



Aldec Cloud™ - General FAQ

1. Is Aldec Cloud™ available worldwide?

Currently Aldec Cloud™ is in beta and is available to customers Worldwide.

2. What is Aldec Cloud™ and how can I run simulations on it?

Aldec Cloud™ is a combination of hardware and software resources that enable running HDL simulation on the remote datacenters powered by Amazon. On top of the Amazon hardware resources, Aldec provides the secured user interface to access them and Riviera-PRO simulator pre-installed and ready for use in batch mode configuration. This interface enables submitting simulation task(s) in the batch mode to the cloud nodes, monitor the task execution, and download the results back when the simulation is completed.

3. What are the benefits of using Aldec Cloud™?

Scalability and flexibility is the main benefit. You can run 100 servers for an hour or 1 server for 100 hours for the same cost. Each user determines how many servers to allocate for a specific job – the payment structure is based on node hours.

Infrastructure cost saving is the second benefit. You will save on the servers and associated maintenance cost: power, cooling, space, maintenance, etc.

4. Will any design benefit from running on Aldec Cloud™?

When it comes to Aldec Cloud™, there is an overhead associated with uploading your design, initializing a cloud node, and downloading your results back. If your simulation is short (5-15minutes) then the time to get your results may be doubled on the cloud.

Cloud becomes beneficial when the total simulation time (wall clock) is longer than 1 hour. In addition, independent simulation tasks can be split among several cloud nodes which will substantially cut your simulation time.

5. Is Aldec Cloud™ safe?

All data is kept encrypted at all times. No third party, including Aldec employees, can access the user data at any time. Aldec maintains cloud access and encryption keys on a per-customer basis. Keys for cloud access are encrypted with the user's password. Authentication using this password ensures that the keys are available only to the authorized user to launch and access clusters on Aldec Cloud. The password itself is encoded using a secure 1-way hash algorithm, making it impossible to calculate the user password based on the stored hash-code.

6. Are there any limitations of running simulations on Aldec Cloud™?

- All simulations must be run in the batch mode.
- Currently we do not provide interactive GUI on Aldec Cloud™. The results (waveforms) have to be downloaded for off-line processing.



- Currently Aldec does not enable running SystemVerilog Testbenches on the cloud. SystemVerilog designs are supported on the cloud. SystemVerilog Testbenches can only be run locally with Riviera-PRO.

7. How am I going to be billed for Aldec Cloud™ usage?

Aldec sells the following bundles of node hours: 10, 50, 100, 200 hours. The higher bundles are discounted. You are only billed for the actual usage of the cloud nodes, i.e. for the time when the simulation is running.

8. Can Aldec Cloud™ be accessed from both Windows and Linux?

Yes, you can access and work with Aldec Cloud™ from both Windows and Linux OS.

9. I am not an Aldec customer, can I still use Aldec Cloud™?

Yes, but in order to register for a cloud account you need to first register for an aldec.com account. Once your aldec.com account is approved you can request Aldec Cloud™ access.

If you have further questions, please contact us at cloud@aldec.com