

activu
vis | ability™ Version 6.5.1:
Installation Guide

Document Management

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Document Conventions

Text Formatting Standards

Table 1: Text Formatting Standards

Text Type	Appearance
Chapter Heading	<p>Font: Calibri, 20 points, Bold, Color: Blue-Grey Hex #425A69, RGB: 66,90,105, Left; Line spacing: 21-point, Space Before: 3 points.</p> <p>Example: Chapter Heading</p>
Chapter Sub-Heading	<p>Font: Calibri, 18-point, Font Color: Blue-Grey Hex #425A69, RGB: 66,90,105, Line spacing: Multiple 1.08</p> <p>Example: Chapter Sub-Heading</p>
Section Heading	<p>Section Headings are used to label a series of terms or sub-sections within a Chapter or Chapter Sub-Heading.</p> <p>Example: Section Heading This section describes the process of....</p>
Body Text	<p>Font: Callibri, Regular, 10.5 point.</p> <p>Example: This is body text.</p>
Titles and Names: Screen Titles, Field Names, Product Names, Table Column Titles, Command Names, Menu Titles	<p>Titles are capitalized and in bold.</p> <p>Example: Figure 1: Main System Tree screen of the System Administration Client</p>
Task or step-by-step instructions	<p>Task instructions are usually numbered and often preceded by the statement, "To execute this task, complete the following steps:"</p> <p>Example: To perform this task, complete the following steps:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Step 1 2. Step 2
Buttons	<p>Example: Buttons within body text, such as this Remove button, are relatively the size shown, and in line with the text baseline, as this Share  button is also displayed.</p>

<p>Activu product names are capitalized, appear in bold, followed by the Trademark symbol: ™</p>	<p>Example: Activu vis ability™</p>
<p>Hyperlinks</p>	<p>Text that is underlined in a blue color are links to cross-referenced topics in another area of the document. If the link is active, when the mouse is hovered over it, a tag pops up instructing the User to press CTRL+ Click to follow the link, as in the example below:</p> <p>Example: Error! Reference source not found. or Error! Reference source not found.</p>

Warnings, Tips, Cautions, and Important Notes

The following message boxes may appear within the text to call special attention to the information being described:



Tip: a note to provide insight about the software and its operation.



Warning: improper execution can cause unwanted operational effects.



Caution: similar to warning, but results will not be non-operational, or dire, if improperly followed.



Important: part of a process that needs to be completed to ensure changes or updates are completed.

Scope of This Manual

This manual provides a description of the architecture and administration of the Activu **vis|ability™** system and step-by-step instructions for how to install **Activu vis|ability™** software. Refer to the following manuals for additional instructions and information regarding other aspects of the **Activu vis|ability™** system:

[vis|ability™ 6.1 Desktop Client User Guide](#)

[vis|ability™ Scripting Guide](#)

[vis|ability™ API Guide](#)

[vis|ability™ Getting Started](#)

[vis|ability™ Administration Guide](#)

Vis | ability System Components

The vis|ability system, while like 5.4, is comprised of some different components than previous versions of the Activu software. This section will identify and define each component.

AppServer

The AppServer is a new software application for rendering spaces for mobile users as well as synchronizing application sources across multiple destinations. In simple terms it functions in a similar fashion to a decoder server, running applications in preset spaces on a display and being captured for distribution across the vis|ability system.

Base Client

The Base Client is new in vis|ability and functions as a marker for indicating that the PC on which it is installed is part of the vis|ability system. It also communicates to the Nexus which vis|ability software components are present on the PC, and can modify, remove, and install additional components.

Capture Client

Capture Client, previously known as the Activu Advanced Agent, is responsible for sharing both entire screens and applications over the network to other components of the vis|ability system. This component is essential for full functionality of a desktop client as well as a display server, and for using collaboration features.

The Nexus

This new component is the hub of the vis|ability system. It communicates with all pieces of the system through the Base Client to know when components are online and the details of their installations.

The Nexus usually resides on the PC containing the System Manager. This is the first piece of software that should be installed in a new vis|ability system.

Decoder Server

The Decoder Server is a software component that is designed to offload the decoding of IP streaming sources onto dedicated hardware. This component is mostly used for systems that include many IP streams that are needed to show concurrently on a single display wall.

Desktop Client

The Desktop Client is the main software component for end users. This software allows for collaboration between users, as well as control of display walls and custom button panels.

Device Manager

The Device Manager is typically installed on a PC in the vis|ability system that will be connecting to various hardware devices within the vis|ability ecosystem through IP or serial. These include displays, servers, TV tuners, etc.

Display Node

The Display Node is the software that powers displays that present visual information from the vis|ability system. This software, along with Capture Client, form the backbone of a Display Node, which is the PC that runs the software controlling the display wall.

Installation Manager

Installation Manager allows a user to install, update, and remove software components from the vis|ability system. This software can be installed on any PC in the vis|ability system but must have network access to the Nexus. It shows all PCs that have the Base Client installed and allows for control of vis|ability software on that PC. Only one instance of the Installation Manager can be connected to the Nexus at one time.

Interface Server

This software is designed to be the software that translates information from the Mobility Access Server for use by the rest of the vis|ability system.

Link Configurator

The Link Configurator, usually installed on an end user PC, is designed to allow end users to configure the behavior of Link integrations.

Link Integrator

The Link Integrator, along with its plugins, allows the vis|ability system to receive information, including alerts and alarms, from various third-party systems and send that information to both display walls and end users.

Mobility Access Server

The Mobility Access Server software allows mobile devices to connect to the vis|ability system. This software is usually installed on a dedicated machine along with the Integration Server.

Mux Router

The Mux Router, previously known as the multiplexer, is designed to receive data from Capture Clients, including screen shares, and send that information to other endpoints, whether they be display walls or other end users.

System Administration Client

The System Administration Client, previously known as ASM Admin, software allows for the administration of the vis|ability system. This software typically resides on the System Manager as well as end user PCs where the end users will be performing administration tasks.

System Manager

The System Manager is the main server component of the vis|ability system. This software contains all information about the vis|ability system, including users and permissions, sources, and display wall information. This component is typically installed on a dedicated PC, virtual, or physical, with the Nexus.

System Manager Prerequisites

Before the System Manager can be installed on the System Manager server, a few items need to be installed first. The first step in installing a vis|ability system is installing the Nexus, usually on the System Manager server. The Nexus is the hub of the vis|ability Activu system that monitors the status and programs installed on each machine in the vis|ability system that have the Base Client installed. The installation files will also need to be copied into the directory designated as the Installation Repository. Additionally, the Installation Manager should also be installed to facilitate the pushing out of additional software to other machines in the vis|ability system. Finally, the Base Client will need to be installed on every machine in the vis|ability system so that it can communicate with the Nexus.

Nexus Installation

The following procedure demonstrates how to install the Nexus:

Installing vis|ability Nexus

1. Execute **visibilityNexusSetup.msi**.
2. Accept the License Agreement and click **Next**.

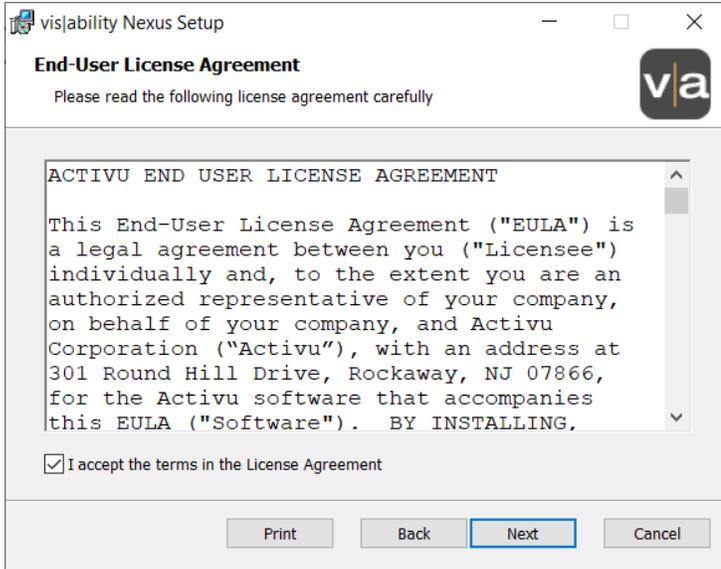


Figure 1: Nexus License Agreement

3. Change the **Centralized Update Repository** if necessary.
4. Add an **Admin Passphrase** and click **Next**.

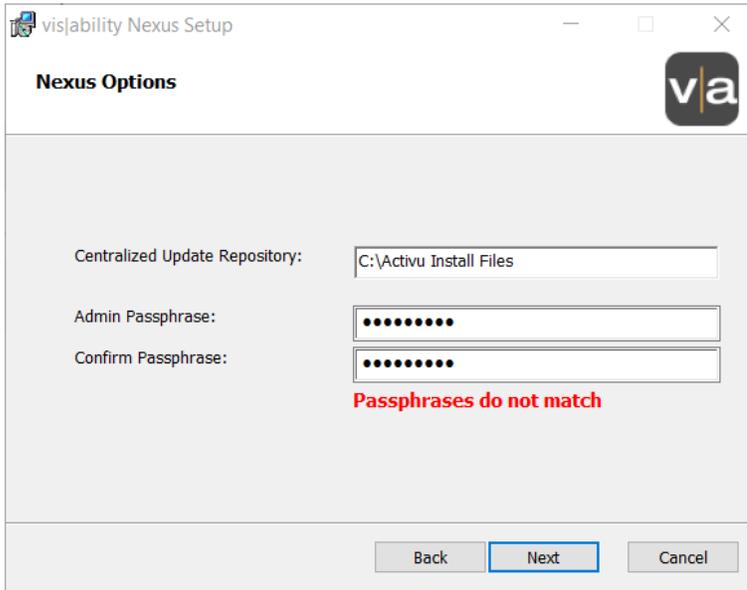


Figure 2: Nexus Setup Credentials

5. Change the installation directory, if necessary, and then click **Next**.

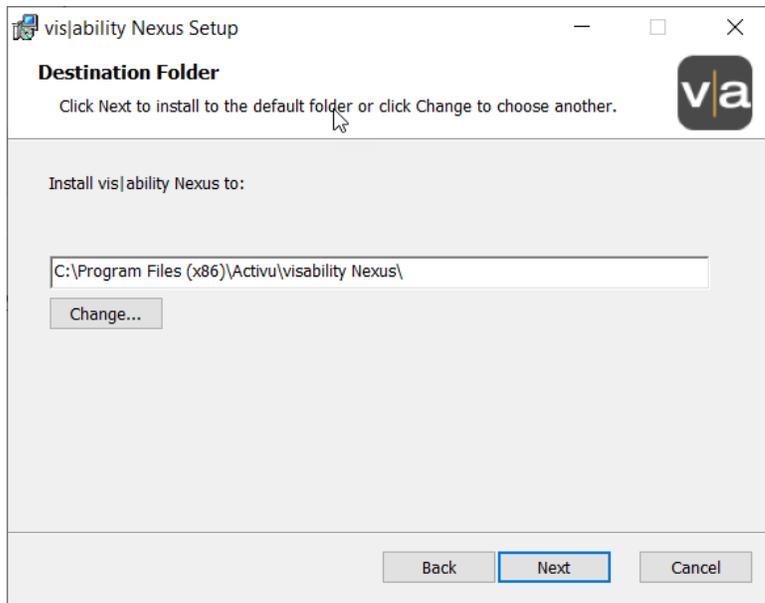


Figure 3: Nexus Installation Directory

6. Click **Install**.

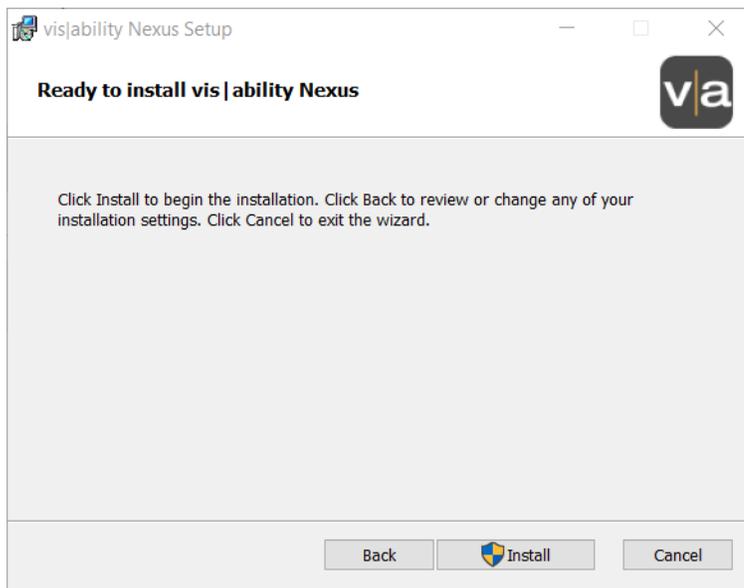


Figure 4: Nexus Install Button

7. Once the installation has completed, click **Finish**.

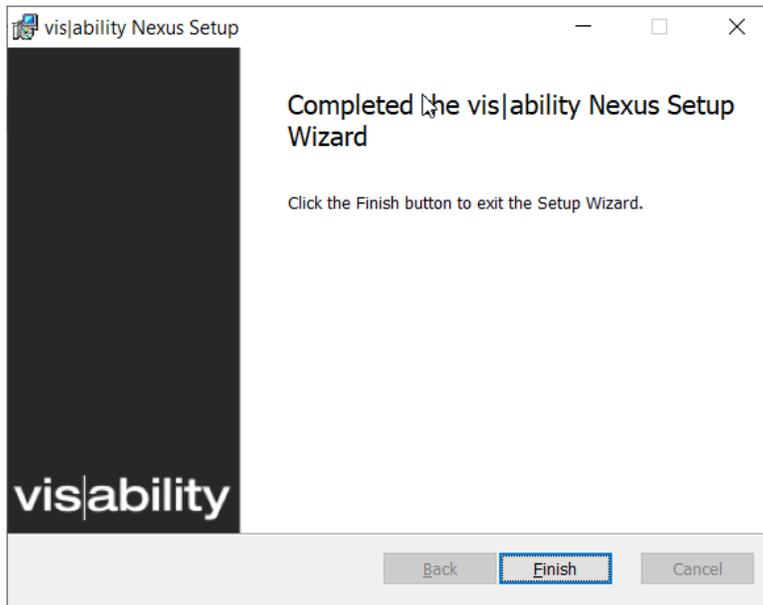


Figure 5: Nexus Installation Completion

10. Once the entire installation has completed, click **Close**.

Copying Installation Files

For the Installation Manager to be able to remotely configure software in the vis|ability system, it will need all the installation files for vis|ability to be available in the directory designated in the previous section. The following steps show how to format and copy the installation files:

Copying Installation Files for Installation Manager

1. If it doesn't exist, create a folder on the Nexus PC disk using the name specified in the previous section. For example, this is using the default **Activu Install Files** on the C: drive.

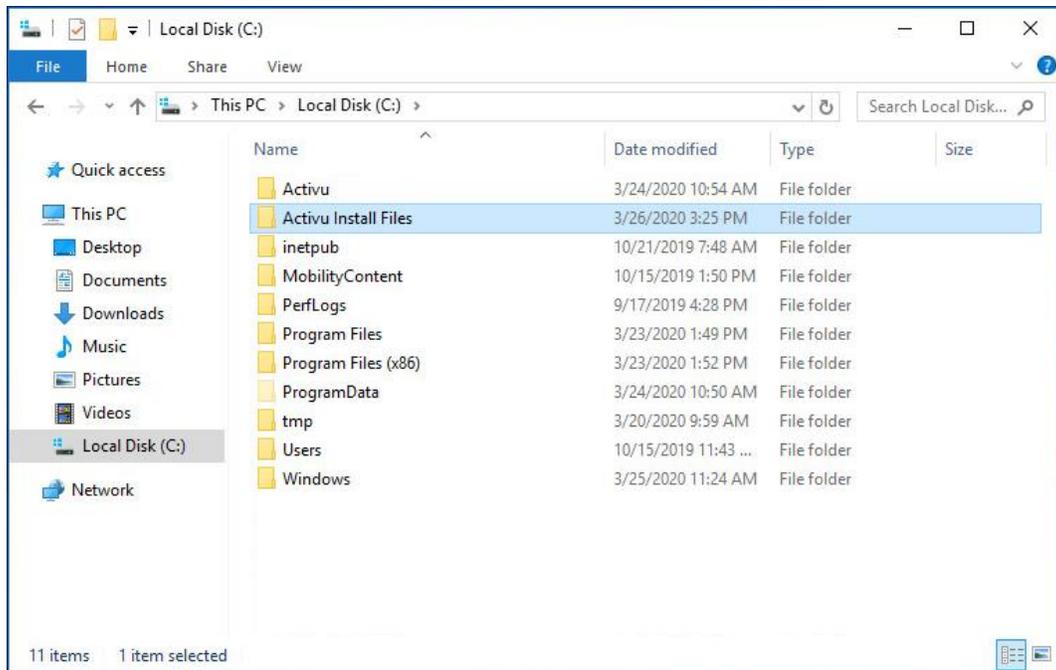


Figure 6: Activu Install Files Folder

2. Ensure that installation files that are being copied are placed in a version folder.

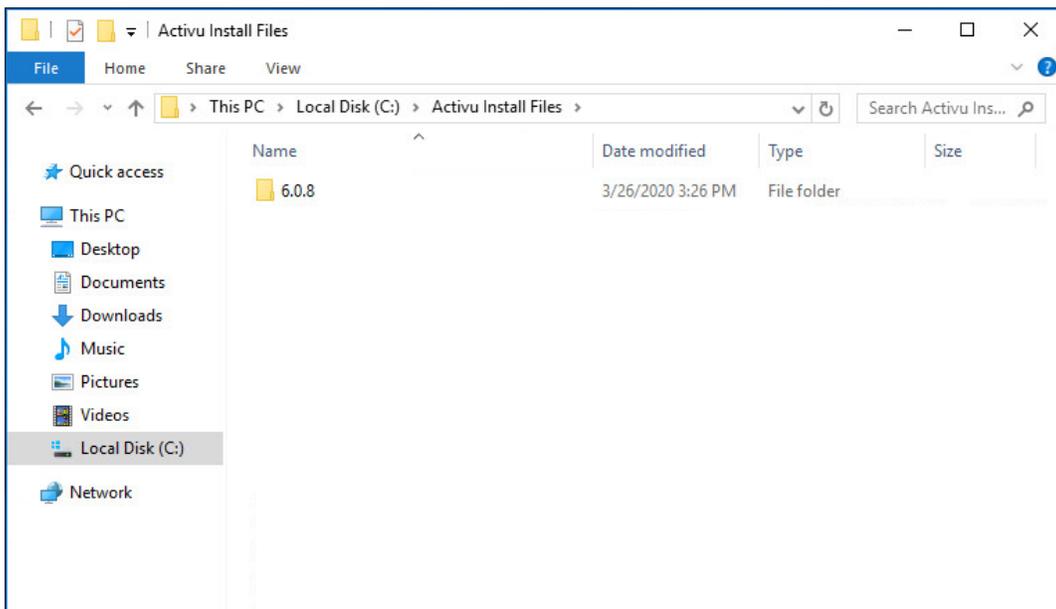


Figure 7: Installation Files

Ensure all the installation files are contained within their respective installation folders.

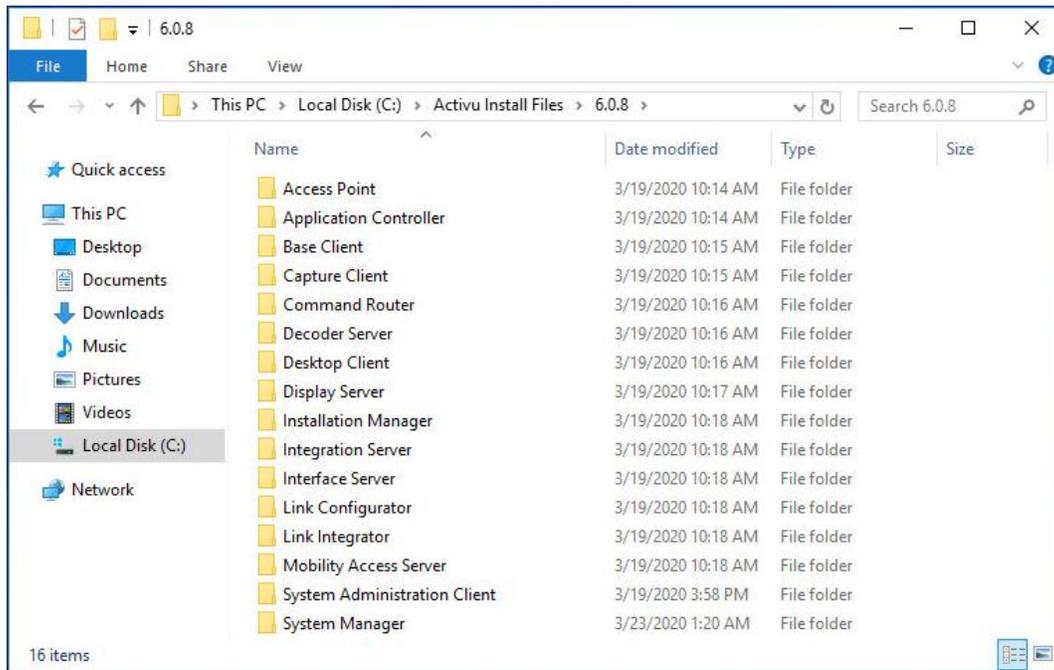


Figure 8: Installation Folder Listing

Installing the Installation Manager

The Installation Manager allows software to be pushed out to other machines in the vis|ability system. It can be installed and used on any machine with access to the Nexus, but initial install to the Nexus PC is recommended for ease of installation. The following steps show how to install the Installation Manager.

