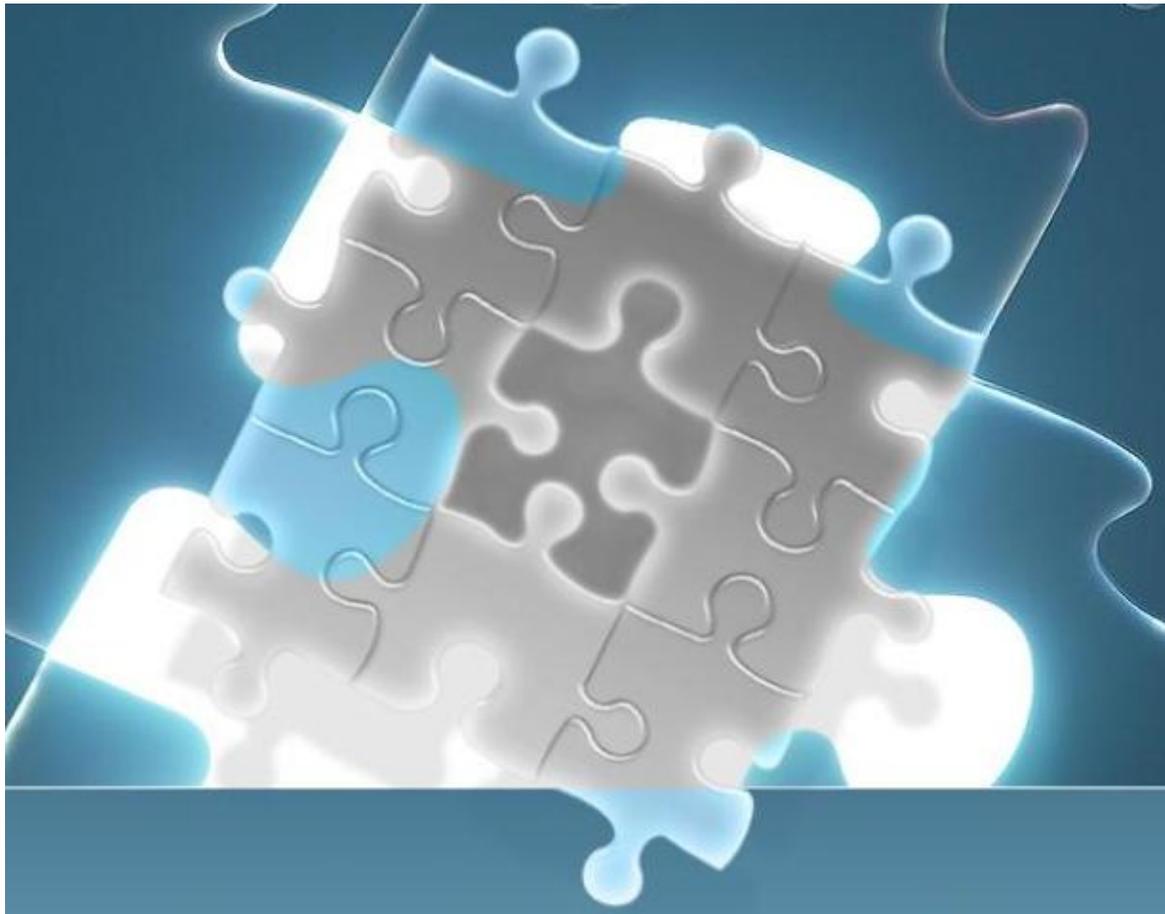




white paper

## Using LAMUM - “Best Practices” Part 1

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LAMUM has a huge amount of functionality and value. Of course, the more functionality you use, the greater the value. The cost of LAMUM is the same regardless of how much functionality you use. We have Customers that only use a small portion of the tool, some basic usage reports, and that may be good enough to justify the cost. That alone might save you thousands of dollars per year. But perhaps there is even more you can save, and more value you can get out of LAMUM by knowing what you own (License inventory management), improving license usage efficiency, by proactively managing renewals, by preparing better for your renewal negotiations, by improving license uptime and availability. How much functionality do you need?

After 14 years of use in the field, it has become apparent to us that there are some important areas of LAMUM that our best Customers use to maximize ROI. The purpose of this white paper is to share 6 of these areas with you.

