

OrCAD Engineering Data Management Client Installation Guide

Product Version 8.5.0

For Cadence/OrCAD 25.1, 24.1, 23.1

May 2026

Table of Contents

1	Client Installation and Setup	1
1.1	Required Information	1
1.2	Installing EDM Client	1
1.3	Updating EDM URL	5
1.4	Updating Cadence Version	7
1.5	Verify EDM Installation	8
2	Troubleshooting Client Installation Problems	9
2.1	Trouble with EDM Menu Item in Capture	9
2.2	Trouble with EDM Menu Item in PCB Editor	11
2.3	EDM Fails to Connect to PCB Editor	12
2.4	Incompatible Version Error After Log In	13
2.5	License Error After Log In	13
2.6	EDM Shows Blank Screen	14

1 Client Installation and Setup

This Client Installation Guide provides the following instructions:

1. [Installation of EDM client files.](#)
2. Set up [EDM URL](#) within EDM Client installer or manually from EDM Settings.
3. [Set Cadence Version](#) within EDM Desktop Settings.
4. Verify EDM client installation.

Make sure your client version is the same as the EDM Web version to ensure your log in is successful. The matching version may be downloaded from EDM Web page.

1.1 Required Information

To proceed with your client installation, you need the EDM Client installer as well as the following information:

- [EDM URL](#) for your EDM Web application
- Location of your Windows **HOME** environment variable. Capture loads TCL files from **HOME**. Although **CDS_SITE** may be used, it may greatly increase Capture start up time.

Prerequisites

To fully obtain the full functionality of EDM, the following applications are required:

- Cadence/OrCAD Capture or Capture CIS versions 25.1, 24.1, or 23.1
- Cadence/OrCAD PCB Editor versions 25.1, 24.1, or 23.1
- Windows 11 (64-bit Professional or Enterprise Edition) (versions supported by Microsoft)
- Ghostscript PS interpreter or Acrobat Distiller *Required for PDF output

EDM uses the FlexLM license manager that is included with Cadence License Manager version **22.01 or higher**. EDM Client requires a **25.1, 24.1, or 23.1** license.

1.2 Installing EDM Client

This section contains instructions for installing EDM Client only. The functionality of the EDM client will only work with the corresponding version of EDM Server. Consult with your IT or project leader to

determine whether the database and web application are set up. This client plugin will load into Capture version 25.1, 24.1, and 23.1.

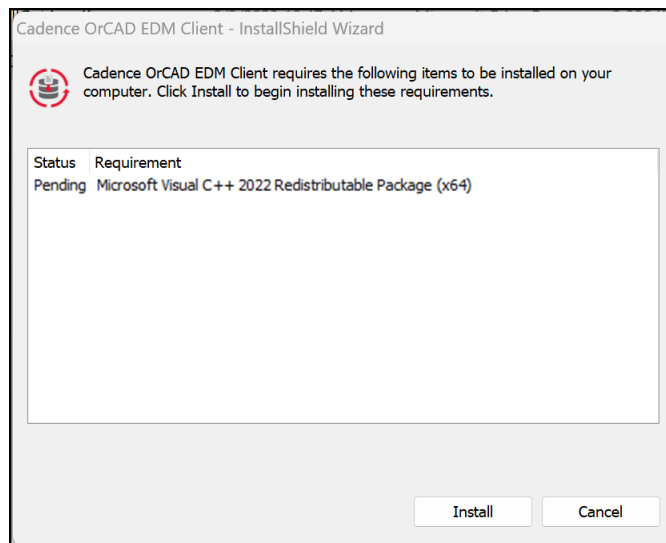
OrCAD Capture must be installed before installing EDM Client. Prior to installing EDM Client, ensure Capture is closed. This EDM Client plugin loads in Capture versions 25.1, 24.1, and 23.1.

To install a new EDM Client

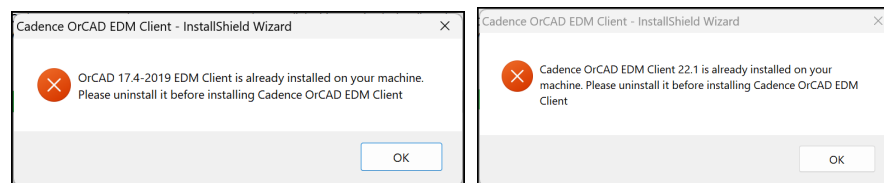
1. Launch the EDM Client installation wizard by double clicking the EDM Client installation program:

CadenceOrCADEMClientSetup.exe

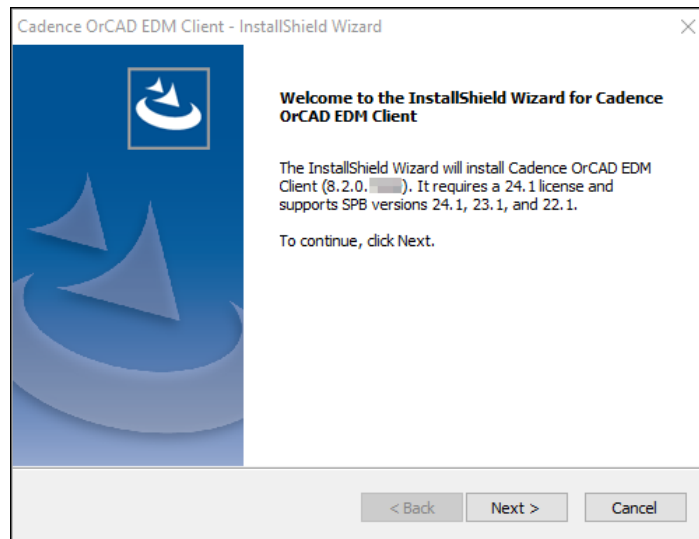
The EDM Client requires the Microsoft Visual C++ distributable package. You will be prompted for its installation to continue. Click **Install** to continue.



If you have a prior version of the EDM Client installed, you may be prompted to remove it if it is not able to be upgraded (examples shown below), before continuing with the installation.



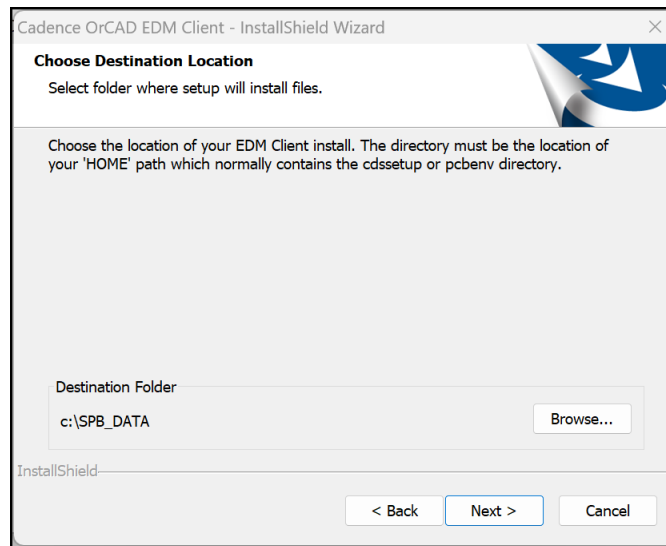
The installation of EDM Client must be completed on each client machine set up. The product Install Wizard opens to the **Welcome** dialog box. Click **Next**.



Installation Welcome Screen

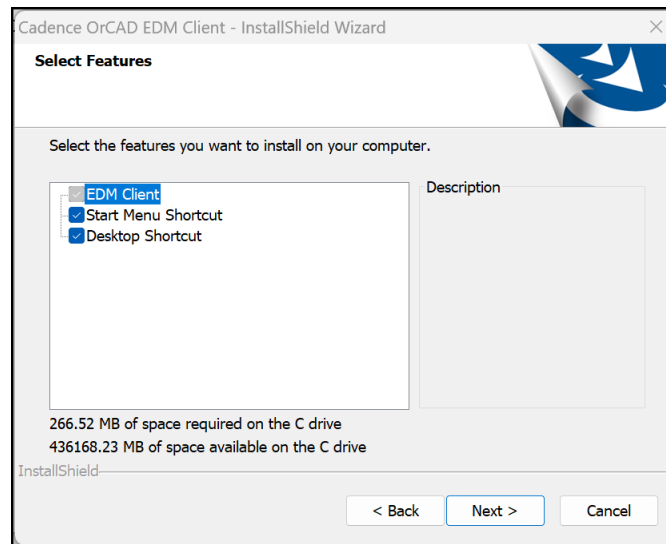
2. Click on **Next** to bring up the **License Agreement** dialog. You will need to read and agree to the End User License Agreement (EULA) before proceeding. After reading the EULA, click on the “**I accept...**” button and click **Next** to continue. If you do not have OrCAD Capture installed, the installation will terminate.
3. On the **Choose Destination Location** dialog box, you may change the location to the EDM installation. The default installation directory will be your **HOME** environment variable location. If you wish to change the installation location, click **Browse...** and navigate to the folder in which you wish to install EDM. If an **ALLEGRO_PCBENV** environment variable is defined, your PCB Editor related files (**allegro.ilinit**, **edm.il**) will be added or updated in that location instead of your **HOME** location.

Note: The location must be a valid location where Capture loads TCL files, or PCB Editor looks for the **Allegro.ilinit** file. Select the directory and click **Next** to continue. If you do not have a **HOME** environment variable defined, you will need to add it in order for EDM to load correctly into Capture.



