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Preface

This manual is written for persons who will use or administer VR-TheWorld Server.

Please see the release documentation for updates to this manual and the latest information about your version of VR-TheWorld Server.

How This Manual is Organized

The chapters are organized as follows:

"Chapter 1. Introduction" on page 17 introduces you to VR-TheWorld Server.

"Chapter 2. Installing VR-TheWorld Server" on page 21 explains how to install and setup the VR-TheWorld Server hardware.

"Chapter 3. Configuring VR-TheWorld Server" on page 35 explains how to configure server and network settings. It also describes how to back up the server.

"Chapter 4. Working with Layers" on page 39 describes the different types of layers and how to create them.

"Chapter 5. Managing Files" on page 51 explains how to upload and manage the files that make up a layer.

"Chapter 6. Performance Considerations" on page 57 explains how you can improve the performance of VR-TheWorld Server.

"Appendix A. Terrain Sources" on page 63 lists the sources for the data in the layers shipped with VR-TheWorld Server.

Documentation Set

Documentation for VR-TheWorld Server is provided in PDF format, as follows:

- *VR-TheWorld Server Users Guide*. Complete instructions for installing and administering VR-TheWorld Server. You can open this manual by clicking the Documentation link on the VR-TheWorld Server status bar.
- *VR-TheWorld Server First Experience*. An introduction to how to use VR-TheWorld Server in your visualization application.
- *VR-TheWorld Server Quick Start Guide*. Installation instructions.
- *VR-TheWorld Server Release Notes*. Last minute and release-specific information.

MAK Products

The MAK Technologies product line includes the following:

- **VR-Link® Network Toolkit.** VR-Link is an object-oriented library of C++ functions and definitions that implement the High Level Architecture (HLA) and the Distributed Interactive Simulation (DIS) protocol. VR-Link has built-in support for the NETN FOM and RPR FOM and allows you to map to other FOMs. This library minimizes the time and effort required to build and maintain new HLA or DIS-compliant applications, and to integrate such compliance into existing applications.

VR-Link includes a set of sample debugging applications and their source code. The source code serves as an example of how to use the VR-Link Toolkit to write applications. The executables provide valuable debugging services such as generating a predictable stream of HLA or DIS messages, and displaying the contents of messages transmitted on the network.

- **MAK RTI.** An RTI (Run-Time Infrastructure) is required to run applications using the High Level Architecture (HLA). The MAK RTI is optimized for high performance. It has an API, RTIspy®, that allows you to extend the RTI using plug-in modules. It also has a graphical user interface (the RTI Assistant) that helps users with configuration tasks and managing federates and federations.
- **VR-Forces®.** VR-Forces is a computer generated forces application and toolkit. It provides an application with a GUI, that gives you 2D and 3D views of a simulated environment.

You can create and view entities, aggregate them into hierarchical units, assign tasks, set state parameters, and create plans that have tasks, set statements, and conditional statements. You can simulate using entity-level modeling, which focuses on the actions of individual people and vehicles, and aggregate-level modeling, which focuses on the interaction of large hierarchical units.

VR-Forces also functions as a plan view display for viewing remote simulation objects taking part in an exercise. Using the toolkit, you can extend the VR-Forces application or create your own application for use with another user interface.

- **VR-Vantage™.** VR-Vantage is a line of products designed to meet your simulation visualization needs. It includes VR-Vantage and the VR-Vantage Toolkit.
 - VR-Vantage displays a realistic, 3D view of your virtual world, a 2D plan view, and an exaggerated reality (XR) view. Together these views provide both situational awareness and the big picture of the simulated world. You can move your viewpoint to any location in the 3D world and can attach it to simulation objects so that it moves as they do.
 - **SensorFX.** SensorFX is an enhanced version of VR-Vantage that uses physics-based sensors to view terrain and simulation object models that have been materially classified. It is built in partnership with JRM

Technologies.

- The VR-Vantage Toolkit is a 3D visual application development toolkit. Use it to customize or extend MAK's VR-Vantage applications, or to integrate VR-Vantage capabilities into your custom applications. VR-Vantage is built on top of OpenSceneGraph (OSG). The toolkit includes the OSG version used to build VR-Vantage.
- MAK Data Logger. The Data Logger, also called the Logger, can record HLA and DIS exercises and play them back for after-action review. You can play a recorded file at speeds above or below normal and can quickly jump to areas of interest. The Logger has a GUI and a text interface. The Logger API allows you to extend the Logger using plug-in modules or embed the Logger into your own application. The Logger editing features let you merge, trim, and offset Logger recordings.
- VR-Exchange™. VR-Exchange allows simulations that use incompatible communications protocols to interoperate. For example, within the HLA world, using VR-Exchange, federations using the HLA RPR FOM 1.0 can interoperate with simulations using RPR FOM 2.0, or federations using different RTIs can interoperate. VR-Exchange supports HLA, TENA, and DIS translation.
- VR-TheWorld™ Server. VR-TheWorld Server is a simple, yet powerful, web-based streaming terrain server, developed in conjunction with Pelican Mapping. Delivered with a global base map, you can also easily populate it with your own custom source data through a web-based interface. The server can be deployed on private, classified networks to provide streaming terrain data to a variety of simulation and visualization applications behind your firewall.
- DI-Guy™. DI-Guy is an SDK that allows you to embed the DI-Guy library in your real-time application and populate your world with lifelike human characters. DI-Guy provides high-fidelity human characters that move realistically, respond to simple high-level commands, and travel throughout the environment as directed by the hosting visual application. It comes with thousands of ready-to-use characters, appearances, and motions. DI-Guy character simulation is an integral part of all MAK's visual applications, including VR-Engage, VR-Forces, and VR-Vantage.
- RadarFX. RadarFX is a client-server application that simulates synthetic-aperture radar (SAR). The server application, which is based on VR-Vantage and SensorFX, loads a terrain database and, optionally, connects to simulations. A client application requests SAR images from the server. RadarFX includes a sample client application.
- VR-Engage. VR-Engage is a multi-role virtual simulator that lets users play the role of a first person human character, a ground vehicle driver, gunner or commander, a sensor operator, or the pilot of a fixed wing aircraft or helicopter. It incorporates the VR-Force simulation engine and the VR-Vantage graphics rendering capabilities.
- WebLVC Server. WebLVC Server implements the server side of the WebLVC protocol so that web-based simulation federates can participate in a distributed simulation. It is part of the WebLVC Suite, which includes the server and

several sample applications that work with VR-Forces and VR-Vantage.

- MAK Legion. MAK Legion is a collection of applications and an SDK designed to support simulations with millions of simulation objects.

How to Contact Us

For VR-TheWorld Server technical support, information about upgrades, and information about other MAK products, you can contact us in the following ways:

Telephone

Call or fax us at:	Voice:	617-876-8085
	Fax:	617-876-9208

E-mail

Sales and upgrade information:	info@mak.com
Technical support:	support@mak.com

Internet

MAK website home page:	www.mak.com
License key requests:	www.mak.com/support/get-licenses
Technical support:	www.mak.com/mak-one/support/portal
Product version and platform information:	www.mak.com/support/product-versions
For the free, unlicensed MAK RTI:	www.mak.com/support/bonus-material

Post

Send postal correspondence to:	MAK Technologies 10 Fawcett Street, Suite 204 Cambridge, MA 02138 USA
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When requesting support, tell us the product you are using, the version, and the platform on which you are running. If you are using VR-Vantage, VR-Forces, VR-Engage, or DI-Guy, please also include your data compatibility version and date.

Document Conventions

This manual uses the following typographic conventions:

Sans Serif Bold	Indicates a key on the keyboard or menu options. Also indicates parameters.
Monospaced	Indicates values you enter such as commands or arguments.
<i>Monospaced</i>	Indicates command variables that you replace with appropriate values.
<i>Italic</i>	
{ }	Indicates required arguments.
[]	Indicates optional arguments.

	Separates options in a command where only one option may be chosen at a time.
()	In command syntax, indicates equivalent alternatives for a command-line option, for example, (-h --help).
/	Indicates a directory. Since MAK products run on both Linux and Windows PC platforms, we use the / (slash) for generic discussions of pathnames.
<i>Italic</i>	Indicates a file name, pathname, or a class name.
►	Indicates a procedure.
Menu > Option	Indicates a menu choice. For example, an instruction to select the Save option from the File menu appears as: Choose File > Save .
	Indicates supplemental or clarifying information.
	Indicates additional information that you must observe to ensure the success of a procedure or other task.

Directory names are preceded with dot and slash characters that show their position with respect to the VR-TheWorld home directory. For example, the directory `./vrlink4.1/doc` appears in the text as `./doc`.

Mouse Button Naming Conventions

An instruction to click the mouse button refers to clicking the primary mouse button, usually the left button for right-handed mice and the right button for left-handed mice. The context-sensitive menu, also called a popup menu or right-click menu, refers to the menu displayed when you click the secondary mouse button, usually the right button on right-handed mice and the left button on left-handed mice.

Third-Party Licenses

MAK software products may use code from third parties. This section contains summary license information and, where required, specific license documentation required by these third parties.

Third-Party Libraries Supported

VR-TheWorld 4.1 uses the indicated versions of the following libraries:

- VR-Link 5.9
- Qt 5.15.2 (VC 15 and Red Hat 8)
- OpenSceneGraph 3.6.4
- Boost 1.63.0
- FreeGlut 2.4.0 (Windows), 2.6.0 (Linux)
- GL Studio 7.0 (VC 15)
- DI-Guy 13.7 (development version)
- Triton 4.43

- SilverLining 6.20
- SpeedTree 6.3.2
- CDB API 2.2 (Windows), 2.1 (Linux)
- osgEarth 3.2
- CUDA 11.7

Library Licensing

The following libraries are covered by the GNU Lesser General Public License (LGPL) license:

- CIGI
- Devil
- GEOS
- GStreamer
- LibIconV
- LibWebSockets
- OPCode
- OpenAL
- OSG
- OsgEarth
- Pthread
- Qt
- Qwt

The following libraries are covered by the ZLib license:

- Bullet Physics
- LibPNG
- LibSDL
- Minizip
- Zlib

The following libraries are covered by the MIT license:

- Expat
- FreeGLUT
- GDAL
- GeoTIFF
- GLM
- HarfBuzz
- LibCURL
- LibSquish
- LibXML
- LUA
- LuaBind
- Proj
- SMHasher
- TCLAP
- Qt Visual Graph Editor
- ZeroBrane Studio

The following libraries are covered by the BSD license:

- FreeType
- GLEW
- JPEG
- LibTiff
- Protobuf
- PCRE
- Ogg Vorbis
- WebP

The following libraries are covered by the commercial licenses:

- FLEXlm
- Gameware
- GLStudio
- JRM Technologies SenSimRT and SigSimRT
- OpenFlight
- SpeedTree
- Sundog Triton
- Sundog SilverLining
- CDB API

The following libraries are covered by custom licenses:

- NVIDIA CG Toolkit
- FreeImage (FreeImage Public License)
- Boost (Boost Software License)
- Poco (Boost Software License)

COLLADA DOM is covered by the SCEA Shared Source license.