## 1. Alerts

LAMUM has several automated Alerts. Shame on you if you are not using them. Let's look at each and discuss their value:

- **Capacity Alert:** a good indication of needing more licenses is the frequency of getting a "At Capacity" alert. "At Capacity" means all licenses are checked out. If you are getting this alert frequently, daily, that might mean you need more licenses. If you never get the alert, you probably don't need more licenses. "At Capacity" alerts and Denials should correlate.
- **Daemon down Alert:** if a license server or license daemon goes down, there is no licenses available from this daemon. That could put a stop to an engineering project. Obviously you need to be alerted if this happens and you need to take corrective action to get that server/daemon back up and running, asap. License availability is crucial.
- **Expiration Alert:** knowing in advance, 30 days? 60 days?, when a license is coming up for renewal gives you time to a) analyze your needs based on actual, average, trends, and Denials, and b) prepare your negotiating position with the Vendor. Being well prepared could save you a lot of money! This will also help you establish priorities.
- **Long Checkout Alert:** it is important to know if engineers are sitting on "limited availability" or expensive licenses. Some engineers will hold a license to be sure they have it when they need it. This is especially true when there is a limited number (perhaps only 1) of licenses/seats. Sometimes this is called "hoarding" or "camping" on a license. Prudent license managers should be concerned, need to be warned when it occurs, and take corrective action. Letting the engineer know that someone is watching for this is a good first step! You don't need to do this for every tool/license, but for the expensive, highly contested licenses.
- **Alert Frequency:** every Alert allows you to set who gets the Alert and how often. Some Alerts might be good to get every 15 minutes. Some other once a day, or once a week.
- **Alerts do require that your Mail Server is setup.** Usage/Admin/"Mail & Active Directory Setup". Enter your Mail server info, then click Update. Run a test with your email address.

## 2. Dedicated LAMUM Administrator

- We see a trend, especially with our larger Customers, to have one person responsible for maintaining LAMUM, CAD inventory, maintaining Vendor, Contacts, and renewal information, generating reports on demand, setting up and maintaining User Dashboards, setting up Alerts and Batch Reports, managing FlexLM daemons, preparing recommendations for renewals, managing Feature names (aliasing), etc. A large Customer is defined as more than 300 engineers or 30 daemons. This person could be part time or full time. They would also be responsible for upgrading and maintaining LAMUM software. LAMUM has updates 2 times a year, and should be upgraded at least once per year.
- Create and maintain a LAMUM Documentation library
- This person becomes an "expert" in using LAMUM and creating Inventory or Usage Reports of any type.
- Recommended title: LAMUM Administrator, CAD License Manager, or something similar. Compensation might be equivalent to a System Administrator in IT.
- We clearly see a higher ROI when there is a dedicated person for LAMUM. We believe the savings and efficiency of having this dedicated resource far out way the cost.

### 3. User Dashboards

- This is one of LAMUM's best tools. Shame on you if you don't have User Dashboards.
- We believe, and Customers agree, that giving engineers on-demand access to Current Checkout status and Checkout Heatmap reports enable better license utilization and improved engineer efficiency. Create a User Dashboard for your major CAD applications. Include hyperlinks to the Current Checkout Details and Heatmap for each application. 3 things will happen: a) engineers will naturally not hold on to licenses because the other engineers will be monitoring, b) the Heatmap will show them when licenses will be most likely available, and let the engineer know when is best day/time to get a license, and c) engineers will stop calling the System Admins about license availability or denials. Bottom line, improved license usage and engineer efficiency. You pay for your licenses 24x7. Getting closer to 24x7 usage is desirable.
- Dashboards can be SharePoint, Google doc, Word, PDF, PPT, anything that can handle a URL hyperlink. Of course give the hyperlink a "user-friendly name".
- There is no limit on how many Dashboards you can create.
  - o Create Dashboards for specific engineering Groups or CAD Users
  - o Create Dashboards for specific Managers. You can consult with each Manager and determine which "on-demand" reports they want, then create their Dashboard.
- Here is a white paper on how to create User Dashboards:  
[https://teameda.com/files/5715/0973/2420/Creating\\_a\\_User\\_Dashboard\\_103017.pdf](https://teameda.com/files/5715/0973/2420/Creating_a_User_Dashboard_103017.pdf)

