O&O software

O&O BuildPE

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Introduction

O&O BuildPE assembles a boot environment with the O&O products you need and prepares the computer to start in it. A boot environment helps when Windows no longer starts, for example because of malware, or when you want to recover data without writing to the drive.

> **Archived Manual**
>
> This is the manual of O&O BuildPE. It is no longer updated.

Where to start

You want to	Start here
Get to know the program	About O&O BuildPE
Check what the computer needs	System requirements
Create a boot environment	Create a boot environment
Start a boot environment created earlier	Start an existing boot environment
Add your own programs	Add your own packages
Get help	Support and more from O&O

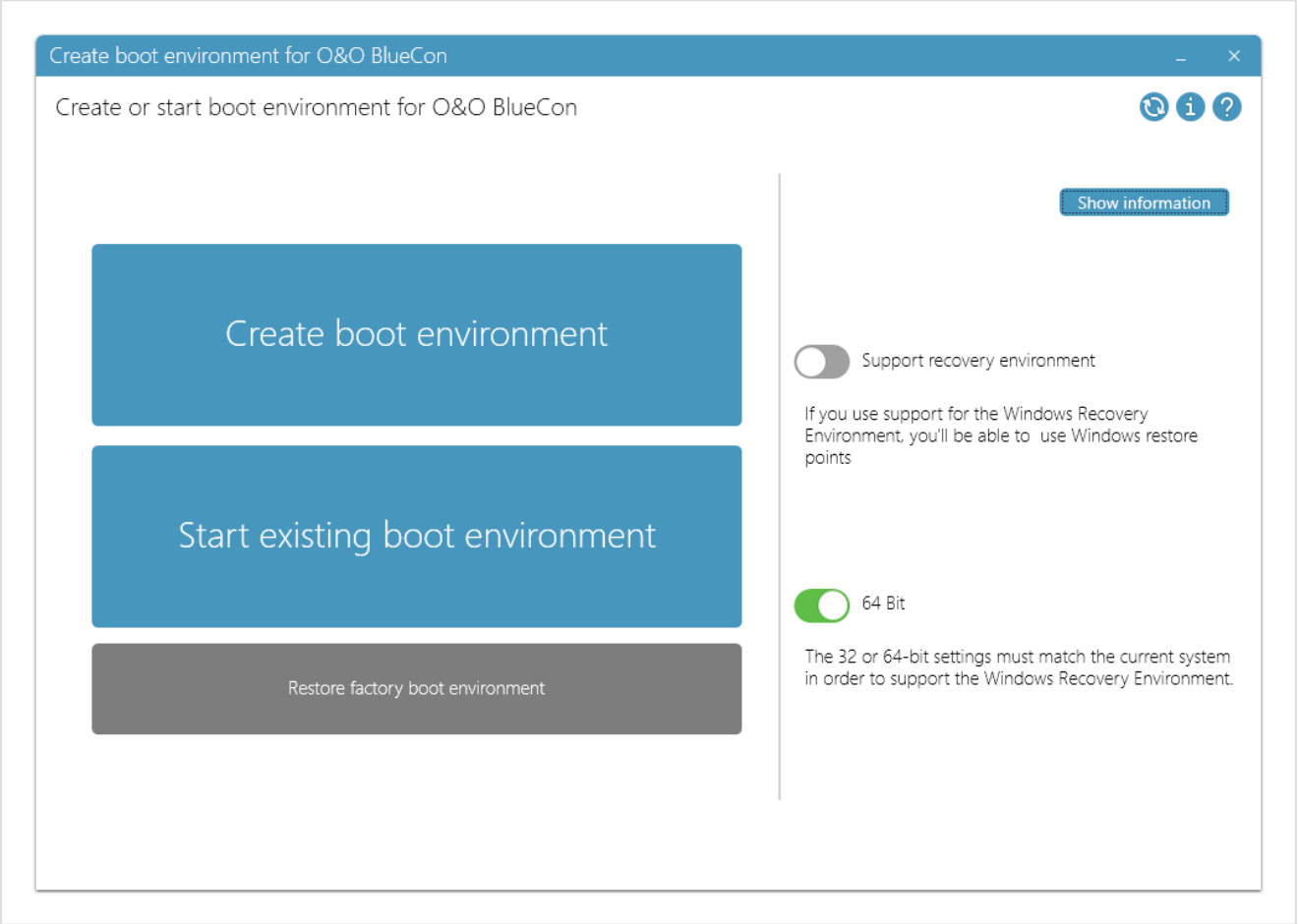
Licensing

A boot environment contains the Admin or Tech edition of the O&O products you add to it; each needs a valid license.

