



**Supermicro Software License
Key Activation
User's Guide**

Revision 1.1

Revision History

Revision	Change Notes	Publish Date
1.0	Initial release of the document.	December 2021
1.1	Modified support list of non-JSON format license key in Appendix A.	June 2022

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1 Overview

Supermicro software license keys are designed to regulate the use of paid functions for BMC and software tools. When users want to unlock licensed features in BMC, they are required to activate the software license keys in the BMC firmware. Each key is unique to a motherboard, as a key is tied to a specific BMC MAC address. All Supermicro software license keys are perpetual, remaining valid for the life span of the hardware (motherboard).

2 Software License Key Format

The software license key from Supermicro is stored in a text file and presented as follows:

```
<BMC_MAC_address>; <License_Key>
```

Note that each entry is on one line and includes <BMC_MAC_address> and <License_Key>, separated by a semicolon.

The method to activate your software license keys is different from software to software. You may need to edit the license key file.

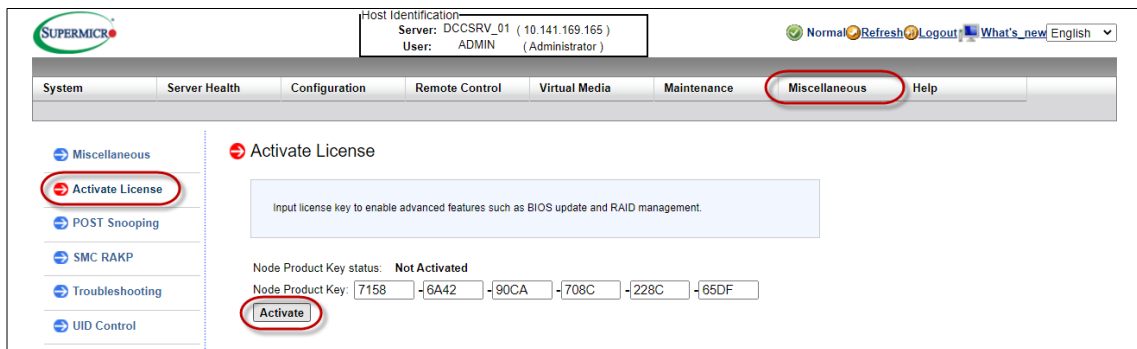
3 Key Activation

3.1 Activating in BMC Web

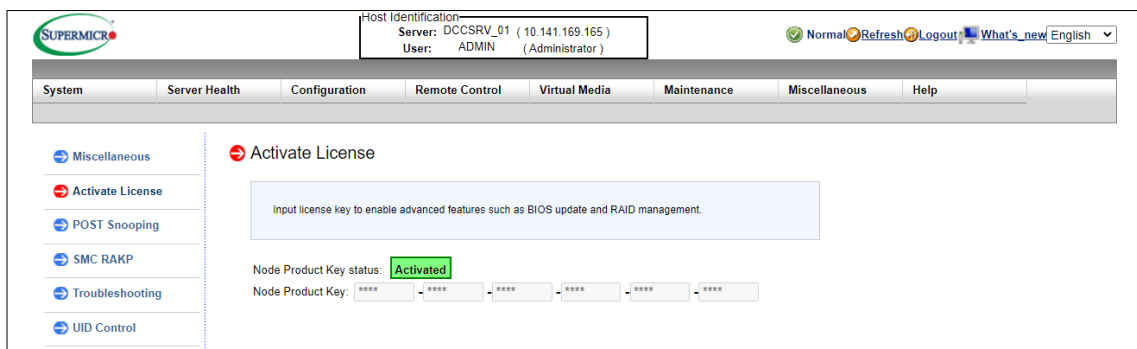
Depending on the type of system you use, you might need to access either the old or the new BMC Web to activate your software license keys. Note that SFT-OOB-LIC is the only type of license key that you can activate on the old BMC Web. To activate SFT-DCMS-SINGLE, use SUM, SSM or Redfish API.

