



IBM Systems

IBM UpdateXpress Server 2.01

Release Notes





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Note

Before using this information and the product it supports, read the general information in "Notices" on page 11.

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Chapter 1. About this release

UpdateXpress Server is a Web-based program that you can use to manage multiple versions of IBM device drivers and firmware updates from a central repository within your network. You can access the program on the server or remotely over any network that supports TCP/IP and Internet protocols.

Updates can be obtained manually through the Import Server Updates page or automatically by tasks that are created for the UpdateXpress Server Scheduler. You can use UpdateXpress Server to create system-specific profiles and associate them with the applicable device driver and firmware updates. Authorized users within your network can use a browser to access these profiles and download the applicable updates for their systems. You also can use UpdateXpress Server in conjunction with other software-distribution products to automate the distribution of the updates to applicable systems within your network.

UpdateXpress Server provides the following features:

- A Web server that hosts Web pages that make up the Web-based user interface
- XML-based updates for interfacing with other software-distribution products, including the IBM Update Assistant wizard in IBM Director
- The ability to create update profiles
- Remote retrieval of device driver and firmware updates (using an Internet connection to the IBM Support Web site) to retrieve newer updates
- Local retrieval of device driver and firmware updates (using a CD)
- Support for full proxy authentication for UpdateXpress Server access
- Information about the severity of the update

UpdateXpress Server 2.01 is the second release of UpdateXpress Server.

Changes in UpdateXpress Server 2.01

UpdateXpress Server 2.01 adds the following enhancements to the UpdateXpress Server 1.0 release:

Upgrade from UpdateXpress Server 1.0

You can upgrade from UpdateXpress Server 1.0 to UpdateXpress Server 2.01 without uninstalling UpdateXpress Server 1.0.

UpdateXpress Server scheduler

The UpdateXpress Server scheduler is a new administration feature in UpdateXpress Server that enables you to create and manage tasks that automatically download updates for selected servers based on update severity. After a scheduled task runs, the downloaded updates are stored in the local repository with any manual downloads. These automatic downloads can be organized into profiles in the same manner as manual downloads. Additionally, UpdateXpress Server creates a profile that includes all updates downloaded by the scheduler task. To access these features, use the UpdateXpress Server Scheduler option on the Administration Tools page.

Command-line interface

UpdateXpress Server 2.01 includes a command-line interface (CLI) that enables you to perform UpdateXpress Server tasks without using the Web-based interface. You can use the UpdateXpress Server CLI in a script or from a command prompt. For more information, see “How to use the command-line interface” on page 9.

Display filter

The Import Server Updates page includes a new display filter that enables you to control the view of updates that are available from a source location, which is either an UpdateXpress CD or the IBM Support Site. The display filter can list all available updates or only delta updates, which are those updates that are not already downloaded to the UpdateXpress Server. The default view is a list of all available updates.

Configurable session timeouts

UpdateXpress Server 2.01 adds the ability to configure session timeouts. The default value for administrator or user sessions is 30 minutes. To access this feature, use the Session Timeout option on the Administration Tools page.

Activity log replaces previous error log

UpdateXpress Server 2.01 provides an activity log. The activity log contains all messages, including success, informational, and error messages. Previously, only an error log was provided and it only contained error messages.

IBM WebSphere Application Server Express

UpdateXpress Server 2.01 includes IBM WebSphere Application Server Express, version 6.0. UpdateXpress Server 1.0 included version 5.1 of IBM WebSphere Application Server Express.

UpdateXpress Server information resources

You can find additional information about UpdateXpress Server in the product documentation and on the World Wide Web.

Documentation

In addition to the *IBM UpdateXpress 2.01 Release Notes*, UpdateXpress 2.01 is supported by the online help system that it provides.

The release notes documentation is in Portable Document Format (PDF). You need Adobe Acrobat Reader or Xpdf to view it.

World Wide Web resources

The following Web pages provide resources for understanding, using, and troubleshooting UpdateXpress Server and systems-management tools:

IBM UpdateXpress Server page

http://www.ibm.com/servers/eserver/xseries/systems_management/uxsrv.html

Obtain an overview of UpdateXpress Server and links for downloading the product and release notes.

IBM personal computing support page

www.ibm.com/pc/support/

Locate support for IBM hardware and systems-management software. For systems-management software support, click **Systems management**.

IBM @server[®] xSeries[®] Systems Management page

www.ibm.com/servers/eserver/xseries/systems_management

Obtain an overview of IBM systems management. This Web page also contains links to Web source for IBM Director and IBM Director extensions.

Chapter 2. Installation and upgrade information

This chapter provides information about hardware and software requirements and instructions for installing and uninstalling UpdateXpress Server.

Prerequisites

The following section provides information about the prerequisites for installing or upgrading UpdateXpress Server.

Hardware requirements

The following hardware is recommended:

- A processor speed of at least 2 GHz.
- 512 MB of storage
- 10/100MB Ethernet network card
- A minimum of 1 GB of hard-disk-drive space

Note: Additional resources can be necessary on systems that have installed multiple applications and are running them.

Software requirements

UpdateXpress Server 2.01 supports the following 32-bit operating systems:

- Windows 2000 Server, with service pack 4
- Windows 2000 Advanced Server, with service pack 4
- Windows Server 2003, Standard Edition
- Windows Server 2003, Enterprise Edition

UpdateXpress Server can be started on any supported server installed with a non-English Windows 2000 or Windows 2003 operating system. The same restrictions apply as documented for the servers when you are using an English version of Windows 2000 or Windows 2003. UpdateXpress Server is not translated at this time.

Web browser requirements

UpdateXpress Server 2.01 is supported with the following Web browsers:

- Microsoft Internet Explorer version 5.5 and later
- Mozilla Firefox version 1.0 and later
- Netscape version 6 and later

Installation and upgrade information

This section provides instructions for installing or upgrading IBM UpdateXpress Server.

Note: A minimum of 1 GB of hard-disk-drive space is required to install or upgrade and use UpdateXpress Server.

Complete the following steps to install or upgrade IBM UpdateXpress Server.

1. Make sure that you have the IBM UpdateXpress Server installation file, UXSetup.exe, available on the system that will become an UpdateXpress Server. This file can be download from the IBM Support Site at <http://www.ibm.com/pc/support>.
2. Log on to the system using an operating-system account with administrator privileges.
3. Run the IBM UpdateXpress Server installation file. The IBM UpdateXpress Server setup program starts and the “Welcome to the InstallShield Wizard” window opens.
4. Click **Next**. The license agreement is displayed.
5. Select **I accept the terms of the license agreement** and click **Next**. The **Directory Name** field is displayed.
6. To change the location in which the UpdateXpress Server files are installed, go to the **Directory Name** field and type the path to the location that you want to use.
7. Click **Next**. The “UpdateXpress Server administration account credentials” window opens.
8. In the **Username** field, type a user name for the UpdateXpress Server administrator.
9. In the **Password** field, type a password for the administrator.
10. In the **Confirm Password** field, type the same password again for confirmation.
11. Click **Next**. The “Web Server Port Number” window opens.
12. In the **UpdateXpress Server Port Number** field, select the port number on which you want the UpdateXpress Server service to listen on for requests.
13. In the **Identify the CD drive for this system** field, select the drive letter of the CD drive.
14. Click **Next**. The summary information is displayed. This point in the installation is the last opportunity to cancel the product installation.
15. Click **Next**. A progress indicator bar displays the progress of the software installation.
16. When the installation is completed, click **Next**.
17. When prompted, click **Next** to complete the installation and exit from the setup program.

Information about uninstalling

Complete the following steps to uninstall UpdateXpress Server:

1. Navigate to the “Add/Remove Programs” window in the Windows Control Panel.
2. Select **UpdateXpress Server**; then, click **Add/Remove**.
3. Follow the wizard prompts.

Alternatively, you can use the UpdateXpress Server menu in the Start menu to begin the uninstallation wizard.

Chapter 3. Limitations and general problems

This chapter contains information about limitations and general problems.

Limitations

UpdateXpress Server 2.01 has the following limitations:

Unrestricted access to data files

UpdateXpress Server does not restrict access to its data files. If these files are modified manually, UpdateXpress Server might malfunction. To prevent unauthorized users from modifying these files, restrict access by modifying the security permissions on the UpdateXpress Server files.

Cannot login to UpdateXpress Server

To access UpdateXpress Server, users can enter either the host name or the IP address of the server as the Web address. If UpdateXpress Server does not allow valid users to log in, verify that your host name is listed as a trusted site. If the access problems continue, use the IP address instead of the host name.

Changes to profiles take effect immediately

When logged in as a user with administrator privileges, changes that are made to profiles take effect immediately and affect all users that are currently logged on. Therefore, changes to profiles should be carefully considered before they are made.

UpdateXpress Server cannot override Netscape or Firefox settings when opening Web pages

UpdateXpress Server is affected by the user settings in Netscape and Firefox when UpdateXpress Server is started. For example, the page it opens could open as a new browser instance, as a new tab, or in the current browser window: the exact outcome is dependent on the user settings in Netscape and Firefox. This behavior could cause loss of data on a currently open Web page. This problem does not apply to Internet Explorer because UpdateXpress Server can force the opening of a new browser window when it first starts.

General problems

This section contains information about general problems applicable to UpdateXpress Server 2.01:

Command-line interface logs messages only to default location of activity log

The command-line interface (CLI) of UpdateXpress Server logs messages only to the default location of the activity log. Confusion can occur in these two scenarios:

- When the CLI is run for a remote UpdateXpress Server installation.
In this case, it is expected that the logging for the CLI command should occur at the remote installation as well as the local installation.
- When the activity log has been moved to a nondefault location.
In this case, the remote CLI cannot access the log file, which prevents it from being updated correctly. It is expected that messages from the CLI should be logged to the user-defined location of the activity log.

In both cases, all CLI messages are logged to the default location of the activity log.

Abnormalities can occur when downloading large numbers of updates

Abnormalities can occur when downloading large numbers of updates from the IBM Support Web site at one time. Abnormalities occur most frequently when you use the command-line interface (CLI) of UpdateXpress Server to download updates. The two abnormalities that have been seen are as follows:

- The progress bar skips to 100% rapidly and only a few updates actually get downloaded.
- The download progress proceeds normally until 99% completion, when a Java™ Exception error is displayed. In this case, the updates are downloaded successfully and you can ignore this Java Exception.

Chapter 4. Updates to the UpdateXpress Server 2.01 documentation

This chapter provides the following documentation updates to UpdateXpress Server 2.01:

- Updates to the online help system
- How to access the Web-based interface
- How to use the command-line interface

Updates to the online help system

There are no corrections at this time.

How to access the Web-based interface

To access the Web-based interface to UpdateXpress Server, use your local Web browser.

You can access UpdateXpress Server at `http://<hostname>:<port>/UXS`, where *hostname* is the name of the system that is running UpdateXpress Server and *port* is the name of the port used for communications with this server.

For example, if a system called `myhost` is configured to use the default port 80 with UpdateXpress Server, then the following Web address can be used to access this UpdateXpress Server:

`http://myhost/UXS`

How to use the command-line interface

UpdateXpress Server 2.01 includes a command-line interface (CLI) that enables you to perform UpdateXpress Server tasks without using the Web-based interface. You can use the UpdateXpress Server CLI in a script or from a command prompt.

The executable file for the UpdateXpress Server CLI is `uxscli.exe`. This file is located in the `scripts` subdirectory where UpdateXpress Server is installed. For example, if the default location was used to install UpdateXpress Server, then `uxscli.exe` is in the directory `C:\Program Files\IBM\UpdateXpress\Server\UXS\scripts`.

The syntax of this executable file is as follows:

►► `uxscli` *command-name* [*options*] [*operands*] ◀◀

By default, the actions of the CLI commands apply to the local UpdateXpress Server, but most commands provide a `-r` option so that they are applied to a remote UpdateXpress Server instead.

Table 1 lists the commands that are supported by the UpdateXpress Server CLI.

Table 1. UpdateXpress CLI commands

Command name	Description
chcdloc	Change the local source path that is used to import updates.
chfirewall	Change the firewall settings for the UpdateXpress Server. Administrators can choose a direct, SOCKS, or proxy connection and can change these settings for the HyperText Transfer Protocol (HTTP) proxy or SOCKS server: address, port number, user ID, and password.
chlog	Change the location of the activity log.
chsched	Change the settings of a scheduler task. If the specified task does not exist, this command creates a new task with the given settings. Administrators can designate the date, time, and frequency for the task to run, the machine types to target, and the severity of updates that the task should include.
cpup	Download new updates to UpdateXpress Server. This command can download all available updates or a specific list of updates.
cpprof	Copy an existing profile as a new profile under a different name.
lslog	View the activity log.
lssched	List the scheduler tasks.
lsschedlog	View the activity log for a scheduler task.
lsup	List the available updates stored in the local UpdateXpress Server, an UpdateXpress CD, the IBM Support Site, a profile, or an index XML file. The updates can be for all machine types or a specified list of machine types.
mkprof	Create one or more new profiles.
mkup	Update a profile.
pubprof	Publish a profile.
renprof	Rename a profile.
rmlog	Clear the activity log.
rmprof	Delete one or more profiles.
rmschedlog	Clear the activity log for a scheduler task.
rmup	Remove updates from a profile.

Detailed information about each of these commands, and their valid options and operands, is available by using command help. For example, to obtain help for the lslog command, enter this command:

```
uxscli lslog -?
```

The command help lists the syntax of each command and the valid options that you can use.

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