Thread Building Blocks is covered by the GPL license:

SQLite is in the public domain.

SWIG is covered by the GPL license.

Boost License

VR-Link, and all MAK ONE products that use VR-Link, uses some code that is distributed under the Boost License. All header files that contain Boost code are properly attributed. The Boost website is: www.boost.org.

Boost Software License - Version 1.0 - August 17th, 2003

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DISTRIBUTING THE SOFTWARE BE LIABLE FOR ANY DAMAGES OR OTHER LIABILITY, WHETHER IN CONTRACT, TORT OR OTHERWISE, ARISING FROM, OUT OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH THE SOFTWARE OR THE USE OR OTHER DEALINGS IN THE SOFTWARE.

libXML and libICONV

VR-Link, and all MAK ONE products that use VR-Link, links in libXML and libICONV. On some platforms the compiled libraries and header files are distributed with MAK products. MAK has made no modifications to these libraries. For more information about these libraries, see the following websites:

- The LGPL license is available at: <http://www.gnu.org/licenses/lgpl.html>.
- Information about IconV is at: <http://www.gnu.org/software/libiconv>.
- Information about LibXML is at: <http://xmlsoft.org>.

LizardTech

Portions of this computer program are copyright © 1995-2010 Celartem, Inc., doing business as LizardTech. All rights reserved. MrSID is protected by U.S. Patent No. 5,710,835. Foreign Patents Pending.

EOX IT Services GmbH Sentinel-2 Cloudless

The Sentinel-2 cloudless 2020 single-file dataset is developed by EOX IT Services GmbH. The dataset contains modified Copernicus Sentinel data 2020. For more details about the EOX Viewing Ready product, visit the EOX IT Services GmbH website (<https://eox.at>).

ECW Server License

To support the ERDAS Enhanced Compressed Wavelet (ECW) raster files on the VR-TheWorld server, you must purchase an ERDAS ECW/JP2 Server Read-Only End-user SDK License from Hexagon Geospatial. You can request a quote from their Pricing Request Page (<https://go.hexagongeospatial.com/pricing-request>).

ECW support is built into VR-TheWorld. Once you purchase a license, contact MAK Support to receive instructions on enabling it.

JPEG2000 (.jp2) support is separately licensed and already included, so this license is needed only if you want to directly add ECW files into Raster layers on the VR-TheWorld server. Alternatively, without the license, you can use non-server based tools (GDAL, QGIS, Esri ArcMap) to convert ECW files into other formats that can be directly supported (for example, Geotiff, JPEG200, or MrSID).

The MAK COTS products also already support local loading of local ECW files, therefore no additional license is required other than for direct support on VR-TheWorld.



1. Introduction

VR-TheWorld is MAK's streaming terrain server.

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1.1. Introduction to VR-TheWorld Server

VR-TheWorld Server is a simple—and powerful—web-based streaming terrain server, developed in conjunction with MAK's technology partner, Pelican Mapping. It is delivered with a global base map. However, you can also easily populate it with your own custom source data through a web-based interface. You can deploy the server on private, classified networks to provide streaming terrain data to a variety of simulation and visualization applications behind your firewall.

VR-TheWorld Server has over three terabytes of global elevation, imagery, and feature data, which are pre-tiled for high performance access. The VR-TheWorld Basemap has:

- Global elevation. 30 m (DTED Level 2) for the entire globe.
- Global imagery. Landsat 7 (15 m resolution for the entire globe) merged with NASA Blue Marble data (500 m resolution), color-corrected for seamless display, and pre-tiled to 7 mipmap levels.
- High-resolution inset areas. The insets range from 1 m to 15 cm per pixel – including southern California, Boston, Guam, Switzerland, Washington, D.C., and two airport areas in Afghanistan.
- Maxar Precision 3D samples. 0.5 m imagery and land cover for Schwyz, Switzerland. 0.5 m 3DTiles Digital Surface Model (DSM) for Jalalabad, Afghanistan. <https://www.maxar.com/products/precision3d-data-suite>.
- Samples of 1:250,000 and 1:100,000 topographic maps in Southern California.
- Highly detailed California map with 2 ft or better imagery.
- Landcover: Globe Cover 2009 plus insets for US, California and Hawaii.
- Open Street Map dated 4/16/2020.
- A highly detailed map of Hawaii, which includes:
 - 15 m Harris Terracolor imagery, added to make the area surrounding the Hawaiian Islands look more like deep blue water. This product has a very nice view of the shallow water boundaries between the ocean and the islands.
 - 1 ft USGS Mosaicked Digital Orthophoto Quadrangles (MDOQs) produced through the National Digital Orthophoto Program (NDOP) for the island of Oahu.
 - 1 ft water replacement imagery custom built by Harris, includes Digital Globe WV2 Imagery blended into Oahu Imagery and Harris Terracolor Imagery to ease the transition between the 15 m and 1 ft imagery.
 - 10 m Digital Elevation Model from USGS.
 - Feature data for Oahu, including building footprints for 200,000 buildings.

VR-TheWorld Server uses open standards such as WMS-C (Web Mapping Service-Cached, from Open Geospatial Consortium) and WFS (Web Feature Service, from the Open Geospatial Consortium). This means that clients are not limited to MAK's

visualization or simulation tools. Any customer or third-party application that supports WMS-C (including web applications) can access VR-TheWorld Server immediately.



2. Installing VR-TheWorld Server

This chapter explains how to install the VR-TheWorld Server.

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2.1. Installing VR-TheWorld Server Software and Data

VR-TheWorld Server is built on the Docker platform. This allows you to use Linux or Windows as platforms to run VR-TheWorld Server.

A VR-TheWorld Server installation has the following software and hardware components:

- Docker. A web-based application used to deliver the VR-TheWorld Server database structure and data.
- VR-TheWorld Server software.
- VR-TheWorld Server database structure and data files. The database provided by MAK is optional. You can create your own database and use your own data files. You can also add your data files to those provided by MAK.
- Hard drive. MAK provides a hard drive with installation scripts and data files.

The minimum recommended hardware configuration for running VR-TheWorld is:

- Server:
 - Multi-core
 - 32 GB RAM
 - 250 GB hard drive
- Data storage:
 - 4 TB or more of usable space (after configuration).
- Operating system. Preferably the latest versions of Ubuntu, Windows, or Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL), but at a minimum:
 - Ubuntu 20.04
 - Windows 10
 - RHEL 8

 Installing and configuring Docker on Windows requires changes to your system's BIOS as well as Windows features. Please follow the instructions closely.

2.1.1 Considerations for Using Docker

This section discusses the following issues that you may need to consider when using Docker:

- Ports
- Handling crashes and reboots
- Path syntax

Ports

Docker does not bypass firewalls. It creates rules inside the kernel to redirect traffic that comes to the host. The *docker-compose* file lists the used ports in the following format:

```
host_port : docker_port
```

By default, Docker exposes container ports to the IP address 0.0.0.0. (This matches any IP on the system). If you want to, you can tell Docker which IP address to bind on. For example, to bind on localhost port 80 and container port 8080, specify:

```
127.0.0.1:80:8080
```

Some customers may prefer this for security reasons. Otherwise, that host port becomes open to all incoming connections.

Handling Crashes and Reboots

You can implement a restart policy for your Docker container that prevents the need to manually restart the containers in the case of a crash or reboot.

You do this through the `--restart` argument, which can be called within the `docker run` command or the `docker update` command (once containers are running). For our case, the `docker update` command makes more sense because the `docker run` command is not called explicitly during the installation process.

Here is how to set this for a single container:

```
docker update --restart unless-stopped container_name
```

Here is how to set this for all containers:

```
docker update --restart unless-stopped $(docker ps -q)
```

Table 1 lists the potential values for the `--restart` flag. `unless-stopped` is the most commonly used value. It is designed for the use case of handling a server crash / reboot.

Table 1. Values for `--restart` flag

Command	Description
no	Default value - containers would not be restarted.
on failure	Restarts container in the case of an error (container crashes).
always	Always restart container if it stops.
unless-stopped	Always restart container unless it is manually stopped.

Specifying Paths in Docker

Declare all paths using a forward slash (/), not the Windows-standard backslash (\). Items are appended to Docker paths following a Unix format, therefore a path that mixes backslashes with forward slashes becomes invalid. If you want to declare the

paths in a Windows format, set the COMPOSE_CONVERT_WINDOWS_PATHS environment variable to 1.

2.2. Installing VR-TheWorld Server on Linux

This section explains how to install VR-TheWorld Server on Linux operating systems.

Docker is supported for versions of Linux including Ubuntu. For RHEL 8 or later, use Podman.

2.2.1 Setting Up Your Computer

Variations in Linux systems may create problems installing Docker and running VR-TheWorld Server. Please review the issues discussed in this section to ensure that your system is properly set up.

Partition Setup

It is recommended that you configure */etc/fstab* to point to drives by UUID. If drives are not configured by UUID, the mount locations or order of the drivers might change after you restart the server.

Partitions should use the XFS scheme. Non-XFS partitions may experience problems when copying the contents of the external drive to the internal drive.

2.2.2 Installing Docker

Download and install Docker. Follow the instructions at <https://docs.docker.com/engine/install>.

i For RHEL 8 or later, Docker is not officially supported. It is recommended that you use Podman to provide comparable functionality to the Docker environment. See "2.2.3 Using Podman Instead of Docker for RHEL 8 and Later" on the facing page. (You can choose to download and install the compatible CentOS version of Docker but, because that is not a native tool, it is not supported.)

Install docker-compose

Install docker-compose as follows:

```
sudo curl -L
"https://github.com/docker/compose/releases/download/1.27.4/docker-
compose-$(uname -s)-$(uname -m)" -o /usr/local/bin/docker-compose
```

1.27.4 is the version of docker-compose in this example. If you are installing a different version, use that version number.

Configure the Firewall

Firewall settings may restrict the usage of certain ports through docker.

► To set up the firewall:

1. Find out which zone the docker interface it bound to, most likely "no zone":

```
sudo firewall-cmd --get-zone-of-interface=docker0
```
2. Add the dockero interface to the public zone. Changes will be visible only after firewalld reloads:

```
sudo nmcli connection modify docker0 connection.zone public
```
3. Add masquerading, which allows for docker ingress and egress:

```
sudo firewall-cmd --zone=public --add-masquerade --permanent
```
4. Reload firewalld:

```
sudo firewall-cmd --reload
```
5. Reload dockerd:

```
sudo systemctl restart docker
```

2.2.3 Using Podman Instead of Docker for RHEL 8 and Later

For RHEL 8 or later, Docker is not officially supported because it was replaced with the Red Hat tools *buildah*, *podman*, and *podman-compose*. Although you could manually download and install the compatible CentOS versions of Docker, it's best to use the native tools.

