

DevkitManager User Manual

Valid for [DevkitManager](#)

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	Created:	Verified:	Approved:
Name:	Eugen Kaltenegger	Robin Glattauer	Michael Ginda
Date:	20.01.2026	20.01.2026	20.01.2026



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1. Introduction

The **Devkit** provides the toolchain for **human machine interface (HMI)** application development and deployment. A **Devkit-Container** can store multiple **Devkit** versions, with only one active version at a time. The **DevkitManager** is used to manage **Devkit-Containers**, including retrieving **Devkit** versions from remote or local sources and managing the active version. All software components of the **Devkit** can be used without requiring additional installation.

1.1. Key Features

DevkitManager provides the following key features:

- Create new **Devkit-Containers**
- Verify the current state of a **Devkit-Container**
- Reset a **Devkit-Container** to its factory defaults
- Switch between different **Devkit** versions
- Fetch a **Devkit** version from a remote source
- Generate and apply update-packages

1.2. Product Definitions

The following list defines product specific terms which are used in this document.

- **Devkit**: Container based software development and deployment toolchain
- **Devkit-Container**: Folder containing a **Devkit**
- **DevkitManager**: Tool for managing **Devkit-Containers**
- **Devkit-Channel**: Source for retrieving online updates

2. Getting Started

The **DevkitManager** is a portable, installation-free tool for Windows 11. When launching the **DevkitManager** for the first time, a Microsoft Defender SmartScreen warning may appear. Click *More info*, then click *Run anyway*. If no **Devkit-Container** is found on the system, the **DevkitManager** opens directly in the *Create new Container* view. This process is described in Section 3. If the **DevkitManager** has previously been used to create and manage a **Devkit-Container**, it will open the most recently accessed container upon startup.

3. DevkitManager Configuration

This section describes how to configure the **DevkitManager** and its **Devkit-Container** instances. All configuration settings are accessible through the *Settings* dialog, which is opened by clicking the *Settings...* button in the *Current Version* tab of the main view.

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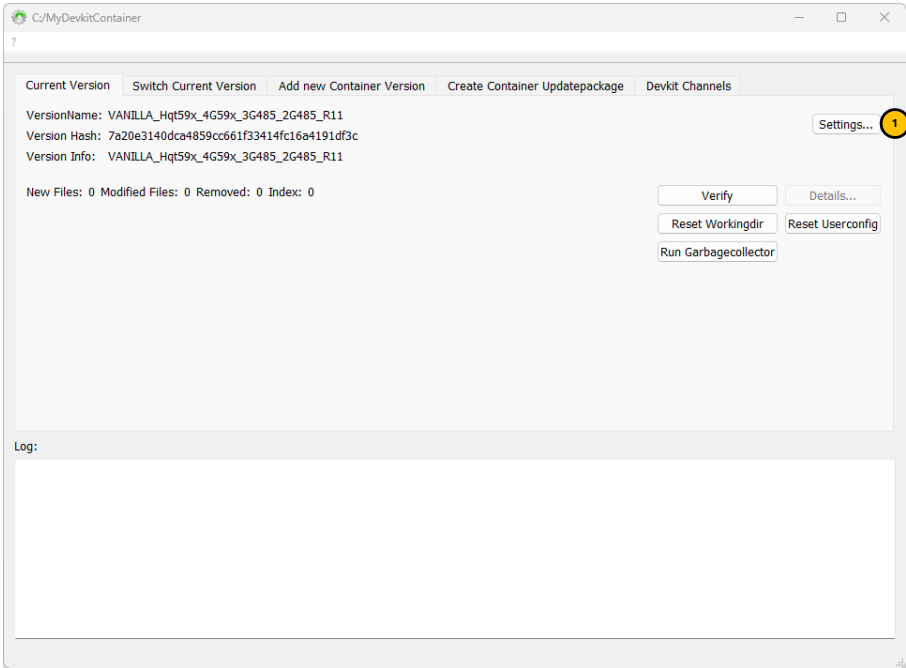


Figure 1: Open the *Settings* dialog by clicking the *Settings...* button marked with 1.

3.1. Create an Empty Devkit-Container

In the *Settings* dialog, click the *Create new...* button to open the *Create new Container* dialog.

