# More efficient and faster collaborative LCA with GaBi Server
## Questions & Answers

## Webinar material

**Q: Will this webinar be posted online? If so, can I to share it around?**

A: The webinar slides and recording are available on our homepage: www.gabi-software.com/international/overview/videos/. Please feel free to share this with friends, colleagues and co-workers and anyone else you think might find it useful.

## Licensing, IT aspects, performance

**Q: With a single license of GaBi server, how many different computers can be connected? Or do I need a single license for each computer?**

A: A licence for GaBi software is required for every computer that connects to the GaBi Server. For example you have 5 GaBi seats that you want to connect to GaBi Server, then you will need 5 GaBi Server seats.

**Q: Does central database management require IT privileges or just LCA database privileges?**

The owner of the central database management process needs Administrator user rights in order to deliver quality assurance and execute the process. No additional IT privileges are required.

**Q: What size are these example databases? It seems the changes are done in a few seconds only. What happens if the plan is part of several other models? How does database size affect the update speed and performance?**

A: GaBi Server has been designed to give good performance in a distributed environment. This means downloading a fresh project database will take about the same time as opening a local database. After the initial download, however, only the changes, the deltas, are synchronized backwards and forwards with GaBi Server, not the entire database. If an object is changed it will only recalculate once you open the object. This means that data exchange is kept to a minimum, delivering very fast performance.

**Q: What about the size of the database? Is this limited?**

A: No, database size is unlimited. We recommend storing all data in one central database, and only the most relevant data being made available for project work, in a standard project database. Additional data can be included from the central database on demand. For larger teams it could be beneficial to define several starting databases, for different parts, products, for example.

**Q: If you want to have several roles for the same user, do you need a license for each role?**

A: No. Each user has one role per database. If you have more than one database the user can have different roles in different databases. For example if you had access to 3 different databases you could be project manager in the first database, guest in the second and LCA expert in the third database.

## User roles, workflows

**Q: User rights are only at database level, not the process, plan or project level?**

A: User rights are defined at database level. The user roles dictate what the user can do on plan, process or project level.

The user roles are:

Guest: read only access for the database

LCA expert: can only edit own objects

Project manager: can change all objects but quality assured ones

Administrator: Lock and unlock quality assured objects

**Q: Can one person have more than one set of user rights, e.g. both administrator and LCA expert?**

A: Yes. Your user account can have different user roles for different databases. You can be a guest in one database, and a project manager in another database.

**Q: What happens if two people are changing the same part of a record? Is there an error message, does one override the other?**

A: The different user roles go a long way towards countering this situation. In the event of two users changing the same object the change that is committed to the server first needs to be downloaded and accepted by the second user. The conflicting change is highlighted in red indicating it would overwrite the current local object unless action is taken to merge the changes. We recommend using the user role "LCA Expert" to prevent unintentional changes to colleagues' objects. You can also see who the object owner is, and if it still in draft status which indicates the object is not yet final.

GaBi Server will actually reduce the likelihood of this event happening as it facilities LCA teams working together. As mentioned previously the use of user roles, in conjunction with Central Database Management and clearly defined project responsibilities will improve overall productivity and quality.

**Q: Can the administrator unlock already quality assured data?**

A:  Yes. The administrator is the only user who can lock and unlock datasets.  Unlocking a quality assured datasets means setting its status to "needs review", "draft" or "ready for QA".

**Q: More than 2 users there might be lots of change. I would like to ask is there any tool to track changes such as change log etc.**

A: GaBi Server stores the change logs for every transaction. On every update of your local database you can also store the change log.

As part of the synchronisation process with the server you can detail the changes you have made and these will appear in the change log file stored on the server. This details all the changes that took place as part of this transaction, and is available for your colleagues to view. When you update your local database, a pop up window lists all objects which will be changed or downloaded with the update. You can save this change log external to the local database file.

## Central Database Management, data exchange

**Q: Can you please address the issue of wanting to preserve some plans in certain service packs so the results are not changed? How is this compatible with a central database?**

A: As part of the central database management process we recommend storing all project databases in an archive, and taking a snapshot. This means that you are able to return to the original model and reproduce and compare with your original results. Any relevant data from the original project work will then be integrated into the central database, making it available for future project work, with the added benefit of the latest service pack and database version.

**Q: What do you mean when you say the .gbx file exchange is prone to errors?**

A: When we say the .gbx file is prone to errors we don't mean that the file exchange itself is corrupted. Transferring a dataset from one database to another may bring thousands of flows and quantities with it, although you may only be transferring one process or plan. Some objects introduced by the .gbx file might already be present in the existing database. You can decide for every object if it should be overwritten by the import or not.

Using GaBi Server corrections are applied to a database once, and then everybody receives the correction via the update, ensuring everyone works with the most current and highest quality data.