Like Docker, Podman is a tool designed to make it easy to find, run, build, share, and deploy applications using Containers and Container Images. Podman provides a command-line interface (CLI) familiar to anyone who has used the Docker Container Engine. Most users can simply alias Docker to Podman (alias `docker=podman`) without any problems, or you can use the corresponding podman commands (for example, `podman-compose`).

For VR-TheWorld, Podman uses the same Docker container and the provided `docker-compose.yml`.

To install podman and podman-compose on Red Hat, run the following commands:

- `sudo yum -y install podman`
- `sudo yum -y install python3-pip`
- `sudo pip3 install podman-compose`

Continue with the rest of the Linux installation instructions. If you have not aliased `docker` to `podman`, use the corresponding podman command (for example, `podman-compose` instead of `docker-compose`).

i The firewall may also restrict the usage of certain ports through Podman. See "Configure the Firewall" above.

2.2.4 Installing the Data Drive

You must mount the data drive and create the installation directory. The drive is in XFS format.

► **To mount the data drive:**

1. The data drive has a USB connection. Attach it to a USB 3.0 port on your computer.
2. Issue the following command to get the location of the drive:

```
sudo fdisk -l
```

This lists all drives connected to the computer. The MAK data drive is called `/dev/sd*`, where `*` is a letter from `a-z`. The data drive size is 6000 GB. Write down the name of the MAK drive.

3. Create the data directory:

```
sudo mkdir -p /data
```

2.2.5 Copy Data or Mount the Data Drive

You can run VR-TheWorld Server from the data drive or copy the data to your computer's hard drive. For best performance, MAK recommends that you copy the data to your computer's hard drive.

- To copy the contents of the MAK data drive to an internal drive, run the following command:

```
xfsdump -J - /dev/NAMEOFDRIVE | xfsrestore -J - /data
```

where *NAMEOFDRIVE* is the name you recorded when you got the location of the disk.



- Copying the data takes 8–10 hours. Do not interrupt the process.
- Partitions should use the XFS scheme. Non-XFS partitions may experience problems when copying the contents of the external drive to the internal drive.



When installing a new version of VR-TheWorld Server and the MAK data over an older version of VR-TheWorld, be aware that the `xfsrestore` will merge with the existing data, replacing duplicate files but leaving any different files intact. This can result in retaining MAK data that is no longer used, but it also preserves any customer data that you have added.

- If you choose to run VR-TheWorld Server from the data drive, rather than copying data, mount the data drive to `/data`:

```
sudo mount /dev/NAMEOFDRIVE /data
```

where *NAMEOFDRIVE* is the name you recorded when you got the location of the disk.

2.2.6 Installing VR-TheWorld Server

VR-TheWorld Server organizes data into layers, which reference the data files. You must install the database structure. You can do so automatically or manually.

► **To install VR-TheWorld Server:**

1. VR-TheWorld now requires you to add a post-installation license key. Request a license at <https://www.mak.com/mak-one/support/portal>. Include your contact information, the purchase order for the server, and any relevant program details. You use the license key in step 3.
2. Once you have received the key from MAK support, change directory to the install directory:

```
cd /data/VRTheWorld
```

3. Edit the settings file, *docker-compose.yml*. At the end of the file, there is a line `LICENSE_TEXT=`. Copy the license key text that you received and then paste it to the end of that line. Save the file.
4. Optionally, when you edit *docker-compose.yml*, you can configure the options. The file is commented to explain the options. For more information, see "Configuration Options for Docker" below.
5. Load the images for VR-TheWorld Server (you must have elevated permissions to run these commands):

```
docker load < postgres_9.5-alpine.tar.gz
docker load < redis_5.0-alpine.tar.gz
docker load < vrtheworld_VERSIONOFVRTW.tar.gz
```

where *VERSIONOFVRTW* is the version of VR-TheWorld Server you are installing.

i If you have RHEL 8 or later and are using Podman, use the podman command-line instead if you have not aliased docker. For example:

```
podman load < postgres_9.5-alpine.tar.gz
podman-compose up -d
```

6. Start VR-TheWorld Server:

```
docker-compose up -d
```

At this point, you can access VR-TheWorld Server using its IP address. The default username and password are readymap. Note that the server contains no predefined layers.

Configuration Options for Docker

In the *docker-compose.yml* file, you can pass optional arguments to our docker container to increase your VR-TheWorld Server performance. These are defined in the optional environment section of the file. Table 2 describes the environment variables.

Table 2. Docker environment variables

Variable	Description
NUM_WORKERS	The number of background workers started for processing general background tasks.
NUM_TILERS	The number of background workers started for seeding map tiles via cache jobs.
NUM_TILE_GENERATORS	The number of background workers started for generating map tiles on demand.
GENERATE_TILES_IN_BACKGROUND_WORKER	Whether to generate tiles on demand in a background process or in the main Apache process. By default, tiles are generated in a background process to avoid bogging down the server during periods of high load. Set this environment variable to False to restore the original behavior of generating tiles in the main Apache process.
USE_LAYER_NAMES	When set to True, VR-TheWorld Server will expose layers using their name instead of their ID in GIS services. This could make switching between VR-TheWorld Server servers that have similar layer names easier when configuring earth files.

As a general guideline, you should match NUM_TILE_GENERATORS and NUM_GENERATE_ON_DEMAND_PROCESSES to how you plan to use the server and the number of cores on the system. For example, increasing NUM_TILE_GENERATORS helps if you plan to add and tile new data and layers. Increasing NUM_GENERATE_ON_DEMAND_PROCESSES helps during server runtime if some layers are not fully tiled and have enabled the **Generate tiles on demand** option. The specific number for each should map to the number of cores on your system, and therefore should be different for 8 versus 16 versus 32 cores. Remember to reserve cores for other processes and the server web services.

To set environment variables in *docker-compose.yml*, read the instructions at: <https://docs.docker.com/compose/compose-file/#environment>.

2.2.7 Installing the MAK-Supplied Database

VR-TheWorld Server does not presume any particular data. You can load your own database or the database supplied by MAK. If you are using MAK ONE applications such as VR-Vantage or VR-Forces, the terrain database files provided with these applications presume use of the MAK database structure and data files.

This section explains how to load the MAK database.



If you load the MAK database using `readymap_restore`, it removes all of the other previously defined layers from the server.

► **To install the MAK database:**

1. Change directory to the VR-TheWorld Server install directory:

```
cd /data/VRTheWorld
```

2. Shut down the docker containers and restart them:

```
docker-compose down
docker-compose up -d
```

3. Load the database into readymap:

```
docker-compose exec readymap readymap_restore
/data/backups/vrtw4.db
```

Once the installation process is complete, you can log in to the web interface of VR-TheWorld Server. The default username and password is admin.

2.3. Installing VR-TheWorld Server on Windows

This section explains how to install VR-TheWorld Server on Windows.

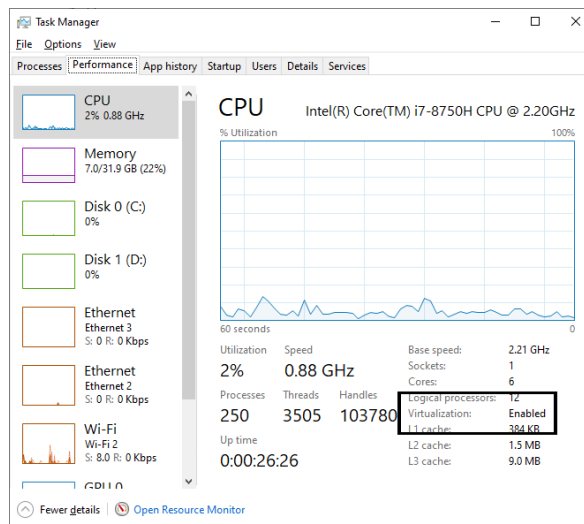
2.3.1 Prerequisites for Using Docker

To use Docker on Windows, you must enable virtualization, WSL2 (Windows Subsystem for Linux), and Hyper-V. These are all capabilities that are built into Windows, but which might not be enabled.

► **To check the status of virtualization:**

1. Open Task Manager.
2. Select the Performance tab.
3. The status of virtualization is displayed under the graph (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Task Manager, Performance tab

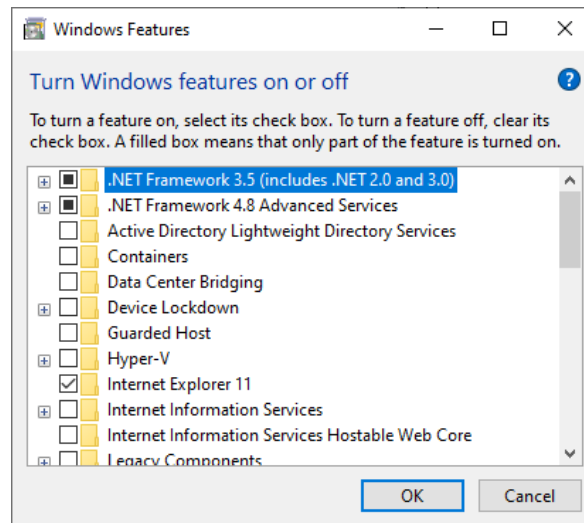


If virtualization is not enabled, you must enable it. Instructions for doing so are readily available using an internet search.

► **To enable Hyper-V and WSL2**

1. Right-click the Start menu icon and select Search.
2. In the Search box, type Windows Features. The search results show Turn Windows Features On or Off as the best match.
3. Choose Turn Windows Features On or Off. The Windows Features dialog box opens (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Windows Features



4. Select the check box next to Hyper-V.
5. Select the check box next to Windows Subsystem for Linux.

2.3.2 Installing Docker

Download and install Docker. Follow the instructions at <https://docs.docker.com/desktop/install/windows-install>.

2.3.3 Attach the Data Drive and Copy Data

The drive provided by MAK for Windows is in NTFS format.

► **To attach the data drive and copy the data:**

1. Plug the USB cable from the data drive into a USB 3.0 port on your machine.
2. Open a console window.
3. Enter:
`diskmgmt.msc`
The screen displays a list of all drives connected to the system.
4. Write down the letter of the data drive provided.

5. In Windows File Explorer, create a directory (folder) called `data` on the target drive. VR-TheWorld Server will use this directory to store all the files it needs to use.
6. Copy the data from the source directory to your data directory.

2.3.4 Installing VR-TheWorld Server

You can pass optional arguments to our docker container to increase your VR-TheWorld Server performance. These are defined in the optional environment section of the file. Table 2 on page 28 describes the environment variables.

