Release Notes

ArcWelding PowerPac

2021.4

Revision: A

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Overview

Description

This document provides information about the new features, problems corrected, and installation of ArcWelding PowerPac.

Product Overview

The ArcWelding PowerPac is a RobotStudio solution for offline programming and simulation of ArcWelding application.

Note

ArcWelding PowerPac 64-bit edition is installed on computers with a 64-bit operating system. The 64-bit edition allows large CAD-models to be imported as more memory can be addressed.

For download information, visit our RobotStudio Download Page:
http://new.abb.com/products/robotics/robotstudio/downloads

On the PowerPacs User Forum discuss problems and solutions online:

http://forums.robotstudio.com/categories/powerpacs

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1. Release Information

1.1 General

Release Name

The release name is **ArcWelding PowerPac 2021.4** and the build number is **6.13.0003.0164**

Release Date

The release date is **Dec 17, 2021**

Language Support

ArcWelding PowerPac is available in the following language: English

Documentation

User documentation for ArcWelding PowerPac is available from the *Help* button in the upper-right corner of PowerPac after activation.

Also, available under installed\ Program Files folder(x86)\ABB\ArcWelding PowerPac 2021\Help

1.2 Prerequisites

Before you install…

Before you begin installing ArcWelding PowerPac, you must have Administrator privileges to successfully complete the installation.

It is advisable that RobotStudio be installed before installing ArcWelding PowerPac.

Software requirements

Operating System	
Microsoft Windows 10 (recommended)	64-bit edition

Hardware Requirements

CPU	**2.0 GHz or faster processor, multiple cores recommended**
Memory	8 GB if running Windows 64 bit edition.
Free disk space	5+ GB free space
Graphics card	High-performance DirectX 11 compatible graphics card. For the Advanced lightning mode Direct3D feature level 10_1 or higher is required.
Screen resolution	1920 x 1080 pixels or higher is recommended
DPI	Normal size (100% / 96 dpi) up to Large size (125% / 120 dpi)
Mouse	Three-button mouse
3D Mouse [optional]	Any 3D mouse from 3DConnexion, see http://www.3dconnexion.com.
Disk Drive	DVD-ROM Drive (required only if you receive the RobotStudio installer on a DVD).

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2. What's New?

Overview

This section contains information about the new features of ArcWelding PowerPac.

2.1 New Feature in 2021.4

There are no new features introduced.
Bugs reported during regression testing and **RobotStudio 2021.4** compatibility testing was done.

2.2 New Feature in 2021.3

There are no new features introduced.
Bugs reported during regression testing and **RobotStudio 2021.3** compatibility testing was done.

2.3 New Feature in 2021.2

There are no new features introduced.

Bugs reported during regression testing and **RobotStudio 2021.2** compatibility testing was done.

2.4 New Feature in 2019.1

There are no new features introduced.
Bugs reported during regression testing and **RobotStudio 2019.1** compatibility testing was done.

2.5 New Feature in 6.08

There are no new features introduced.
Bugs reported during regression testing and **RobotStudio 6.08** compatibility testing was done.

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2.3 Late-breaking information

Overview

This section contains late-breaking information that will be included in the appropriate documents in the subsequent releases.

For creating Arc Welding systems using Installation Manager

For information on the procedure for creating a Arc Welding system using Installation Manager, please refer Help documentation of RobotStudio.

In Installation Manager window, the Arc Welding specific options can be found here as shown in the image below:

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3. Corrections

Overview

This section describes the defects solved in ArcWelding PowerPac.

3.1 Corrections in ArcWelding PowerPac

Overview

This section describes the corrections made in 2021.4

Product Defect Documents/Bug fixes

ID	Title

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4. Known Limitations

Overview

This section describes known limitations in ArcWelding PowerPac.

Warning message on activating ArcWelding PowerPac
"ArcCalcDefault_2_ProcStart and instruction ArcCalcLStart Has argument name miss match. Index: 14, Name: SeamName Import new Instruction Description to Correct the Problem" message is displayed. Acknowledge and continue to work with ArcWelding PowerPac

Update Position in VC for "MoveTo"

"MoveTo" change the positions of mechanisms in RobotStudio to the selected target, but they will not update the positions accordingly in Virtual Controller.

Unreachable Result from Minimize Robot Axes Movement Function

Minimize Robot Axes Movement function in PathView's Optimize Targets' Angles adjust targets' spin angles to get smooth robot movements, i.e. minimized robot axes change during movement. However, it may happen that the optimal spin angle calculated cannot be reached by robot, and thus the optimization fails. In this case, check the spin angle change value from Output window message, and manually apply that value to the target.

