

REMOTE ACCESS FOR ALL

User connections to anything – anytime, anywhere, from any device.



The Leostream Connection Broker Application

Installation and Network Considerations, Console Administration, and Upgrades

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Leostream software is protected by U.S. Patent 8,417,796.


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Chapter 1: Overview

Installing the Connection Broker

Leostream provides a Connection Broker package that can be installed on any virtual or physical machine running the latest 64-bit CentOS 7.x or Red Hat Enterprise Linux 7.x operating system.

 The Connection Broker does not install on CentOS 8, Red Hat Enterprise Linux version 8, or any other Linux distribution.

The Connection Broker installation process automatically creates a user named `leo` and installs the Connection Broker in the `/home/leo` directory.

 You cannot install the Connection Broker in a different directory, and the `/home/leo` directory cannot be an NFS location.

By default, the `leo` user does not have an assigned password.

If you need to log in as the `leo` user, log in as `root` and assign a password to the `leo` user using the following command.

```
passwd leo
```

If you do not want to setup a password for the `leo` user, you can access the administration menu using the following command:

```
su - leo
```

See the [Leostream Installation Guide](#) for complete instructions on installing the Connection Broker.

Hardware or Virtual Resource Requirements

Build your Linux machine to the specifications required by your selected operating system and apply the latest updates prior to installing Leostream. In addition to the operating system requirements, the Connection Broker requires the following resources.


- 2 vCPUs
- 8.0 GB of RAM
- At least 20 GB of hard drive space
- One NIC, optionally with Internet connectivity

The Connection Broker uses the operating system libraries, such as OpenSSL, whenever possible, with one exception. The Connection Broker application installs and uses Apache Web Server version 2.4.51.

The Connection Broker Internal Database

The Connection Broker application includes a PostgreSQL database, which is adequate for proof-of-concept deployments. The internal database is running PostgreSQL version 9.5.25 and is not accessible from outside of the Connection Broker.

In production, Leostream recommends switching to an external Microsoft SQL Server or PostgreSQL database and creating a Connection Broker cluster for high availability. Leostream supports PostgreSQL version 9.1 or higher, Azure SQL, and Microsoft SQL Server. Leostream supports Microsoft SQL Server versions currently covered by Mainstream Support under the Microsoft Fixed Lifecycle Policy and versions in service under the Microsoft Modern Lifecycle Policy.

 Leostream plans to upgrade the internal PostgreSQL database to version 13 in a future Leostream release. When using an external PostgreSQL database, you may use version 13 or higher if you modify the default `pg_hba.conf` file to accept "password" authentication from remote connections.

Connections to External Systems

The Connection Broker communicates with a number of external systems, such as:

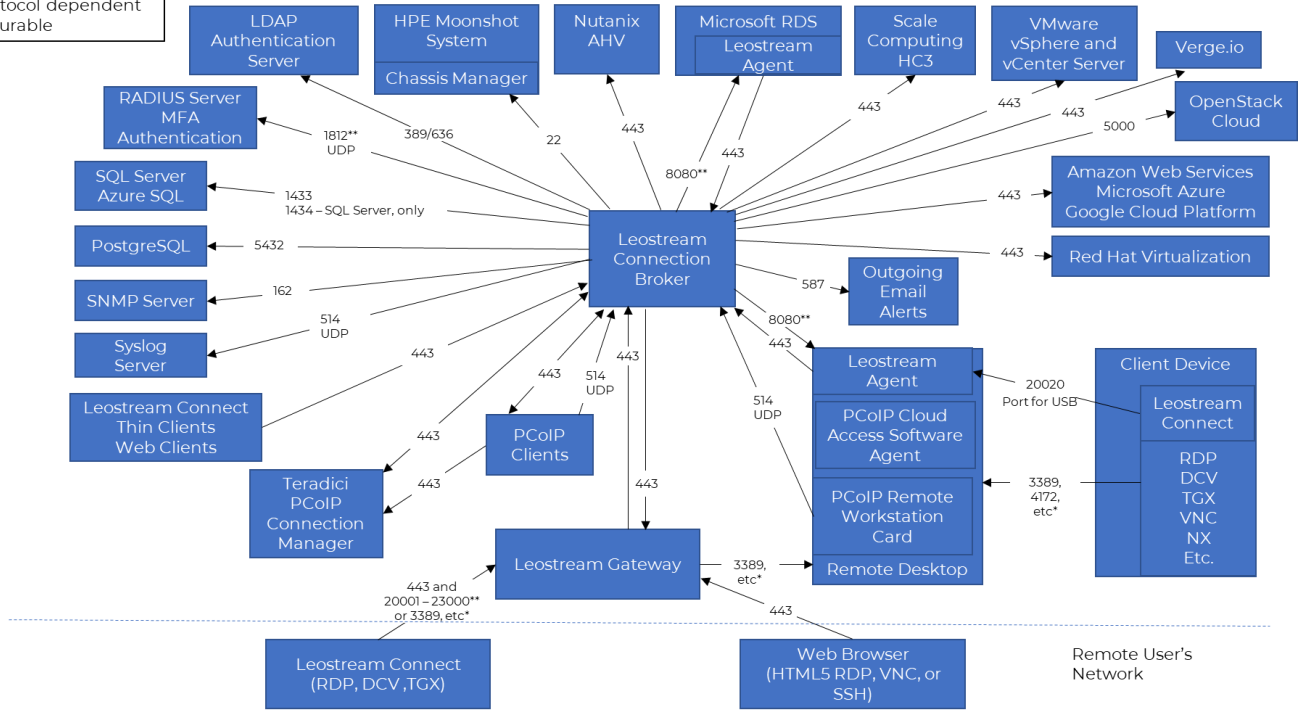
- Authentication servers, such as Microsoft Active Directory servers
- Virtualization and cloud platforms, such as those provided by VMware or AWS
- Databases

The following figure provides a schematic of the ports the Connection Broker uses to communicate with various systems.

For a detailed description of all ingress and egress ports used by the Connection Broker, please contact support@leostream.com.

Key:
 Ports are TCP unless specified as UDP
 * Display protocol dependent
 ** User configurable

Leostream 9.1 – Architecture Diagram
 (Connections are initiated in direction of arrows)



Chapter 2: Using the Administration Menu

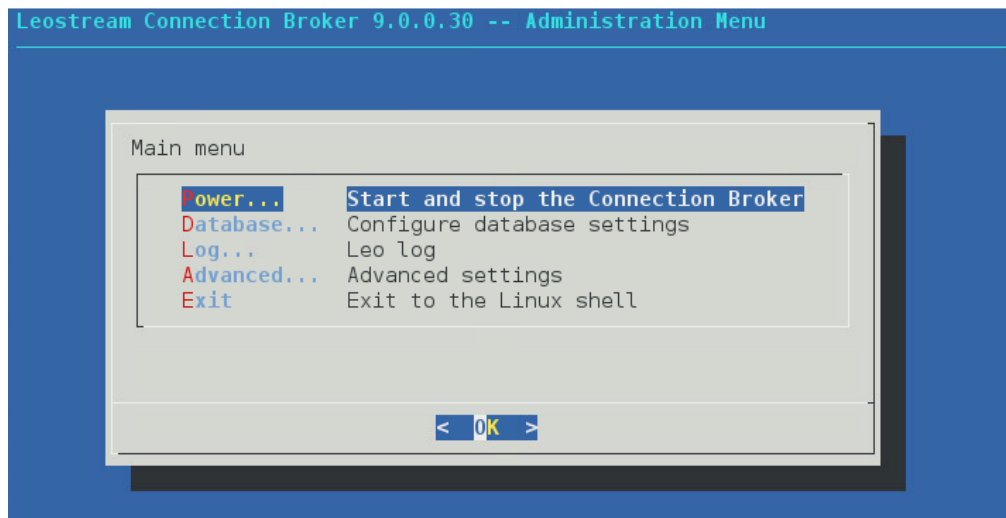
The Connection Broker Administration Menu provides options for managing your Connection Broker application from the Linux console. Note that you configure your hosted desktop environment using the Connection Broker Administrator Web interface, not the Administration Menu.

Opening the Administration Menu

To access the Connection Broker Administrator Menu, log into the machine running your Connection Broker as the `root` user and issue the following command.

```
su - leo
```

The **Administration Menu**, shown in the following figure, opens.