About O&O BuildPE

With O&O BuildPE you can create a bootable medium for our products. Admin or Tech versions can be purchased from us for the product whose boot environment you need.

O&O BuildPE is a help program that assembles the boot environment with the products you want and prepares the computer for starting in the boot environment whenever needed. This can be necessary when, for example, Windows is unable to start because of a problem caused by malware or if you want to recover data successfully without overwriting disk sectors.



While the procedure for creating the boot medium is always the same, the content of the resulting bootable environment varies. The text below will provide a brief guide for using O&O BuildPE. If you need further information about the individual product being assembled, please consult that product's help page on the O&O website.

We are happy to assist you with questions about the use of our products.

Yours O&O Software

www.oo-software.com

System requirements

O&O BuildPE has no special requirements for using a program’s features as intended.

- The minimum requirements of the respective operating system must be met
- 32-bit/64-bit Support
- .Net Framework 4.7.1
- Windows® 10 (all Editions)
- Windows® Server 2019 (all Editions)

:::note

A minimum of 3 GB hard disk space is required to install the ADK.

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Access permissions You must be a member of the local Administrators group or possess comparable permissions in order to install and register O&O BuildPE. You ordinarily possess such rights if you are a domain administrator.

Installation and uninstall

The installation of O&O BuildPE is very simple. Please follow the steps below:

1. Turn on the computer on which you would like to install O&O BuildPE.
2. Login as a local Administrator.
3. Insert the data medium with the required software in its respective disk drive, e.g. your DVD-ROM drive, or start the installation file provided (SETUP.EXE).
4. Please follow the installation guide and confirm the End-User license Agreement (EULA). Please read it carefully before the installation - it is binding.
5. To complete the installation of the program, please restart your computer, if you have not been prompted to do so already.

Updates

:::tip



Information about your installed program version can be found under **Info** .

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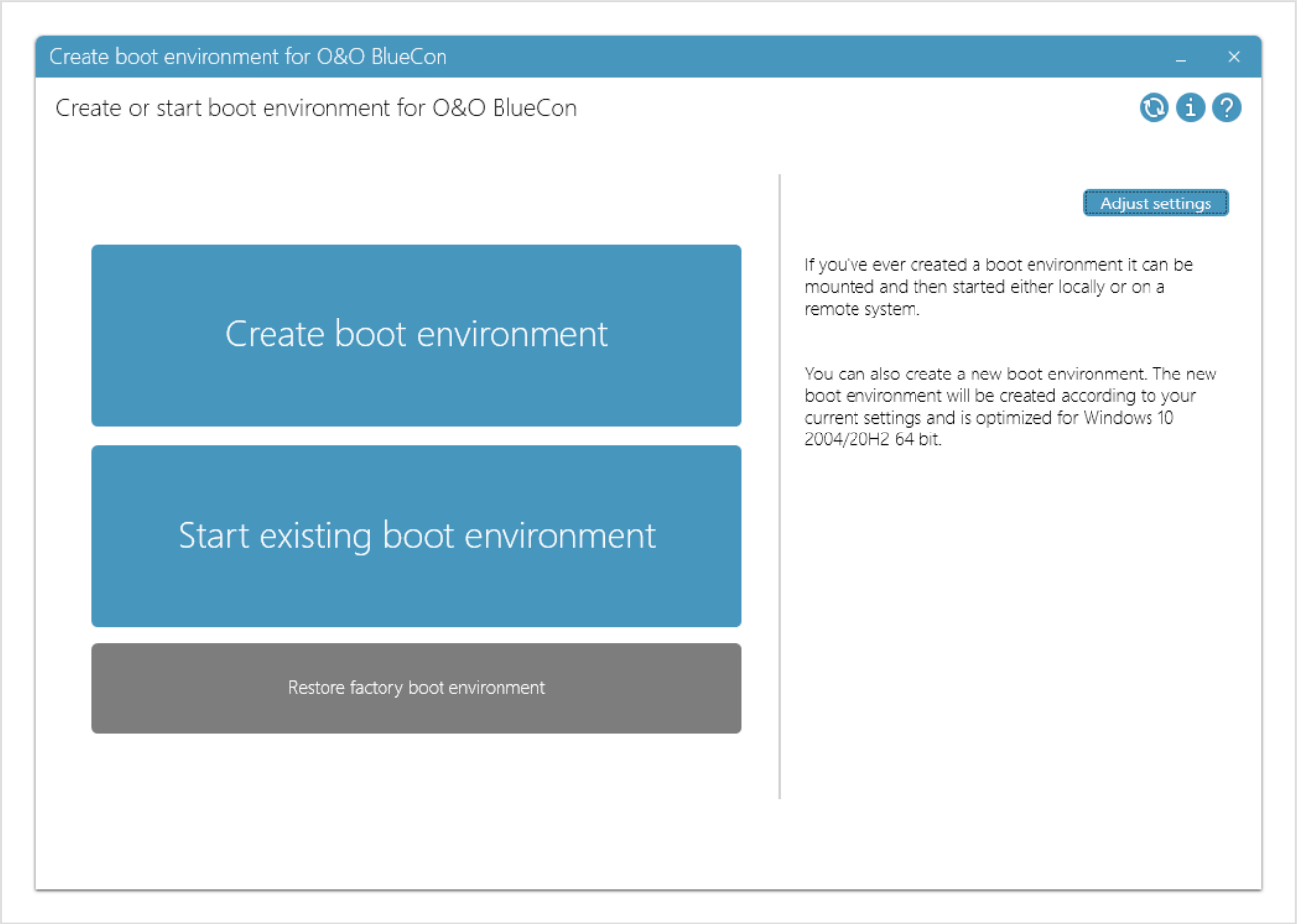
Uninstall

