

OffByZero Pty. Ltd. | Superior software solving real problems  
<http://www.offbyzero.com/>  
Email: [sales@offbyzero.com](mailto:sales@offbyzero.com)



## OffByZero Cobalt

### Software Licensing in Ten Minutes

<https://cobalt.offbyzero.com/>

OffByZero Cobalt raises your revenues and decreases your development costs by providing a flexible turnkey solution to software licensing and protection.

# Software Piracy Grew 11% in 2008<sup>1</sup>

## Secure Your Revenue with OffByZero Cobalt

**OffByZero Cobalt**

Products > Licences adminuser | Developer | Account | Manage Users | Audit | Sign Out

**Flight Management Pro Licences**

Company	Division	Name	Email	Max Clients	Registered	Max Version	First Installed	Locked	Key
OffByZero Pty. Ltd.		Joe Bloggs	joe@offbyzero.com	2	0	1.0.0.0			343b94d0-cb6f-012c-95b7-0017f20a8654
Generic Aviation Corp		John Manager	john@genericac.com	20	0	1.5.0.0			523acb70-cb6f-012c-95b7-0017f20a8654
ABC Tours Inc		Justin Time	justin@abctours.com	1	0	1.0.0.0		true	982b81d0-cb6f-012c-95b7-0017f20a8654
Fast Air Inc		Henry O'Conner	henry@fastair.com	1	0	2.0.0.0			d3c83dd0-cb6f-012c-95b7-0017f20a8654

- Manage your licences from a powerful and friendly web interface

Solution Explorer - Solution 'WindowsApplication1' (1 proje...

Solution 'WindowsApplication1' (1 project)

- WindowsApplication1
  - Properties
  - References
  - Form1.cs
  - LicenceClient.cs
  - Program.cs

**Periodic Confirmation**

The licence client can periodically contact the server, either after a certain number of days or a certain number of application startups.

**Check every:**

Days:  1

Startups:  1

- Integrate in minutes
- Online activation and confirmation

**Features**

Name	Type	Registered Until	Value
Core	Periodic	December 15, 2010	
Themes	Purchase	Not applicable	Red; Silver
Spellchecker	Demo	January 15, 2010	
Translations	None	Not applicable	

- Licence individual features of your software

## What can you do with OffByZero Cobalt?

- easily add software licensing and protection to your products
- prevent unauthorised installations
- create and manage licenses through a secure web interface
- configure licences dynamically across your entire installation base
- provide concurrent licensing of your products
- provide offline licences that never call home
- integrate with your online store
- monitor license usage
- control product use on Citrix™ or Terminal Services
- control product use on VMWare or Microsoft Virtual PC
- call home and validate the licence with a configured frequency
- enable or disable particular features of your products
- optionally expire by a certain date
- demonstrate your products, or features of your products

## Why buy a turnkey software licensing solution?

OffByZero Cobalt allows you to focus on your core product development. You can avoid the difficulties of building solid and secure licensing, be up and running in minutes and have a host of licensing options for your products.

## What about support?

We provide free email support to all our customers. You can also obtain additional voice and remote support with service level agreements.

## What are your purchase options?

Different organisations have different needs and we have a range of purchase options to suit. We can either do the hosting or you can purchase the server for your organisation and add it to your data centre. We offer virtual machine images as well as rack mount standalone servers, with source code licences as an option.

# System Overview

## Structure

There are two primary components of OffByZero Cobalt; the Server and the Licence Client.

## OffByZero Cobalt Server

The OffByZero Cobalt Server is responsible for the creation and management of Licences. It provides a web UI for the creation and management of licences, and exposes a web service interface for the Licence Client to register Licences. It also exposes a web interface for the creation and emailing of licences by third party software (e.g. web shops).

All communication between the OffByZero Cobalt Server and the Licence Client is performed over encrypted SSL channels, and consists entirely of digitally signed XML documents. This means the communication cannot easily be eavesdropped or tampered.

