



SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1

Installation and Upgrade Guide

Chapter 1. Preface

Installation, Deployment and Upgrade
SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1

This guide provides comprehensive, step-by-step instructions for deploying, upgrading, and managing SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server and Proxy.

It is organized into the following sections:

- **Requirements:** Outlines the essential hardware, software, and networking prerequisites to ensure a smooth setup.
- **Deployment and Installation:** Guides you through deploying SUSE Multi-Linux Manager as a container and completing the initial configuration.
- **Upgrade and Migration:** Details the process for upgrading and migrating SUSE Multi-Linux Manager while minimizing downtime.
- **Basic Server Management:** Covers fundamental server operations, helping you get started with SUSE Multi-Linux Manager efficiently.

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Chapter 2. Requirements

2.1. General Requirements

Before you begin installation, ensure that you have:

1. A SUSE Customer Center account. This account gives you access to organization credentials and registration keys for SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server, Proxy and Retail Branch Server.
2. Supported Browsers for SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Web UI.
3. SSL certificates for your environment. By default SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 uses a self-signed certificate.



The SL Micro 6.1 entitlement is included within the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager entitlement, so it does not require a separate registration key.

The following section contains more information on these requirements.

2.1.1. SUSE Customer Center Account and Credentials

Create an account with SUSE Customer Center prior to deployment of SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1.

Procedure: Obtain Your Organization Credentials

1. Navigate to <https://scc.suse.com/login> in your web browser.
2. Log in to your SCC account, or follow the prompts to create a new account.
3. If you have not yet done so, click **[Connect to an Organization]** and type or search for your organization.
4. Click **[Manage my Organizations]** and select your organization from the list by clicking the organization name.
5. Click the **[Users]** tab, and then select the **[Organization Credentials]** sub-tab.
6. Record your login information for use during SUSE Multi-Linux Manager setup.

Depending on your organization's setup, you might also need to activate your subscription, using the **[Activate Subscriptions]** menu from the left navigation bar.

For more information about using SCC, see <https://scc.suse.com/docs/help>.

2.1.2. Supported Browsers for SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Web UI

To use the Web UI to manage your SUSE Multi-Linux Manager environment, you must run an up to date web browser.

SUSE Multi-Linux Manager is supported on:

- Latest Firefox browser shipped with SUSE Linux Enterprise Server
- Latest Chrome browser on all operating systems
- Latest Edge browser shipped with Windows

Windows Internet Explorer is not supported. The SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Web UI will not render correctly under Windows Internet Explorer.

2.1.3. SSL Certificates

SUSE Multi-Linux Manager uses SSL certificates to ensure that clients are registered to the correct server. By default, SUSE Multi-Linux Manager uses a self-signed certificate. If you have certificates signed by a third-party CA, you can import them to your SUSE Multi-Linux Manager installation.

- For more on self-signed certificates, see **Administration › Ssl-certs-selfsigned**.
- For more on imported certificates, see **Administration › Ssl-certs-imported**.

2.2. Hardware Requirements

This table outlines hardware and software requirements for the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server and Proxy, on x86-64, ARM, ppc64le and s390x architecture.



SUSE Multi-Linux Manager installations based on ppc64le or s390x architecture cannot use secure boot for network booting clients. This limitation exists because the shim bootloader is not available for both these architectures.

For SUSE Multi-Linux Manager for Retail hardware requirements, see **Retail › Retail-requirements**.

2.2.1. Server Requirements

One of SL Micro 6.1 or SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7 is the operating system of the container host.

In the following, SUSE Linux Enterprise Server as the installed host operating system is explicitly mentioned only if it matters. Otherwise we either write SL Micro or just host operating system.

The container host with SL Micro as operating system requires as free disk space:

- Minimum for base installation 100 GB
- Plus a minimum of 130 GB for repository data

Depending on the amount of selected software, SUSE Linux Enterprise Server as operating system can require considerably more disk space.

By default the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server container stores mirrored repository (packages or products), database, and other data in subdirectories of the `/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes/` directory. Repository synchronization fails if this directory runs out of disk space. Estimate how much space the `/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes/` directory requires based on the number and kind of clients and repositories you plan to mirror.

For more information about filesystem and partitioning details, see [installation-and-upgrade:hardware-requirements.pdf](#) and the detailed installation instructions in the Installation and Deployment sections of this guide.

Table 1. Server Hardware Requirements

Hardware	Details	Recommendation
CPU	x86-64, ARM, ppc64le or s390x	Minimum 4 dedicated 64-bit CPU cores
RAM	Minimum	16 GB
	Recommended	32 GB
Disk Space	/ (root directory)	40 GB
	<code>/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes</code>	Minimum 150 GB (depending on the number of products)
	<code>/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes/var-pgsql</code>	Minimum 50 GB
Swap space	Systems can benefit from additional swap space. SUSE recommends using a swap file instead of a swap partition. For more information about swap space, see installation-and-upgrade:hardware-requirements.pdf .	8 to 12 GB

The images by default have a 40 GB / partition. The cloud image of SL Micro 6.1 has just a 5 GB / partition. Both work flawlessly with SUSE Multi-Linux Manager. As long as external storage is mounted to `/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes`, SUSE Multi-Linux Manager does not need or use storage on the / partition, but leaves that to the management of the container host itself.



SUSE Multi-Linux Manager performance depends on hardware resources, network bandwidth, latency between clients and server, etc.

Based on the experience and different deployments that are in use, the advice for optimal

performance of SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server with an adequate number of proxies is to not exceed 10,000 clients per single server. It is highly recommended to move to the Hub setup and involve consultancy when you have more than 10,000 clients. Even with fine-tuning and an adequate number of proxies, such a large number of clients can lead to performance issues.

