NETCONNECT

NetConnect VMWare Trial Setup

V2.0

Contents

Version Information

Date	Version	Author	Notes
2/11/2016	V1.0	James Newell	First Release
04/04/0218	V2.0	James Newell	Updated to include trial setup improvements.

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Overview

This document is intended to act as a guide to trialling NetConnect within a VMWare environment. In it, we'll cover the key steps involved with installing a fresh instance of the latest NetConnect release and publishing a desktop. Installation will be via a prepared OVA which is available at the Northbridge Partner Portal. This document is intended for admins looking to install NetConnect for evaluation purposes. By the end of this document, you will have published a desktop via NetConnect, installed a license and configured a certificate.

Once you have completed the installation steps detailed in this document, further configuration can be performed in order to utilise additional features and expand functionality. Note, the NetConnect OVA file was created using VSphere 6, Virtual Machine 11.

Note this guide is intended for NetConnect version 8.4.0.15 or above. For reference, the contents of this guide are covered in further detail in chapters 2, 3 and 4 of our video guided technical training programme; we recommend completing this free course before a production rollout.

https://northbridgesecure.com/training/

Before you begin…

Prior to commencing your installation, you will require the following:

1.   A capacity to install a virtual instance that meets the following minimum specs:
     a.   2GB of RAM
     b.   1 CPU
     c.   40GB of hard disk space
     d.   Internet access.
2.   Logon credentials to the Partner Portal as supplied by Northbridge Secure.
3.   A copy of the latest NetConnect OVA file. This is available on the Partner Portal.
4.   1 static internal/private IP address.
5.   1 static external/public IP address with port 443 available.
6.   IP address or hostname of a network joined Windows Professional desktop to connect to.

Network Configuration Overview

For an optimal use of NetConnect, it is recommended to install NetConnect in a DMZ. NetConnect can also be installed within the main network if need be.

To enable external access, a port translation will need to be put in place, where port 443 (HTTPS) on the external static IP Address is redirected to port 443 on the internal IP address for the NetConnect server. These ports are configurable if required.

Default Passwords

For reference, the default Admin credentials for web access are below:
Username: admin
Password: adminv8

It is highly recommended to change this password as soon as possible to ensure the security of the NetConnect server, particularly if the server is accessible from the Internet.

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1. Install and Network Configuration

Installation of the NetConnect OVA is a straight forward operation. This document will pass over the standard OVA installation process and concentrate on the specific steps required for NetConnect. For steps on the standard OVA installation process, please refer to the publicly available VMWare guides.

The current NetConnect VMWare image file can be downloaded from https://northbridgesecure.com/software. Note, this will come as a virtual hard disk which will be used to build the Virtual Machine.

From your VMWare Console, select **File > Deploy OVF Template** and follow the below steps;

Step	Action
Source	Browse to the NetConnect .ova
OVF Template Details	For reference only; click **Next**
Name and Location	Name server as required.
Disk Format	Select **Thick Provision Lazy Zeroed.** Ensure you select a network and subnet with access to the desktop/server you wish to access via NetConnect
Network Mapping	Select the relevant pre-configured Network adapter.
Ready to Complete	Review and finish.

Once you have followed the deployment prompts, VMWare will provision your NetConnect VM based on the OVA file. Once completed, right-click on your new NetConnect VM, select "Open Console". This server will boot up and you will be presented with the console log in screen.

Network configuration

Log in using the default network config user as presented on the screen to start setting up your network interface. The server will then reboot and apply your network configuration.

Your server is now available for configuration via the web interface.

2. Publishing a Desktop

This section describes how to create an HTML5 desktop for users to access from the WebTop.

Pre-requisites

- The IP address or hostname of the desktop you will be publishing.
  - The destination desktop will need to have Remote Access enabled as per the below. System Properties can be found by right-click 'Computer/This PC' within File Explorer, selecting 'Properties' and clicking on 'Remote Settings'. This will not be required if connecting to a Windows server.
  - Similarly, as active directory integration is not configured yet, network layer authentication is not possible. As a result, the "Network Layer authentication" box should be unticked.

