SQL Server Licensing with M-Files

Question

What type of SQL Server licensing is required for M-Files backend use? I am not referring to the editions, but to the actual licensing options, e.g.: Server+CAL vs. Core-based. E.g. if one opts for the Server+CAL method, how many CALs are required?

Answer

Microsoft SQL Server EULA says that every user that uses the data hosted in SQL Server needs a license.

You can fulfill this requirement in two different ways:
1. By purchasing Server Licenses + a Client Access License (CAL) for *every* M-Files user, OR
2. By purchasing "Per Core Licenses".

You can use the following spreadsheet to estimate license cost and to choose the optimal license plan (SQL Server 2012) of different editions: Microsoft SQL Server pricing.xlsx.

Note: when using concurrent M-Files user licenses, the required number of SQL Server Client Access Licenses is based on the number of login accounts, not the number of concurrent user licenses.