

REV05 - 2025-01

# **COMPANION APP**

Installation and Quick start guide to the software





## **1.** Overview of functions

The **iTS COMPANION APP** software is an additional application that provides different functions for the following **iTS** GmbH machine types (series):

- **SPK R...** (spray water chamber)
- **SRA** ... (swivel tube systems/room solutions)
- SK.. (dust chamber (> summer 2020)
- **SWK** ... (splash water chamber (> summer 2020)
- **DT**.. (pressurized water jet chambers, similar to SPK)

These program sections are available depending on the equipment of the machine:

#### **Demo** of the COMPANION APP (always active without a valid license):

- The basic functions of the program can be tested or simulated.

#### **Basic** license of the COMPANION APP:

- **Report generator** for the recorded test data (offline)

The data recorded during a test can be copied locally from the machine to a USB stick. A test report is then generated on the PC from this data, on which all available test parameters are listed. This means that recorded actual values can also be documented using a graphical curve display.

#### **Pro** license of the COMPANION APP:

- **Report generator** for the recorded data of the tests (offline + **online**)

In combination with a (network) data interface, the software can access the data directly at the machines and transfer it to a graphical test report via OneClick. As in the basic version, transfer via USB stick is also possible.

- **Program editor** for creating test programs (recipes/templates)

Programs for the tests on the machines can be prepared on the PC with all the necessary parameters. Once created, the test programs can be transferred directly to the machine control system and called up locally for testing at any time.

*!with Stand v3 only programs for SPK and SRA can be created !* 

- **Remote control** of the machine from the office PC.

Via the optional (network) data interface, the operator can access the machine from his office workstation, monitor it during the test and also operate it completely remotely.

#### **Pro-Plus** license of the COMPANION APP: (from ~2025 Q1)

- All contents of the **Pro license**
- **Editor** for free customization of report files with graphical editor.



## 2. Requirements for use.

The iTS GmbH machine/system must be equipped with data recordina. usually This is an optional extra, but can be retrofitted. In addition to the OP200 "Data recording" option, you need the OP210 option for the Companion App PRO to be able to use the network interface.

PC (x86) with standard Windows 10/11 (at least Windows 7) operating system.

Microsoft .NET Framework 4.7.2. must be installed or will be loaded automatically during installation. An Internet connection may be required for this.

If there is no Internet connection on this PC, you can also download the .NET Framework separately from Microsoft and install it manually in advance.

Data recording must be activated **before the test** so that the machine display (HMI touch panel) also saves this data in a file internally in the memory. Tests that have been completed without activated recording can no longer be evaluated, as the data has not been saved.

Optional,

a USB stick for data transfer from the machine display to the PC (limited)

or

Network connection of the machine with separate/additional network card in the operating display of the machine. (only available for the **PRO versions**)

For connection with spray water chambers of the SPK ... series (or room solutions with SRA ...), these must have at least software version 5.xx. (or room solutions with SRA ..), these must have at least software version 5.xx. Older systems may not yet provide all the necessary information.

To connect SK... dust chambers, they should have firmware version V6.1 or higher. Earlier versions (<2020) are not compatible.

Systems prior to 2020 should be checked beforehand with sample data, but can be upgraded in most cases (>iTS Service).

Contact **iTS GmbH** to find out whether your system meets the requirements.



# 3. Installation

There are two different options for installing all versions of the ITS Companion App, which are explained below:

#### Installer (Windows Setup Package)

You can also find the latest version under this link:

https://its-gmbh.de/wp-content/companion-app/ITS-Companion-v3-Install.zip

Extract the ZIP file into a folder by right-clicking "Extract all".

With the Windows Installer package, the application is automatically installed with all the necessary components to a selectable location on your PC's hard disk

Double-click on *Setup.exe* to start the installation.

The installation language is English, Companion can be switched to German later.





Under "Browse", select the installation directory and whether multiple users of the computer have access.

The subsequent user needs write access to this folder as the data is also stored there!

We recommend using the suggested path *C*:\*ITS\_Companion*\.



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				Please use Windows Update to check for any critical updates to the .NET Framework.		
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The installation runs automatically after selecting the storage location, but may ask for the administrator password for installation on your PC.

You should select a drive on which you have unrestricted write access.

In addition to the program files, a subfolder is created at the storage location for each machine in which all files and settings for this machine are stored.

#### Program copy (zip archive)

A version already available on another computer, but also a simple copy or a backup of the program directory can be moved or copied to any location or to another PC and can also be run there without installation as long as the complete path has been transferred However, a valid license is always required for each PC separately!

Any missing Windows system or .NET components are normally automatically reloaded and initialized at the first start **if an Internet connection** is available.

#### ATTENTION:

THE LICENSE FILE IS UNIQUELY ASSIGNED TO YOUR COMPUTER AND BECOMES INVALID ON ANOTHER PC. CONTACT ITS GMBH IF YOU LEGALLY REQUIRE A NEW LICENSE.



# 4. First program start and license



After installation, start the application as usual by clicking on the icon in the start bar or desktop or in the selected installation folder. *> ITS Companion.exe* 

When the program is started, it checks whether a valid license is available. If no license is found, you can **either** use the **demo version**, **apply for** a **license** or **load** an **existing license**.

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#### **Demo version**

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The demo version is marked with \*\*\*DEMO\*\*\*. The demo version contains machines with data recordings whose reports can be generated and are marked with the "Demo" watermark. It is not possible to establish a connection with the machine; a sample image is stored in the remote control.



#### Apply for a license

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An email addressed to ITS Support and containing your PC hardware ID is automatically opened in the standard mail program.

Please add the following information so that we can assign your license correctly and restore it if it is lost:

- User name or name/location of the computer for assignment in your company
- E-mail, to contact us
- Machine type, see type plate
- Serial number of the machine, see type plate

If this is not clear from your e-mail address, please also enter the company name to simplify the check for existing licenses.

If you have already purchased a license with your machine, you will receive a file with the name **"ITS Companion.lic"** from us shortly.

A .txt file containing readable information, e.g. the version, is also attached.

You can move these to the *ITS Companion* installation folder

Alternatively, you will receive a key from us as a long text string. You can paste this into the clipboard using the copy command and insert it by clicking on "**Load license from clipboard**". You must confirm once that Companion is closed, then the license file will be created and recognized the next time it is started.

#### ATTENTION:

THE ID IS UNIQUELY ASSIGNED TO YOUR COMPUTER AND CHANGES AS SOON AS YOU REPLACE CENTRAL COMPONENTS OF YOUR PC. THIS WILL INVALIDATE YOUR LICENSE AND YOU WILL HAVE TO REQUEST A NEW LICENSE (FILE) FROM ITS GMBH WITH THE NEW ID.



If you upgrade to a version with more options, e.g. from the basic to the Pro version, you will receive a new license key from us. You can either replace the **"ITS Companion.lic"** file or delete the old file so that the window opens again in which you paste the key via the clipboard

# 5. Update

If the PC is connected to the Internet and an update is available, this is indicated by a green star \* next to the update symbol.



Click on it to see which version you currently have installed and which version is available. If you confirm this, the iTS Companion app is closed and a temporary

folder with **setup.exe** and **ITS Companion Setup.msi** is opened. You can start the update process as a normal installation via the setup.exe. No settings and data from the previous version will be overwritten. Your license remains valid.

## 6. Uninstallation

To uninstall, use the Windows function "Add or remove programs" in the system settings.

Older (no longer used) versions of Companion can also be displayed here, which you can remove.

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