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MS Excel outputs setup

Configuration for running Excel

As of version 6.2, MS Excel format renderings become possible when running Vigilens from a web browser or from a task scheduler. (Previously, the file generated and opened by MS Excel was in CSV format).

The use of "Excel file" output type requires the execution of Excel via DCOM.

By default, DCOM is configured so that Excel is launched by the executing user. However, this is a problem when the call to Excel is made from a Windows service (case of the Vigilens Web interface) or from the task scheduler.

In these two cases, it is advisable to modify the configuration of Excel for the machine in question as specified below.



When Excel output is triggered by Vigilens Web interface or Task Scheduler, Excel is launched without its graphical interface being displayed. In order to avoid any risk of blocking the process, **make sure that no dialog box will be displayed** (Example: "Tips" box, Office account settings box, document recovery panel).

Without changing the DCOM settings



This setup is not documented by Microsoft

However, from our experience, it is functional and has the advantage of allowing MS Excel output in all cases, without having to modify the DCOM configuration for Excel :

- whether there is an active Windows session or not on the server where Vigilens Web is installed (or on the computer/server where the scheduled requests are executed).
- In Web mode as in Windows mode (Vigilens Designer)

To set up this solution, simply create (if it does not already exist) the following directory : C:\Windows\System32\config\systemprofile\Desktop



Sur une machine 64 bits, il peut s'avérer nécessaire de créer le répertoire suivant : C:\Windows\SysWOW64\config\systemprofile\Desktop Last update: 2020/07/23 en:v8_0_0:installation:setupexcel https://vigilens.wiki/dokuwiki/doku.php?id=en:v8_0_0:installation:setupexcel&rev=1595504970 13:49



This solution also avoids a number of problems related to the use of macros in Excel templates.

Changing the DCOM settings



This option has the advantage of allowing MS Excel reports even when no Windows session is active on the server where Vigilens Web is installed or on the computer/server where the scheduled requests are executed.



This configuration is incompatible with the use of this machine for MS Excel format renderings from Vigilens Designer (only in web or scheduled mode).

How to proceed:

- Run the DCOM configuration tool.
 - "DCOMCNFG.EXE" if you have 32-bit MS Excel on a 32-bit MS Windows system or 64-bit MS Excel on a 64-bit MS Windows system.
 - $\circ\,$ in the case of 32-bit MS Excel on a 64-bit MS Windows system, run "MMC comexp.msc /32".
- Under "Component Services Computers My Computer DCOM Config" select the "Microsoft Excel Application" line.
- In the "Action" menu, click "Property".
- In the properties box, select the "Identity "tab, tick "This user "and specify a Windows user account (preferably the one associated with the Vigilens web service or with the execution of the scheduled task, which will ensure that the execution rights are homogeneous).

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<u>,</u>	Compone	ent Services
 File Action View Window File 2 X III 0 	Help 2 📷 🏦 🖭 🖽 🏛 🏥	Microsoft Excel Application Properties
Console Root Component Services Computers My Computer COM+ Applicatio COM+ Applicatio COM+ Config Running Processe Component Services Services (Local) Services (Local)	Microsoft Microsoft Microsoft Microsoft Microsoft	General Location Security Endpoints Identity Which user account do you want to use to run this application? The interactive user. The launching user. User: vigilens User: vigilens Password: ••••• Confirm password: •••••• On the system account (services only).
		OK Cancel Apply

• In the "Location" tab, make sure that "Run the application on this computer" is checked.

Microsoft Excel Application Properties
General Location Security Endpoints Identity
The following settings allow DCOM to locate the correct computer for this application. If you make more than one selection, then DCOM uses the first applicable one. Client applications may overide your selections.
Run application on the computer where the data is located. Run application on this computer.
Run application on the following computer:
Browse
Leam more about <u>setting these properties</u> .
OK Cancel Apply

• In the "Security" tab, check "Customize" and click "Edit". The Windows user account previously selected must have all execution and activation permissions, local access permissions, and all configuration permissions.

Microsoft Excel Application Properties ? ×
General Location Security Endpoints Identity
Launch and Activation Permissions
. <u>Use Default</u>
O Cu <u>s</u> tomize <u>E</u> dit
Access Permissions
● Use De <u>f</u> ault
O Customize Edit
Configuration Permissions
Customize Edit
Learn more about <u>setting these properties</u> .
OK Cancel Apply

validate dialog box

Interactive user

The use of the interactive user to launch Excel requires that he always has an active session on the server where Vigilens Web is installed (preferably that of the user associated to the "Vigilens Web" service in order to avoid possible access right problems) or on the workstation/server executing the scheduled requests (preferably that of the user associated to the scheduled task in order to avoid possible access right problems).

This is the operating mode recommended and supported by Microsoft.

How to proceed:

- Run the DCOM configuration tool.
 - "DCOMCNFG.EXE" if you have 32-bit MS Excel on a 32-bit MS Windows system or 64-bit MS Excel on a 64-bit MS Windows system.
 - in the case of 32-bit MS Excel on a 64-bit MS Windows system, run "MMC comexp.msc /32".

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 - Under "Component Services Computers Workstation DCOM Configuration" select the "Microsoft Excel Application" line.
 - In the "Action" menu, click "Property".
 - In the properties box, select the "Identity" tab.
 - Select "The interactive user".
 - Validate the properties box



Rights management

The execution of Excel by the interactive user in web or scheduled mode is done through a system user account. The Excel functionalities implemented for the creation or update of a file requires the use of the temporary directory (that of the system consequently). By default, this directory is set to "C:\windows\TEMP". It is, therefore, necessary that this directory be accessible in read and write mode to the user associated with the Vigilens Web service or the execution of the scheduled task.

To know the directory defined on your system, you need to access the environment variables.

	Environment Variables
lser variables for	r SRIVIER
Variable	Value
TEMP	%USERPROFILE%\AppData\Local\Temp
TMP	%USERPROFILE%\AppData\Local\Temp
vetem variables	New Edit Delete
ystem variables Variable	New Edit Delete
ystem variables Variable TEMP	New Edit Delete Value ^ C:\Windows\TEMP
ystem variables Variable TEMP TMP	New Edit Delete Value ^ C:\Windows\TEMP C:\Windows\TEMP
ystem variables Variable TEMP TMP TNS_ADMIN	New Edit Delete Value ^ C:\Windows\TEMP ^ C:\Windows\TEMP C:\OracleClient
ystem variables Variable TEMP TMP TNS_ADMIN USERNAME	New Edit Delete Value ^ C:\Windows\TEMP
Variable Variable TEMP TMP TNS_ADMIN USERNAME	New Edit Delete Value ^ C:\Windows\TEMP

Two alternatives are possible:

- Giving the rights to this directory to users profiles
- Modify the system variables TEMP and TMP so that they use a directory that is already accessible by users profiles.

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