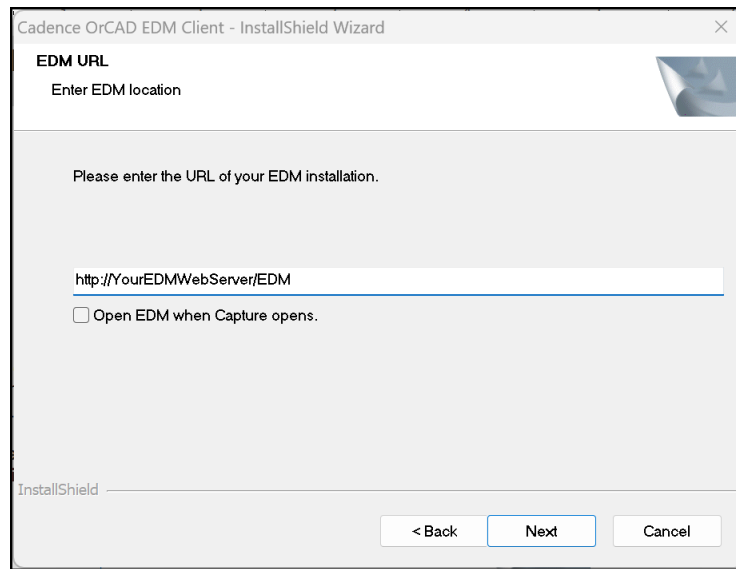
EDM Client Install Location Screen

4. The **Select Features** window will display. Options for **Start Menu Shortcut** and **Desktop Shortcut** are available. They are checked by default. Uncheck either if you do not want shortcuts added during installation. Then click **Next** to continue.



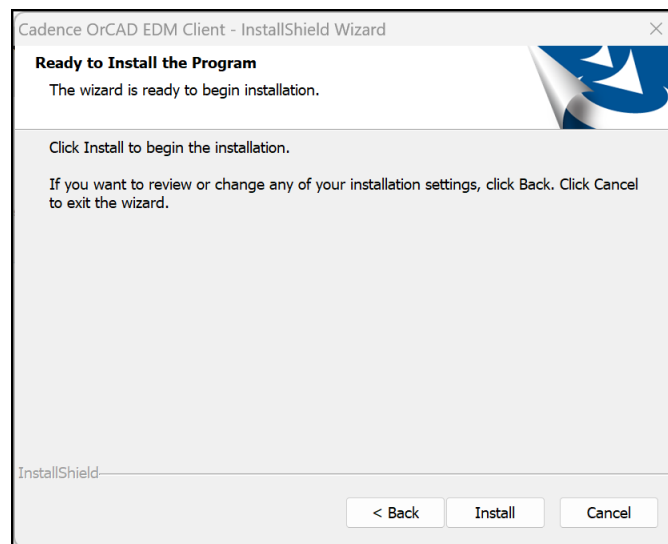
5. On the **EDM URL** dialog, you may enter the URL of your EDM web server. If you do not know the URL, you may **Skip** this step and enter the URL manually later. If you have the URL, enter the URL and click **Next**.

Note: The URL is required to open EDM. To enter or change the URL after installation, select **EDM > Settings** from the Capture menu item.



Enter EDM Web Application URL

6. In the **Ready to Install the Program** dialog box, click **Install** to start the installation.



7. When the EDM Client installation is complete, click **Finish**.

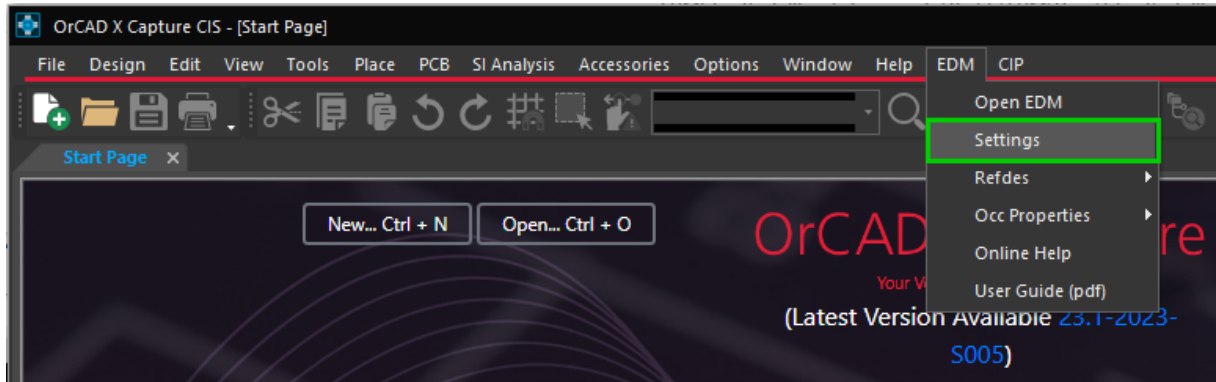
Follow the Getting Started section in the EDM user guide to start using EDM.