► **To install VR-TheWorld Server on Windows:**

1. Open a console window.
2. Change directory to the data drive:

```
cd DATADRIVE:\data\VRTheWorld
```
3. In a text editor, open *docker-compose-windows.yml*.
4. Copy all of the content in the file.
5. In a text editor, open *docker-compose.yml*.
6. Replace all of the content with the content you copied from *docker-compose-windows.yml*. (VR-TheWorld Server includes configurations for Linux and Windows. However, Docker only looks for *docker-compose.yml*, so you have to replace the Linux configuration information with the Windows configuration.)
7. Examine the content of the file. If there are any backslashes (`\`), replace them with forward slashes (`/`).
8. In lines 15 and 16, replace DATADRIVE with the drive letter on which the data is installed.
9. Save the file and close it.
10. In your console window, in DATADRIVE:\data\VRTheWorld, execute the following commands:

```
docker load -i postgres_9.5-alpine.tar.gz
docker load -i redis_3.2-alpine.tar.gz
docker load -i vrtheworld_VERSIONOFVRTW.tar.gz
```

where VERSIONOFVRTW is the version of VR-TheWorld Server that you are installing.
11. Start VR-TheWorld Server:

```
docker-compose up -d
```

You can now access VR-TheWorld Server using its IP address. The default username and password is `readymap`.

2.3.5 Installing the MAK-Supplied Database

VR-TheWorld Server does not presume any particular data. You can load your own database or the database supplied by MAK. If you are using MAK ONE applications such as VR-Vantage or VR-Forces, the terrain database files provided with these

applications presume use of the MAK database structure and data files.

This section explains how to load the MAK database.

 If you load the MAK database using `readymap_restore`, it removes all of the other previously defined layers from the server.

► **To install the MAK database:**

1. Change directory to the VR-TheWorld Server install directory:

```
cd DATADRIVE:\data\VRTheWorld
```

2. Shut down the docker containers and restart them:

```
docker-compose down
docker-compose up -d
```

3. Copy `vrtw4.db` to the `./data/added` directory. (Docker will see this as `./data/vrtw4.db` because our default mount location is `./data/added`, as configured by the `docker.yml` file.)

4. Load the database into readymap (this will take 5 to 10 minutes):

```
docker-compose exec readymap readymap_restore /data/vrtw4.db
```

Once the installation process is complete, you can log in to the web interface of VR-TheWorld Server. The default username and password is `admin`.

2.4. Troubleshooting Installation Problems

The installation scripts create log files. If you have problems installing VR-TheWorld Server 4.1, please contact support at <https://www.mak.com/mak-one/support/portal> and include the log files with a description of the problem.

 If performance of VR-TheWorld GUI map is sluggish, make sure that you have enabled hardware acceleration for WebGL. The specific setting depends on your browser and version. For example:

- Microsoft Edge. Open the Settings and then go to the System and Performance page. Make sure Use Hardware Acceleration When Available is enabled.
- Google Chrome. Open the Settings and then go to the System page. Make sure Use Hardware Acceleration When Available is enabled.

2.5. Upgrading to VR-TheWorld Server 4.1 from Previous Versions

We recommend dedicating new hardware to run VR-TheWorld Server 4.1 due to incompatibility with previous versions. If you want to use data from a previous version of VR-TheWorld Server, you must copy the data from your old server to your new server. There is no way to reuse your database from previous versions of VR-TheWorld Server with VR-TheWorld Server 4.1. You must manually enter layers and upload their data to VR-TheWorld Server 4.1.

If you want to upgrade a server running a previous version of VR-TheWorld Server, you must save the data currently attached to your VR-TheWorld Server server and back up your database to an external hard drive. Then, install a new Linux operating system. This ensures that previous installations of VR-TheWorld Server do not interfere with the upgraded image. After successfully installing a new operating system, please follow the instructions to install VR-TheWorld Server 4.1.

2.6. Connecting to a MAK-Supplied Server

If you have a server that was provided by MAK, VR-TheWorld Server is configured to use DHCP and it has a static IP address. If your network has dynamic DNS set up, you can connect to the server without further configuration. If you do not have dynamic DNS, you must configure an IP address for the server.



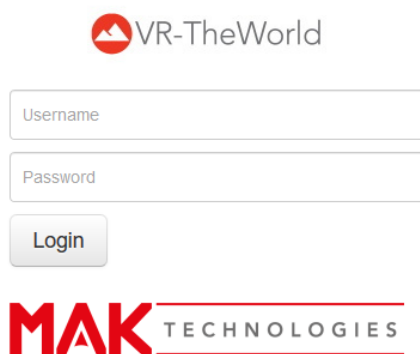
- For web connections, the default user is admin. The default password is admin. You can change these passwords.
- VR-TheWorld Server does not work with Internet Explorer. Use Firefox, Chrome, or Edge.

2.6.1 Connecting to VR-TheWorld Server Using Dynamic DNS

► To connect to the server using dynamic DNS:

1. Set up the server and connect it to the network.
2. Open a web browser.
3. Point the browser to <http://localhost/vr-theworld>.

Figure 3. VR-TheWorld Server



4. Click admin in the upper-right corner of the window. The default user is admin. The default password is admin. It is recommended that you change the password the first time you log in.

5. Configure the server, as described in "Chapter 3. Configuring VR-TheWorld Server" on page 35.



3. Configuring VR-TheWorld Server

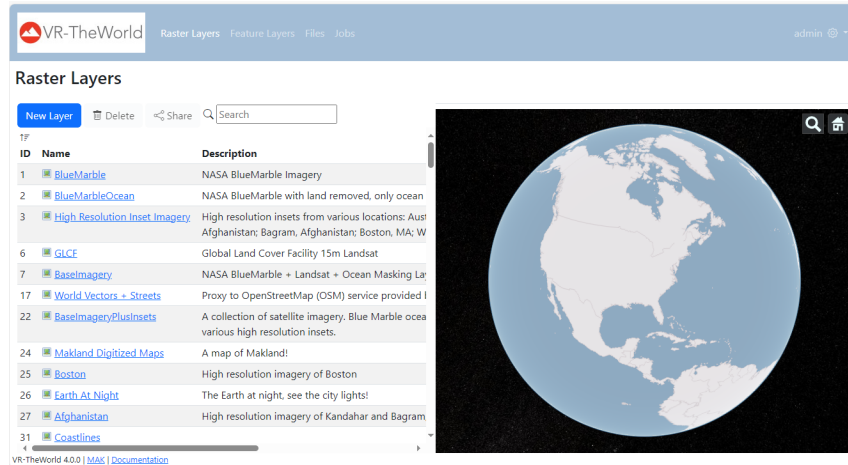
This chapter describes basic configuration and server management tasks.

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3.1. Introduction

VR-TheWorld Server administrators configure VR-TheWorld Server through the browser interface.

Figure 4. VR-TheWorld Server administrator view

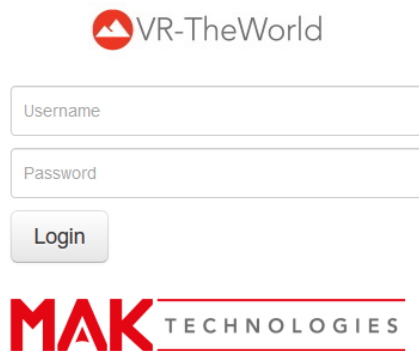


3.2. Logging In to VR-TheWorld Server

► To log in to the server:

1. Open a web browser.
2. Point the browser to `http://your-IP-address/vr-theworld`.

Figure 5. VR-TheWorld Server



3. The default username is `admin`. The default password is `admin`. It is recommended that you change the password the first time you log in.
4. Configure the server, as described in the rest of this chapter.

i If you plan to use your VR-TheWorld Server with the MAK ONE products, it is useful to remap `vr-theworld.com` to the IP address of your server. To do this, edit your `./etc/hosts` file and add the line:

```
your-IP-address vr-theworld.com
```

3.2.1 Changing the Admin Password

► To change the admin password:

1. Log in to VR-TheWorld Server.
2. In the upper-right corner, open the Admin menu and then click Change Password. The Change Password page opens.
3. Optionally, edit the username.
4. Type the current password.
5. Type the new password and confirm it.
6. Click Save.

3.2.2 Logging Out of VR-TheWorld Server

► To log out of VR-TheWorld, open the Admin menu and then click Logout.



4. Working with Layers

This chapter describes how to create and edit layers.

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4.1. Layers

VR-TheWorld Server supports raster layers and feature layers. Raster layers can contain image data or elevation data. Feature layers contain feature data.

4.2. Creating and Editing Raster Layers

VR-TheWorld Server supports the following types of raster layers:

- Local layer. A local layer uses the files on the server.
- Remote layer. A remote layer connects to another file server and makes it seem as if the files are coming from VR-TheWorld Server.
- Collection layer. A Collection layer is a layer that is made up of other layers. Collection layers are more configurable than other layers and may improve performance because there is one place to look for all the required data.

Layers are made up of files. In addition to the files provided with VR-TheWorld Server, you can upload your own data for storage on the server. Image files must be georeferenced, such as GeoTIFFs.

4.2.1 Creating a Raster Layer

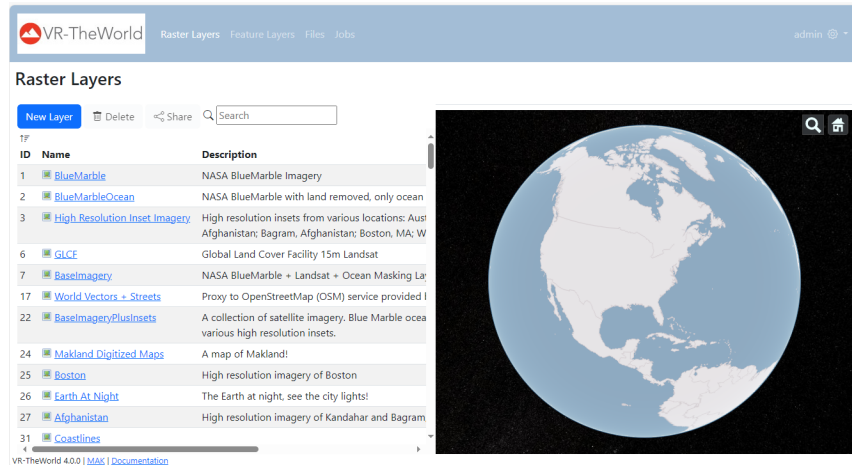
You can create the following types of raster layers:

- Local. A local layer.
- WMS. A remote layer.
- Collection. A composite layer.
- Temporal. A time series of multiple layers.
- Mapnik. Renders tiles from a Mapnik map file.
- MBTiles. Render tiles from a MBTiles file. Note that this only supports Raster MBTiles files.
- XYZ. Uses proxy data from a tiled imagery service using a URL template.

► **To create a raster layer:**

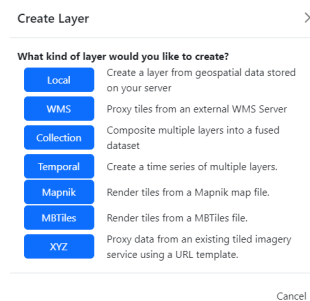
1. Connect to VR-TheWorld Server.
2. Log in as administrator.
3. Select the Raster Layers tab.

