

# SolarWarranty Pro

Version 2.4.0

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## Release Notes

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What's new in version 2.4.0

Published by Computer Aided Business Systems (Lagos, Nigeria)  
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## Release Notes

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SolarWarranty Pro v2.4.0 is a major platform release. It modernises the application's data engine, build architecture, and licensing model while preserving the warranty-management workflow your team already knows. This document summarises what has changed, what it means for you, and what existing customers need to do to upgrade.

### At a glance

**New database engine:** SolarWarranty Pro now stores data in SQLite, replacing Microsoft Access.

**Simpler installation:** the Access Database Engine and Visual C++ runtime prerequisites are no longer required.

**64-bit application:** the program is now built and installed as native 64-bit software.

**New licensing:** activation now uses a signed licence key with an online self-service portal.

## What's New in v2.4

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### SQLite database engine

The most significant change in this release is the move from Microsoft Access to SQLite as the default database engine. SQLite is a self-contained, file-based database that runs entirely inside the application — there is nothing separate to install, configure, or maintain.

What this means for you:

- No more Access Database Engine prerequisite. Previous versions required Microsoft's Access Database Engine (ACE) to be installed before the application could run. That step is gone.
- Faster, more reliable data access on modern Windows machines.
- Your warranty database is stored as a single file, `SolarWarrantyPro.db`, in the program data folder, making backups straightforward — copy the file and you have a complete backup.

Microsoft SQL Server remains available as an advanced option for multi-user or networked deployments. Most single-site dealerships should use the default SQLite engine.

### Simplified installation — no more prerequisites

Because the application no longer depends on Microsoft Access, two prerequisites that previous versions bundled and installed have been removed entirely:

- **Microsoft Access Database Engine (ACE)** — no longer needed.
- **Visual C++ 2015–2022 Redistributable** — this was only required because the Access engine's installer depended on it. With Access gone, it is no longer needed.

The only remaining requirement is the Microsoft .NET Framework 4.8, which is already present on Windows 10 (version 1903 and later) and all editions of Windows 11. For the vast majority of customers, installation is now a single, self-contained step.

## 64-bit application

SolarWarranty Pro is now built as a native 64-bit (x64) application and installs into the standard 64-bit Program Files location. This aligns the product with modern Windows systems and the 64-bit SQLite engine. The application requires a 64-bit edition of Windows, which has been the standard on virtually all business PCs for over a decade.

## New licensing and activation model

Version 2.4 introduces a new licensing system that is simpler to use and easier to manage:

- **Signed licence key.** Your licence is a secure, digitally signed key tied to your purchase. Activation is a simple paste-and-confirm step — no complex codes to type by hand.
- **Online self-service portal.** A new customer portal lets you view and manage your licence yourself, at any time, without contacting support.
- **Streamlined experience.** Day-to-day use of the application is unchanged; the new system simply makes getting started and managing your licence more straightforward.

The self-service portal is available at <https://solarwarrantypro.com>.

## Upgrading from a Previous Version

### Important for existing v2.3 (or earlier) customers

**Your data is safe.** Installing v2.4 does not delete or overwrite your existing warranty database, licence, or claim files.

**A managed migration is required.** Because the database engine has changed from Access to SQLite, your existing data needs to be migrated. This is handled for you — see below.

## How the upgrade works

1. Install SolarWarranty Pro v2.4 over your existing installation. The installer updates the program files but leaves your data folder untouched.
2. Contact support to arrange your data migration and replacement licence. Our team will transfer your existing warranty records from the old Access database into the new SQLite format and issue you a v2.4 licence key.
3. Once migrated, you continue working exactly as before — with all your existing customers, products, claims, and history intact.

To begin, email [support@solarwarrantypro.com](mailto:support@solarwarrantypro.com) with your company name and current version. There is no charge for the migration or the replacement licence.

## Why a managed migration?

Rather than build automatic conversion into the installer — which carries risk if anything is interrupted — we handle the Access-to-SQLite transfer directly for each customer. This ensures every record is moved accurately and gives you a chance to confirm everything looks right before going live. Because the installed base is modest and each migration is quick, this hands-on approach is the safest path.

## Technical Summary

For IT administrators and technically inclined users, the table below summarises the platform changes.

Aspect	v2.3 and earlier	v2.4
Database engine	Microsoft Access (ACE)	SQLite (file-based)
Advanced DB option	Microsoft SQL Server	Microsoft SQL Server (unchanged)
Architecture	32-bit (x86)	64-bit (x64)
ACE prerequisite	Required	Removed
VC++ redistributable	Required (for ACE)	Removed
.NET Framework	4.8	4.8 (unchanged)
Licensing	Licence file activation	Signed key + online portal
Database file	SolarWarrantyPro.accdb	SolarWarrantyPro.db

## Verified Publisher Note

When you run the installer, Windows SmartScreen may display the verified publisher as “JD & Sons Audio Production, LLC.” This is expected and correct.

SolarWarranty Pro is published by **Computer Aided Business Systems**, based in Lagos, Nigeria. The software is digitally signed using a certificate held by **JD & Sons Audio Production, LLC**, the legal entity associated with the product’s code-signing certificate. The two names refer to the same product and publisher relationship — every screen inside the application, along with all documentation and support, carries the **Computer Aided Business Systems** name.

## Support

If you have questions about this release, the upgrade process, or licensing:

<b>Product website</b>	<a href="https://solarwarrantypro.com">https://solarwarrantypro.com</a>
<b>Support email</b>	<a href="mailto:support@solarwarrantypro.com">support@solarwarrantypro.com</a>
<b>Self-service portal</b>	<a href="https://solarwarrantypro.com">https://solarwarrantypro.com</a>
<b>Publisher</b>	Computer Aided Business Systems (Lagos, Nigeria)

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