To remove O&O BuildPE from your PC, please follow the instructions below:

1. Open the **Control Panel** in the Windows start menu and then click on **Software.**
2. Select **O&O BuildPE** from the list and then click on (depending on the OS) **Uninstallation** or **Add/Remove**.
3. Confirm the uninstallation. You'll receive a confirmation notice when uninstallation is completed. When prompted, restart your computer.

Create a boot environment

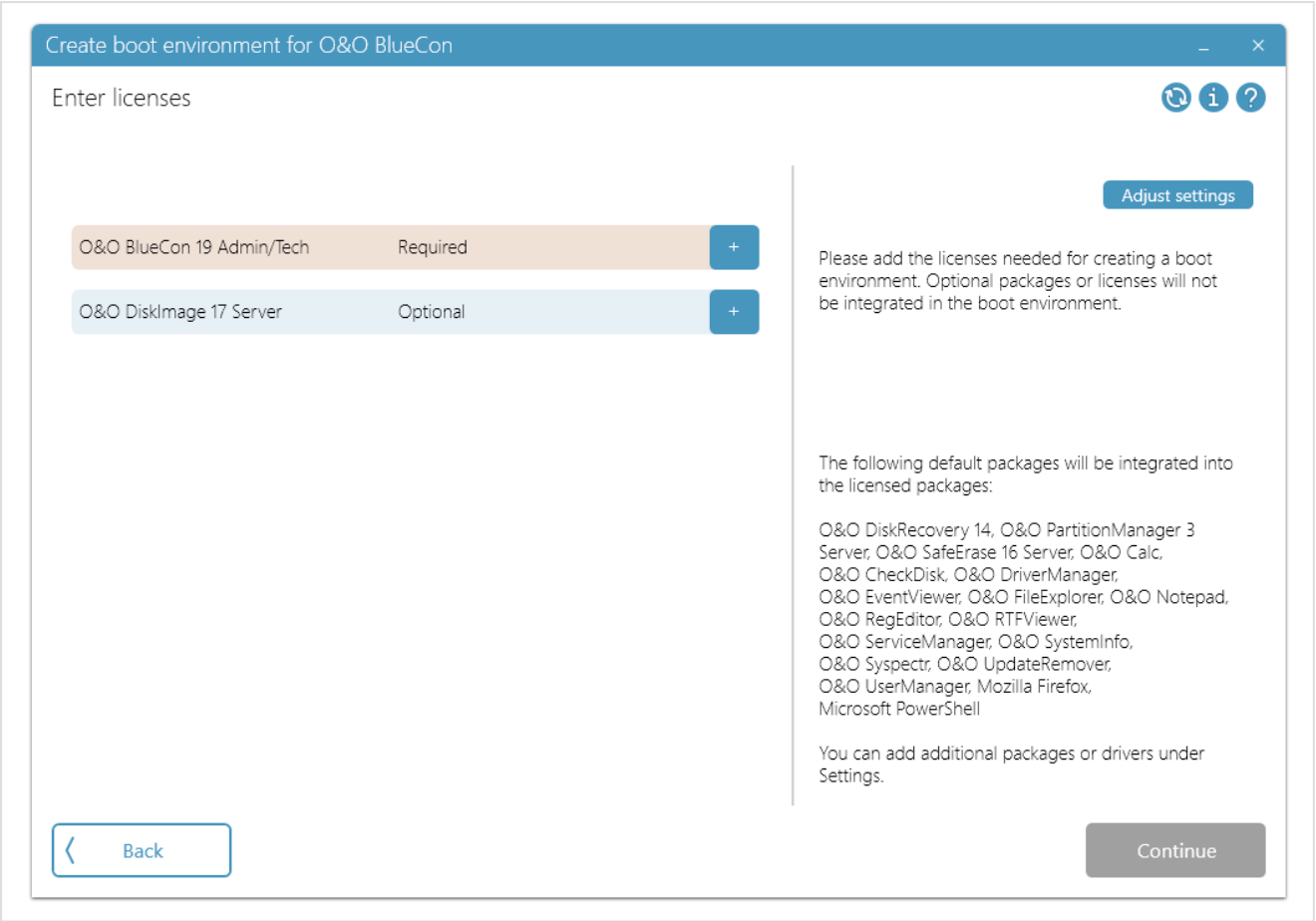
Start Select **Create boot environment** if you need a new boot environment for the desired program. The boot environment will be optimized for the operating system you're currently using. This selection will be enough if you plan on using the boot environment on your current computer or on a computer very similar to the one you're now using. These same settings will usually be applicable in most cases.