Figure 6. Raster Layers tab



- Click New Layer. The Create Layer window opens (Figure 7), It lists the types of layers that you can create with brief descriptions.

Figure 7. Create Layer window



- Click the button for the type of layer you want to create. The browser displays a layer creation dialog for the layer.

Figure 8. Edit local image layer

New Local Layer

What would you like to call this layer?

New Layer

Give your layer a description

Enter a description

What projection will this layer be in?

Geodetic - Used for applications like osgEarth and VR-Vantage.

What type of data is this layer?

Imagery

What format would you like to store your tiles in?

PNG - Use for imagery that will contain transparency. Warning! Can result in very high storage usage for tiles

When was the data for this layer collected?

12/13/2023

02:46 PM

What resampling algorithm would you like to use for your tiles?

Nearest - Fastest, lowest quality.

What tile size would you like to generate?

256

OK Cancel

6. Fill in the attributes for the layer. For details about the attributes of each layer type, see "4.2.2 Layer Attributes" below.
7. If you are creating a Collection layer, add layers.
8. Click OK.

4.2.2 Layer Attributes

The different layer types share several common attributes. Table 3 lists the common attributes and the layer-specific attributes.

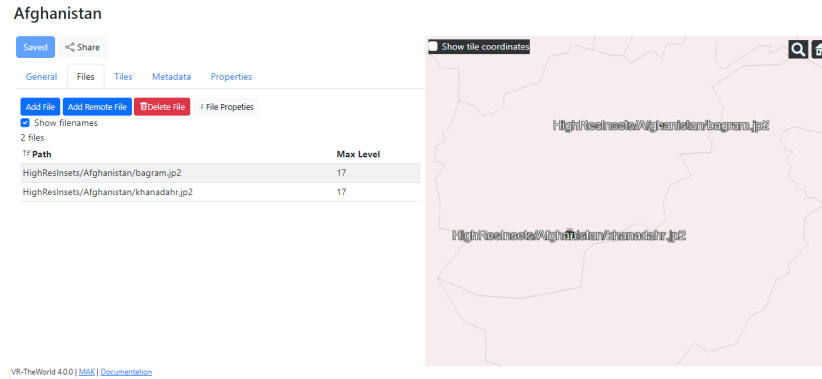
Table 3. Layer attributes

Wizard Page	Applicable Layer	Attribute
Name	All	
Description	All	
Projection	All	Geodetic or Spherical Mercator.
Data type	Local, Temporal	Imagery or elevation.
Tile Storage	Local, Collection, Mapnik	Imagery: PNG, JPEG, WEBP, BASIS, or TIFF. Elevation: Tiff, Cesium Quantized Mesh, or MapBox Terrain RGB.
Date/Time	Local	The date and time when the data was collected.
Resampling method	Local	Resampling algorithm: Nearest, Bilinear, or Average.
Tile Size	Local, WMS, Collection	Size of generated tiles.
URL and Layer(s)	WMS	WMS service URL and layers.

4.2.3 Adding Files to a Local Layer

A layer is made up of one or more files. The files are listed when you edit a layer. You can add files to a layer.

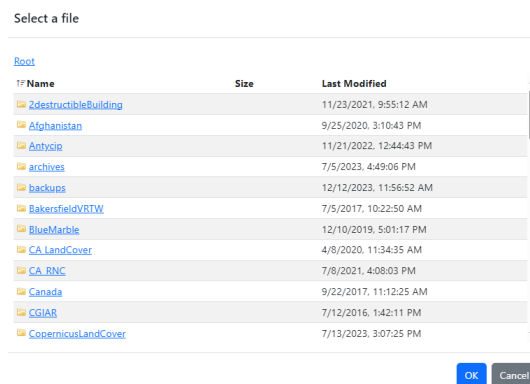
Figure 9. Layer file list



► To add files to a local layer:

1. Enter Edit mode:
 - a. Select the Raster Layers list.
 - b. Double-click the layer you want to edit.
2. Click the Files tab.
3. Above the file list, click the Add File button (Figure 10). The Select a File dialog box opens.

Figure 10. Add Files dialog



4. Select the name of the file you want to add, or select the row to choose a directory from which you want to add all of the files.
5. Click OK. The files you selected are added to the layer.
6. Add more files as desired.
7. Save the layer.

4.2.4 Zooming to a File

When you view a layer, you can quickly zoom in to the location of each file.

► **To zoom to a file:**

1. Enter Edit mode:
 - a. Select the Raster Layers list.
 - b. Select the layer you want to edit.
2. Click the Files tab.
3. Select the file that you want to zoom to.
4. Click the Zoom to File button (Figure 10 on the previous page).

4.2.5 Viewing the Properties of a File

You can display the properties of the files in a raster layer.

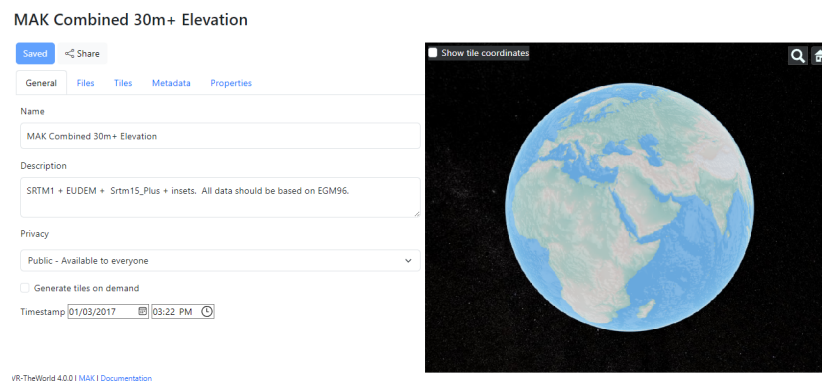
► **To display file properties:**

1. Enter Edit mode:
 - a. Select the Raster Layers list.
 - b. Select the layer you want to edit.
2. Click the Files tab.
3. Select the file that you want to view.
4. Click the File Properties button.

4.2.6 Viewing Elevation Layers

When you display an elevation layer, VR-TheWorld Server displays a shaded relief view of the data with colors the layer based on the elevation (Figure 11).

Figure 11. Coloring by elevation



4.2.7 Deleting Files from a Local Layer

► To delete files from a local layer:

1. Enter Edit mode:
 - a. Select the Raster Layers list.
 - b. Select the layer you want to edit.
2. Click the Files tab.
3. In the file list, select the file you want to delete.
4. Above the file list, click the Delete File button. A confirmation dialog box opens.
5. Click OK.
6. Save the layer.

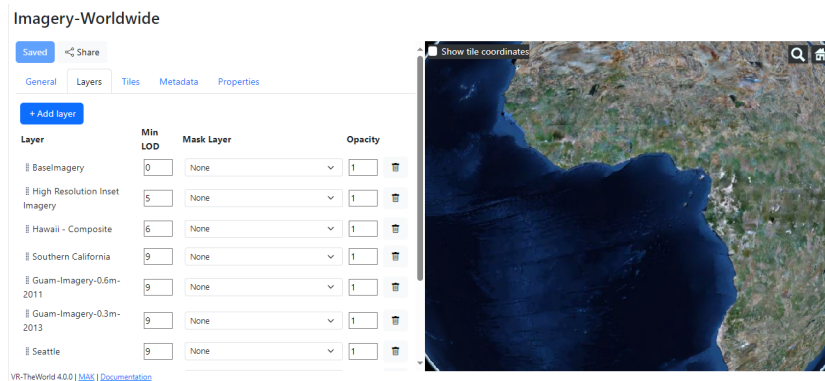
4.2.8 Adding Layers to a Collection Layer

A Collection layer is made up of one or more layers. Therefore, when you create a Collection layer, you must specify the layers that it contains.

► To add layers to a Collection layer:

1. Select the Raster Layers tab.
2. Create a new Collection layer or select an existing Collection layer to enter Edit mode.
3. Select the Layers tab.

Figure 12. Layers tab



4. Click the + Add Layer button. The Select Layer dialog box opens.
5. Select a layer in the list.
6. Click OK.

4.2.9 Changing the View of a Layer

While editing a layer, you have options for changing the view of the layer:

- Zoom. Press and hold the left mouse button or use the wheel.
- Pan. Press and hold the left mouse button to move the map.
- Jump to a location.
- Jump to the default global view by clicking the Home button.

Zooming to a Location or Landmark

► To zoom to a specific place, use the Search text box and do one of the following:

- Type longitude and latitude values and then press Enter.
- Type text for an address or landmark and then press Enter. Note that the geocoder requires an internet connection to access the Open Street Map service.

4.2.10 Tiling Raster Layers

All of the data served by VR-TheWorld Server is tiled. Tiling is the process of splitting large images into small images for fast loading and viewing within different terrain extents and levels-of-detail (LODs).

► To tile a raster layer:

1. Select the Raster Layers page.
2. Select the layer you want to tile.
3. Select the Tiles tab.
4. Enter the Min and Max longitude and latitude or use the default values.
5. Enter the Min and Max or use all levels.
6. Select Overwrite Existing Tiles if the data has changed and you want to replace previously generated files.
7. Click Generate Area. The new tiling job is added below, showing the current status.

Deleting Tiles

You can delete specific tiles by area and/or zoom level. You can delete all of the tiles in a layer by using the default values for the full extent and all zoom levels.

► To delete the tiles in a raster layer:

1. Select the Raster Layers page.
2. Select the layer with the tiles you want to delete.
3. Select the Tiles tab.
4. Set the appropriate area and zoom values and then click Delete.

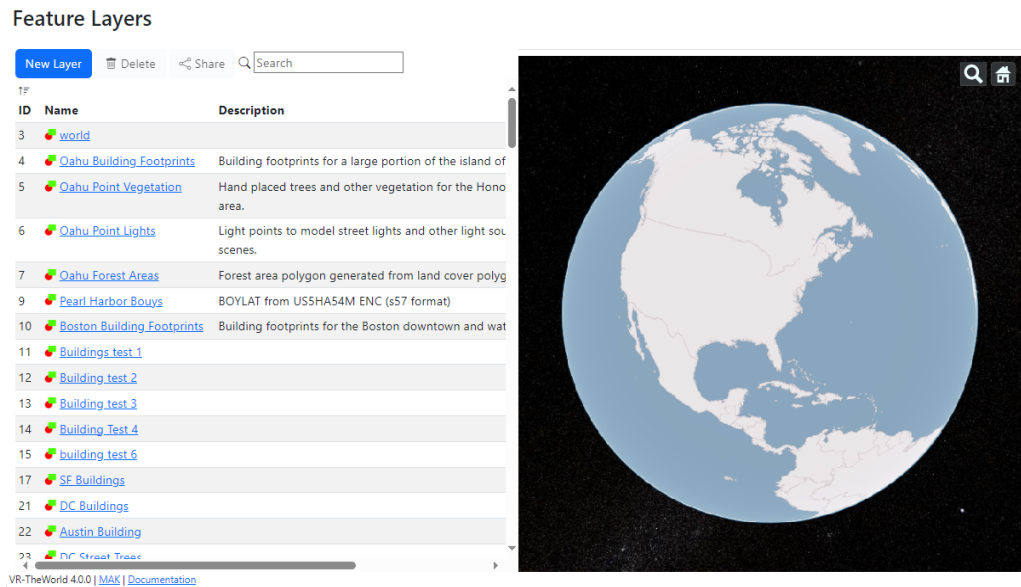
4.3. Creating and Editing Feature Layers

Feature layers allow you to add streaming features to your terrain. Feature data is contained in vector features files such as shapefiles (.shp).