### 4. Batch Reports

- Managers will need certain Usage reports on a regular basis: weekly, monthly, quarterly,...
- Certain reports take a long time to generate. Creating them real-time or on-demand is simply not practical. Those reports, such as Zero Usage, Comprehensive Zero Usage, Averages for long periods, Comprehensive Denials, User Activity Export,.... should be created in the middle of the night and delivered automatically when completed.
- Meet with each Manager and determine which reports they want, when (weekly, monthly,...), and how do they want them delivered (email or folder). It will make them happier and more effective. Here is a list of all the reports available in LAMUM:  
[https://teameda.com/files/6115/2753/3890/LAMUM\\_Usage\\_Reports\\_Tutorial\\_052818.pdf](https://teameda.com/files/6115/2753/3890/LAMUM_Usage_Reports_Tutorial_052818.pdf)
- If you want delivery to a "Folder": You can create as many Report folders you want. One per Manager? One per CAD application?
- Effective CAD License management requires proactively sitting down with Managers to discuss On-demand and Batch reporting needs.

### 5. Feature Name Aliasing

- Usage is reported by Feature. Sometimes a Feature name is actually the Tool name, but most often it's not. Some Feature names are pretty clear, some are cryptic.
- You may only need to monitor ~ 1/2 of all the features to make decisions on all tools.
- Vendor's name each Feature according to their own needs, not necessarily with the thought that you will be looking at Usage by that Feature name.
- Usage reports are only useful if the person looking at the report knows what the Feature name means, what Tool it represents. A Feature name "222" might be important, or it might not be important to monitor.
- Therefore, best practices suggest that someone (LAMUM Administrator?), determine if "222" is important, and if so, rename "222" to something more user-friendly. In LAMUM you can create any name you want, so make it clear and succinct. Everyone will be happier!
- You don't need to do this for every feature. Only the Features that are important, the ones you need to monitor, report usage on, and where the Vendor provided Feature name is not

adequate. Especially for Features where you need to decide a quantity on at renewal.

## 6. Database size management

- Database size can affect LAMUM Performance: opening Usage/Home page, generating large reports, etc. Database size can be determined by looking in the “LAMUM Backup” folder. The location should be specified in Usage/Admin/”Backup Interval & Location”. Go to that folder and look for the latest “lamum\_backup” file. (Note: prior to version 7.1 there will be 2 files- LAM and UM).
- If the database is greater than 5GB you may see some degradation in performance, depending on the cpu/memory resources applied to the LAMUM VM. At 10GB you will most certainly see degradation and you need to do something to reduce database size. Of course this will depend on the cpu/memory resources applied to the LAMUM VM.
- One possible solution is to apply more cpu/memory resource to the LAMUM VM.
- Database size and growth rate depends on 3 things: number of daemons, lmstat polling interval, and number of Users (engineers). Here are some scenarios:
  - o 50 daemons, 10 minute interval, 1,000 engineers: Database will probably grow at 5GB per year.
  - o 25 daemons, 15 minute interval, 500 engineers: Database will probably grow 2GB per year
  - o 10 daemons, 30 minute interval, 100 engineers: Database will probably grow only 200MB per year.
- There are 2 ways to reduce database size:
  - o “Removing zeros”. TeamEDA has a “Database Reduction Procedure” to do this. It will reduce the database by as much a 70%. Contact TeamEDA, 603-656-5200, to schedule this procedure.
  - o “Truncation” to remove and archive old data. If you only need 2 years of history, you can truncate and archive data older than that. The database will shrink accordingly. You can retrieve the archive if needed.
- In LAMUM version 9.0, database reduction (removing zeros) will be automatic, at the interval you set (every 6 months, once a year,...), and you will be able to “truncate” and archive old data, from within LAMUM, whenever you want.
- We strongly urge you to keep an eye on the database size. If you start to see a drop in performance, database size may be the culprit. Take action to reduce the database.
- Feel free to contact TeamEDA to discuss a database strategy for your company.

So, these are some areas you might want to use if you are not already. You will get more value out of LAMUM and you will be a more effective CAD License Asset Manager. You will make your Company more profitable and give your career a boost!

For more information or a technical support on LAMUM please call 603-656-5200, [info@teameda.com](mailto:info@teameda.com) , or [support@teameda.com](mailto:support@teameda.com)

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