

Modulo — IT Security & Data Privacy Overview

What is Modulo?

Modulo is a desktop application for Windows that helps teams generate customised documents from master templates using Microsoft Word. It runs entirely on the local machine, no cloud processing, no document uploads, no browser-based editor.

Data That Leaves the Machine

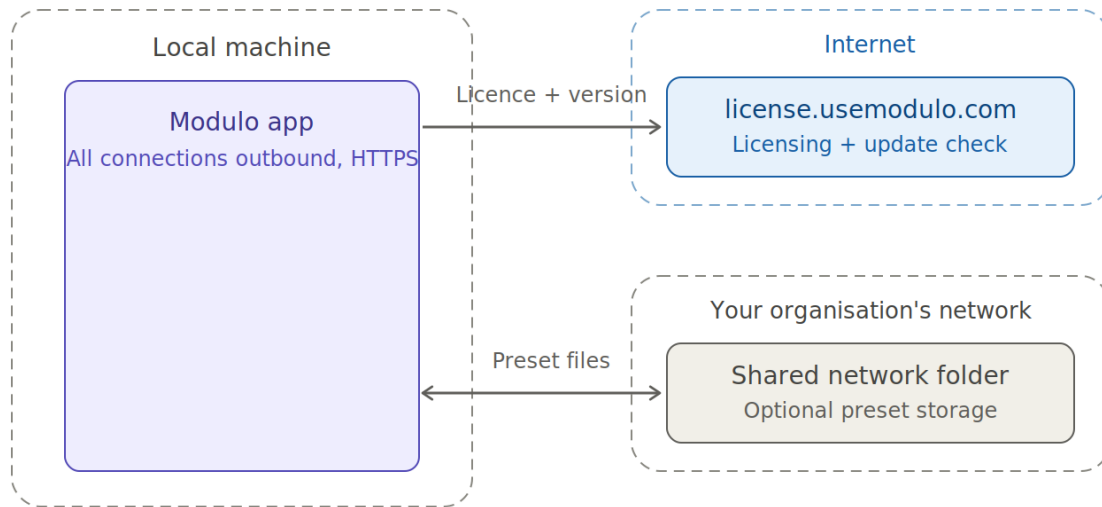
Modulo makes outbound HTTPS requests to our licensing server for license activation, periodic validation, and a lightweight update check. The data transmitted is limited to:

- **A one-way SHA256 hash of hardware identifiers** (CPU ID, motherboard serial, system UUID, and Windows installation ID), used to bind the license to the machine. This hash cannot be reversed to identify the hardware.
- **The computer name** (e.g. "ENGINEER-PC"), used for device identification in license management.
- **The license key** entered during activation.
- **The current Modulo version.**

That is the complete list. No other data is transmitted externally. The timestamp of your last successful validation is recorded by the server as a side effect of the check itself — it is not transmitted by the application.

The update check is a simple HTTPS GET to the same server that returns the latest available version number; it transmits no data beyond a standard web request. When a user chooses to download an update, the download is performed by the user's default web browser (via download.usemodulo.com), not by the Modulo application itself.

The complete set of external data flows:



All connections are outbound and initiated by the app. The shared network folder is optional and sits on your own network.

Every licensing request is a JSON POST to a single serverless function at license.usemodulo.com. The complete field list — five fields:

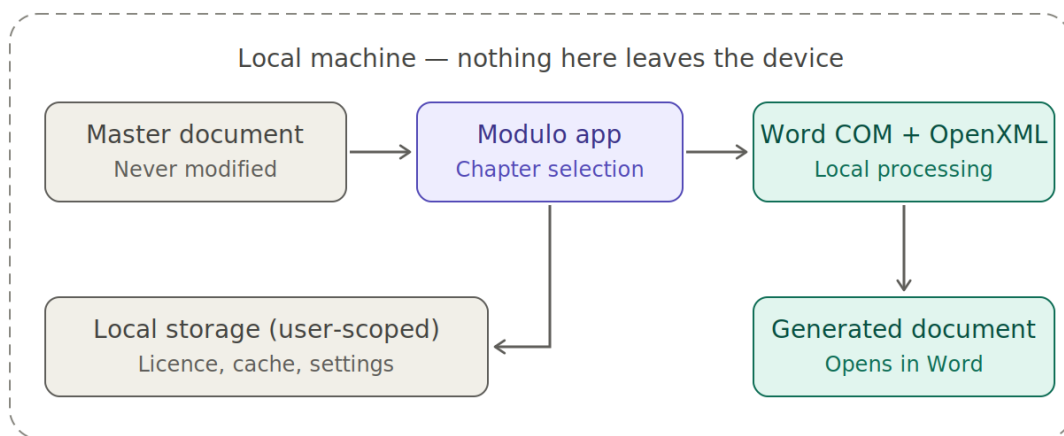
Field	Content
action	Which operation is requested (e.g. activate, validate, deactivate-device)
license_key	The license key entered by the user
machine_hash	One-way SHA256 hash of CPU ID + motherboard serial + system UUID + Windows installation ID
machine_name	The Windows computer name, for device management display
app_version	The installed Modulo version