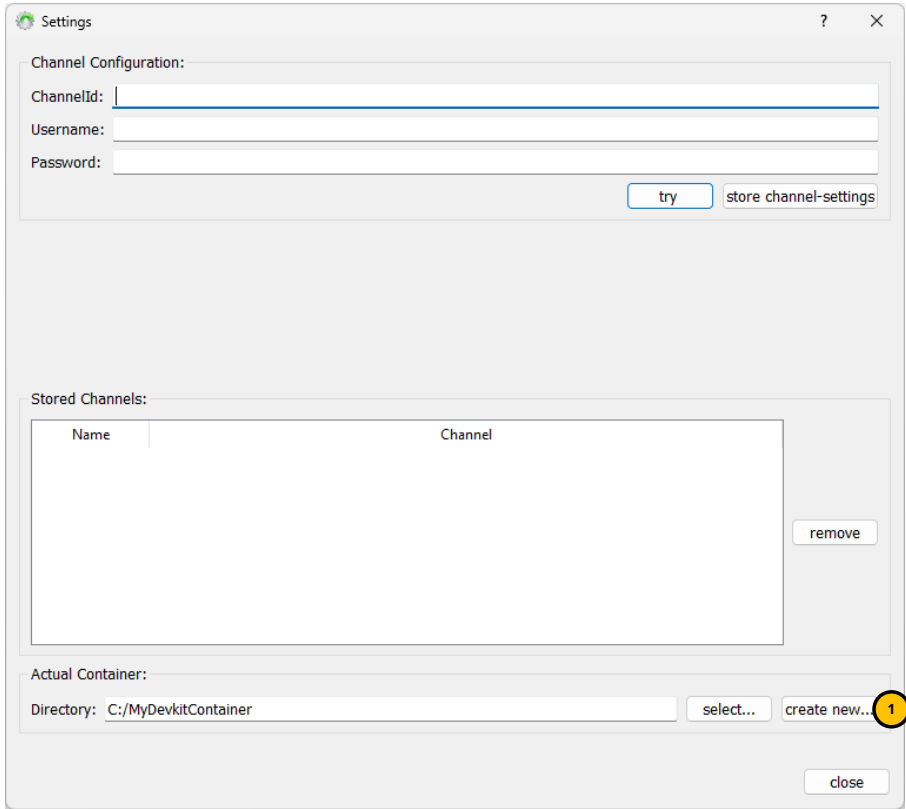


Figure 2: Open the *Create new Container* dialog by clicking the *Create new...* button indicated by 1.

In the *Create new Container* dialog, select a target location for the new *Devkit-Container*. The chosen path must point to either an empty existing directory or a non-existent one. Once a valid location is selected, clicking the *Create* button (2) creates a new empty *Devkit-Container* instance. On success, the *DevkitManager* sets its working directory to the new location. The *Devkit-Container* is now ready to be populated with data from either a remote or local source. Configuring and using a remote source is covered in Sections 3.2 and 5. Creating and applying an update-package is described in Sections 8 and 7.

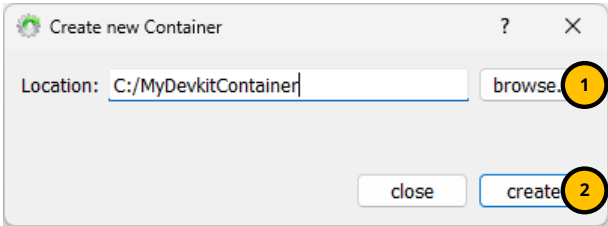


Figure 3: Select the target location for the *Devkit-Container* by clicking the *Browse...* button indicated by 1. The target location must be either an empty existing directory or a non-existent one. Confirm by clicking the *Create* button indicated by 2.

3.2. Configure a *Devkit-Channel*

A *Devkit-Channel* serves as a data source for *Devkit-Containers* and is configured in the *Channel Configuration* Section. A *Devkit-Channel* is identified by a *ChannelId*, which consists of a name and a URI separated by #. The name can be chosen freely, while the URI, username, and password are provided externally.

Note that the *DevkitManager* supports both *Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP)* and *Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure (HTTPS)*, with the protocol determined automatically based on the URI. Since your *Devkit-Channel* remote may support either or both protocols, it is strongly recommended to use *HTTPS* wherever possible.

Once all fields are filled in, click the *Verify and Store* button to validate your *Devkit-Channel* configuration. This process checks the functionality of the channel and will likely require internet access. If the *Devkit-Channel* remote can be reached and the credentials are accepted, the details are stored.

Note: Details about *Devkit-Channels* are stored in the Windows Credential Manager and shared across all *Devkit-Containers*. They can be removed either through the *DevkitManager* by selecting the desired *Devkit-Channel* and clicking the *Remove* button, or directly via the Windows Credential Manager. In the latter case, entries are identified by the prefix *DevkitManager:* followed by the *ChannelId*.