For more information about managing a large number of clients, see [Specialized-guides › Large-deployments](#).

2.2.2. Proxy Requirements

One of SL Micro 6.1 or SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7 is the operating system of the container host.



Minimum requirements are suitable for a quick test installation, such as a Proxy with one client. If you want to use a production environment start with recommended values.

Table 2. Proxy Hardware Requirements

Hardware	Details	Recommendation
CPU	x86-64, ARM	Minimum 2 dedicated 64-bit CPU cores
	Recommended	The same as minimum values
RAM	Minimum	2 GB
	Recommended	8 GB
Disk Space	/ (root directory)	Minimum 40 GB
	/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes	Minimum 100 GB
Swap space	Systems can benefit from additional swap space. SUSE recommends using a swap file instead of a swap partition. For more information about swap space, see installation-and-upgrade:hardware-requirements.pdf .	4 to 8 GB

By default the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy container caches packages in the `/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes/uyuni-proxy-squid-cache/` directory. If there is not enough space available, the proxy will remove old, unused packages and replace them with newer packages.

As a result of this behavior:

- The larger `/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes/uyuni-proxy-squid-cache/` directory is on the proxy, the less traffic will be between the proxy and the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server.
- By making the `/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes/uyuni-proxy-squid-cache/` directory on the proxy the same size as `/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes/var-spacewalk/` on the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server, you avoid a large amount of traffic after the first synchronization.
- The `/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes/uyuni-proxy-squid-cache/` directory can be small on the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server compared to the proxy. For a guide to size estimation, see the [Server Requirements](#) section.



In general, SUSE recommends to adjust the value for the cache directory to about 80 % of available free space. The `cache_dir` value is set when generating proxy configuration on the server. You cannot set the option directly in `squid.conf`.

2.2.3. Swap space

Workloads differ from system to system. Systems with heavy or unpredictable workloads can benefit from additional swap space, regardless of total RAM. It is recommended to place swap on the fastest available storage (for example, SSD). SUSE recommends using a swap file instead of a swap partition.

For size recommendations, see the tables above.

The following shell command snippet creates a 8GiB swap file.



A swap file on Btrfs filesystem prevent creating of a snapshot of that volume. `/var` in the following example is already excluded from the snapper snapshots, so it is safe to use `/var/swap`.

```
## setup swapfile at /var/swap
# run following as a root user

# allocate 8GiB for swap file
fallocate -l 8G /var/swap
# ensure CoW is disabled for the swap file
chattr +C /var/swap
# allow only root access
chmod 600 /var/swap
# make swap file based on allocated file
mkswap /var/swap
# activate swap use for the running system
swapon /var/swap
# activate swap during the next boots
echo "/var/swap swap swap defaults 0 0" >> /etc/fstab
```

2.2.4. Database Requirement

PostgreSQL is the only supported database. Using a remote PostgreSQL database or remote file systems (such

as NFS) with the PostgreSQL database is not supported. In other words, PostgreSQL should be on the fastest available storage device for SUSE Multi-Linux Manager.



Because of potential performance issues, running a PostgreSQL database remotely from SUSE Multi-Linux Manager is discouraged. While such an environment is possible and even stable in many cases, there is always a risk of data loss if something goes wrong.

SUSE might not be able to provide assistance in such cases.

2.2.5. Persistent Storage and Permissions

Persistent volumes are created by default when deploying the container.

However, it is recommended that the volumes are stored on one or more separate storage devices. Such a setup helps avoid data loss in production environments. This can be done after container deployment.

Storage devices best should be set up after first deploying the container. For more details, see **Installation-and-upgrade › Container-management**.

We recommend you use XFS as the filesystem type for all volumes. The size of the disk for repositories storage is dependent on the number of distributions and channels you intend to manage with SUSE Multi-Linux Manager. See the tables in this section for guides to estimate the size required.



Do not use NFS for Cobbler or PostgreSQL storage, neither NFS on SELinux environments. These scenarios are not supported.

On the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server, use this command to find all available storage devices:

```
hwinfo --disk | grep -E "Device File:"
```

Use the `lsblk` command to see the name and size of each device.

Use the `mgr-storage-server` command with the device names to set up the external disks as the locations for the storage and, optionally on a disk of its own, for the database:

```
mgr-storage-server <storage-disk-device> [<database-disk-device>]
```

For example:

```
mgr-storage-server /dev/nvme1n1 /dev/nvme2n1
```

The external storage volumes are set up as XFS partitions mounted at `/manager_storage` and `/pgsql_storage`.



This command will create the persistent storage volumes at `/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes`.

For more information, see **Installation-and-upgrade › Container-management**.

It is possible to use the same storage device for both channel data and the database. This is not recommended, as growing channel repositories might fill up the storage, which poses a risk to database integrity. Using separate storage devices may also increase performance. If you want to use a single storage device, run `mgr-storage-server` with a single device name parameter.

If you are installing a proxy, the `mgr-storage-proxy` command takes only one device name parameter and will set up the external storage location as the Squid cache.

2.2.6. Logical Volume Management (LVM)

For all kind of virtual machines (VM), LVM is generally not needed and not recommended. The disk setup is virtual and separate disks for volumes are possible and recommended.

For other deployments, separate disks for volumes are also recommended.

On the container host of the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server, the `mgr-storage-server` command moves the complete content of the `/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes` directory to a separate disk and remounts it to `/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes`.

Optionally, if a second device name is specified, `mgr-storage-server` moves the content of the `/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes/var-pgsql` database directory to a second separate disk and remounts it to `/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes/var-pgsql`.

Similarly, on the container host of the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy, the `mgr-storage-proxy` command moves the complete content of the `/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes` directory to a separate disk and remounts it to `/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes`.

