
Installation Guide

Configuring Vista Cinema V3R1

Version: V3R1



Vista Entertainment Solutions Ltd.

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About Vista

Vista Entertainment Solutions develops software for the Cinema Exhibition industry. The Vista software system consists of a number of integrated products that cover almost all aspects of managing and operating cinemas. The product line is scalable so as to be suitable to exhibitors who run from one cinema to hundreds of cinemas.

The Vista Point of Sale and Vista BackOffice (base Vista) provide all Cinemas level function for Box Office and Concessions. At least one installation of Base Vista is required for all Vista customers. All other modules are optional.

The optional modules are:

- **Web Ticketing** - a customisable system that enables ticket sales on the Internet along with display of show times and movie information.
- **IVR Ticketing System**- an automated touchtone phone booking system.
- **Vista Kiosk** - a customisable ATM ticketing system that features touch screen and state of the art multimedia technology for remote ticket sales either on or off-site.
- **Call Center** - provides a central web based application for booking and selling seats across a circuit of cinemas.
- **MobilePOS** - utilises a Pocket PC based PDA's to sell tickets and concessions while connected to the Vista system via a wireless network.
- **Vista Signs** - manages configured animated messages on cinema signs including LED, TV Monitors and Plasma.
- **Vista Projection** - controls the export of cinema show-time schedules to automated projection systems.
- **Vista Air Conditioning** - provides an interface between base Vista and the air conditioning system to regulate air circulation and temperature depending on head count information stored in the Vista database.
- **HeadOffice** - provides central maintenance of key cinema data, uploading of cinema performance data to HeadOffice, a film settlements system and a business intelligence system for analysing circuit wide performance.
- **CashDesk** - a companion product for Vista BackOffice for cinemas that wish to have higher levels of cash and treasury control within the cinema.
- **Employee Scheduling** - provides a graphical employee roster system at cinema locations, along with a HeadOffice module that consolidates all roster information.
- **Film Programming and Scheduling** - a companion product to HeadOffice. It is a system for planning and booking films across a circuit from a central location. The booking system generates best fit schedules to download to the cinema.
- **Voucher Management** - a companion product to Vista HeadOffice that controls the ordering, stocking, transfer, and redemption of coupons, vouchers and passes.
- **Loyalty** - a customer relation management program for the creation, maintenance and evaluation of loyalty programs.

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Using This Guide

This guide is for anyone who needs to setup and configure Vista Cinema (Cinema Server, BackOffice, Point of Sale, Job Scheduler and Utils Server) for general operation.

This guide includes a detailed explanation of:

- Cinema Server Configuration.
- BackOffice Configuration.
- Point of Sale Configuration.
- Job Scheduler Configuration.
- Utils Server Configuration.
- Concessions Importer Configuration.

Before completing the steps in this guide, you should have reviewed and completed:

- 1 Installation of SQL Server (see the 'Installing SQL Server' Guide).
- 2 Installation of Vista Version 3 (see the 'Installing Vista Version 3' Guide).

Now use this guide to configure your Vista Cinema application.

Naming Conventions

Vista can only work with computer network names that are no longer than 10 characters long. This is because when Vista was first written, Windows only supported an 8 character maximum, and Vista remains backward compatible.

System Administrator User:

When Vista is installed for the first time, the following user will already exist and is the System Administrator. Please make sure you change the password as soon as possible:

- User name: sysadmin
- Password: sysadmin

Users and Passwords:

Note the use of upper case/lower case characters in both the username and password. This is deliberate to make it more secure. Tests run recently showed any password that was just a word in either all uppercase or all lowercase could be cracked within 30 seconds. Adding a number made it much harder and using varied upper case/lower case meant it would take days to crack. This is important for usernames that have Administrative rights and those with dial up rights.

Recommended Usernames and Passwords for Small Cinema Chains:

The following usernames/passwords are setup on the fileserver.

User Id	Password	Dial In Allowed	Comments
VISTA	VISTA	No	This user ID is used by the Vista software to access Windows NT/2000 AS and the VISTA database. The password must be blank if Point of Sale is Windows 95/98.
Administrator	Ele64Blu	No	The mix of uppercase/lower case in "Ele" and "Blu". This can also be combined with a number, to make it almost impossible to be broken into by security breaking programs.
VES	Kiw64Gol	Yes	This is the user ID, used by staff at Vista Entertainment Solutions to provide software support. This user ID will have administrator rights. Again note the uppercase/lowercase of "Kiw" and "Gol."
SQLExecutive	SQLExecutive01	No	This user id is used by SQL Executive. The password should never be changed, otherwise SQL Backups and other tasks will fail.
e.g. Infinity	{Password of your choice}	Yes	Password for the local computer support company (if it exists). In the example, a company called "Infinity Solutions Ltd" looks after the example cinema chain called Vista Cinemas. This user ID will have administrator rights.

CHAPTER 1

Configuring Cinema Server

Prerequisites

Ensure the computer name is not longer than 10 characters long and that the following steps have been completed:

- 1 Install SQL Server on Cinema Server (see the 'Installing SQL Server' Guide).
- 2 Install Vista Software on Cinema Server (see the 'Installing Vista Version 3' Guide).

When running the Setup Client, typical programs to install are:

- BackOffice*
- Kitchen
- POS*
- Screening Scheduler*
- Transaction Summariser
- Vista Diagnostics
- Set Licence
- CashDesk* (only if licensed to use it)
- Display Signs (only if licensed to use it)
- Scheduler
- Quest* (only if licensed to use it)

Note: * means that it is not normally run on this computer, but install it in case Vista need to connect to your system to investigate a problem (as the only remote access typically involves the cinema server).

Complete the Following Operating System Checks:

- Set the date/time correctly
- Date Settings are correct
- Time settings are correct
- As long as the Date/Time automatically aligns with the computer, do not set for daylight savings
- Correct country selected
- Currency Settings are correct

Site Specific Customisation

Setup the Country Specific Cash Buttons:

Note: D:\Vista refers to the Vista Share created previously.

- Open the Query Analyser window in Enterprise Manager.
- Start SQL Enterprise Manager.
- Start>Programs>Microsoft SQL Server>Enterprise Manager.
- Highlight fileserver name (e.g.. SERVER01).
- Select menu Tools>SQL Server Query Analyzer.
- Select Database VISTA (from drop down box).
- Use the "Open File" icon to open the required script name:
- There is a different Cash Buttons Population script depending on which country you are in. Browse to the correct country folder and execute the popCashButtons.sql script that exists in that folder: D:\VistaInstall\APPLIB_INSTALL_Customistation\3.00\Country\
- Open script appropriate for your country. Execute script.

Configure the Country Specific Payment Connector:

- Browse to the folder D:\VistaInstall\APPLIB_INSTALL_Customistation\3.00\Payment Connectors.
- Select the Payment Connector files appropriate to your site. Copy it to D:\VistaInstall\APPLIB\Payments\3.00\PAYMENTSMODULE. For more information about which payment connector to use, or how to configure the payment connector, please contact Technical Support.

Configure the Print Templates:

- Create a VistaPOS folder in D:\Vista\ on the Database Server.
- In the new VistaPOS folder create another folder called PrintTemplates.
- Copy the contents of D:\VistaInstall\APPLIB_INSTALL_Customistation\3.00\Print Templates (POS) into the new PrintTemplates folder.

Configure the Vista Data INI Files:

- Browse to D:\VistaInstall\COMMONBASE\3.00\Config and copy the file Sample_visDBEngine.ini and paste it in the same folder. Then rename the copied version to visDBEngine.ini.

Copy the Vista SQL Jobs:

- Browse to D:\VistaInstall\JOBS\3.00\ and copy the DatabaseScripts folder to D:\Vista.

Create Backup Files

Create Backups of the Database To-Date:

To get to Backup utility:

- Start Enterprise Manager.
- Highlight local server name.
- Menu: Tools>Backup Database...

Create Disk Backup File to Hold “Clean Install” Copy of Vista Database:

This backup file will be used to restore the Vista database to an ‘empty’ state after staff training has filled it with sales transactions.

- Backup Database - General Tab.
- Database: Select **VISTA**.
- Backup: Database - Complete.
- Destination: Disk.
- On SQL Server 7 - Accept default path \MSSQL7\Backup\.
- On SQL Server 2000 - Accept default path \Program Files\Microsoft SQL Server\MSSQL\Backup.
- Append Filename: **Dump_Vista_PreGoLive**.
- OK.
- Overwrite: Overwrite existing media.
- <OK>, to back up now.

Create Disk Backup of MASTER Database:

This backup file will be used to restore the MASTER database if it ever got corrupt. This database contains the sizes of all the database devices and databases within SQL Server.