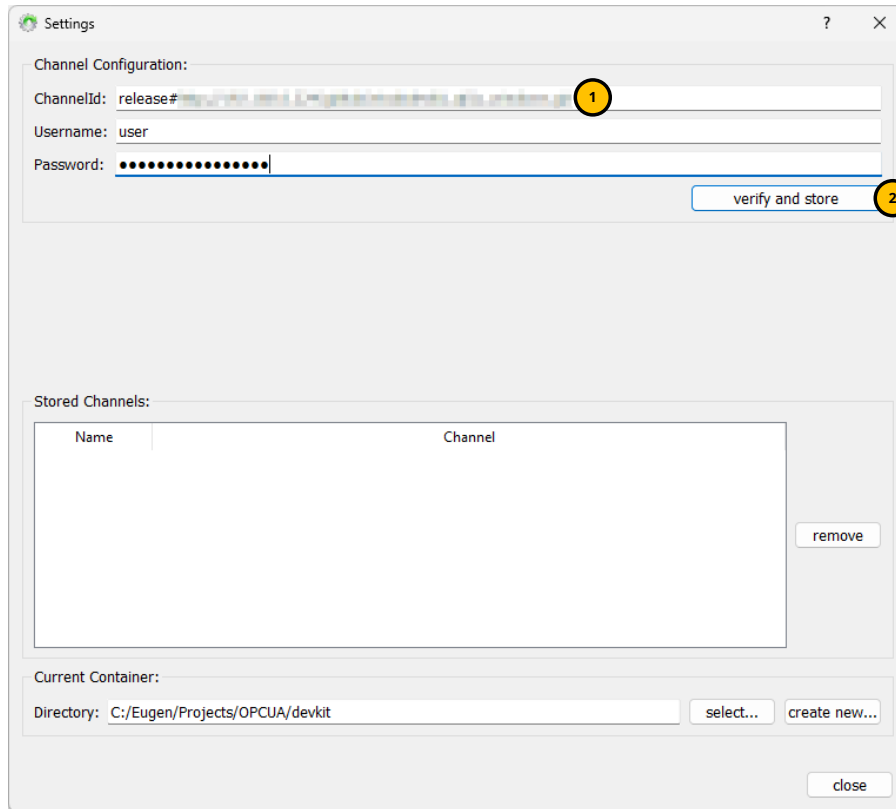


Figure 4: Enter the *ChannelId* as well as *Username* and *Password* in the according fields indicated by 1. Click the *Verify and Store* button indicated by 2. This will validate your *Devkit-Channel* configuration and store it if the validation is successful.

3.3. Select a *Devkit-Container*

In the *Settings* dialog, click the *select...* button. A popup dialog appears allowing to select an existing folder on your system. By pressing the *select* button the working directory of *DevkitManager* can be set to another *Devkit-Container*.