► **To create a feature layer:**

1. Select the Feature Layers tab.

Figure 13. Feature layer tab



2. Click New Layer. The New Feature Layer screen is displayed.
3. Enter a name for the layer.
4. Optionally, type a description.
5. Select a file for this layer and then click OK. The Layer field gets filled in from data in the file.

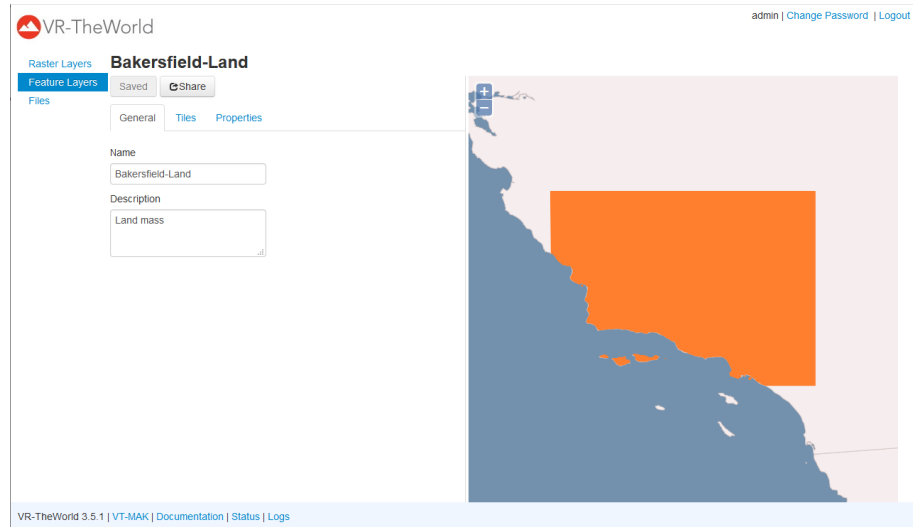
4.3.1 Editing a Feature Layer

You can change the name and description of a feature layer. You can also specify parameters for tiling it. You cannot change the properties.

► **To edit a feature layer:**

1. Select the Feature Layers page.
2. Select the feature layer that you want to edit. Information about the layer displays.

Figure 14. Feature layer selected



3. Click the Edit button. The Edit panel displays.
4. Change the name or description.
5. Click Save.

4.3.2 Tiling Feature Layers

You can create tiles for the Tiling Feature Service (TFS). Tiling a feature layer serves a different purpose than tiling raster layers. When you tile a feature layer, you specify the order in which features are loaded. For example, you could specify that features above a certain height get loaded first, so that as you approach a city, the skyline becomes visible before smaller buildings do. If you do not tile a feature layer, features are loaded randomly, which may not provide the ideal visual experience.

Feature tiling is optional but recommended for the best performance with the MAK ONE applications (VR-Vantage, VR-Forces, and VR-Engage).

The feature tiling generates a quadtree that starts with a single tile that encompasses the bounds of the entire feature dataset. The Max Features option is the maximum number of features to place in a quadtree tile. Therefore, if you pick 500 and sort by 'height', the tallest 500 buildings go into the first cell, then the next tallest 500 (in each child cell) are placed, and so on.

The First Level specifies the first level in the quadtree that features actually start to appear. For example, if you had a worldwide shapefile of buildings, you do not really need the tallest 500 buildings in the world to appear at a global view. If you picked level 10 as your first level, you would not see buildings start to appear until you zoomed down close enough for level 10 to be visible.

If you choose a First Level greater than 0, it also defines how the data is spatially organized. For example, if you choose First Level = 1, the area covered by the feature is divided into 4 tiles. If you choose Max features = 500 and sort by "height", each tile has the 500 hundred tallest buildings that can be found in that tile. If more than 500

features are found in that tile, it is subdivided into 4 quadrants and the process is repeated until all features in the tile have been added to a tile. This process is repeated for each of the other 3 tiles in level 1.

i When you choose the First Level, the dialog displays the estimated tiles size for each tile at that level. For optimal VR-Forces performance, use a flat hierarchy (all features fit into a single level) and check that tiles are small enough, as a combination of number of features per tile and geographic size, to ensure that loading the tile does not take a long time.

► **To tile a feature layer:**

1. Select the Feature Layers page.
2. Select the feature layer that you want to tile.
3. Select the Tiles tab.
4. Click Tile Layer. The Tile Layer dialog box opens.

Figure 15. Tile feature layer dialog box

Tile Oahu Building Footprints

Sort By: hgt2d

Max Features: 2000

First Level: 4

First level will be ~3168m wide

OK Cancel

5. In the Sort By drop-down list, select the attribute to sort by.
6. In the Max Features box, specify the maximum number of features to place in a quadtree tile.
7. In the First Level box, specify the first level in the quadtree at which features start to appear.
8. Click OK.

4.4. Viewing the Properties of a Layer

You can view the properties of a raster layer or feature layer.

► **To view the properties of a layer:**

1. Select the Raster Layers page or Feature Layers page.
2. Select the layer with the properties that you want to view.
3. Select the Properties tab.

4.5. Searching Layers

You can search for a specific layer using any text string that is part of the ID, Name, Description, or Type columns. You can also sort the columns for clicking the column name.

- To search for a layer, type a text string in the Search field.

4.6. Deleting a Layer

This procedure applies to raster layers and feature layers.

► **To delete a layer:**

1. Select the Raster Layers or Feature Layers page.
2. Select the layer you want to delete.
3. Click the Delete button. A confirmation dialog box opens.
4. Click OK.



5. Managing Files

This chapter describes how to manage the files on the server.

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5.1. Managing Files Overview

VR-TheWorld Server has almost 4 TB of terrain data. You may have additional terrain data that you want to serve using VR-TheWorld Server. You can add your data to the server to make it available through VR-TheWorld Server.

VR-TheWorld Server supports these raster file formats:

- MRSID
- GDAL virtual
- Geotiff
- JPEG 2000
- DEM
- DTED 0 - 5
- Arcinfo Binary Grid
- Magellan BLX Topo
- Bathymetry Attributed Grid
- VTP Binary terrain format
- USGS DOQ
- ESRI *.hdr*
- Envisat Image Product
- ERMapper
- FITS
- Erdas Imagine
- National Imagery Transport Files (CIB, CADRG, and so on)
- BSB Nautical chart format

VR-TheWorld Server supports these vector file formats:

- Shape
- Geopackage
- KML
- GPX
- VMAP
- S-57

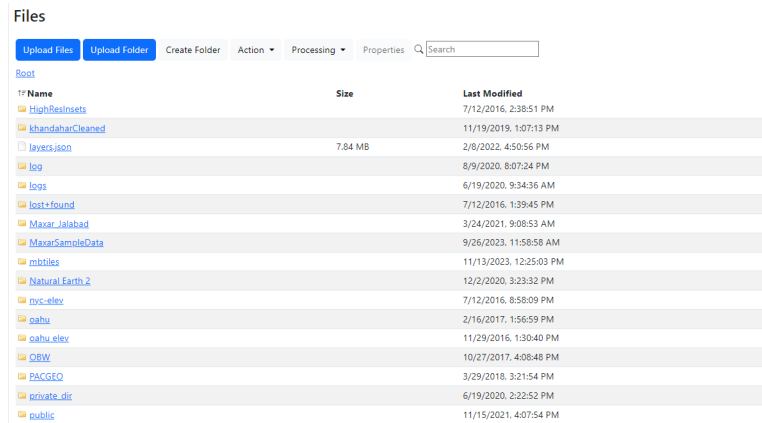
5.2. Creating a Folder

VR-TheWorld Server stores files in folders (directories). You can create new folders for your data or store data in existing folders.

► **To create a folder:**

1. Log in as administrator.
2. Select the Files tab.

Figure 16. Files tab



3. Click Create Folder. The Create Folder dialog box opens.
4. Type a name for the new folder.
5. Click OK. The folder is added to the files list.

5.3. Uploading Files

You can upload individual files and compressed files. If you upload a *.zip*, *.tar*, or *.tar.gz* file, VR-TheWorld Server uncompresses it.

► **To upload a file:**

1. Log in as administrator.
2. Select the Files page.
3. Select the folder into which you want to upload a file.
4. Click Upload. A file selection dialog box opens.
5. Select the files you want to upload. (You can select multiple files using standard file selection methods.)
6. Click Open. VR-TheWorld Server provides feedback about the progress of the upload process.

5.4. Downloading Files

You can download files from the server to a local computer.

► **To download a file:**

1. Log in as administrator.
2. Select the Files page.

3. Select the file you want to download.
4. Click **Action > Download**.

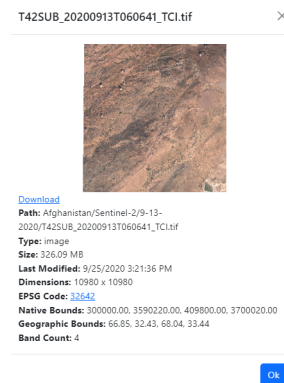
5.5. Viewing File Properties

VR-TheWorld Server can display information about the files in the database, such as the filename, pathname, type, size, and so on.

► **To display information about a file:**

1. Select the Files page.
2. Select the file for which you want to view information.
3. Click the Properties button. File properties display.

Figure 17. File properties



5.6. Deleting Files

► **To delete a file:**

1. Log in as administrator.
2. Select the Files page.
3. Select the file or folder that you want to delete.
4. Click **Action > Delete**.
5. Confirm the request to delete the file.

5.7. Renaming Files

► **To rename a file:**

1. Log in as administrator.
2. Select the Files page.
3. Select the file you want to rename.
4. Click **Action > Rename**. The Rename dialog box opens.

5. Type a new name for the file.
6. Click OK.



6. Performance Considerations

This chapter describes ways to improve performance for VR-TheWorld Server.

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6.1. Maximizing Performance

In most cases, VR-TheWorld Server performs well out-of-the-box. However, performance will be affected by network performance and the configuration of the application that is streaming the terrain. The issues discussed in the following sections can help you maximize performance.

