

PRO > IDE

ProVide is a secure, efficient and easy to use managed file transfer (MFT) solution enabling teams, co-workers and third parties to securely share, access and collaborate on sensitive business data. ProVide offers secure connections, an easy to use web interface, and allows on-site users to stick to the file managers (e.g. Explorer or Finder) that they are used to.

Since 2006, ProVide is developed and supported by Västgöta-Data AB in Sweden. ProVide is used by thousands of customers in businesses ranging from FinTech, banking, and military to the educational, research, and NPO sectors.

The purpose of this guide is to give a reference for how to use ProVide and to provide a comprehensive overview for administrators and IT-professionals.



For more hands-on help, FAQ and more, check out [provideserver.com/wiki](https://www.provideserver.com/wiki)

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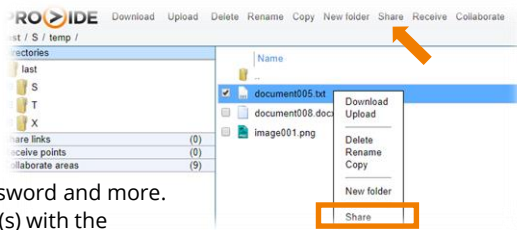
User Guide

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> File Sharing and Team Collaboration

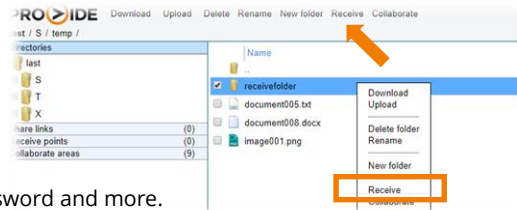
SHARE

1. Right-click selected file or folder.
2. Click "Share" in the context- or header menu.
3. Specify your share link settings in regards to access duration, password and more.
4. Click OK and provide the recipient(s) with the link.



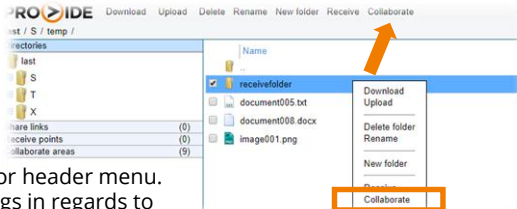
RECEIVE

1. Right-click selected folder.
2. Click "Receive" in the context- or header menu.
3. Specify your receive link settings in regards to access duration, password and more.
4. Click OK and provide the recipient(s) with the link.



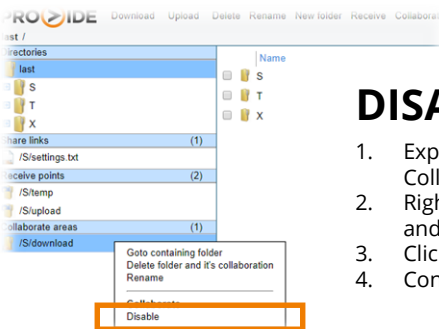
COLLABORATE

1. Right-click selected file or folder.
2. Click "Collaborate" in the context- or header menu.
3. Specify your collaborate link settings in regards to access duration, password and more.
4. Click OK and provide the recipient(s) with the link.



DISABLE YOUR FILE SHARING

1. Expand one of the lists (Share links, receive points and Collaborate areas) on the left side.
2. Right-click selected file or folder you don't want to share and/or receive anymore.
3. Click "Disable" in the context menu.
4. Confirm by clicking "Disable" again.



> Main Features Explained

Minimal Resource Footprint

ProVide is designed with minimal resource footprint in mind from the very beginning. Threading, separating the administration application from the server application, and careful allocation and deallocation of memory with no memory leakages, are some of the design choices and strategies implemented to minimize performance costs.

API - Scripting Friendly

Powerful scripting features means administrators or developers can access and control ProVide as part of a data management or business support system.

Multilingual Interface

ProVide is currently available in English, Swedish, Italian, Traditional Chinese (Taiwan), Portuguese (Portugal), Slovak, Hungarian, German, French, Portuguese (Brazil), Simplified Chinese (P.R.C.), Czech, Russian, Ukrainian, Spanish (Traditional), Norwegian (Bokmål).

Unicode using UTF-8

Need support for foreign languages like Chinese and Russian. ProVide works internally with Unicode and supports UTF-8 mode to allow special (multibyte) characters when communicating with client software.

Multiple Domains with Trusts

If your company uses several Active Directory Domains you can configure ProVide to work with Active Directory Users from each domain.

Active Directory Integration

Enable ftp access for Windows users. ProVide handles Windows or Active directory authentication automatically without the need to manually import users and sync user data.

HTTPS - Share and Receive Files

With ProVide it is easy to share files with friends and co-workers in a safe and secure way using URL-links.

Collaborate

With ProVide it's easy to work with others even within a decentralized group. With the collaborate feature the user can send invitations to his/her business partners and therefore work more efficiently

HTTPS - Drag n Drop

Amazing integration with desktop, now you can easily upload files just by drag-n-drop them to your web browser.

IPv6

Support for fully transparent use of IPv6 in all server functions, including both full and minified addresses.

SFTP

Securely transfer files using the firewall friendly SFTP protocol. With this extension ProVide will support not only FTPS (SSL/TLS) but also SFTP version 3, 4, 5, and 6 of the SSH file transfer protocol.

SSL/TLS Support

Secure your data transfers. Integrated encryption support using cutting edge standards (up to 256 bits AES) means ProVide is up for the task of securely managing business critical data.

Events and Messages - Proactive

Have ProVide react to events before they happen! With this extension you can specify before-scripts that limits access based on date/time, downloaded files or even information stored in external databases. Together with Reactive you have a full-fledged Integration Server.

Events and Messages - Reactive

Have ProVide notify users or initiate actions when events occur using powerful scripting facilities! This extension allows ProVide to enforce user scriptable rules and policies such as virus checks on uploaded files, automatically transform between file formats, and to send notifications about special events.

Virtual File System

Access directories, network shares and NAS-units seamlessly using FTP. ProVide can dynamically mount any disk or directory for any user or group. The virtual file system also allows administrators to map several directories resident on different servers or computers into a virtual directory accessible for users when they log in.

Scripting – Trigger Events, Tokens and Examples

Trigger Events		Tokens - User	
BeforeConnect / OnConnect / OnQuit / OnDisconnect BeforeLoggedIn / OnLoggedIn BeforeChangeDirectory / OnChangeDirectory BeforeCreateDirectory / OnCreateDirectory BeforeRemoveDirectory / OnRemoveDirectory BeforeListDirectory / OnListDirectoryStart / OnListDirectoryEnd BeforeDownload / OnDownloadStart / OnDownloadEnd BeforeUpload / OnUploadStart / OnUploadEnd BeforeRemoveFile / OnRemoveFile BeforeRename / OnRename BeforeCopy / OnCopy		%IP%	IP of current user
		%CONNECTION_TYPE%	What protocol incoming connections use, e.g. FTP
		%USERNAME%	Username of current connected user
		%GROUPS%	Single-quoted, space separated list of groups for current user
		%FTP_DIRECTORY%	FTP directory of current user
		%LOCAL_DIRECTORIES%	Single-quoted, space separated list of local directories of current FTP directory
		%FTP_FILENAME%	Last file accessed by user (FTP path)
		%LOCAL_FILENAME%	Last file accessed by user (local path)
		%TRANSFERRED%	Bytes transferred by user during last command
		%FILESIZE%	Size of last file accessed by user
		%AD_HOMEDIR%	Homedirectory from Active Directory for current user
		%AD_COMMENT%	Comment from Active Directory for current user
		%AD_SCRIPT%	Logon script from Active Directory for current user
		%EXPIRE_TYPE%	Expiration type for current user ("', 'etDate', 'etDownloads', 'etUploads', 'etLogins', 'etDays', 'etWeeks', 'etMonths')
		%EXPIRE_VALUE%	Expiration value for current user ("', <ISO date>, <value>')
Tokens - Date/Time		Tokens - Statistics	
%YYYY%	Current year, 4 numbers (0000 - 9999)	%TOTAL_DOWNLOADED%	Total amount data downloaded from server
%MM%	Current month, 2 numbers (01 - 12)	%TOTAL_UPLOADED%	Total amount data uploaded to server
%M%	Current month, (01 - 12)	%TOP_n_DOWNLOADERS%	Shows a list of the n top downloaders and their amount of data transferred
%DD%	Current day, 2 numbers (01 - 31)	%TOP_n_UPLOADERS%	Shows a list of the n top uploaders and their amount of data transferred
%D%	Current day, (01 - 31)	%TOP_DOWNLOADER_n_USERNAME%	Shows the username of the n:th position wrt downloads
%hh%	Current hour, 2 numbers (01 - 23)	%TOP_DOWNLOADER_n_DOWNLOADED%	Shows the amount of data the n:th position wrt downloads has downloaded
%h%	Current hour, (01 - 23)	%TOP_UPLOADER_n_USERNAME%	Shows the username of the n:th position wrt uploads
%mm%	Current minute, 2 numbers (01 - 59)	%TOP_UPLOADER_n_UPLOADED%	Shows the amount of data the n:th position wrt uploads has uploaded
%m%	Current minute, (01 - 59)		
%ss%	Current second, 2 numbers (01 - 59)		
%s%	Current second, (01 - 59)		
Tokens - Scripting			
%EVENTNAME%	Name of the triggered event		
%EXECUTE(cmd)%	Executes an external command and returns the result		
Tokens - Server			
%CONNECTIONS%	Current number of connections to the server		
%USERS_LOGGED_IN%	Current number of logged on users to the server		
%SW_NAME%	Current server program name		
%SW_VERSION%	Current server program version		
%SW_BUILD%	Current server program build		

Scripting Examples	
Only allow login during office hours (Proactive script)	Send SMS when a specific user logs in (Reactive script)
<pre>@echo off rem Extract current hour for /f "tokens=1-2 delims=: " %a in (time/t) do (set hour=%a set minute=%b) rem Deny access outside office hours if /i %hour% LSS 8 exit 1 if /i %hour% GEQ 18 exit 1</pre>	<pre>@echo off rem Setup variables set USER=<sms username> set PASS=<sms password> set TEXT=Login%3A%1 set TO=555123456 set FROM=ProVideLogin set PARAMS=acc=%USER%^^^&pass=%PASS%^^^&msg=%TEXT%^^^&to=%TO%^^^&from=%FROM%^^^&prio=3 rem Notify on certain users logging in if /i "%1" == "Administrator" wget --delete-after http://smgateway/send.php?%PARAMS% >NUL if /i "%1" == "Backup" wget --delete-after http://smgateway/send.php?%PARAMS% >NUL if /i "%1" == "John" wget --delete-after http://smgateway/send.php?%PARAMS% >NUL</pre>

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Getting Started with ProVide

1. Execute the setup by double-clicking the installation file for ProVide and follow the instructions for each step throughout the installation.
2. Log in to the Admin User Interface.
3. Activate the license by choosing the license file received while purchasing ProVide.
4. Use default certificate or add your own security certificate.
5. Activate and configure the protocols which are to be used on your server.
6. Create and configure the user accounts which are going to connect to ProVide:
 - Username
 - Password
 - Resources and privileges and protocols

Advanced Configuration

- ✓ Activate a time out (n seconds) to manage a user's inactivity on the server.
- ✓ Activate a limit for the number of simultaneous logins to the server.
- ✓ Activate IP-restrictions to get even more control over the logins.
- ✓ Improve the login process even further by requiring public key authentication.
- ✓ If you're administrating many users, create groups with settings for services, privileges, directories and more. Make the users members of one or many groups.
- ✓ Create custom scripts for events and messages. See more about this in the next chapter.












Re-installing ProVide

1. Create a backup of the file "...ProVide\settings.ini".
2. Create a backup of the folder "C:\Program Files\ProVide\accounts".
3. Uninstall ProVide.
4. Execute the setup.
5. Shut down ProVide/Stop the ProVide Service.
6. Replace ...ProVide\settings.ini with the copy which you backed up in the earlier step.
7. Replace ...ProVide\accounts with the copy which you backed up in the earlier step.
8. Start ProVide/Start the ProVide Service.




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SERVER CONFIGURATION

-  Enable/disable the FTP protocol with settings regarding ports and passive mode.
-  Enable/disable the SFTP protocol with settings regarding ports and protocol versions.
-  Enable/disable the TFTP protocol with port settings.
-  Enable/disable the HTTP(S) protocol with settings regarding ports and user permissions for share/receive/collaborate.
-  Enable/disable WebDAV with port settings.
-  Settings for limitations regarding number of users, time-outs and speed.
-  Manage certificates for the encrypted connections and server identification.
-  Security settings regarding usernames, domains, anti-hammering and IP-restrictions.
-  Enable/disable integration with domain/server/virtual users and settings regarding account impersonation and password caching.
-  Create and manage system events and custom messages to users, through scripts and tokens.
-  Enable/disable automatic updates and settings regarding web proxys when accessing the update server.









SETUP ACCOUNTS

-  Create and manage users, permissions, resources with settings regarding restrictions, authentication, protocols, events/messages. Take part of user statistics.
-  Create and manage user groups, permissions, resources with settings regarding restrictions, authentication, protocols, events/messages and group membership.
-  Create, manage and overview share/receive/collaborate links made by system users.

LOG

-  Settings for logging regarding server, client and statistics.
-  Manage and overview all server activities.
-  Take part of the server log.

SYSTEM BUTTONS

-  Enable/disable to allow/reject new connections.
-  Shut down the ProVide server.
-  Check for system updates for ProVide.
-  Manage license(s) for ProVide.
-  Get more hands-on help in the ProVide Wiki.
-  Get information on how to get help from the ProVide support team.
-  Log out the current user.
-  Toggle alternate views for opened windows/dialogues in ProVide.