

# Bond Home Driver Installation and Usage Guide



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Bond Bridge lets you connect your existing remote controlled ceiling fans, fireplaces or blinds to your smart devices.

This Wifi based device can be placed anywhere there is WiFi coverage making it easy to control IR/RF devices that are in locations that are hard to run cable.

Integration into Nice Home Management / ELAN allows you to activate, control fan speeds, open/close shades, turn on lights and more all from a single point using Nice Home Management touchscreens, mobile applications, keypads, handheld remote controls and more.

Bond can be purchased directly from Bond Home, through Home Depot, Best Buy or via Amazon and is easily the cheapest and easiest way to integrate Somfy RTS Shades, Nice Shades and other RF based products.

There are also certain fans with 'smart by bond' technology built in. These fans can be controlled by the driver without any additional hardware. If you encounter a fan that has no IR, no IR nor has 'smart by bond' built in you can retrofit 'smart by bond' by using the [universal smart wi-fi 4 speed ceiling fan remote controller](#).

On top of 3rd party device control you can now also integrate the [Bond Sidekick Keypad](#). This battery operated 8 button keypad is designed to be easily retrofit. Paired with a Bond Bridge Pro it allows integration to Nice Home Management / ELAN to press and release functionality. Battery on the Sidekick product will last you for 10 years on moderate usage (2-3 times a day).

# Features

## Supported Devices

- Smart by Bond fans (mapped to dimmer device)
  - Fan On/Off
  - Fan Speeds
  - Light On/Off
  - Light Level
- Fan Speed Controller (mapped to dimmer device)
  - Fan On/Off
  - Fan Speeds
  - Light On/Off
  - Light Level
- Bond Bridge
  - Ceiling Fans
    - Fan Speeds
    - On
    - Off
  - Lights
    - Level
    - On
    - Off
  - Shades
    - Position
    - Open
    - Close
    - Stop
  - Fireplaces
    - Mapped all commands as one-way scenes
    - Eg
      - On
      - Off
      - Fan Speed
      - Fan Speed Up
      - Fan Speed Down
      - Flame Up
      - Flame Down
      - Flame Level
- Bond Sidekick

- Battery Operated (lasts for upto 10 years) Retrofit Keypad
- 8 Buttons
- Event Maps (per button)
  - Activate Scene
  - Deactivate Scene

### Why is this product so exciting?

- [Bond Sidekick Scene Keypad](#)
  - Battery operated
  - 10 year battery life
  - Easily retrofit
  - 8 Buttons (Event Mappable)
    - Activate Scene
    - Deactivate Scene
  - Note requires Bond Bridge Pro
- Smart By Bond Fans
  - There are fans with 'smart by bond' functionality. These fans are supported by the driver and contain full bidirectional control / feedback.
  - No additional hardware required just buy the fan.
  - Smart by fans include (but not limited to)
    - [Minka F870L Windmolen Smart Ceiling Fan](#)
    - [Minka F864L "Barn" Smart Ceiling Fan](#)
    - [Minka F747L "Timber" Smart Ceiling Fan](#)
    - [Minka F868L "Sleek" Smart Ceiling Fan](#)
  - Fan Speed Controller
    - If you find a fan that has no IR, RF or smart by bond functionality you can also utilise the [Bond Fan Speed Controller]() to add smarts to it.
    - The controller can be purchased through the following retailers
      - [Home Depot](#)
- [Bond Bridge](#) / [Bond Bridge Pro](#)
  - The bond bridge can control a vast number of RF based devices including shades, fans, fireplaces, lights and more
  - This bond bridge provides the easiest and cheapest way of integrating Somfy RTS shades into ELAN! Since it is wifi based you can place the Bond Bridge device anywhere meaning better coverage (unlike the Somfy RTS transmitter or URTS transmitters which require cabling).
  - The bond bridge is easily accessible and can be purchased through the following retailers
    - [Bond Home](#)
    - [Amazon](#)
    - [Home Depot](#)
    - [Best Buy](#)
  - The bond bridge can also be purchased internationally from the following distributors
    - Australia - [Convergent Technologies](#)
    - Australia - [Entertaining Environment](#)