6.1.1 Tile Size

The tile size parameter for imagery controls the pixel size of the image that VR-TheWorld creates during tiling. The number is used both for the length and the width of the tile: if the parameter is 256, the tile will be 256 x 256 pixels. VR-TheWorld can use any number in this field, but if the end application is to be an osgEarth-based application, such as VR-Vantage, or any other 3D application like Google Earth, it is important that the number be a power of 2. This is because the tiles are used as textures in the graphics card. The recommended imagery tile size is 256.

For elevation layers, the default tile size is 257, which enables overlap to avoid gaps between rendered tiles. In the case of elevation, this controls how many points are in the 3D terrain patch that is created from the tile. Elevation tile size cannot be changed.

6.1.2 Pre-Tile Layers

If a layer is not tiled, VR-TheWorld generates tiles on the fly and stores them as they are required. This is useful for quickly testing layers and interacting with the data. However, this generating process can cause undesirable slow spots when the client application is moving around the data. If all the tiles are generated, the server simply needs to look up the tile and return instead of having to render it.

At times it may not be feasible to pre-generate all the tiles. Tiling tasks can take a long time depending on the detail level and the area covered. In this case, it is often best to generate the lowest levels first. The hardest tiles to generate are the overview tiles. These tiles tend to have the most source files required for every tile. If your data extends to level 18, for example, and if you create a tiling task that does levels 0–12 instead of automatically tiling all levels, you will drastically reduce the length of time the task takes. Every level is roughly 4 times the size of the previous level in terms of numbers of tiles.

This approach means clients will only generate tiles once they zoom in to areas, which typically represent a low number of tiles. While the tiling operation is running, the client can usually still show the lower resolution tiles that are already generated until the higher resolution is available.

6.1.3 Collection Layers

Each layer in a map represents a new connection to VR-TheWorld by the client and tiles that must be downloaded for any given area. The client then draws each layer onto the scene. Collection layers allow you to combine layers on the server and have the server perform the task of rendering every layer to generate the final image. The server then caches the rendered tiles like any other layer. This allows the client to make a single connection to the server and only render one tile over a basemap layer instead of rendering multiple layers and downloading multiple tiles. It is not

recommended to combine the base global layers such as Base Imagery into Collection layers since the base layers are very large and this may ultimately cause the base layers to be copied to the Collection layer. A typical map might have a base layer and one or two overlay layers for maximum performance.

6.1.4 Files Per Layer

VR-TheWorld can have difficulty when there are more than 1000 source files in a layer. This is due to the tile rendering process and how much memory can be consumed by large numbers of highly compressed source files. If you want to have layers with more than 1000 source files, it is recommended that you split the layer into multiple smaller layers and use a Collection layer to pull the split layers together.

6.1.5 Client-Side Caching

If you use VR-Vantage, it caches as much of the VR-TheWorld terrain as it can, which eliminates the need to re-download tiles for areas that have recently been viewed. This is the most dramatic improvement in performance that can be achieved. osgEarth applications can add caching to their earth file by adding a cache block to the options block.

6.1.6 Feature Attributes

When using features, it is best to upload feature data sets that match the client tasks as closely as possible. When a client connects to VR-TheWorld for features, it downloads all the feature attributes associated with the feature. If unused attributes are removed from the feature data set before uploading to VR-TheWorld then they will not be downloaded by the clients. This in turn makes the size of the feature tiles smaller and quicker to download.

6.1.7 Controlling where Paging Is Handled

If you include a `<level>` block in the `<layout>` element of an earth file, the entire dataset is downloaded from the server at once and all the paging is done locally, ignoring any pre-tiling done on the server. Therefore, do not include a `<level>` block if you have a large data set. The layout block should look like:

```
<layout>
  <tile_size_factor>5</tile_size_factor>
</layout>
```

6.2. OSG and osgEarth Environment Variables

You can improve performance for some terrains by configuring the following environment variables:

- `OSG_MAX_PAGEDLOD` specifies the target maximum number of paged LODs to maintain. Default: 200. Set it to a lower value if you need to reduce memory consumption when using paged terrains. (This variable only affects the front-end.)

- GDAL_CACHEMAX specifies the maximum cache size for streaming terrain. The default value is 200 MB, which is often adequate. However, if you are using a highly detailed terrain, increasing the cache size to a larger value, such as 2000, can significantly improve performance.
- You can configure caching in the <cache> element in the earth file or in the OSGEARTH_CACHE_PATH environment variable.

6.3. Django Administrator

VR-TheWorld Server incorporates a Django Administrator interface. This enables the admin to view, change, and manage a number of VR-TheWorld services. This includes:

- View and manage tiling generation queues.
 - Manage aspects of layers not accessible in the VR-TheWorld GUI.
 - Manage users and groups.
 - Manage processing jobs.
- To access the Django administration GUI, open a web browser and then go to <http://your-IP-address/vr-theworld/django-rq>.

Figure 18. Django administration GUI

The screenshot shows the Django administration interface for RQ Queues. The sidebar on the left contains navigation links for Authentication and Authorization (Groups, Users), Features (Feature layers), Jobs (Jobs), and Layers (Cache tiles jobs, Collection entries, Collection layers, Delete all tiles jobs, Delete tiles jobs, Export tiles jobs, Layer changes, Layer jobs, Layers, Local layer files, Local layers, Map server layers, Mapnik layers). The main content area is titled 'RQ Queues' and displays a table with the following data:

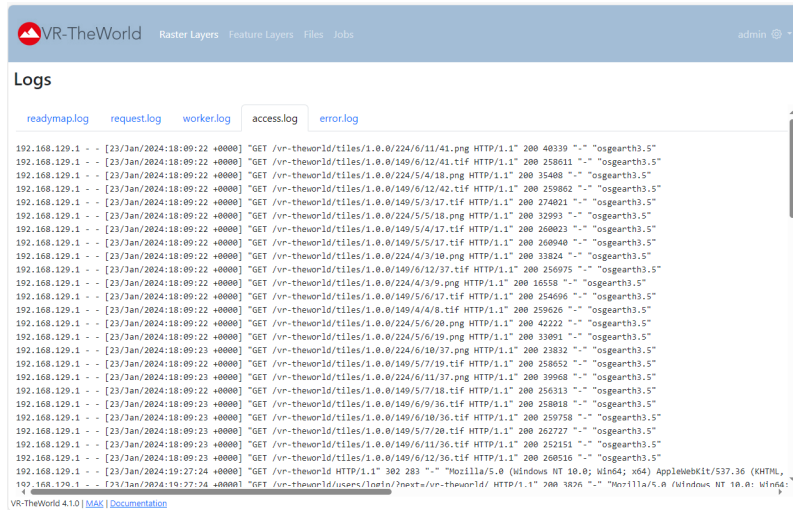
NAME	QUEUED JOBS	OLDEST QUEUED JOB	ACTIVE JOBS	DEFERRED JOBS	FINISHED JOBS	FAILED JOBS	SCHEDULED JOBS	WORKERS	HOST	PORT	DB
default	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	2	redis	6379	0
tile_generation	0	-	0	0	0	2653	0	2	redis	6379	0
tiling	0	-	0	0	0	0	0	2	redis	6379	0

Below the table, there is a link to 'View as JSON'.

6.4. Viewing Log Files

VR-TheWorld Server maintains several log files. You can view them in your browser (Figure 19).

Figure 19. Log files



► To view the log files:

1. Open the Admin menu and then select Logs.
2. Click the name of the log that you want to view.



A. Terrain Sources

This appendix lists the source for the data used by VR-TheWorld Server.

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A.1. Terrain Sources

Table 4 lists the terrains installed by VR-TheWorld Server and details about them. Table 5 lists the source material that make up the MAK Combined 30 m+ Elevation Layer.

Table 4. VR-TheWorld Server data sources

Layer		Details
Base imagery	Source	Pelican Mapping
	Website	
	Comments	Base imagery layer is made by Pelican Mapping combining LandSat 7 15 m imagery and BlueMarble ocean imagery.
	Layer type	Tile only.
Base Imagery Boston Inset	Source	Pelican Mapping
	Website	http://www.mass.gov/mgis/massgis.htm
	Comments	U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) data obtained from Massachusetts Geographic Information System (MassGIS).
	Layer type	Tile only.
Base Imagery DC inset	Source	Pelican Mapping
	Website	http://data.dc.gov/
	Comments	District of Columbia GIS Program 2008 Orthophoto.
	Layer type	Tile only.
Base Imagery Afghanistan inset	Source	Pelican Mapping
	Website	http://mapserver.cmf.nrl.navy.mil/
	Comments	Sourced from Project Rampant Lion 1
	Layer type	Tile only.
Base elevation	Source	Pelican Mapping
	Website	http://srtm.csi.cgiar.org/ http://topex.ucsd.edu/WWW_html/srtm30_plus.html
	Comments	Sourced from CGIAR. The 90 m elevation posts are ultimately from the Shuttle Radar Topographic Mission. Bathymetry comes from the Scripps Institute of Oceanography SRTM30PLUS.
	Layer type	Tile only.

Table 4. VR-TheWorld Server data sources (continued)

Layer		Details
Amherst	Source	Amherst, Massachusetts, USA
	Website	http://www.amherstma.gov/index.aspx?nid=1432
	Comments	
	Layer type	Local.
WAC,SEC, TAC and combined Aeronautical Charts layers	Source	U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
	Website	http://aeronav.faa.gov/index.asp?xml=aeronav/applications
	Comments	Purchased from Mypilotstore.com, then downloaded more from the FAA.
	Layer type	Local.
Chicago	Source	USGS
	Website	http://seamless.usgs.gov/hro.php
	Comments	Seamless data warehouse: IL_CookCounty_0.5ft_Color_May_2008_01, IL_CookCounty_0.5ft_Color_May_2008_02, IL_CookCounty_0.5ft_Color_May_2008_03, IL_DupageCounty_0.5ft_Color_May_2008
	Layer type	WMS, locally tiled.
Delaware	Source	USGS
	Website	http://seamless.usgs.gov/hro.php
	Comments	Seamless data warehouse: DE_State_0.25m_Color_Mar_2007
	Layer type	WMS, locally tiled.
Harris globe - White Sands, Holloman AFB	Source	Harris Corporation
	Website	
	Comments	Demonstration layers.
	Layer type	Local.
Hawaii	Source	Harris Corporation
	Website	
	Comments	Purchased from Harris. 15 m Hawaiian Islands.
	Layer type	Local.
HI RNC	Source	U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)

Table 4. VR-TheWorld Server data sources (continued)