2.3. Network Requirements

This section details the networking and port requirements for SUSE Multi-Linux Manager.



IP forwarding will be enabled by containerized installation. This means SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server and Proxies will behave as a router. This behavior is done by podman directly. Podman containers do not run if IP forwarding is disabled.

Consider achieving network isolation of the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager environment according to your policies.

For more information, see <https://www.suse.com/support/kb/doc/?id=000020166>.

2.3.1. Fully Qualified Domain Name (FQDN)

The SUSE Multi-Linux Manager server must resolve its FQDN correctly. If the FQDN cannot be resolved, it can cause serious problems in a number of different components.

For more information about configuring the hostname and DNS, see <https://documentation.suse.com/sles/15-SP6/html/SLES-all/cha-network.html#sec-network-yast-change-host>.

2.3.2. Hostname and IP Address

To ensure that the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager domain name can be resolved by its clients, both server and client machines must be connected to a working DNS server. You also need to ensure that reverse lookups are correctly configured.

For more information about setting up a DNS server, see <https://documentation.suse.com/sles/15-SP6/html/SLES-all/cha-dns.html>.

2.3.3. Reenable router advertisements

When the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager is installed using `mgradm install podman` or `mgrpky install podman`, it sets up Podman which enables IPv4 and IPv6 forwarding. This is needed for communication from the outside of the container.

However, if your system previously had `/proc/sys/net/ipv6/conf/eth0/accept_ra` set to `1`, it will stop using router advertisements. As a result, the routes are no longer obtained via router advertisements and the default IPv6 route is missing.

To recover correct functioning of the IPv6 routing, follow the procedure:

Procedure: Reenabling router advertisements

1. Create a file in `/etc/sysctl.d`, for example `99-ipv6-ras.conf`.
2. Add the following parameter and value to the file:

```
net.ipv6.conf.eth0.accept_ra = 2
```

3. Reboot.

2.3.4. Deployment behind HTTP or HTTPS OSI level 7 proxy

Some environments enforce internet access through a HTTP or HTTPS proxy. This could be a Squid server or similar. To allow the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server internet access in such configuration, you need to configure the following.

Procedure: Configuring HTTP or HTTPS OSI level 7 proxy

1. For operating system internet access, modify `/etc/sysconfig/proxy` according to your needs:

```
PROXY_ENABLED="no"
HTTP_PROXY=""
HTTPS_PROXY=""
NO_PROXY="localhost, 127.0.0.1"
```

2. For Podman container internet access, modify `/etc/systemd/system/uyuni-server.service.d/custom.conf` according to your needs. For example, set:

```
[Service]
Environment=TZ=Europe/Berlin
Environment="PODMAN_EXTRA_ARGS="
Environment="https_proxy=user:password@http://192.168.10.1:3128"
```

3. For Java application internet access, modify `/etc/rhn/rhn.conf` according to your needs. On the container host, execute `mgrctl` term to open a command line inside the server container:

- a. Modify `/etc/rhn/rhn.conf` according to your needs. For example, set:

```
# Use proxy FQDN, or FQDN:port
server.satellite.http_proxy =
server.satellite.http_proxy_username =
server.satellite.http_proxy_password =
# no_proxy is a comma seperated list
server.satellite.no_proxy =
```

4. On the container host, restart the server to enforce the new configuration:

```
systemctl restart uyuni-server.service
```

2.3.5. Air-gapped Deployment

If you are on an internal network and do not have access to SUSE Customer Center, you can use an **Installation-and-upgrade › Container-deployment**.

In a production environment, the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server and clients should always use a firewall. For a comprehensive list of the required ports, see [installation-and-upgrade:network-requirements.pdf](#).

