

# **Home center 2.2**

## Installation guide





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## Revision history

January 5 <sup>th</sup> 2011	Initial version
February 2 <sup>nd</sup> 2011	Added camera extensions requirements
October 11 <sup>nd</sup> 2011	Updated to v2.2

## 1. About Home center

Home center is software by Stijnen Solutions to operate Velbus<sup>1</sup>. Velbus is home automation by Velleman.



The most recent information can be found at [www.homecenter.be](http://www.homecenter.be)

Velbus: [www.velbus.eu](http://www.velbus.eu)



<sup>1</sup> Other supported system: Qbus domotica. To keep things straight forward, this document is written for a Velbus system. But the documentation also applies for Qbus domotica, unless stated otherwise. If specific aspects are mentioned for Velbus and there is a parallel with Qbus, you will find a note on this.

## 2. Home center requirements

This is a short overview of the software and hardware related aspects that you need to be aware of before you further dive into Home center.

Home center server and client run on a windows PC.

Home center for iPhone and iPad runs on iOSx and must be acquired separately from the Apple App store.

### Supported operating system

Windows XP, Windows 7 or Windows Vista.

Home center has been successfully tested on some of the embedded versions. However we are not able to provide support for these.

### Required software

Microsoft .Net Framework 2.0 or higher.

### PC hardware requirements

Home center is a very light weight software and does not require a very extensive hardware setup.

#### Our advice

#### **VMBTP8 - Panel-Touch PC for Home Center from Velbus.<sup>2</sup>**

Home center is pre-installed. Both the Home center server and client run on this device. The VMBTP8 must be connected to Velbus.

Check [www.velbus.eu](http://www.velbus.eu) for details and pricing.

If you decide to set up your own system, any PC purchased from your PC dealer should do. We do recommend to choose a PC with low power consumption. You might want to keep this PC running continuously to get fast access and receive all the updates from the bus.

### Other required hardware

To use Home center you need an operating Velbus home automation system<sup>3</sup>!

You need an USB or RS232 interface (VMBRSUSB) with a cable to connect.

### Home center for iPhone/iPad requirements

iPhone, iPod touch or iPad with access to the App store to download the app.

Wifi or GPRS<sup>4</sup> connectivity.

Home center server (windows) is required to connect to the system!

### Camera connectivity

Windows 32-bit or 64-bit OS

Camera converter from Stijnen Solutions

<sup>2</sup> The Panel-touch PC can also be used for Qbus domotica!

<sup>3</sup> Or Qbus domotica system: with SER02 (2<sup>nd</sup> generation controller) or CTD (3<sup>th</sup> generation controller). Home center doesn't support the ETH interface for 2<sup>nd</sup> generation controllers.

<sup>4</sup> Port forwarding on the internet router needs to be setup, this is not a part of this manual.

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## 3. Acquire a license for Home center

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This chapter describes the steps to take to get a licensed copy of Home center.

### 3.1. Get the Voucher and the Home center Agent

Order Home center from your home automation dealer or by contacting Stijnen Solutions directly. After the payment has been handled, you will receive one voucher, or multiple vouchers if you want camera support, and a download link for the Home center Agent.

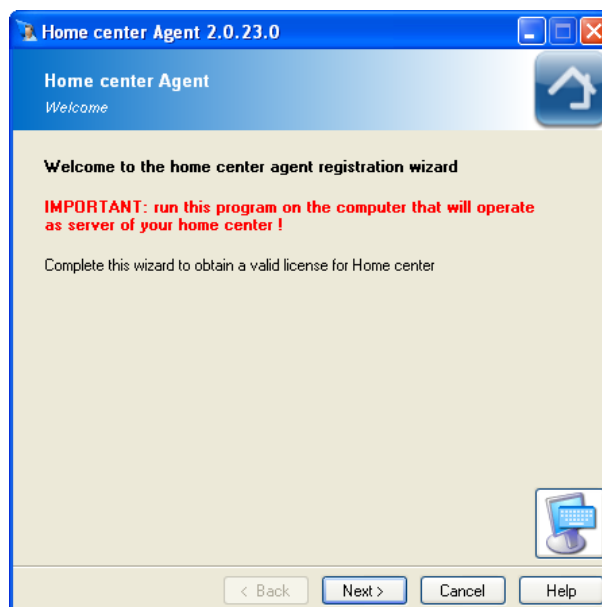
### 3.2. Run the Home center Agent

Be aware that **Microsoft .Net framework 2.0 or higher** must be installed on the computer to run the Home center Agent!