The server's response contains license status only (validity, expiry date, device counts). No document data, filenames, usage data, or personal information appears in any request or response.

Data That Never Leaves the Machine

- **Document content** — all processing happens locally using the OpenXML SDK and Microsoft Word's COM interface. No document content is transmitted externally
- Document filenames and file paths
- Document structure or headings
- User selections or preset configurations
- Usage statistics (in team configurations, per-user preset usage counts are written to your organisation's own shared folder — see Shared/Network Storage below — but never to Modulo's servers)
- Any personally identifiable information beyond the hardware hash described above

All document handling in one picture — nothing in this view touches the network. The master document is opened read-only; Modulo works on temporary copies and writes the generated document wherever the user chooses:



Local Storage

Modulo stores the following on the local machine:

- **An encrypted license file** in %LocalAppData%\Modulo\ and a backup in the user-level Windows Registry (HKCU\Software\Modulo\License), contains license key, expiry date, and machine hash only
- **Document structure caches** in %LocalAppData%\Modulo\Cache\ stores heading structures, preset configurations, and a local working copy of the master document to enable offline use and improve performance. All cached data remains on the local machine and is never transmitted externally.
- **User preferences** (preset mode, display settings) in %AppData%\Modulo\settings.json

All local data is scoped to the current Windows user account.

Shared/Network Storage (Optional)

In team configurations, Modulo can optionally read and write preset files to a shared network folder chosen by the organisation. In this mode, per-user preset usage counts are also stored as small JSON files in the same folder so teams can see which presets are used most. Modulo performs only standard file operations on this folder; whether the organisation locates it on a local file server, NAS, or a cloud-synced location such as OneDrive or SharePoint is the organisation's choice, and any synchronisation is performed by the organisation's own tooling under its own policies. This is entirely within your own infrastructure; presets and usage counts are never routed through Modulo's servers. The organisation retains full control over this folder's location and access permissions.

System Access

- **Microsoft Word COM Interop** — required for document processing (reading headings, generating output documents)
- **WMI queries** — reads CPU ID, motherboard serial number, and system UUID for license binding. Also reads the computer name for device identification.
- **Windows Registry (HKCU and HKLM read-only)** — user-level storage for license data; reads a Windows installation identifier from HKLM for license binding (no write access to HKLM required)
- **Temp folder** — temporary working copies are created during document generation and cleaned up afterward

Modulo does not require administrator privileges to install or run.

Network Requirements

Modulo makes outbound HTTPS connections to a single external endpoint, used for license activation, periodic validation, and the update version check:

Endpoint: `license.usemodulo.com`

Protocol / Port: HTTPS (TLS) / 443, outbound only

Inbound connections: None. Modulo does not listen on any port and requires no inbound firewall rules.

No other external connections are made. If your environment restricts outbound traffic, whitelisting `license.usemodulo.com` on port 443 is the only rule required.

Modulo is designed to tolerate offline use between validation checks: a licensed installation can launch up to 100 times without reaching the licence server, and a trial installation up to 10 times, before a successful validation is required. Normal use on a connected network resets this allowance automatically, so in practice the limit is only relevant to machines kept offline for extended periods. The offline allowance does not extend a licence beyond its expiry date.

Summary

Question	Answer
Does document content leave the machine?	No, never
Does Modulo collect telemetry or analytics?	No
What data is transmitted externally?	Hardware hash + computer name + license key + app version only, over HTTPS
Does it require admin privileges?	No
Can it run fully offline?	Yes, up to 100 launches between checks; 10 on trial
Where is data stored locally?	AppData (user-scoped) and optionally a network folder you control

Question	Answer
How are updates delivered?	App checks a version number over HTTPS; downloads happen in your browser

For technical questions, contact stace@usemodulo.com
