Console 8 Mass Deployment

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About this document

Who is this document for?
- IT Managers
- System Administrators
- Desktop Support Technicians

This document assumes the audience is familiar with the following:
- Silent installations of applications
- Active Directory
- Group Policies and the use of them for deploying applications
- Basic Scripting

What is the purpose of this document?
- Describe the supported functions of silent installations of Certiport Console 8.3.1
- Give examples of how to use the silent install switches

Capabilities and Limitations of the Console Installer

Capabilities
- Able to install and uninstall silently (no feedback), quietly (confirmation of success) or interactively
- Able to specify test center, proxy and impersonation in the installation string. These settings will then be configured for first run without admin support.
- Able to be deployed via Group Policy via Login Script, Startup Script or .ZAP publishing
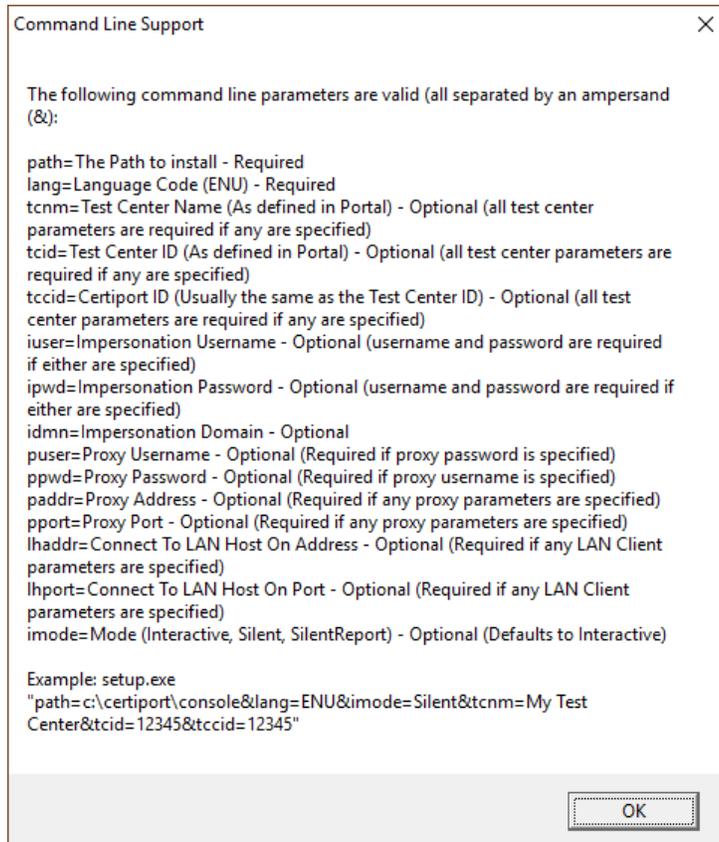
Limitations
- Installer is not a full MSI package
- Limited to use of batch files or scripts for mass deployment
- Without the use of obfuscation to hide any passwords, the string will be in clear text

How to use the installation switches

Basic use

The new Console install supports a number of switches to assist with configuring an installation before the first time run of Console. By using the /? from a command prompt, the following is presented:

```
Command Line Support                                              ×

The following command line parameters are valid (all separated by an ampersand
(&):

path=The Path to install - Required
lang=Language Code (ENU) - Required
tcnm=Test Center Name (As defined in Portal) - Optional (all test center
parameters are required if any are specified)
tcid=Test Center ID (As defined in Portal) - Optional (all test center parameters are
required if any are specified)
tccid=Certiport ID (Usually the same as the Test Center ID) - Optional (all test
center parameters are required if any are specified)
iuser=Impersonation Username - Optional (username and password are required
if either are specified)
ipwd=Impersonation Password - Optional (username and password are required if
either are specified)
idmn=Impersonation Domain - Optional
puser=Proxy Username - Optional (Required if proxy password is specified)
ppwd=Proxy Password - Optional (Required if proxy username is specified)
paddr=Proxy Address - Optional (Required if any proxy parameters are specified)
pport=Proxy Port - Optional (Required if any proxy parameters are specified)
lhaddr=Connect To LAN Host On Address - Optional (Required if any LAN Client
parameters are specified)
lhport=Connect To LAN Host On Port - Optional (Required if any LAN Client
parameters are specified)
imode=Mode (Interactive, Silent, SilentReport) - Optional (Defaults to Interactive)

Example: setup.exe
"path=c:\certiport\console&lang=ENU&imode=Silent&tcnm=My Test
Center&tcid=12345&tccid=12345"

                                                    [    OK    ]
```

A basic silent installation requires a path, a language and the installation functions to be specified. An '&' must be used between strings. For a silent installation, the 'iact' switch must be specified; if not, the installation will default to interactive. The switches are CaSe-SeNsItIvE, but can be in any order.

