



**VOLUME  
GRAPHICS**

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# VGSTUDIO MAX

System Requirements

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1</b>	<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS</b>	<b>3</b>
	Operating System	3
	Processor	3
	RAM	3
	Graphics Card	4
	Display	4
	Swap Space	4
	Disk Space	5
	User Rights	5
	Recommended Setup	5
	Third Party Software	5
<b>3</b>	<b>SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS FOR CT RECONSTRUCTION</b>	<b>6</b>
	RAM	6
	Graphics Card	6
	Display	6
<b>4</b>	<b>TIPS, TRICKS, AND WARNINGS</b>	<b>7</b>
	General	7
	Graphics Card	7
	RAM	7
	Remote Access	7
<b>5</b>	<b>TROUBLESHOOTING</b>	<b>8</b>

VGSTUDIO MAX is a software for the analysis and visualization of voxel data. It is used in a variety of application areas, such as industrial CT, medical research, life sciences, animation, and many others.

To use VGSTUDIO MAX in the context of consulting projects in connection with VGSmartPore, the advanced porosity detection method based on modern machine-learning algorithms, recent accelerator hardware is required to efficiently perform the computations. Refer to the dedicated system requirements for VGSmartPore and make sure to discuss them with the VG Consulting team.

TABLE 1-1: PRODUCT DETAILS

FEATURE	DESCRIPTION
Product name	VGSTUDIO MAX
Release	2022.4
Optional modules <sup>a</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate Measurement</li> <li>• Manufacturing Geometry Correction</li> <li>• Reverse Engineering</li> <li>• CAD Import<sup>b,c</sup></li> <li>• CAD Import with PMI<sup>d,e</sup></li> <li>• Nominal/Actual Comparison</li> <li>• Wall Thickness Analysis</li> <li>• Porosity/Inclusion Analysis</li> <li>• Extended Porosity/Inclusion Analysis<sup>f</sup></li> <li>• Fiber Composite Material Analysis</li> <li>• Foam/Powder Analysis</li> <li>• Digital Volume Correlation</li> <li>• Transport Phenomena Simulation</li> <li>• Structural Mechanics Simulation</li> <li>• Structural Mechanics Cluster Extension<sup>g</sup></li> <li>• Volume Meshing</li> <li>• CT Reconstruction (Cone Beam, Fan Beam, Parallel Beam)<sup>h</sup></li> <li>• IAR<sup>i,j</sup> for CT Reconstruction</li> <li>• Special Algorithms (Helix, ART)<sup>k</sup> for CT Reconstruction</li> <li>• CT Reconstruction (Planar)<sup>l</sup></li> </ul>
Document ID	SystemRequirements-1036-v012-001-en

<sup>a</sup> Available at surcharge. May not be part of your installation. Contact Volume Graphics for details.

<sup>b</sup> CAD translation technology supplied by Tech Soft 3D. Supported CAD formats are: CATIA V4 (up to 4.2.5), CATIA V5 (up to V5 R2020), JT (up to 10.3), Unigraphics/NX (Unigraphics 11.0 to NX 2206), Creo (up to 9.0), SolidWorks (97 to 2022). In beta status: Solid Edge (V19 to 2022).

<sup>c</sup> Available for Windows operating systems only.


<sup>d</sup> CAD translation technology supplied by Tech Soft 3D. PMI import is supported for CATIA V5 (\*.catpart, \*.catproduct) and Creo (\*.prt, \*.prt.\*, \*.asm, \*.asm.\*). In beta status also for SolidWorks (\*.sldprt, \*.sldasm) and Unigraphics/NX (\*.prt).

<sup>e</sup> Available for Windows operating systems only.

<sup>f</sup> Supports BDG P 203, BDG/VDG P 202/VW 50093, and VDG P 201/VW 50097.

<sup>g</sup> Available only for Structural Mechanics Simulation; needs to be installed separately. Available for Windows operating systems; for Linux, please contact Volume Graphics.

<sup>h</sup> Available for Windows and Linux operating systems only.

<sup>i</sup> Technology licensed from Fraunhofer EZRT 

# 1

## INTRODUCTION

- j Available for Windows operating systems only.
- k Available for Windows and Linux operating systems only.
- l Available for Windows and Linux operating systems only.