- Australia - [Oz Smart Things](#)
- Canada - [Product Solutions Group](#)
- New Zealand - [Sound Group](#)
- Nigeria - [V2D](#)
- South Africa - [Elan Systems](#)
- United Kingdom - [Indigo Distribution](#)
- The bond bridge is extremely inexpensive with MSRP pricing at \$99.99 USD. Though some retailers have them on sale for \$69.99 at the moment.
- This bond bridge can control over 700 devices including virtually all remote controlled ceiling fans, fireplaces, shades and more!
- You can learn in your own RF codes using the Bond app for devices that are not in the database!
- The database is always growing!
- Bond Bridge Pro position functionality for shades

## Can you give us some examples of how we could use this driver?

- Turning off your fireplaces, fans and lights when you arm your security system along with closing your shades.
- Automatically turning devices on when Nice Home Management detects you are at home
- Integrate Nice Uni Directional battery operated shades with positional based control.
- With Bond's recent integration of Somfy RTS blinds this makes an easy and affordable retro solution to control somfy blinds so now you can automate somfy shades to open in the morning, close at night or to block out sun on hot days to reduce energy in your home.
- Retrofit existing chain blinds to using the OZ Smart Things [Zigbee Smart Blind Motor](#). Note that Bond will control the motor via RF not Zigbee by replicatin the remote control commands for up, down, stop and preset.

## How does this driver work?

The driver will import in all known device types as a dimmer (fan, light), a shade (shade), a fireplace (scenes) or generic device (switch).

For the fireplace this driver adds in every command for each fireplace device learned as a scene. Just tie in the scene to a Light Toggle button or send the scene on command via an event map.

## Do you offer showroom discounts?

We offer dealers a free showroom licence for demonstration and educational purposes. More information is available from the [Chowmain Website](#)



# Setup

## Requirements

- Nice Home Management Core 8.8.600 or later is required
- This driver requires a valid licence for use. More information is available on the [Chowmain Website](#). Customers can also trial the driver for 90 days prior to licence purchase. Dealers who have showrooms can demonstrate the driver for free via the Chowmain Dealer Showroom Licence. You can apply for a showroom licence via the Chowmain website.
- Bond Firmware 2.8.0 or later is required

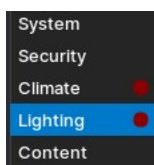
## Bond Configuration

- Each Bond bridge must be installed and connected to the wifi / ethernet network first prior to driver setup via the iOS or Android Bond application. Ethernet is recommended
- IR/RF devices controlled by the bridge must be set up and tested first via the Bond application.
- IP reservations are recommended however the driver can also discover bridges.

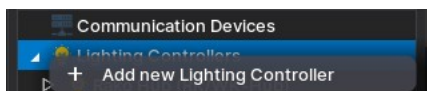
## Installation Process

Once you have installed your Bond Bridge and connected devices to the bridge please follow the steps below.

1. Download the latest version of the driver
2. Extract the file to your preferred driver storage location.
3. In configurator click on the Lighting tab



