

Actiphy Authentication Service (AAS) Startup Guide

Introduction

Actiphy Authentication Service (AAS) is a dedicated license authentication server for Actiphy's product including ActiveImage Protector (AIP). When using Actiphy's product in closed network environments (i.e. local area networks with no Internet connectivity) the issuance of online activation keys is not possible.

All products activation keys issued will be issued online. Actiphy has released Actiphy Authentication Service (AAS). With AAS, clients can be activated in a closed network environment.

As of January 2021, Actiphy is no longer issuing most offline activation keys.

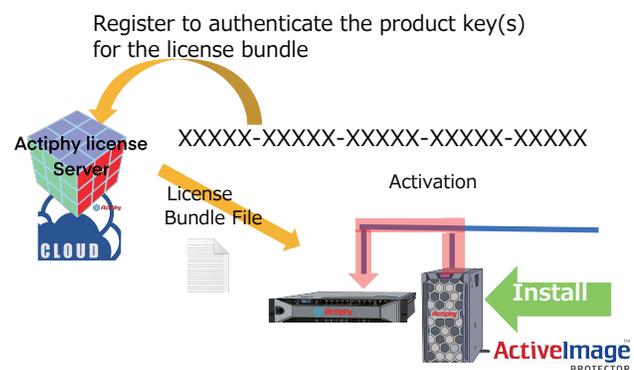
Activation Process

- ➔ Launch AAS.
- ➔ Register the product activation key.
- ➔ Apply for a license bundle
- ➔ Copy the displayed URL and paste into a browser on a computer connected to the internet.
The License Bundle Issuance page on the Actiphy license server will be displayed.
- ➔ Register an email address to receive the license bundle file.
- ➔ To complete the activation process, register the received license bundle file with the AAS server.
- ➔ Activate product.

Activation Retry Interval

The Activation retry interval occurs daily after the initial activation. If activation does not occur at least once every 30 days, then the backup function will be disabled until an activation occurs. The backup function will be automatically enabled once a successful activation occurs.

It is not necessary to renew the license bundle file if the total number of licenses or support period, etc. are not updated. License details can be viewed at any time via the AAS server.



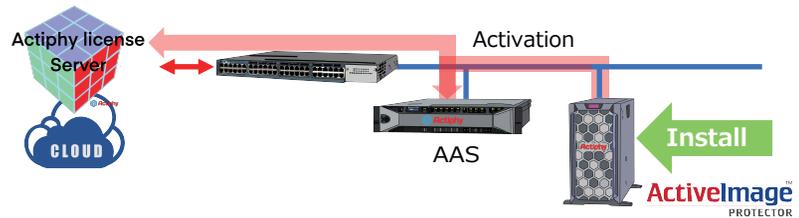
Note on Product Key Bundle

- ➔ If a product key has been bundled once, it cannot be re-bundled.
- ➔ When applying for a key bundle, it's required to use the URL issued by the machine where AAS is installed as it is valid only on that machine.
- ➔ If updating an existing bundle file due to AAS machine failure or system configuration change, please contact Actiphy Support (support@actiphy.com).

● **AAS operates in two modes**

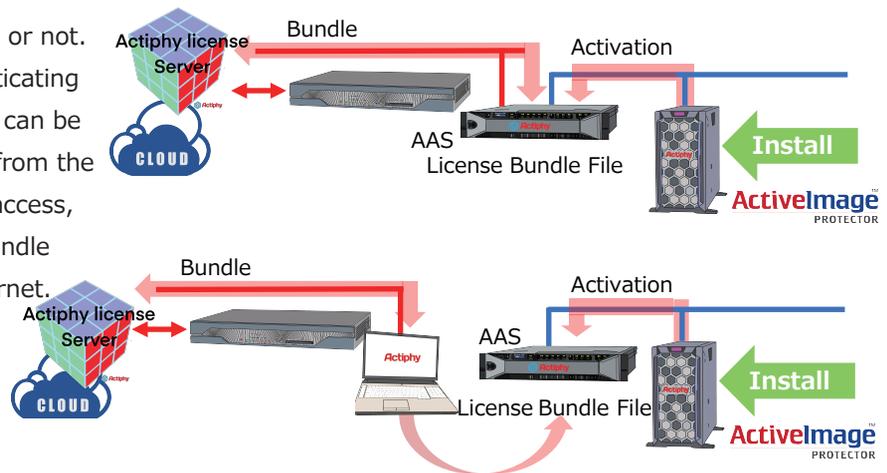
• Proxy Mode

In Proxy mode, AAS is connected to the Actiphy License Server in order to issue license activations via proxy server. The AAS server stores the activated product key information so licensing status can be confirmed from this server.