A basic, silent install example would be:

CertiportConsoleSetup.exe "path=c:\certiport\console&lang=ENU&imode=Silent&iact=Install"

This would install an English version of Console into the c:\certiport\console directory. Not specifying a required switch will make the installer launch in a normal, interactive fashion.

Use of Optional switches

Test Center

The additional switches populate the configuration file with the data specified. If the data is incorrect, it can be corrected once logged into Console.

To preconfigure an installation with a specific test center, one must specify all three switches; tcnm, tcid, and tccid.

The tcnm – Test Center Name – This should match with Certiport Portal for the Center name. This value does NOT have to be exact.

The tccid – Test Center Certiport ID, can be found as Organization Admin or Member via Portal. This number must be exact to function correctly.

The tcid – Test Center ID, also known as the Certiport Customer ID. For many test centers, this ID is the same as the Certiport ID. This number is an internal customer reference number to Certiport, and is not visible on Portal. If this number isn't the same as the Test Center Certiport ID, Support must be contacted to find this ID number. If the Test Center ID did not match, you will not see the Org Admin tools when you first log in to Console. The number must match for the pre-configuration to function correctly.

What if the details are not correct?

Q: What if the Test Center Name is incorrect?
A: The name specified will be displayed within Console as the name of the Test Center.
Q: What if the Test Center ID or Certiport ID is incorrect?
A: You'll still be able to log in to Console. You won't have any admin controls as you'll be logged in as normal user. A dialog box requiring an update will be displayed and as long as the account used is an organization admin or member, you can change to the correct test center.

Example:
An example of this switch would be:

CertiportConsoleSetup.exe "path=c:\certiport\console&lang=ENU&imode=Silent&iact=Install&tcnm=My Test Center&tcid=123456789&tccid=123456789"

Impersonation Switches

The use of impersonation switches are completely optional and only the username and password are needed, if used. Currently, the domain function of the impersonation is unavailable. The data included here is used to populate the *Admin Credentials* setting in Console. Since the text for the password is passed in clear text for the installation, it is recommended to obfuscate the script used.
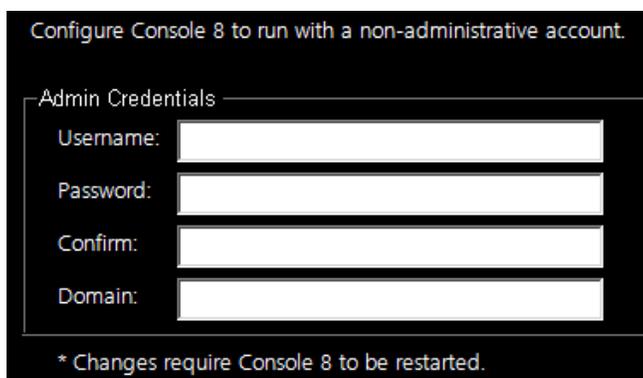
The impersonation switches are:

iuser – The impersonation username

ipwd – The password used for the iuser account

idmn – The domain used for the iuser account.

Note: Incorrect data for these fields will prevent Console from launching using the desktop shortcut or from a limited user account.

