"/>	
01	03	12/31/2098	11975982	176979.5			08/24/08 10:37	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N
01	04	12/31/2098	11992319	180449.6			08/24/08 10:37	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N
01	05	12/31/2098	12008656	183919.8			08/24/08 10:37	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N
01	sv	12/31/2098	13052302	981050.3				<input type="checkbox"/>	N
*								<input type="checkbox"/>	

Method of assigning a license:

While VRP is running, the program updates the "Last remote login" for the "in use" floating license every minute. Upon program termination, the "Last Remote Login" becomes null.

When a new instance looks for a new license, it checks if there is a license available (no "Last remote login") and it takes the first license found marked as floating with null "Last remote login". If all the "Last Remote Login" records for floating licenses have a valid time stamp, it checks if one of them is older than 1 minute (Which means that the program was terminated improperly i.e.: a power outage). If an available license is found, it uses it and marks the "Last Remote Login" with the current time stamp. If no available license found a message is displayed "License count exceeded" and the program terminates.

Floating licenses for terminal services

Accessing the VRP program must include "/TS" on the command line (Icon properties)

A folder under the POS folder is created for each license. The folder name is constructed of the store and register number. Example: for store WH register 03 the created folder will be c:\pos\WH03. Inside this folder the program creates the rp.ini file. All users must have full rights to that folder. If the ip address of the terminal is not in the "IPAdress" list of the license control table, and the computer name is not in the "Machine" field, VRP looks for available floating license and assigns it.

For terminal services the environment element VRPINI is ignored.

Floating licenses in a LAN

In order for a station to get a floating license, the c:\pos folder must contain a file named VRPFloating. No file extension. This file may contain any information, the contents is not validated, only the existence of the file is.

When VRP starts it checks for the existence of this file. If the file exists, the store number and register in the INI are ignored and floating license is assigned.