



# **Connection Broker**

**Where Virtual Desktops Meet Real Business**

## **Security Review**

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# Securing the Connection Broker

## Overview

This section describes the different pieces of the Connection Broker that are relevant to a security audit. Three key areas for analysis include:

- Network level access
- Application level access
- Maintenance.

The Connection Broker is a virtual appliance that runs inside a virtual machine powered by a VMware® or Citrix® virtualization layer. As a virtual appliance, the Connection Broker contains both the application and the underlying operating system, made from the following components:

- CentOS Linux® 5.3
- Apache 1.3.41 Web Server
- OpenSSL version 0.9.8k

## Network Level Access

By default, port 80 provides the only network level access to the Connection Broker when there is no SSL certificate installed. The Connection Broker uses port 443 when an SSL certificate is installed.

If you turn on SLP discovery, OpenSLP is enabled on port 50,000.

The following table summarizes the open ports used by the Connection Broker.

Port #	Purpose
80	Normal non-encrypted network communication
169	Inbound SNMP traps
443	Encrypted network communication
50,000	Teradici communications (only after PCoIP is enabled)

## Application Level Access

### **Restricting User Access**

You can access the Connection Broker at the application level, using port 80 or port 443, via either:

- The Connection Broker Web interface
- The XML-RPC API

Roles restrict how much of the Connection Broker functionality users can access, via either the Web interface or XML-RPC API. You can create different user roles to restrict access to the various elements of the Connection Broker including the XML API, maintenance, network, and general configuration (see “Managing User Roles and Permissions” in the [Connection Broker Administrator’s Guide](#)).

The Connection Broker provides a default Administrator account with locally stored user credentials. The Administrator password is stored encrypted.

### **Logging User Access**

The Connection Broker logs all user access, including:

- When the user logs into the Connection Broker
- Which desktops the user was offered
- Which desktops the user selected
- Which desktops the user logged into
- When the user disconnected from a desktop
- When the user logged out of a desktop

From the Connection Broker Web interface, you can manually log users out of any desktop or the Connection Broker (see “Logging Users Out” in the [Connection Broker Administrator’s Guide](#)).

You can view the logs on the > **System** > **Logs** page. For information on extracting the log information for use in a Microsoft® Excel® spreadsheet or a Microsoft SQL Server® database, see [Log Contents](#).

### **Connection Broker Internal Database**

The Connection Broker maintains an inventory of the following information.

- Users: The Connection Broker stores passwords for users only if the users are created locally through the > **Users** > **Users** > **Create** page.
- Clients
- Desktops and their environments
- Microsoft Active Directory® user credentials: Encrypted.
- Machine centers: Access credentials are encrypted.
- Locations, roles, and all other operational parameters

If you are using an internal Connection Broker database, you can download this information by selecting the **Download the database configuration** option on the > **System** > **Maintenance** page. The downloaded .tgz file stores additional configuration files, including the Connection Broker ID and external database settings. See the “Downloading and Uploading Connection Broker Settings” and “Scheduling Remote Backup for the Connection Broker” sections in the [Connection Broker Administrator’s Guide](#) for more information on generating the .tgz file.

### **Client Application Access**

Different types of clients use the following communication protocols:

- All fat and thin clients use the Leostream XML-RPC based API to communicate with the Connection Broker.
- The Wyse® WTOS series thin clients use a URL based API.
- Web browser clients use standard HTML and Microsoft ActiveX® plug-ins.

Normal communications use port 80 and are not encrypted. You can encrypt all communication protocols using SSL. To enable this feature, upload a signed or unsigned certificate into the Connection Broker (see “Generating and Installing Self-Signed SSL Certificates” or “Generating and Installing Third Party SSL Certificates” in the [Connection Broker Administrator’s Guide](#)). The Connection Broker automatically redirects communication to port 443.

