

AD Lab Installation & Upgrade Guide

AD Lab 6.2 revision

Contents

Preparing to Install AD Lab.....	3
Supported Operating Systems	3
Supported Databases	3
Hardware Considerations	3
Obtaining the Software.....	3
New AD Lab Installation.....	4
Preparation	4
Prerequisites	4
Database Server	4
Install the Database	4
Examiner	4
Install the Lab Examiner & Processing Engine	4
Distributed Processing Engine(s) (Optional)	5
Install the Distributed Evidence Processing Engine	5
Processing Manager (If using Distributed Processing Engines)	5
Install the Distributed Processing Manager	5
AD Lab First Run.....	6
Create a New Application Administrator	6
Configure Distributed Processing	6
AD Lab Upgrade Installation	7
Examiner	7
Uninstall the Existing Processing Engine.....	7
Install the Lab Examiner & Processing Engine	7
Distributed Processing Engine(s) (Optional)	7
Uninstall the Distributed Processing Engine.....	7
Install the Distributed Evidence Processing Engine	7

Processing Manager (If using Distributed Processing Engines) 8
 Uninstall the Existing Processing Manager 8
 Install the Distributed Processing Manager 8

Preparing to Install AD Lab

Supported Operating Systems

Microsoft Windows 7
Microsoft Windows 8
Microsoft Windows 8.1
Microsoft Windows 10
Microsoft Windows Server 2008 R2
Microsoft Windows Server 2012
Microsoft Windows Server 2016

Supported Databases

Microsoft SQL Server 2008 R2
Microsoft SQL Server 2012
Microsoft SQL Server 2014

Hardware Considerations

The more powerful the available hardware, the faster our product can analyze, process and prepare evidence. Larger evidence files require more processing time than smaller evidence files. An in-depth AD Lab System Specification Guide is available for review [here](#).

To maximize performance, AccessData recommends the following:

- Install the database to a large hard disk drive the database can use exclusively.
- Recommended RAM is at least 2 GB per logical processing core (e.g. an 8 core machine should have at least 16 GB of RAM).
- The Evidence Processing Engine recommends 250 GB or more of free space to use as temp space during processing.
- Database, evidence, and case data storage needs can be estimated with the calculator [here](#).
- We do not recommend running resource-intensive third-party applications that may compete for hardware resources.

Obtaining the Software

The AD Lab ISO image is available for download through the [AccessData downloads page](#).

Once the ISO image is downloaded, it should be mounted with drive emulation software (e.g. [WinCDEmu](#)) or burned to DVDs using a program capable of burning ISO images (e.g. [ImgBurn](#)) in order to perform the installation.

New AD Lab Installation

Preparation

There are 4 main components to AD Lab:

- Database Server
- Examiner
- Processing Engine or Distributed Processing Engines
- Processing Manager (If using Distributed Processing Engines)

These components can be combined as needed, but they are all necessary (except those specifically marked as such) for AD Lab to function correctly. You should plan and map out where all the components will be installed prior to beginning installation.

Most of the applications for AD Lab should be installed from the mounted or burned AD Lab ISO, and all applications should be installed from an account with full Administrator permissions. In any type of multi-box configuration, this should be domain service account existing on all involved machines.

Prerequisites

Prior to installing AD Lab, please do the following on all involved machines:

1. Install all current Windows updates.
2. Disable all Windows Firewall profiles.
3. Disable Internet Explorer Enhanced Security.
4. Disable Windows User Account Control.
5. Disable any antivirus/malware scanning software.

Database Server

Install the Database

Note: If using Microsoft SQL, refer to our [Microsoft SQL Server 2008 R2 Install Guide](#) or [Microsoft SQL Server 2012 & 2014 Install Guide](#). Otherwise, you may install PostgreSQL according to the instructions below.

1. Insert or mount the AD Lab installation media.
2. From the disc's autorun menu, click "Database Install" and follow the prompts to complete the installation.
 - a. If the server has a dedicated database drive or partition, install the data folder to that dedicated location.
 - b. You must create a database password when prompted by the installer.

Examiner

Install the Lab Examiner & Processing Engine

1. Insert or mount the AD Lab installation media.

2. From the disc's autorun menu, click "Lab 64 Bit Install".
3. Click "Install CodeMeter Software" and follow the prompts to complete the installation.
 - a. If you have a physical Codemeter dongle, connect the dongle to the PC.
 - b. If you received an activation code for a virtual Codemeter dongle, follow the steps [here](#) to activate it.
4. Back in the installation menu, if this is a single-box setup, click "Install Processing Engine" and follow the prompts to complete the installation.
 - a. If the server has a dedicated temp drive or partition, place the Processing Temporary Folder on that dedicated location.
 - b. At the "Destination Folder" dialog, do not check "Install as distributed processing engine".
5. Back in the installation menu, click "Install Lab" and follow the prompts to complete the installation.