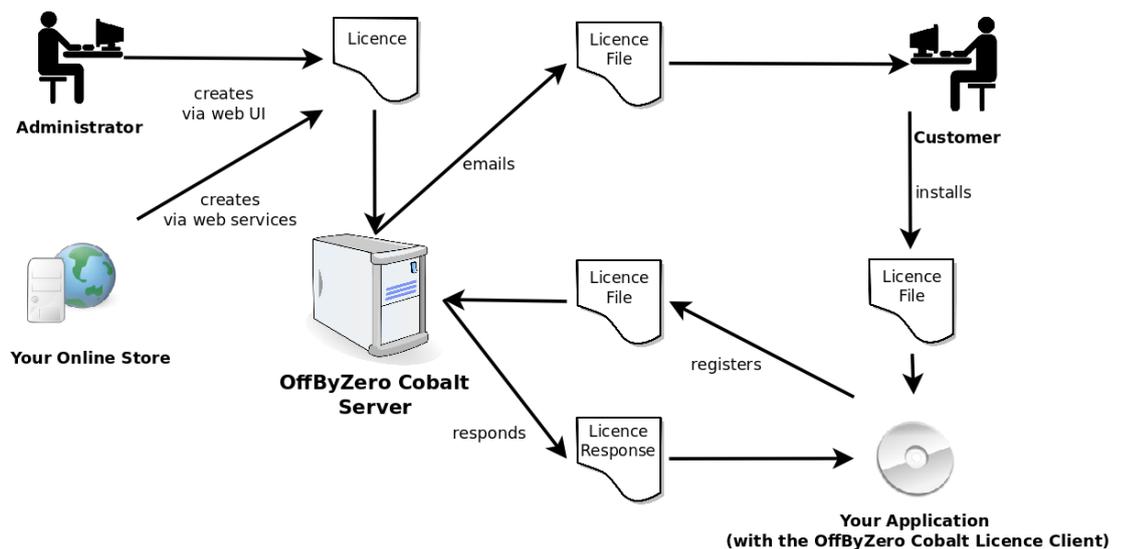
## OffByZero Cobalt Licence Client

The OffByZero Cobalt Licence Client presents a simple, flexible API to allow you to register and unregister licences from within your application. It handles all the details of communication with the Server, as well as validation of signed documents. This makes integration quick and easy.

## Online Licensing

The most common case is online licensing. The Licence Client software is used to register the Licence on the server, which in turn replies with a Licence Response that contains that status of the licence.

The Licence Response contains the status of the Licence; for example, it might report that the user can install the software, or that the Licence has no more installations available, or even that the Licence has been tampered with since it was issued.



## Offline Licensing

In some cases, you may wish to issue a licence that does not contact the server at all; such a Licence is known as an Offline Licence. You can make any Licence an Offline Licence by checking the 'Offline' box when creating or editing that Licence.

# Software Licensing Scenarios

## Overview

OffByZero Cobalt is designed to be a generic and flexible solution to your software protection needs. The client API, with which you integrate, gives you all the information your application requires but leaves the specific implementation of the user interface and protection strategy up to you. For example you may want to perform licence checking constantly or every week, you may want to show UI when something is amiss or show nothing and simply monitor usage. In the sections below we describe we describe software licensing scenarios which can all be accomplished with OffByZero Cobalt.

## Active Software Protection

Create new licences for each user or account (you can have a configurable number of client machine installs on one licence), and then register the licence during software operation. Check feature status on the licence and allow software operation when successful. You can then configure, per licence, how often you want to check registration with the server. You can make the periodic licence confirmation as aggressive (every start-up) or lenient (only during install) as you like. This type of active software protection provides the best security for your software to ensure that it is not used without a licence. Because the software calls the server periodically, you also have the flexibility of changing licence details as you go e.g. extending licence periods and adding/removing features.

## Passive Software Monitoring

Because you control the user interface elements of your software licensing solution, you can choose to not show any licensing UI. You could use this solution simply for monitoring of your user base. OffByZero Cobalt can tell you when clients were installed, uninstalled, on which machines, and by which users.

## Concurrent User Protection

With the OffByZero Cobalt server you can configure advanced software licensing solutions such as concurrent user protection. This is ideal for when you want your software to be installable on a large number of computers (say all computers within an organization), but only allow a smaller number to be running concurrently. OffByZero Cobalt provides an elegant and simple solution for this scenario that you can integrate into your software in minutes.

## Supported Platforms

The OffByZero Cobalt Licence Client is supported on version 2.0, 3.0 and 3.5 of the Microsoft .NET Framework.

The OffByZero Cobalt Licence Client is supported when obfuscated with either Dotfuscator or Eazfuscator.net.

The OffByZero Cobalt Server is accessible through a web interface that is supported on:

- Microsoft Internet Explorer 7, 8
- Firefox 3, 3.5
- Safari 4
- Google Chrome

## Company Information

OffByZero Pty. Ltd. was founded in 2007 by experienced software engineers with a vision for creating great software, using the best tools, technologies and methodologies. OffByZero is an Australian business based in Melbourne. Please visit our website for more information.