### **VMware® vCenter Server Application Access**

The Connection Broker currently reads and writes the following VMware vCenter Server commands, in order to have full functionality.

```
System.View  
VirtualMachine.Interact.PowerOn  
VirtualMachine.Interact.Suspend  
VirtualMachine.Interact.PowerOff  
VirtualMachine.Provisioning.DeployTemplate  
VirtualMachine.State.RevertToSnapshot
```

```
VirtualMachine.State.CreateSnapshot  
VirtualMachine.Provisioning.Customize  
Resource.AssignVMToPool
```

If the Connection Broker does not have permission to these commands, an access fault occurs and the operation fails. See the Leostream **Base** article “What privileges do I need to interact with VMware vCenter Server?” for more information on the required vCenter Server privileges.

All communications with vCenter Server are encrypted using SSL.

### **Microsoft® Active Directory® Application Access**

The Connection Broker logs into the Active Directory service with an account that has access to all the user objects for the users managed by the Connection Broker.

The credentials for this account are stored in the Connection Broker in an encrypted form.

The Connection Broker does not make any modifications to Active Directory records.

## **Connection Broker Maintenance**

### **Passwords**

The default administrator and root accounts can access and modify the Connection Broker through the VMware console.



This administrator account is different from an Administrator role/account in the Connection Broker Web interface.

By default, these accounts are setup as follows:

- administrator
  - User name: `leo`
  - Password: `leo`
  
- root
  - User name: `root`
  - Password: `leostream`

To secure the Connection Broker, change the passwords for these two accounts, as follows.

For the administrator account:

1. From the Connection Broker virtual machine console, press Ctrl-C.
2. Enter the username `leo` and password `leo`.
3. From the Leostream administrator **Main menu**, select **Exit** to go to the Linux shell.
4. Use the `passwd` command to change the password.

For the root account:

1. From the Connection Broker virtual machine console, press Ctrl-C.
2. Enter the username `root` and password `leostream`.
3. At the `#` prompt, use the `passwd` command to change the password.

After you have changed your passwords, you can enable SSH.



Do not enable SSH before changing your default passwords.

### ***Patch Management Detection and Deployment***

Use the Leostream update mechanism to update the Connection Broker, including the Connection Broker application and the underlying operating system. See the “Updating the Connection Broker” section in the [Connection Broker Administrator’s Guide](#) for information on getting Connection Broker updates.

The Connection Broker uses an indirect update mechanism, which requires internet access. To see if updates are available, select the **Check for updates** option on the > **System > Maintenance** page. The update mechanism indicates if your broker is up to date, or provides an update file for download. Download the update file to your local machine, where you can then upload it to the Connection Broker.

Offline updates are available by contacting Leostream support at [@leostream.com](mailto:@leostream.com).

### ***Backing Up the Connection Broker***

You can back up the Connection Broker using any backup system intended for virtual machines. These methods backup the Connection Broker and its internal database.

You can also backup the Connection Broker using the > **System > Remote Backup** page, which backs up the Connection Broker internal database and its settings. This backup method is more efficient than backing up the entire appliance. See the “Scheduling Remote Backup for the Connection Broker” section in the [Connection Broker Administrator’s Guide](#) for information on using this feature.

### ***Backing Up an External Database***

If you are using an external SQL Server database, back up the database using the standard tools and techniques for Microsoft SQL Server 2005 databases.

### ***Event Monitoring***

The Connection Broker has its own SNMP MIB and can signal a range of events to an external monitoring system, which, in turn can signal events using pagers, emails, etc.

## Appendix A

### **Exporting Log Contents**

You can extract the contents of the Connection Broker log in three ways:

- Download a CSV-file
- Issue a Web query
- Click the **Download Leostream technical support logs** link

#### ***CSV-File***

To download a CSV:

1. Go to the > **System > Log** page
2. Click the **download** link at the bottom-left of the page.
3. When prompted, save the CSV-file

The CSV-file contains the entire contents of the > **System > Log**, not just the information on the currently displayed page.

## Web Query

To extract the raw contents of the **> System > Log** table:

1. In a Web browser, enter the following URL to issue a Web query:

```
http://xxx.xx.xxx.xx/qselect.iqy
```

Where `xxx.xx.xxx.xx` is your Connection Broker IP address.

