AccuSQL 2019 / AccuTrack 2019 Tech Tips:

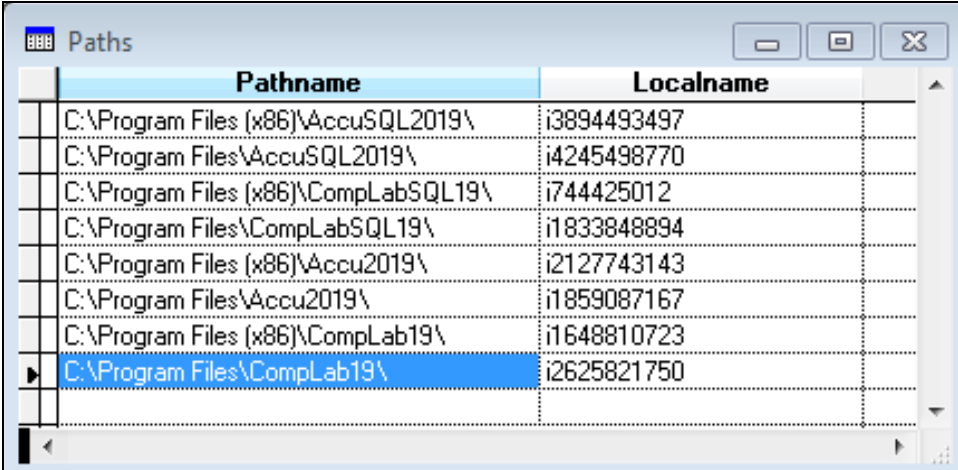## Creating a Silent install for AccuSQL or AccuTrack

In this tech tip, I will show you how you can create a completely silent installer for AccuSQL or AccuTrack 2019. This can also be used for the Computer Lab Plug-in software if necessary. This topic will include:

- How to silently install the AccuTrack/AccuSQL 2019 software to many clients.

- Optionally installing the SQL Server Native Connectivity Client.
  (only required by AccuSQL 2019 and SQL Computer Lab 2019)

- Pushing the folder out to clients that contain the database connection parameters.

This example will be using a BAT file and a VBS file to accomplish the above. If you are using PDQ Deploy, Silent Install Builder, or similar then you can accomplish the same goals using those utilities. We will not be covering those processes in this documentation because the process is probably easier.   I personally find it satisfying to accomplish this task using only files created in Notepad and not using more complex utilities. ☺

Creating the Initial ACCUTRACK folder

Before you can push out the installer, you will need a host PC that you use to connect either AccuSQL 2019, AccuTrack 2019, or the Computer Lab Plugin 2019 to the database you want to use. When you first open AccuSQL, AccuTrack, or the Computer Lab Plugin (just open it once and then press cancel if Computer Lab), you may notice that the software will copy some files the first time before it opens. That process creates a unique "iNumber" folder in the "C:\Users\Public\Documents\ACCUTRACK" public folder on the client. Why? There are a several reasons, but primarily we are generating a configuration file that stores the database connection parameters in an encrypted format. The "iNumber" folder number that is generated in "C:\Users\Public\Documents\ACCUTRACK" is based on the location where the AccuTrack/AccuSQL product itself was installed. Here is an example (numbers will be different so you need to check that location/path for the correct folder "iNumber"):


So for example, if you install AccuSQL 2019 on a 64-bit PC, the "INumber" will always be "i1150553653". With that knowledge, we can use a PC that already has the AccuSQL 2019 product installed and then copy the ACCUTRACK folder configuration files to push to other clients that will be installing the software in the same installation path.

