TotalRecalls Smart Search Engine (SSE) — Installation & Quick-Start Guide

Product: TotalRecalls Smart Search Engine (SSE) Add-On
Compatibility: Windows 10 & Windows 11 (64-bit)
License Tier: Add-on for TotalRecalls Downloader Pro
Privacy Contract: 100% Local PC Runtime — Zero Cloud Egress, No Account Required

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1. What You Need Before You Start

1. **TotalRecalls Downloader Pro**:
   Smart Search Engine is an add-on that indexes your downloaded conversations. You should have TotalRecalls Downloader Pro activated and at least one provider's conversations downloaded.
2. **Your Local Library Folder**:
   By default, Downloader Pro saves your conversations to:
   `C:\Users\<YourUsername>\TotalRecalls-download\Library\` (or whatever custom destination folder you selected in TotalRecalls).
   Inside, you will find dated Markdown (`.md`) and structured (`.json`) files organized by provider (`chatgpt` , `claude` , `perplexity` , etc.).
3. **Your SSE License Key**:
   Format: `SSE-XXXXXXXX-XXXX-XXXX` (sent in your purchase email).

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2. Quick-Start Installation (3 Steps)

Step 1: Unzip the Package

Extract the Smart Search Engine archive to any folder on your computer (e.g. `C:\TotalRecalls\SmartSearchEngine\` or on your Desktop).

Step 2: Launch Smart Search Engine

Launch the application by running the launcher script or executable: - **Windows**: Double-click `run-smart-search.bat` (or open `index.html` in Microsoft Edge / Chrome). - The application will initialize your local vector and relational database in memory.

Step 3: Activate Your License Key

1. In the top-right corner of the interface, look at the license status bar.
2. Click **Activate SSE Key** (or **Manage SSE License**).
3. Paste your `SSE-XXXXXXXX-XXXX-XXXX` license key from your purchase email into the input field.
4. Click **Activate SSE**.
5. The status pill will switch to `SSE Licensed` (verified against `https://totalrecalls.app/api/licenses/verify`). *(Note: Activation contacts the license server once to register your machine; after that, all searches, vector indexing, and SQL queries run 100% offline on your PC).*

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3. How to Use Smart Search Engine

A. Tri-Mode Search

- **By Meaning (Semantic Vector)**: Finds conversations based on concepts, themes, and conceptual answers even if the exact keywords were never used.
- **By Keyword (Exact Lexical)**: Finds exact model names, code snippets, dates, error codes, and unique strings.
- **Hybrid (RAG)**: Blends vector similarity (60%) with lexical BM25 matching (40%) for the most accurate recall.

B. Natural Language to SQL

Ask analytical questions in plain English, such as: - "*Which provider did I talk to most in October?*" - "*Show conversations with more than 50 messages about Python.*" The engine compiles your question into read-only SQLite SQL and renders the results as structured tables.

C. Offline Privacy & Security Guarantee

- **No telemetry**: Your search queries, conversation excerpts, and embeddings never leave your device.
- **Direct file links**: Every result links straight to the underlying `.md` or `.json` file on your local disk.

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4. Troubleshooting & Support

- **"Wrong Product" Error on Activation**:
  Ensure you are using the `SSE-` key in the Smart Search Engine, and the `TR-` key in Downloader Pro. Keys are module-scoped.
- **Activation Limit**:
  Each key permits activation on up to **3 of your own devices**. You can click **Deactivate (free slot)** before switching PCs to free an activation slot.

- **Need help or key recovery?**
  Email `support@totalrecalls.app` with your Paddle transaction ID (`txn_...`) and we will assist you directly.