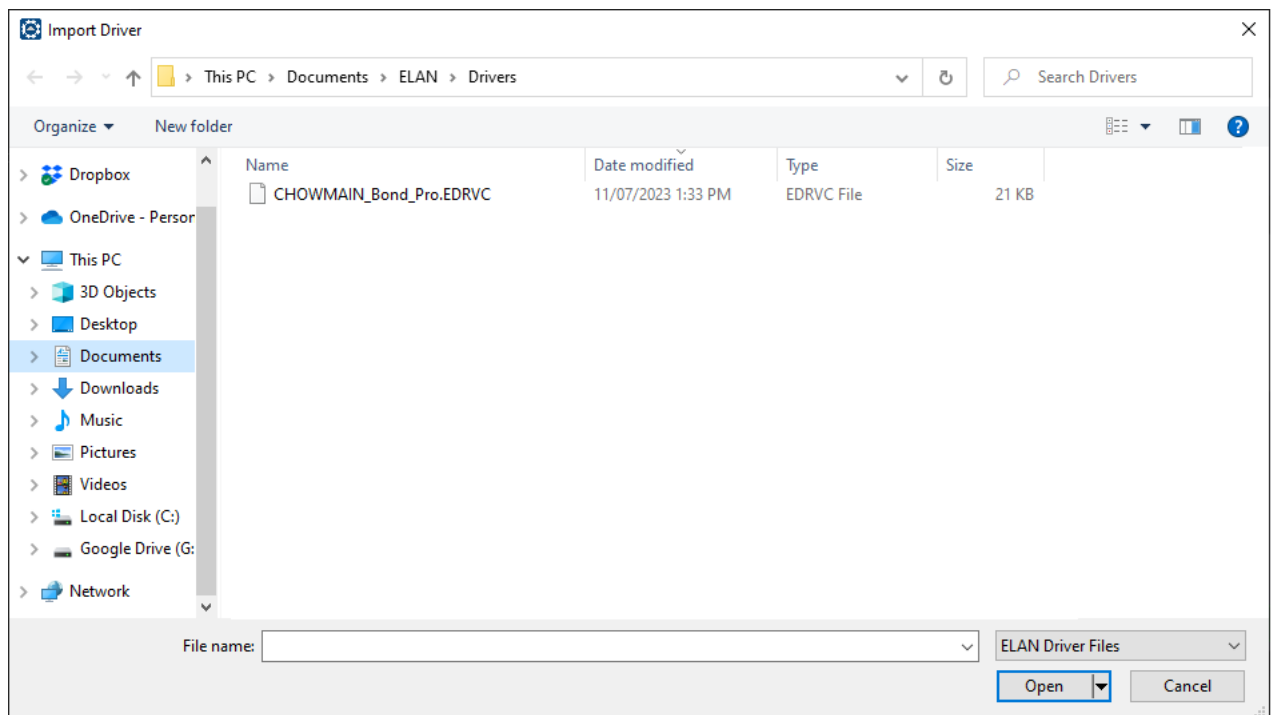
4. Click on the arrow next to Lighting Interfaces
5. Click on Add New Lighting Interface



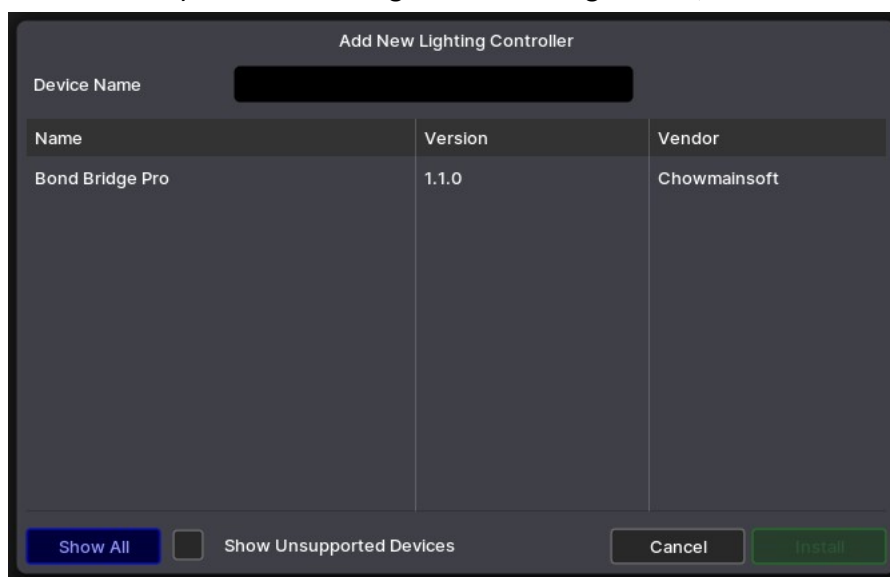
6. Click on the Import button



7. Select your driver and press Open



8. Select the Bond Bridge Pro driver and press install (Note the Bond Bridge driver is an old driver utilised for older installations. That driver is a one-way driver only. Utilise the newer Bond Bridge Pro driver unless you need the original Bond Bridge driver)



9. The driver will advise you that you have 90 days to test the driver out. Ensure that the driver is purchased before the expiration of the trial
10. **IMPORTANT. The Bond Bridge needs an authentication token for communications. This can only be obtained within 10 minutes of Bond Bridge boot time. At this stage power cycle the bond bridge and wait a few minutes for it to connect to the network before continuing.**
11. The driver will automatically discover the Bond Bridge by default. If however it does not discover then you can type in the IP Address of your Bond device and press the Apply button. Note if you have discovery issues then please disable auto discovery.