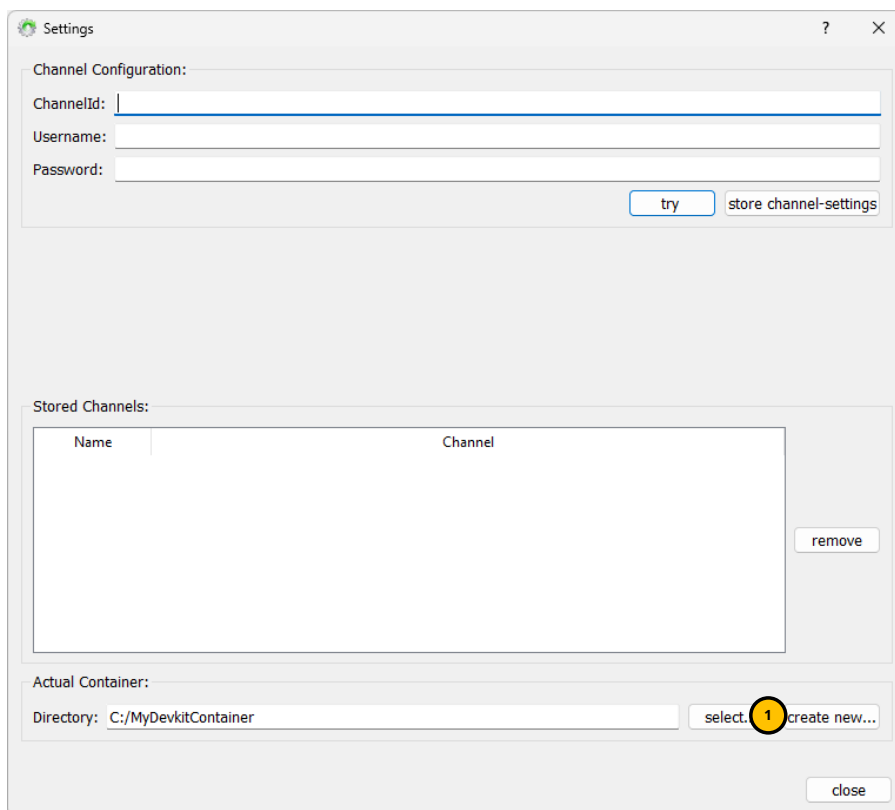


Figure 5: Select a [Devkit-Container](#) by clicking the *select...* button indicated by 1.

4. Current Version

The main view of the [DevkitManager](#) is the *Current Version* tab. This tab summarizes the main properties of the currently selected [Devkit-Container](#). This includes detailed version information as well as stats about the number of new files, modified files and removed files. Every [Devkit](#) version can be uniquely identified by its version hash. The version name and version info add human readable details.

This view allows to configure the [Devkit-Container](#). Pressing the *Settings* button opens the *Settings* dialog, find details in Section 3. By pressing the *Verify* button [Devkit](#) verification can be started as described in Section 4.1.

This view also offers housekeeping features. The [Devkit-Container](#) can be reset to the initial state of a [Devkit](#). This process is triggered with the *Reset Workingdir* button. User specific data as well as temporary data can be reset with the *Reset Userconfig* button.

When deleting a [Devkit](#) version as described in section 6.1 it is necessary to click the *Run Garbagecollection* button. This operation may take some time but can reduce the disk usage significantly.

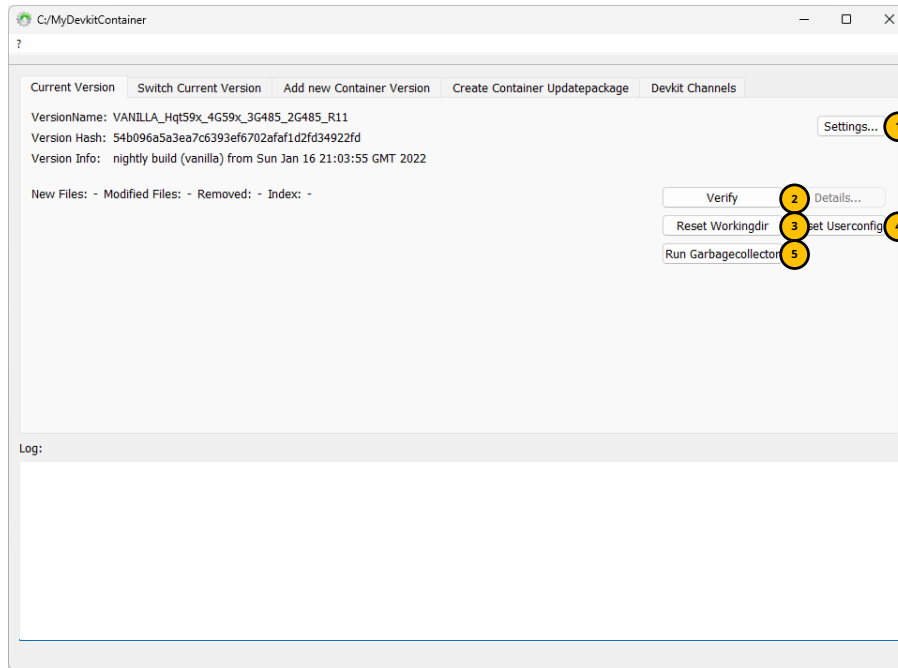


Figure 6: The *Current Version* tab with with the *Settings* button indicated by 1, the *Verify* button indicated by 2. The *Reset Workingdir* button indicate by 3 and the *Reset Userconfig* button indicated by 4 allow to reset the *Devkit*. The *Run Garbagecollection* button indicated by 5 shall be utilized after deleting a *Devkit* version.