Note: *"C:\Program Files (x86)\" denotes a 64-bit PC and "C:\Program Files\" denotes a 32-bit PC.*

Setting the Database Connection Parameters

On a host PC (not one you will ultimately be pushing the installer to), install either AccuSQL 2019, AccuTrack 2019, or the Computer Lab Plugin 2019 (based on license purchased). After the installation completes, run the program from the Desktop shortcut and after it opens, you can immediately exit AccuSQL 2019, or AccuTrack 2019, or in the case of the Computer Lab Plugin, just press Cancel when is pops open a screen asking for its database location. Simply by completing that step the application will create the ACCUTRACK folder with the necessary files and folders under it in "C:\Users\Public\Documents" file location.
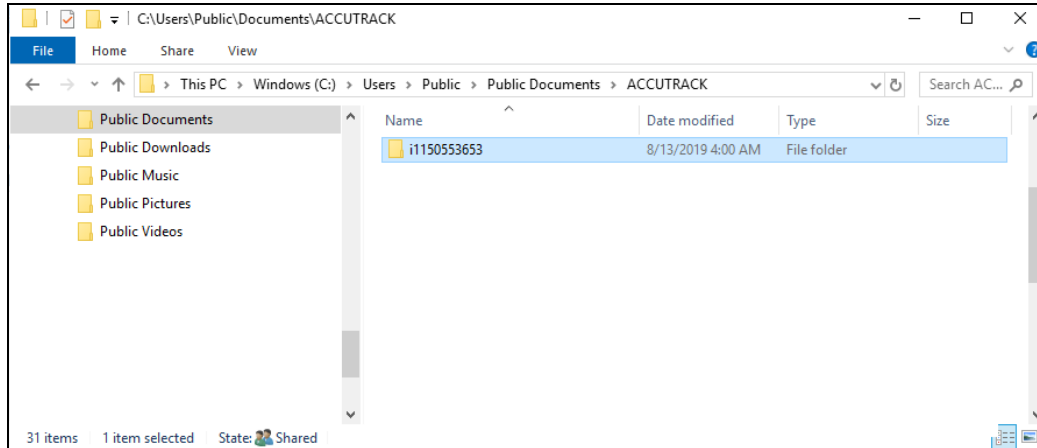
Now that the ACCUTRACK folder is created in Public, go to the installation directory where AccuSQL 2019, AccuTrack 2019, or the Computer Lab Plugin 2019 is installed and look for a program called "setdatapath.exe" to run that program. This application/utility is used to set the database connection parameters.

Using AccuSQL 2019 or the Computer Lab Plugin 2019 for AccuSQL, it would be something like this (your parameters would be different of course):

Set your parameters, test your connection to make sure all is happy and then **Save** and **X** out of setdatapath.exe utility.

Using AccuTrack 2019, or the Computer Lab Plugin 2019 for AccuTrack, it would be something like this (your parameters would be different of course):

Set your **Data Path** and **Save**. Now **X** out of setdatapath.exe utility.

Copying the ACCUTRACK Folder to your Push Server

Now that the database location is set, go out to your "C:\Users\Public\Documents" folder and then copy the ACCUTRACK folder. You will want to copy it on a server where you can then send it out to your clients. In the following example, the database location was set using AccuSQL 2019 and AccuSQL 2019 was installed in the *"C:\Program Files (x86)\AccuSQL2019"* folder. The ACCUTRACK folder was then copied to a server in a shared folder called *"\\ENGSERVER\4All\\push_files\AccuSQL2019"*:
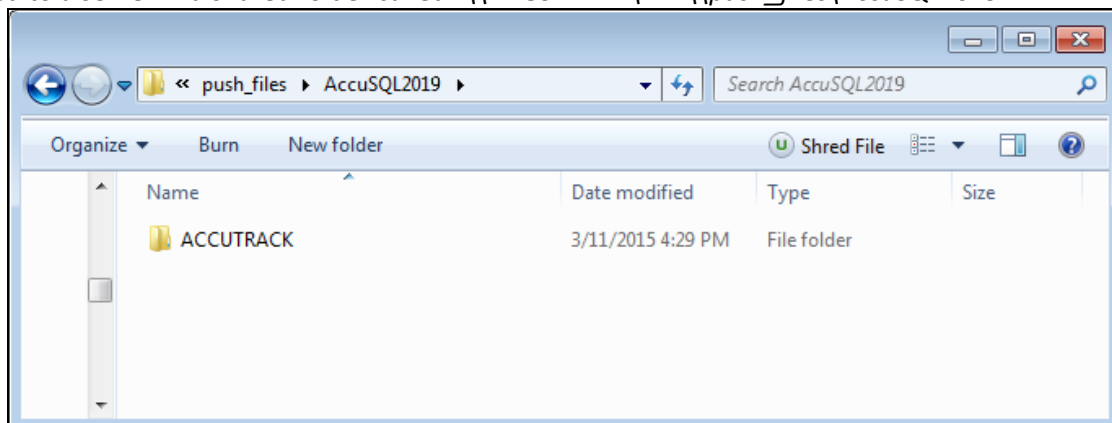
Also in the push_files folder I have copied the SQL Native Connectivity Client MSI for both 32-bit and 64-bit PCs. We will get to that in a moment.