- Backup Database - General Tab:
- Database: Select **master**.
- Backup: Database - Complete.
- Destination: Disk.
- On SQL Server 7 - Accept default path \MSSQL7\Backup\.
- On SQL Server 2000 - Accept default path \Program Files\Microsoft SQL Server\MSSQL\Backup.
- Append Filename: **Dump_Master**.
- OK.
- Overwrite: Overwrite existing media.
- <OK>, to back up now.

Create Disk Backup of MSDB Database:

This backup device will be used to restore the MSDB database if it ever got corrupted. This database contains the list of Scheduled Tasks within SQL Server. It would be easier to restore this database rather than retype in all the scheduled tasks if it ever got corrupted.

- Backup Database - General Tab.
- Database: Select **msdb**.

- Backup: Database - Complete.
- Destination: Disk.
- On SQL Server 7 - Accept default path \MSSQL7\Backup\.
- On SQL Server 2000 - Accept default path \Program Files\Microsoft SQL Server\MSSQL\Backup.
- Append Filename: **Dump_Msdb.**
- OK.
- Overwrite: Overwrite existing media.
- <OK>, to back up now.

Setup Scheduled Tasks

Setup Scheduled Tasks via SQL Server Enterprise Manager.

A suggested Task Timetable as below. You may need to change some of these times to suit your cinema's typical working day.

Task Name	Frequency	Suggested Day	Suggested Time	Approx Time to run
Daily Backup Vista	Daily		7:00am	15 mins
Daily Backup Master	Daily		6:50am	5 secs
Daily Backup Msdb	Daily		6:55am	5 secs
Database Consistency	Daily		3:30am	15 mins – 3 hours
Daily Rebuild Indexes	Daily		5:00am	15 mins
Release Unpaid Bookings	Every 5 minutes			5 secs
Purge Session Seating Plans	Daily		6:40am	1 min
Daily Purge (start approx 1 year after Go live)	Daily		6:45am	5 mins
Purge Bookings	Weekly	Wednesday	1:30am	1 min

Schedule Daily Tape Backup of VISTA Database:

There are two approaches to backing up to tape:

1 - SQL Server backs up to disk. A separate task then performs an NT level backup of selected files on the server (as determined by the support company), including the SQL Server disk backup file.

2 - SQL Server backs up directly to tape. Tape not available for NT backups. Most tape drives do not support this.

Currently, we recommend Approach 1. Follow the general procedure as if you were going to do an immediate backup, as per the previous topic.

Setup Daily Backup of Vista Database:

Backup Database - General Tab.

- Database: Select VISTA.
- Backup: Database - Complete.
- Destination: e.g. D:\Program Files\Microsoft SQL Server\MSSQL\BACKUP\Dump_Daily_Vista.
- Overwrite: Overwrite existing media.
- Choose the Verify option (which is on the Other tab).

- Tick "Schedule."
- Click "..." to open the scheduling dialogue.
- Enabled and Recurring should be ticked (default).
- <Change...>
- Occurs: daily.
- Frequency: every 1 day.
- Daily frequency: occurs once at 07:00.
- Duration: no end date.
- <OK>
- Edit name to be: "Daily Backup Vista."
- Notify Options: accept default (none).
- Event Logging: accept default (on failure).
- <OK>

The result of the above is that a job is created in the SQLAgent jobs list.

Using this wizard is much easier than creating the job directly via the SQLAgent wizard.

To view or subsequently edit the job:

- In Enterprise Manager, highlight the Server Name.
- Expand folders to locate: Management \ SQLServer Agent \ Jobs.

Note: This task (and any other scheduled task) will not run if the SQLServerAgent service is not running. Check Control Panel, Services, SQLServerAgent that it is set to start automatically when NT starts.

Setup Daily Backup of Master Database:

Backup Database - General Tab.

- Database: Select **master**.
- Backup: Database - Complete.
- Destination: e.g. D:\Program Files\Microsoft SQL Server\MSSQL\BACKUP\Dump_Daily_Master.
- Overwrite: Overwrite existing media.
- Choose the Verify option (which is on the Other tab).
- Tick "Schedule."
- Click "..." to open the scheduling dialogue.
- Enabled and Recurring should be ticked (default).
- <Change...>
- Occurs: daily.
- Frequency: every 1 day.
- Daily frequency: occurs once at 06:50.
- Duration: no end date.
- <OK>
- Edit name to be: "Daily Backup Master."
- Notify Options: accept default (none).
- Event Logging: accept default (on failure).
- <OK>

Setup Daily Backup of Msdb Database:

Backup Database - General Tab.

- Database: Select **msdb**.
- Backup: Database - Complete.
- Destination: e.g. D:\Program Files\Microsoft SQL Server\MSSQL\BACKUP\Dump_Daily_Msdb.
- Overwrite: Overwrite existing media.
- Choose the Verify option (which is on the other tab).
- Tick "Schedule."
- Click "..." to open the scheduling dialogue.
- Enabled and Recurring should be ticked (default).
- <Change...>
- Occurs: daily.
- Frequency: every 1 day.
- Daily frequency: occurs once at 06:55.
- Duration: no end date.
- <OK>
- Edit name to be: "Daily Backup Msdb."
- Notify Options: accept default (none).
- Event Logging: accept default (on failure).
- <OK>

Setup Daily Check of Database for Consistency:

This task is normally run once a day, unless it is taking a long time, then maybe schedule to run once a week.

- In Enterprise Manager, ensure local server name is highlighted:
- Menu: **Tools, Job scheduling...**
- (*) Operating system Shell command.
- In the box type the command:
- `osql /Usa /P`
- `/iD:\Vista\DatabaseScripts\Checkdb.sql`
- `/oD:\Vista\Log\Checkdb.out`
- Click **Next**.
- Run the job: Select **On a recurring basis** and click the **Schedule** control button.
- Occurs: Daily.
- Frequency: every 1 day.
- Daily frequency: occurs once at 03:30.
- Duration: no end date.
- Click **OK** and then click **Next**.
- Job Notifications: accept default (no operator) and click **Next**.
- Job Name: Check Database Consistency.

Setup Rebuild Indexes:

This task is normally run once a day, unless it is taking a long time, then maybe schedule to run once a week.

In Enterprise Manager, ensure local server name is highlighted:

- Menu: Tools, Job scheduling...
- (*) Operating system Shell command.
- In the box type the command:
- `osql /Usa /P`
- `/iD:\Vista\DatabaseScripts\Create-Indexes.sql`
- `/oD:\Vista\Log\Create-Indexes.out`
- Click **Next**.
- Run the job: Select **On a recurring basis** and click the **Schedule** control button.
- Occurs: Daily.
- Frequency: every 1 day.
- Daily frequency: occurs once at 05:00.
- Duration: no end date.
- Click **OK** and then click **Next**.
- Job Notifications: accept default (no operator) and click **Next**.
- Job Name: Rebuild Indexes.

Setup Release Unpaid Bookings:

This purge, removes all unpaid bookings x minutes prior to the session starting based on a BackOffice setting.

- Menu: Select Tools, Job scheduling...
- Select Transact SQL command.
- Select database VISTA.
- In the box type the command: `EXECUTE spReleaseBookings`.
- Run the job: Select **On a recurring basis** and click the **Schedule...control** button.
- Occurs: Daily.
- Frequency: Every 5 minutes.
- Duration: no end date.
- Click **OK** and then **Next**.
- Job Notifications: accept default (no operator).
- Job Name: Release Unpaid Bookings.

Setup Daily Purge of Session Seating Plans:

This purge, removes all seating plans for movie sessions which are more than one month old.

- Menu: Select Tools, Job scheduling...
- Select Transact SQL command.
- Select database VISTA.
- In the box type the command: `EXECUTE spPurgeSessionRowAllocation`.
- Run the job: Select **On a recurring basis** and click the **Schedule...control** button.

- Occurs: Daily.
- Frequency: every 1 day.
- Daily frequency: occurs once at 06:40.
- Duration: no end date.
- Click **OK** and then **Next**.
- Job Notifications: accept default (no operator).
- Job Name: Purge Session Seating Plans (> 1 month old).

Setup Weekly Purge of Bookings:

- Menu: Select **Tools, Job scheduling...**
- Select **Operating system Shell command**.
- In the box type the command:
 - `osql /dVISTA /Usa /P /n`
 - `/iD:\Vista\DatabaseScriptssql`
 - `/oD:\Vista\Log\PurgeBookings.out`
- Run the job: Select **On a recurring basis** and click the **Schedule...** control button.
- Occurs: Weekly.
- Frequency: every 1 weeks on Wednesday.
- Daily frequency: occurs once at 01:30.
- Duration: no end date.
- Click **OK** and then click **Next**.
- Job Notifications: accept default (no operator).
- Job Name: Purge Bookings.
- Click **Finish**.

Setup Daily Purge:

Important: This task only requires being setup at the moment. It will be turned on in one year's time. The purge deletes 1 day of data every day. It checks the column in the table called tblControl for the column called Control_dtmPurgeDate. All transactions and sessions are deleted for all up to this day then this date is incremented by one day, ready for tomorrow's purge.