Installing Installation Manager

1. Execute **VisibilityInstallationManagerInstallerSetup.msi** and click **Next**.

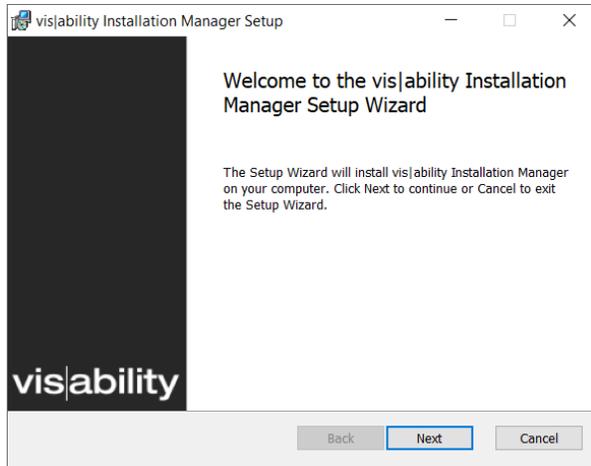


Figure 9: Installation Manager Setup Wizard

2. Accept the **License Agreement** and click **Next**.

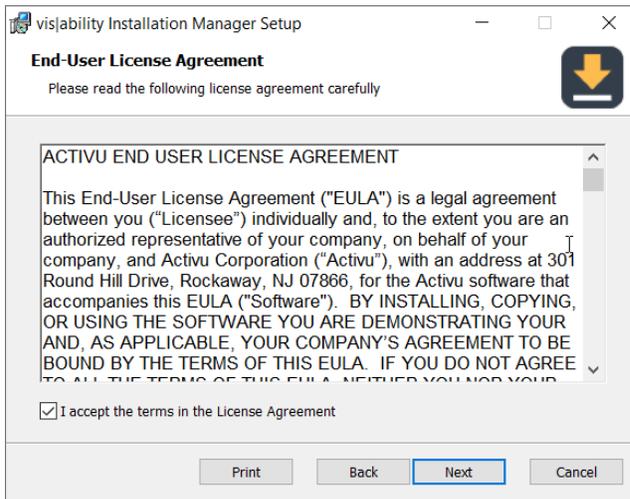


Figure 10: Installation Manager End-User License Agreement

3. Change the **Installation directory**, if necessary, and click **Next**.

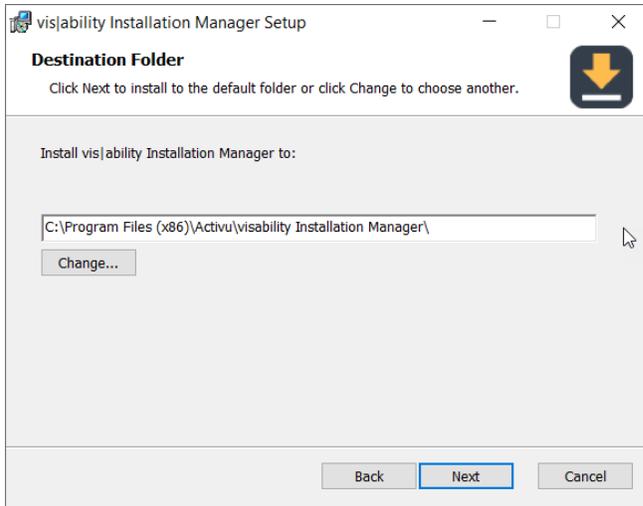


Figure 11: Installation Manager Setup – Destination Folder

4. Click **Install**.

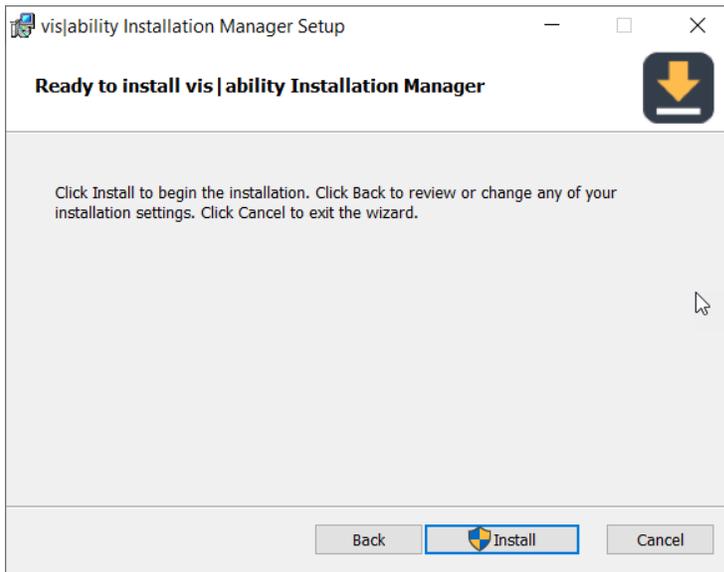


Figure 12: Installation Manager Setup – Install Button

5. Once the installation complete, select the **Launch Visibility Installation Manager** checkbox if needed, and click **Finish**.

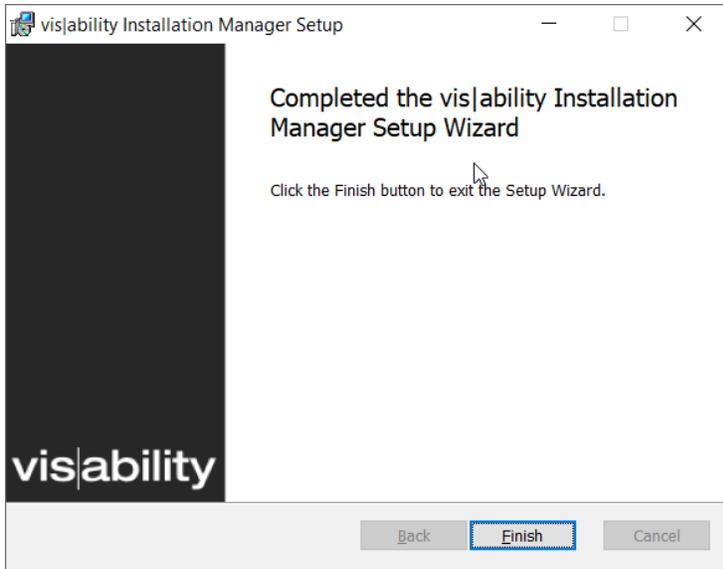


Figure 13: Installation Manager Setup - Completion

Installing Base Client

The Base Client allows the Nexus to see if the machine is running, and which vis|ability software packages are currently installed. It also facilitates the installation, update, and removal of vis|ability software packages. The following steps outline the installation process of the Base Client. This software should be installed on **EVERY** PC in the vis|ability system. This software will also create a file called CommandRouter.conf in the C:\ProgramData\Activu Corporation folder. This file is used to point the Base Client to the Nexus and **MUST** be defined with the IP or machine name of the Nexus PC.

NOTE

The Base Client can also be pushed out through Active Directory or another service that can remotely push MSI files. The following installation flag can be used for specifying the IP or machine name for the Nexus PC:

CONFIG_CR_ADDRESS=XYZ where XYZ is the IP address or machine name of the Nexus PC

FORCE_ADDRESS=IP or hostname of Nexus/System Manage r** reference the End User Software Packaging and Installation guide for more information.

Base Client Installation (Needs new screenshots)