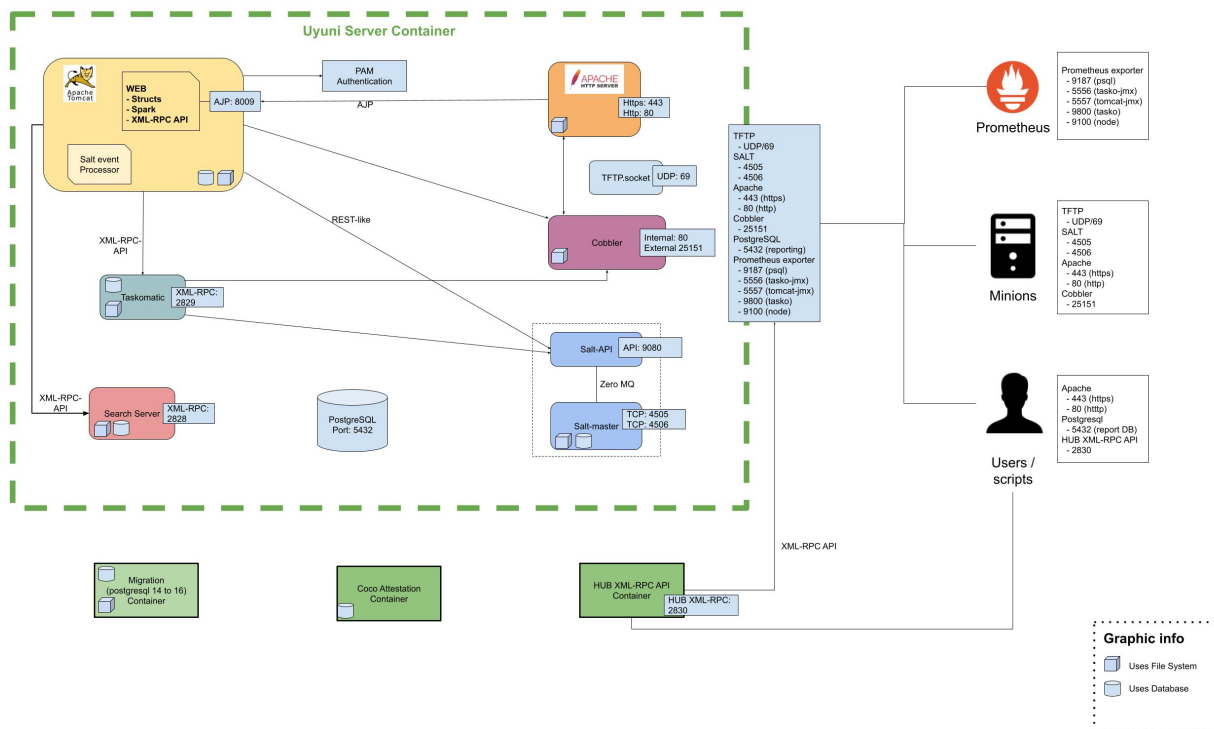
2.3.6. Required Network Ports

This section contains a comprehensive list of ports that are used for various communications within SUSE Multi-Linux Manager.

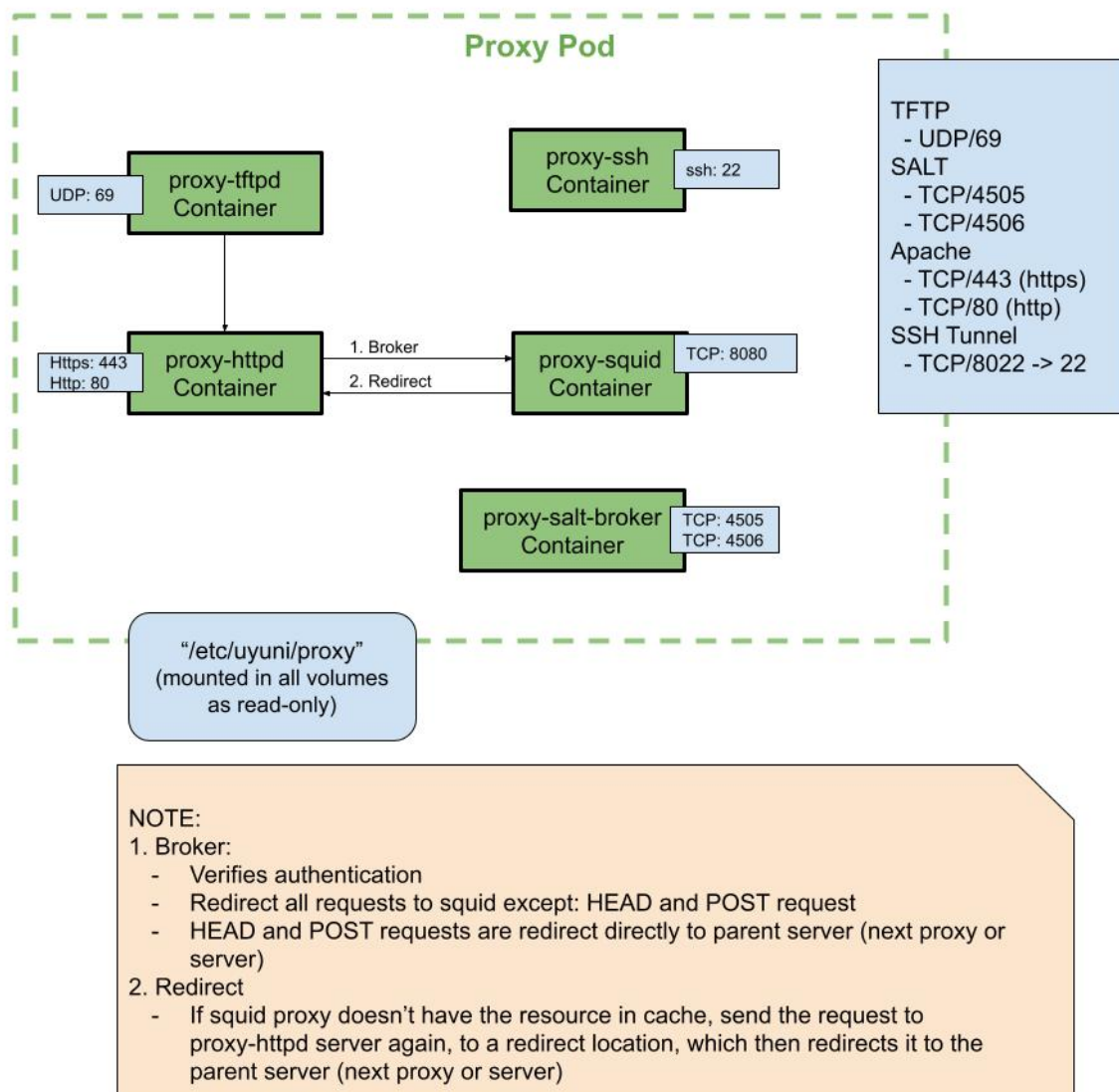
You will not need to open all of these ports. Some ports only need to be opened if you are using the service that requires them.

2.3.6.1. Overview

2.3.6.1.1. Server



2.3.6.1.2. Proxy



2.3.6.2. External Inbound Server Ports

External inbound ports must be opened to configure a firewall on the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server to protect the server from unauthorized access.

Opening these ports allows external network traffic to access the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server.

Table 3. External Port Requirements for SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server

Port number	Protocol	Used By	Notes
67	TCP/UDP	DHCP	Required only if clients are requesting IP addresses from the server.