MoveTo is not changing the colour, for targets which require complex configuration

It has been observed that when complex configuration is designed in Path View, Move to is failing to change the color of the targets (i.e., status of the colour remains unclear), however JumpTo shows the point is reachable.

When multiple version of the same PowerPac is installed.

When two or more versions of the same PowerPac is installed, warning messages appear in the output window when RobotStudio is started. The warning messages inform that duplicate files are installed. The message can be ignored as the function of the PowerPac will not be affected.

Rapid Error when ArcWelding station has an external axis (positioner) along with Production Manager with RobotWare 6.01

When a ArcWelding station is created with an external axis (Positioner) and the system has Production Manager, Rapid errors are observed in the Positioner task upon loading ArcWelding PowerPac.

The workaround is to:

- Create a ArcWelding System with required options, external axis (Positioner) and Production Manager.
- Load the system to the station.
- Go to Controller → Load Parameters.
- Browse to C:\Program Files (x86)\ABB Industrial IT\Robotics IT\ArcWelding PowerPac 6.08\sGapP1 and load sGapP1.cfg.
- Restart (Warmstart) the system to allow the changes to take effect.

Note: Resetting the system will cause the system to refresh itself and it will lose the sGapP1.cfg

No similar errors are observed with RobotWare 6.08.

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Maintain Screenlayout in ArcWelding PowerPac

Screen which are opened from Path View such Modify Instruction, Target or Joint Target gets closed once PowerPac is closed and will not maintain the screen layout.

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5. Installation information

5.1 Installing ArcWelding PowerPac

Installation Instructions

ArcWelding PowerPac 2021 will be installed side-by-side with any previous installation of ArcWelding PowerPac. It uses the same activation key.

ArcWelding PowerPac requires RobotStudio and RobotWare to be installed.

New Installation Path: ArcWelding PowerPac 2021 is installed in C:\Program Files (x86)\ABB\ArcWelding PowerPac 2021 (Same as RobotStudio).

How to install ArcWelding PowerPac on a PC

	Action
1	Go to the website http://new.abb.com/products/robotics/robotstudio/downloads
2	Download ArcWelding PowerPac from the PowerPacs section.
3	Unzip **ArcWelding PowerPac 2021.4.zip** file, to extract all the installation components to the folder specified.
4	Go to the extracted location.
5	Double click on **ABB ArcWelding PowerPac 2021.4.exe** file. Go through the wizard to finish installation.

Knowing which ArcWelding PowerPac version is installed

The version number of your ArcWelding installation is displayed in the ArcWelding Addin button in Addins tab. The version can also be seen in the about dialog once the PowerPac is activated. The About dialog can be accessed from the Help icon within the PowerPac.

Activation of ArcWelding PowerPac Trial license

PowerPac Trial license can be generated from Robot Studio ‘Request Trial License’.

RobotStudio Trial License:

Users need to request a trial license from within RobotStudio, whereby RobotStudio connects to a cloud service that provides a trial license key unless a previous trial has been granted to that particular machine.

Only one trial per machine is allowed.

Internet connection is required for the trial.

How to activate ArcWelding PowerPac

Use the Activation Wizard to activate your ArcWelding PowerPac installation.

Note

If you have a problem with your activation, contact your local ABB customer support representative at the e-mail address or telephone number provided at http://www.abb.com/contacts.

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For using the Activation Wizard, follow this procedure.

	Action
1	On the **File** tab, click **Options** and go to **General: Licensing**.
2	On the Licensing page to the right, click **Activation wizard** to launch the Activation Wizard.
3	In the Activation Wizard, on the *Activate RobotStudio* page, indicate whether you have a **Standalone License** or a **Network License**, and then click **Next**. If you have chosen **Standalone License**, you will proceed to *the Activate a Standalone License* page. See *Activate automatically over the Internet or manually* below for further steps. If you have chosen **Network License**, you will proceed to the Network License page. See the *RobotStudio Operating manual* for further steps.

Activate automatically over the Internet or manually

The Activation Wizard gives you two choices on how to proceed. You can choose either automatic activation over the Internet or manual activation. These are explained in the following section.

Automatic Activation (recommended)

In Automatic Activation, the Activation Wizard automatically contacts and sends your activation request to the ABB licensing servers over your Internet connection. Your license will then be automatically installed and your product will be ready for use.

For Automatic Activation you need a working Internet connections and also a valid Activation Key that has not exceeded the number of installations allowed.