- Menu: Select **Tools, Job scheduling**.
- Select **Operating system Shell command**.
- In the resulting text box type the command:
 - `osql /dVISTA /Usa /P /n`
 - `/iD:\Vista\DatabaseScripts\Purge.sql`
 - `/oD:\Vista\Log\Purge.out`
- Run the job: Select **On a recurring basis** and click the **Schedule...** control button.
- Occurs: Daily.
- Frequency: every 1 days.
- Daily frequency: occurs once at 06:45, Duration: no end date.
- Click **OK** and click **Next**.
- Job Notifications: accept default (no operator).
- Job Name: Daily Purge.

Note: This job must now be manually disabled, as not required for about 1 year!

View the SQLAgent \ Jobs list:

- Enterprise Manager Folder: server name\ management\SQLServerAgent\jobs.
- The result of the above is that jobs were created in the SQLAgent jobs list.
- Check that the tasks you added above are all there.
- **Disable the Daily Purge task** (Highlight Job, right click, Disable Job).
- Using the 'Tools, Schedule Job' wizard is much easier than creating the job directly via the SQLAgent, Jobs, New Job... wizard. To view or subsequently edit the job:
- In Enterprise Manager, highlight the Server Name.
- Expand folders to locate: Management \ SQLServer Agent \ Jobs.
- Right click on job, properties.

Warning: If the 'last run' or 'next scheduled' dates are empty or unknown, then the SQLAgent is probably not running, and none of these tasks will be carried out. You can start the agent manually by: Right click SQLServerAgent folder, Start. But it also means that the SQLserverAgent has not been set to start automatically (in Control Panel, Services). If so, that should be set now.

Protocol Settings

Set Default to Named Pipes:

- Select Start + Run.
- Open: CLICONFG <ok>
- Enable the “Named Pipes” protocol if not enabled.
- Move the “Named Pipes” protocol to the top of the list (sometimes it will be below TCP-IP).

Perform Tape and Disk Backups

Backup key databases now (for emergency recovery). Backups of the following databases were made in an earlier section (see 'Create Backup Files'). However, some things have changed in the database since then (particularly job scheduling information). So do another backup now.

- Backup from SQL Enterprise Manager, Menu: Tools, Backup.

Backup the MASTER Database to Disk:

Note: takes less than 1 minute.

- Backup database: 'master' to existing disk file **Dump_master**.
- Tick the overwrite contents option.

Backup the MASTER Database to Tape:

Note: takes less than 1 minute.

- Insert a tape labelled "Backup of MASTER Database."
- Backup database: 'master' to tape.
- Tick the overwrite contents option.
- Label tape with the date and time. Write protect it.

Backup the MSDB Database to Disk :

Note: takes less than 1 minute.

- Backup database: 'msdb' to existing disk file **Dump_msdb..**
- Tick the overwrite contents option.

You should now before a full backup at the operating system level to tape.

Printer Templates

Printer templates need configuring for use with Point of Sale and credit card payments.

At a later stage you will get Vista Backoffice going and define what type of Printer you will use. This determines what folder the printer templates needed to be copied into.

See the Vista Technical Support Guide, under the section called Vista Print templates Authoring to find out more about installing the printer templates and how to configure them.

CHAPTER 2

Configuring BackOffice

Pre-requisites:

Ensure the computer name is not longer than 10 characters long and that the following step has been completed:

- Install Vista Software on BackOffice computer.

When running Setup Client, typical programs to install are:

- BackOffice.
- POS.
- Screening Scheduler.
- Vista Diagnostics.
- Set Licence.
- CashDesk (only if licenced to use it).
- Scheduler.

Complete the following Operating System Checks:

- Set the date/time correctly.
- Date Settings are correct.
- Time settings are correct.
- As long as the Date/Time automatically aligns with the computer, do not set for daylight savings.
- Correct country selected.
- Currency Settings are correct.

Share the Hard Disk (for Support purposes):

- [Explorer, Highlight C:, right click, sharing]
- Share C: Drive as:
 - Share name: CDRIVE.
 - Access type: Full.
 - Password: Don't enter a password.

Aligning Back Office and Server Time

An important part of Back Office is the system time on the workstation. This needs to match the system time on the Cinema Database Server. This can be achieved by using a login script for the users that log into Back Office Workstation. Add the following command to those login scripts:

```
net time \\[Database Server Name or IP] /set
```

Replace the [Database Server Name or IP] with the name or IP address of your Cinema Database Server. This will ensure that the Back Office workstations time is set to be the same as the time on the server each time the workstation is logged on.

CHAPTER 3

Configuring Point of Sale

Pre-Requisites:

Ensure the computer name is not longer than 10 characters long and that the following step has been completed:

- Install Vista Software on Point of Sale Computer.

When running Setup Client, typical programs to install are:

- POS.
- Vista Diagnostics.

Complete the Following Operating System Checks:

- Set the date/time correctly.
- Date Settings are correct.
- Time settings are correct.
- As long as the Date/Time automatically aligns with the computer, do not set for daylight savings.
- Correct country selected.
- Currency Settings are correct.

Share the Hard Disk (for support purposes):

- Explorer, Highlight C: , right click, sharing.

Share C: Drive as:

- Share name: CDRIVE.
- Access type: Full.
- Password: Don't enter a password.

Set Screen Resolution:

Vista Point of Sale version 3 will only run on a computer that is set to 800 x 600 pixels or higher.

- Rightclick on Desktop, Properties or Control Panel, Display: Settings tab.
- Set "Desktop Area" to: e.g. 800 x 600 pixels.
- Use the "Test" button to make sure this resolution is supported.

Complete Hardware Adjustments:

Note: see Technical Support-POS Setup document if you need assistance with this process.

Touchscreen	If a touchscreen being used, ensure touchscreen drivers have been loaded. They should be operational at the Windows level prior to proceeding to install Vista POS software.
Peripheral Devices	Assemble and connect any peripheral devices such as 'customer display', 'cashdrawer' (can be done after the install of Vista POS software).

Printers - Do Not Define a Printer:

Vista Point of Sale does not use the Windows Printer Drivers. Vista talks directly to the parallel or serial port.

This means it is very important that you **DO NOT** configure any devices (printers or modems etc) to use the parallel and/or serial ports that any ticket/receipt printer will use, else Vista Point of Sale will not be able to access the port.

Network Logons

Point of Sale computers must be configured to the network, so they automatically log on and do not ask for a password. Create a Windows user that POS will use to Logon to the Network.

If an Window user 'VISTA' has not been created, then do that now.

- User ID: VISTA.
- Password: (blank).
- ALL POS terminals log on to the Domain as user VISTA.
- The password is blank so as to force Windows to bypass the usual logon dialogue box when windows starts, and to logon automatically (as long as the last username used when logging on was VISTA).
- Reboot POS and logon as user VISTA (password blank).

For Windows 95 or Windows 98 Only:

If somehow you are automatically logging on as a user which is not 'VISTA', then we need to get the logon prompt back to be able to enter user VISTA. Do this by deleting all files: C:\Windows*.pwl, then reboot.

Create a Windows Logon script for the Windows user 'VISTA':

If one does not already exist, create a Windows logon script for user Windows 'VISTA' to set the date and time on the workstation based on the Server date & time.

Aligning Back Office and Server Time

An important part of Back Office is the system time on the workstation. This needs to match the system time on the Cinema Database Server. This can be achieved by using a login script for the users that log into Back Office Workstation. Add the following command to those login scripts:

```
net time \\[Database Server Name or IP] /set
```

Replace the [Database Server Name or IP] with the name or IP address of your Cinema Database Server. This will ensure that the Back Office workstations time is set to be the same as the time on the server each time the workstation is logged on.

CHAPTER 4

Disable Power Save Mode

Why Disable Power Saver Mode:

By default on most computers, the hardware/operating system defaults to enabling a power saving mode. It is wise to disable power saving as it can cause large delays in processing a sale if the computer has gone into power safe mode and has often caused some staff to believe the computer has stopped working.

For Windows XP/2000:

To turn off the power saving options within Windows:

- Right Mouse Click on the Windows Desktop.
- Select Properties.
- Select the Screen Saver Tab.
- Select the Power Button.
- Select the Power Scheme 'Always On' from the combo box.
- Select Ok.

For Windows 95 and Windows 98:

To turn off the power saving option, you must go into the BIOS setup. To get to the BIOS settings on the computer, you need to restart the computer and follow the instructions on the screen on how to get into the BIOS (it differs, depending on the computer hardware).

Arrange SCANDISK to Run Unattended

(For Windows 95 or Windows 98 only)

There is no need to Run SCANDISK automatically, unless you are using Windows 95/98.