1. Execute **VisibilityBaseClientSetup.msi**.
2. Click **Next**.

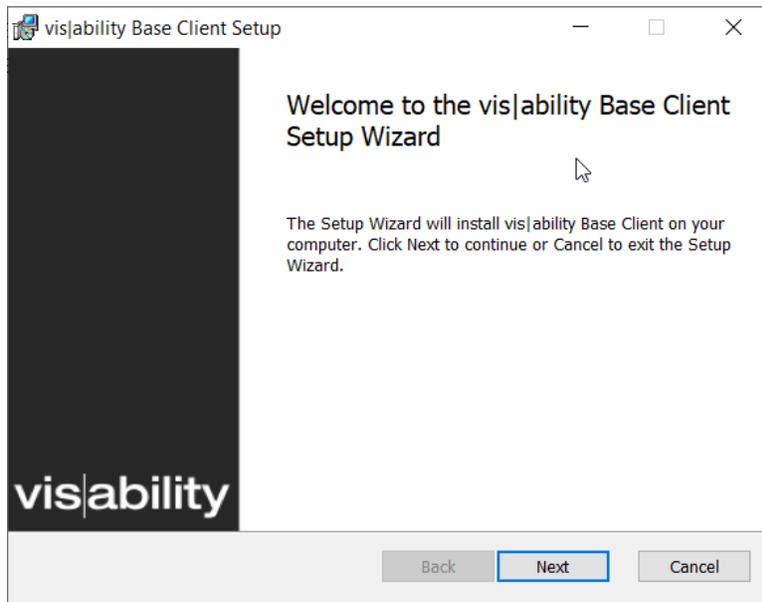


Figure 14: Base Client Setup Wizard

3. Accept the License Agreement and click **Next**.

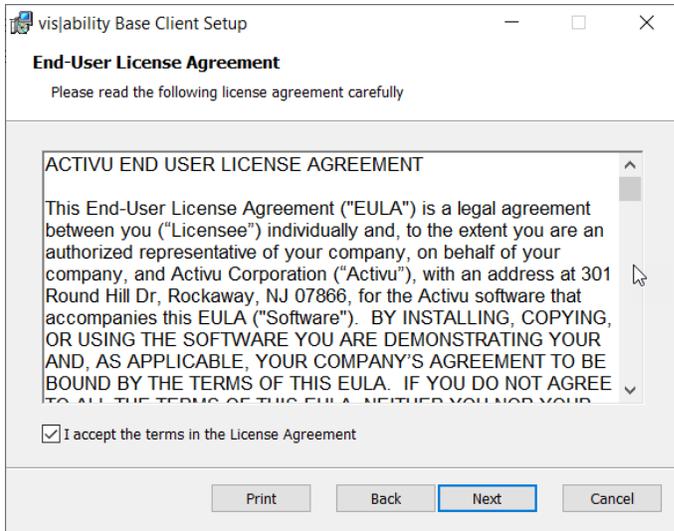


Figure 15: Base Client License Agreement

4. Change the Installation Directory, if necessary, and click **Next**.

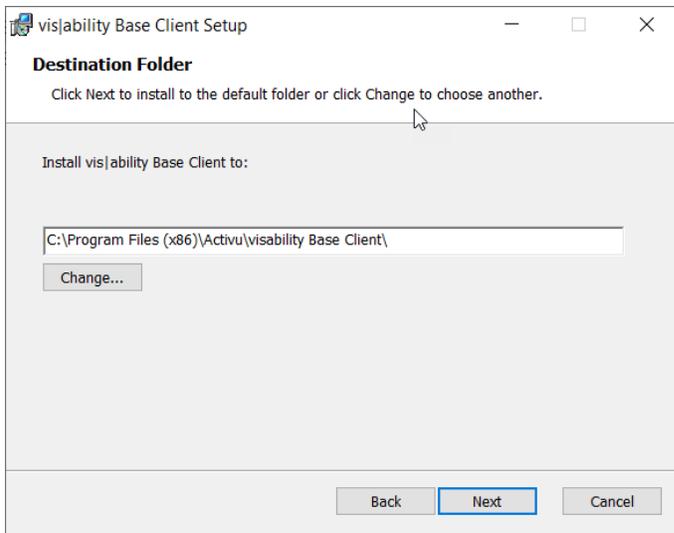


Figure 16: Base Client Setup Destination Folder

5. Specify the IP address or machine name of the System Manager, as well as the port of the Command Router (if different than the default). It is advisable to click **Test Connection** to ensure that the Base Client will be able to communicate with the Command Router properly. If the test is successful, click **Next**.

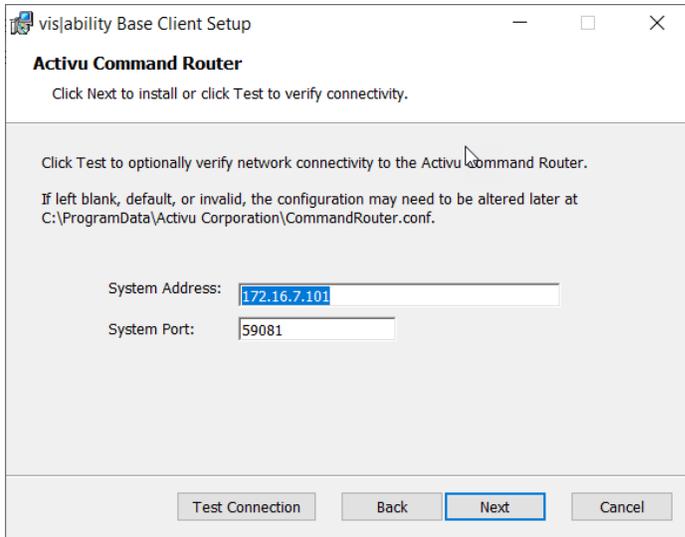


Figure 17: Base Client Nexus Setup

6. Click **Install**.

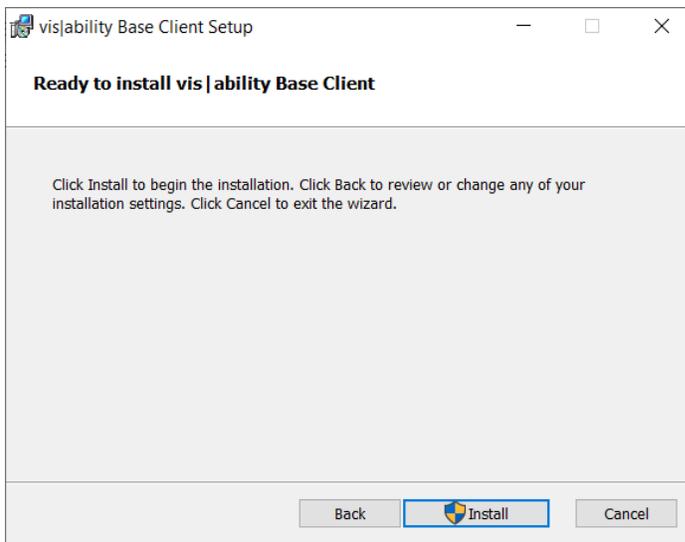


Figure 18: Base Client Install

7. Once the installation is complete, click **Finish**.

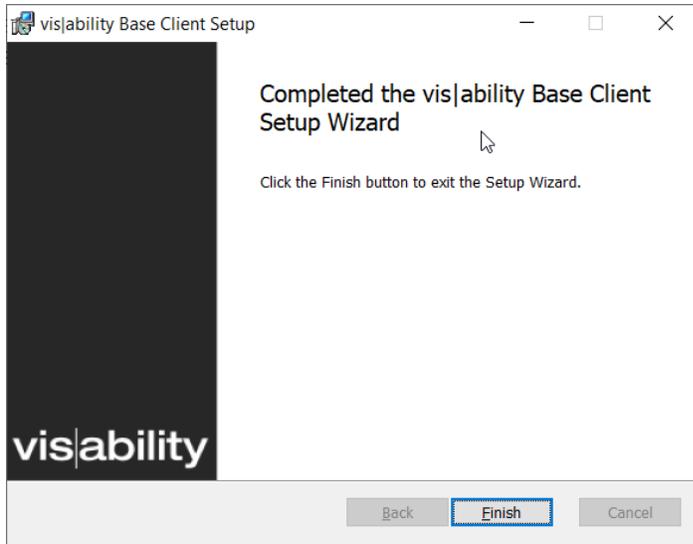


Figure 19: Base Client Setup Completion

Using Installation Manager

The Installation Manager will allow additional software to be pushed to endpoints within the vis|ability system, including software updates.

Launching Installation Manager

To open the Installation Manager, use the following steps:

Launching Installation Manager

1. Open the Start Menu, and either click Visibility Installation Manager under the Activu folder, or type part of the program name and click Visibility Installation Manager from the search results.
2. Enter the following information:
 - The IP address of the Nexus and the port if it's not using the default.
 - Username
 - Password
3. Click **Connect**.

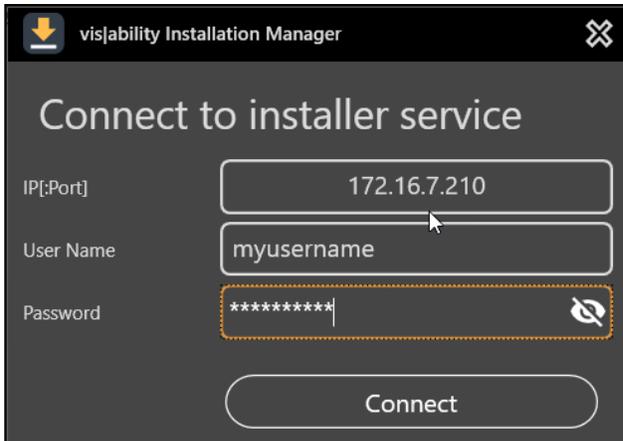


Figure 20: Installation Manager Log in

The Installation Manager opens.

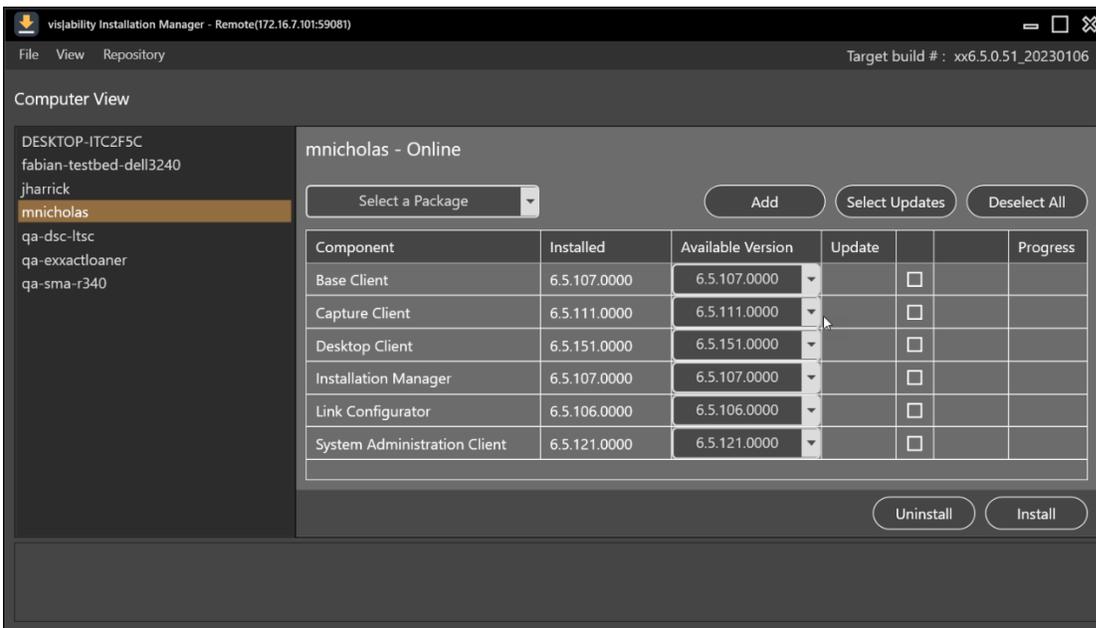


Figure 21: Installation Manager Main Window

Installation Manager Overview

Overview of Installation Manager Menu

The following table will list each menu item in the Installation Manager and provide a brief overview of its functionality:

Installation Manager Menu

Table 2: Installation Manager Properties

Item	Description
File → About	Opens a window providing Installation Manager details, including version number, license information, and assemblies used
File → Exit	Closes the Installation Manager
View → Computer View	The default view of Installation Manager. This shows all PCs connected to the Nexus through Base Client in the left panel with each component installed on that system shown on the right
View → Component View	Shows all vis ability system components in the left panel and which connected PCs have the software component installed on the right
View → Refresh View	Refreshes the list of available software components, connected PCs, and the installation status and versions of installed components on PCs
Repository → Select Target Version	Allows for the change of the software version scanned and shown in the Installation Manager. This list is defined by the folders contained in the top level of the installation files folder. (see Copying Installation Files)
Repository → Upload Patch	Allows an updated installation file to be uploaded into the repository
Repository → Rescan Repository	Refreshes the list of available software versions from the installation folder

Installation Manager Interface

The installation Manager interface is mainly comprised of the menu, navigation pane, and details pane. The following will describe each interface:

Navigation Pane

The navigation pane shows either the list of PCs or list of software components in the vis|ability system. Clicking on each item will show the details of that item in the details pane. The highlighted item is the one currently selected.