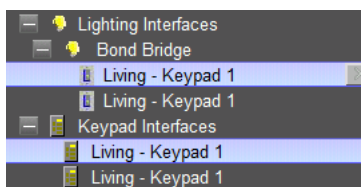


12. The driver will now attempt to get the Token. If it fails to obtain the Token then you have either tried to obtain a token too early (device is still booting / joining the network) or you have waited too long (device has been online for more than 10 minutes). You can press the 'Get token' button to attempt to get a token again.

Token	d8bc41aebdbb5e51
Devices Found	3
Keypads Found	2

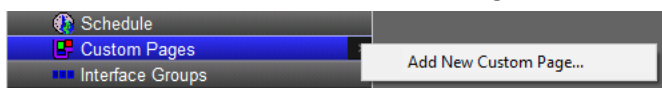
13. Once you have obtained a token the driver will import all devices

14. If you have Sidekick keypads it will also import all Sidekicks as Keypads.



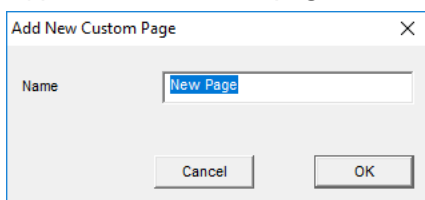
15. Now we have to create a custom page to display the devices.

16. Click on the arrow next to Custom Pages

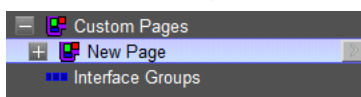


17. Click on Add New Custom Page

18. Type a name for the page

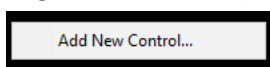


19. Click on the + symbol next to your new custom page to expand it



20. Select the format you want to create your page for (you may need to create for all 3 formats).

21. Right click on the page and 'Add New Control'



22. It will now prompt you for the control type

23. The following control types are recommended for the following device types

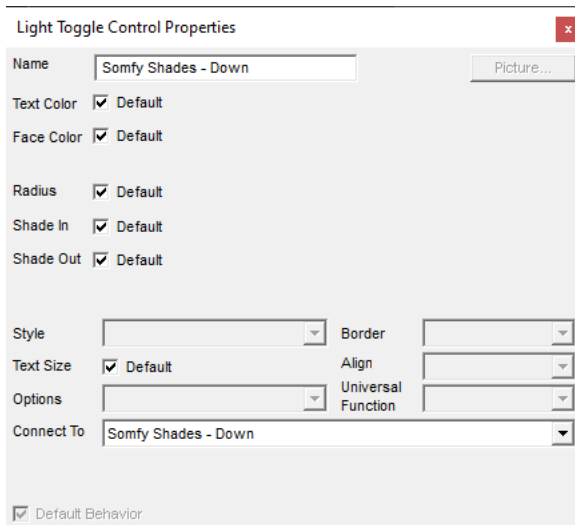
1. **Light** - If it is a dimmer based device please utilise Light Dimmer otherwise if it is on/off based then please utilise Light Rocker, Light Switch or Light Toggle based controls. Note this driver does not support devices that only have a light toggle based command.
2. **Fan** - Please utilise Light Dimmer. The driver will ramp speeds 0-4 depending on the position of the slider.
3. **Shade** - If it is a positional based shade please utilise Light Dimmer otherwise please utilise Shade Control (Latching). It will also work with Shade Control (Momentary) however it is not recommended.

4. **Fireplace** - Please utilise a Light Toggle Control. Note that each command is mapped to an individual scene for one-way control.

