ProNest® 2015 and Shared Network Databases

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General information on the ProNest 2015 database

For local installations, ProNest 2015 uses LocalDB, a simplified version of Microsoft SQL Server Express that is designed to run locally on a minimal set of files. However, LocalDB doesn't accept remote connections.

For multi-user environments where ProNest clients share a common database over a network, the shared ProNest database is installed with the regular SQL Server Express. A separate installer is available to install the shared database on a server.
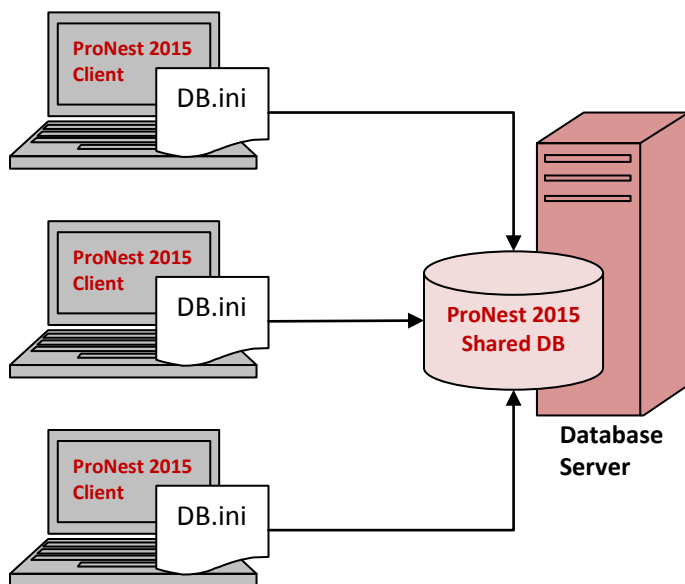
Topology of a typical ProNest 2015 shared network database setup

Setting up a shared network database

This section describes how to set up a shared ProNest 2015 database over a network, with all clients using the same version of ProNest 2015.

STEP 1: SPECIFY DATABASE SERVER

Designate a computer/server on the network that will store the common databases. This will be the *database server*.

If the database server computer will also have the full version of ProNest installed on it, we recommend that you install ProNest before installing ProNest Shared DB.

Important: You should not designate a domain controller (DC) server as the database server.

STEP 2: INSTALL THE SHARED PRONEST DATABASE ON SERVER

Install SQL Server Express, with the **PRONEST** instance, on the database server.

- Download and run the stand-alone **ProNest Shared DB** installer on the server.

    [Download ProNest Shared DB](#) (525 MB)

    This file contains a compressed (or zipped) set of files. Download the file to a folder on your hard drive, and then run (double-click) it to unzip the set of files and have the installation automatically start. Follow the on-screen instructions to complete the installation. This product must be installed with administrative rights in order to install properly.

STEP 3: POINT DB.INI FILE TO SHARED DATABASE

Next, modify the **db.ini** file on each ProNest 2015 client so that it points to the common SQL Server name\instance:

1. Use **notepad.exe** to open the file:
   ..\Program Files\Hypertherm CAM\ProNest 2015\db.ini
2. Under the **Database Connection** section, modify the **Data Source** value to point to **<name>\PRONEST** on the database server.
   (Substitute the name of the database server computer for **<name>**)
3. Under the **Database History Connection** section, modify the **Data Source** value to point to **<name>\PRONEST** on the database server.
4. Delete the following lines:
   Initial File Name=C:\ProgramData\Hypertherm CAM\Database\ProNest11.mdf
   Initial File Name=C:\ProgramData\Hypertherm CAM\Database\PN11History.mdf

If you have taken all of the above steps and still cannot successfully set up your ProNest databases, please contact Hypertherm CAD/CAM Software Technical Support at: (716) 434-3755 menu option 3

Updating ProNest in a shared database environment

Database changes

ProNest 2015 uses a different database than ProNest 2012. The default SQL database instance is now "PRONEST" (instead of "MTCSOFTWARE") and the databases have changed as follows:

	ProNest 2012	*ProNest 2015*
Instance:	**MTCSOFTWARE**	**PRONEST**
Database name:	**ProNest10**	**ProNest11**
	PN10History	**PN11History**
Connection file:	**mtcmrp.ini**	**db.ini**

After installation and migration, there will be two sets of databases on your PC (ProNest10/PN10History and ProNest11/PN11History). These databases are separate and will not interfere with one another as you use ProNest.

How should ProNest updates be made?

If you are using ProNest in a multi-user environment with a shared database, you will need to make sure that all installations of ProNest (including the database server) are running the same version of ProNest.*

When installing an update to any ProNest client, all other ProNest clients and the database server should be updated as well.

The last version of ProNest 2012 (v10.2.3) is compatible with and can connect to the ProNest 2015 v11.0.0 database, though this requires installing a patch on PCs running ProNest v10.2.3. Contact Hypertherm CAD/CAM Software Technical Support for more information.

Download links

The database server (the computer that hosts the shared database) can be updated using following the ProNest Shared Database link:

[Download ProNest Shared DB](#) (525 MB)

This file contains a compressed (or zipped) set of files. Download the file to a folder on your hard drive, and then run (double-click) it to unzip the set of files and have the installation automatically start. Follow the on-screen instructions to complete the installation. This product must be installed with administrative rights in order to install properly.

ProNest clients should be updated using the following link:

[Download ProNest 2015 Nesting Software](#) (488 MB)

Note: If the database server or any ProNest clients are running different versions of ProNest, you will see an "E 24: Out of sync" warning message.

System requirements: ProNest 2015 shared database version

ProNest requires NT authentication to the SQL database (Domain controllers do not allow this).

Software

- Operating system
  - Windows® Vista® (SP2 or later) / Windows Server 2008
    - 32 or 64-bit
  - Windows 7 (SP1 or later) / Windows Server 2008 R2
    - 32 or 64-bit
  - Windows 8 (8.1 supported but not required) / Windows Server 2012
    - 32 or 64-bit
- Microsoft Internet Explorer 6.0 or later