2. When the query prompts you for a username and password, enter in the credentials for the Connection Broker administrator.
3. When the query prompts you for the **Table to query**, enter `log`.

A Microsoft Excel spreadsheet opens, containing the contents of the **> System > Log** table. Users are referenced in the table by their user ID.

4. To see the mapping between users and user IDs, rerun the Web query and enter `user` for the **Table to query**.

See [Web Queries](#) for more information on using Web queries.

## Get Logs

When you click the **Download Leostream technical support logs** link at the bottom of any Connection Broker Web interface page, the Connection Broker downloads a ZIP-file containing all the information stored in the broker.

To extract the log information from the `.zip` file:

1. Extract the downloaded `.zip` file.
2. In the directory you unzipped the downloaded logs into, go to the `logs` directory.
3. From the `logs` directory, extract the `sql-log.zip` file, into a directory called `sql-log`.
4. From the `sql-log` directory, go to the `logs` directory.

The `logs` directory contains a file called `sql-log.txt`, which is a tab delimited file containing the contents of the **> System > Log** table. You can then import this table into an Excel spreadsheet for analysis.

Users are referenced in the table by their user ID.

5. To see the mapping between users and user IDs, extract the `sql-user.zip` file.

You can also enable URL access to the logs by selecting the **Allow URL access to the logs** option at the bottom of the **> System > Maintenance** page. Once this feature is enabled, you can download the logs using the following URL:

```
http://xxx.xx.xxx.xx/index.pl?action=pull_log;n=1000
```

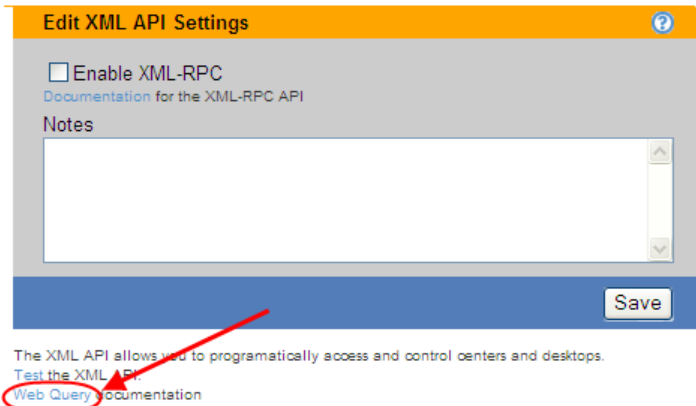
Where `xxx.xx.xxx.xx` is your Connection Broker IP address. Change the value of `n` to change the number of lines downloaded from the logs.



The Connection Broker does not include any password information in the downloaded log files.

## Making Web Queries

The Connection Broker Web query Interface allows you to create live data links between the Connection Broker and Microsoft Excel spreadsheets. To view the Web query documentation, click the **Web Query** link at the bottom of the **> System > XML API** page, shown in the following figure.



Using Web queries, you can import data from various Connection Broker tables into an Excel spreadsheet for reporting and graphing purposes.

Use the `qselect.iqy` command, to load a single table into an Excel spreadsheet, as follows:

```
http://xxx.xx.xxx.xx/qselect.iqy
```

Where `xxx.xx.xxx.xx` is your Connection Broker's IP address.

The query prompts you for your username and password, then asks for the name of the table to import. For example, to import the contents of the > **Users** > **Users** page, enter the table name `user`. The following Excel spreadsheet is created.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	last_login	links_as_dropdowns	status_refresh	remote_authentication_id	role_id	email	password	updated	id	name
2	6/30/2008 19:51		1	5	0	1	0f759dd1ea6c4c76cedc299039ca4f23	6/30/2008 19:51	1	Administrator

You can use the `select.iqy` command for more advanced queries. For information on this command, see the Web query documentation. For a list of available tables, refer to the Connection Broker data dictionary documentation, accessed through the Web query documentation.