

An update on the software protection scheme:

DSATools software has been protected by using the hardware USB-type dongles and then recently a softkey protection scheme. Supporting both of these protection schemes requires significant effort from our software development team. Technically, the softkey protection scheme is superior in many aspects, including the feasibility of distributing software electronically. In order to better focus our work on technical development and also to provide better user support, the following decisions have been made:

1. For all new software sales, only the softkey protection scheme will be used. This is effective immediately.
2. For DSATools version 17 (just released) only softkey protected installers will be created for general distribution. If any users with valid user support want these new versions to work with their hardware dongles, appropriate installers will be provided on an as-needed basis.
3. From DSATools version 18 (to be released in spring 2018), only softkey protected installers will be provided. If any users with hardware dongles and with valid user support want to upgrade to the new versions, they must switch to softkey protection first.
4. Between now and version 18, if there is any support request from users with valid user support on issues related to hardware dongles, such issues will not be examined and fixed; instead, the users will be requested to switch to softkey protection.
5. Powertech will help any users with valid user support to switch from hardware dongles to softkey protection at no extra cost.
6. Any users with hardware dongles, with or without valid user support contract, can continue using their existing version of DSATools.