
Manatee Installation Guide

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Contents

Installers	2
Machine-wide	2
Per-user	2
Hybrid	3
Staging environments	3
Primary group	3
Registry	3
Installing other versions	4

This document contains instructions on how to install the Manatee client.

Installers

The Driver Platform (Manatee) is distributed as a machine-wide installer (`.msi` file) or as a per-user installer (`.exe` file) as well as a hybrid of the two.

Machine-wide

The machine-wide installer should be used for rolling out Manatee in enterprise environments or in deployments where a normal desktop user does not have administrative rights. Using the machine-wide installer means that:

- The application will *not* self-update.
- All users for a given machine will get the application installed.
- The application will *not* automatically be started when the installer is done.

The installation process is straightforward, simply run the `.msi` file. It should not show any UI and will install shortcuts in the startmenu.

Per-user

The per-user installer should be used when individual users themselves are responsible for installing software on their own machine. It has the properties that:

- The application will automatically update when new versions are released.
- The application will only get installed for the one user running the installer.
- The installer will start the application when it has been installed.

The installation procedure is the same as for the machine-wide installer. Once the installer is done Manatee will be started.

Hybrid

The hybrid installer is an `.msi` file which is intended to be run either by each individual user or by an administrator. It will install the application for the each user *when the user next logs in on the machine* using the per-user installer. Its intended use is for situations where an `.msi` installation is the only viable option (enterprise environments) but the automatic updates are considered critical. e

Staging environments

If you need to stage Manatee installations e.g. some users needs access to a `test` environment others to `prod` then there are a couple of approaches.

Primary group

Each Manatee instance is configured with a *primary group* which determines the flows that are accessible for that given instance. By having e.g. a `PROD` and a `TEST` group and assigning these groups to different flows then you can have some Manatees (with primary group `PROD`) which only have access to *prod* flows and vice versa for `TEST` flows/Manatee instances.

This approach means that you'll be running the same version of Manatee but you'll have made different flows available to different users/machines.

The setting for the *primary group* has the key `ProductionGroup` which is slightly confusing, we admit.

Registry

Another approach is to run two registries and then point each Manatee instance to one or the other - e.g. one registry for *prod* and another for *test*. The *prod* Manatees then need to be configured to access the *prod* registry and likewise for *test*.

In this way you'll have a tighter separation of flows but you'll still have the same Manatee versions running on all machines.

The setting for the *registry url* is keyed with `Registry`.

Installing other versions

The last approach to staging is to use different installers for different environments. The installers can contain Manatee instances pre-configured with both *primary group* and *registry* but they may also contain different versions of Manatee.

This approach is useful for testing new versions of Manatees and also for keeping configuration changes to a minimum.