Port number	Protocol	Used By	Notes
69	TCP/UDP	TFTP	Required if server is used as a PXE server for automated client installation.
80	TCP	HTTP	Required temporarily for some bootstrap repositories and automated installations.
443	TCP	HTTPS	Serves the Web UI, client, and server and proxy (tftpsync) requests.
4505	TCP	salt	Required to accept communication requests from clients. The client initiates the connection, and it stays open to receive commands from the Salt master.
4506	TCP	salt	Required to accept communication requests from clients. The client initiates the connection, and it stays open to report results back to the Salt master.
5432	TCP	PostgreSQL	Required to access the reporting database.
5556	TCP	Prometheus	Required for scraping Taskomatic JMX metrics.
5557	TCP	Prometheus	Required for scraping Tomcat JMX metrics.
9100	TCP	Prometheus	Required for scraping Node exporter metrics.
9187	TCP	Prometheus	Required for scraping PostgreSQL metrics.
9800	TCP	Prometheus	Required for scraping Taskomatic metrics.
25151	TCP	Cobbler	

2.3.6.3. External Outbound Server Ports

External outbound ports must be opened to configure a firewall on the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server to restrict what the server can access.

Opening these ports allows network traffic from the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server to communicate with external services.

Table 4. External Port Requirements for SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server

Port number	Protocol	Used By	Notes
80	TCP	HTTP	Required for SUSE Customer Center. Port 80 is not used to serve the Web UI.

Port number	Protocol	Used By	Notes
443	TCP	HTTPS	Required for SUSE Customer Center.
25151	TCP	Cobbler	

2.3.6.4. Internal Server Ports

Internal ports are used internally by the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server. Internal ports are only accessible from localhost.

In most cases, you will not need to adjust these ports.

Table 5. Internal Port Requirements for SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server

Port number	Notes
2828	Satellite-search API, used by the RHN application in Tomcat and Taskomatic.
2829	Taskomatic API, used by the RHN application in Tomcat.
8005	Tomcat shutdown port.
8009	Tomcat to Apache HTTPD (AJP).
8080	Tomcat to Apache HTTPD (HTTP).
9080	Salt-API, used by the RHN application in Tomcat and Taskomatic.
25151	Cobbler's XMLRPC API
32000	Port for a TCP connection to the Java Virtual Machine (JVM) that runs Taskomatic and satellite-search.

Port 32768 and higher are used as ephemeral ports. These are most often used to receive TCP connections. When a TCP connection request is received, the sender will choose one of these ephemeral port numbers to match the destination port.

You can use this command to find out which ports are ephemeral ports:

```
cat /proc/sys/net/ipv4/ip_local_port_range
```

2.3.6.5. External Inbound Proxy Ports

External inbound ports must be opened to configure a firewall on the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy to protect the proxy from unauthorized access.

Opening these ports allows external network traffic to access the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager proxy.

Table 6. External Port Requirements for SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy

Port number	Protocol	Used By	Notes
22			Only required if the user wants to manage the proxy host with Salt SSH.
67	TCP/UDP	DHCP	Required only if clients are requesting IP addresses from the server.
69	TCP/UDP	TFTP	Required if the server is used as a PXE server for automated client installation.
443	TCP	HTTPS	Web UI, client, and server and proxy (tftpsync) requests.
4505	TCP	salt	Required to accept communication requests from clients. The client initiates the connection, and it stays open to receive commands from the Salt master.
4506	TCP	salt	Required to accept communication requests from clients. The client initiates the connection, and it stays open to report results back to the Salt master.
8022			Required for ssh-push and ssh-push-tunnel contact methods. Clients connected to the proxy initiate check in on the server and hop through to clients.

2.3.6.6. External Outbound Proxy Ports

External outbound ports must be opened to configure a firewall on the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy to restrict what the proxy can access.

Opening these ports allows network traffic from the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy to communicate with external services.

Table 7. External Port Requirements for SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy

Port number	Protocol	Used By	Notes
80			Used to reach the server.
443	TCP	HTTPS	Required for SUSE Customer Center.

Port number	Protocol	Used By	Notes
4505	TCP	Salt	Required to connect to Salt master either directly or via proxy.
4506	TCP	Salt	Required to connect to Salt master either directly or via proxy.

2.3.6.7. External Client Ports

External client ports must be opened to configure a firewall between the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server and its clients.

In most cases, you will not need to adjust these ports.

Table 8. External Port Requirements for SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Clients

Port number	Direction	Protocol	Notes
22	Inbound	SSH	Required for ssh-push and ssh-push-tunnel contact methods.
80	Outbound		Used to reach the server or proxy.
443	Outbound		Used to reach the server or proxy.
4505	Outbound	TCP	Required to connect to Salt master either directly or via proxy.
4506	Outbound	TCP	Required to connect to Salt master either directly or via proxy.
9090	Outbound	TCP	Required for Prometheus user interface.
9093	Outbound	TCP	Required for Prometheus alert manager.
9100	Outbound	TCP	Required for Prometheus node exporter.
9117	Outbound	TCP	Required for Prometheus Apache exporter.
9187	Outbound	TCP	Required for Prometheus PostgreSQL.

2.3.6.8. Required URLs

There are some URLs that SUSE Multi-Linux Manager must be able to access to register clients and perform updates. In most cases, allowing access to these URLs is sufficient:

- scc.suse.com
- updates.suse.com
- installer-updates.suse.com
- registry.suse.com
- registry-storage.suse.com
- opensuse.org

Additionally, you may need access to these URLs for non-SUSE products:

- download.nvidia.com
- public.dhe.ibm.com
- nu.novell.com

You can find additional details on whitelisting the specified URLs and their associated IP addresses in this article: [Accessing SUSE Customer Center and SUSE registry behind a firewall and/or through a proxy](#).

If you are using non-SUSE clients you might also need to allow access to other servers that provide specific packages for those operating systems. For example, if you have Ubuntu clients, you will need to be able to access the Ubuntu server.