• Server Mode

In server mode, AAS is either connected to the Internet or not. When AAS is started, a URL link is displayed for authenticating licenses. When connected to the Internet, product keys can be registered by connecting to the Actiphy License Server from the local browser. Should the AAS server have no internet access, copy the displayed URL link and apply for the license bundle from an alternate machine that is connected to the internet. The license bundle file will be sent to the email address entered. Take the license bundle file from the email to the AAS server and apply.



• AAS Authentication Priority

- Connect to AAS via local DNS
- Issue broadcast to find and connect to an AAS machine
- Connect to Actiphy License Server directly

After installing ActiveImage Protector, it's license activation will be performed in order of priority as shown on the left. To use the local domain's DNS, configure the domain in advance and set the correct DNS on the machines that are to be backed up. If you cannot connect to a DNS then a broadcast message will be sent to locate any AAS machines. If no AAS machines are found then access the Actiphy License Server directly via internet connection. However, if there is no internet connection, the activation fails. The failed activation will be recorded in the AIP log.

• DNS Configuration in a Domain Environment

When configuring DNS, a name resolution can be provided by adding a record to the domain forward lookup zone for the DNS manager. In this case, you can set the IP address, host name, and the fully qualified domain name of the AAS server. A reference example is shown in the right figure.

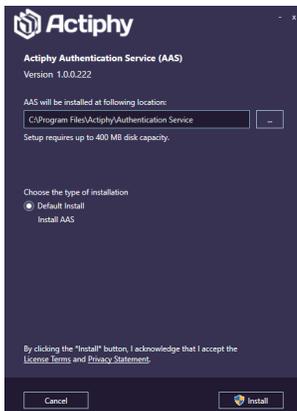
- Set the hostname to "aas-autodiscovery" by adding records to the primary DNS.
- If you are unable to add records to the secondary DNS, please add "actiphy.tech" as the primary zone in the primary DNS and add records the same way as mentioned above.

● AAS deployment and product key bundle operation method in a local area

• Installation

AAS installation is very simple. Click the radio button to select the type of installation.

The example below displays selecting the default install.



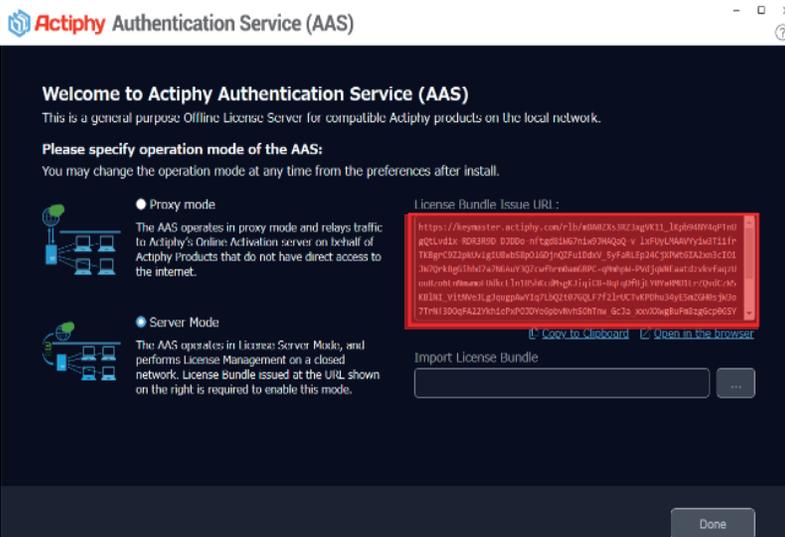
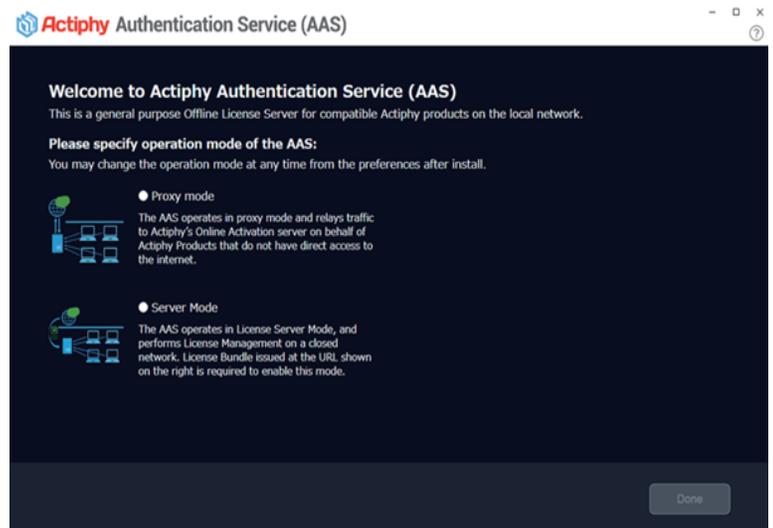
Click the [install] button to complete the AAS installation.

• Initial Startup

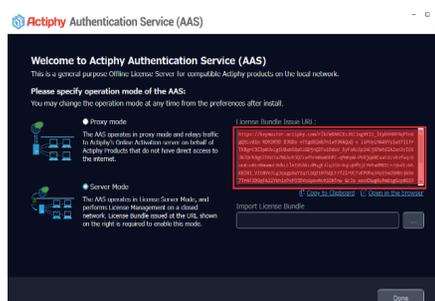
At the initial startup screen, select the AAS startup mode.

If needed, this setting can be changed later.

Here are the steps when server mode is selected.



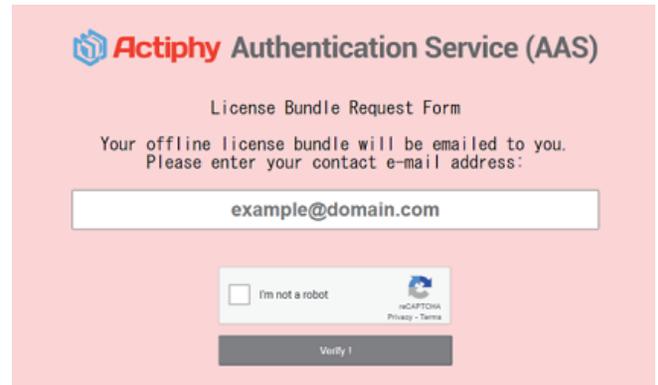
The URL for obtaining the license bundle will be displayed (as shown highlighted in red) within the figure on the left. It is required to use the URL issued by the machine where AAS is installed as it is valid only on that machine. If the AAS-installed machine is connected to the internet, you can proceed with the bundling process by connecting to the Actiphy License Server from the web browser. If there is no internet connection, copy this URL and save in Notepad. Then, copy the file to a machine with an internet connection and paste into the browser to connect to the Actiphy License Server.



● License Bundle Application Form

Paste the URL into the browser from an internet connected machine.

First, register your email address to receive the license bundle file.



Enter the product key(s) into the red frame, click "Add Product Key". Once all product keys are entered, click "Bundle". Click "Send Email" and the complete bundle file will be sent to the email address specified.

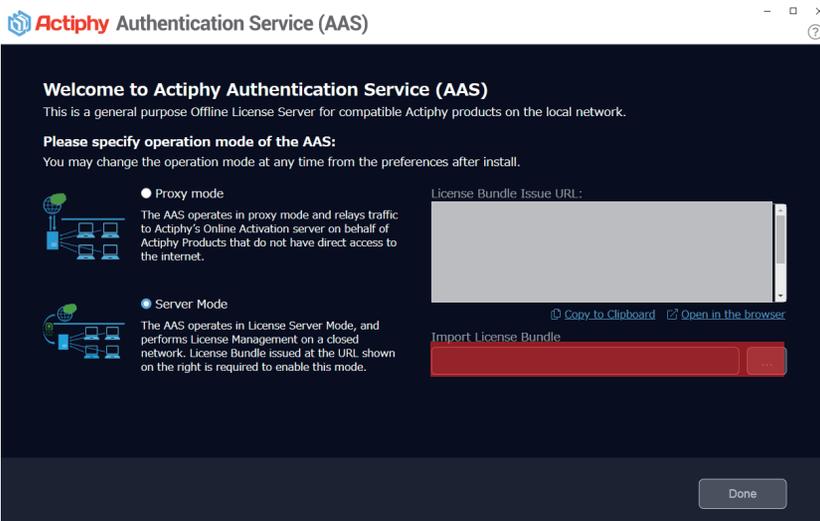
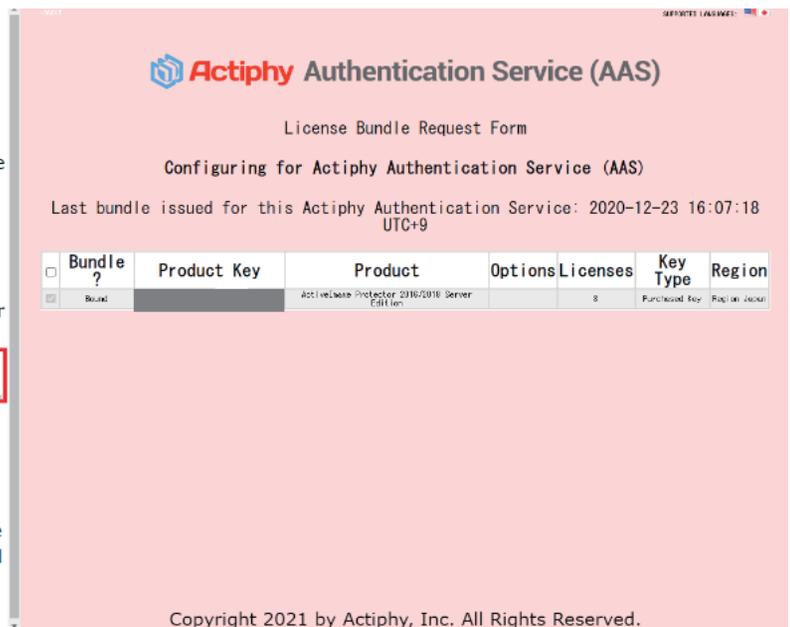
Step 1
Use Actiphy Authentication Service (AAS) to issue Offline Bundle Request URL

Step 2
To Load Additional Product Keys, enter keys below:

Add Product Keys

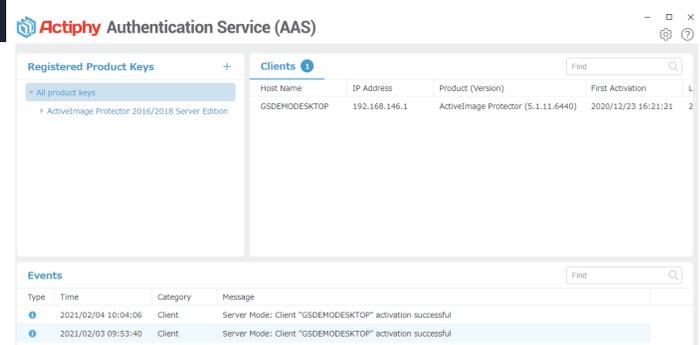
Step 3
Select one or more Product Key(s) and press Bundle !

Bundle !



Copy the bundle file received by e-mail to the AAS machine, and register the created bundle file in the red frame on the AAS screen in the figure on the left. When registering, the name of the product and the registered key will be displayed as shown below.

The AAS configuration is now complete. The next step is to configure the network and DNS settings of the backup source machine and then install ActiveImage Protector on each machine.



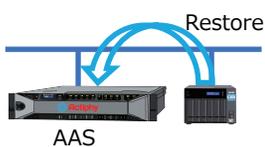
● AAS installation-related conditions

- AAS must be installed on a Windows OS.
- AAS can be installed on physical or virtual machines.
- AAS activates once daily, so it is recommended to use a machine that is always running.
- System Requirements :
 - CPU: Pentium4 or later
 - Memory: 1024MB or more

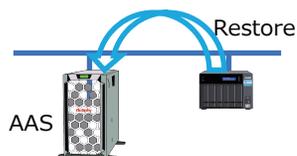
• Backup of AAS-installed machine

The AAS-installed machine can be backed up with ActiveImage Protector. However, if you use the following methods to restore an AAS machine, some of the bundle files might become unusable. When restoring the AAS machine with these methods, please contact Actiphy support (support@actiphy.com).

