

# SoftShell Installation and Distribution

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Although there are only three (3) main files that control the SoftShell system - SShellClient.dll, SShellInterface.dll, and SShellSvc.exe – these files have various runtime dependencies as well. On top of that, many of these files are COM components – files that must be registered to the operating system and the Service Control Manager.

There are several different ways you can include the SoftShell system when you deploy your applications. These methods include:

1. Include the Bevan Engineering supplied redistributable files into your installation package. Allow the installation package to manage the MSI database, register components, and install the SoftShell service application SShellSvc.exe to the Service Control Manager (SCM). This is the recommended way.
2. Use the SoftShell Licensing Support installation package. Launching a single executable, all files will be installed and properly configured for you. In fact, an InstallShield © prerequisite file is available for you.
3. Using regsvr32.exe, use a batch file to copy and register files. Even the service application can be installed this way by passing a –i into the application. This command line parameter will install the service into the SCM.
4. Using regsvr32.exe, use a batch file to copy and register files. Instead of installing SShellSvc.exe as a service, pass a –h to the application. This will cause the application to run as a hidden application - not controlled by the SCM. It is still recommended you install the service into the system/system32 directory. If you create a shortcut in the startup menu, pass the –h in the shortcut. The service will run as a hidden application every time the computer is started.

## InstallShield Package

Download the “SoftShellCore\_ISV9” .zip file from the Bevan Engineering website [support](#) page. This is a basic MSI InstallShield version 9.0 project with all required system files that are not contained in merge modules. If you have a newer version of InstallShield, this project should upgrade to your version.

This package will give you everything you need to either use as an example or use as a baseline for your application's installation. Feel free to modify it to suit your needs.

## LicensingSupportFiles Package

A standalone installation package called “LicensingSupportFiles” is available to download. It is a single executable file that is the complete installation package for the SoftShell Software Licensing System core files. You can use this file in one of two ways:

1. **Standalone** – have your users run this executable before installing your software – somewhat like .NET Framework, MDAC, etc. By providing this installation package separately, you don’t need to include any SoftShell system files in your installation package. Just make sure your users run this file first. Alternately, your installation program could launch LicensingSupportFiles.exe during installation.
2. **Prerequisite (local)** – download the SoftShellLicensingSupportFilesPrerequisites\_Local.prq file and copy it to your C:\Program Files\InstallShield\2009\SetupPrerequisites directory (or an alternate directory where your prerequisite files might be). Modify the contents of that file so that it “points” to the location of your LicensingSupportFiles package. When complete – and if successful – the LicensingSupportFiles package will show up with your merge modules in InstallShield (may require InstallShield to be restarted). Simply add this package just like you would any other merge module.

## Manual Installation

This method is a little tedious, but doesn’t require an installation application such as InstallShield. A simple batch file could be used to complete your installation. You could include all redistributables in a .zip file. Using the copy command, copy all files into the users system32 directory. Once that is complete, use regsvr32.exe to register all the COM components you’ve just copied. When all files have been copied and registered, run SShllSrv.exe with –i as a command line parameter. This will install the service to the Service Control Manager (SCM).

Alternately, you could do everything as stated above with a batch file, but instead of installing the service using the –i command line parameter, use –h instead. By creating a shortcut in the startup folder with a –h argument, the SoftShell service will run as a hidden application when Windows starts.

## Files

The following files must be included in order for the SoftShell system to run:

SSHIClient.dll

SSHInterface.dll

SSHSvc.exe

libmySQL.dll

mfc40.dll

msvcrt40.dll

VBMySQLDirect.dll

asycfilt.dll (included in Microsoft OLE 2.40 Merge Module)

oleaut32.dll (included in Microsoft OLE 2.40 Merge Module)

olepro32.dll (included in Microsoft OLE 2.40 Merge Module)

stdole2.tlb (included in Microsoft OLE 2.40 Merge Module)

comcat.dll (included in Microsoft Component Category Manager Library Merge Module)

msvcrt.dll (included in Microsoft C Runtime Library 6.0 Merge Module)

mdac\_typ.exe (included in Microsoft Data Access Components 2.8 Merge Module)

msvbvm60.dll (included in Microsoft Visual Basic Virtual Machine 6.0 Merge Module)

msvc60.dll (included in Microsoft C++ Runtime Library 6.0 Merge Module)

mfc42.dll (included in MFC 6.0 Merge Module)