4.1. Verify a Devkit-Container

One of the key features of the *Devkit* software deployment system is its ability to verify the integrity of a *Devkit-Container*. Each *Devkit-Container* version is identified by a unique hash value. Any addition, modification, or removal of files within the working directory can be detected by the *DevkitManager*. The verification process is initiated by clicking the *Verify* button and may take several minutes to complete. Upon completion, a summary of the verification results is displayed. If fewer than 30 issues are detected, a detailed report can be accessed by selecting the *Details...* button. If desired, the *Devkit-Container* can be reset to its initial state by selecting the *Reset Workingdir* button.

5. Fetch Devkit-Container over Network

Fetching a *Devkit* version from a remote source requires a properly configured and accessible *Devkit-Channel*. The setup of a *Devkit-Channel* is described in Section 3.2.

In the *Devkit Channels* tab, a drop-down menu allows selection of a configured *Devkit-Channel*. The table below lists all *Devkits* available via the selected channel. Click the *refresh* button to update the list with data from the remote source.

To fetch a *Devkit*, first select the desired entry and then click the *fetch* button. This process may take several minutes, depending on the internet connection. It does not modify the file system of the *Devkit-Container*.

To use the newly fetched *Devkit*, it must be selected in the *Switch Current Version* tab, as described in Section 6.

6. Switch between Devkit-Container Versions

The *Switch Current Version* tab provides an overview of all [Devkit](#) versions available within the [Devkit-Container](#). The currently active version is highlighted in green and marked with an asterisk (*) in the *Actual* column.

To switch the active version, select the desired entry, which enables the *switch* option. Then click the *switch* button to initiate the operation. This process may take some time, particularly when switching versions for the first time within the [Devkit-Container](#).

Once the process has completed, a dialog is displayed prompting whether the user configuration should be reset.

6.1. Delete a Devkit Version

If a [Devkit](#) version is no longer required, it can be removed from the [Devkit-Container](#). Removal is performed by selecting the desired version and clicking the *delete* button.

It is strongly recommended to run garbage collection afterwards, as described in Section 4.

7. Apply an Update-Package

A [Devkit](#) version can be added to a [Devkit-Container](#) using an update-package. This workflow requires a `.mgr` file. To apply an update-package, navigate to the *Add new Container Version* tab. Click the *Browse* button and select the `.mgr` file containing the desired [Devkit](#) version. If the integrity of the update-package is verified successfully, the *Apply* button becomes enabled. Press the *Apply* button to add the new version. This operation may take some time. Once completed, the new [Devkit](#) version is added to the [Devkit-Container](#). To activate this newly added version, switch to the *Switch Current Version* tab and proceed as described in Section 6.

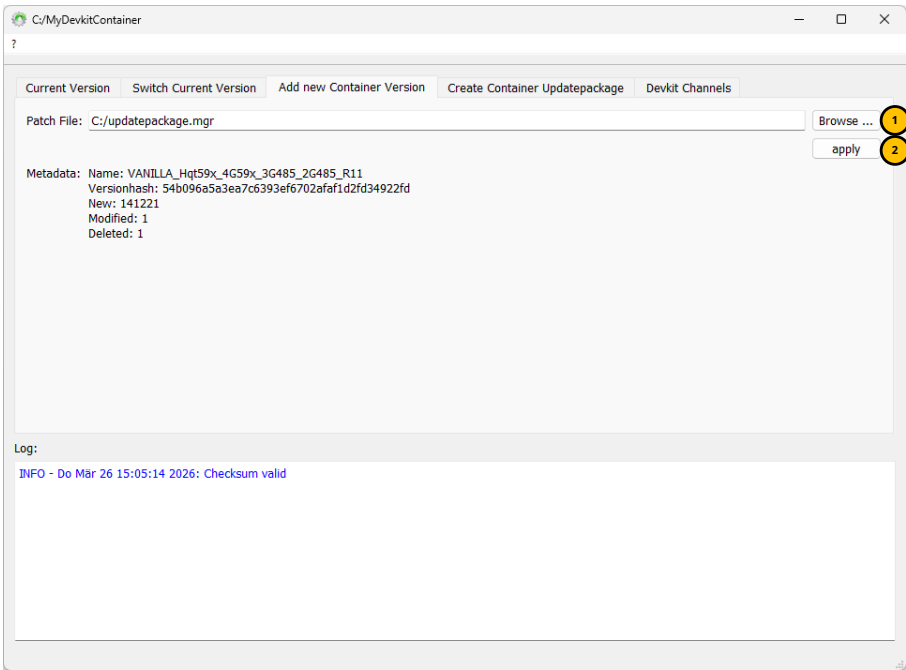


Figure 7: Select an update-package identified by the `.mgr` file extension by clicking the *Browse* button indicated by 1. If the integrity of the update-package is verified successfully, the *Apply* button indicated by 2 becomes enabled. Press this button to apply the update-package.