If Windows has not been shutdown properly, then when it is restarted the user will be prompted to run ScanDisk. As there is often no keyboard attached to a POS the user is unable to get past those prompts and start Vista. To resolve this, we suggest you stop Windows prompting about scandisk on startup, and always run scandisk on startup whether or not there was a problem with shutdown. You can arrange to do this automatically with no user input requested as follows.

Ensure Scandisk Always Runs When Windows Starts:

- Add the following lines to the top of AUTOEXEC.BAT
@Echo off
C:\Windows\Command\Scandisk C: /Autofix /Nosave /Nosummary

Stop User Prompts Relating to ScanDisk:

- Turn OFF the read only, share and hidden attributes of the following DOS system file: MSDOS.SYS, e.g. ATTRIB MSDOS.SYS -S -H -R <enter>, or set via Explorer, Properties
- Edit MSDOS.SYS
- Add the following in the [Options] section of this file
[Options]
AutoScan=0
Save
- Turn back ON the read only, share and hidden attributes for MSDOS.SYS

Note: The AutoScan settings are as follows:

- AutoScan=0 Turns off ScanDisk
- AutoScan=1 Default setting, will do a scan disk if Windows 95 is shut down incorrectly.
- AutoScan=2 Automatically runs scan disk if Windows 95/98 is shut down incorrectly. It however still prompts for some input from the user when fixing any problems.

Point of Sale Configuration file

In the folder C:\Vista\VistaPOS is a configuration file called: Sample_VistaPOS.ini. Copy this and make it VistaPOS.ini. It can be edited with Microsoft Notepad.

Making Vista POS Exit Windows:

This only needs to be done once you have finished configuring the Vista POS computer.

- Change the setting: ExitWindows=No
- To: ExitWindows=Yes

When Vista POS is shut down, it will now exit Windows.

[General] Section:

Logging Level

Setting Name: LoggingLevel

Example: LoggingLevel=3

This allows you to turn on a higher level of tracing logging. Currently 3 is the only option, ie 3 enables the additional logging. There is no 0, 1 or 2. To turn off, comment out the line

If LoggingLevel is set to 3, then in the trace/error log for POS, the following information will be recorded:

- Credit/Debit Cards will return entire track data.
- Loyalty will return XML string.
- On-line Voucher Validation shows what gets sent and returned.

3 is the only option, ie 3 enables the additional logging. There is no 0, 1 or 2. To turn off, comment out the line.

Number of Days of log to keep

Setting Name: LogDaysToKeep

Example: LogDaysToKeep=14

This allows you to specify how many days of trace/error log to keep, before it will get automatically purged.

Automatically Shutdown Windows

Setting Name: ExitWindows

Example: ExitWindows=No

This specifies if when you shutdown the POS application if Windows needs to be automatically shutdown. This is required if the Windows Desktop is not available to the operator as automatically starts Vista POS upon Windows Startup. To enable, set to 'Yes'. To disable set to 'No'

Use a different Workstation Name rather than the Computer name

Setting Name: WorkstationName

Example: WorkstationName=BOX001

The computer name is used by Vista POS to identify itself. The computer name needs to be defined in Workstation maintenance and when POS starts it uses the computer name to find its workstation profile. Vista can only support a workstation name up to 10 characters long, so if there is a need for longer computer names, an alias workstation name can be assigned eg BOX001.

Disabling the POS Progress Bar

NOTE: This is only available for Vista V3 SP03, it is replaced in Vista V3 SP04 and onwards with a System Setting in Backoffice.

Setting Name: UseDisplayWait

Example: UseDisplayWait=Yes

Vista POS has a progress bar that indicates to the user when Vista is busy doing other processing eg printing tickets, checking vouchers over WAN. It has been found that some older computer equipment is taking too long as the Progress Bar does require a lot of processing power. To disable, set to 'No', else set to 'Yes.'

[Languages] Section:

Logging Level

Setting Name: BaseLanguage

Example: BaseLanguage=INTENG

This is where you define the base language to use when Vista POS first starts. Once the user enters their user id, all subsequent messages/text will be in the language specified for that user.

Here is a list of some current available languages:

- International English INTENG
- Spanish - Latin American SPNLAT
- Spanish - Mexico SPNMEX
- American English USAENG
- French Canadian CANADF
- Singapore English SNGENG
- Portuguses PORTUG
- Traditional Chinese TAIWAN
- Simplified Chinese CHINES
- German GERMAN
- Czech Republic CZECHR

[OPOS] Section:

When any OPOS devices are installed, they are assigned an alias. This alias must be defined with this configuration table, else Vista POS will not know the name of the OPOS device.

Some OPOS devices allows you to define an alias when you are running an OPOS setup/configuration program, but others have a preset alias assigned (check the manual, or the distributor else search the registry of the computer to try and identify the alias).

Customer Display 1 OPOS Alias

Setting Name: CustDisplay1

Example: CustDisplay1=CustomerDisplay

This is the alias for the first customer display.

Customer Display 2 OPOS Alias

Setting Name: CustDisplay2

Example: CustDisplay2=CustomerDisplay2

This is the alias for the second customer display, if one exists.

Cash Drawer 1 OPOS Alias

Setting Name: CashDrawer1

Example: CashDrawer1=CashDrawer

This is the alias for cash drawer 1.

Magnetic Swipe Reader 1 OPOS Alias

Setting Name: MagSwipeReader1

Example: MagSwipeReader1=MSR

This is the alias for the Magnetic Swipe Reader 1.

AutoLogon for POS using Configurer

This method can be used with Vista Cinema Service Pack 3 (M) or higher or VistaLITE and explains how to disable the Windows Desktop and force Vista Point of Sale to automatically run when the computer has been started.

The following content is covered in regard to this topic:

- Installation
- What is POS LockDown?
- How to Unlock POS
- Technical Details
- Troubleshooting

Installation

Setup Client:

Make sure you have run setup client on the machine you wish to lockdown. For instructions on how to run setup client please see the Vista Cinema V3 Installation Guide.

Install the shortcut 'Pos LockDown.'

Run the shortcut to download the program.

Permissions / Security:

When running this program you MUST have permissions to access the registry and the temporary folder for the current user logged in. Not only must you be able to access the registry, you will also need to be able to delete/modify the registry.

Ideally this program is only run at install time. However, if you need to unlock this machine during normal usage (to resolve problems) you can set custom permissions on the registry to allow this user to edit the information.

To do this, set the permissions on the key : HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Winlogon. (Right click, permissions) add the user that logs into POS.

Required Files:

Please note the program requires more than just the executable. It sits alongside 4 other files, therefore you must run the Vista Version 3 shortcut to install this program. For your information, the files are listed below:

PosLoginLockDown.exe

generate__auto_login.bat

remove__auto_login.bat

POSLogonButtonDown.bmp

POSLogonButtonUp.bmp

Required Operating System:

Microsoft Windows XP / Windows 2000.

What is POS Lockdown?

POS LockDown is basically a program to 'Lock Down' your Point Of Sale.

By Lock Down we mean disable the start menu, task bar, My Computer etc. To put it in slightly technical terms, it disables the windows explorer and replaces it with VistaPOS.

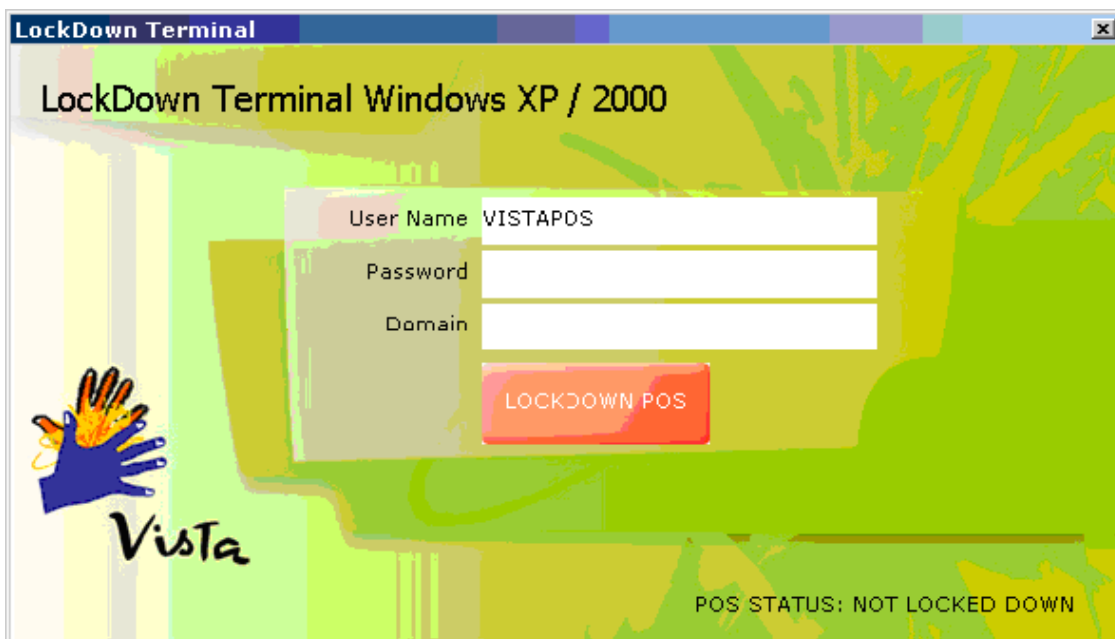
It also involves disabling the logon screen, and enabling auto login so the user doesn't actually enter a login for this machine. Rather, it logs in itself.