Example: CertiportConsoleSetup.exe
"path=c:\certiport\console&lang=ENU&imode=Silent&iact=Install&iuser=teacher&ipwd=password"

Proxy Settings

The proxy switches populate the proxy server settings in the *Proxy Server* settings control panel. They are completely optional and only the settings required to use a proxy server are needed. If a password is used for proxy access, it is recommended to obfuscate the script used. The switches are as follows:
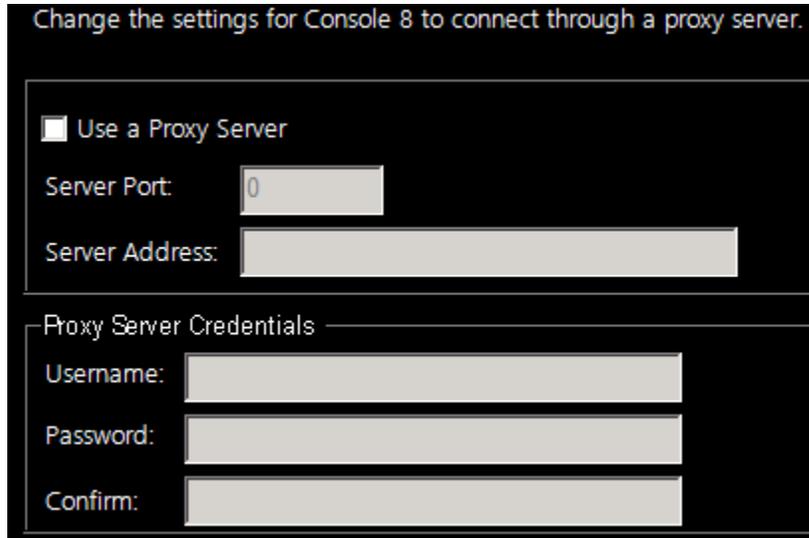
puser – Proxy Server user name, if required.

ppwd – Proxy Server password, if required.

paddr – Proxy Server FQDN or IP address.

pport – Proxy Server port used

Note: Incorrect proxy data will only prevent Console from being able to connect to Certiport. The settings can be changed from within Console, if needed.

Example:

CertiportConsoleSetup.exe
"path=c:\certiport\console&lang=ENU&imode=Silent&iact=Install&puser=proxyuser&ppwd=proxypass&paddr=my.proxy.com&pport=8080

Advanced Scripting

Use of a .ZAP file

Microsoft allows the use of a .zap file as a way to publish an available application over a network via Group Policy. It involves creating a .zap file for the application that can then be added to the *Published Applications* section of the *User Configuration* area of a GPO used for deployment. It can only be deployed under the *User Configuration*. The installation string needs to reference the server URL to work correctly. Once filled out, the .zap file needs to be saved to a location that would be accessible by the user installing the application. Using a .zap file will allow a user to *pull* the Console installer instead of being *pushed* out. The application then shows up under the G*et Applications* option of Add/Remove Programs. A user with the rights to install applications must be used to then run the scripted installer.

This is an example of a .zap file for use with Console:

```
[Application]
; Only FriendlyName and SetupCommand are required,
; everything else is optional.

; FriendlyName is the name of the program that
; will appear in the software installation snap-in
; and the Add/Remove Programs tool.
; REQUIRED
FriendlyName = "Certiport Console"

; SetupCommand is the command line used to
; run the program's Setup. With Windows Server 2003
; and later you must specify the fully qualified
; path containing the setup program.
; Long file name paths need to be quoted. For example:
;REQUIRED
SetupCommand = \\ADServer\Installations\Certiport_Console_Setup.exe
"path=c:\certiport\console&lang=ENU&iact=Install&imode=Silent&tcnm=My Test
Center&tcid=123456789&tccid=123456789"


; Version of the program that will appear
; in the software installation snap-in and the
; Add/Remove Programs tool.
; OPTIONAL
DisplayVersion = 8.3

; Version of the program that will appear
; in the software installation snap-in and the
; Add/Remove Programs tool.
; OPTIONAL
Publisher = Certiport
```

Logon Script

Running the installer as a logon script will cause the installation script to run when the user logs into the system. This requires that the user have permissions to be able to install applications. Error dialogs will still be displayed, even if ran silently. If the application has already been installed, and a command is not present to prevent execution, the installer will keep running every time the user logs in. This will overwrite the previous configuration and updates. A logon script is configured under the *User Configuration* policy for deployment.

Startup Script

Running the installer as a startup script will cause the installation script to run when the user starts up Windows. This doesn't require that the user have permissions to be able to install applications, as the application will be installed as a SYSTEM user. Error dialogs will still be displayed, even if ran silently. If the application has already been installed, and a command is not present to prevent execution, the installer will keep running every time the user logs in. This will overwrite the previous configuration and updates. A startup script is configured under the *Computer Configuration* policy for deployment.