## OPERATING SYSTEM

The software supports the following operating systems:

TABLE 2-1: SUPPORTED OPERATING SYSTEMS

PLATFORM	OPERATING SYSTEM
Windows:	Windows 10 Enterprise 64 bit Windows 10 Professional 64 bit
Linux <sup>a</sup> :	Ubuntu 20.04 LTS 64 bit
Mac <sup>b,c,d</sup> :	macOS Big Sur 11.3.1

- <sup>a</sup> The following add-on modules or functions are not available under Linux: “CAD Import,” “CAD Import with PMI,” “IAR for CT Reconstruction,” performing an OCR analysis, reporting via Excel, and exporting AVI/ASF movies. For “Structural Mechanics Cluster Extension,” please contact Volume Graphics.
- <sup>b</sup> The following add-on modules or functions are not available under Mac: “CAD Import,” “CAD Import with PMI,” “CT Reconstruction,” “Structural Mechanics Cluster Extension,” performing an OCR analysis, reporting via Excel, and exporting AVI/ASF movies.
- <sup>c</sup> Some functions in our PDF documents (such as following links to other PDFs) might not be supported by the default Mac PDF preview program. If you want to use these functions, a different PDF viewer, e.g., Adobe Acrobat Reader, is required.
- <sup>d</sup> The M1 processor is currently not supported.

## PROCESSOR

- Minimum:  
x86-64 CPU with instruction set SSE 4.1.



ARM and M1 processors are not supported.

- Recommended:  
Performant Intel or AMD multi-core processors, e.g., Intel<sup>®</sup> Core™ i7 or i9 or Xeon<sup>®</sup> Gold processors with 2.4 GHz or higher.

## RAM

- Minimum:  
VGSTUDIO MAX requires a minimum of 4 GB memory. However, the actual main memory needed for creating or loading a complete project will usually be significantly higher, since it depends on the size of the data set and on the analyses to be performed:
  - For visualization, the main memory should be twice the size of the data set. If a project contains more than one data set, double the sum of the data set sizes.
  - Performing analyses, segmentation, surface determination, and other operations requires additional memory.
  - Performing advanced analyses, such as transport phenomena or structural mechanics simulations, requires a minimum of 20 GB.
  - Please make use of our evaluation license of the software to test with your typical data sets and analyses. Contact our support team during the evaluation phase in case any questions arise.

- Recommended for professional use:
  - Data set with 1024 slice images. Slice image with 1024 x 1024 pixels.  $1024^3 = 2$  GB of data
    - => Visualization only: minimum 4 GB memory
    - => Professional data analysis: 8–16 GB memory
  - Data set with 2048 slice images. Slice image with 2048 x 2048 pixels.  $2048^3 = 16$  GB of data
    - => Visualization only: minimum 32 GB memory
    - => Professional data analysis: 64–96 GB memory
  - For performing advanced analyses, such as transport phenomena or structural mechanics simulations, a memory of 50 GB or more is recommended.

## GRAPHICS CARD

- Minimum:

A dedicated NVIDIA or AMD graphics card with at least 2 GB VRAM, OpenGL 3.3 support, and—for Windows operating systems—the latest WHQL driver.
- Recommended:

A dedicated NVIDIA or AMD graphics card with at least 8 GB VRAM, OpenGL 4.1 support, and—for Windows operating systems—the latest WHQL driver.

Some functions, such as CT reconstruction (see [chapter 3 System Requirements for CT Reconstruction on page 6](#)), may benefit from increased graphics card performance. For details, please contact your local VG Support.

Onboard graphics chips are generally not recommended and should be thoroughly evaluated if no dedicated graphics card is available.

## DISPLAY

The minimum resolution is 1400 x 1050 at 100% scale; the recommended resolution is 1920 x 1080 at 100% scale.

The actual display resolution results from the display scale multiplied by the minimum resolution. This means that for a display scale of 200%, you should use a display resolution of at least 2800 x 2100.

VGSTUDIO MAX supports 4K monitors.

## SWAP SPACE

The available swap space should have the same order of magnitude as the RAM. If available, we recommend that you place the swap partition on an SSD.

## DISK SPACE

Make sure to have sufficient free disk space in the directory for temporary files (see **Preferences > General > Expert** in the **Edit** (for Windows/Linux) or **VGSTUDIO MAX** menu (for Mac)). If there is less than 1 GB available in this directory, a warning message will be issued. This message is also issued if this directory has been deleted.

## USER RIGHTS

Make sure every user either has user or administrator rights. The license might not work on guest accounts.

## RECOMMENDED SETUP

Optimal for industrial usage is a PC with

- two current Intel® Xeon® processors and 32 GB RAM,
- 64-bit hardware,
- 64-bit operating system, and
- 64-bit version of VGSTUDIO MAX.



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Virtual machines are not supported. VGSTUDIO MAX has to be executed on a physical computer.

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## THIRD PARTY SOFTWARE

- Reporting via Excel  
The optional reporting functions using an Excel add-in support the following Microsoft® Excel versions:
  - Microsoft® Excel 15 (part of Microsoft® Office 2013), 32 bit
  - Microsoft® Excel 16 (part of Microsoft® Office 2016, Microsoft® Office 2019, Microsoft® Office 365, and Microsoft® Office 2021), 32 bit



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64-bit versions of Microsoft® Excel are not supported.

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Using the Excel add-in for reporting is currently only supported for Windows.

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- Floating licenses  
Floating licenses need to be installed using the FlexNet Licensing Server. During installation of the FlexNet Licensing Server, Java Runtime Environment (64-bit version) 1.6 or later or OpenJDK 9 (64-bit version) is required, which is not part of the license or installation package.



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The installation of the FlexNet Licensing Server requires a 64-bit version of Java Runtime Environment.

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The optional **CT Reconstruction** module places some specific requirements on the graphics card and RAM. For other system hardware, please refer to the general system requirements listed above.



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The **CT Reconstruction** module is available for Windows and Linux operating systems.

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## RAM

- Minimum:  
2 GB to run the reconstruction for very small data sets.
- Recommended:  
At least 4 GB.

Calculate the optimal size of memory based on the size of the volume ( $x * y * z$ ), the size of one projection ( $x * y$ ), and the number of projections:

size of memory = (volume size \* 4) + (projection size \* number of projections \* 4)

The result is the optimal size of memory in bytes. To convert to MB, divide by 1,000,000.

Example:

volume:  $1024 * 1024 * 1024$

size of one projection:  $1024 * 1024$

number of projections: 720

size of memory =  $(1024 * 1024 * 1024 * 4) + (1024 * 1024 * 720 * 4) = 7,314,866,176$

This equates to 7,315 MB or 7.315 GB.

## GRAPHICS CARD

CT reconstruction requires increased graphics card performance. It is recommended that you use at least two graphics cards of the same type. For details, please contact your local VG Support.

## DISPLAY

If the performance of a CT reconstruction performed on the graphics card in a dual monitor setup seems to be slow, remove the second monitor and reboot the computer.

## GENERAL

- When the application is started, system resources, such as main memory and number of processors, will be checked since these may be insufficient, especially if several applications are running at the same time. If your system resources are not sufficient, a warning message will be displayed. Under certain conditions, starting the application may be prevented.
- You need a 3-button mouse with a scroll wheel to use the software. 3D mouse functionality is supported for the 3D window for 3DConnexion mouse devices.
- Problems may arise when you run more than one instance of the application. Typical problems involve the user interface, such as incomplete or misplaced interface elements or errors in the display of images. User settings like presets or workspace layout may inadvertently be overwritten. Processor capacity and main memory will be shared between instances of the application and may prove insufficient. This may result in dramatically low system performance or even application crashes, especially if parts of the information need to be swapped to disk due to high memory consumption.
- If you have a dongle license, please make sure that a USB type A port is available on your machine. Otherwise, an adapter or a hub will be needed.

## GRAPHICS CARD

- Make sure to have the latest driver version for your graphics card installed.
- Graphics card drivers for laptops available from the laptop manufacturer may be out of date. Check the graphics card manufacturer's website for the latest graphics card drivers.
- Onboard graphics chips are not recommended.
- Volume Graphics uses platform-independent, industry-standard APIs like OpenGL or OpenCL for GPU programming. Vendor-specific APIs like CUDA or DirectX are currently not supported.

