



Local asset installations

Helm CONNECT gives your users the freedom to continue working while disconnected from shore-side internet. For assets that move out of range for hours or days at a time, you can install Helm CONNECT as a desktop application that synchronizes with our shore-side server. Your crews can use Helm CONNECT onboard on a single computer or over multiple devices connected by a network.

Install locally

The local installation on your asset is a simplified version of the regular Helm CONNECT server. It can be installed on almost any standard Windows computer, including most laptops and Windows tablets.

A lightweight Windows Service controls the web server, database, and background tasks. Our installer creates the Windows Service and puts a Helm CONNECT icon on your desktop. Clicking this icon takes you to the URL of the local web server.

The local server runs continuously, handling all data transfer and synchronization with the shore-side server when an internet connection is available. Having a local server means you can set up your onboard environment to best meet your crew's needs. You can install Helm CONNECT on your assets in the following ways:

- On a single computer
- On multiple computers connected over a wired network
- On multiple computers or devices connected over a WIFI network

Stay connected onboard

With multiple computers on a local network, your crew can continue working together even when the asset is disconnected from shore-side internet.

For example, drills can be recorded and sent to the captain for approval, and tasks can be created, assigned to different departments, and completed onboard.

When the connection to shore is re-established, all activities from the asset will be transferred seamlessly to the shore-side server.

Work concurrently

When setting up a local asset installation, you must consider the number of concurrent users you expect to have.

Concurrent users are the total number of people using a local asset installation of Helm CONNECT at the same time from all connected devices.

Hardware and software

We require and recommend the following hardware and software configurations for your local asset installations. The minimum and recommended specifications are higher for installations with more than three concurrent users to account for the additional data and processor load.

MINIMUM

Three or fewer users

Hardware

- 50 GB of free hard drive space
- 4 GB of RAM
- i5 (2 cores @ 2.4 GHz) processor

Software

Operating System

- Windows 7
- Windows 8.1
- Windows 10

Browser

- Google Chrome - latest released version
- Internet Explorer 11*

More than three concurrent users

Hardware

- 50 GB of free hard drive space
- 8 GB of RAM
- i5 (2 cores @ 2.4 GHz) processor

Software

Operating System

- Windows 7
- Windows 8.1
- Windows 10

Browser

- Google Chrome – latest released version
- Internet Explorer 11*

RECOMMENDED

Three or fewer users

Hardware

- 100 GB of free hard drive space - SSD
- 8 GB of RAM
- i7 (4 cores @ 3.2 GHz) processor or better

Software

Operating System

- Windows 10

Browser

- Google Chrome - latest released version

More than three concurrent users

Hardware

- 100 GB of free hard drive space - SSD
- 16 GB of RAM
- i7 (4 cores @ 3.2 GHz) processor or better

Software

Operating System

- Windows 10

Browser:

- Google Chrome – latest released version

**In Helm CONNECT Version 1.21 (slated for release in December 2020 or January 2021), we'll stop supporting IE 11 and begin supporting Microsoft Edge.*

As your organization grows on Helm CONNECT by adding more products and/or increasing transactions, you may need to augment the server hardware on your asset installations to handle the increasing load.

Bandwidth

For data transfer between your assets and the shore, we recommend that your assets have, at minimum, a stable 1 Megabit/second TCP/IP connection to the internet. Most major cellular connections (3G, 4G, etc.) and most satellite connections provide this.