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Overview

Lightning is a secure lightweight connectivity solution created by athenahealth that is able to transfer messages both to and from athenaNet. As Lightning is preconfigured to securely access athenahealth’s network, interfaces are much faster to set up for both senders and receivers. Lightning downloads/uploads messages from/to athenaNet via secure web service transactions (HTTPs port: 443) to/from a client’s local machine. A separate encrypted passcode is also stored locally and is tumbled periodically is also exchanged also ensures the security of the data being sent. This solution also provides a simple user interface to manage your interfaces with athenahealth, as well as provide options to archive messages and change the location of where your data is stored.

How It Works

After installing Lightning and configuring an interface, Lightning will create a folder in the Data Storage Location you have specified (default: /Program Files/athenahealth/Lightning/LightningDataFolders). The name of the folder will be the same name as your interface. In the interface folder, you will find folders specifying the direction of the interface:

![Folder Structure](image)

If you have created an Upload To Athena Interface, you can push messages to the Upload To Athena folder and Lightning will pick them up and send them to athenaNet.

**Note:** The messages that are picked up and delivered are automatically deleted from the interface folder. If you configure the interface to archive sent files an Archive folder will be created in your interface folder.

If you have created a Download From Athena Interface, you can pull messages sent from athenaNet from the Download From Athena folder.

Installation

System Requirements

- Supported on:
  - Windows 7 and above
  - Windows Server 2008 and above
- Internet connectivity
- Services require Admin to run

Installation Setup

1. Place the installation’s zip file (Lightning_Setup.zip) on the computer that will run the service
2. Open the file and extract the contents to a specific destination. Please make note of the destination.

3. Open the **Lightning Setup** folder

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lightning Setup</td>
<td>25 965 488</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Double-click the installer file (**Setup**) to begin the installation process

5. Click **Next** then read the License Agreement. If you agree to the terms, click the ‘I accept the terms in the license agreement’ radio button and click **Next**.
6. The installation location is defaulted for you, if you wish to change the install location click the Change... button and select the folder you wish Lightning to be installed. Once you have selected a folder you can click Next.

7. Click the Install button

8. At the completion screen, click the Finish button
9. You will be prompted to select the location you wish Lightning to push/pull data from when Lightning runs for the first time. If you wish to change the location from the default press **Browse** and select a location on your machine. You can then press **Save** when finished.

![Choose Data Folder](image1)

10. The updater will run quickly and the Lightning icon will appear in the Windows tray once the installation is complete.

![Windows Tray Icon](image2)

**Managing your Interfaces**

**Navigation:** You can manage all of your interfaces right from the Lightning application window. If the Lightning application is not open, simply open the application from the location where it was originally installed.

If it is already running, open up your tray and right click the lightning icon. From the menu select the **Show Window** option.

![Menu Options](image3)

From the Lightning application window you are able to change the location where data is pushed/pulled on your machine as well as add, edit, test, and delete all the interfaces you have with athenahealth.

**Changing the Data Storage Location**
1. Navigate to the Lightning application window

![Lightning application window](image1)

2. Navigate to the **Edit** option on the top of the window and select **Data Storage Location**.

![Data Storage Location](image2)

3. From here Lightning will prompt you to select a new data folder to push/pull files from. If you wish to change the folder from the default, click the **Browse** button and select the desired folder from your file directory, then click the **Save** button. If you wish to use the default, just close the window.

![Choose Data Folder](image3)

### Adding an Interface

1. Navigate to the Lightning application window. Click the **Add** button.

![Add Button](image4)
2. A pop-up will appear with many different options to apply to your interface. These options are detailed below:

![Edit Interface dialog box]

a. **Interface Name**: The name of your interface that will appear on the Lightning application window and on the folder in the Data Storage Location previously configured.

b. **Interface Type**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interface Type</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upload To Athena (Up)</td>
<td>Interface that <strong>sends messages to</strong> athenahealth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Download From Athena (Down)</td>
<td>Interface that <strong>receives messages from</strong> athenahealth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bi-Directional</td>
<td>Interface that <strong>both sends/receives messages</strong> from athenahealth</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

c. **Archiving**: When messages are sent to athenahealth, the files are automatically deleted from the data folder that your machine is pushing to. When configuring an interface you are able to select the Archive option to have the files that were sent/deleted saved to an Archive folder. You can then configure the archiving behavior with the various options described below:

![Edit Interface dialog box with Archiving settings]
Compress Them: Files saved to the archive folder will be **compressed** based on the parameters set on the right (after X number of days/when the folder size exceeds X mb)

Delete Them: Files saved to the archive folder will be **deleted** based on the parameters set on the right (after X number of days/when the folder size exceeds X mb)

Leave Them: Files saved to the archive folder will remain in the folder in their original state.