For more details refer to the Technical section of this document.

Running POS LockDown:

Welcome To POS LockDown

- **User Name:**
The UserName is the user name you wish this machine to use as a log in.
- **Password:**
The Password is the password you wish this machine to use to log on with.
- **Domain:**
For domains, enter your domain name here. If you do not have a domain and wish to use a local user, leave this blank.
- **LOCKDOWN POS:**
Push this button to begin the lockdown of your POS. A message will show once this step is complete.
- **POS STATUS:**
Shows the status of the machine you are on. If this machine is locked down, it will say just that.. 'locked down.' If this machine has not yet been locked down, it will say 'Not locked down.'



How to Unlock POS

If you need to unlock a computer (to carry out maintenance work) that has been locked down to only run Vista Point of Sale, carry out the following steps.

Remote Desktop (Terminal Services):

If you have connected to the computer via this method, send CTRL+ALT+DEL to the computer to get up the Windows Task Manager.

On the Computer:

If you have plugged in a keyboard, then press CTRL+SHIFT+ESC to bring up the Task Manager.

Run POS Lockdown Program:

From the Windows Task Manager, select File then New Task Run ...). Type Explorer.exe then Ok. This will run the standard Windows Desk Top.

Bring up the Windows Task Manager again and from the Process List tab, highlight VistaPOS.exe and choose End Task to stop it running.

To run the POS Lockdown program, select the Vista folder, find the icon called POS Lockdown and double click on the icon.

Select the button called UNDO LOCKDOWN.

This computer is now unlocked and once restarted, will start Windows Desktop after login.

Technical Details

How Does it Work?

POS LockDown calls a batch file which creates a temporary .reg file in the current users temp directory. This temporary file contains all the information needed to add the login information to the registry.

The batch file then executes this registry file.

Finally, it deletes the .reg file for security reasons so no trace of your password setup is left behind.

What Registry Keys Does it Modify?

Just those needed for auto login, under the following node:

HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Windows NT\CurrentVersion\Winlogon

More specifically, the following :

DefaultUserName

DefaultPassword

AutoAdminLogon (sets to '1', which means automatically logon)

Shell (sets to visstart.exe if locking down, if unlocking sets to Explorer.exe)

DisableCAD (disable the optional ctrl-alt-delete required to logon)

DefaultDomainName

Troubleshooting

Running the program has no effect on my login - what gives?

The only problem this program encounters is if it does not have permission to edit the registry OR create temporary files in the current users temp directory and execute them.

PLEASE check this out before coming to Vista, as this will most likely be the problem. Ask your Sysadmin to set permissions for you.

AutoLog for POS for Windows 95/98

Adjust Control Panel Network Settings:

- Control Panel, Network.

Set the Windows Identification of this Computer on the Network:

- Identification Tab.

Follow the naming convention for the cinema:

- Computer Name: Pattern: <CinemaCode>POSnn
- Generally 2 – 4 characters representing the code for the cinema, followed by 'POS' (representing 'Point of Sale') followed by a 2 digit number, e.g. BNPOS01, METRPOS02.
- Workgroup: The DOMAIN name for this cinema.
- Description of PC: 'VISTAPOS' followed by the workstation name entered above, e.g. VISTAPOS BNPOS01.

Suppress the Logon Prompt when Windows Starts:

- Configuration Tab.

For the setting labelled "Primary Network Log-on":

- Choose "Windows Logon."

This means that on subsequent reboots the domain name is not requested in any logon prompt if the password for the last user was blank.

Switch on Sharing of Folders:

- Configuration Tab.
- Click on 'File and Print sharing.'
- Tick "I want to be able to give others access to my files."
- Apply.
- Some files will be updated within Windows 95.

Remove Unnecessary Protocols:

- Configuration Tab.

Require only:

- Client for Microsoft Networks.
- The Adapter card software.
- NetBEUI.
- TCPIP.
- File and Print Sharing.

Client for Microsoft Windows – Properties:

- Specify DOMAIN name to connect to.
- Tick 'Automatically log on to domain.'
- Select option 'restore network connections.'

- Apply the changes. Restart computer.
- The logon prompt should no longer be presented. If it is, specify user VISTA, no password and OK. The next startup should not present a logon prompt.

Force AutoStart of Vista Point of Sale:

- Edit File: C:\WINDOWS\SYSTEM.INI
- In the top [Boot] section comment out the current shell and add visStart as the new shell, as below:
; shell=explorer.exe
shell= C:\Vista\visStart.exe VISTAPOS
- Save.
- This prevents the Windows desktop and icons from appearing when windows starts up.

Making Changes to a Dedicated Vista Point of Sale:

Use this procedure to stop the Point of Sale computer from automatically starting Vista Point of Sale software, so you can gain access to Windows for maintenance purposes.

- As the computer is starting up, press the F8 button, before Windows 95 starts (or just as the "starting Windows xx..." message appears).
- You will be presented with a menu.
- Take option 6 - Command Prompt Only.
- Edit C:\Windows\SYSTEM.INI
- Comment out the line shell=C:\Vista\visStart.exe VISTAPOS, and reactiveate (remove comment) the line shell=explorer as follows:
shell=explorer.exe
; shell= C:\Vista\visStart.exe VISTAPOS
- Save.
- At the command prompt, type C:\Windows> Win.

This will start Windows to the usual desktop. On subsequent restarts, Windows will start to the desktop.

To set the POS back to autostart of Vista, reverse the above commenting procedure in:

- C:\Windows\SYSTEM.INI

Autolog for POS for Windows NT Workstation

This is the procedure to follow to lockdown a computer to run Vista POS on startup, if you are not running VistaLITE or have installed Vista V3 SP3(I) or earlier.

Note: Windows NT Workstation and Cinema Server must be Windows NT 4.0.

- **Special Note:** There appears to be a bug in the policy editor. It works MOST times if you delete the user called VISTA from the policy editor, save your changes then recreate the policy with the settings you now want. If this fails, try again!

Remember when working with the VISTA user, it affects all of the POS PC's so if they happen to restart POS when you have changed the policy, they will be affected.

Stop Vista Point of Sale from Automatically Starting:

- On the Primary Domain Controller.
- Start the Policy editor (to set policy for user VISTA).
- Select Start + Programs + Administrative Tools + System Policy Editor.
- Select File + Select the last file used (with extension of .pol) that is at the top of the list, e.g. C:\WinNT\System32\Repl\Import\Scripts\NTConfig.pol

Delete the current Point of Sale autostart script:

- Highlight VISTA and press delete button.
- Select File + Save.
- Select File + Exit.

Create autostart script for Vista POS:

- Select Start + Programs + Administrative Tools + System Policy Editor.
- Select File + Select the last file used (with extension of .pol) that is at the top of the list, e.g. C:\WinNT\System32\Repl\Scripts\NTConfig.pol
- Select Edit + Add User.
- <Browse>
- Select VISTA.
- <add>
- **Note:** Make sure it is the domain user and not a local user called VISTA eg DURBANTW\VISTA.
- <ok>

Configure the autostart script to start Windows Desktop:

- Double click on VISTA.

This will make Windows Desktop start as normal. Drill down on:

- Windows NT Shell
- Custom User Interface
- Tick "Custom Shell"
- Shell name: explorer.exe
- <ok>
- Select File + Save.

POS to Automatically Log on as User VISTA:

On each Point of Sale computer, start up Windows NT:

- When it asks you to log on, log on as VISTA, password 'vista.'

Next you need to assign Administrator rights to this VISTA user, else it will lose the autologon settings:

- Select START + Program + Administrative Tools.
- Select User Manager for Domains.
- Double click on the Group called "Administrators."
- Add the member called "VISTA."
- <ok>

Finally, you need to run a program that saves the user ID/password:

- Run C:\Autolog.
- Make sure the User is VISTA, else you have not logged on as VISTA, so repeat the procedure.
- Set the following:
- Password: vista.
- Auto logon: (ticked).

Getting Vista Point of Sale to Autostart:

On the Primary Domain Controller.

Start the Policy editor (to set policy for user VISTA):

- Select Start + Programs + Administrative Tools + System Policy Editor.
- Select File + Select the last file used (with extension of .pol) that is at the top of the list, e.g. C:\WinNT\System32\Repl\Import\Scripts\NTConfig.pol

Delete the current Point of Sale autostart script:

- Highlight VISTA and press delete button.
- Select File + Save.
- Select File + Exit.