3.1.1 Old BMC Web

1. Go to the BMC Web, and log in with your credentials.
2. Click **Miscellaneous** on the top menu bar.
3. Click **Activate License** on the left menu, enter the 24-character SFT-OOB-LIC key obtained from Supermicro, and click the **Activate** button.

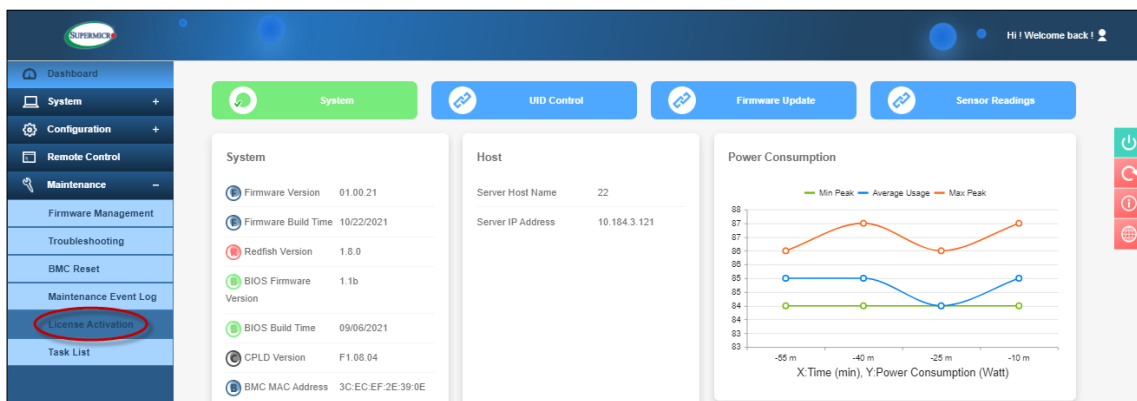


4. The Node Product Key status will change from “Not activated” to “Activated”.

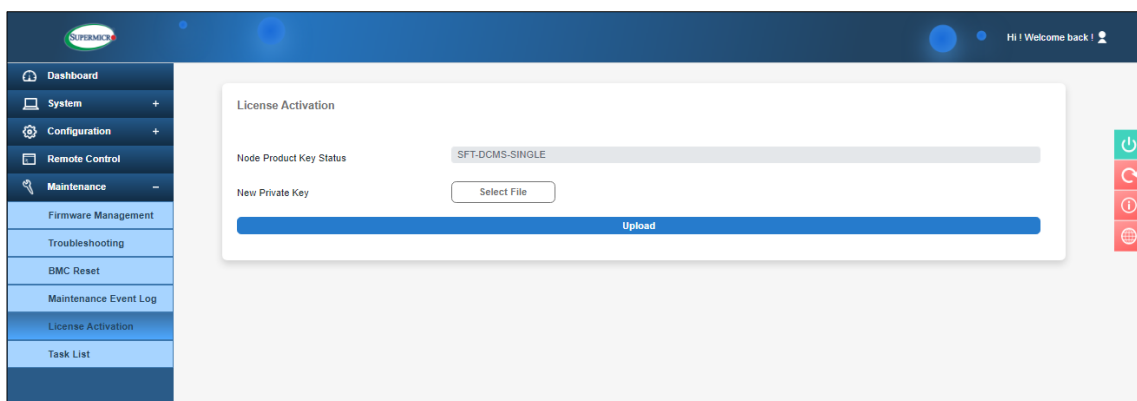


3.1.2 New BMC Web

1. Open the software license key file (.txt) obtained from Supermicro, delete all MAC addresses and semicolons, and save each key in each .txt file. Note that no spaces are allowed in the text file.
2. Go to the BMC Web, and log in with your credentials.
3. Click **Maintenance** on the left menu, and select **License Activation**.



4. Click the **Select File** button, choose the text file with the license key from Supermicro, and click the **Upload** button.