## RAM

- For the calculation of the required RAM, only the size of the data set when it was loaded into the RAM is relevant. If the data is saved in compressed files, e.g., the JPEG 2000 format (.jp2), the size of the data set on the hard disk may be significantly smaller than the size of the data set when it was loaded into the RAM.
- Do not deactivate the swap space. If more RAM is needed and there is no swap space, this may cause the system to crash.

## REMOTE ACCESS

Remote access to VGSTUDIO MAX is not supported. You should run the software locally on your own computer. If you use remote access to run VGSTUDIO MAX, you may encounter problems, such as a corrupt display of the user interface, low performance, application crashes, and more.

The table below lists some common problems and their solutions.

TABLE 5-1: TROUBLESHOOTING

PROBLEM	POSSIBLE CAUSE	POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS
Rendering problems occur, e.g., the 3D window is not (correctly) displayed, saved images are faulty.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An outdated graphics card driver is installed.</li> </ul>	Download and install the latest driver for your graphics card.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An onboard graphics card is installed.</li> </ul>	An onboard graphics card might be insufficient to run your VG product.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The installed graphics card is not recognized correctly.</li> </ul>	In <b>Preferences &gt; General &gt; Expert &gt; Hardware renderer</b> in the <b>Edit</b> (for Windows/Linux) or <b>VGSTUDIO MAX</b> menu (for Mac), check the <b>Memory override</b> option and manually set the correct memory of your graphics card.
The performance is low.	There is not enough RAM available due to other applications running at the same time.	Close all other applications when running VGSTUDIO MAX.
The performance is extremely low with large data sets.	The size of the data sets exceeds the installed RAM, data is swapped on hard disk.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If possible, install more RAM.</li> <li>Reduce the size of the data set (for example, by using suitable import settings).</li> </ul>
The application crashes when working with large data sets.	The size of the data sets exceeds the installed RAM, the swap space is not activated or too small.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Activate the swap space.</li> <li>Enlarge the size of the swap space to about the order of magnitude of the RAM.</li> <li>Install more RAM.</li> <li>Reduce the size of the data set (for example, by using suitable import settings).</li> </ul>
The application crashes when you save large image stacks (NVIDIA graphics card).	There is an incorrect implementation of OpenGL in the graphics card driver.	Download and install a more recent driver for your graphics card.

PROBLEM	POSSIBLE CAUSE	POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS
On a notebook with two graphics cards: The application crashes before or while showing the splash screen.	Automatic switching between the graphics cards does not work properly.	Deactivate the onboard graphics card in the BIOS in order to use the dedicated graphics card of the notebook.
An installed codec is not visible in the codec selection when saving a .avi file.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The codec is not compatible with the selected settings of the avi.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change the settings for the .avi file, e.g., frame size, frame rate (fps). In many codecs, the width and height of the image must be a multiple of 2.</li> <li>Select a different codec.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A 32-bit version instead of a 64-bit version of the codec is installed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Install the 64-bit version of this codec.</li> <li>Select a different codec.</li> </ul>
The application crashes when you try to save an animation to a .avi file using a third-party codec package.	Most codecs are continuously being developed and are not always free of bugs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Select a different codec of this codec package to save the animation to a .avi file.</li> <li>Use a different codec package.</li> <li>Render the animation as an uncompressed .avi file or an image stack and convert it to a compressed .avi file using a third-party software (e.g., VirtualDub).</li> </ul>
The dongle manager does not resume working after the operating system returns from sleep mode.	Known problem of the dongle manager.	Remove the dongle and reboot the computer.
A .vgl file is not opened by VGSTUDIO MAX when a .vgl file is double-clicked in the Windows Explorer.	.vgl files are not linked to the executable of VGSTUDIO MAX.	Re-install the software.
VGSTUDIO MAX does not start for a user with administrator rights.	The message "Do you really want to run the program as administrator or elevated process?" was answered with No and the Never show this dialog again checkbox was checked.	Delete the <i>settings_vgstudio-max2022.4.ini</i> file in the C:\Users\ <i>&lt;user name&gt;</i> \AppData\Roaming\Volume Graphics\ directory.

# 5

## TROUBLESHOOTING

PROBLEM	POSSIBLE CAUSE	POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS
When you install the FlexNet license server, an error message related to Java appears.	A 32-bit version instead of a 64-bit version of Java Runtime Environment is used.	Install the 64-bit version of Java Runtime Environment 1.6 or later.