Main Menu Options

The following table describes the options available in the **Main menu**.

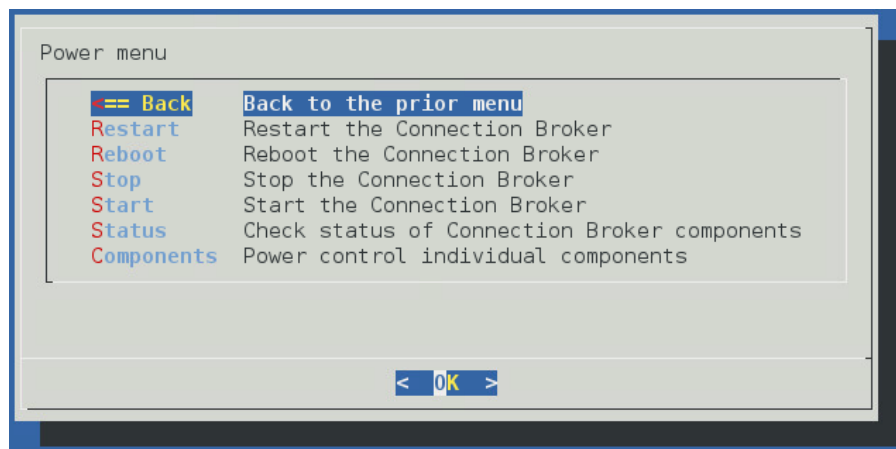
Menu Name	Description	Purpose
Power	Start and stop the Connection Broker	Opens the Power menu , which contains options for starting, stopping, or restarting the Connection Broker as a whole, or individual components
Database	Configure database settings	Opens the Database menu , which contains options for purging the internal database
Log	Leo log	Opens the Log menu , which contains options for viewing or clearing various Connection Broker logs.
Advanced	Advanced settings	Opens the Advanced settings menu, which contains options for enabling and disabling SSH and debug mode.
Exit	Exit to the Linux shell	Returns to the Linux shell



In all sub-menus, the **<== Back** option returns you to the parent menu.

Power Options

Selecting **Power** from the **Main menu** opens the **Power menu**, shown in the following figure.



The following table describes the options available in the **Power menu**.

Menu Name	Description	Purpose
Restart	Restart the Connection Broker application	Restarts the Connection Broker application and all its components. When selected, a sub-menu prompts you to confirm or cancel the restart.
Reboot	Reboot the Connection Broker virtual machine	Power cycles the entire Connection Broker virtual machine.
Stop	Stop the Connection Broker	Stops the Connection Broker. When selected, a sub-menu prompts you to confirm or cancel the stop.
Start	Start the Connection Broker	Starts the Connection Broker. When selected, a sub-menu prompts you to confirm or cancel the start.
Status	Check status of Connection Broker components	Displays information about the status of the various Connection Broker components, including the network, internal database, redis, web server, and work queue.
Components	Power control individual components	Start, stop, or restart individual components of the Connection Broker. Opens the Component power menu for selecting which components to control. See the following table for a description of available components.

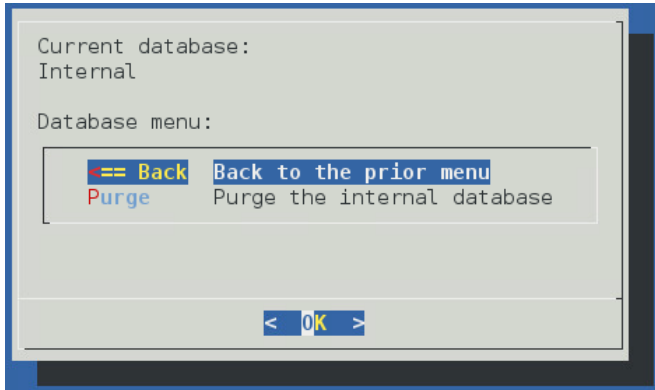
The following table lists the different components that can be restarted.

Component Name	Description
Httpd	Web server
Db	Internal database server
Queue	Work queue

Selecting any of these components opens a submenu with options to **Restart**, **Stop**, or **Start** the component.

Database Options

Selecting **Database** from the **Main menu** opens the **Database menu**, shown in the following figure.