5. **Generic** - Please utilise a Light Toggle, Light Switch or Light Rocker Control.

24. Right click on the control and click on Show properties

25. Click on the Connect to drop down box and select the device you want to tie in.



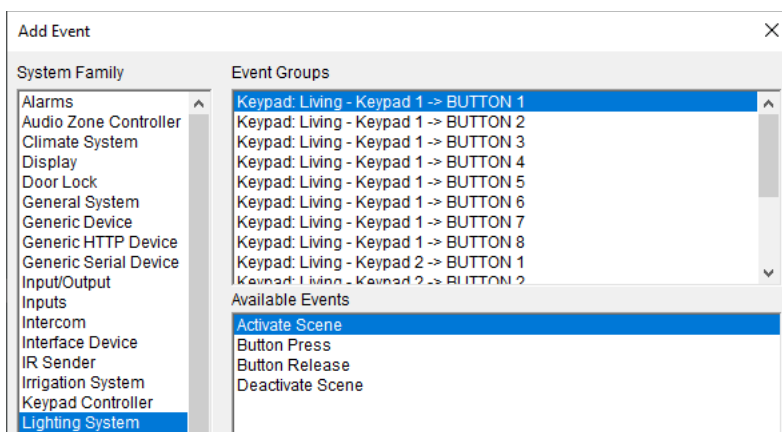
26. Lastly if you have sidekick devices we must create Event Maps for them. This can be done through the Event Mapper tab

Event Mapper

27. Create a new Event Map by clicking on the "+" button next to Event Maps.



28. Add an event for Activate Scene (This will fire on tap, double tap or hold from Bond Sidekick)



29. Add in commands.

30. Repeat steps 29 to 31 for the Deactivate Scene event (this will fire on hold release from Bond Sidekick).

31. Congratulations you have successfully setup the Bond driver for ELAN. Please note, a licence purchase will be required to use this driver outside of the initial trial period

## Nice Home Management Configuration

The following table provides settings used in Configurator when connecting to Bond Bridge devices. Please refer to the Configurator Reference Guide for more details. In the table below:

- "User Defined", etc. Type in the desired name for the item.
- "Auto Detect", etc. The system will auto detect this variable.

Devices	Variable Name	Setting	Comments
Lighting Interface (Bond Bridge)	Name	" User Defined"	
	Activation Key	" User Defined" This is the driverCentral activation Key	See Note 1
	Activation Status	" Auto Detect" This provides the licence status feedback	See Note 1
	Bond ID	" User Defined" . This is the ID of the Bond Bridge. Optional	See Note 2
	Token	" Auto Detect"	See Note 3
	Firmware Version	" Auto Detect"	See Note 4
	Devices Found	" Auto Detect"	See Note 5
	Keypads Found	" Auto Detect"	See Note 6
	Auto Discovery Enabled	" User Defined" . This enables automatic discovery of the Bond Bridge on your network	See Note 7
	IP Address	" User Defined"	See Note 8
	Port	" Auto Detect"	

### Notes

1. The driver requires a valid licence for use. All of the licences are site licences. This means that you can use as many instances of the driver as you want in a single system with the one licence. The driver also comes with a built in 90 day trial. The driver will provide feedback as to the state of the licence in the Activation Status field.
2. This is the ID of the Bond Bridge. Use this if you have multiple Bond Bridge devices on your network. This is used in conjunction with Auto Discovery Enabled to automatically update the IP Address of the Bond Bridge should the IP address change.
3. This is the authentication token to communicate to Bond Bridge. If this is empty then it will not work. Please obtain a token within 10 minutes of Bond Bridge boot up.
4. This is the firmware version of the bridge. This has to be a minimum of v2.8.0
5. This displays how many devices the driver has found on the bridge.
6. This displays how many keypads the driver has found on the bridge.

7. This will automatically discover Bond Bridge devices on the network and update the IP address of the driver to match. If you have more than 1 on the network please set the Bond ID to the bridge you want associated with the driver.
8. This is the IP address of the Bond Bridge. If discovery is enabled this will automatically update. If disabled please set a static IP address or IP reservation.