1.3 Updating EDM URL

To change the EDM URL when opened in Capture

1. Open OrCAD Capture.
2. Select **EDM** from the top menu bar and then click **Settings...**

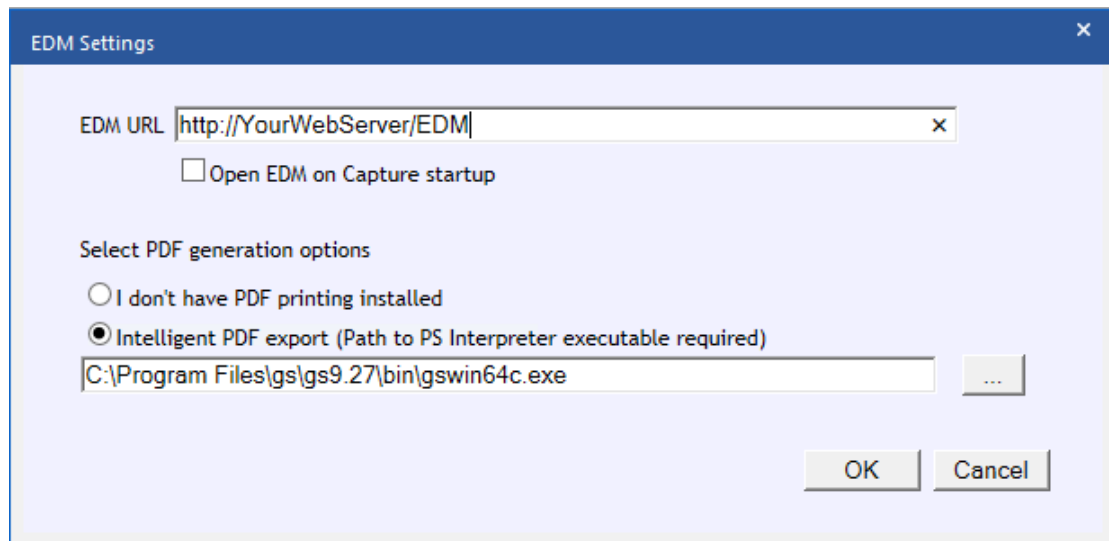
Note: If **EDM** is unavailable from the top menu bar, see the [Troubleshooting Installation](#) section.



EDM menu > Settings

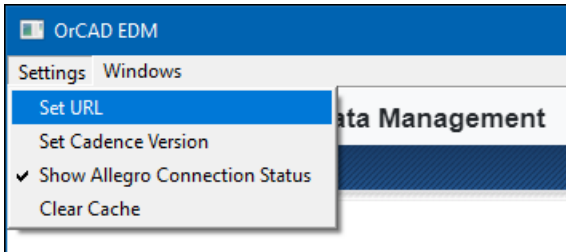
The EDM Settings pop-up opens as shown in the following figure.

3. Enter your company's EDM URL. If you want EDM to automatically open when you open Capture, select the check box to **Open EDM on Capture startup**.

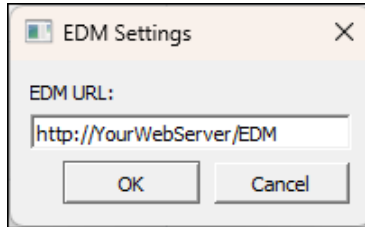


To change the EDM URL when opened in EDM Desktop

1. Open EDM Desktop application.
2. Select **Settings** from the top menu bar and then click **Set URL**.



3. Enter your company's EDM URL and click **OK** to save and open EDM.

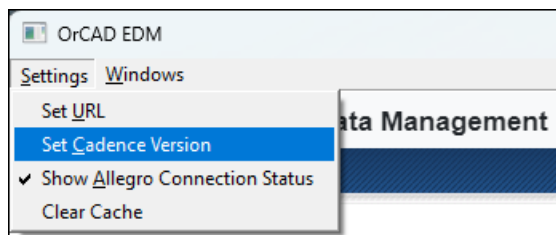


1.4 Updating Cadence Version

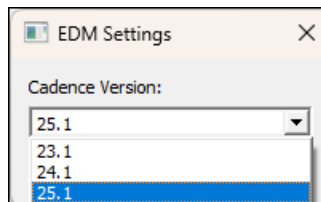
The **Set Cadence Version** setting in EDM Desktop tells the tool which version of Cadence/OrCAD PCB Editor to use for operations (Open, Import, Check In, etc.) that are performed on footprint files and managed board files. The default for new installs is the lowest supported version of SPB, unless the user has Capture open, in which case it will use that version as the default. Upgrades will retain the previous setting unless that version is no longer supported.

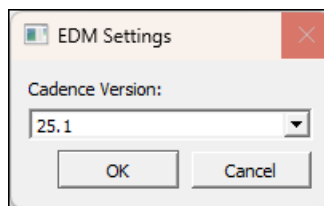
To change the Cadence Version for PCB Editor operations

1. Open EDM Desktop application.
2. Select **Settings** from the top menu bar and then click **Set Cadence Version**.



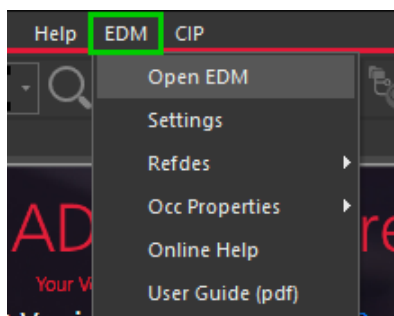
3. Select your Cadence PCB Editor version (e.g. 25.1) from the drop-down list and click **OK** to save.