5. If activation is successful, a message "Success" appears and you will also find the license key SKUname in the Node Product Key Status field.

If you get a format error, please check the text file and see if there are any blank spaces or if a MAC address is not deleted.

3.2 Activating in SUM

For details on installation and usage, refer to *The SUM User's Guide*.

3.2.1 Single Node

To activate the license key of a single node, you can choose to do it in-band or out-of-band.

➤ **In-Band Activation (executed on localhost OS):**

Open a Command Prompt and execute the command:

```
# sum -c ActivateProductKey --key <License_Key>
```

Example:

```
C:\sum_2.7.0_Win_x86_64> sum.exe -c ActivateProductKey --key AAYAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA  
AAGSw1zjcokBJrE1va2uIhi1umjMFAUZVqBuP06oZmZkT4y1pOvSYXDuMbJ8S27SyrA8A3S7Xgb  
lZeYbrUF+JzAg6SSAgN6TxAwc8QZS5rIqi7oDARAjJkxMJJKHwYcHiCW1/pSecIAMquDI/g0mTW  
NxYeG01mGsrctlIKIm3tvN8i6/zpEeV6jfE7AUOAAunFOVWt/OMcD+iTiY7pN3HhQ39cS3t7dBYoW  
v/a1sPjtlCelA0iLjoXi8TCbqVCxpVv4QQRi7Qv2wH4hNcl5dwndiMkamCYDwU4P7DIN/v+++bAgQ  
1N0hE/zwLqnxchD+iw==
```

➤ **Out-of-Band Activation:**

Open a Command Prompt and execute the command:

```
# sum -i <BMC_IP_address> -u <Username> -p <Password> -c  
ActivateProductKey --key <License_Key>
```

Example:

```
C:\sum_2.7.0_Win_x86_64> sum.exe -i 172.16.104.224 -u ADMIN -p ADMIN -c ActivatePro  
ductKey --key AAYAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAGSw1zjcokBJrE1va2uIhi1umjMFAUZVqBuP06oZmZ  
kT4y1pOvSYXDuMbJ8S27SyrA8A3S7XgblZeYbrUF+JzAg6SSAgN6TxAwc8QZS5rIqi7oDARAjJk  
xMJJKHwYcHiCW1/pSecIAMquDI/g0mTWNxYeG01mGsrctlIKIm3tvN8i6/zpEeV6jfE7AUOAAunFO  
VWt/OMcD+iTiY7pN3HhQ39cS3t7dBYoWv/a1sPjtlCelA0iLjoXi8TCbqVCxpVv4QQRi7Qv2wH4hNc  
l5dwndiMkamCYDwU4P7DIN/v+++bAgQ1N0hE/zwLqnxchD+iw==
```



Note: When the software license key you purchase and receive from Supermicro is in JSON format, add two single quotation marks before and after the key for activation. See the example below.

```
# ./sum -c ActivateProductKey --key '{"ProductKey":{"Node":{"LicenseID":"1","LicenseName":"SFT-OOB-LIC","CreateDate":"20200409"},"Signature":"eTFoW1COvxznAnJtet+XeOceIdOjPPhNhOxjIJ03tqCXRZoqxFo73BShTI/yEW5Ljp7Q7NHBBsDfPdgxx89NoWm1NoFIGGfcuqf7ir0w4HXMarcG2WfXS6reLIL3KIQxpy2Djuej3oTQczKV4uW3CVzWYT+bjgMfyk/JV3ITF2CIVxsr4Eqytg0PUC4TR7J20AZOLyA++cyjRN2PbFacybngsfi/SvAha77XWvbTE4HA8IWSmh74IBX56dKu4CbuBmnRGnKOGVVfe8vX1gIVFA5ovFuzMc1ENAewFn8qJ/abVLsp1Ibvh9XAQTky0J8g2VRfZOK+BfIvWaABE6eVw=="}}'
```

3.2.2 Multiple Nodes

Activating the license keys of multiple nodes can only be done out-of-band.