Creating a Silent.bat File

In the same folder where the setup.exe resides for the software installer (in this example, AccuSQL 2019), I have created a bat file called silent.BAT that will do the work for me, as follows:

```
@echo off
:: check for SQL native driver Set
RegQry=HKLM\Hardware\Description\System\CentralProcessor\0
REG.exe Query %RegQry% > checkOS.txt
Find /i "x86" < CheckOS.txt > StringCheck.txt
If %ERRORLEVEL% == 0 (
        :: 32-bit
        del checkOS.txt
        del StringCheck.txt
:: could add a call from a text file or use an array for multi pc installs here.
        \\engserver\4all\push_files\sqlncli.msi /qn
) ELSE (
        :: 64-bit
        del checkOS.txt
        del StringCheck.txt
:: could add a call from a text file or array for multi pc installs here.
        \\engserver\4all\push_files\sqlncli_x64.msi /qn
)

:: install AccuSQL 2019 setup.exe /s /d /v/qn
:: copy push files to public :: could add a call from a text file or use an array for multi pc installs here.
XCOPY /s /e \\engserver\4All\push_files\AccuSQL2015\ACCUTRACK
C:\Users\Public\Documents\ACCUTRACK\
exit
```

The :: check for SQL native driver section is checking to see if the target PC is either 32-bit or 64-bit and based on that it will determine which MSI to install for the SQL Native Connectivity Client from the \\engserver\4all\push_files\ folder in this case. You can copy those MSI files from the folder where the Accu2019 software is installed (only applies to SQL versions) under the SQL_drivers folder. If you are using this script for AccuTrack, you can comment out this part of the code completely.