## **Common Mistakes**

1. The token was not obtained within 10 minutes of Bond Bridge boot.
2. Sidekick keypads are only compatible with Bond Bridge Pro.
3. Instant feedback, Sidekick keypad button press/release, Bond Bridge discovery utilises UDP broadcasts. Certain network configurations will block this traffic. Please make sure that your network is setup for UDP broadcast.

## Licensing

- How does the trial period work?

All Chowmain drivers are free to use for a set trial period. When the trial expires the driver will cease to function until you purchase a licence and apply it to the driverCentral project.

- Where do I buy a Licence from?

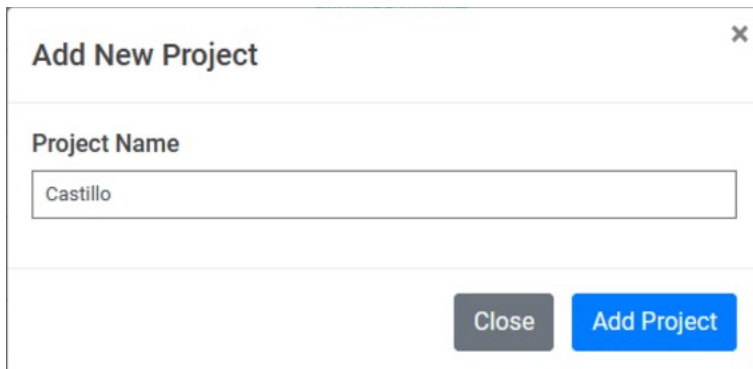
This driver is developed by Chowmain software & Apps and is distributed by driverCentral, Inc  
<https://www.drivercentral.io/chowmain-ltd>

To purchase a driver:

1. On driverCentral, purchase a license and register it to your project
2. If the driver is not already installed in your project, download it and install it
3. If necessary, use the cloud driver's Action: "Check Drivers" to force the licence to download into the project


## Creating a Project on Driver Central

1. Visit <http://www.drivercentral.io>
2. Log into your driver Central dealer account
3. Click **Portal**
4. Click **New Project**
5. Enter the project name

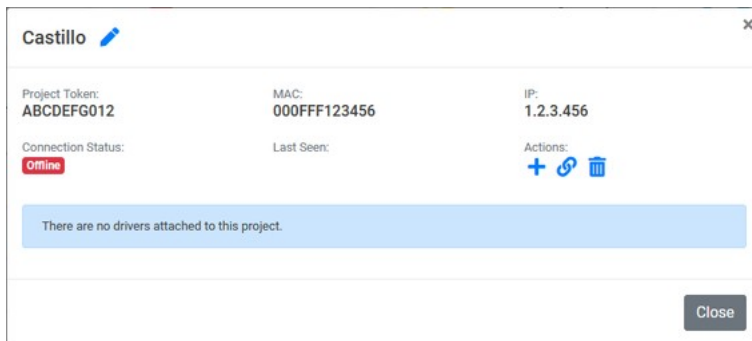


The screenshot shows a modal window titled "Add New Project". It contains a text input field labeled "Project Name" with the value "Castillo" entered. Below the input field are two buttons: "Close" and "Add Project".

6. Click **Add Project**
7. Click on the project we just created

Project	Status	Created
 Castillo	<span style="background-color: yellow;">Unassigned Project</span>	1999-12-31 23:59:56

- Take note of the **Project Token** as this will be used later when we install the Cloud Driver



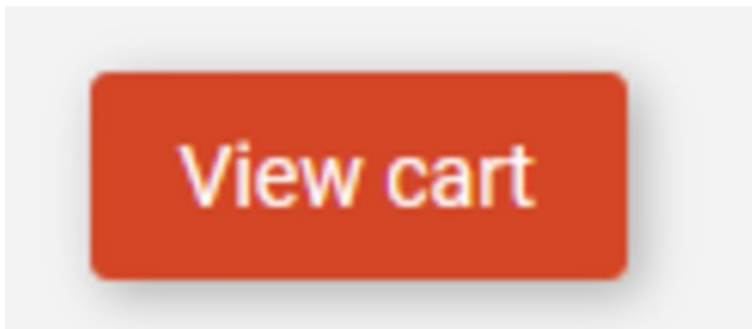
- Click **Close**

## Purchasing a Driver Licence

- Visit <https://www.drivercentral.io/chowmain-ltd/> and find the product/driver you want to purchase a licence for
- Click on **Add to Cart**

