



Multi-Version Switch

TECHNOLOGY THAT DRIVES TRANSPORTATION™

BRIEF INTRODUCTION

A high-end function of PC*MILER|Connect, the Multi-Version Switch (MVS) serves as an integration tool designed to simultaneously support multiple versions of the product that are installed on one server or on several different servers. Replacing the need to manually query data from each individual version, the MVS functions as the main connection point to programmatically gain access to the version of choice.

MVS eliminates the need to purchase and maintain multiple PCs or servers to generate mileage calculations. It supports your bid preparation, accounting functions and customer contracts that may specify a different version of PC*MILER mileage or toll amounts generated by PC*MILER|Tolls. Price each customer's rates accurately based on their negotiated, contracted and requested version.

Product features and benefits include:

- Simultaneously support multiple versions of PC*MILER|Connect or PC*MILER|Worldwide-Connect on a single server or desktop computer.
- Reduce the number of dedicated network servers to support along with their maintenance costs and setup fees.
- Cut labor costs by eliminating manual route entry processes.
- Ensure customers that contracts can be made and kept using their version of choice.

BUSINESS NEED

ALK's products are the de-facto industry standard software solutions for determining mileage and toll costs between two locations. Thousands of over-the-road carriers as well as shippers use our products as a means to determine the mileage that can be agreed upon for billing purposes.

During negotiations between a shipper and carrier, a specific version of PC*MILER is identified that will serve as the standard by which mileage is to be determined. Sometimes, the carrier has a certain release but the shipper wants to standardize on an older version of the product, despite the fact that ALK's support may be limited to the latest major release of the product plus one major version back. This can create an issue for the carriers because in order to support the many customers (shippers) they have, they must support multiple versions, even some versions that are no longer supported by ALK.

To add to the issues, ALK's products are designed to replace certain access files (the DLLs) when installing. This means that if, for example, you have Version 22.0 on a server and then install

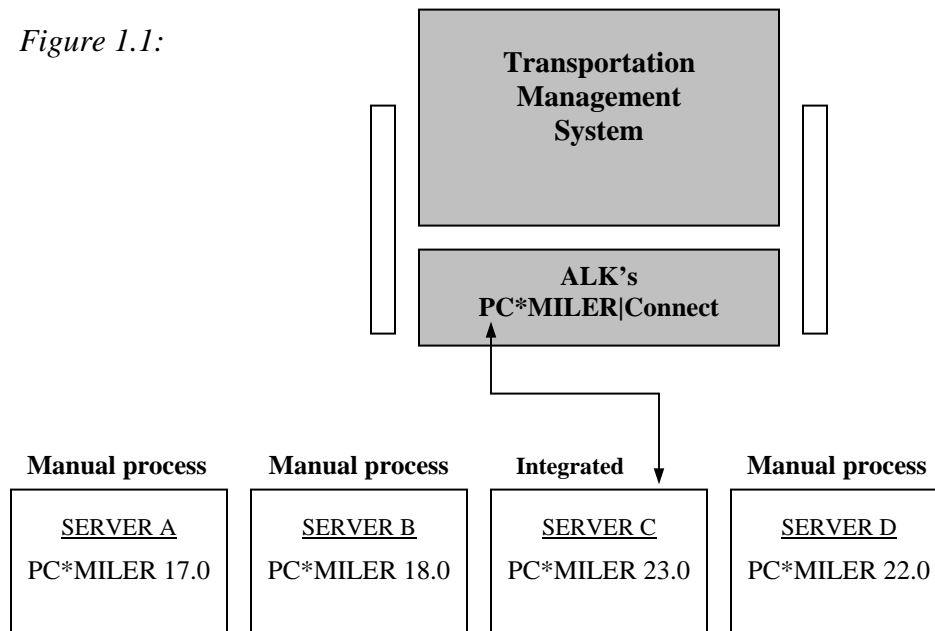
Version 23.0 on the same server, you would overwrite the access files for V22.0 and would then be unable to access that version. This is a large issue for the carriers who want to integrate all versions of PC*MILER into their current Transportation Management System (TMS) for billing with one call to one server, not multiple servers.

An example of how some of our customers are currently utilizing PC*MILER|Connect is depicted below in Figure 1.1.

Figure 1.1: Current Business Scenario (no MVS)

This illustrates a typical PC*MILER application stack at a customer site. There are three versions of PC*MILER which are accessed manually (through PC*MILER's GUI) and one version integrated via PC*MILER|Connect.