Create autostart script for Vista POS:

- Select Start + Programs + Administrative Tools + System Policy Editor.
- Select File + Select the file (with extension of .pol) that is at the top of the list.
- e.g. C:\WinNT\System32\Repl\Import\Scripts\NTConfig.pol
- Select Edit + Add User.
- <Browse>
- Select VISTA.
- <add>
- Note: Make sure it is the domain user and not a local user called VISTA eg DOMAIN\VISTA.
- <ok>

Configure the autostart script:

- Double click on VISTA.

This will stop the Windows Desktop from being available. Drill down on:

- Shell.
- Restrictions.
- Tick "Hide all items on desktop."

Also, drill down on:

- Windows NT Shell.
- Custom User Interface.
- Tick "Custom Shell."
- Shell name: C:\Vista\visStart.exe VISTAPOS
- <ok>
- Select File + Save.

Autolog for POS for Windows XP/2000

This is the procedure to follow to lockdown a computer to run Vista POS on startup, if you are not running VistaLITE or have installed Vista V3 SP3(I) or earlier.

Note: Windows XP and Windows 2000 Points of Sale only and Cinema Server must be Windows 2000 with Active Directory Services.

The information in this topic applies to:

- Microsoft Windows XP Home Edition.
- Microsoft Windows XP Professional.
- Microsoft Windows XP 64-Bit Edition.

You need to ensure that Active Directory Services is installed on the server or domain controller. Once you've done this you will have Group Policy Administrator available under the Administrative tools option in the program menu. From there, it's similar to WINTT Policy Editor but much more user friendly and more configurable. There is a user-defined shell setting, which is where you type the name and path of the VisStart file. i.e. C:\Vista\visStart.exe VISTAPOS.

An important thing to remember is that you apply the group policy you create, to user groups only, so you must make the Network user VISTA, a member of a user group you create called say..VistaPOSUsers or similar. Do this through the Active Directory Users and Groups also under Administrative tools.

To get Windows 2000 POS to automatically logon as VISTA follow these instructions:

How to Enable Automatic Logon in Windows:

This topic describes how to configure Windows to automate the logon process by storing your password and other pertinent information in the registry database. This feature allows other users to start your computer and use the account that you establish to automatically log on.

IMPORTANT: If you enable autologon, using Windows XP becomes more convenient. However, using this feature may pose a security risk.

If you set a computer for automatic logon, anyone who can physically gain access to the computer can also gain access to everything that is on the computer, including any network or networks that the computer is connected to. In addition, if you enable automatic logon, the password is stored in the registry in plain text. The specific registry key that stores this value is remotely readable by the Authenticated Users group. As a result, using this setting is appropriate only if the computer is physically secured and if you ensure that untrusted users cannot remotely see the registry.

Use Registry Editor (Regedit.exe) to add your logon information:

- Click **Start**, click **Run**, type regedit, and then click **OK** to start Registry Editor.
- Locate the following registry key:
- HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\WindowsNT\CurrentVersion\Winlogon
- Using your account name and password, double-click the **DefaultUserName** entry, type your user name, and then click **OK**.
- Double-click the **DefaultPassword** entry, type your password under the value data box, and then click **OK**.

If there is no **DefaultPassword** value, follow these steps to create the value:

- On the **Registry Editor** menu, click **Edit**, click **New**, and then click **String Value**.

- Type **DefaultPassword** as the value name, and then press ENTER.
- Double-click the newly created key, and then type your password in the **Value Data** box.

If no **DefaultPassword** string is specified, Windows automatically changes the value of the **AutoAdminLogon** key from 1 (true) to 0 (false) to disable the AutoAdminLogon feature.

- Double-click the **AutoAdminLogon** entry, type 1 in the **Value Data** box, and then click **OK**.

If there is no **AutoAdminLogon** entry, follow these steps to create the entry:

- On the **Registry Editor** menu, click **Edit**, click **New**, and then click **String Value**.
- Type **AutoAdminLogon** as the value name, and then press ENTER.
- Double-click the newly created key, and then type 1 in the **Value Data** box.
- Quit Registry Editor.
- Click **Start**, click **Restart**, and then click **OK**.
- After your computer restarts and Windows starts, you can log on automatically.

NOTE: If you want to bypass the automatic logon to log on as a different user, hold down the SHIFT key after you log off or after Windows restarts. Note that this procedure applies only to the first logon. To enforce this setting for future logoffs, the administrator must set the following registry key:

```
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Winlogon  
Value: ForceAutoLogon  
Type: REG_SZ  
Data: 1
```

You can also use the following steps to enable automatic logon without editing the registry in Windows XP Home Edition and Windows XP Professional (not joined to a domain):

- Click **Start**, and then click **Run**.
- In the **Open** box, type `control userpasswords2`, and then click **OK**.
- In the dialog box that appears, clear the **Users must enter a user name and password to use this computer** check box, and then click **OK**.

Making Vista POS Start on Startup:

- Add the icon called POS to the Startup folder under Windows + Start + Startup.
- The properties of the POS icon are as follows:
- C:\Vista\visStart.exe VISTAPOS.

CHAPTER 5

Configuring Utils Server

Utils Server is used by the following applications only, so does not need to be configured if any of these applications are not going to be used:

- Vista Signs.
- Vista Air Conditioning.
- Vista Projection.
- Third party applications.

All the above applications are licenced modules and Utils Server is part of those licenced programs. If you have a Third Party Sales Application, then you must have a Vista Utils Server licence.

Installing Latest Version of Utils Server

To install the latest version of Vista Utils Server onto the Cinema fileserver:

- Copy VistaUtilsSrvr.exe from the latest version folder D:\VistaInstall\Applib\UtilsServer\
- Find the current version number (normally the last on e.g. 3.00.01).
- Copy the Utils Server application from e.g.
D:\VistaInstall\Applib\UtilsServer\3.00.01\VistaUtilsSrvr.exe to D:\Vista\UtilsSrvr\

If a version of Vista Utils Server already exists, do not move the old copy, copy it to another place (Utils Server is registered so by moving it, it moves its position in the registry).

If this is the first time Vista Utils Server is being installed, double click on file VistaUtilsSrvr.exe to register it.

- Copy the Test Program Folder in the same manner e.g.
D:\VistaInstall\Applib\UtilsServer\3.00.01Program\ to D:\Vista\UtilsSrvr\Test Program.

Setup DCOM

Setup DCOM on the Fileserver (this may have been done when Vista Sales Server is installed).

- This is required to enable client machines to communicate with Vista Utils Server (i.e. those physically separate PCs which link to the Utils Server program and may be used to control signs, air-conditioning etc).
- This section only needs to be completed if the client program that accesses this server resides on a machine that is not this server. It is recommended to include this step to allowing for Vista Aircon etc if this is required later on.

Setup Special Users and Groups:

- If the cinema is part of a WAN, or Vista Sales Server has already been installed, this may have already been done (e.g. when another cinema was installed on the WAN). If this is the case, skip this step.
 - Logon to fileserver as Administrator or a user with Admin rights (such as VES).
 - Run User Manager for Domains, and ensure the correct domain is shown in the window title bar.

Make a New Local User:

This is the User that the DCOM serverside programs will 'run as'.

It should be local to the cinema, so if the cinema is part of a large domain, the user should be created as a Domain User account, else this user will need to be validated back to the primary domain controller at headoffice, which could slow down access to Vista Utils Server etc. If the cinema has it's own domain, then the user could be part of the Domain.

- Name: VistaDCOM.
- Desc: Vista serverside programs run under DCOM as this user.
- Pwd: VistaDCOM001 (last 3 digits are zero zero one).
- Password - must be set to 'Never expires' (else the client application using this user, will stop working after a month).
- Switch off "User must change at next logon."
- Make this user a member of the following groups:
 - DomainUsers.
 - Ensure Primary group is 'DomainUsers'.

Make a New Local Group:

- Name: VistaDCOMUsers.
- Desc: Users who are able to run Vista Server Components using DCOM.
- Add to this group the following users/groups:
 - VistaDCOM
 - The usernames for client computers who need to access Sales Server eg Username used by Kiosk computers.
 - The usernames for client computers who need to access Utils Server eg Username used by Signage computers, Projection and Air Conditioning computers.

Configuring Default DCOM Settings

On the fileserver, run program: Dcomcnfg.exe (via Start + Run). Check the following tabs:

Default Properties:

- Enable distributed Com on this computer = Yes.
- Default authentication level = Connect.
- Default Impersonation level = Identify.
- Provide additional security for reference tracking = N.

Default Security:

(This must be changed).