Note: If you get a message that the MSI install is not verified when the bat script runs, you will need to add the server to the Local intranet zone:
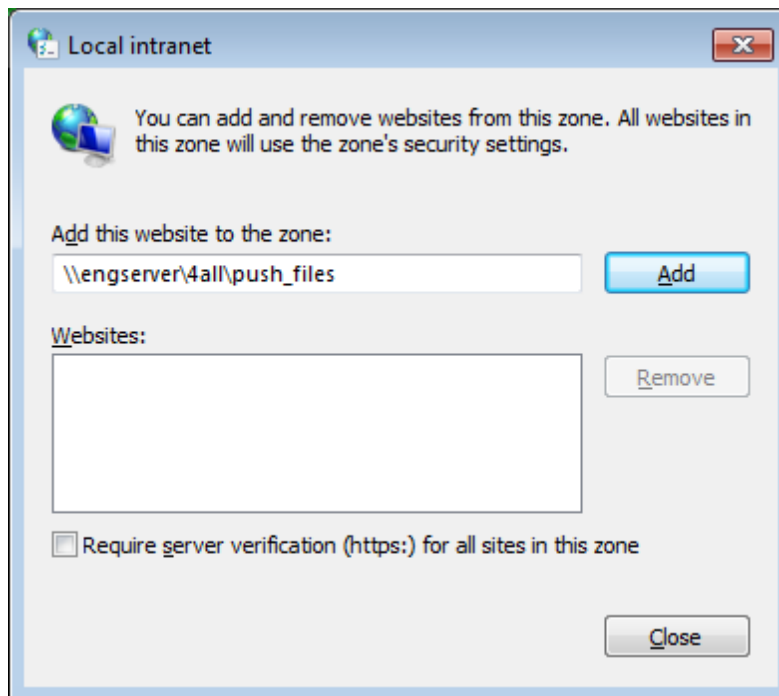
When you add it, it will change the look of the link, which is fine:
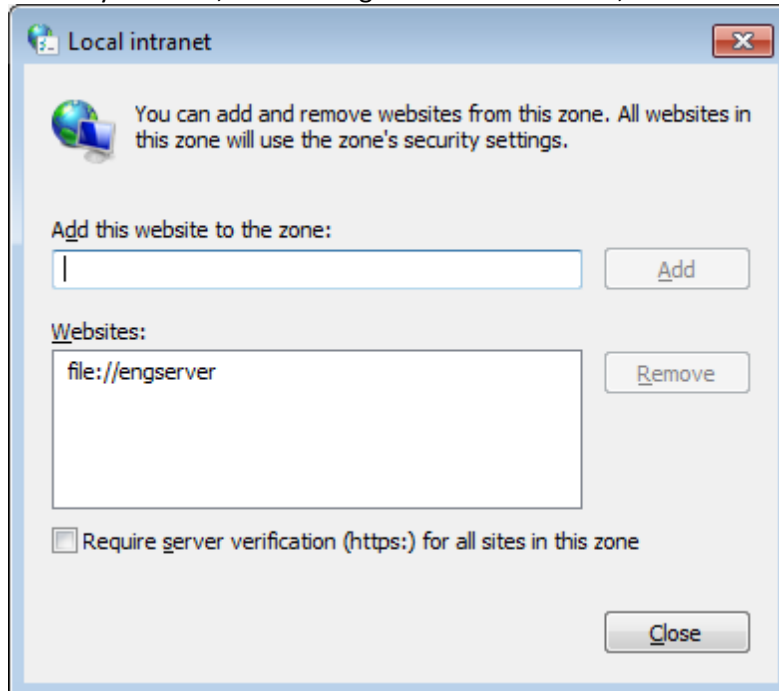
The :: install AccuSQL 2019 section is installing the Accu2019 software itself (AccuSQL 2019 in this case). The switches are as follows:

/s silent install
/d administrative install
/v pass variable for /qn   no UI

The :: copy push files to public section is using XCOPY to copy the ACCUTRACK folder and sub folder and files to the target PCs C:\Users\Public\Documents folder. The switches are as follows:

/a copies file with the archive attribute set
/e copies any subfolder, even if it is empty

Making the Install Even More Silent

While the above bat file has no prompts when it runs, it is fairly unobtrusive however it will still show a command prompt window when it is running. If you want to make the whole process completely invisible, you can create a VBS file that will call the bat file in a hidden shell. Here is sample code for how that is accomplished:

```
Set WshShell = CreateObject("WScript.Shell")
WshShell.Run Chr(34) & "silent.bat" & Chr(34), 0
Set WshShell = Nothing
```