Aside from the choice of operating system, you also have the option of turning support for the recovery environment on or off. Once support of the recovery environment is enabled, options for Windows recovery points will be available in the boot environment following a successful boot sequence.

You can also change the architecture from 64 to 32-bits and vice versa. It's advisable to always adjust this option to the system involved.

Licenses To add all the licenses you want or need, click **+**. Doing so opens a window in which you must enter name, company, and serial number according the information you received after purchasing the product. You can also remove optional licenses to avoid adding a product to the boot environment. Standard packages are always included because they are important for the correct display and functionality of the boot environment.

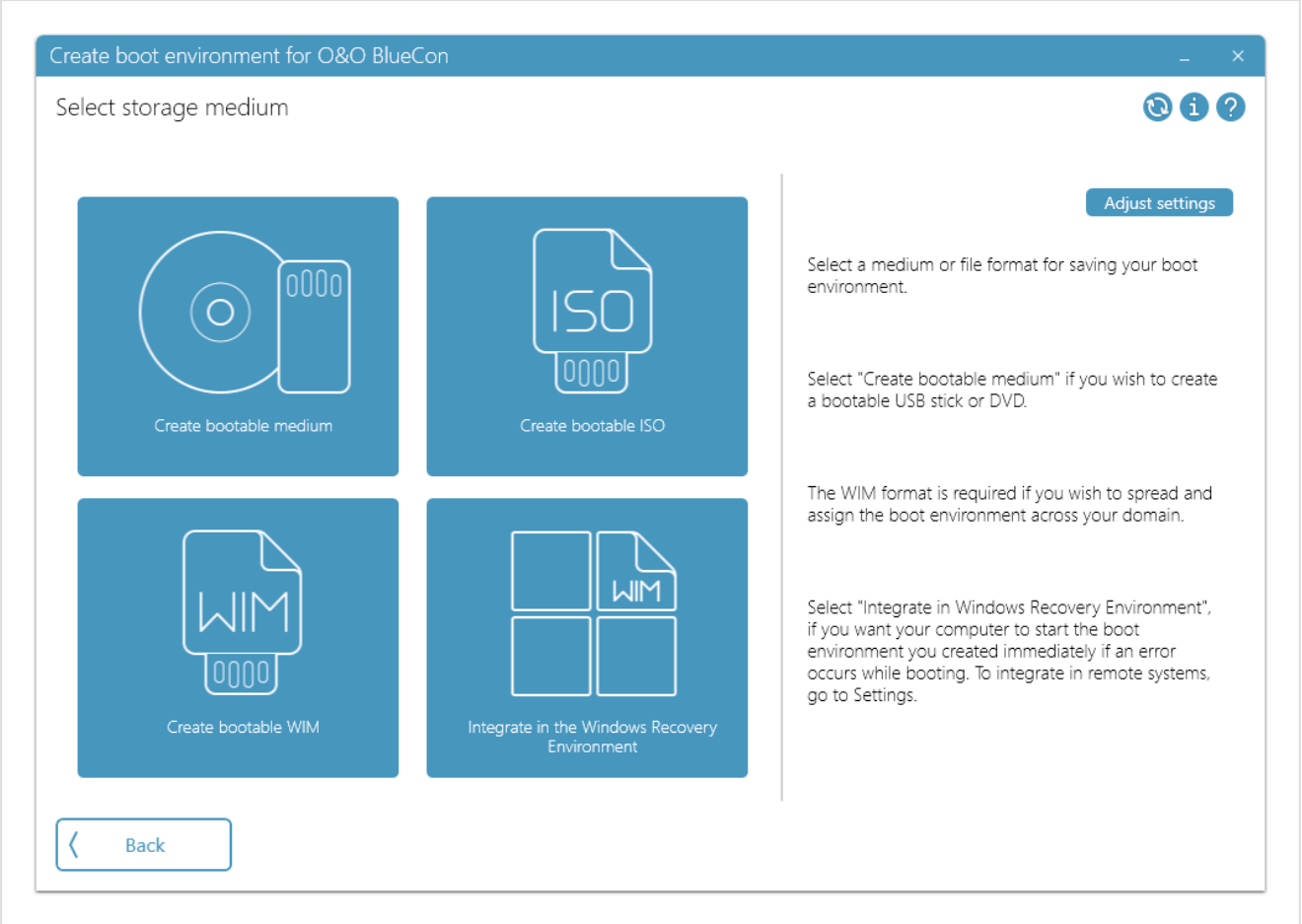


If you wish to add programs yourself or know that your system needs a special driver, click **Adjust settings** in the upper right and also click **+** on the corresponding field to the lower right. You can add drivers in INF