Figure 1.1:



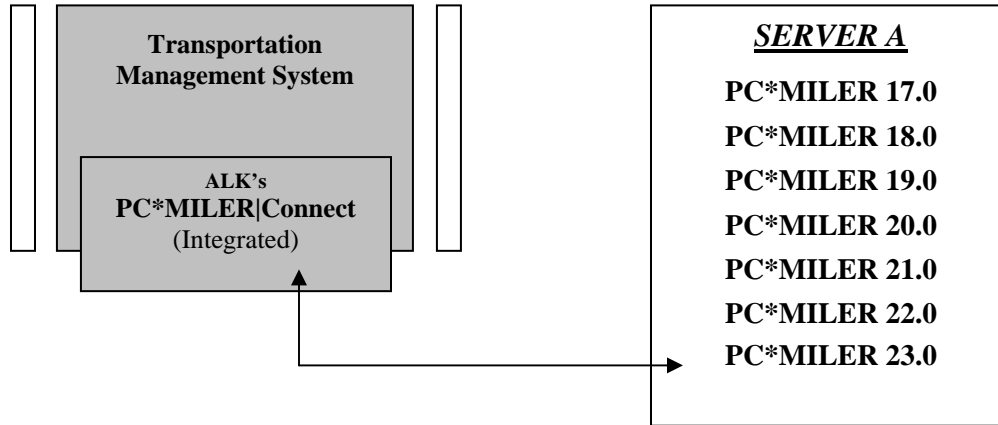
*NOTE: This same model is also followed for PC*MILER|Worldwide-Connect. See below for supported versions.*

To improve the business scenario above, ALK developed the MVS to allow customers to run all of the associated versions on one server, as well as have one connection point into their Transportation Management System. Customers benefit operationally from the fact that all of the versions run on the same server, with the associated cost benefits of reduced hardware purchasing and decreased cost in hardware maintenance.

In addition, there is a reduction in manual PC*MILER or PC*MILER|Tolls interventions which can be excessive due to customer requirements for multiple versions. The only thing that changes in this scenario is that the transportation management system needs to pass a parameter that identifies the version the customer is utilizing. This parameter can be carried on the customer record within the database. The parameter is passed to the MVS, which then returns the data associated with that version.

Figure 1.2 illustrates what an MVS deployment might look like, a potential PC*MILER application stack at a customer site. There are four versions of PC*MILER, all loaded on one server and accessed by the TMS through one integration point.

Figure 1.2:



NOTE: This same model is followed for PC*MILER|Worldwide-Connect. See below for supported versions.

TECHNICAL OVERVIEW*

The PC*MILER Multi-Version Switch currently provides connections to any version, or combination of versions, of PC*MILER|Connect listed below:

- PC*MILER|Connect 16.0 or 16.1
- PC*MILER|Connect 17.0 or 17.1
- PC*MILER|Connect 18.0 or 18.1
- PC*MILER|Connect 19.0 or 19.1
- PC*MILER|Connect 20.0 or 20.1
- PC*MILER|Connect 21.0 or 21.1
- PC*MILER|Connect 22.0 or 22.1
- PC*MILER|Connect 23.0 or 23.1

It also separately supports the connections to any version, or combination of versions, of PC*MILER|Worldwide-Connect listed below:

- PC*MILER|Worldwide-Connect 17.1
- PC*MILER|Worldwide-Connect 18.1
- PC*MILER|Worldwide-Connect 19.1
- PC*MILER|Worldwide-Connect 20.1
- PC*MILER|Worldwide-Connect 21.1
- PC*MILER|Worldwide-Connect 22.1
- PC*MILER|Worldwide-Connect 23.1

* NOTE: As of June 15, 2009, ALK fully supports the current version of PC*MILER and two versions back. This includes the support of PC*MILER 21, 22 and 23 (includes related XX.1 versions). The support for versions released earlier (and including) Version 20 is limited to existing workarounds or patches. For PC*MILER|Worldwide, as of late Fall 2009, ALK fully supports Versions 21.1, 22.1 and 23.1. The support for versions released earlier (and including) Version 20.1 is limited to existing workarounds and patches.

In addition all of the following data modules released for each version of PC*MILER are available in the Multi-Version Switch:

- PC*MILER|Streets – U.S. and Canada
- PC*MILER|Tolls
- PC*MILER|HazMat
- Canadian Postal Codes
- Standard Point Location Codes (SPLC)
- Worldwide Data

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS*

- Environment:** PC with a minimum 1-2 GHz processor
- Platforms:** PC/LAN Windows® (2000, 2003, Vista, and XP)
AS/400
- Requirements:** 512 MB RAM
- Other:** Qualified PC*MILER|Connect versions listed above in the *Technical Overview* section

* These are general requirements for the PC*MILER Multi-Version Switch. For more information please consult the specific requirements for each version of PC*MILER and PC*MILER|Connect.

ABOUT ALK TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

Since 1979, ALK Technologies has developed innovative mobile navigation and transportation technology solutions. ALK's award-winning CoPilot Live GPS software is the navigation based services platform of choice for mobile operators, hardware OEMs and systems integrators globally. ALK's PC*MILER routing, mileage and mapping solutions are used by over 22,000 transportation, logistics and manufacturing companies worldwide. For more information on ALK Technologies, visit www.alk.com or www.alk.eu.com.



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