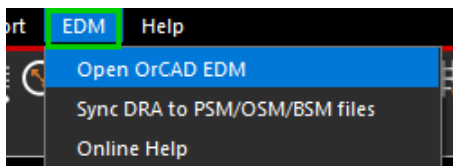


1.5 Verify EDM Installation

Open Capture and look for the **EDM** menu item. Review steps in [troubleshooting EDM menu problems in Capture](#) if you do not see this menu.



Open PCB Editor and look for the **EDM** menu item. Review steps in [troubleshooting EDM menu problems in PCB Editor](#) if you do not see this menu.



2 Troubleshooting Client Installation Problems

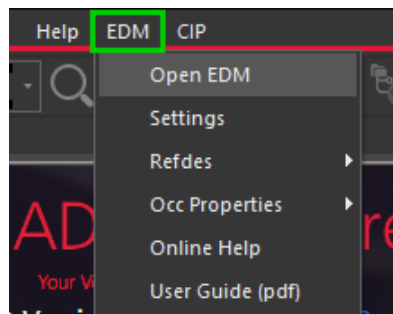
The troubleshooting instructions that follow help you debug typical installation problems that are associated with the EDM Client installer. Please contact your Cadence channel partner if you have any questions or continue to have an installation issue.

The troubleshoot section provides information on resolving the following issues:

- [EDM menu item is not available or correct in Capture](#)
- [EDM menu item is not available or correct in PCB Editor](#)
- [EDM fails to connect to PCB Editor](#)
- [Incompatible version message after log in](#)
- [License error after log in](#)

2.1 Trouble with EDM Menu Item in Capture

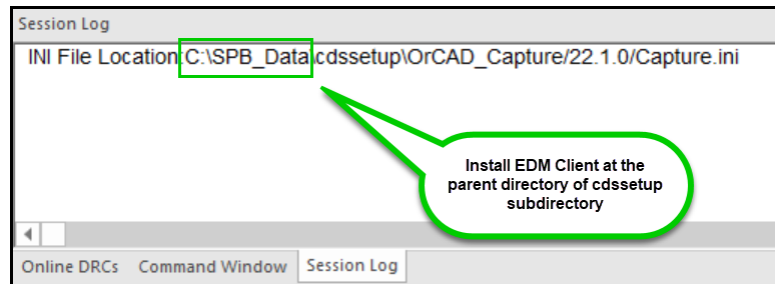
The **EDM** menu will only show for a supported version of Capture (part of the Cadence/OrCAD SPB suite). After you open Capture, the menu option to **Open EDM** will be missing from the menu bar if launched in an unsupported version.



Check to make sure that you are running one of the supported releases of Capture and that you installed to the corresponding "HOME" directory. Supported releases are specified in the [prerequisites](#). The Command Windows inside Capture will show an error when attempting to load EDM in an unsupported version. The **EDM** menu will not be shown in such cases.

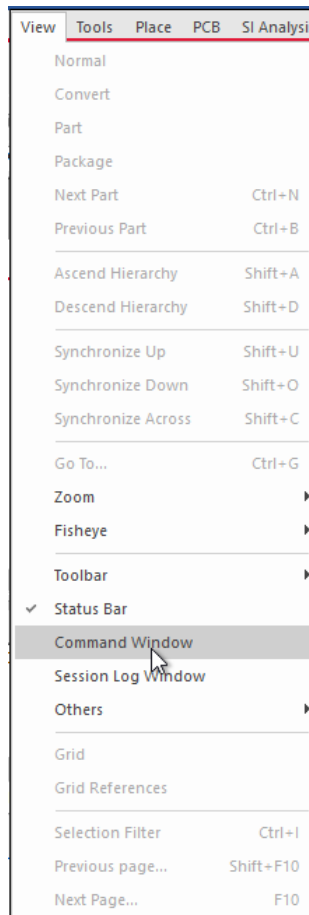
```
Command Window
Capture> Loading C:/SPB_Data/cdssetup/OrCAD_Capture/tclscripts/capAutoLoad/EDMClient/runEDM.tcl
OrCAD Capture 17.4 not supported by this version of EDM.
```

To determine the proper installation directory, open Session log after Capture opens. Review the path of the Capture.ini loaded by Capture. See example in the following figure.

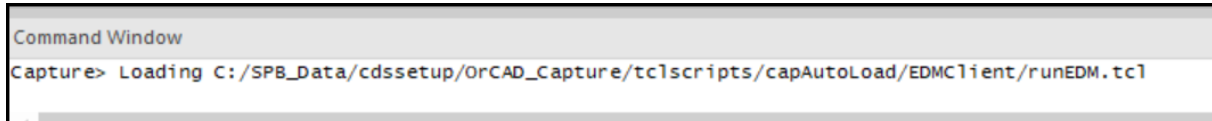


If you see EDM but the rest of the menus options are incorrect, make sure that you did not move any of the files after installation. If you did, remove all files and re-install. (Moving files can cause Capture to do partial loading of EDM Client files. Making copies of the files and putting them in various Cadence directories may also cause problems as you upgrade, since Capture will load TCL files from various locations.)

If you are unsure whether the EDM files loaded without errors, open your command window. While in Capture, select **View -> Command Window** (see figure below).



Locate where runEDM.tcl is loading. The command window should look similar to what is shown in the following figure. If you don't see the following lines in your command window, then EDM client most likely did not install in a location where Capture loads TCL files from. If there are errors shown for loading this file in the command window, you will need to follow the error message to see the source of the problem. You can try removing the installation and all files and install the files again, or contact your Cadence channel partner.



```
Command Window
Capture> Loading C:/SPB_Data/cdssetup/OrCAD_Capture/tclscripts/capAutoLoad/EDMClient/runEDM.tcl
```

Possible causes:

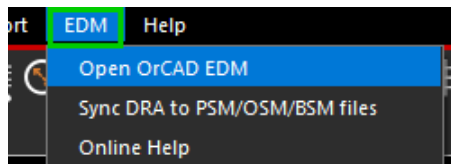
1. You may have either a **TCL_Library** or **TK_LIBRARY** environment variable defined.
2. You may have another TCL application installed that redefines the TCL library environment.

Solution:

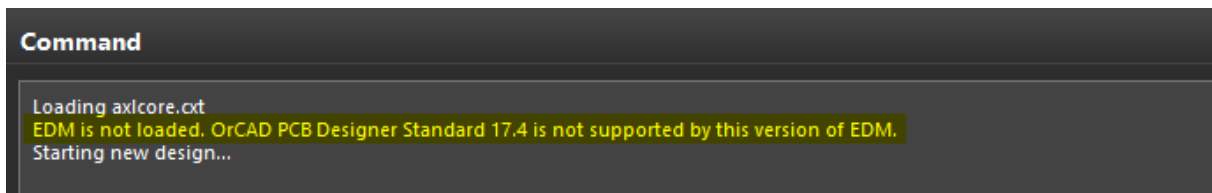
1. You will need to remove these environment variables. Further explanation can be found from the following link: https://wiki.tcl-lang.org/page/TCL_LIBRARY.
2. If you do have either environment variable defined, try removing each of the other TCL applications to see which of the applications is causing the problem.

2.2 Trouble with EDM Menu Item in PCB Editor

The **EDM** menu will only show for a supported version of PCB Editor (part of the Cadence/OrCAD SPB suite). After you open PCB Editor, the menu option to **Open EDM** will be missing from the menu bar if launched in an unsupported version.



Check to make sure that you are running one of the supported releases of PCB Editor and that you installed to the corresponding "HOME" directory. Supported releases are specified in the [prerequisites](#). The Command Windows inside PCB Editor will show an error when attempting to load EDM in an unsupported version. The **EDM** menu will not be shown in such cases.

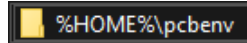


```
Command
Loading axlcore.ct
EDM is not loaded. OrCAD PCB Designer Standard 17.4 is not supported by this version of EDM.
Starting new design...
```

During the installation of the EDM Client Plug in, the installer updates your Allegro.ilinit file by inserting the following lines the file. Un-installation and re-installation of the EDM Client plugin multiple times may lead to addition of these lines in unexpected ways. You may manually fix the **allegro.ilinit** file or remove all lines added by the EDM installation and run the installer after removing unwanted lines.

To edit the **allegro.ilinit** file:

1. Open (Windows) File Explorer.
2. Navigate to the location of your **HOME** environment variable and open the **pcbenv** folder. You can copy the string **%HOME%\pcbenv** into your address bar, then hit Enter.



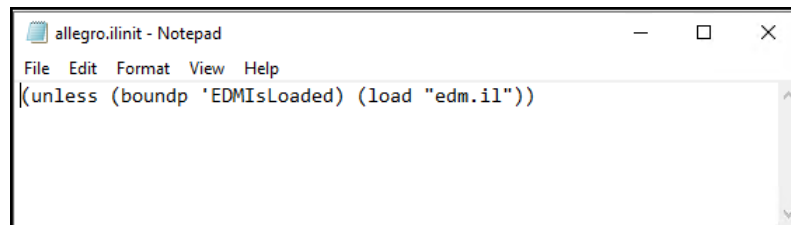
3. Open **allegro.ilinit** in a text editor and check for any `axlSetVariable` lines that refer to older versions of EDM. This will be the case if an older version of the EDM client has been installed at some point. Installation of multiple versions of EDM Client may also lead to incorrectly formed Allegro.ilinit. The following is a sample of an **outdated** allegro.ilinit file.

```
1 (axlSetVariable "EMA_EDMInstall" "C:/spb_data/cdssetup/OrCAD_Capture/17.2.0/tclscripts/capAutoLoad/EDMClient/EDM")
2 ; (axlSetVariable "EMA_EDMInstall" "C:/spb_data/cdssetup/OrCAD_Capture/16.6.0/tclscripts/capAutoLoad/EDMClient/EDM")
3 (axlSetVariable "EMA_EDMRoot" (strcat (axlGetVariable "EMA_EDMInstall") "/Desktop"))
4 (load (strcat (axlGetVariable "EMA_EDMInstall") "/ClientAdapter/Skill/edm_menu.il"))
```

Example of an Outdated allegro.ilinit File

4. Delete any `axlSetVariable` lines that are related to EDMInstall or EDMRoot and reinstall the EDM client. The following is a sample of a **correct** allegro.ilinit file.