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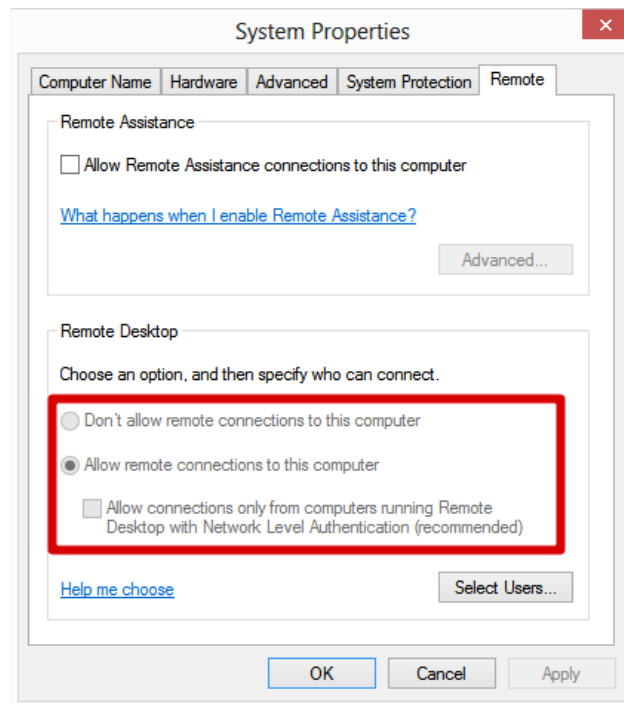
Configuration

Open a browser and connect to NetConnect via the static internal/private IP address assigned to the server. Log in using the default Admin credentials (admin/adminv8). Once logged in, review and accept the EULA in order to access the WebTop. From the WebTop launch the **Admin** application.

- Navigate to **Applications > Configuration**.
- Select **Create New Application**.
- The Create New Application page appears.
- Enter an application name in the Application Name field.
- Select **Remote Application** from the Application Protocol drop-down menu
- Click **Submit**. The General properties page is then displayed.
- Enter the hostname or IP address of the server being published.
- Ensure **HTML5 Client** is turned to **On**
- Click **Modify**.

The new 'Desktop' application has now been created and is available to be assigned to users.

3. Assigning Applications.

This section explains how to assign the newly created desktop application to the Admin account. Only the Admin account will be able to access NetConnect until such time a valid licence is applied.

Open a browser and connect to NetConnect via the assigned static private IP address. Log in using the default Admin credentials (admin/adminv8). From the WebTop, launch the 'Admin' application.

- Click **Applications > Configuration** on the main menu.
- Select the application created in section 3.
- Click **Authorized Users**.

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- Highlight **Local\Admin** within the Non-Member column, then click on the arrow pointing towards the 'Members' column. Changes to the Members and Non Members columns are saved automatically.

Finally, close the Admin tab log out of NetConnect from the WebTop. The next time you log in you will see the new Desktop application on the WebTop. Click on this and you'll launch your very first NetConnect session.

4. Applying a license and a certificate

In order to progress in your trial of NetConnect, you will require a license. Additionally, a valid SSL certificate will secure your connection and enable additional features such as access from mobile apps.

To assist you in this task, you can go to our trial website https://www.trialnetconnect.com.

This simple site will provide you with a trial license, a dedicated temporary URL linked to your own private IP address, and corresponding certificates. Note these should not be used in production as DNS entries are cleared when licenses expire.

Note for the certificate and DNS entries to be valid, your NetConnect server will need to be accessible from the Internet via your nominated external/public IP address. The only port required is https/TCP 443.

Upon receiving your license, you can install it by going to the admin portal, then **System Configuration -> Licensing**. Paste the supplied license in the text box and click Submit.

To apply your certificate, go to **System Configuration -> General -> SSL -> Load existing Cert**, and copy the private key and the certificate in the appropriate boxes.

5. Next Steps...

At this point access is limited to the desktop you've published and will only be available to the default NetConnect admin account. However, with some additional configuration you'll quickly be able to:

- Integrate with your Active Directory and enable Single Sign On.
- Use the dedicated NetConnect iOS or Android mobile apps with external keyboard and monitor support.
- Publish multiple applications hosted on internal servers.
- Easily provide multiple users with access to their personal desktops via the MyDesktop application.
- Configure multi-factor authentication.
- Print to any locally configured printer.
- Configure groups and V-Realms for enhanced access management.
- Change default admin passwords.

All these points are described in our administration manual, available on our partner portal. Additionally, our support team is available to help you at any time – customersupport@northbridgesecure.com

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