You will receive a link<sup>5</sup> to the latest version of the Home center Agent. **Be sure to run this Agent on the computer you will run the Home center server!** Because the license is unique and linked to the computer.

#### Remark

If for some reason you need to migrate to another computer, contact us and you will receive a new license for free.



If there is no keyboard connected to the computer, you can click the icon on right bottom of the screen to open the 'on screen keyboard' from your operating.

The Agent will ask you to fill in the information to create a valid license.

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<sup>5</sup> <http://download.homecenter.be>

### 3.2.1. Fill in the voucher

First you have to fill in the voucher(s). These you will have received from your dealer. This is required information.

Home center Agent 2.0.23.0

Home center Agent  
Enter voucher codes

Enter voucher(s) here:

Add Valid voucher

Voucher code	Voucher type

Remove

< Back Next > Cancel Help

Home center Agent 2.0.23.0

Home center Agent  
Enter voucher codes

Enter voucher(s) here:

Add

Voucher code	Voucher type
	HCB home center basic

Remove

< Back Next > Cancel Help

### 3.2.2. Fill in user information

The next screen will ask for the user information. The required fields are marked with '\*'.

**Home center Agent 2.0.23.0**

**Home center Agent**  
Enter user information here

**Enter user information:**

Full name\* Stijnen E.

Company/Organisation

Address\*

Zip code + City/Town\* 8020 Waardamme

Country\* België

VAT no. (OND nr.)

E-mail address\* info@stijnen.be

Reseller\* Stijnen Solutions

\* required fields

< Back Next > Cancel Help

When all fields have been filled in, press 'Next'. If required information is missing, the overview screen will show a remark. Go back to the previous screen and complete the missing information.

**Home center Agent 2.0.23.0**

**Home center Agent**  
Information overview

**Some information is missing**

Voucher	
Name	Stijnen E.
Company	
Address	
Zip/City	8020 Waardamme
Country	België
VAT	
E-mail	info@stijnen.be
Reseller	Stijnen Solutions

< Back Next > Cancel Help



When everything is filled in correctly. The overview shows all the information you provided.

**Home center Agent 2.0.23.0**  
Home center Agent  
Information overview

Voucher	[REDACTED]
Name	Stijnen E.
Company	Stijnen Solutions
Address	Zuidstraat 17
Zip/City	8020 Waardamme
Country	Belgie
VAT	
E-mail	info@stijnen.be
Reseller	Stijnen Solutions

**Select how you want to receive a license**

☐ Send directly to receive a license  
(internet connection required) NOT AVAILABLE YET

☒ Create a license request file. I will send it by email to  
receive a license  
(I don't have internet access right now)

< Back   **Next >**   Cancel   Help

### 3.2.3. Storing the license request file

The HC Agent will ask you where to store the license request file on your computer. Select a location. The file will be called QHC\_XXXXX.lic where the X's represent the first 5 digits of your voucher.

In the near future, this method will be replaced with an automated procedure through Internet. If your computer doesn't have Internet access, you will still be able to create the license request file. Then transport it, for example with an USB stick, to another computer with Internet access. And then mail it to Stijnen Solutions.

### 3.2.4. Send the request file to your dealer

Once you saved the license file, send it back to your dealer by e-mail (or to Stijnen Solutions if you ordered directly from Stijnen Solutions).

You will ASAP receive your license file and the latest copy of the Home center setup.

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## 4. Installing Home center

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When you have correctly requested the license, you will receive your personal license and the latest setup of Home center for Windows.