format and programs as zip packages (INF-Files have to be in one folder). You can find out how to create a correct zip package for using O&O BuildPE right here (Add your own packages).

Click **Continue** after you've added all licenses, packages, and drivers.

Select medium Select how your boot environment should be saved. Saving on a USB stick is recommended if you have physical access to the computer on which the boot environment should be started.

Please note: The USB stick selected will be completely overwritten. All existing data on it will be lost!



You should select saving as an ISO file if you want to burn the boot environment on a DVD or plan to boot on a virtual system.

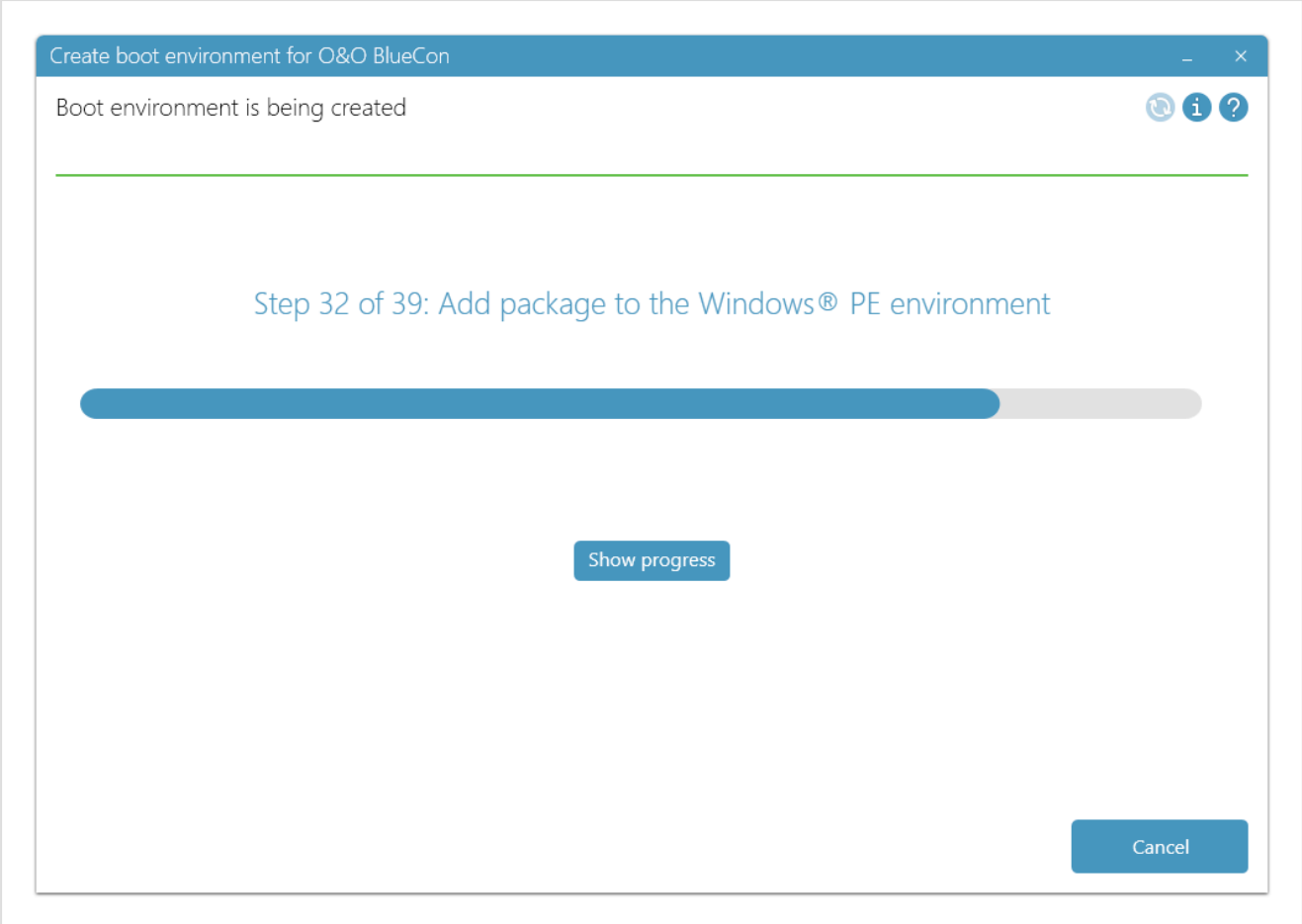
There's an option for integrating the boot environment in the Windows recovery environment so that after a system failure (for example, a bluescreen or malware attack), the computer can be started using the PE boot environment. If you want to integrate the boot environment on a remote system, click **Adjust settings** in the upper right and enter the name or IP address of that system in the text field.