Component View

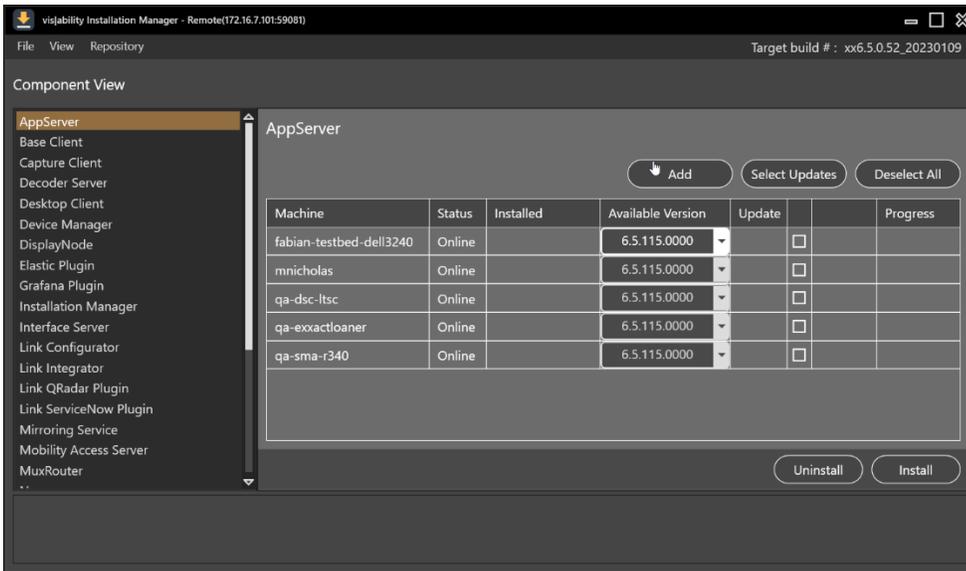


Figure 22: Installation Manager – Component View

Computer View

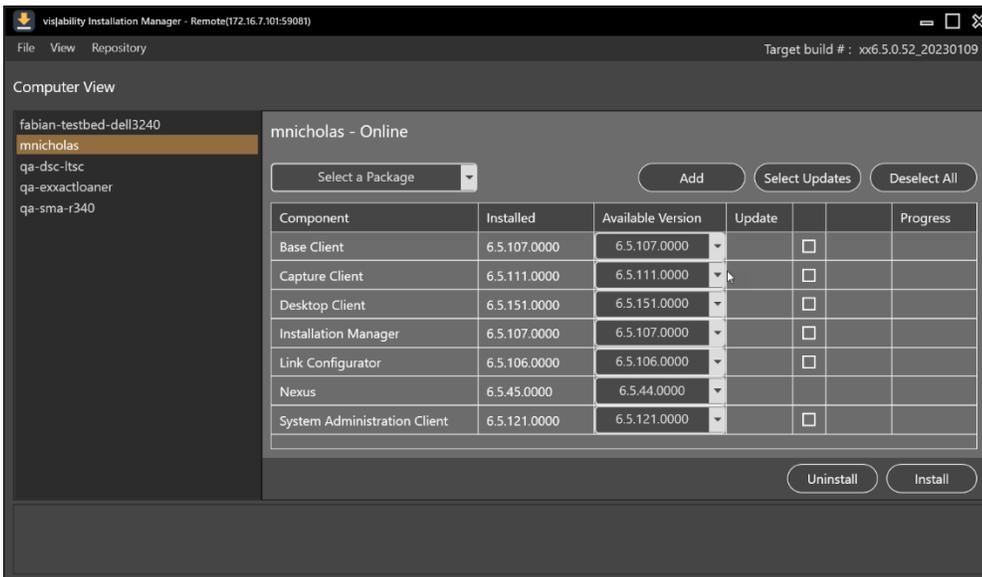


Figure 23: Installation Manager – Computer View

Details Pane

The details pane shows the details of the computer or component currently selected. The following information is available:

Details Pane (Computer View):

Item	Description
Select a Package	Allows the user to select a predefined package of components to add to a system at once, such as everything needed for a system manager PC or display node PC
Add	Lets the user select a software component to add to a PC
Select Updates	This will select all checkboxes in the list that have software versions to be upgraded from previous versions
Deselect All	This will un-check all update checkboxes
Component	Specifies which components are installed on the currently selected system
Installed	Gives the currently installed version of each component
Available Version	Gives a dropdown menu of available versions of each component to install within the currently selected build
Update	Lists available updates
Progress	Provides a color-coded progress bar when components are being changed

Details Pane (Component View):

Item	Description
Add	Lets the user select a software component to add to a PC
Select Updates	Selects all checkboxes in the list that have software versions to be upgraded from previous versions
Deselect All	Un-checks all update checkboxes
Machine	Lists all machines currently available in the vis ability system
Status	Shows whether machines are online or offline
Installed	Gives the currently installed version of each component. If it is not installed, this will be blank
Available Version	Displays a dropdown menu of available versions of each component to install within the currently selected build
Update	Lists available updates
Progress	Provides a color-coded progress bar when components are being changed

Installing System Manager Components using Installation Manager

The System Manager can be installed using the Installation Manager using the System Manager Package. This package contains System Manager, System Administration Client, Mux Router, and Capture Client. The following steps show how to install this package on the System Manager:

Installing System Manager Components

1. Open the **Installation Manager**.
2. Select the **System Manager PC** from the list of machines.

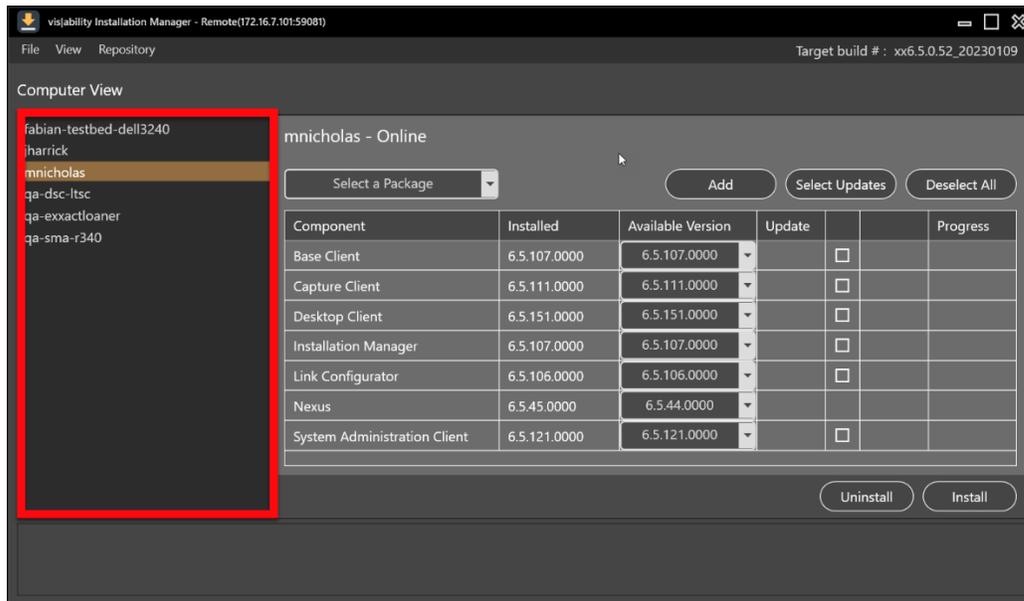


Figure 24: Installation Manager – Machine Selection

3. Select **Typical System Manager** from the **Select a Package** drop down menu.

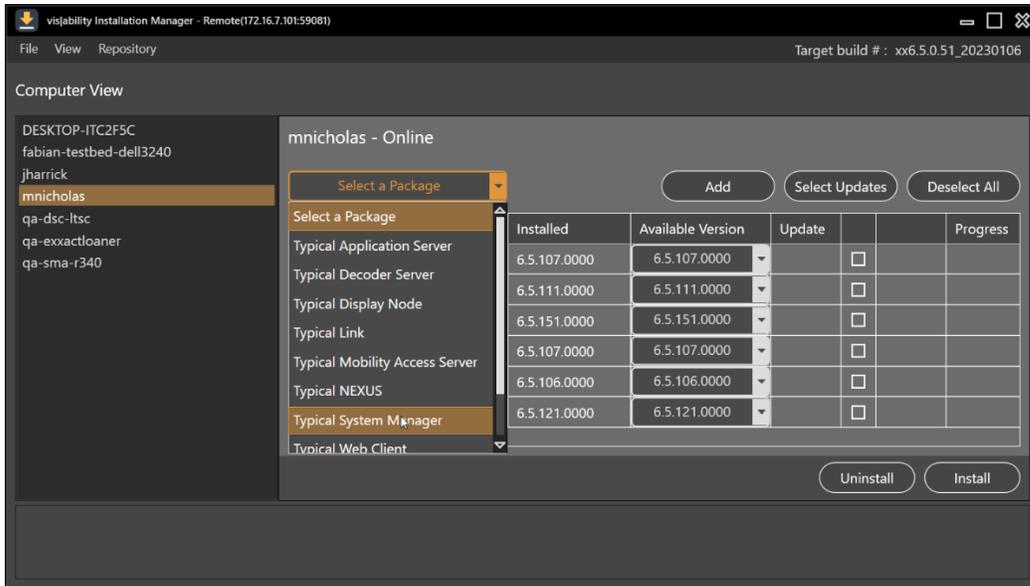


Figure 25: Package Selection

4. Click **Install** to begin the installation process.

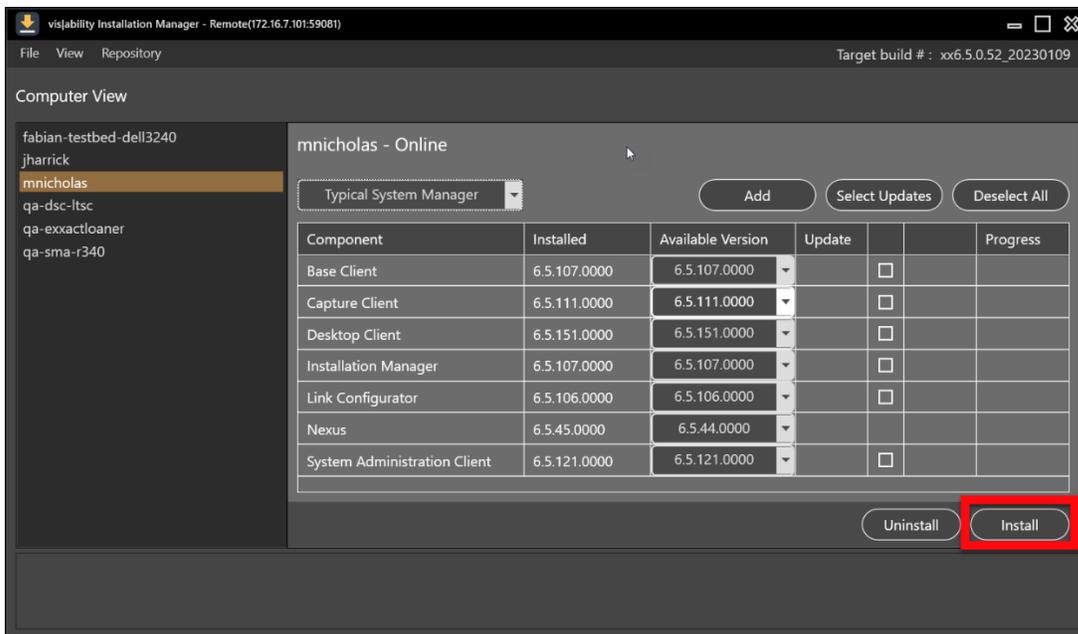


Figure 26: Package Installation Process

5. Once the installation completes, it's recommended to restart the System Manager if it didn't occur automatically.

Installing Display Server Components using Installation Manager

The Display Server can be installed using the Installation Manager using the Display Server Package. This package contains Capture Client and the vis|ability Display Service. The following steps show how to install this package on the Display Server:

Installing Display Server Components

1. Open the **Installation Manager**.
2. Select the **Display Server PC** from the list of machines.

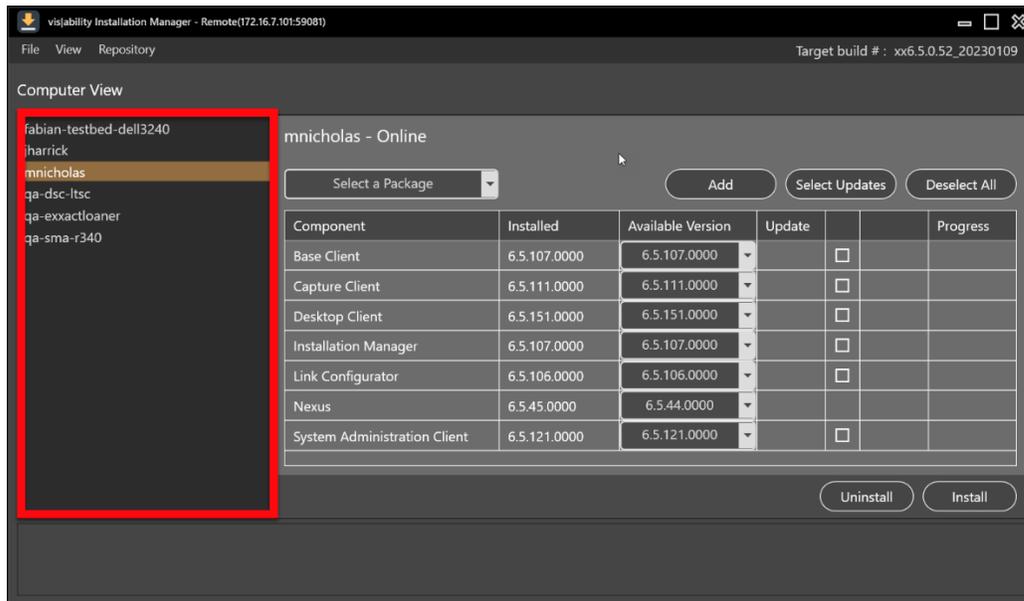


Figure 27: Installation Manager – Server Component Selection

3. Select **Typical System Manager** from the **Select a Package** drop down menu.

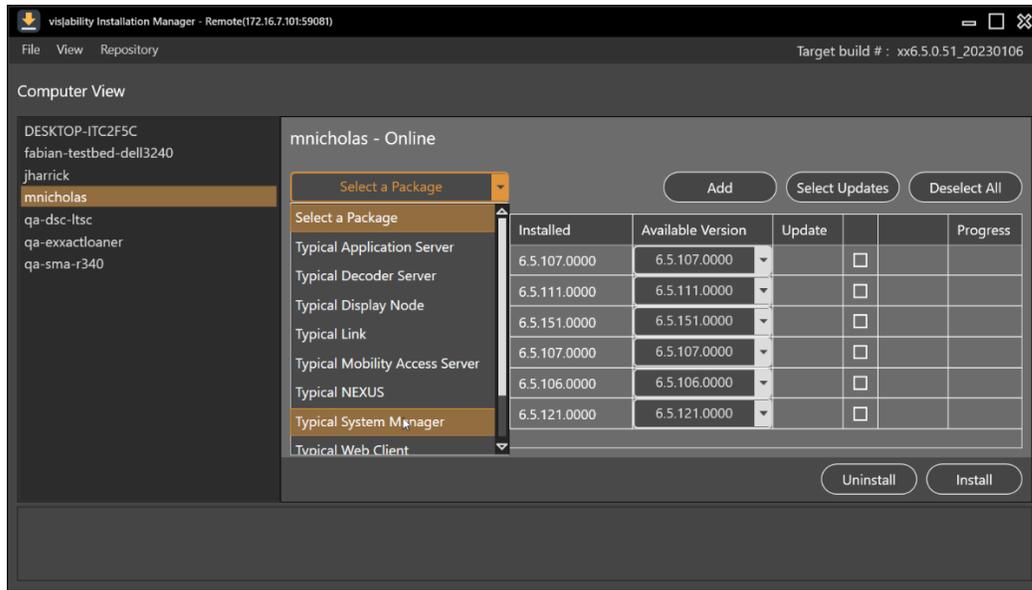


Figure 28: Component Package Selection

4. Click **Install** to begin the installation process.

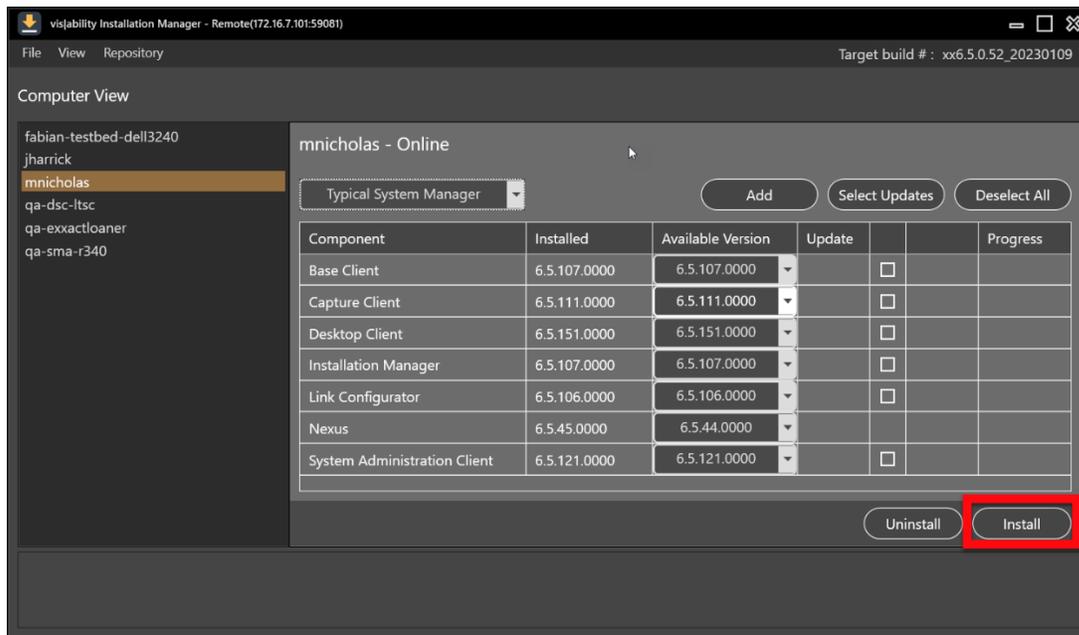


Figure 29: Component Package Installation

5. Once the installation completes, it's recommended to restart the Display Server if it didn't occur automatically.

Installing Mobility Components using Installation Manager

The Mobility Server can be installed using the Installation Manager using the Mobility Server Package. This package contains Capture Client, Integration Server, Mobility Access Server, and the Mobility Website. The following steps show how to install this package on the Mobility Server:

Installing Mobility Server Components

1. Open the **Installation Manager**.
2. Select the **Mobility Server PC** from the list of machines.

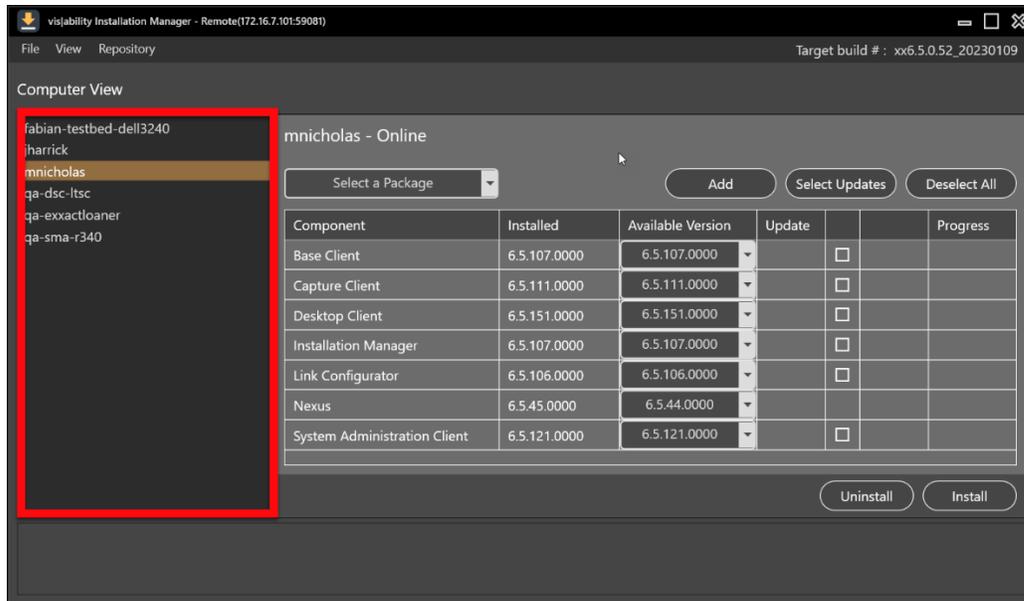


Figure 30: Mobility Server Installation Process

3. Select **Typical System Manager** from the **Select a Package** drop down menu.
4. Click **Install** to begin the installation process.
5. Once the installation completes, it's recommended to restart the Mobility Server if it didn't occur automatically.

Installing End User Components using Installation Manager

End user components can be installed using the Installation Manager using the End User Package. This package contains Capture Client and Desktop Client. The following steps show how to install this package on an end user PC:

Installing Mobility Server Components

1. Open the **Installation Manager**.
2. Select an End User PC from the list of machines.

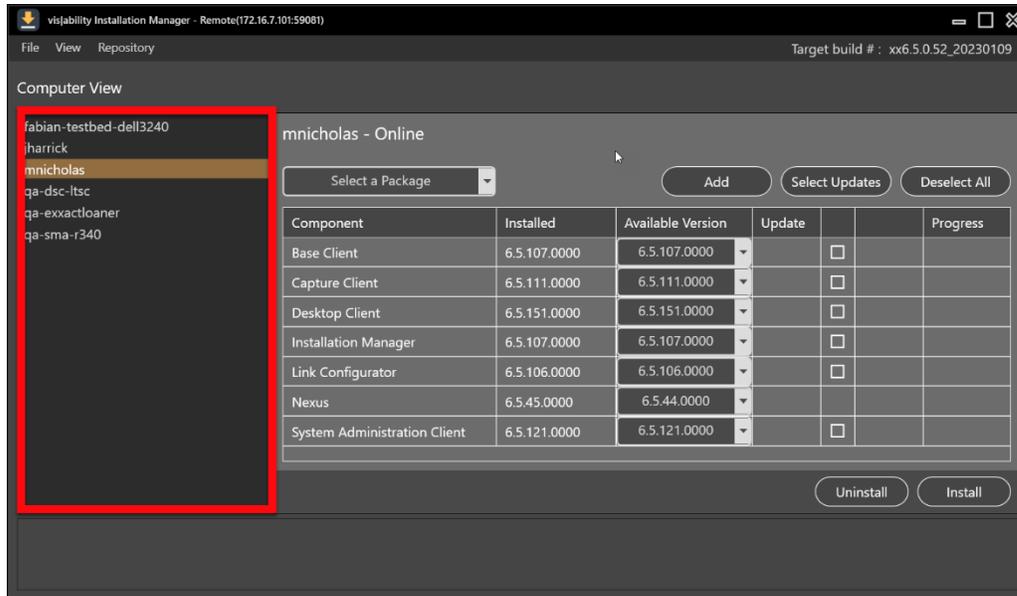


Figure 31: Mobility Server Machine Selection

3. Click **Add**.
4. Select **Capture Client** from the drop-down list.

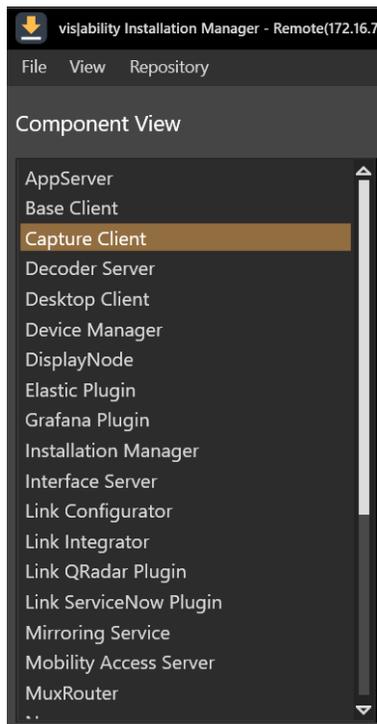


Figure 32: Capture Client Selection

5. Click **Add**.

- Repeat steps 3-6 for **Desktop Client**, **Link Configurator** (if applicable), and **System Administration Client** (if applicable).
- Click **Install** to begin the installation process.
- Once the installation completes, it's recommended to restart the End User PC if it didn't occur automatically.

Additional Software Installation Steps

Additional System Manager Installation Steps

In addition to installing components using the Installation Manager, some additional steps need to be taken to ensure the System Manager will run properly.

Setting the machine to Auto-Login

Having a visibility server machine is critical in making sure that the end users need to interact with the machine as little as possible. Use the following steps to configure the machine to auto-login:

Configuring Auto-Login

- Copy the autologon.exe file from your installation files repository (or download from <https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/sysinternals/downloads/autologon>) to an easily accessible folder, such as Desktop or Documents.
- Click **Agree**.

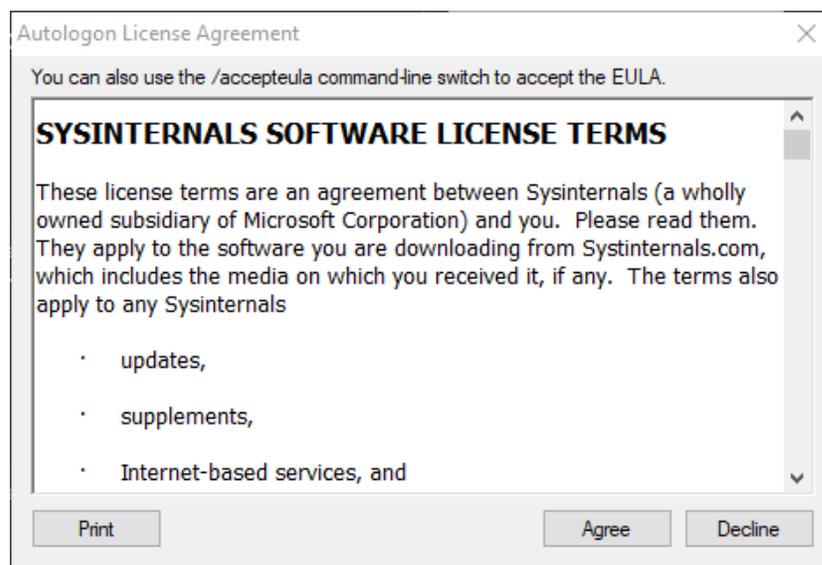


Figure 33: Additional Installation License Agreement

3. Enter the appropriate logon credentials into the **Username**, **Domain**, and **Password** fields and click **Enable**.

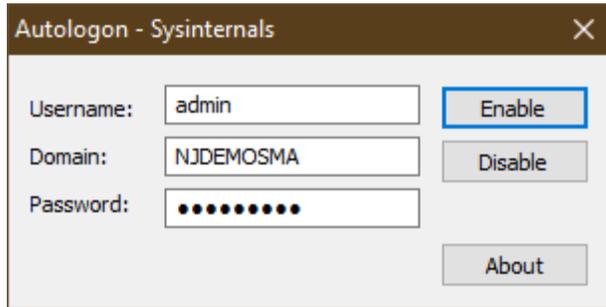


Figure 34: Login Credentials

Configuring Capture Client (Update all screen captures and the Capture Client icon)

The Capture Client is set to ask permission for remote viewing and control by default. For servers, it is ideal to change these settings. The following steps will show this process:

Configuring Capture Client for Servers

To configure Capture client settings, complete the steps:

1. On the machine, right click on the **Capture Client** icon and click **Show Settings**.

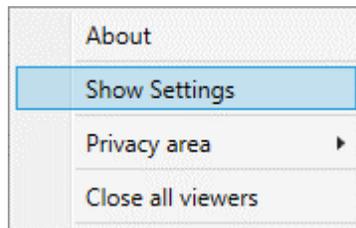


Figure 35: Capture Client Settings

2. Change the Confirmation Mode dropdown box to **Not Required**.

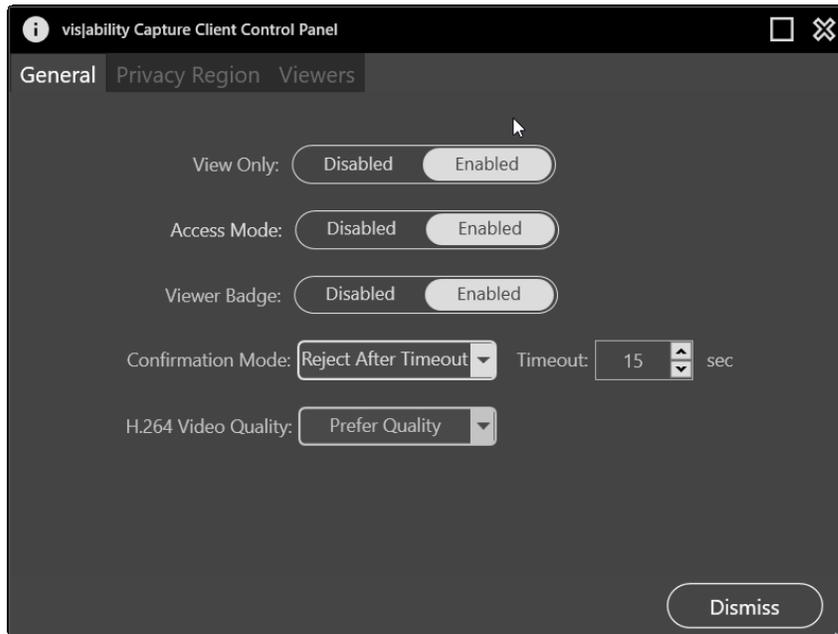


Figure 36: Capture Client Settings

3. Click **Dismiss**.

Additional Display Node Installation Steps

In addition to installing components using the Installation Manager, some additional steps need to be taken to ensure the Display Node will run properly.