**Delete:** Selecting this option means that all sent messages will not be saved in any Archive folder.

**Note:** Selecting the Delete option will delete any existing Archives. It is recommended that you back up your Archive folder to a different location before selecting this option if there is data you wish to save.

e. **Enabled:** When this box is checked the interface is actively sending/receiving messages. If this box is unchecked, the interface will be disabled until it is re-enabled by the user. When an **Upload To Athena** connection is re-enabled, messages queued in the folder will resume sending. When a **Download From Athena** connection is re-enabled, messages queued will be sent from the time the interface was disabled.

3. Click **Save** once done configuring the interface.

**Note:** This will create a folder in the previously configured Data storage location with the same name as the interface.

4. Now that you have finished configuring the interface on your machine, the interface can be connected to athenaNet after it has been configured by an athenahealth team member. Please contact the Athena project manager you have been working with for setup. We will ask for the first few digits of the interface ID located below:

**Configuring an Interface**

1. Navigate to the Lightning application window. Click the **Edit** button.
2. A pop-up will appear with many different options to apply to your interface. These options are detailed below:

![Edit Interface](image)

a. **Interface Name:** The name of the interface that will appear on the Lightning application window and on the folder in the Data Storage Location previously configured.

b. **Interface Type**

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c. **Archiving:** When messages are sent to athenahealth, the files are automatically deleted from the data folder that your machine is pushing to. When configuring an interface you are able to select the Archive option to have the files that were sent/deleted saved to an Archive folder. You can then configure the archiving behavior with the various options described below:

![Edit Interface](image)
Del: Selecting this option means that all sent messages will not be saved in any Archive folder.

**Note:** Selecting the Delete option will delete any existing Archives. It is recommended that you back up your Archive folder to a different location before selecting this option if there is data you wish to save.

e. **Enabled:** When this box is checked the interface is actively sending/receiving messages. If this box is unchecked, the interface will be disabled until it is re-enabled by the user. When an *Upload To Athena* connection is re-enabled, messages queued in the folder will resume sending. When a *Download From Athena* connection is re-enabled, messages queued will be sent from the time the interface was disabled.

3. Click **Save** once you are done configuring the interface.

**Testing an interface**

In the Lightning tray app you are able to test your interface. This test checks whether you are able to connect to athenaNet and whether the application is able to write/read from the Lightning Data Folders.

1. Navigate to the Lightning application window. Click the interface you wish to test and click the **Test** button.

2. If there is an issue please make sure that Lightning has access to write to the data folders you specified on setup. If it still is not working please contact the Athena project manager you have been working with.
Deleting an Interface

1. Navigate to the Lightning application window. Click the interface you wish to delete and click the **Delete** button.

![Lightning application window](image)

2. A pop-up will appear and ask you to confirm your intent to delete your interface. If you wish to delete the interface click **Yes**.

![Confirm deletion dialog](image)

**Note:** A deleted interface cannot be recovered. If you accidentally delete your interface, or wish to create a new interface you must contact athenahealth to ensure that messages will be sent/received.

Disabling the Lightning Service

Disabling the Lightning service will stop all messages from all interfaces from being downloaded/uploaded to and from athenaNet. When re-enabled, queued messages from athenaNet will be downloaded to the **Download_FromAthena** data folders and files in the **Upload_ToAthena** data folders will be uploaded to athenaNet.

1. Navigate to the Windows tray and right-click the Lightning icon.

![Windows tray with Lightning icon](image)

2. Select the **Stop Service** option. You should see the icon change to reflect the status of the service.
Troubleshooting

If your interface is not installing/sending or receiving messages properly, there are a few steps you can take to help identify any issues:

Download Install Logs

If you are having issues installing Lightning, downloading your install logs will help whoever is assisting you to diagnose the issue you are having.

1. Navigate to the folder where you originally unzipped the install file. Note the location of this folder for step 2.
2. Locate the file `setupexe.txt`. This is a log file that is generated when you try to install Lightning.

Download Lightning’s Log files

Lightning’s log files can provide the athenahealth support team information about the issue that is occurring. Below are instructions on how to download these files:

1. Click **File** on the top left corner of the Lightning application and select the **Export Logs**

2. Select the location you would like to save the .zip file containing the Lightning logs.
3. Email DataExchangeManagement@athenahealth.com with a description of the issue you are seeing and the zipped logfile attached. You should receive a response as soon as a support associate is available.

Uninstalling Lightning

1. Navigate to:
   - Start >> All Programs >> athenahealth >> Lightning

2. Click Uninstall Lightning

![Uninstalling Lightning Image]