- Edit 'Default Access Permissions' (the list box is empty initially).
 - Add user 'Everyone' (this is often present by default now), else for tighter security, list the usernames for client computers who need to access Utils Server eg Username used by Signage computers, Projection and Air Conditioning computers.
 - (type of access is: Allow Access).
- Edit 'Default Launch Permissions' (the list box is empty initially).
 - Add user 'Everyone' (this is often present by default now), else for tighter security, list the usernames for client computers who need to access Utils Server eg Username used by Signage computers, Projection and Air Conditioning computers.
 - (type of access is: Allow Launch).

Default Protocols:

- Locate item "Connection oriented TCP-IP" and move it to the top of the list box (highlight the phrase and use 'MoveUp' button).
- This is important to prevent slow connections on startup. This is often present by default with NT4 sp4+.
- <Apply> <ok>.

Configuring DCOM for Client Computers

The following is only required for any client computer using Utils Server e.g. (Signage computers, Projection computer, Air Conditioning computer or the Utils Server Test Program). This is not required if the application runs on the server that has Utils Server.

On the client computer, you need to put into registry information about where Utils Server resides. This can be done in one of the following ways:

(1) Use the Setup Client program.

(This is the preferred method).

Edit the setup file used by the Setup Client program. This is on the fileserver.

- Locate fileserver folder: \\VistaInstall\\Applib\\UtilsServer\\3.00\\SetupClientRegistryDCOM\\Disk1\\
- Edit SETUP.LST
- Replace "MACHINENAME" with the name of the server you are installing on (e.g. SERVER01).
- Save.

Important Note: DO NOT RUN SETUP.EXE ON THE FILESERVER.

(2) Register Utils Server while on Client.

While on the client computer (eg computer that runs signs) use Windows Explorer to find Utils Server on the server e.g. \\Server01\\Vista\\UtilsSrvr\\VistaUtilsSrvr.exe and double click on it. This will put information about Utils Server in your registry.

Configuring Specific DCOM Settings

On the fileserver, run program: Dcomcnfg.exe (via Start + Run). Check the following tabs:

Applications Tab:

- In the list box, highlight the entry 'VistaUtilsSrvr.UtilsInterface'
- Click 'Properties' button.

General Tab:

- General Authentication level: Default.

Location Tab:

- Run application on this computer = Yes.

Security Tab:

- (*) Use custom access permissions.
 - Edit, Add users:
 - VistaDCOMUsers.
 - Interactive.
 - (the type of access is supplied automatically as 'Allow Access').
- (*) Use custom launch permissions.
 - Edit, 3 users already exist, including interactive. Add users:
 - VistaDCOMUsers.
 - (the type of access is supplied automatically as 'Allow Launch').

Identity Tab:

- (*) Run program as this user.
 - Browse to select user VistaDCOM.
 - Supply password as used earlier when creating this user (VistaDCOM001).
 - Supply same password again in the confirmation box.

Endpoints Tab:

- Ignore.

Click OK, to save and return to Application tab.

If on a WAN, when you click OK or Apply, you may get a message:

- "You are attempting to write to a read-only user database on an NT Backup Domain Controller. Should DCOMCNFG write to the Primary Domain Controller instead? (If in doubt contact your system administrator)". If you get this message, reply 'Yes'.
- OK, to exit DCOM Setup.

Utils Server Test Program

From the server, locate fileserver folder \Vista\UtilsSrvr\TestPrograms\

- Run program 'TestClientNN.exe' (eg NN = 10).
- In the middle of the screen, near the top, see a text box with VistaUtilsSrvr written in it.
- Above it: Click on option button '(*) Test against Issue EXE server.'
- Then click the 'Version' button.
- Either:
 - There will be a message box 'Time to create object = nn seconds'. Click OK. Then you get a message box saying 'VistaUtilsSrvr', along with a file version number and date and time. Click OK. This is the correct result. If these 2 things happened, all is well.
- Or:
 - You get 'Error 429. Can't create ActiveX component'. The test fails. Exit the test program using the standard Window's x exit button.

Continuing the Test:

- On the same form as above, you will see 'SignsGetSettings' (without quotes) in a text box labelled 'CmdName'. (If not, there is a problem with the installation).
- Click on button 'Do Action.'
- After the message box, beside the button you should have "ResultCode=0 : Data = ...".
- If this last test does not return 0 for ResultCode, there is a problem that must be resolved. It usually means the fileserver component has not been installed fully. Call Vista Entertainment Solutions Ltd for assistance.
- If all these of these items have completed successfully, the server side has access to VistaUtilsSrvr.
- The test has passed. Exit the test program using the standard Window's x exit button.

CHAPTER 6

Configuring Job Scheduler

Job Scheduler Service and Console

Installing the Job Schedule Service:

Complete the following steps on the Server:

- 1 Set your system path to include the .NET framework.

Steps for Windows 2000, XP:

- 1 Right-click on the My Computer icon (under Windows XP, the My Computer Icon may be located in the start menu).
- 2 Choose Properties from the context menu (alternatively, you can double-click on the System icon in the Control Panel).
- 3 Click the Advanced tab.
- 4 Click the Environment Variables button.
- 5 Add the target directory to the end of the Path using a semi-colon as a separator. The target directory is %SystemRoot%\Microsoft.net\Framework\vX.X.XXX (where X.X.XXX corresponds to your .NET build). To find your build, browse to the directory above (i.e. under the Windows folder).

Installing the Task Service:

- 1 Go to the DOS prompt.
- 2 Navigate to the \Vista\TaskService directory (type "cd d:\Vista\VistaTaskService").
- 3 Run the following "InstallUtil visTaskService.exe."
- 4 The last line should say 'The transacted install has completed.'

Set up the Windows Service (Steps for Windows 2000, XP):

- 1 Start -> Settings -> Control Panel.
- 2 Select Administrative Tools.
- 3 Select Services.
- 4 Locate 'Vista Schedule Service.'
- 5 Right click, go to "Properties."
- 6 Choose the "Log On" Tab, and set "Allow Service to interact with desktop" to be true (i.e. tick this field).
- 7 Choose the "General" Tab and set start up type to be "automatic". To start, stop, pause and resume the service right click on the service and click the option corresponding to your choice. For now, "start" the service.

The service is now installed and running.

CHAPTER 7

Configuring Vista Upgrade Service

This chapter details how to configure/install the 'Vista Installer Service' on Client Machines.

Overview

Upgrading of Vista software on client machines typically involves two steps:

- Files are copied onto the machine
- DLL type program files are “registered” in the Windows registry (using calls to Microsoft APIs)

Restricted Windows users can copy files, but they do not have sufficient permissions to register DLLs and OCXs of the VB6 era, which means programs do not install correctly, unless the user is an administrator.

(Almost all software installs go through these two steps. For installs generally to be successful the user doing the installation must have local administrator rights to the machine. Most install instructions will state this. This includes installing Microsoft products and the “Run Setup from CD” type of installs. So in this installation situation Vista is not alone).

The solution adopted by Vista to allow restricted users to upgrade is to create a new program to run under Windows as a service. This service carries out the job of registering files. Services run under user accounts different from the logged on user and can be set to have administrator access. Typically a service will run as “Local System” account. The Vista upgrade process, running as a restricted user, passes a message containing a list of files that it wants registered to the service. The service carries out the registering process, running under an account with administrator access to the machine. When it is finished it informs the upgrade process which then completes and starts the Vista program (continuing to run as a restricted user).

The name of the new service is VistaVES.EXE

(The VES stands for Vista Entertainment Solutions, to distinguish this from any service Microsoft may want to create with a similar name on their Win Vista OS).

The following instructions are intended for client machines capable of running Windows services, but have been tested only on WinXP. They should be followed if your workstation users are restricted users.

Installation

The instructions pertaining to the client workstation are phrased from the point of view of a person who is physically at the client machine. If some type of Remote Admin tool is installed and active on the client machines you may be able to translate these instructions into steps you can carry out remotely. Some suggestions for this are listed in the appendix.

Install the Client Upgrade Enhancement CD on the Fileserver

Install the CD in the usual way, on the appropriate database.

Work Required on Client Machine

Prerequisite:

The client machine requires .Net Framework v1.1 to be installed for the service to run.

Copy Files to Client Machine:

Locate the following folder on the server under the Applib area where CDs install to:

Setup\Client\ Control(ServiceUpgrade)

Manually copy all the files in that folder into folder C:\Vista\Control on the local workstation. Overwrite any files that may already exist there.

- Included will be files VistaVES.exe, InstallUtil.

Install the Vista Service

- You must be logged in with local administrator rights to perform this step.
- Navigate to the C:\Vista\Control folder (where you copied the files to)
- Run (doubleclick) VistaVESInstallSvc.bat
 - Observe that a Command window appears for a few seconds with output displayed, and then disappears, at the end of which log files (generated by Microsoft) appear in the folder
 - If you wish to uninstall the service, run VistaVESUnInstallSvc.bat

Confirm Windows Service Details (and modify if required)

WinXP:

- Start -> Control Panel -> Administrative Tools -> Services
- Locate "Vista(VES)"
- Right click, select "Properties"

- Choose the "Log On" Tab
 - It should be set to run as local system account.
 - You may wish to change this to run as a user of your choice (one with local admin rights).