:::note

Starting on remote systems is not supported by all boot environments.

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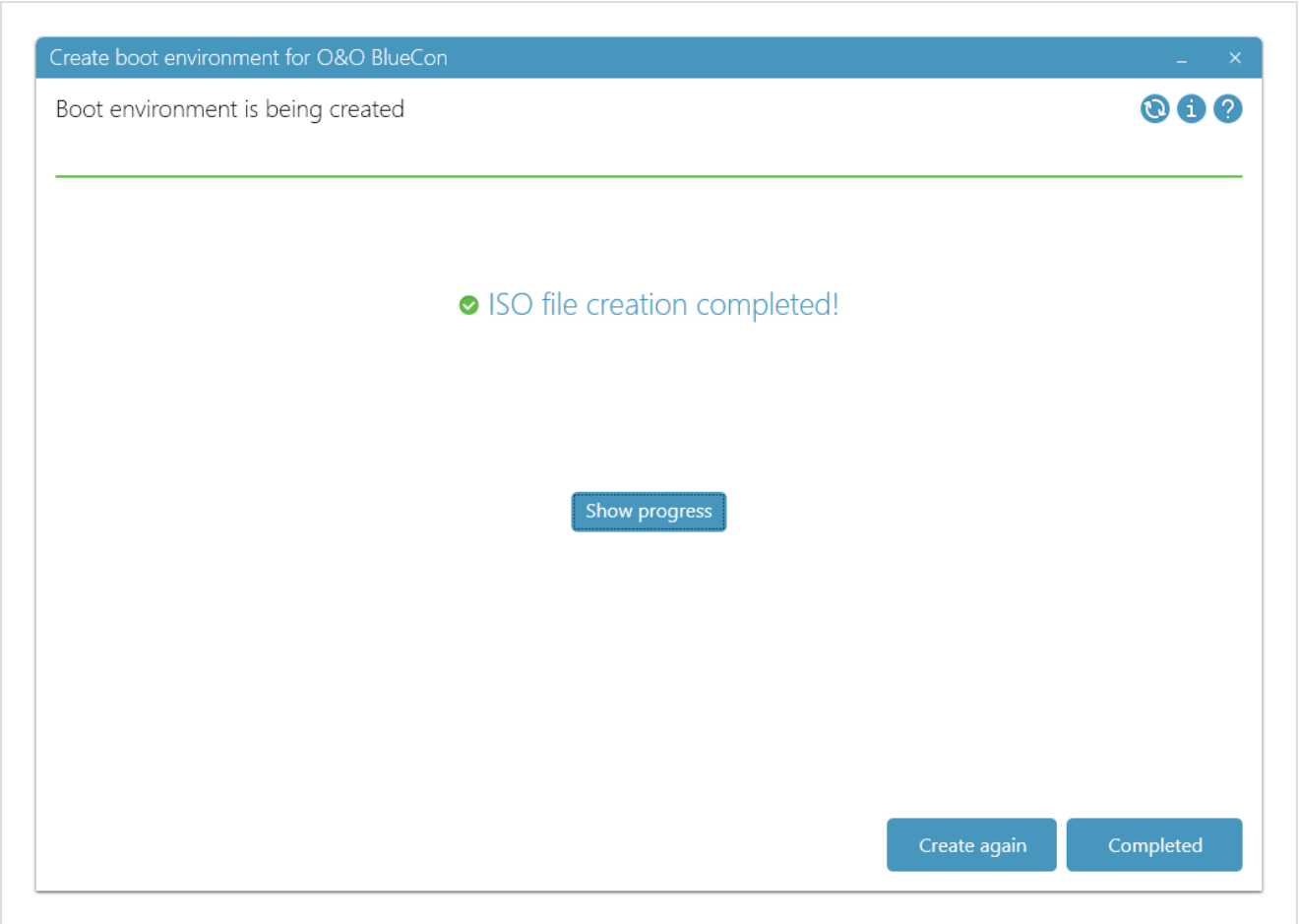
Creation Creation can take some time depending on the number of packages added and the extent of system load.