Setting the machine to Auto-Login

See [Setting the machine to Auto-Login](#)

Installing Browsers

For best compatibility, it is recommended to install and Chrome on the machine for displaying browser sources.

Google Chrome can be downloaded here: <https://www.google.com/chrome/>

Installing Viewers

The Activu Viewer and VLC are key components that need to be installed to ensure that all media and streaming sources can play correctly on a Display Node. The viewers will need to be installed using the following steps. They can be found in the Viewers folder of the build used to install vis|ability.



Important: It is critical that the following steps are followed in the correct order to ensure proper installation.

Installing Viewers

1. Install the latest version of **VLC Media Player** from the VLCViewer folder. An example name is **vlc-X.X.X-win32.exe** where **X.X.X** is the version number
2. Install **VLC Viewer** from the same folder. It is named **VLCViewer Setup.exe**
3. Install the **Activu Media Player** from the ActivuViewer folder. It is named **ActivuMediaPlayerSetup.exe**

Display Node Configuration File (Change Display Server references to Display Node)

The Display Server configuration file is typically located in the following folder:

C:\Program Files\Activu\visibility DisplayNode

This file is called VisibilityDisplayNode.exe.config. There are several configuration options available in this file, but the most changed are as follows:

Table 3: Display Service Configuration

Item	Description
LocalRenderingCapacity	The number of sources that are being rendered locally that can be placed in a wall.
DecoderCardCapacity	The number of sources that can be placed on a wall that are being rendered via a decoder card.
RecoverSourcesOnStart	A Boolean field for whether or not a restarted display node loads the existing sources when it shutdown/restarted.

Configuring Capture Client

See [Configuring Capture Client](#)

Additional Mobility Server Installation Steps

In addition to installing components using the Installation Manager, some additional steps need to be taken to ensure the Mobility Server will run properly.

Setting the machine to Auto-Login

See [Setting the machine to Auto-Login](#)

Configuring Capture Client

See [Configuring Capture Client](#)

Additional End User Installation Steps

In addition to installing components using the Installation Manager, some additional steps need to be taken to ensure the end user software will run properly.

Installing Browsers

See [Installing Browsers](#)

Installing VLC

VLC is a critical component of the end user experience that allows users to view media and streaming sources. The **x64** version of this software must be installed for the end user software to work correctly.

VLC can be found here: <http://www.videolan.org/vlc/download-windows.html>



Important: part of a process that needs to be completed to ensure changes or updates are completed.

Configuring Capture Client (Update screen captures and the icon)

Capture Client can be customized by end users according to their preferences. These preferences can be accessed by right clicking on the Capture Client taskbar icon and clicking Show Settings. The following table will show each feature and its functionality:

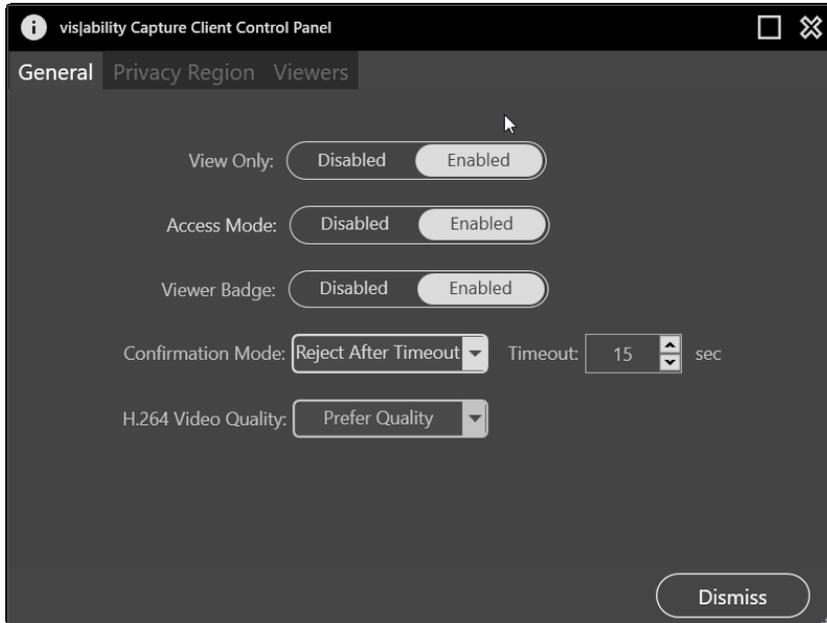


Figure 37: Capture Client Settings (General Tab)

Table 4: General Tab Properties

Item	Description
View Only	This checkbox determines whether a remote viewer has permission take control of the screen being viewed
Access Mode	Enabled: Remote Access is allowed Disabled: Remote Access is not allowed
Viewer Badge	Enabled: A badge will be displayed on the main monitor of the captured display when being viewed from another client or display Disabled: No badge will be shown
Confirmation Mode	Not Required: Users can view the screen without asking permission Reject after Timeout: Users can ask permission to view the screen, and the request will be rejected if it is not approved or rejected within the timeout allowance

	Approve after Timeout: Users can ask permission to view the screen, and the request will be approved if it is not approved or rejected within the timeout allowance
Timeout	The number of seconds the user must approve or reject the viewing request
H.264 Video Quality	This dropdown designates whether the capture prioritizes quality or speed of transmission

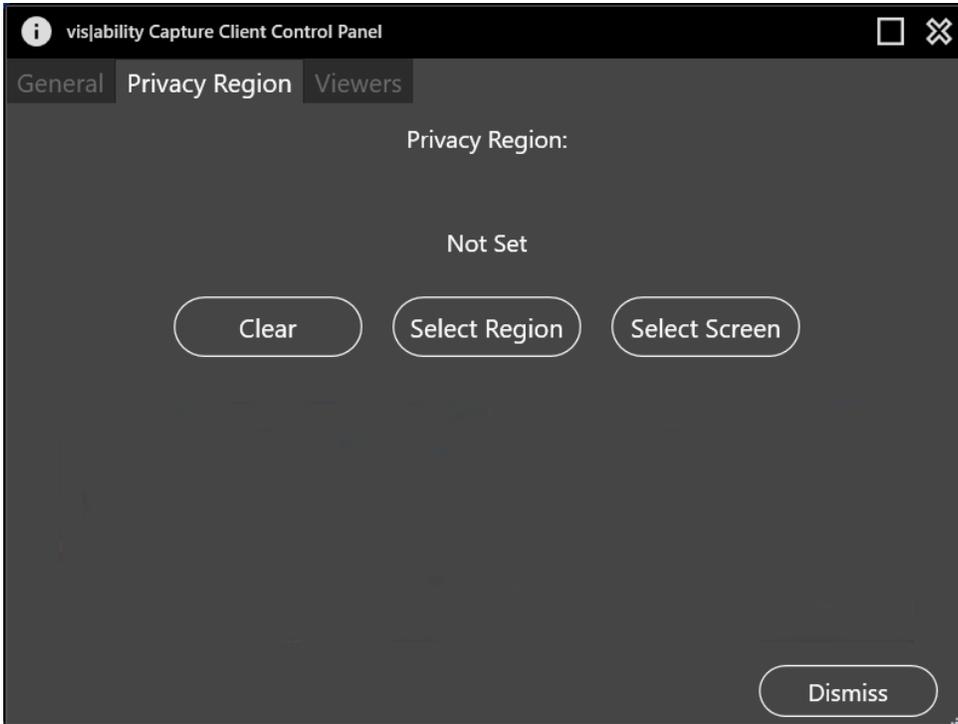


Figure 38: Capture Client (Privacy Region Tab)

Table 5: Capture Client Privacy Region Properties

Item	Description
Clear	Clears any currently defined privacy area
Select Region	Allows a specific rectangular set of pixels to be set as the privacy region
Select Screen	Allows a monitor to be selected as the privacy region

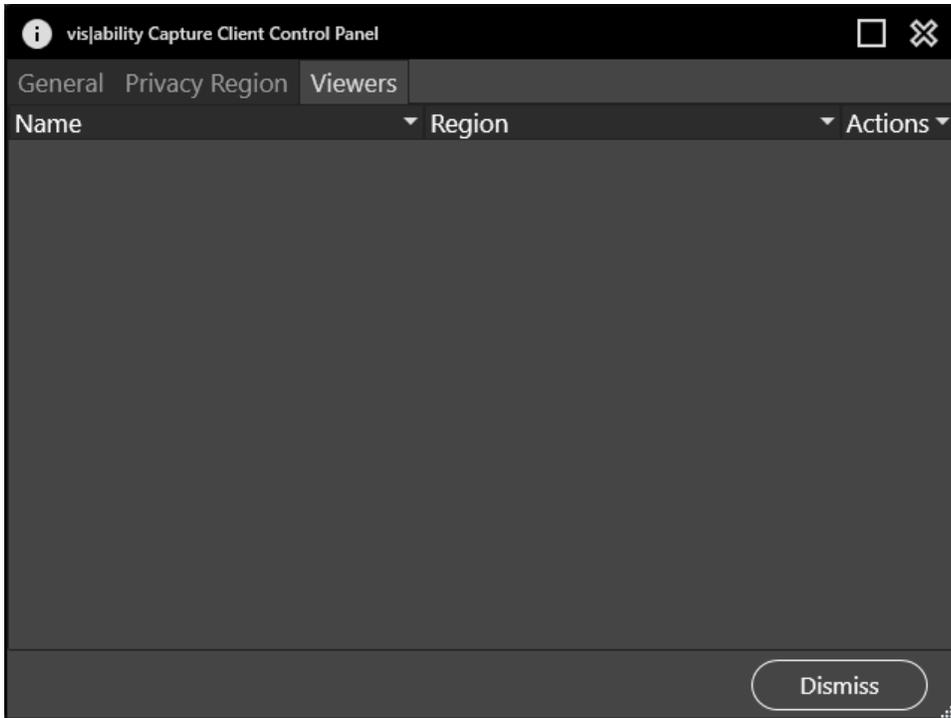


Figure 39: Capture Client (Viewers Tab)

The Viewers tab of the Capture Client settings shows the sessions currently viewing the screen of the machine and allows individual sessions to be disconnected.

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