1. Obtain the text file of the software license keys purchased from Supermicro. Note that each entry is on one line and includes <BMC_MAC_address> and <License_Key>, separated by a semicolon.

Example:

```
License.txt - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
ac1f6bb799f4; AAYAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAALxrQ1szqrCSDND6AH6ieSXNDm414t6jx3n4Ryj6ULjaHWF1D5DCgvHjM69NzB+cnZad0zE7BaVutovWSRvf3y9+wkSTQVWUnI10HvX
ac1f6bb799f4; AAYAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAB8hnZB08f6GT8t1pM5a5mz5Q0NzSuTrnaFMqycmnT4x+9JPx0rimRxtYEuek2vWZ94L1HIEIX/oUSWzgz0uX9YVn7ALqC8mvXgyDVFHL
ac1f6baed0b1; 02BA-5364-CCBF-1CDA-3BD9-1A00
3cecef725a71; {"ProductKey":{"Node":{"LicenseID":"1","LicenseName":"SFT-OOB-LIC","CreateDate":"20210223"},"Signature":"Ea8KS8Mve8bkJm1oWE
3cecef2e8d82; {"ProductKey":{"Node":{"LicenseID":"2","LicenseName":"SFT-DCMS-SINGLE","CreateDate":"20210223"},"Signature":"W7Qa7zhoR/2NG9
```

2. Create a text file to include the following information on the nodes: the BMC IP addresses, usernames, and passwords. You should type them in the order of <BMC_IP_address>, <BMC_username>, and <BMC_password>, and separate them by blank spaces.

Example:

```
List - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
172.31.3.42 ADMIN ADMIN1
172.31.3.43 ADMIN ADMIN2
172.31.3.44 ADMIN ADMIN3
172.31.3.45 ADMIN ADMIN4
172.31.3.46 ADMIN ADMIN5
```


3. Open a Command Prompt and execute the command

```
#sum -l <User/PW list file> -c ActivateProductKey --key_file <License list file>
```

Example:

```
C:\sum_2.7.0_Win_x86_64> sum.exe -l List.txt -c ActivateProductKey --key_file License.txt
```

The message “Success” will appear after the activation is successful.

```
Supermicro Update Manager (for UEFI BIOS) 2.7.0 (2021/09/03) (x86_64)
Copyright(C) 2013-2021 Super Micro Computer, Inc. All rights reserved.
Press ENTER to see the current execution status:
Start to do ActivateProductKey for systems listed in List.txt
Multi system log file created:
    List.txt.log_2021-10-22_13-59-54_2706698

-----Final Results-----
Executed Command:
    sum.exe -l List.txt -c ActivateProductKey --key_file License.txt
Summary:
    5 EXECUTIONS (  WAITING: 0  RUNNING: 0  SUCCESS: 5  FAILED: 0  RETRY: 0  IGNORED: 0
CANCEL: 0  )
Status List:
    System Name | Elapsed | Status | Exit Code
    172.31.3.42 | 00:00:13 | SUCCESS | 0
```