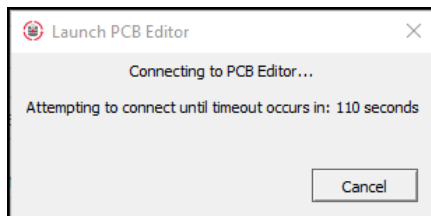
Note: You may have non-EDM related lines in your allegro.ilinit file that are supported by PCB Editor. That is okay so long as you have the EDM entry as shown.



Example of a Correct allegro.ilinit File

2.3 EDM Fails to Connect to PCB Editor

When EDM Desktop application is open and you select an option that requires PCB Editor, a connecting to PCB Editor pop-up window appears while EDM launches and attempts to connect to PCB Editor.



EDM will try for 2 minutes before declaring a failure.

Possible causes for connection failure:

1. The configured PCB version selected in EDM > Settings is not a version that is installed on your PC.

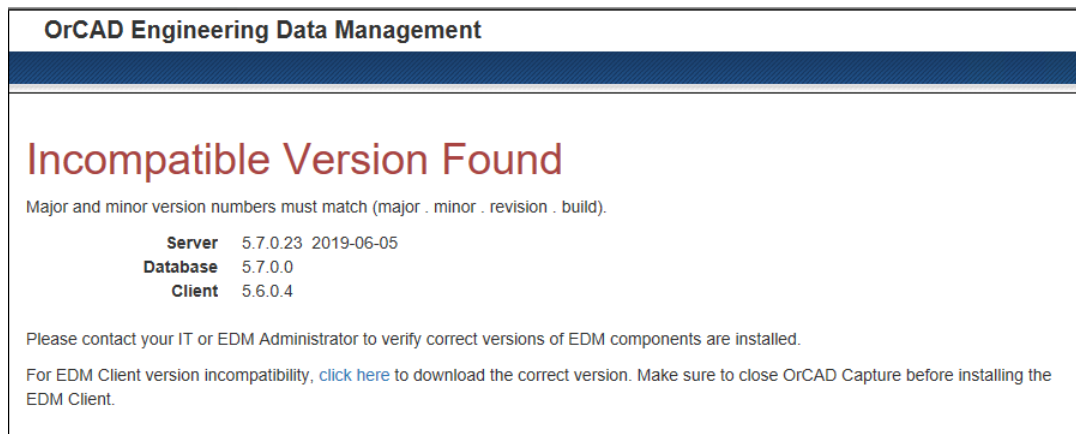
2. A Cadence Allegro Product Choice pop-up window is open, but hidden behind other windows and awaiting your selection of the product to open. To resolve this issue, locate the Product Choice pop-up window and select a product.
3. The Allegro.ilinit file was corrupted in some way during installation or an update of this file. For this case, you will not see the EDM menu Item in PCB Editor when opened. To resolve this issue, review information in section for [Trouble with EDM menu Item in PCB Editor](#).

2.4 Incompatible Version Error After Log In

EDM Server and Client must at compatible level to function properly. There are 2 ways that incompatible versions can occur:

1. Your Administrator updated the EDM server and you have not
2. You may have downloaded and installed a later version before the EDM Server has been upgraded.

When you see an error message as shown in the following figure, click on the link to download and install the compatible version of the EDM Client.

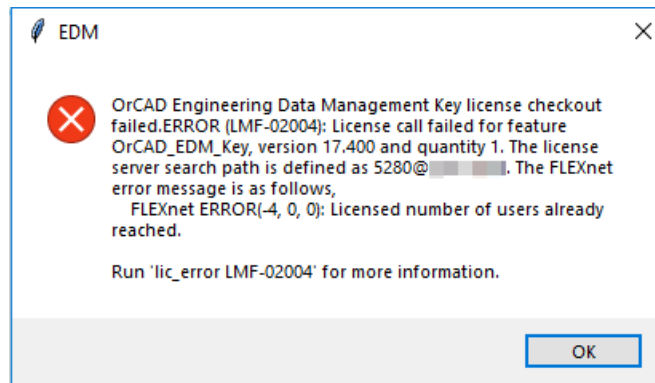


Note: You may need to uninstall first.