This setup is able to install the Home center server and Home center client.

Executing setup is pretty straight forward.

Please do read the license agreement in the setup to be aware of the conditions you apply to.

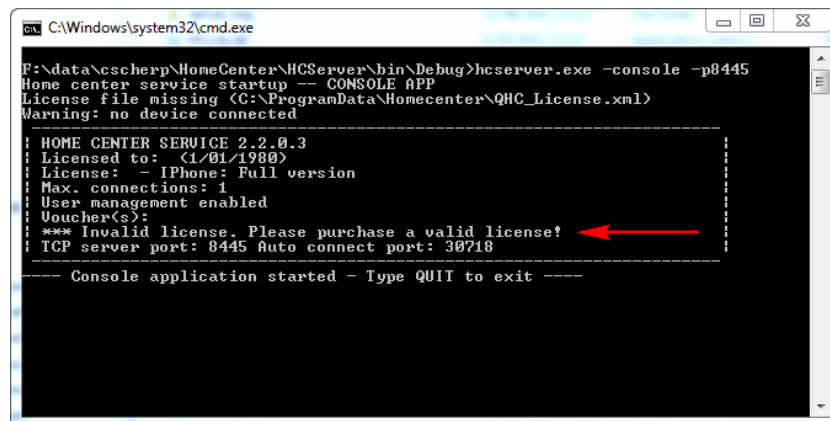
### 4.1. Installing the Home center server

First, run the setup on the computer that is connected to the home automation system. You will be asked if you want to install the server, client or both. For the server you will have to install the server or both. The best option is to choose both.

### 4.2. Installing your license

Save the license file you received on the computer that will run the home center server.

First, the server will have to be started. It is best to choose the server in console mode to see if everything works fine. This will look somewhat like this:



```
C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe
F:\data\cscherp\HomeCenter\HCServer\bin\Debug>hcserver.exe -console -p8445
Home center service startup -- CONSOLE APP
License file missing (C:\ProgramData\Homecenter\QHC_License.xml)
Warning: no device connected

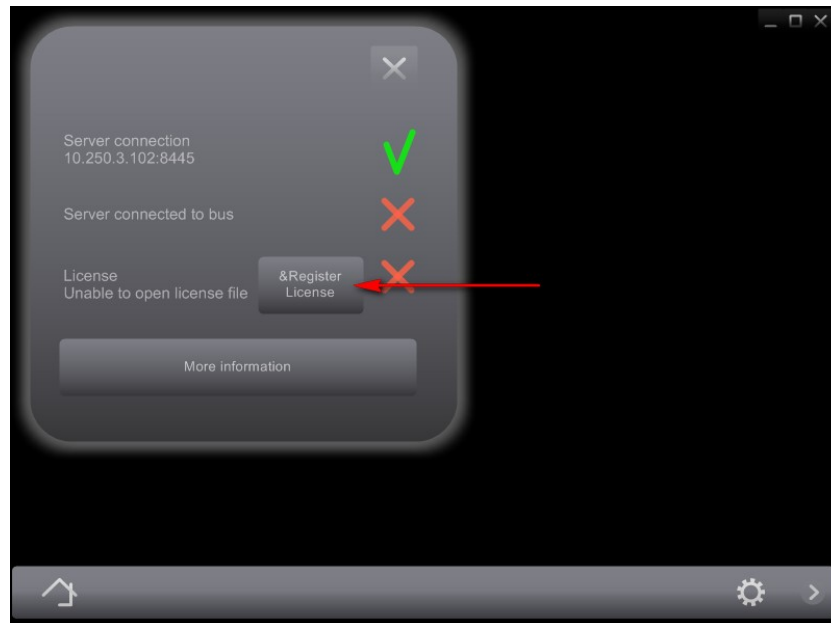
HOME CENTER SERVICE 2.2.0.3
Licensed to: (1/01/1980)
License: - iPhone: Full version
Max. connections: 1
User management enabled
Voucher(s):
*** Invalid license. Please purchase a valid license!
TCP server port: 8445 Auto connect port: 30718

-----
Console application started - Type QUIT to exit -----
```

