Publishing Service Setup Guide

Document Versions:

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>May 07, 2018</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>Initial Release</td>
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<td>July 08, 2018</td>
<td>1.1</td>
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**System Requirements:**

- Must be installed on top-most WSUS/SUP
- Microsoft .NET Framework 4.5
- Supported Operating Systems
  - Windows Server 2008
  - Windows Server 2008 R2
  - Windows Server 2012
  - Windows Server 2012 R2
  - Windows Server 2016
  - Windows Server 2019
- If using WSUS 3.0 SP2 (Server 2008/2008 R2), you should install **KB2938066** on all WSUS servers in your environment.

<table>
<thead>
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<th><img src="image" alt="Patch My PC Publishing Service MSI" /></th>
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<td>Download the latest MSI installer of the publishing service using the following URL:</td>
<td><strong>Note:</strong> Depending on user account control settings, you may need to run an elevated command prompt and launch the MSI from the command prompt.</td>
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<td><a href="https://patchmypc.com/publishing-service-download">https://patchmypc.com/publishing-service-download</a></td>
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**Download** the latest MSI installer of the publishing service using the following URL:

[https://patchmypc.com/publishing-service-download](https://patchmypc.com/publishing-service-download)

**Start the installation by double-clicking** the downloaded MSI.

**Note:** Depending on user account control settings, you may need to run an elevated command prompt and launch the MSI from the command prompt.

**Click** Next in the Welcome Wizard

**Click** Next in the Installation Folder Dialog

**Optionally,** you can change the installation folder by clicking **Browse**...

**Click** Install on the Ready to Install dialog.

**Note:** if user-account control is enabled, you will receive a prompt “Do you want to allow this app to make changes to your device?” Click **Yes** on this prompt to allow installation.
Leave the “Launch Patch My PC Publishing Service” checked then click Finish.

Note: if user-account control is enabled, you will receive a prompt “Do you want to allow this app to make changes to your device?” Click Yes on this prompt to allow installation.

If you already purchased a license, paste your catalog URL and click the Validate URL button.

You should receive a Message Box with the validation results and expiration date of your subscription.

If you want to configure the publishing service in trial mode, click the “Use Trial Mode” checkbox.

Click Yes on the prompt to enable trial catalog mode.

When the trial mode is enabled, the “Product Rules” and “Package Rules” tab will filter to only show products available from the public trial catalog.

Note: If you need additional applications for testing purposes, please submit the full-trial request form.
In order to publish updates to WSUS, a WSUS signing certificate (Code-Signing) must be configured.

The certificate can be a self-signed or issued by a third-party or even internal certificate authority.

Certificate Option 1 (SCCM Managed):

If you are running SCCM 1806 or newer, you can enable the option for “Configuration Manager manages the certificate”. If enabled, SCCM will automatically generate the signing certificate during the next software update point sync. You can monitor wscyncmgr.log to see it created.

You will need to reopen the publishing service after SCCM creates the certificate.

Note: if your software update point is remote from the site server, WSUS needs to be configured in HTTPS.

Certificate Option 2 (Self-Signed):

To use a self-signed certificate, click the “Generate a Self-Signed Certificate” button.

Click “OK” on “Certificate Created Successfully”.

Certificate Option 3 (PKI):

If you want to use a publicly created code-signing certificate, click the “Import PFX Certificate” button and follow any prompts.

Note: We have a detailed PFX certificate guide available here.
The catalog status image should show a green checkbox and display the code-signing certificate’s expiration date.

Note: if you use the SCCM 1806+ option to manage the certificate, you will need to reopen the publishing service to see the certificate validated.

We use DigiCert for timestamping published updates.

If you want to use a different timestamping server, you can un-check Use Default and enter your desired timestamping HTTP Server URL.

For clients to install third-party updates, they must trust the code-signing certificate.

If you enabled the option Configuration Manager manages the certificate from the previous step, your SCCM clients would automatically trust the WSUS signing certificate.

If you aren’t on SCCM 1806+ or can’t enable this option due to HTTPS requirements if your SUP is remote from the site server, you need to follow our supplemental guide here for deploying the WSUS signing certificate and trusted third-party update using GPO.

For clients to install third-party updates, they must also have a policy enabled to trust third-party updates.

If you are running SCCM 1802+, set the client setting to “Enable third party updates = Yes”.

If you aren’t on SCCM 1802+, you need to follow our supplemental guide for deploying the GPO.
Click the **Update Rules** tab to enable software updates for publishing.

**Arrows** can be used to expand or collapse products.

**Database Search** can be used to scan SCCM products already installed and enable detected products.

**Search** can be used to find products and vendors by name.

**Note**: when the **trial mode** is enabled, you will only see a subset of products.

If using the **scan SCCM feature**, you need to provide the **SCCM database server name** and **database name**.

Click **Query** to start the search then choose the products you want to enable for publishing by clicking **Enable Selected Products** or **Cancel**.