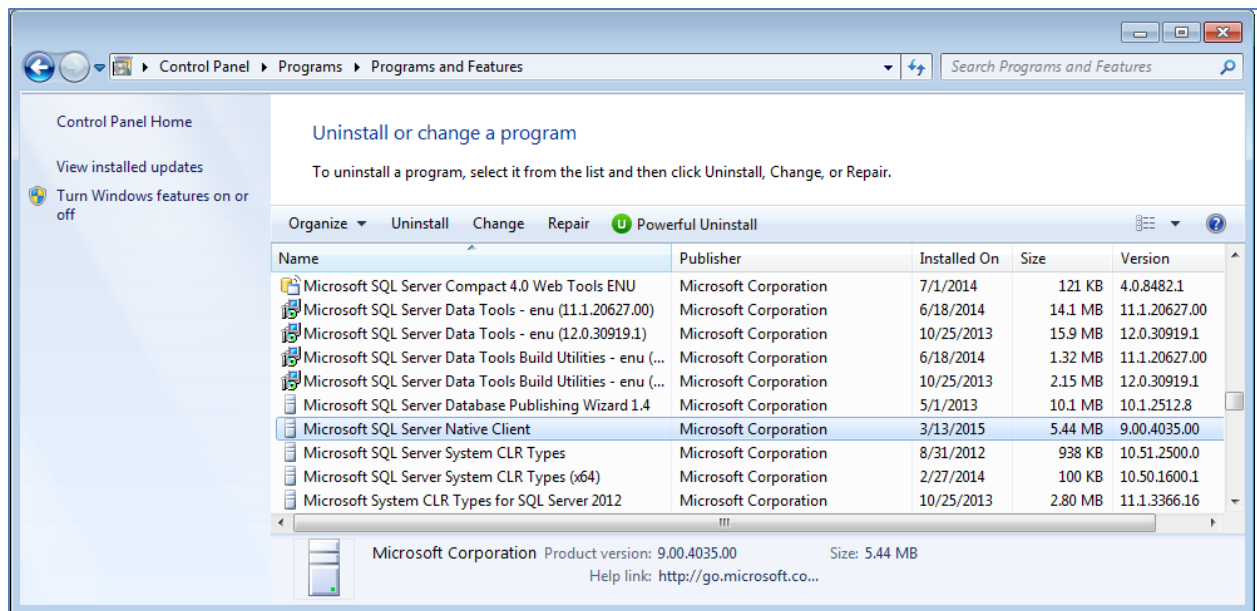You can just paste this notepad and name it silent.vbs

Putting it All Together

Now on a PC with neither the SQL Server native client driver installed nor AccuSQL installed, I will run silent.vbs. Since the process is completely invisible, I can watch the C:\Users\Public\Documents folder on the client to monitor progress.

Folder created:
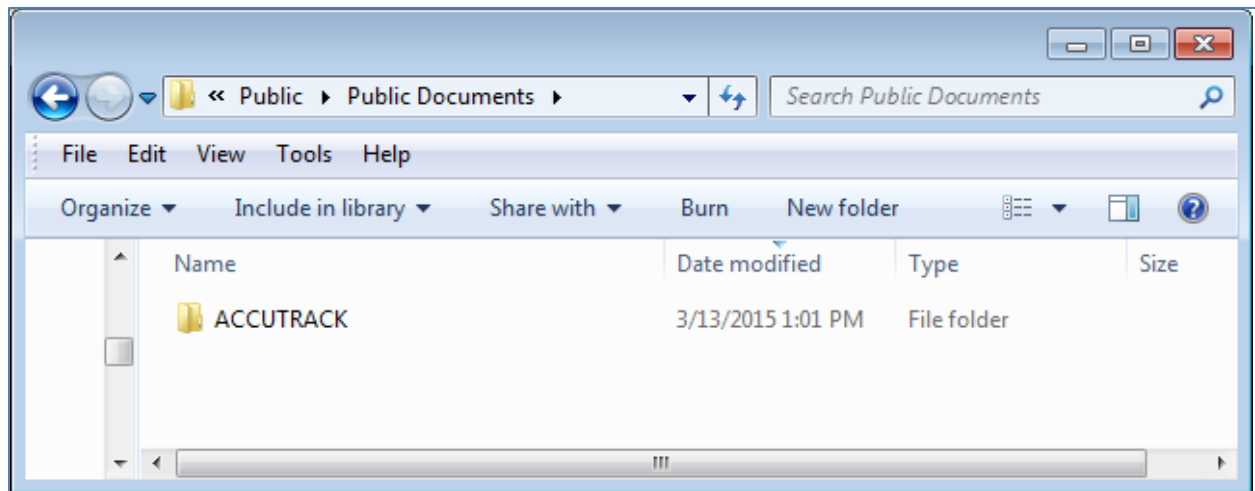
SQL Native driver installed:

Now I will click the shortcut to AccuSQL 2019 from the Desktop and it opens to the SQL server database I want automatically: