

IBM Aspera Plug-in for Avid Interplay User Guide 1.5.2

All Platforms

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IBM Aspera Plug-in for Avid Interplay

Introduction

The IBM Aspera Plug-in for Avid Interplay is designed to integrate with Avid Interplay Delivery to provide seamless acceleration of media content. Aspera for Avid fully integrates within the Avid environment to provide distance-neutral line rate file transfers up to 1 GBit/second, with increased error-reporting capabilities.

System Requirements

Before you install Aspera for Avid, you must have the following existing systems installed and running:

- An Avid Interplay Delivery server
- Either IBM Aspera Enterprise server, or IBM Aspera Point-to-Point Client

Ports used:

- TCP 33334 - Used to communicate among Aspera for Avid services.
- TCP 33333 - Used by A3 to communicate file transfer status.
- UDP 33001+ - Each transfer consumes one UDP port starting at 33001. For instance, to support 10 concurrent transfers you would need all UDP ports between 33001 and UDP 33010 to be open.

Installing and Configuring Aspera for Avid

Aspera for Avid installs directly onto an Avid Interplay Delivery server, as a regular Windows application. To install it, run the Aspera for Avid installer.

Once Aspera for Avid is installed on your Avid Interplay Delivery server, you can configure the application by

- Editing the **WanAccel.conf** file in the **Aspera/WanAccel** directory.
- or
- Using the Aspera for Avid GUI configuration tool available from the **Start** menu.

Aspera Plug-in for Avid

Server Information

Server Name
AsperaForAvid.aspera.us

Target Rate
100

Units
Mbit/s

Features
 Enable Debugging

Transfer Manager or Delivery
 TM 2.4-2.7 3+ Delivery

ASCP4 Version
 3 4 Auto

SMTP Server
smtp.aspera.us

Who to send email as
"Delivery Notifications" <bear@asperasoft.com>

Send email to
"Bear" <charles@asperasoft.com>

Passwords to use
PasswordOne,SecondPassword,SeperatedByComma,SpecialsOK,12\$^!µφψ

Save and Update Configuration

Note: For any new installation of Aspera for Avid, select **Delivery** and **ASCP4 Version: 4**.

Configuring Avid Interplay Delivery

Typically, you configure Interplay Delivery by selecting **Delivery** in the GUI configuration tool. If you prefer to configure delivery manually, do the following:

1. Create a file in the Avid Delivery **bin** directory, named either **PartialTransferService.vmoptions** or **PartialTransfer.vmoptions**.

Note: The correct **.vmoptions** filename depends on the name of the partial transfer executable.

2. To this **.vmoptions** file, add the following string:

```
-Dcom.avid.workgroup.DeliveryFileTransport=com.ibm.aspera.AsperaIDS
```

3. Copy **AsperaIDS.jar** from **wancell/delivery** to **interplay delivery/lib**.

With either configuration method, you must then restart Delivery or the Delivery Service.

Uninstalling Aspera for Avid

To uninstall the Aspera for Avid application, do the following:

1. Remove the **.vmoptions** file.

To do this in the configuration tool:

- a. Open the configuration tool.
- b. Clear (de-select) **Interplay Delivery**.
- c. Click **Save**.

To do this manually, navigate to the **bin** directory and delete the **.vmoptions** file.

2. Use the Windows Add/Remove Programs facility to remove the Aspera for Avid application.

Security Considerations

The Aspera for Avid service is available on the local machine without any authentication. For instance, from the machine that hosts the service, you could connect to port 48807 and begin a transfer, but you could not connect to port 48807 from an outside computer.

Note: The IBM Aspera Plug-in for Avid Interplay is meant to be used in a LAN environment, and is *neither encrypted nor secure against snooping*.

Keys

In order to connect to a remote Aspera for Avid (port 33334), both sides must possess a shared secret key. The shared secret keys are specified under **Passwords to Use**, using commas to delimit each key. Each side verifies the secret keys by combining random data with the secret key and then generating a SHA1 hash. This practice is reasonably secure within a LAN environment.

As an example of how these keys work, assume three computers with the following configuration:

```
computer1:dog,cat,bear
```

```
computer2:duck,bear
```

```
computer3:cat,mallard
```

computer1 would be able to communicate with **computer2** and **computer3**, as it contains **cat** and **bear** in common. But **computer2** would not be able to talk to **computer3**, as they don't share a secret key.

Transfer Authentication

Actual transfer authentication is by IP address. The client connects to the remote end and requests that the remote server accept the transfer. The client then has some period of time to connect to the remote end before the authorization is revoked.

Security Assumptions

The underlying security assumptions for transfers are

- A malicious user does not have access to the Avid server.
- and
- We trust both the IP address that we are connecting to and the network infrastructure over which bytes are being transferred.

These assumptions are generally consistent with the security assumptions of any Avid deployment. If this trust is not in place in your environment, or if you need better security, contact Aspera. We can work with you to provide a solution that works for you.

Email Notifications

To set up per-job email notifications, configure a valid SMTP server - either in the configuration file or through the GUI configuration tool.

You can customize the format of the email notifications by editing the email template files located under **templates/html_report.mako** and **templates/text_report.mako**.

Error Reporting

Aspera for Avid reports errors in various ways:

- In the Interplay interface directly (as an error string intended to describe the error)
- Through email reports (if you have set up email notifications)
- In the file **requests.log** in the Aspera for Avid directory

Additional diagnostic information is available in the following files:

- **progfiles/wanaccel/faspmgmt.log**, for information about **pyFaspMgmt**.
- **progfiles/wanaccel/ASCP4.log**, for information about **ascp**.

In some cases, this error reporting may be insufficient. If so, stop the Aspera for Avid service and the Avid Interplay server; then restart each in a dedicated console.

For further diagnostic information, you can also enable debugging in the Aspera for Avid GUI configuration tool.

Technical Support

Support Websites

For an overview of IBM Aspera Support services, go to <https://asperasoft.com/company/support/>.

To view product announcements, webinars, and knowledgebase articles, as well as access the Aspera Support Community Forum, sign into the IBM Aspera Support site at <https://www.ibm.com/mysupport/> using your IBMid (not your company Aspera credentials), or set up a new account. Search for Aspera and select the product. Click **Follow** to receive notifications when new knowledgebase articles are available.

Personalized Support

You may contact an Aspera support technician 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, through the following methods, with a guaranteed 4-hour response time.

Email	aspera-support@ibm.com
Phone (North America)	+1 (510) 849-2386, option 2
Phone (Europe)	+44 (0) 207-993-6653 option 2
Phone (Singapore)	+81 (0) 3-4578-9357 option 2

Legal Notice

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