- Choose the "General" Tab,
 - Startup type should show as "automatic" to ensure it starts whenever the machine is rebooted. To be of value the service should always be running.

Note:

- The service will be in a state of "not started" just after it is installed
 - Either start it manually from this dialogue
 - Reboot the machine to confirm it starts automatically.
 - The service will not have a description owing to a bug in Microsoft Visual Studio .Net

Then Close the window.

Configuring Vista to use the new Service when Upgrading:

It is intended to put an option on the SetupClient program to indicate whether to use the service when upgrading. As this is not yet available please do the following manual steps.

Manual steps to activate:

- Go to folder C:\Vista\Control
- Edit LocalControl.ini
- Under the line [Control] add a new line:
 - UseServiceToRegisterFiles= Y
 - You can find this line in the file LocalControl(AdditionalSettings).ini located in the same folder.
- Save

Installation activity is now complete.

Perform an Upgrade of Vista Applications as a Restricted User

Upgrade or refresh client machine in the usual way - but as a restricted user.

During an upgrade, the on-screen progress display will indicate during the file registering stage whether the service is being used to register files. The standard upgrade log will also indicate whether the service is being used to register files.

If there is any problem with:

- the setting to request the service to do the file registering
- the service
- missing files relating to the service

the upgrade will fail with an error message, although the message will not specifically refer to any of these possibilities. In that case see the upgrade log in the Vista\Log folder.

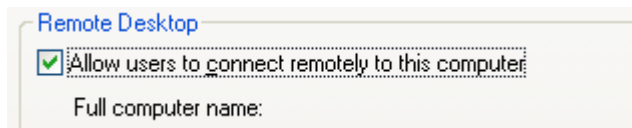
Suggestions for Installing Remotely

File copying can be done remotely.

The part which is awkward is when the VistaVES service is installed on the client, as the install program (bat file) must be run on the client machine with admin rights.

Remote Desktop Method:

- Your clients will need to be running Windows XP. They must have the "Allow users to remotely connect to this computer" flag checked under "Control Panel" -> "System Properties" -> "Remote".



- Use "Remote Desktop Connection" program to interactively logon to the client machine from your machine. This program is shipped with Windows XP, and will, by default, be found in "All Programs" -> "Accessories" -> "Communications"



- You will want to inform the POS users that their computers will be disabled temporarily while you logon and apply the Login Service. (The POS user will be displayed with a "This computer has been locked by administrator" message, while you are working on it.
- Enter the machine name / IP address of the client machine and connect with Remote Desktop. Make sure the user you login with has administrator rights on that machine.

VNC / Radmin / Pcanywhere / Netmeeting:

- These programs allow you to view the client desktop as though you were physically in front of their machine. This makes the process a lot easier, as you and your POS user can see the same windows session at the same time.
- Inform the user of the POS terminal you will be logging in and changing some settings.
- Login using remote program of choice.
- Log out in windows from the locked down user. "Start" -> "Log Out"
- Log in to windows with a user that is administrator on that machine.

CHAPTER 8

Configuring Concessions Importer

Installation of the Concession Importer program for VPOS/RDS:

Installation of the Concession Importer assumes you currently have the Vista Scheduler installed and you have included the Scheduler as an icon on the server and other Backoffice computers.

The following is normally installed on the Cinema Server.

Create the VENPoS Database:

- Create a Database Called VENPoS.
- Set the properties of the database as SIMPLE model.
- Create an SQL Logon called VENPoS with a password of VENPoS001. Do not give System Administrator rights.
- Run the script VistaTransfeed.sql.
- Create a Scheduler Job to backup the VENPoS database each day at 7:20am. Backup Name: Dump_Daily_VENPoS.

Updating Transfeed Tables:

Before updating the VENPOS database with the following script, backup the VENPOS database.

The scripts can be on the Cinema Server in the folder.

D:\VistaInstall\APPLIB\ConcessionsImporter\3.00\ScriptsToRunOnOtherDatabase.

Run the scripts in the following order over the VENPoS database:

- spUpdateTransfeedProcessedRecord.sql
- spCreateTransfeedProcessedRecord.sql

Install files needed to access Database Connection Details:

Copy the following files:

- VenPOSEncrypter.exe
- VisExternalDBReader.dll

from D:\VistaInstall\APPLIB\ConcessionsImporter\3.00\VistaUtilities\

to D:\Vista\VistaUtilities\

Register VisExternalDBReader.dll as follows:

- Select Start, then Run.
- Open: Regsvr32 D:\Vista\VistaUtilities\VisExternalDBReader.dll
- You will received a message saying file successfully registered.

Connection Details for VENPoS Database:

- Run the Registry file: \Vista\VistaUtilities\VENPos Settings.reg

- Edit the registry (HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\VenPOS\Settings).

DBName=VENPoS	(database name)
Username=VenPoS	(SQL Logon name)
Pwd=7A6B7D7D81797C6E	(password, see next step)
ServerName=(local)	server name that this database exists on)

- Setting the Password. Run the VCS Timeless password encryption program:

\Vista\VistaUtilities\VenPosEncrypter.exe

Note: This requires the .NET framework.

Type in the password eg VENPoS001 and it will return the encrypted version. Put this in the registry above for Pwd= (Note: Blank password is blank).

Creation of Process Definition Database Record:

A population script for the concession importer program is included in the package. It is called 'popProcessDefinition_ConcessionImporter.sql'. Run this script on the Vista database on which you are currently running. Then go into the schedule console and set up this Job as required.

Linking Between Vista and RDS/VPOS Systems:

There are 4 pieces of information generated by the VPOS/RDS systems that must be setup within Vista.

- Each user in RDS/VPOS must exist in Vista (User Maintenance). RDS/VPOS will pass the Payroll ID and this must be defined in user maintenance.
- Each Workstation in RDS/VPOS must exist in Vista (Workstation Maintenance).
- Each Payment Type in RDS/VPOS must exist in Vista (Payment Type). RDS/VPOS will pass the HO Code and this must exist in Workstation maintenance.
- Each Concession Item in RDS/VPOS must exist in Vista (Item Maintenance). RDS/VPOS will pass the Master ID and this must exist in Item maintenance. The Concessions Importer can be setup to send all items to the same item – see below.

All Sales to One Concession Item:

Concession Importer can either send all concession sales to the actual concession item that got sold, or send all sales to the sale concession item.

At Famous Players sites that are RBO's (ie Branded Cinemas) and therefore will typically be running VPOS rather than RDS Concessions need to send all concession sales to the actual concession item that got sold for G/L reasons.

To send to one concession item (eg RDS sites), do the following.

- Create a concession item, in the example it is Item 3.
- Start the Job Scheduler.
- Select the Concession Importer and right mouse click and select 'Edit Job Details.'
- On the second tab, change the Parameter list as follows from eg: INTERFACETYPES=VENPOS; to INTERFACETYPES=VENPOS;DEFAULTITEMID=3;

Turning on More Logging

- Start the Job Scheduler.
- Select the Concession Importer and right mouse click and select 'Edit Job Details.'
- On the second tab, change the Parameter list as follows from eg: INTERFACETYPES=VENPOS; To have eg: INTERFACETYPES=VENPOS;ENABLETRACELOGGING=Y;

Access to Windows Temp Folder:

Full access is required to the folder C:\Winnt\Temp\ as XML needs to create temporary files in this folder.

Start Windows Explorer, highlight C:\Winnt\Temp\ and select right mouse click then properties.

Select Security and add everyone and choose all access to this folder.

Error Reporting:

Errors are recorded in 4 places:

- Vista Log records individual record failures, which can be viewed from the schedule console, under logs (the table this information is stored in is tblUser_Log)
- Vista Process Log records the overall success or failure of a process being run, in this case the Concessions Importer. This is viewable under the Job History - right click in the Schedule console (the table this information is stored in is tblProcessHistory)
- 2 text log files are also created on failure: visConcessionImporter_DataErrors.log and visConcessionImporter.log. visConcessionImporter_DataErrors.log logs Users, Items and Payment types not created in Vista, but that have been created in the VENPOS database. visConcessionImporter.log documents individual failures of records. Additionally the sales server and visDBEngine logs may be of use. All of which are created in the \Vista\Log directory. Please note that when running concession importer.

SPECIAL NOTE: The Scheduled Job 'Concessions Importer' not running within the expected time or job failures (e.g. invalid product code or user ID) will be reported in the status bar of Cashdesk (bottom line of CashDesk). It will also be displayed each time you start up CashDesk.

You must close each POS Session at the end of the day, before you can close the day in Vista. When you go into CashDesk to perform the close, you must check there are no errors on this status line.

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