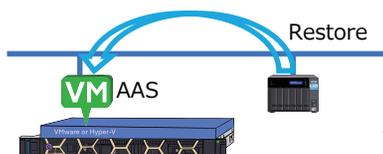
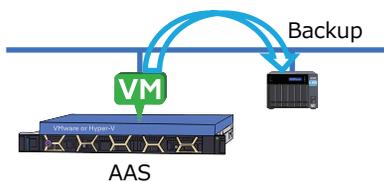
The following is a list of descriptions for each relating to physical and virtual machines.



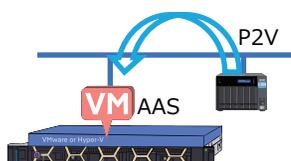
If you restore a backup of the AAS physical machine to the same machine, you do not need to re-register for the bundle files but may need to reapply the bundle files to the AAS server.



Restoring the backup to a different physical machine requires the bundle files to be reapplied.



If you set the uuid.action= "keep" , you can continue to use the bundle files, however, you need to reapply for the bundle files when creating a new UUID for the virtual machine.

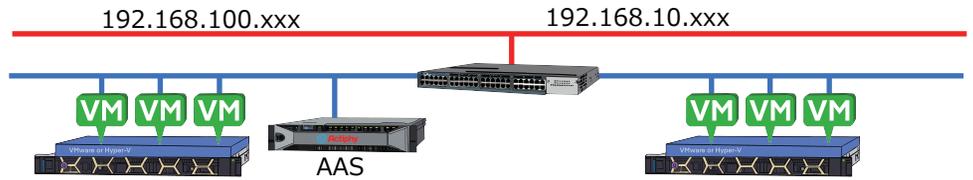


When restoring an AAS machine by performing P2V, V2V, etc. with a backup file, you need to reapply for the bundle files.

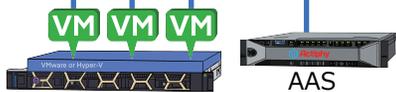
● AAS Deployment

- One AAS server can be deployed to a single or multiple routed segments. If more than one AAS server is deployed in the same segment, the AAS that is currently connected will be used.

In a medium-scale environment where each segment is connected, one AAS server is sufficient as shown in the figure on the right.



192.168.100.xxx



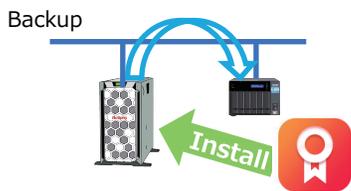
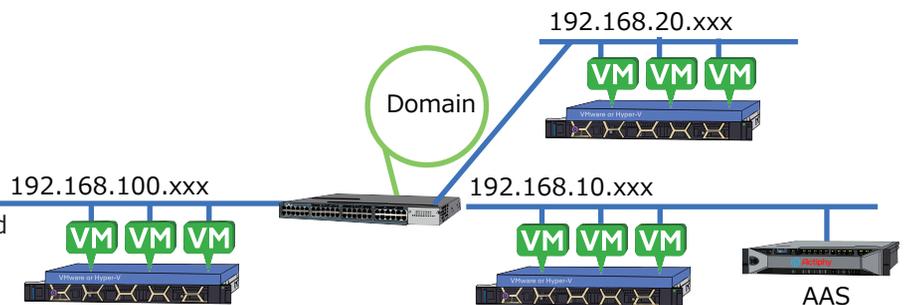
192.168.10.xxx



In a local area network in which each segment is independent, AAS needs to be set up separately for each segment.

In a domain environment, it is easy to refer to the AAS server by adding records to the primary DNS.

If each segment is routed, AAS can be referenced in the DNS within that range.



In a single machine backup configuration, you can install the operate AAS on the machine to be backed up.

Other Notes

The bundle file contains support expiration information. To renew or extend your support term for an additional year or longer, connect to the Actiphy license bundle application form site and obtain the latest bundle file. An email notification will be sent for you to register on your AAS server. (Your registered product key can be used as a reference.)