8. Create an Update-Package

To create an update-package, perform the following steps.

First, select the *From* and *To* versions from the drop-down menus. Next, specify the destination path for the `.mgr` file by clicking the *Browse...* button. Once both versions are selected and a file path is defined, the *Create* button becomes enabled. Finally, pressing this button starts the update-package creation process, which may take some time. The resulting update-package can then be applied as described in Section 7.

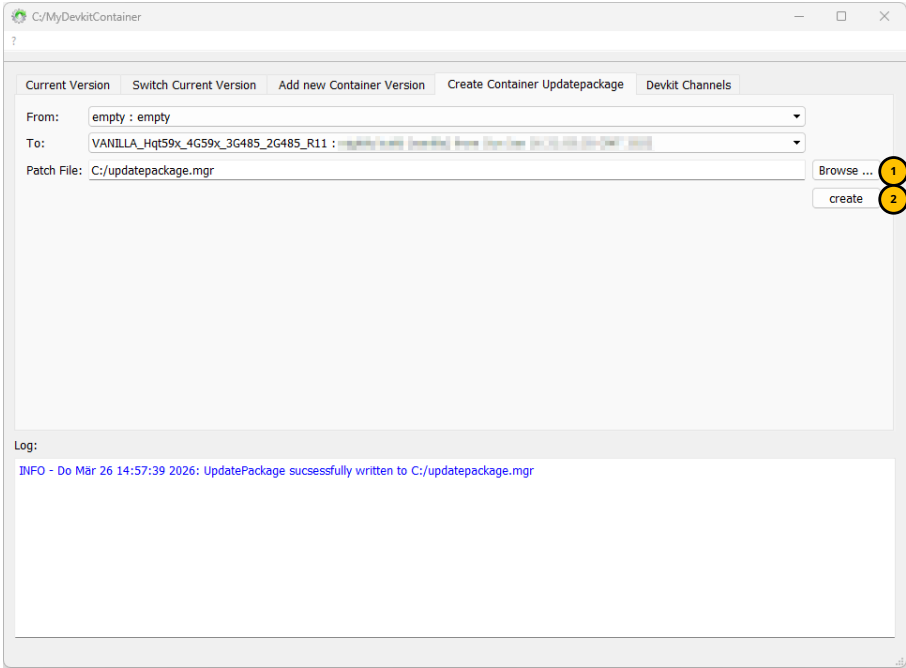


Figure 8: Create an update-package by selecting a *From* and *To* version, and by specifying a destination path for the update-package file using the *Browse...* button indicated by 1. Once these parameters are set, the *Create* button indicated by 2 becomes enabled, as shown.

A. Appendix – Meta information

A.1. Classification

Dimension	Level	Rationale
Confidentiality	Restricted	
Integrity	Standard	
Availability	Standard	

A.2. Origin

Reference name	Location / description
Canonical location	https://git.artech.at/github/devkit/devkitmanager
Source location	https://git.artech.at/github/devkit/devkitmanager-user-manual
Templates	This document is based on artech_latex_template .

A.3. Change history

Version	Date	Changes and reasons	By
2.0.0	19.05.2026	Update details regarding supported protocols and credential management. Note: document version and DevkitManager version number move in lockstep.	EuK
1.1.1	25.03.2026	Enhance wording and unify nomenclature. Remove HTTP-Proxy Section. Note: document version and DevkitManager version number move in lockstep.	EuK
1.0.1	25.03.2026	Correct some typos and improve the wording. Note: document version and DevkitManager version number move in lockstep.	EuK
1.0.0	25.03.2026	A reconstruction of the original document from 09.12.2014. Note: document version and DevkitManager version number move in lockstep.	EuK

A.4. Notifications

Category	Internal or external group, position, or role
Internal	Hornets, Tigers, Cardinals
External	All customers

A.5. Responsibilities

Activity	Roles or competencies	Notes or instructions
Modification	DES	
Verification	VER	
Approval	VAL	

A.6. Common abbreviations

- Devkit** Development Kit 2–9
- DevkitManager** Devkit Manager 1–3, 5–8, 11
- HMI** human machine interface 3
- HTTP** Hypertext Transfer Protocol 5, 11
- HTTPS** HTTP Secure 5

A.7. Organizational initials

- EuK** Kaltenegger, Eugen

A.8. References