If you selected integration in the recovery environment, at the bottom left you can enable starting in the newly created boot environment. Following successful creation, the computer will be restarted and booted in the boot environment.

Cancel You can end creation of the boot environment by clicking **Cancel**. It can take several minutes for the process to stop after confirmation of the dialog because the program first has to start a clean-up routine. The clean-up routine is necessary in order for a boot environment to be created correctly the next time and to assure the system's consistency.

Create again After successful or even unsuccessful creation you can use the **Create again** feature, to the left of the **Completed** button, to create an additional boot environment. When doing this, the program might use a lot of data from the previous attempt. You could, for example, save the boot environment as an ISO, then click **Create again** and select saving the environment on a stick. Creation can now be done faster because some of the earlier data can be reused. The further back you go in the program, the greater the number of actions the program now has to run again.


Create boot environment for O&O BlueCon
Boot environment is being created
ISO file creation completed!
Show progress
Create again
Completed

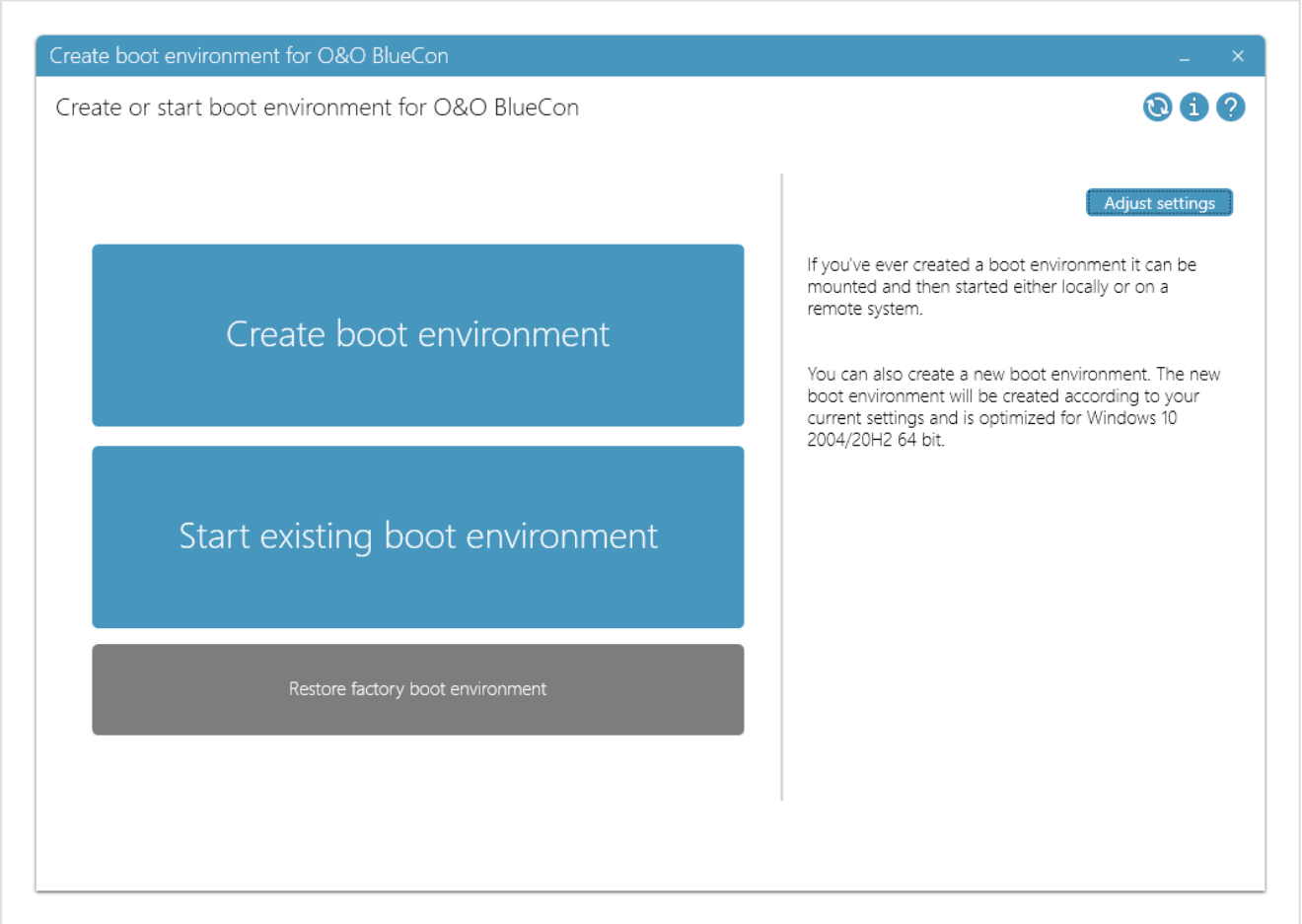
Start an existing boot environment

If you previously created a WIM using O&O BuildPE, you can start it retroactively with O&O BuildPE. Select **Start existing boot environment** and enter the path to the WIM you wish to use. You can now select whether you want a local or remote computer to be started in the WIM. If you want to transfer the WIM onto a remote system, you'll need to enter the IP address or name of that computer in the text field to the right. You should then click **Integrate and start in remote Windows recovery environment**.

:::note

Starting on remote systems is not supported by all boot environments.

:::



Add your own packages

The following instructions can help you easily add your own programs:

Create a folder that should contain the program you want such as “Program”. You’ll now need a new folder with the name “FS“that should be included in the “Program“ folder. “FS“must contain 3 additional folders: “NoArch“, “x64“and “x86“.

“NoArch“ can contain the following folders:

- „**SpecialFolder. Windows**“ o All files saved here will be copied in the Windows folder
- „**SpecialFolder. ProgramFiles**“ o All files saved here will be copied in the Programs folder
- „**SpecialFolder. System**“ o All files saved here will be copied in Windows\System32
- „**SpecialFolder. StartMenu**“ o All files saved here will be copied in the start menu
- “**SpecialFolder. ProgramData**” o All files saved here will be copied in the ProgramData folder

“x64“and “x86“each need the following folder structure

- „**SpecialFolder. ProgramFiles**“ o All files saved here will be copied in the Programs folder
- „**SpecialFolder. System**“ o All files saved here will be copied in Windows\System32

In the “Program“ folder, a config.xml must also be found along with the folder structure. This allows the following parameters:

```
a. <Name>Programm Name</Name>
b. <Publisher>Publisher Name</Publisher>
c. <Registry>
 i. <Root> User, SOFTWARE</Root>
 ii. <Subkey></Subkey>
 iii. <RegistryValue>
 1. <ValueName></ValueName>
 2. <ValueContent></ValueContent>
 3. <ValueType> String, ExpandString, Binary, DWord, MultiString, Qword</ValueType>
</RegistryValue>
```

The following contains an example of a config.xml we made for you:

```
<xml>
 <Name>O&O BlueCon 15 Tech</Name>
 <Publisher>O&O Software GmbH</Publisher>
 <Registry>
 <Root>User</Root>
 <Subkey>Control Panel\Desktop</Subkey>
 <RegistryValue>
 <ValueName>WallPaper</ValueName>
 <ValueContent>%SystemRoot%\wallpaper.bmp</ValueContent>
 </RegistryValue>
 <RegistryValue>
 <ValueName>WallPaperStyle</ValueName>
 <ValueContent>2</ValueContent>
 </RegistryValue>
 </Registry>
</xml>
```

Support and more from O&O

O&O Software support helps with questions and problems concerning O&O BuildPE.

Contact support

Open O&O Software support. Include:

- The version of O&O BuildPE.
- The Windows version of your computer.
- The O&O products in the boot environment and the step at which the problem occurs.
- The complete error message, if any.

Never send passwords or license keys. O&O support does not need them.

Licensing

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More from O&O

Product	Purpose
O&O DiskImage	Backup and recovery of drives and complete systems
O&O SafeErase	Secure deletion of files, drives and entire computers
O&O Defrag	Storage optimization for PCs and servers
O&O DiskRecovery	Recovery of deleted files

See all O&O products.