Why is Bentley requiring all users to sign in to use Bentley applications and cloud services?

Moving forward, all Bentley users must sign in to the Bentley CONNECTION Client on each device where they access any Bentley application or cloud service. We are implementing this policy to keep pace with industry best practices and to enhance security both for Bentley and for our users. It is also necessary to help us deliver new services that are part of your subscription benefits and new capabilities that are now provided with your Bentley applications and cloud services.

Bentley’s future revolves around CONNECT Licensing, a new model that provides additional functionality requested by our users. Once your users are registered and become Connected and after installing the CONNECT License Adapter, your organization will be able to take advantage of CONNECT Licensing in the early stages of its release. Upon general release, upcoming features and capabilities of CONNECT Licensing include:

- The ability to set alert notifications based on number of licenses being used
- Replacing site activation keys with user validation, enhancing security around your Bentley licenses and subscriptions
- Quicker onboarding of new users and Bentley applications

By completing this user registration and sign-in, your organization will also become eligible to receive earned value discount. For more information, please visit the Enterprise Portal.

What steps must your organization take to address this requirement?

Your organization must ensure that all users sign in to the CONNECTION Client using their Bentley Profile on each device where they use Bentley applications and cloud services. As the designated administrator for your Bentley subscription, you play a key role in helping users fulfill this requirement by:

- Registering each of your users, which creates their Bentley Profile
- Assisting with installation of the CONNECTION Client on the appropriate user devices

Once these steps are completed, individual users simply sign in to the CONNECTION Client on their devices, a process that takes less than five minutes to complete. You can access detailed instructions and documentation at the Bentley website.
What information is collected with the user registration requirement?
The required information in a Profile is first name, last name, email address, and country. For more information on our privacy policy, please click here.

What is the CONNECTION Client?
The CONNECTION Client needs to be installed on each device required for the use of Bentley applications and cloud services. The CONNECTION Client allows a user to sign in to authenticate their identity and their device, which enables appropriate access to licensed applications and services.

How does this comply with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)?
Bentley is committed to your privacy protection. When users are added into User Management, Bentley collects and processes the following account personal data:

- Account IMS profile data (name, email address, and country)
- Usage data of software and services

Account personal data is subject to the following basic processing activities which serve a legitimate business interest:

- Provide access to features and activities on our websites and applications
- Confirm a user’s entitlement to use specific features and services
- Provide customized content and resources based on past activity and usage
- Fulfill contractual duties and for administrative, billing, and support purposes
- Improve our sites and applications for users
- Conduct research and analysis to address the performance of our sites and applications
- Help maintain a secure system, detect fraud, and protect data

If you reside in the EU, the data protection regulations of the EU apply. Learn more information about Bentley’s GDPR Compliance Program.
Are additional services enabled through the CONNECTION Client?
Once installed, the CONNECTION Client also enables administrators to manage software updates, notifications, and authenticated access to other Bentley services, such as the new CONNECT services now made available at no additional charge to every Bentley application subscriber.

Are additional terms being accepted by the user upon sign-in of the CONNECTION Client?
When signing into the CONNECTION Client, users will be required to read and agree to our End-User License Agreement (EULA) and the Bentley Cloud Services Terms of Service. See the terms and conditions at [LINK].

How do we control user access in enabling cloud services?
To register a Connected Project, a user must have administrator, co-administrator, or CONNECT services administrative privileges associated with their Bentley account. This role-based access control (RBAC) is located in User Management. If a user does not have RBAC, they will not be able to upload, download, etc. a project. For more information, please click here [LINK].

What machines do I need to install the CONNECTION Client on?
The CONNECTION Client must be installed on every Windows 7 SP1 (or higher) operating system that has a Bentley desktop application. The Client is available in both 32- and 64-bit versions, available at the Bentley store. [LINK].

Does the CONNECTION Client need to be installed on our servers?
No, the CONNECTION Client is a desktop application only.

Do I have the option to federate my identity provider rather than bulk upload users?
Larger organizations might be interested in the federation of their identity provider with Bentley’s Identity Management System. If you are interested in learning more, please submit a request at [LINK].
Does a user need to register and sign in to take advantage of the new CONNECTservices benefits?
To take full advantage of CONNECTservices benefits (including CONNECT Advisor), a user must be registered and sign in.

Is the CONNECTION Client compatible with Citrix?
Yes, it is compatible. Install the CONNECTION Client on the server(s) that have your Bentley application installed and publish it as you did your other Bentley applications. Each Bentley user will have to launch it and sign in before being able to access their desktop application, like MicroStation. When the user is done accessing their Bentley application, they can sign out of the CONNECTION Client. Therefore, users will need to launch the CONNECTION Client from the storefront, if that is how they accessed published applications, and sign in before opening their Bentley desktop application.

What is EVD and how does it relate to the Bentley user registration and sign in requirement?
EVD is Bentley’s Earned Value Discount, which offers you the opportunity to save on the licenses and subscriptions that you purchase from Bentley with three different discount components based on volume, current versions use, and Enterprise License Subscription (ELS). To qualify for EVD, your users must be registered in our User Management system and sign in as instructed on the Administrator’s Resource Center. Once your users have completed that process, your organization becomes eligible to save up to 50% EVD on your Bentley software and services. For more information on EVD, please see our Earned Value Discount FAQ on the Enterprise Portal. [LINK]