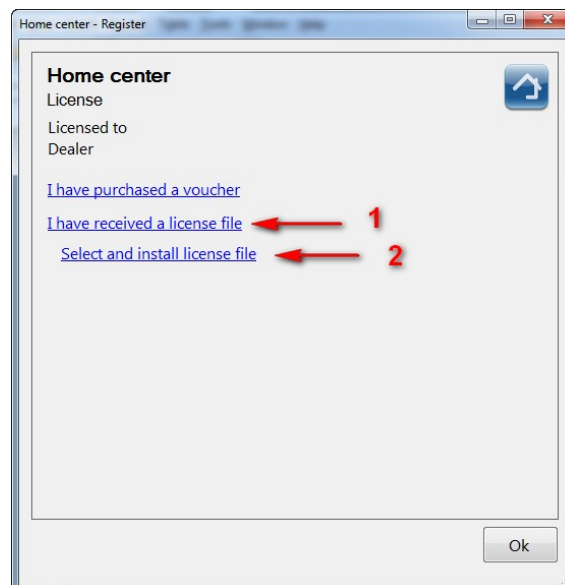
The first time there will be a remark that the license file is missing.

To install the license file, keep the server running and start the home center client.

The client will automatically connect to the server. It will say 'Unable to open license file'. This means that the license file is not yet installed.

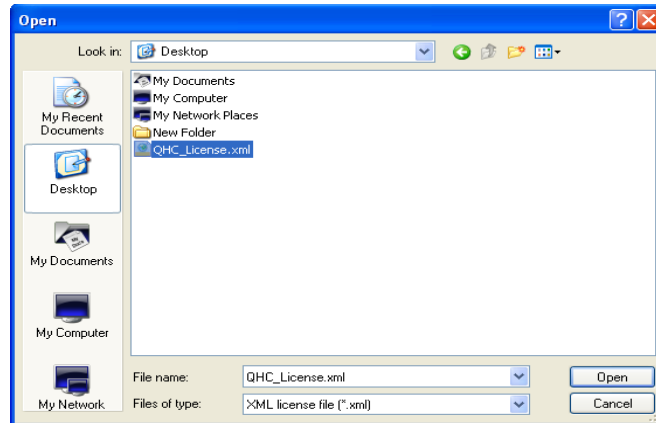


Click on the Register license button.

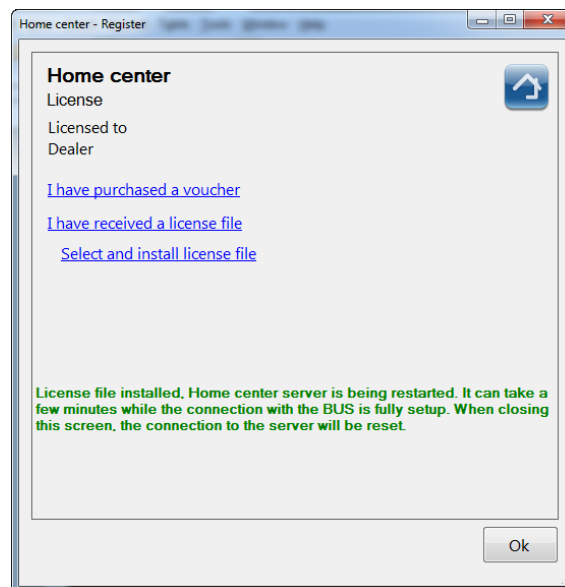


In the Register screen, click the text 'I have purchased a valid license' **(1)**. Then click 'Select and install license file' **(2)**.

A dialog screen opens. Select the license file from your computer and click 'Open':



Now a message appears on the bottom of the screen that says that the license is being installed on the server. The server will restart and setup the connection with the BUS. This can take several minutes because the bus will be scanned to find all the modules.



