Creating firewall exceptions for Autodesk ports and .exe for your company server

If you have followed the Autodesk instructions for installing and setting up the Autodesk Network License Manager, but the local machines cannot grab a license, your server might be blocking access. You first need to verify the communication from the server to the local machine and vice-versa by pinging and telnetting on both the server and local machine. If there is communication, you need to test the server’s firewall by turning it off completely and trying to open the Autodesk software again on the local machine. If you can grab a license from the server, your server’s firewall is blocking the local machines from grabbing a license file. Therefore, inbound and outbound exceptions need to be created on the server.

How to Create Exceptions on the Server

On the server, go to Start Menu>Control Panel> click on System and Security or Window Firewall. If you clicked System and Security, you need to click on the Green Windows Firewall.

Then you will click on the link on the left side of the dialog box that says "Advanced settings". Inside the "Windows Firewall with Advanced Security" dialog box you will need to create Inbound and Outbound rules for the Autodesk ports and for the LMTools software.

NOTE: You can first set up the Inbound exceptions then if your users are still not able to obtain a license you can do the outbound.
Inbound and Outbound Rules for the Autodesk LMTools Software

You start by clicking on **Inbound Rules** to start > then on the right side click on **New Rule**.

You will first create a **“Rule Type”** I am starting with the Ports so I click on the button for Port and then click the Next button.

On the **“Protocol and Ports”** screen leave it set to **TCP** and **Specific local ports**. Type **2080, 27000-27009** and click the Next button.

On the **“Action”** screen click on **“Allow the connection”** then click the Next button.

On the **“Profile”** screen Leave all the Profiles checked for the rules apply to and click the Next button.
Next you will name your rule; you can give it any name you want I typically call it Autodesk inbound rule for Ports once you give it a name and an optional description click the **Finish** button.

You will now do the exact same thing but for the “Outbound rule's for the ports. Make sure you give the rule name the word “**outbound**” so you or anyone else seeing this will understand what it is.

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**Inbound and Outbound rules for the Autodesk LMTools software**

You will start by clicking on **Inbound Rules to start** > then on the right side click on **New Rule**….

Instead of click on **Port** for the Rule type click on **Program** and then click the Next button.

On the “**Program**” screen you will then click on “**This program path:**” and click on the browse button. You will be making a new rule for each of the four .exe files located in the C:\Program Files\Autodesk Network License Manager. The four files are adskflex.exe, lmgrd.exe, lmtools.exe and lmutil.exe.

Remember you will make four different inbound rules for these programs and four outbound rules for them as well.

Select on the first one which will be adskflex.exe, the order in which you create your rules for these programs doesn’t matter just as long as each one of these gets an inbound and outbound rule.
After you click the Next button you will now be on the “Action” screen. You will select “Allow the connection” and click the Next button.

Now give your rule a name. Always indicate if it’s an inbound or outbound with a rule name. Example: adskflex.exe inbound rule. When you have named your rule click the Finish button. You will then create another inbound rule for the next .exe.

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Cherisse Biddulph is a certified Autodesk BSD Technical Support Specialist for the North American Support Center (NASC). She has 9 years of experience in the Architectural field and supports all of the Autodesk Building Solutions software. She started with us as an Application Engineer conducting training and demonstrations of the various BSD software and now focuses her knowledge and dedication to our customers in the Solution Center.

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