Microsoft Software Licensing Tables (SLIC and MSDM)

November 29, 2011

Abstract

This specification defines the format of the software licensing (SLIC) table and the Microsoft Data Management (MSDM) table, used in platform firmware to enable Windows software licensing.

This information applies to the following operating systems:

Windows Vista

Windows Server 2008

Windows 7

Windows Server 2008 R2

The next version of Windows, code-named Windows 8

References and resources discussed here are listed at the end of this paper.

The current version of this paper is maintained on the web at:   
 [Microsoft Software Licensing Tables (SLIC and MSDM)](http://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/p/?LinkId=234834)

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Document History

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# Introduction

Microsoft uses Advanced Configuration and Power Interface (ACPI) tables to enable software licensing. The software licensing (SLIC) and Microsoft Data Management (MSDM) tables are defined in this document.

# SLIC table

The ACPI SLIC table defines the information necessary to enable generic activation. Original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) must be licensed for Microsoft OEM Activation and receive the approved licensing information before generating the generic SLIC table. OEMs are advised to collaborate with their motherboard and/or BIOS vendors to construct the entire table and inject it into ACPI.

Table 1. SLIC table format

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Field | Byte length | Byte offset | Description |
| Signature | 4 | 0 | SLIC |
| Length | 4 | 4 | Length, in bytes, of the entire table. The length implies the number of entry fields at the end of the table. |
| Revision | 1 | 8 | 0x01 |
| Checksum | 1 | 9 | Checksum of the entire table. |
| OEMID | 6 | 10 | An OEM-supplied string that identifies the OEM; must match OEMID in the ACPI RSDT and XSDT tables. |
| OEM Table ID | 8 | 16 | Optional motherboard/BIOS logical identifier; must match OEM Table ID in the ACPI RSDT and XSDT tables. |
| OEM Revision | 4 | 24 | OEM revision number of the table for the supplied OEM Table ID. |
| Creator ID | 4 | 28 | Vendor ID of the utility that created the table. |
| Creator Revision | 4 | 32 | Revision of the utility that created the table. |
| Software Licensing Structure | Variable length | 36 | Proprietary data structure that contains all the licensing data necessary to enable Windows activation. Details can be found in the appropriate Microsoft OEM licensing kit by first visiting the Microsoft OEM website [(http://www.microsoft.com/oem/pages/index.aspx).](http://www.microsoft.com/oem/pages/index.aspx) |

# MSDM table

The ACPI MSDM table defines the information necessary to enable individualized OEM activation. OEMs must be licensed for Microsoft OEM Activation licensing program and receive the approved licensing information prior to any ACPI work. The payload of the table starting at offset 36 is expected to be provided by a Microsoft-developed tool, and OEMs are advised to collaborate with their motherboard and/or BIOS vendors to construct the entire table and inject it into ACPI.

Table 2. MSDM table format

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Field | Byte Length | Byte Offset | Description |
| Signature | 4 | 0 | MSDM |
| Length | 4 | 4 | Length, in bytes, of the entire table. |
| Revision | 1 | 8 | 0x01 |
| Checksum | 1 | 9 | Checksum of the entire table. |
| OEMID | 6 | 10 | An OEM-supplied string that identifies the OEM. |
| OEM Table ID | 8 | 16 | Optional motherboard/BIOS logical identifier. |
| OEM Revision | 4 | 24 | OEM revision number of the table for the supplied OEM Table ID. |
| Creator ID | 4 | 28 | Vendor ID of the utility that created the table. |
| Creator Revision | 4 | 32 | Revision of the utility that created the table. |
| Software Licensing Structure | Variable length | 36 | Proprietary data structure that contains all the licensing data necessary to enable Windows activation. Details can be found in the appropriate Microsoft OEM licensing kit by first visiting the Microsoft OEM website [(http://www.microsoft.com/oem/pages/index.aspx).](http://www.microsoft.com/oem/pages/index.aspx) |

# Resources

Microsoft OEM website

[http://www.microsoft.com/oem/pages/index.aspx](http://www.microsoft.com/oem/en/pages/index.aspx)