RobotStudio must be restarted after the activation has been successfully completed.

Note

If you choose to activate over the Internet but are not currently connected to the Internet, then the wizard alerts you that there is no connection.

Manual Activation

1. If the computer does not have a working Internet connection or a trial license needs to activated, you must proceed with Manual Activation
2. A license file has an extension ".bin".
3. If you already have a license file, follow the step 8.
4. If you want to create a license file follow steps 5 – 8.
5. Create a license file by selecting the option **Step 1: Create a license request file.** Proceed through the wizard, enter your Activation Key and save the License Request File to your computer.
6. Use a removable storage medium, such as a USB stick or floppy disk, to transfer the file to a computer with an Internet connection. In that computer, open a web browser, go to http://www101.abb.com/manualactivation/ and follow the instructions given.

   The result will be a License File that should be saved and transferred back to the computer having the installation awaiting activation.
7. Relaunch the Activation Wizard and go through the steps until you reach the *Activate a Standalone License page*.

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8. Under *Manual Activation*, select the option **Step 3: Install a license file**.

   Proceed through the wizard, selecting the License File when requested. Upon completion, ArcWelding PowerPac is activated and ready for use.

RobotStudio must be restarted after the activation has been successfully completed.

How can I tell whether my ArcWelding PowerPac installation has already been activated?

1. Go to the **File** tab**,** and then click on the **Options** button, and select the **Licensing** section.
2. Click **View Installed License Keys** to see the status of your current license.
3. If your ArcWelding installation is activated, you will have valid licenses for the features covered by your subscription.

Changes in version naming for PowerPac

1. New version naming scheme is in sync with Robot Studio.
2. Based on the current year
   - The first version a certain year (e.g. 2019) will be called "2019.1".
   - Subsequent releases will be called "2019.2", "2019.3" etc.
3. Revisions will overwrite an existing installation

   Example: ArcWelding PowerPac 2019.2 will upgrade (overwrite) 2019.1
4. Versions can be installed side-by-side

   Example: ArcWelding PowerPac 2019.1 and ArcWelding PowerPac 2020.1 (not yet released) can be installed side-by-side

Changes in Robot Studio licensing

Handling of new orders

1. RobotStudio 2019.1 is an upgrade to RobotStudio 6.x
   - This release will be bundled with RobotWare 6.09 and supports all released versions of RobotWare 5 and 6.
   - Only one product for order in the order system (“RobotStudio”) with the usual price and 3HAC-numbers. Same as before.
2. Old license keys will not work for RobotStudio 2019
3. New license keys will not work on RobotStudio 6.x or 5.x.
4. The internal name of the license key is “RobotStudio 7.x”
5. Subsequent releases of RobotStudio will be compatible w.r.t to the activation key.

Handling of existing users

1. Existing users can continue to use their current license and version of RobotStudio until their license key expires.
2. When it does, upgrading to RobotStudio 2019 will be compulsory as only keys for RobotStudio 2019 and later will be generated.
3. Existing users who may want to try the latest RobotStudio release will receive an e-mail with a new license key for RobotStudio 2019 with the same content and expiration date as their current key.

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4. The e-mail will be sent to the currently registered e-mail addresses entered at the time of initial order.

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6. Technical support

6.1 Overview

Contacting ABB

If you have any questions or problems with your PowerPac installation, please get in touch with your local ABB Robotics Service representative, see *http://www.abb.com/contacts*.

Have the following in mind

1. Running the latest version of RobotStudio and ArcWelding PowerPac ensures that it works properly and includes improvements and new product functionality. ABB recommends that you update to the latest version of RobotStudio and ArcWelding PowerPac whenever a new version is available and before contacting ABB for support.
2. Give a brief description of how to reproduce your problem.
3. Create screenshots if applicable. (Use ALT + PRINT SCREEN to get an image of the active window instead of the entire screen.)
4. Generate a Full Scan with the RobotStudio Support Tool available next to RobotStudio in the Start menu, save the report and attach it with your problem description. (Click *Start* → *Programs* → *ABB* → *RobotStudio 2021* → *RobotStudio Support Tool*, click on *Run Full Scan* and then *Save Report.*
5. We also need the following user information:
   i. name
   ii. company
   iii. contact information
   iv. what operating system you are running (incl. language)
   v. Subscription ID for your purchased license.
   vi. Machine ID, see Help section of File tab.

Note

When sending large (> 1 Mb) files, please compress them with WinZip® or WinRAR.

License support

For license-related questions, please contact the team responsible for license support directly at *softwarefactory_support@se.abb.com*

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