For more information about troubleshooting firewall access for non-SUSE clients, see **Administration › Troubleshooting**.

2.4. Public Cloud Requirements

This section provides the requirements for installing SUSE Multi-Linux Manager on public cloud infrastructure. We have tested these instructions on Amazon EC2, Google Compute Engine, and Microsoft Azure, but they should work on other providers as well, with some variation.

Before you begin, here are some considerations:

- The SUSE Multi-Linux Manager setup procedure performs a forward-confirmed reverse DNS lookup. This must succeed in order for the setup procedure to complete and for SUSE Multi-Linux Manager to operate as expected. It is important to perform hostname and IP configuration before you set up SUSE Multi-Linux Manager.
- SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server and Proxy instances need to run in a network configuration that provides you control over DNS entries, but cannot be accessed from the internet at large.
- Within this network configuration DNS resolution must be provided: `hostname -f` must return the fully qualified domain name (FQDN).

- DNS resolution is also important for connecting clients.
- DNS is dependent on the cloud framework you choose. Refer to the cloud provider documentation for detailed instructions.
- We recommend that you locate software repositories, the server database, and the proxy squid cache on an external virtual disk. This prevents data loss if the instance is unexpectedly terminated. This section includes instructions for setting up an external virtual disk.

2.4.1. Network Requirements

When you use SUSE Multi-Linux Manager on a public cloud, you must use a restricted network. We recommend using a VPC private subnet with an appropriate firewall setting. Only machines in your specified IP ranges must be able to access the instance.



Running SUSE Multi-Linux Manager on the public cloud means implementing robust security measures. It is essential to limit, filter, monitor, and audit access to the instance. SUSE strongly advises against a globally accessible SUSE Multi-Linux Manager instance that lacks adequate perimeter security.

To access the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Web UI, allow HTTPS when configuring the network access controls. This allows you to access the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Web UI.

In EC2 and Azure, create a new security group, and add inbound and outbound rules for HTTPS. In GCE, check the Allow HTTPS traffic box under the Firewall section.

2.4.2. Prepare Storage Volumes

We recommend that the repositories and the database for SUSE Multi-Linux Manager are stored on separate storage devices from the root volume. This will help to avoid data loss and possibly increase performance.

The SUSE Multi-Linux Manager container utilizes default storage locations. These locations should be configured prior to deployment for custom storage. For more information see **Installation-and-upgrade › Container-management**



Do not use logical volume management (LVM) for public cloud installations.

The size of the disk for repositories storage is dependent on the number of distributions and channels you intend to manage with SUSE Multi-Linux Manager. When you attach the virtual disks, they will appear in your instance as Unix device nodes. The names of the device nodes will vary depending on your provider, and the instance type selected.

Ensure the root volume of the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server is 100 GB or larger. Add an additional storage disk of 500 GB or more, and choose SSD storage if you can. The cloud images for SUSE Multi-Linux Manager

Server use a script to assign this separate volume when your instance is launched.

When you launch your instance, you can log in to the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server and use this command to find all available storage devices:

```
hwinfo --disk | grep -E "Device File:"
```

If you are not sure which device to choose, use the `lsblk` command to see the name and size of each device. Choose the name that matches with the size of the virtual disk you are looking for.

You can set up the external disk with the `mgr-storage-server` command. This creates an XFS partition mounted at `/manager_storage` and uses it as the location for the database and repositories:

```
/usr/bin/mgr-storage-server <devicename>
```

For more information about setting up storage volumes and partitions, including recommended minimum sizes, see **Installation-and-upgrade › Hardware-requirements**.

Chapter 3. Installation and Deployment

3.1. Install SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server

There are various scenarios to deploy a SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server.

3.1.1. SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Server Deployment

This guide shows you how to install and configure a SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 container on SL Micro 6.1 or SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7.

3.1.1.1. Hardware Requirements for SUSE Multi-Linux Manager

This table shows the software and hardware requirements for deploying SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server on your bare metal machine. For the purposes of this guide your machine should have 16 GB of RAM, and at least 200 GB of disk space. For background information about disk space, see **Installation-and-upgrade › Hardware-requirements**.

Table 9. Software and Hardware Requirements

Software and Hardware	Recommended
Operating System	SL Micro 6.1 or SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7
Architecture	x86-64, ARM, s390x, ppc64le
Processor (CPU)	Minimum of four (4) 64-bit CPU cores
RAM	16 GB
Disk Space	200 GB
Channel Requirements	50 GB per SUSE or openSUSE product 360 GB per Red Hat product
Swap space:	8 to 12 GB



Supported operating system for the Server Container Host

The supported operating system for the container host is SL Micro 6.1 or SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7.

Container host

A container host is a server equipped with a container engine like Podman, which lets it manage and deploy containers. These containers hold applications and their essential parts, such as libraries, but not a full operating system, making them lightweight. This setup ensures applications run the same way in different environments. The container host supplies the necessary resources such as CPU, memory, and storage for these containers.

Server deployment mandates the use of a fully qualified domain name (FQDN). In the absence of automatic DNS provision of an FQDN by your router or network, the deployment process will not proceed successfully. An FQDN typically follows the format <host>.<domain>.com.

For instance:

- mlm.example.com
- mlm.container.lab

For more information, see the section on network requirements in **Installation-and-upgrade › Network-requirements**.

3.1.1.2. Persistent Volumes

SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 defines the required persistent storage volumes by default. These are created during installation by the `mgradm` tool if they do not already exist.

These volumes are created in `/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes/`, where Podman stores its volumes by default.