Distributed Processing Engine(s) (Optional)

Install the Distributed Evidence Processing Engine

1. Insert or mount the AD Lab installation media.
2. From the disc's autorun menu, click "Distributed Engine".
3. Click "Install 64 bit Distributed Engine" and follow the prompts to complete the installation.
 - a. If the server has a dedicated temp drive or partition, place the Processing Temporary Folder on that dedicated location.
 - b. At the "Destination Folder" dialog, check "Install as distributed processing engine".
 - c. When prompted, specify the Windows account that the AccessData Evidence Processing Engine should run under.
Note: In any type of multi-box configuration, this should be your domain service account.

Processing Manager (If using Distributed Processing Engines)

Install the Distributed Processing Manager

1. Insert or mount the AD Lab installation media.
2. From the disc's autorun menu, click "Distributed Engine".
3. Click "Install 64 bit Distributed Processing Manager" and follow the prompts to complete the installation.
 - a. When prompted, specify the Windows account that the AccessData Distributed Processing Manager should run under.
Note: In any type of multi-box configuration, this should be your domain service account.
4. When the "Distributed Processing Manager Configuration" dialog opens, do the following:
 - a. For each Distributed Processing Engine machine:
 - i. Enter the Computer name/IP and Port of the Distributed Processing Engine machine.

- ii. Click “Add”.
5. Click “Done”.

AD Lab First Run

Create a New Application Administrator

1. Open AD Lab.
2. At the “Add Database” dialog, select the database you’d like to connect to.
 - a. If desired, you may give the database connection a nickname in the “Display Name” field.
3. Click “OK”.
4. When prompted, create an Application Administrator user.

Configure Distributed Processing

If you are using a Processing Manager in AD Lab, when creating a case, adding evidence, or performing additional analysis, you must select the desired machine from the “Processing Manager” drop-down.

AD Lab Upgrade Installation

Examiner

Uninstall the Existing Processing Engine

1. Open “Programs & Features” or “Uninstall a Program” via the Windows Control Panel.
2. Uninstall the existing “AccessData Evidence Processing Engine”.

Install the Lab Examiner & Processing Engine

1. Insert or mount the AD Lab installation media.
2. From the disc’s autorun menu, click “Lab 64 Bit Install”.
3. Click “Install CodeMeter Software” and follow the prompts to complete the installation.
 - a. If you have a physical Codemeter dongle, connect the dongle to the PC.
 - b. If you received an activation code for a virtual Codemeter dongle, follow the steps [here](#) to activate it.
4. Back in the installation menu, if this is a single-box setup, click “Install Processing Engine” and follow the prompts to complete the installation.
 - a. If the server has a dedicated temp drive or partition, place the Processing Temporary Folder on that dedicated location.
 - b. At the “Destination Folder” dialog, do not check “Install as distributed processing engine”.
6. Back in the installation menu, click “Install Lab” and follow the prompts to complete the installation.

Distributed Processing Engine(s) (Optional)

Uninstall the Distributed Processing Engine

1. Open “Programs & Features” or “Uninstall a Program” via the Windows Control Panel.
2. Uninstall the existing “AccessData Evidence Processing Engine”.

Install the Distributed Evidence Processing Engine

1. Insert or mount the AD Lab installation media.
2. From the disc’s autorun menu, click “Distributed Engine”.
3. Click “Install 64 bit Distributed Engine” and follow the prompts to complete the installation.
 - a. If the server has a dedicated temp drive or partition, place the Processing Temporary Folder on that dedicated location.
 - b. At the “Destination Folder” dialog, check “Install as distributed processing engine”.
 - c. When prompted, specify the Windows account that the AccessData Evidence Processing Engine should run under.

Note: In any type of multi-box configuration, this should be your domain service account.

Processing Manager (If using Distributed Processing Engines)

Uninstall the Existing Processing Manager

1. Open “Programs & Features” or “Uninstall a Program” via the Windows Control Panel.
2. Uninstall the existing “AccessData Distributed Processing Manager”.

Install the Distributed Processing Manager

1. Insert or mount the AD Lab installation media.
2. From the disc’s autorun menu, click “Distributed Engine”.
3. Click “Install 64 bit Distributed Processing Manager” and follow the prompts to complete the installation.
 - a. When prompted, specify the Windows account that the AccessData Distributed Processing Manager should run under.

Note: In any type of multi-box configuration, this should be your domain service account.
4. When the “Distributed Processing Manager Configuration” dialog opens, do the following:
 - a. For each Distributed Processing Engine machine:
 - i. Enter the Computer name/IP and Port of the Distributed Processing Engine machine.
 - ii. Click “Add”.
5. Click “Done”.