Layer		Details
	Website	http://www.charts.noaa.gov/RNCs/RNCs.shtml
	Comments	National Ocean and Atmosphere Administration Office of Coast Survey.
	Layer type	Local.
Honolulu Water imagery	Source	Harris Corporation
	Website	
	Comments	Purchased from Harris. Blending between 1 ft and 15 m coastline for south Oahu.
	Layer type	Local.
Kandahar	Source	MAK
	Website	www.mak.com (Source data is not available on the web site.)
	Comments	MAK's hand modeled VR-Village inset into the Project Lion sourced Kandahar image.
	Layer type	Local.
Long Island	Source	USGS
	Website	http://seamless.usgs.gov/hro.php
	Comments	Seamless data warehouse: NY_StateLongIsland_0.5ft_Color_Apr_2007
	Layer type	WMS, locally tiled.
Mass15 and 30cm	Source	Massachusetts Geographic Information System (MassGIS)
	Website	http://www.mass.gov/mgis/massgis.htm
	Comments	Work in progress.
	Layer type	Local.
miami	Source	USGS
	Website	http://seamless.usgs.gov/hro.php
	Comments	Seamless data warehouse: FL_DadeCounty_1.oft_Color_Jan_2009
	Layer type	WMS, locally tiled.
NAIP	Source	U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
	Website	http://seamless.usgs.gov/naip.php
	Comments	Seamless data warehouse.
	Layer type	WMS, partially locally tiled.
nexrad	Source	Iowa State University

Table 4. VR-TheWorld Server data sources (continued)

Layer		Details
	Website	http://mesonet.agron.iastate.edu/docs/nexrad_composites/
	Comments	Not tiled, because map updates every 45 minutes.
	Layer type	WMS.
NJ	Source	USGS
	Website	http://njgin.state.nj.us/ortho2007/
	Comments	Originally USGS data downloaded through seamless, but it moved to the New Jersey Geographic Information Network (NJGIN) site.
	Layer type	Local.
NYC	Source	USGS
	Website	http://seamless.usgs.gov/hro.php
	Comments	Seamless data warehouse: NY_StateLongIsland_2.oft_Color_Apr_2008
	Layer type	WMS, locally tiled.
Oahu	Source	USGS
	Website	http://hawaii.wr.usgs.gov/oahu/index.html
	Comments	
	Layer type	Local.
Oahu DRG	Source	USGS
	Website	http://hawaii.wr.usgs.gov/oahu/index.html
	Comments	
	Layer type	Local.
Oahu 10m DEM	Source	USGS
	Website	http://hawaii.wr.usgs.gov/oahu/index.html
	Comments	
	Layer type	Local.
Ocean Route Charts	Source	FAA
	Website	http://aeronav.faa.gov/index.asp?xml=aeronav/applications
	Comments	
	Layer type	Local.
Orlando	Source	USGS
	Website	http://seamless.usgs.gov/hro.php

Table 4. VR-TheWorld Server data sources (continued)

Layer		Details
	Comments	Seamless data warehouse: Orange and Seminola Counties Apr 2008 1f
	Layer type	WMS, locally tiled.
Ridge Radar	Source	NOAA NWS
	Website	http://www.nws.noaa.gov/gis/otherpage.htm
	Comments	National weather service, live updating, not tiled.
	Layer type	WMS
San Diego	Source	USGS
	Website	
	Comments	Probably USGS.
	Layer type	Local.
Spot Map	Source	SpotImage.
	Website	
	Comments	Example layer of SpotImage.
	Layer type	WMS
US Canada Border	Source	USGS
	Website	http://seamless.usgs.gov/hro.php
	Comments	Seamless data warehouse: high resolution border imagery.
	Layer type	WMS, partially tiled.
Boston Buildings	Source	Pelican Mapping
	Website	
	Comments	Probably from MassGIS, but no longer available on that site.
	Layer type	
DC buildings	Source	District of Columbia Geographic Information System (DC GIS)
	Website	http://data.dc.gov/
	Comments	District of Columbia GIS Program.
	Layer type	
Oahu Lights	Source	MAK
	Website	www.mak.com (Source data is not available on the web site.)
	Comments	
	Layer type	

Table 4. VR-TheWorld Server data sources (continued)

Layer	Details	
Oahu Buildings	Source	Honolulu Land Information System (HoLIS)
	Website	http://gis.hicentral.com/data.html
	Comments	Airport cropped out of data.
	Layer type	
Oahu Vegetation	Source	MAK
	Website	www.mak.com (Source data is not available on the web site.)
	Comments	
	Layer type	
Structure NGA	Source	HoLIS
	Website	http://gis.hicentral.com/data.html
	Comments	Original Oahu buildings.
	Layer type	
Waiau Infrastructure	Source	MAK
	Website	www.mak.com (Source data is not available on the web site.)
	Comments	
	Layer type	

Table 5. Sources for the MAK Combined 30m+ Elevation Layer

Data	Coverage	Description
SRTM15_ Plus	Global	Global 15 arcsecond (500 m) elevation plus bathymetry. UC San Diego: http://topex.ucsd.edu/WWW_html/srtm30_plus.html
SRTM1	60N to 56S worldwide	1 arc second (30 m) resolution elevation. Date: February 2000. NASA: https://lpdaac.usgs.gov/dataset_discovery/measures/measures_products_table/srtmg1_v003 Geoprocessing: Converted from Int16 hgt format to Float32 TIF to facilitate merging in the EU-DEM Values = 0 removed

Table 5. Sources for the MAK Combined 30m+ Elevation Layer (continued)

Data	Coverage	Description
EU-DEM	Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kosovo (UNSCR 1244/99), Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia (FYR), Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom	1 arc second (30 m) resolution elevation. Date: 2000. Source: http://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/data/eu-dem Geoprocessing: Projected to WGS84

Table 5. Sources for the MAK Combined 30m+ Elevation Layer (continued)

Data	Coverage	Description
CDEM v3	Canada	0.75 arc second (22 m) resolution elevation. Date: 2012. Source: http://geogratis.gc.ca/api/en/nrcan-rncan/ess-sst/c40acfb-a-c722-4be1-862e-146b80be738e.html Geoprocessing: Water removed (0 elevation), Great Lakes water removed (various elevations).
Modelo Digital de Elevaciones de la Argentina	Argentina	30 m resolution elevation. Date: 2000. Source: http://www.ign.gob.ar/NuestrasActividades/Geodesia/ModeloDigitalElevaciones Geoprocessing: Water removed (0 elevation), Files merged for performance.
Continuo de Elevaciones Mexicanas 3.0	Continental Mexico	15 m resolution elevation. Date: 2012. Source: http://www.inegi.org.mx/geo/contenidos/datosrelieve/continuo/elevaciones.aspx Geoprocessing: File merged for faster processing.
Coastal Relief Model	Coastline of lower 48 states (United States), Hawaii, and Puerto Rico	3 arc second (90 m) US coastal elevation/bathymetric model. Date: Varies ~2005 Source: NOAA. https://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/mgg/coastal/crm.html Geoprocessing: 1 arc second southern California, elevation > 0 removed.

Table 5. Sources for the MAK Combined 30m+ Elevation Layer (continued)

Data	Coverage	Description
Tsunami Inundation	West Coast of US and some East Coast locations, plus some Alaska coastline, Puerto Rico, Bermuda, Virgin Islands, Guam, Midway	10 m coastal continuous elevation and bathymetry (lower resolutions for Alaska and some islands). Date: Varies. Source: https://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/mgg/inundation/tsunami/inundation.html Geoprocessing: Some files merged with 10 m 3DEP.
Estuarine Bathymetry	Only used east Coast US in areas not covered by Tsunami Inundation DEMS	30 m bathymetry of selected US estuarine areas. Date: Varies. Source: http://estuarinebathymetry.noaa.gov/finddata.html Geoprocessing: Values > 0 removed.
Great Lakes Bathymetry	Great Lakes (US/Canada)	3 arc second bathymetry of the Great Lakes. Source: https://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/mgg/greatlakes/greatlakes.html . Geoprocessing: Sourced in lake level datum, used Wikipedia to determine lake level for each lake and then converted it to reference the ellipsoid. Lake bathymetry merged into SRTM 30 m.

Table 5. Sources for the MAK Combined 30m+ Elevation Layer (continued)

Data	Coverage	Description
3DEP 10m	Washington, Oregon, California and Nevada (United States)	10 m data for US. Source: 3DEP (3D Elevation Program) is the elevation component of the USGS National Map, replacing the NED (National Elevation Dataset). https://viewer.nationalmap.gov/basic/?basemap=b1&category=ned,nedsrc&title=3DEP%20View Date: Varies. Geoprocessing: Areas that cover water are removed to allow for bathymetry. Many files are merged for faster processing. Washington files are merged with the Tsunami Elevation dataset (10 m) and the Puget Sound DEM for continuous elevation and bathymetry. Oregon and California are also merged with the Tsunami Elevation Dataset.
3DEP 1m	San Diego County, greater New York City Area, Boston (US)	1 m data for San Diego and several other cities. Source: 3DEP (3D Elevation Program) is the elevation component of the USGS National Map, replacing the NED (National Elevation Dataset). https://viewer.nationalmap.gov/basic/?basemap=b1&category=ned,nedsrc&title=3DEP%20View Date: Varies. Geoprocessing: Areas that cover water are removed to allow for bathymetry. Many files are merged for faster processing.
Catalina Island	Catalina Island	5 ft (1.7 m) for Catalina Island, California, USA. Source: Los Angeles County. https://egis3.lacounty.gov/dataportal/2010/02/19/2006-5-foot-1-7m-digital-elevation-model-dem/ Geoprocessing:. Removed values less than zero, merged in bathymetry from tsunami inundation, subtracted 1.5 m from all values from 0-2 to remove an anomaly and merge the bathymetry into the land data. Note: at some point may use this source dataset for the rest of LA county.

Table 5. Sources for the MAK Combined 30m+ Elevation Layer (continued)

Data	Coverage	Description
Puget Sound Digital Elevation Model (PSDEM)	Puget Sound (Seattle/Tacoma, US area)	Finlayson D.P. (2005) Combined bathymetry and topography of the Puget Lowland, Washington State, US. Source: University of Washington School of Oceanography. https://www.ocean.washington.edu/data/pugetsound/psdem2005.html Geoprocessing: Reprojected to WGS84. Bathymetry Merged into the Washington 10 m dem (see 3DEP)
MAK's 1 arc second (30m) dataset	World	A combination of all of the 30 m data sources above (SRTM1, EU-DEM with 1 arc second bathymetry sources, but without combining non-30 m sources). This dataset exists (created outside of VR-TheWorld) because VR-TheWorld doesn't allow us to specify an order of precedence for layers of the same resolution. Therefore, all 30 m sources needed to be combined, before being further combined with other-resolution sources. Geoprocessing: GDAL virtual file created out of the SRTM1 and the EUDEM (EUDEM taking precedence for its coverage). Virtual file then split into 100 k x 100 k pixel TIFF files with null data files removed. Overlaid with: Southern California 1 arc second coastal relief model Great lakes bathymetry Estuarine bathymetry



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