Recommendations

You can leverage the simplicity of storage by mounting an external storage device to this directory. Because it will store the PostgreSQL database, binary packages for repositories, caches, operating system images, autoinstallation distributions, and configuration files, we have three recommendations:

Fast Storage

This mount point should ideally be NVMe or SSD-class devices. Slower storage will adversely affect SUSE Multi-Linux Manager performance.

Large Capacity

Recommended minimum size for this is at least 300 GB, and larger if there will be multiple Linux distributions or architectures to manage.

Recommended Filesystem

XFS (though any supported filesystem for SL Micro 6.1 could work).

Optional

You can provide custom storage for the volumes by mounting disks on the expected volume path inside it such as `/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes/var-spacewalk`. This adds to the complexity of a SUSE Multi-Linux Manager deployment, and may affect the resilience the default storage recommendation provides.

For a list of all persistent volumes in the container, see **Installation-and-upgrade › Container-management**.

3.1.1.3. Prepare SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server Host

You can deploy SUSE Multi-Linux Manager on SL Micro 6.1 or SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7. SL Micro is a transactional system, while SUSE Linux Enterprise Server is a full server operating system.

Depending on your decision, either continue with [installation-and-upgrade:container-deployment/mlm/server-deployment-mlm.pdf](#) or with [installation-and-upgrade:container-deployment/mlm/server-deployment-mlm.pdf](#) and skip the not selected section.

3.1.1.3.1. Prepare SL Micro 6.1 Host

Download the installation media

Procedure: Downloading the installation media

1. Locate the SL Micro 6.1 installation media at <https://www.suse.com/download/sle-micro/>, and download the appropriate media file.
2. Prepare a DVD or USB flash drive with the downloaded .iso image for installation.

Install SL Micro 6.1

For more information about preparing your machines (virtual or physical), see the [SL Micro Deployment Guide](#).

Procedure: Installing SL Micro 6.1

1. Insert the DVD or USB flash drive (USB disk or key) containing the installation image for SLE Micro 6.1.

2. Boot or reboot your system.
3. Use the arrow keys to select **Installation**.
4. Adjust Keyboard and language.
5. Click the checkbox to accept the license agreement.
6. Click **Next** to continue.
7. Select the registration method. For this example, we will register the server with SUSE Customer Center.



The SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 containers are installed as extensions. Depending on the specific extension needed from the list below, additional SUSE Customer Center registration codes will be required for each.

- SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Server
- SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Proxy
- SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Retail Branch Server



The SL Micro 6.1 entitlement is included within the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager entitlement, so it does not require a separate registration code.

8. Enter your SUSE Customer Center email address.
9. Enter your registration code for SL Micro 6.1.
10. Click **Next** to continue.
11. To install a proxy, select the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Proxy extension; to install a server, select the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Server extension **Checkbox**.
12. Click **Next** to continue.
13. Enter your SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 extension registration code.

14. Click **[Next]** to continue.
15. On the NTP Configuration page click **[Next]**.
16. On the Authentication for the System page enter a password for the root user. Click **[Next]**.
17. On the Installation Settings page click **[Install]**.

This concludes installation of SL Micro 6.1 and SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 as an extension.

OPTIONAL: Registration from the command line

If you added SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 as an extension during SL Micro 6.1 installation then you can skip this procedure. However, optionally you may skip registration during SL Micro 6.1 installation by selecting the **[Skip Registration]** button. This section provides steps on registering your products after SL Micro 6.1 installation.



The following steps register a SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 extension with the x86-64 architecture and thus require a registration code for the x86-64 architecture. To register ARM or s390x architectures use the correct registration code.

Procedure: Registering from the command line

1. List available extensions with the following command:

```
transactional-update --quiet register --list-extensions
```

2. From the list of available extensions, select the one you wish to install:
 - a. If installing the Server, use your SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server Extension 5.1 x86_64 registration code with following command:

```
transactional-update register -p Multi-Linux-Manager-Server/5.1/x86_64 -r <reg_code>
```

- b. If installing the Proxy, use your SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy Extension 5.1 x86_64 registration code with following command:

```
transactional-update register -p Multi-Linux-Manager-Proxy/5.1/x86_64 -r <reg_code>
```

3. Reboot.

Update the system

Procedure: Updating the system

1. Log in as **root**.
2. Run **transactional-update**:

```
transactional-update
```

3. Reboot.



SL Micro is designed to update itself automatically by default and will reboot after applying updates. However, this behavior is not desirable for the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager environment. To prevent automatic updates on your server, SUSE Multi-Linux Manager disables the transactional-update timer during the bootstrap process.

If you prefer the SL Micro default behavior, enable the timer by running the following command:

```
systemctl enable --now transactional-update.timer
```

To continue with deployment, see [installation-and-upgrade:container-deployment/mlm/server-deployment-mlm.pdf](#).

3.1.1.3.2. Prepare SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7 host

Alternatively, you can deploy SUSE Multi-Linux Manager on SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7.

The following procedures describe the main steps of the installation process.

Install SUSE Multi-Linux Manager extensions on SUSE Linux Enterprise Server

Procedure: Installing SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Extensions on SUSE Linux Enterprise Server

1. Locate and download SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7 .iso at <https://www.suse.com/download/sles/>.
2. Make sure that you have registration codes both for the host operating

system (SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7) and extensions

3. Start the installation of SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7.
 - a. On the Language, keyboard and product selection select the product to install.
 - b. On the License agreement read the agreement and check I Agree to the License Terms.
4. Select the registration method. For this example, we will register the server with SUSE Customer Center.
5. Enter your SUSE Customer Center email address.
6. Enter your registration code for SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7.
7. Click Next to continue.



Please note that for SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7, you are required to have a valid SUSE Linux Enterprise Server subscription and corresponding registration code, which you must provide on this screen. You will be required to enter the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Extension registration code below.