Normally, you should see changes on the server screen:

```

C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe
License: - iPhone: Full version
Max. connections: 1
User management enabled
Voucher(s):
*** Invalid license. Please purchase a valid license!
TCP server port: 8445 Auto connect port: 30718

-----
Console application started - Type QUIT to exit -----
Connection accepted from 10.250.3.102:49548
Connection type: homecenter *
Connection closed 10.250.3.102:49548
Home center service stopped
Home center service startup -- CONSOLE APP
Scanning UELBUS
VBUS reset: scanning
VBUS Module found at address 01: type unknown <0E>
VBUS Module found at address 10: type vmb4ry <08>
VBUS Module found at address 11: type vmb4ry <08>
VBUS Module found at address 12: type vmb4ryld <10>
VBUS Module found at address 13: type vmb4ry <08>
VBUS Module found at address 20: type vmb1dm <07>
VBUS Module found at address 30: type vmb1ld <0F>
VBUS Module found at address 31: type vmb1ld <0F>
VBUS Module found at address 32: type vmb1ld <0F>
VBUS Module found at address 40: type vmb2b1 <09>

```

If you don't see anything, close the client and the server, restart the server in console mode.

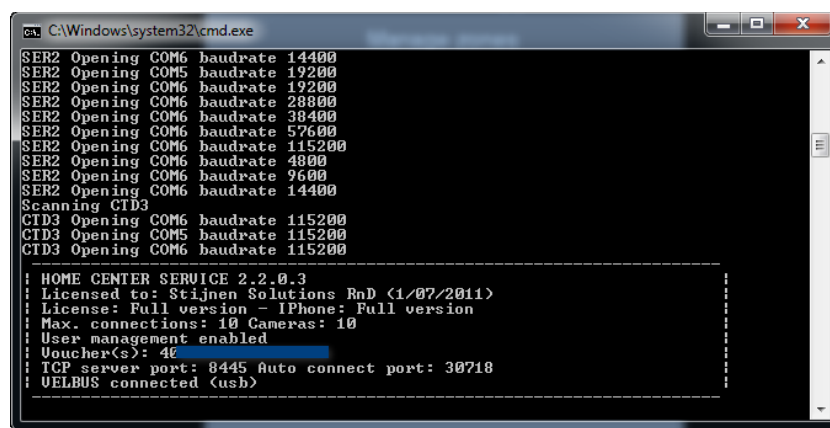
If the installed license file is valid, the Home center server will start scanning the home automation system. This may take a few minutes. Meanwhile on the client, you will see a notification that the server is busy.

### Please note

The home automation system must be connected to the computer! Also, no other program may block the port on which it is connected (for example, VelbusLink).

If the Home center server is unable to connect to the home automation system, make sure it is connected and close any program that might block the port.

When the server is ready. The server window should look somewhat like this:



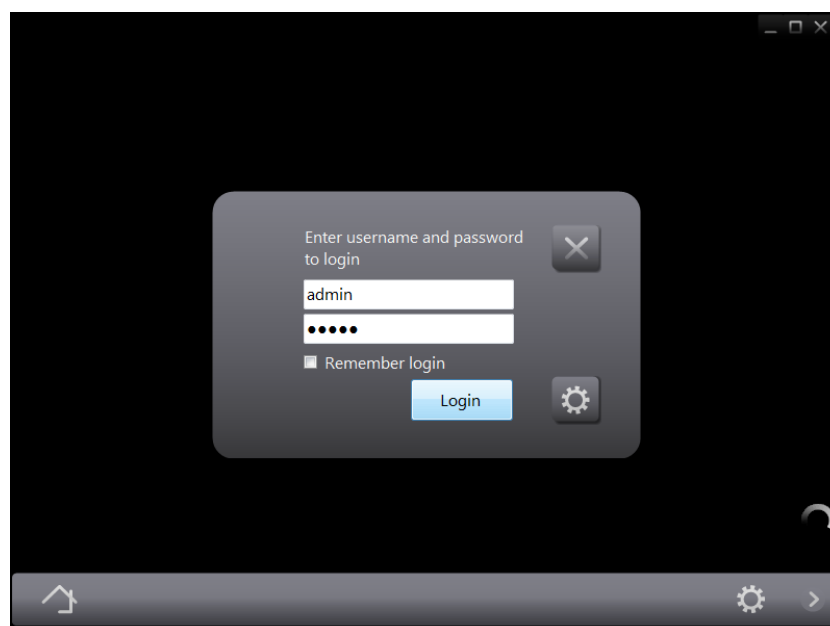
```

C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe
SER2 Opening COM6 baudrate 14400
SER2 Opening COM5 baudrate 19200
SER2 Opening COM6 baudrate 19200
SER2 Opening COM6 baudrate 28800
SER2 Opening COM6 baudrate 38400
SER2 Opening COM6 baudrate 57600
SER2 Opening COM6 baudrate 115200
SER2 Opening COM6 baudrate 4800
SER2 Opening COM6 baudrate 9600
SER2 Opening COM6 baudrate 14400
Scanning CTD3
CTD3 Opening COM6 baudrate 115200
CTD3 Opening COM5 baudrate 115200
CTD3 Opening COM6 baudrate 115200

=====
HOME CENTER SERVICE 2.2.0.3
Licensed to: Stijnen Solutions RnD (1/07/2011)
License: Full version - iPhone: Full version
Max. connections: 10 Cameras: 10
User management enabled
Voucher(s): 4E
TCP server port: 8445 Auto connect port: 30718
VELBUS connected (usb)
  
```

On the bottom of the screen, an overview of your licensed version of Home center is shown.

If you closed the Home center client, reopen it, you will be prompted to login. The default user name and password are filled in for you (admin – admin) so you don't have to type anything. Just click 'Login'.



Now you are ready to configure your Home center!

The program will help you to get started. It will show a remark that there are no zones. You can automatically create some. Also there are no shortcuts to your zones in the bar at the bottom. Home center can auto assign them. You are now ready to operate your home automation system.<sup>6</sup>

When you have played around a little, you can use the Home center server as a windows service. This service will automatically start and connect to you home automation system when you reboot your computer.

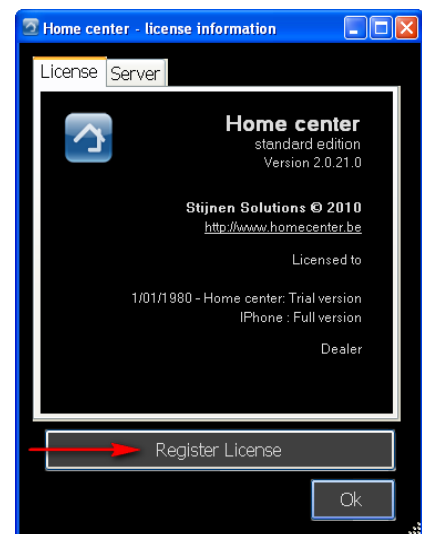
### 4.3. Renewing your license

If you later have to install a new license. You can do this through the About screen and click the 'Register license' on the bottom of the screen.

#### When does your license need renewal?

A license has to be renewed when you purchase an upgrade for example for the full iPhone/iPad version or to add extra simultaneous connections.

Also your license allows you free updates of the basic software of Home center during the first year. If you want the new version after a year, you need to renew your license.



### 4.4. Installing on other computers

You may also run the setup on other computers in your home network where you want to operate your home automation system. You will be asked if you want to install the server, client or both. In this case choose: only **client**.

You can install the client as many times as you want. They will all show the current status of your home automation system. The only limitation is the amount of simultaneous connections. The basic license allows 4 simultaneous client connections.

#### So, what is next?!?

If you can't wait, start playing around. But reading the Home center user guide<sup>7</sup> might helpfull to fine tune your settings!

<sup>6</sup> More information about how to use and configure home center, can be found in the Home center user guide at <http://manuals.homecenter.be>

<sup>7</sup> If you don't have the Home center user guide yet, go to <http://manuals.homecenter.be>