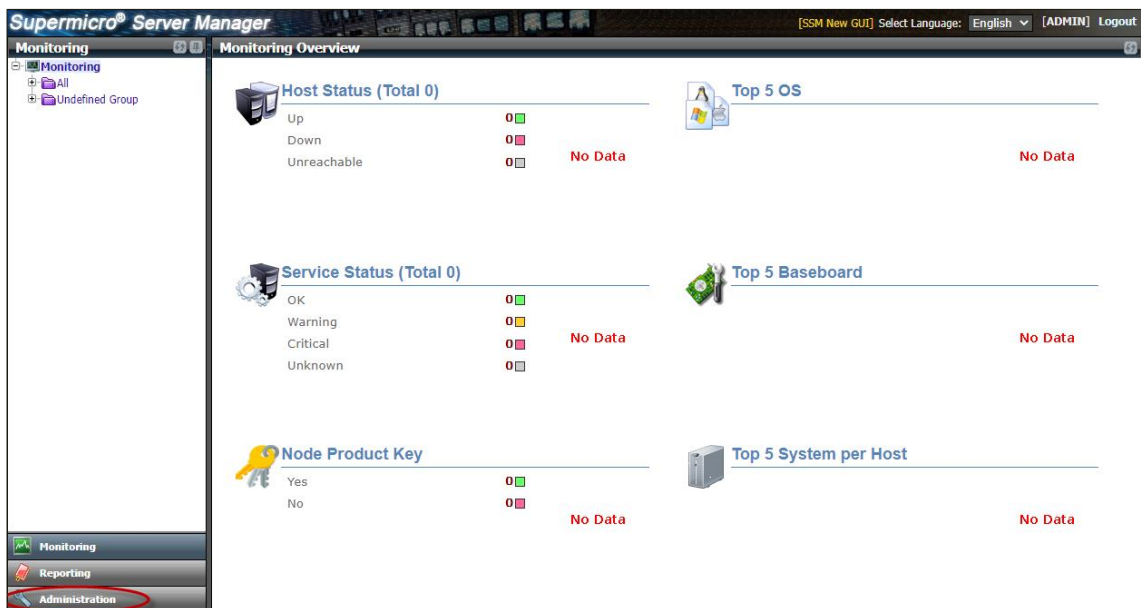
3.3 Activating in SSM

After installation, please connect to the SSM Web. For details on installation and usage, refer to *The SSM User's Guide*.

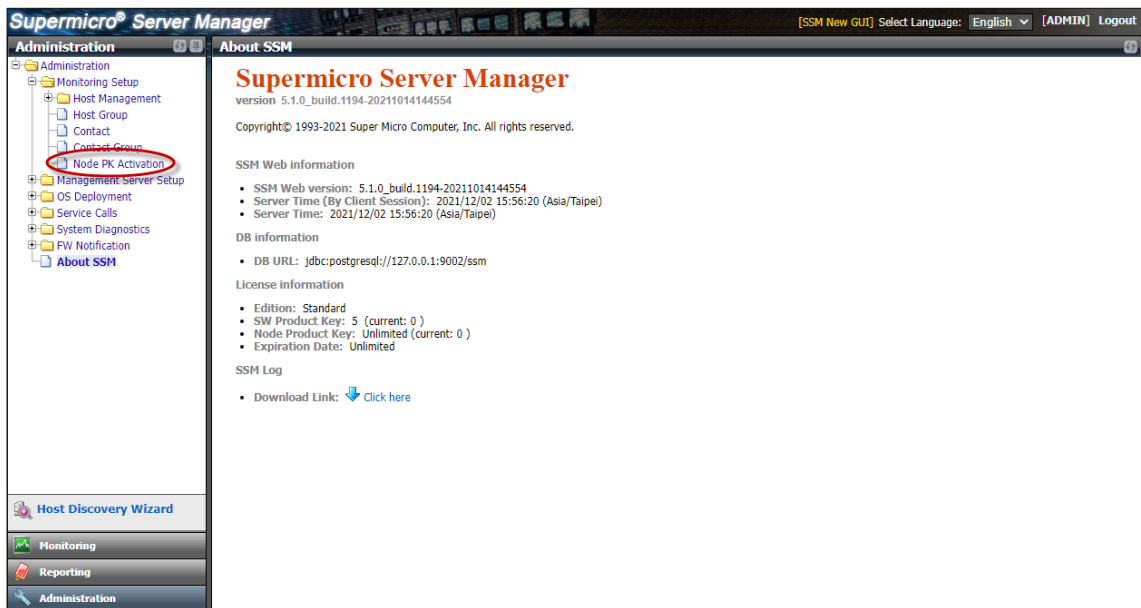
1. Create a text file to include the following information on the nodes: the BMC MAC addresses, BMC IP addresses, and license keys. You should type them in order and separate them by semicolons:

<BMC_MAC_Address>;<BMC_IP_Address>;<License_Key>

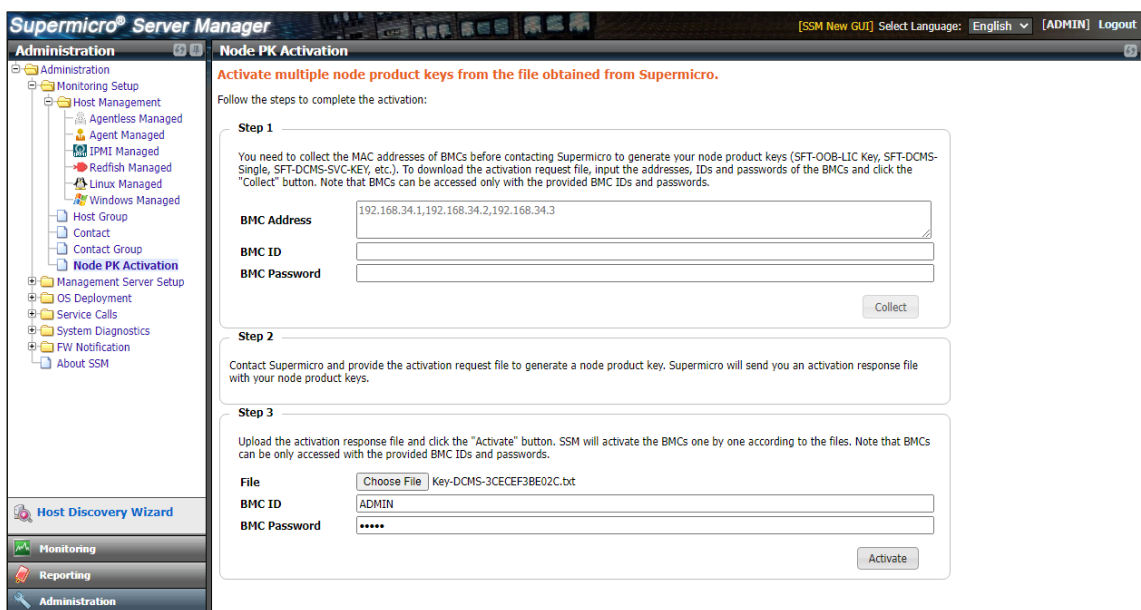
2. Click **Administration** on the left menu bar.



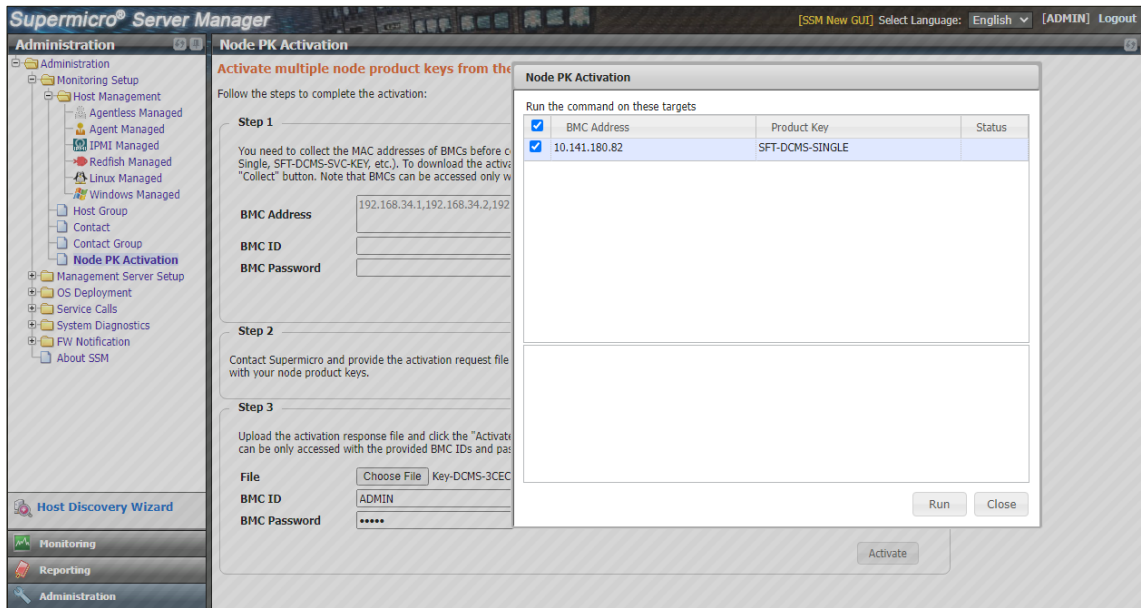
- Expand the Monitoring Setup menu and select **Node PK Activation**.



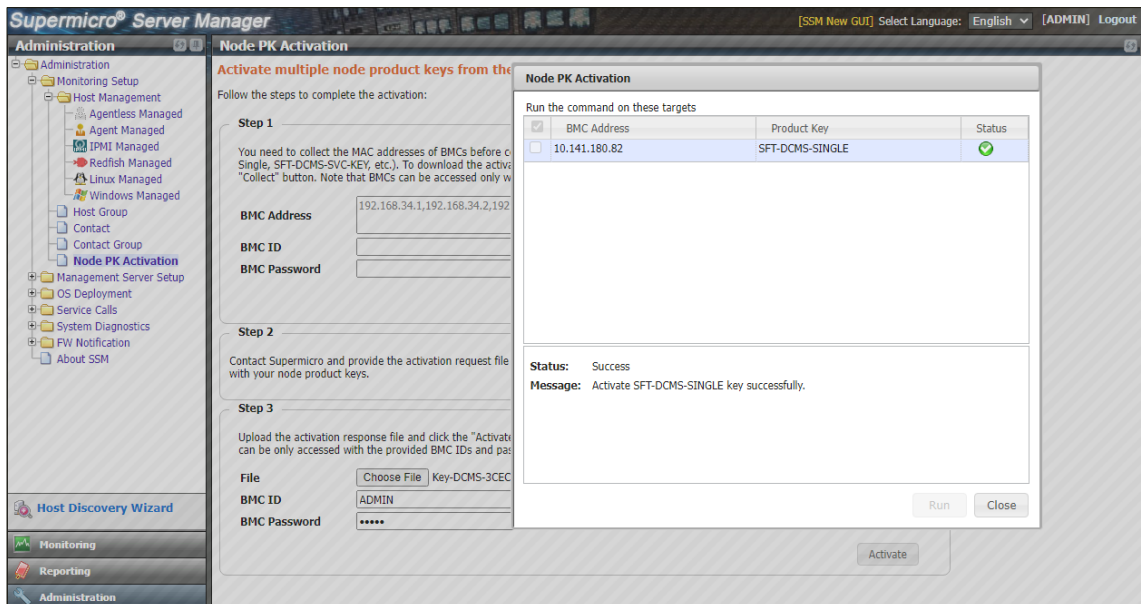
- Click **Choose File** to upload the text file, enter the BMC username and password, and click the **Activate** button.



- The Node PK Activation window appears. Click **Run**.



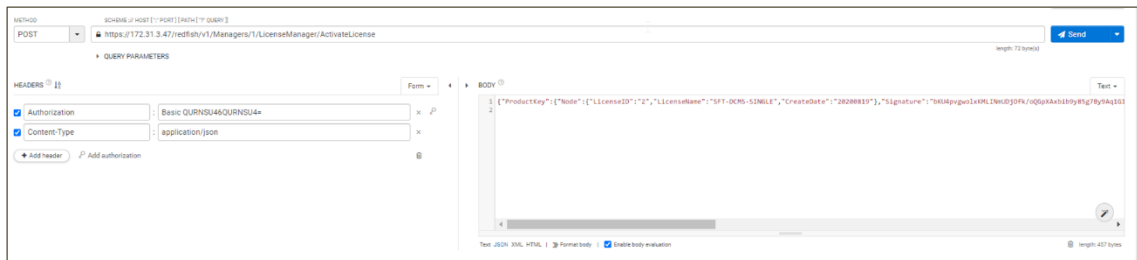
- If successful, the status will display "Success" along with a green check mark.



3.4 Activating via Redfish API

The 12th generation and later platforms support software license key activation thru a Redfish interface. There are various tools on the market, we use one here to illustrate the activation steps.

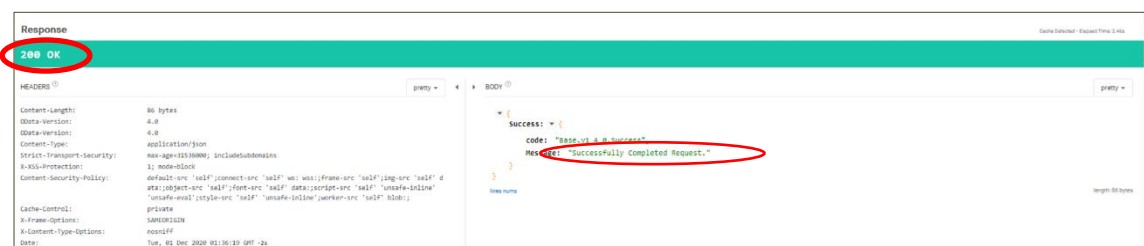
1. From the Method drop-down list, select **POST**.
2. Make your URI field include “/redfish/v1/Managers/1/LicenseManager/ActivateLicense”.
3. Copy the info in the license key file, paste it in the Body field, and then click **Send**.



Or you can drag and drop the license key file to the Body field.



4. If the activation is successful, the code “200 OK” appears in the Response field, and the message “Successfully Completed Requested” appears in the Body field in green.



To query the activation status, include “/redfish/v1/Managers/1/LicenseManager/QueryLicense” in your URI field, and use the Method drop-down menu to select **GET**.

The screenshot displays a REST client interface with the following details:

- Method:** GET
- URI:** https://172.31.3.47/redfish/v1/Managers/1/LicenseManager/QueryLicense
- Headers:** Authorization: Basic QRNSU46QRNSU4=
- Response:** 200 OK
- Response Headers:** Content-Length: 643 bytes, Content-Type: application/json, Strict-Transport-Security: max-age=31536000; includesubdomains, X-XSS-Protection: 1; mode=block, Content-Security-Policy: default-src 'self'; connect-src 'self' ws: wss; frame-src 'self'; img-src 'self' data: object-src 'self'; font-src 'self' data: scrip t-src 'self' unsafe-inline unsafe-eval; style-src 'self' unsa fe-inline; worker-src 'self' blob;
- Response Body (JSON):**

```
{  "@odata.type": "#QueryLicense.v1_0_0.QueryLicense",  "@odata.id": "/redfish/v1/Managers/1/LicenseManager/QueryLicense",  "Id": "1",  "Name": "LicenseManager",  "Licenses": [    {      "@ProductKey": {"@Node": {"@LicenseID": "121", "@LicenseName": "SFT-DCHS-SINGLE"}, "@CreateDate": "20200819"}    }  ]}
```

Appendix A

Since 12th generation platforms, the software license keys in JSON format have been employed with few exceptions. However, the software license keys in non-JSON format will continue to be supported on 11th generation platforms and earlier.

The table below lists the motherboards from the 12th generation platforms that only work with the software license keys in non-JSON format.

Platform	MB Model
H12 DP	H12DSU-iN
H12 DP	H12DST-B
H12 UP	H12SST-PS
H12 UP	H12SSW-iN
H12 UP	H12SSW-iNL
H12 UP	H12SSW-NT
H12 UP	H12SSW-NTL