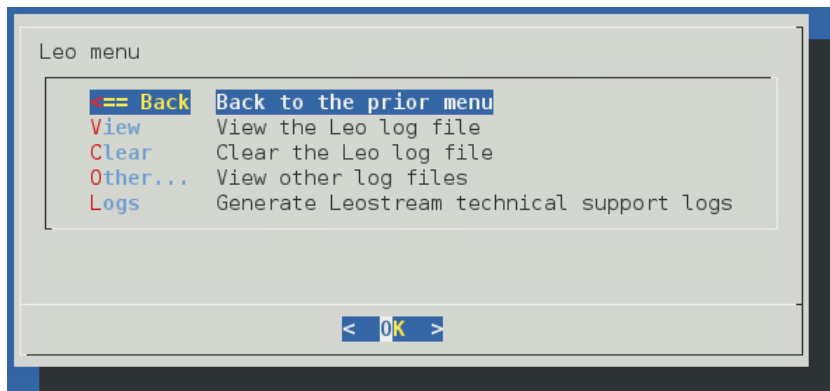
The following table describes the options available in the **Database menu**.

Menu Name	Description	Purpose
Purge	Purge the internal database	Clears all data from the internal database. This option does not apply if your Connection Broker is attached to an external PostgreSQL, Azure SQL, or Microsoft SQL Server database. A sub-menu prompts you to confirm or cancel the purge.
Switch	Switch to internal database	Switches the Connection Broker from storing information in an external database to storing in an internal database. This option does not appear if your Connection Broker is already pointing to an internal database. A sub-menu prompts you to confirm or cancel the switch. Switching back to the internal database does not copy any information from the current external database into the internal database.
Edit	Edit current external database	Updates the information associated with the current external database. Use this option to update the username and password used to connect to the database, or change the database name, database server, or port number. Saving the changes restarts the Connection Broker.

You can also switch between an internal and external database, or update the current database information, using the `switch_database` CLI. See [Scripting Database Switches](#) for more information.

Log Options

Selecting **Log** from the **Main menu** opens the **Leo menu**, shown in the following figure.

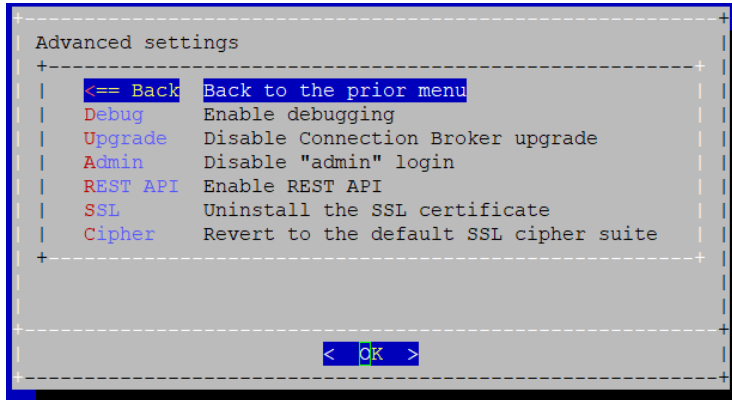


The following table describes the options available in the **Log menu**.

Menu Name	Description	Purpose
View	View the Leo log file	Displays the Leo log file in the console window. Press the space bar to scroll through the log. Press <Enter> to close the Leo log file and return to the Log menu.
Clear	Clear the Leo log file	Erases all entries in the Leo log file. When selected, a sub-menu prompts you to confirm or cancel the operation.
Other	View other log files	Opens a sub-menu listing other available logs. Select a log from the list to open that log file in the console. Press the space bar to scroll through the log. Press <Enter> to close the Leo log file and return to the Log menu.
Logs	Generate Leostream technical support logs	Packages the Connection Broker logs into a ZIP-file that can be sent to Leostream Technical Support. To obtain the ZIP-file, SSH into your Connection Broker (using a tool such as WinSCP) and navigate to the <code>/home/leo</code> directory.

Advanced Settings

Selecting **Advanced** from the **Main menu** opens the **Advanced settings**, shown in the following figure.



The following table describes the options available in the **Advanced settings menu**.