ADD TO CART

- Now click the shopping cart icon (top right) and click **View cart**




- Confirm that your order is correct and click on **Proceed to checkout**


Proceed to checkout

- Choose your payment option, provide the relevant details and click **Place order**



**Checkout**

  
**Paypal**  
Paypal, or Credit Card...

  
**Credit Card**  
Visa, Mastercard, etc...

☐ Select this check box to accept the [Terms and Conditions](#)  
☐ [Subscribe to our newsletter](#)

**Place order ( \$190.00 )**

6. You will now be at a page where you can see your purchased licence

License Name	License Key	Project Assigned	Action
[Redacted]			<a href="#">Assign to Project</a>

7. From here assign the licence to the project we created or if you did not follow that step create a new project

## License Assignment for 221

### Assign License to Existing Project

Select Existing Project:

New Project (enter project name below) ▼

**Or...**

**Create a new project**

Enter New Project Name

Enter email for Installer Notifi

Are you sure you want to do this?

Assign License to Project?

## Developer Information



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Information stated in this document is current as of July 2020 and may change. For latest information please visit <http://www.chowmainsoft.com>

# Support

## Ticket / Live Chat Support

We provide ticket based support and live chat support for those who can't contact us via phone. Click the button below to visit our online helpdesk.

Support Centre	Hours of Operation	URL
American Support Desk	8:30AM – 4:30PM Mountain Time	<a href="https://help.drivercentral.io/">https://help.drivercentral.io/</a>

## Phone Support

Support Center	Hours of Operation	Phone Number
Australian Support Desk	6:30AM – 5:30PM Australian Eastern Time	+61 3 9028 6999

## Driver Documentation

All of our drivers come with detailed instructions on how to install and configure the driver for use in different projects. Please refer to the documentation included with the driver you downloaded, or [contact us](#) if you are unable to locate the documentation for your driver.

## **Version 2024.7.31 - 31-JUL-2024**

**SmartByBond and Bond\_Smart drivers are deprecated. Upgrade to BondPro driver**

- Modernise Backend
- Add Improved Troubleshooting and Submit Diagnostics support
- Upgrade Communication Stack
- Fix minor Fan Turn On bug. In practice, this shouldn't have impacted users (Bond\_Pro)

## **Version 1.1.0 - 11-JUL-2023**

- Created Bond Bridge Pro driver. This driver provides native integration to ELAN device types to Bond Device types. This is useful for positional shades, dimmable lights, etc.
- Old Bond Bridge driver and Smart By Bond driver is included still for legacy systems and for people who want to program the Bond Bridge in as bond commands rather than bond actions.

## **Version 1.0.8 - 19-SEP-2022**

- Added support for Bond Sidekick Keypads

## **Version 1.0.7 - 24-JUN-2021**

- Increased message queue size by 10x. This resolves issues with importing large number of commands.

## **Version 1.0.6 - 26-APR-2021**

- Added queue to fix issue caused by too many concurrent connections to Bond Bridge on importing device commands.
- Fixed issues with trial licencing

## **Version 1.0.5 - 07-JAN-2020**

- Fixed issue effecting devices with IP addresses ending with 0

## **Version 1.0.3 - 02-OCT-2020**

- Added support for LT device types. EG Dekor Konnect lighting.

## **Version 1.0.2 - 25-FEB-2020**

- Resolved issue with stratus feedback by periodically polling device.

## **Version 1.0.1 - 15-OCT-2019**

- Added bi-directional support for Smart By Bond devices including fan speed controller and fans. This appears as dimmers for lights and dimmers for fan speeds. Polling interval at 10 secondsd for feedback

## **Version 1.0.0 - 30-SEP-2019**

- Initial Release