2.5 License Error After Log In

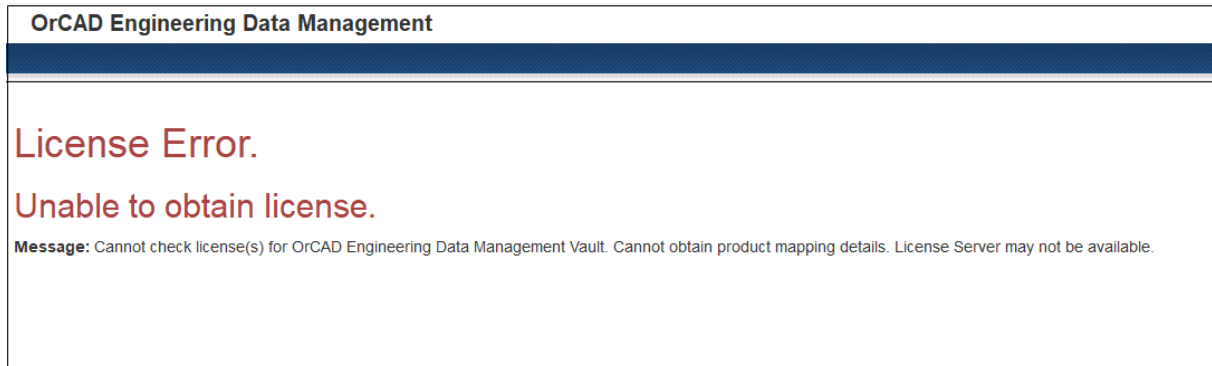
Both EDM Server and Client components require separate licenses. Errors from failing to check out a license by EDM Client is different than by EDM Server.

When the EDM Client (the Capture plug-in) fails to get a license, a pop up identifying the license issue appears when attempting to open EDM from within Capture or opening the EDM desktop.



You may need to contact your license administrator to help you resolve your problem.

When EDM server fails to get a license, the error message appears from the web page after logging in. To confirm that the EDM server has a problem checking out a license, bring up a browser, type the EDM URL and log in.



You will need to contact your IT or EDM administrator to resolve this problem.

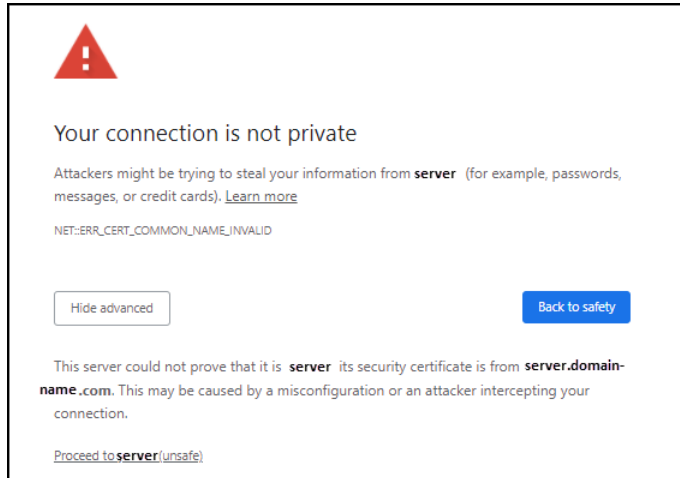
2.6 EDM Shows Blank Screen

Blank EDM screen inside Capture may be caused by one of two scenarios.

1. [Certificate Warning not shown in Capture](#) - When you open EDM while in Capture, a blank screen shows whereas when you open EDM in a standard browser, you see a certificate warning where you can accept risks to continue.
2. [Domain Login issue](#) - When you log in from inside Capture using Windows Domain login, you see a blank screen. However, when you log in using a standard browser with Windows Domain login, you are able to see the EDM landing page after you enter your credentials.

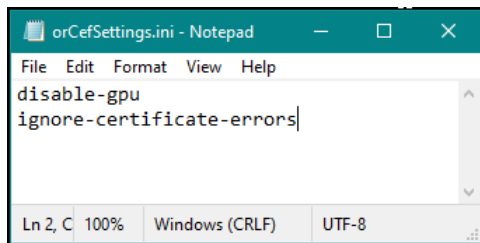
Certificate Warning Issue

If your EDM website is set up with a certificate that is not recognized as a valid certificate by a browser, the browser shows a certificate warning. A sample figure of the warning is shown below.



Sample Certification Error

Each browser shows this warning until you accept the risk and proceed to the site. To accept the risk while using the browser inside Capture, insert "ignore-certificate-errors" into the **orCefSettings.ini** located in **<Cadence_SPB_install_directory>\tools\bin** (e.g. **C:\Cadence\SPB_24.1\tools\bin**) corresponding to the version you are using, as shown in the following figure. Update this file for all client users.



EDM Blank Screen with Windows Domain Log In

When you log in using Windows domain login from a standard browser and you are required to re-authenticate, the browser will automatically open a pop up for you to enter your login information. The need to re-authenticate is related to trust not having been established between the client browser and the domain where EDM is installed. Possible causes include:

- Your PC or VM hasn't been joined to the domain.
- You logged into your PC or VM using a local login.
- Your EDM website URL is entered using an IP address.
- Your EDM website URL is entered using a fully qualified domain name (FQDN).

Potential solutions include:

- Ensure that your PC or VM is joined to the domain and is trusted by the domain.
- Ensure that you are logged into your PC using your windows domain (not a local) login.
- If you must use an IP address or FQDN, add the domain to the list of trusted sites. To add a domain to trusted sites, select Start > Control Panel > Internet Options. Follow the steps shown in the following figure.