Menu Name	Description	Purpose
Debug	Enable debugging Disable debugging	Enables or disables debug-mode for your Connection Broker. Debug mode stores additional logs sometimes required by Leostream support.
Upgrade	Disable Connection Broker upgrade Enable Connection Broker upgrade	Toggles the availability of the Check for updates option on the > System > Maintenance page. Disable Connection Broker upgrades after moving your Connection Broker into production.
Admin	Disable "admin" login	Disables login to the Administrator Web interface for the default local Administrator admin user.
Rest API	Enable REST API Disable REST API	Enables or disables the Connection Broker RESTful API. When enabled, the Connection Broker machine requires additional RAM. Ensure your Connection Broker has at least 8 GB of RAM before enabling the RESTful API.
SSL	Uninstall the SSL certificate	Removes the SSL certificate from your Connection Broker, and restarts the Web service. Note: Selecting this option immediately removes the certificate without prompting for confirmation. This option appears only after you install an SSL certificate into your Connection Broker.

Menu Name	Description	Purpose
Cipher	Revert to the default SSL cipher suite	If you modified the Web server “SSLCipherSuite” directive on the Connection Broker Administrator Web interface > System > Settings page, select this option to revert to the current default SSL cipher suite. Leostream periodically updates the default SSL cipher suite when releasing new versions of the Connection Broker.

Chapter 3: The Connection Broker CLI

The Connection Broker CLI allows you to script setup functionality, such as switching the Connection Broker database. You access the CLI as the `leo` user from within the Connection Broker console. The CLI is located in the `/home/leo/bin` directory.

Scripting Database Switches

Use the `switch_database` CLI to switch the Connection Broker between databases, for example, to perform any of the following tasks.

- Switch a Connection Broker configured using its internal database to a new external database for the purpose of creating a cluster
- Connect a new Connection Broker installation to an existing cluster
- Update the current external database parameters, for example, to change the password used to connect to the external database
- Switch a Connection Broker to its internal database, to remove that Connection Broker from a cluster

You can use the following syntax to query the current database information:

```
./switch_database.pl --show_current
```

Use the following syntax to switch a Connection Broker back to its internal database:

```
./switch_database.pl --to_internal
```

The following example switches the Connection Broker to a new external Microsoft SQL Server database:

```
./switch_database.pl --to_external new --db_vendor mssqlserver --db_name
leodb --db_host sqlserver.myorg.net --port 1433 --username
"sqlserver\administrator" --password <enter_password> --site_id 10
```

The `switch_database.pl` CLI accepts the following options:

`--show_current`: Show the current database information

`--to_internal`: Switch to the internal database

`--to_external [new|existing|copy_to_existing]`: Switch to an external database

- `new`: Creates the database if an empty database with the specified name does not exist

then copies the current Leostream database into the empty database (must be used with a `db_vendor` of `postgres` or `mssqlserver`, only)

- `existing`: Connect to an existing Leostream database
- `copy_to_existing`: Copy current Leostream database into an existing, but empty Azure SQL database (must be used with a `db_vendor` of `azuresql`, only)

`--db_vendor [postgres|mssqlserver|azuresql]`: Database vendor name

- `postgres`: PostgreSQL
- `mssqlserver`: Microsoft SQL Server
- `azuresql`: Azure SQL

`--db_name (string)`: Database name

`--db_host (string)`: Hostname or IP address of the database server

`--port (number)`: Database server port number, between 1 and 65535

`--username (string)`: Username of a user with access to the database

`--password (string)`: Plain text password of user with access to the database. The password is stored encrypted in the Connection Broker


`--site_id (number)`: Unique Connection Broker site ID

`--skip_confirmation`: Flag to skip the confirmation to proceed, in order to run the database upgrade script without human intervention

`--allow_remote_upgrade`: Flag that allows the remote database schema to be automatically upgraded to a newer version. Without this flag, you cannot switch your Connection Broker to a database associated with an older version of the Connection Broker.

Chapter 4: Updating the Connection Broker

Leostream periodically provides updates for the Connection Broker application.

 Before updating your production environment, test the new Connection Broker version in a proof-of-concept environment.

You can apply updates using options on the > **System > Maintenance** page if your Connection Broker was installed from a Leostream repository. If you manually installed the Connection Broker RPM, perform a manual upgrade. In either case, follow your standard update procedures to install security or upgrade patches for the underlying operating system.