You can also click the **Export** button if you want to export the list of detected products to a CSV.

**Note**: this requested the user to have **db_datareader** rights in SQL to the SCCM database.

You can right-click “**All Products**” or specific “**Vendor/Product**” and toggle between **Metadata** and **Full Content**.

**Full Content** – publishes the full content of the update to WSUS. Full-content includes **metadata** and the **update binaries** and is **required in order to download and deploy the update in WSUS/SCCM**.
**Metadata only** – publish only the metadata; update binaries are not published.

**Metadata only** allows you to view the compliance details in SCCM/WSUS for the update, but you will be unable to deploy unless it’s re-published with full-content.

**Auto Kill**: application processes will be auto-closed before the update installs.

**Skip Update**: skip update if the app is running, will retry at next software update deployment and eval cycle.

**Pre/Post Scripts**: run your own custom pre/post scripts for a product.

**Delete Shortcut(s)**: deletes the public desktop shortcut(s) for a product.

**Logging**: will add the logging switch for products that support logging.

**Command Lines**: add custom command lines when needed.

**Republish Update(s)**: see [When, Why, and How to Republish Update(s)](link)

If you are licensed for the Enterprise Plus subscription, you can review the following supplemental video guide for enabling the base installation feature within the publishing service.

Base installations in the Package Rules tab allow you to install packages in SCCM that be used for the initial deployment of products in SCCM using task sequences and collection deployments.

**What’s the Difference Between the Basic and Enterprise Catalog Subscription?**
Click the **Sync Schedule** tab and adjust the schedule as needed.

The **scheduling time** is when the publishing service will download the latest catalog metadata and **auto-publish** any new updates or install packages for enabled products.

The **default schedule** is **Daily at 7 PM**

You can also configure the publishing service to **sync the SCCM software update point** if new third-party updates are published (Requires SUP to be co-located on the site server).

**Optionally**, you can enable a **Proxy** in the **Proxy and Notifications** tab that will be used for **update** and **catalog** downloads if needed.

To enable Email reports, click **Send Email Reports** and configure your SMTP sending options.

**When emails are enabled**, you will receive an email about any newly published updates including **Update Titles**, **Classification**, **Severity**, **CVE-ID’s** and more!

We recommend performing a **Test email** by clicking the **Test** button.

Click the **Apply** button to save all changes.
**Modify Published Updates** performs various actions on published updates.

**Local Content Repository for Licensed Products** is used for products behind a paywall requiring manual download; please see this KB article for more details.

**SSRS Dashboard Reports** can be installed by clicking the Run Report Installer button.

**Standalone WSUS Mode:** This option should ONLY be used if you are deploying updates in WSUS and not using SCCM. When enabled, updates will be visible in the WSUS console.

If you want to start the initial publishing of updates, you can click the Run Publishing Service Sync Now button in the Scheduling tab.

If Run Now is clicked, click OK on the “Run Now Successful” Message Box.

If you performed a Run Now Publishing, you could monitor the publishing process by clicking the Open PatchMyPC.log button in the General Settings tab.

Our log file uses a format compatible with CMTrace.exe.

We recommend setting CMTrace.exe as the default log viewer. It’s available in the SCCM Installation directory: `<InstallDir>\tools\cmtrace.exe`
When the first publishing operation is completed, we recommend that you run a “Synchronize Software Updates” on the SCCM site.

**Note:** You can monitor the software update point synchronization in the `wsyncmgr.log`.

Here is an example of the `wsyncmgr.log`.

You can verify the synchronization is complete when you see the line:

`Sync time: 0d00hxmxss`

Now that the sync is complete, you will need to enable the Patch My PC vendor in your software update point’s Products tab.

Navigate to the Administration Workspace > Site Configuration > Sites > Right-click your site > Configure Site Components > Click Software Update Point.

In the Products tab, enable the vendor named “Patch My PC” and Click Apply or OK to Save the settings.
If you run another “Synchronize Software Updates” on the SCCM site, the updates should now be available in the console after the sync is complete. You may need to click the Refresh button in the All Software Updates view.

Note: You can monitor the software update point synchronization in the wsyncmogr.log

The setup of the publishing service is now complete!

Any newly released updates meeting the Product Rules will be automatically published based on the schedule you defined.

Note: If you are using Automatic Deployment Rules in SCCM. Filters:

- **Vendor** = Patch My PC
- **Superseded** = No
- **Classification** = Critical Updates, Security Updates, Updates

If you want to exclude specific products in your ADR, please refer to this guide Filtering Specific Third-Party Products from ADRs

Note: Migration updates for Firefox to Firefox ESR or Java 6/7 to Java 8 are classified as “Update Rollups”.

If you want to receive email notifications regarding catalog updates, you can subscribe to our update catalog newsletter and you can also subscribe to the RSS feed that contains post about recent catalog updates.