Procedural Guidelines

Use the following guidelines when preparing for a Connection Broker update.

1. Determine a maintenance window when user activity will be low to update your Connection Brokers.
2. If you are running your Connection Broker on a virtual machine, use the tools provided in your virtualization platform to snap shot all Connection Brokers in the cluster.

After you prove out your updated environment, you can delete any Connection Broker snapshots to minimize the disk footprint.

3. If you are using an external database, use your standard database backup mechanisms to backup the SQL Server database used by your Connection Broker cluster.
4. If replication is turned on for the SQL Server database, turn database replication off. If you are using a mirrored database, you do not need to disable database mirroring.

 Do not proceed with the upgrade if replication is turned on for the Connection Broker database.

5. Update one of your Connection Brokers as described in the following sections.

The update process modifies the database schema to support the new Connection Broker version.

6. After the update of the first Connection Broker completes, log into that Connection Broker's Administrator Web interface and perform a spot check to ensure that the updated broker is functioning properly
7. If you have additional Connection Brokers, follow the update procedure for the remaining Connection Brokers in your cluster.

8. After all Connection Brokers are updated, go to the > **System** > **Job Queue** page. Ensure that all Pending jobs are associated with site IDs assigned to one of the Connection Brokers currently in the cluster.

If any Pending job is assigned to a site ID that is not associated with a Connection Broker currently in the cluster, use the **Settings** link on the > **System** > **Job Queue** page to delete all work queue jobs associated with that Site ID. The Connection Broker reassigns all Pending jobs to new site IDs.

Updating the Connection Broker from a Leostream Repository

Online Connection Broker updates can be performed from a Leostream repository. If your Connection Broker does not have internet access, perform a local upgrade as described in the following section.

You can check for and apply available Connection Broker updates, as follows.

1. Log into the Connection Broker Administrator Web interface with a user whose Leostream role gives them access to the update options on the > **System** > **Maintenance** page.
2. On the > **System** > **Maintenance** page, select the **Check for updates** option.

If the update options are disabled or not shown, your Leostream support license has expired and you are no longer eligible for Connection Broker updates. Contact sales@leostream.com to renew your Leostream support license.

3. Click **Next**.
4. If the next page indicates that an update is available, click the **Install Connection Broker update** link.
5. In the **Install Update** form, click the **Install version** button to apply the update.

Updating a Locally-Installed Connection Broker

If you performed a local install of your initial Connection Broker version, you cannot use the Connection Broker Administrator web interface to update the Connection Broker. Instead, download the latest RPM file from the Leostream website and perform a local upgrade.



Do not uninstall or stop your existing Connection Broker before performing the upgrade.

For example, after downloading the latest RPM from the Leostream website, copy the file to your Connection Broker machine and run the following commands from the console.

```
sudo yum -y localinstall RPM_FILE_NAME
sudo /sbin/reboot
```

Chapter 5: Creating Production Deployments

To ensure a production-class environment, create systems that ensure the redundancy, resiliency, and scalability of your deployment, including:

- Create a Connection Broker cluster that contains sufficient Connection Brokers to handle user logins in the event that a server hosting one of the Connection Broker fails. For added resiliency, when building the Connection Broker cluster, ensure that you place individual Connection Brokers on different servers.
- Establish a schedule for backing up your Connection Broker database. Implement your site standard database backup procedure, to ensure that your data is protected.
- Create weekly snapshots of each Connection Broker virtual machine. By backing up the entire Connection Broker virtual machine, you do not need a separate backup procedure for the underlying Connection Broker operating system.
- Create monthly clones of each Connection Broker virtual machine. Leostream recommends storing these backups in an off-site location. Test your restore process to ensure that the media can be read, and that procedures are correctly documented.
- Use DNS to configure your Connection Broker IP addresses. Your DNS will round-robin between Connection Brokers during normal operation. For a more resilient environment, use a commercial load balancer distribute login load between Connection Brokers in a cluster.
- Never perform a Connection Broker upgrade, or an upgrade of the operating system, without first taking a snapshot of your existing Connection Broker virtual machine. Also, test upgrades in an isolated deployment, before rolling out to your production environment.