8. In the screen Extensions and Modules Selection check the following:
 - Select the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server Extension to install the Server, or the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy Extension to install the Proxy.
 - Basesystem Module
 - Containers Module
9. Click Next to continue.
10. Enter your SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 extension registration code.
11. Click **[Next]** to continue.

12. Complete the installation.
13. When the installation completes, log in to the newly installed server as root.
14. Update the System (optional, if the system was not set to download updates during install):


```
zypper up
```
15. Reboot.

OPTIONAL: Registration from the command line

If you added SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 as an extension during SUSE Linux Enterprise Server installation then you can skip this procedure.

However, optionally you may skip registration during SUSE Linux Enterprise Server installation by selecting the **[Skip Registration]** button. This section provides steps on registering your products after SUSE Linux Enterprise Server installation.



The following steps register a SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 extension with the x86-64 architecture and thus require a registration code for the x86-64 architecture.

To register ARM or s390x architectures use the correct registration code.

Procedure: Registering from the command line

1. List available extensions with the following command:

```
SUSEConnect --list-extensions
```

2. From the list of available extensions, select the one you wish to install:
 - If installing the Server, use your SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server Extension 5.1 x86_64 registration code. For example for SUSE Linux Enterprise 15 SP7, use the following commands:

```
SUSEConnect -r <regcode>
SUSEConnect -p sle-module-containers/15.7/x86_64
SUSEConnect -p Multi-Linux-Manager-Server-SLE/5.1/x86_64 -r <regcode>
```

- If installing the Proxy, use your SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy Extension 5.1 x86_64 registration code with the following command:

```
SUSEConnect -p Multi-Linux-Manager-Proxy-SLE/5.1/x86_64 -r <regcode>
```

Install and enable podman

Procedure: Installing podman

1. Log in as root and install the product package.

- On the server:

```
zypper in podman
zypper in -t product SUSE-Multi-Linux-Manager-Server
```

- On the proxies:

```
zypper in podman
zypper in -t product SUSE-Multi-Linux-Manager-Proxy
```



Make sure that package podman is installed. Additionally, on the server mgradm and mgradm-bash-completion or on the proxies, mgrpxy and mgrpxy-bash-completion also need to be installed.

2. Start the Podman service by rebooting the system, or running a command:

```
systemctl enable --now podman.service
```

To continue with deployment, see [installation-and-upgrade:container-deployment/mlm/server-deployment-mlm.pdf](#).

3.1.1.4. Configure Custom Persistent Storage

Configuring persistent storage is optional, but it is the only way to avoid serious trouble with container full disk conditions. It is highly recommended to configure custom persistent storage with the mgr-storage-server tool.

- For more information, see `mgr-storage-server --help`. This tool simplifies creating the container storage and database volumes.

Use the command in the following manner:

```
mgr-storage-server <storage-disk-device> [<database-disk-device>]
```

For example:

```
mgr-storage-server /dev/nvme1n1 /dev/nvme2n1
```



This command will create the persistent storage volumes at `/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes`.

For more information, see

- [Installation-and-upgrade › Container-management](#)
- [Administration › Troubleshooting](#)

3.1.1.5. Deploy SUSE Multi-Linux Manager with mgradm



If you want to use third-party SSL certificates instead of the self-signed certificates, import them in the run of the following deployment procedure.

For more information about the requirements of third-party SSL certificates, see [Administration › Ssl-certs-imported](#).

SUSE Multi-Linux Manager server hosts that are hardened for security may restrict execution of files from the `/tmp` folder. In such cases, as a workaround, export the `TMPDIR` environment variable to another existing path before running `mgradm`.



For example:

```
export TMPDIR=/path/to/other/tmp
```

In SUSE Multi-Linux Manager updates, tools will be changed to make this workaround unnecessary.

Procedure: Deploying SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Using mgradm

1. Log in as root.
2. Deploy SUSE Multi-Linux Manager.



If you use VM images as a migration target, here as the last step, execute the command `mgradm migrate` instead of `mgradm install`.

Execute one of the following commands, depending on the SSL certificate variant (self-signed or third-party). Replace <FQDN> with your fully qualified domain name of the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server:

- Using self-signed certificates provided by SUSE Multi-Linux Manager:

```
mgradm install podman <FQDN>
```

- With importing SSL certificates using third-party SSL certificate flags (the example can adjusted if not all these certificates are needed):

```
mgradm install podman <FQDN> \
  --ssl-ca-intermediate <strings> \
  --ssl-ca-root <string> \
  --ssl-server-cert <string> \
  --ssl-server-key <string> \
  --ssl-db-ca-intermediate <strings> \
  --ssl-db-ca-root <string> \
  --ssl-db-cert <string> \
  --ssl-db-key <string>
```

For more information, see `mgradm install podman --help`.



If the executed command fails ensure that you have registered SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1. If you skipped registration during installation and now need to register from the command line, follow the steps below to log in to the registry:

```
podman login -u <EMAIL> -p <REGISTRATION-CODE> registry.suse.com
```

Use the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 registration key when prompted.

- Enter CA key (certificate authority) and administrator account password when prompted.



The administrator account password must be at least 5 characters and less than 48 characters in length.

- Press **[Enter]**.
- Enter the email address of the administration account. Press **[Enter]**.
- Wait for deployment to complete.
- Open a browser and proceed to your servers FQDN.
- Enter your username (default is admin) and the password you set during the deployment process.

In this guide you deployed SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Server as a container. Proceed to the next section to add your organization credentials for syncing with SUSE Customer Center.

3.1.1.6. Connect SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 to SUSE Customer Center

This section covers synchronizing with SCC from the Web UI and adding your first client channel.

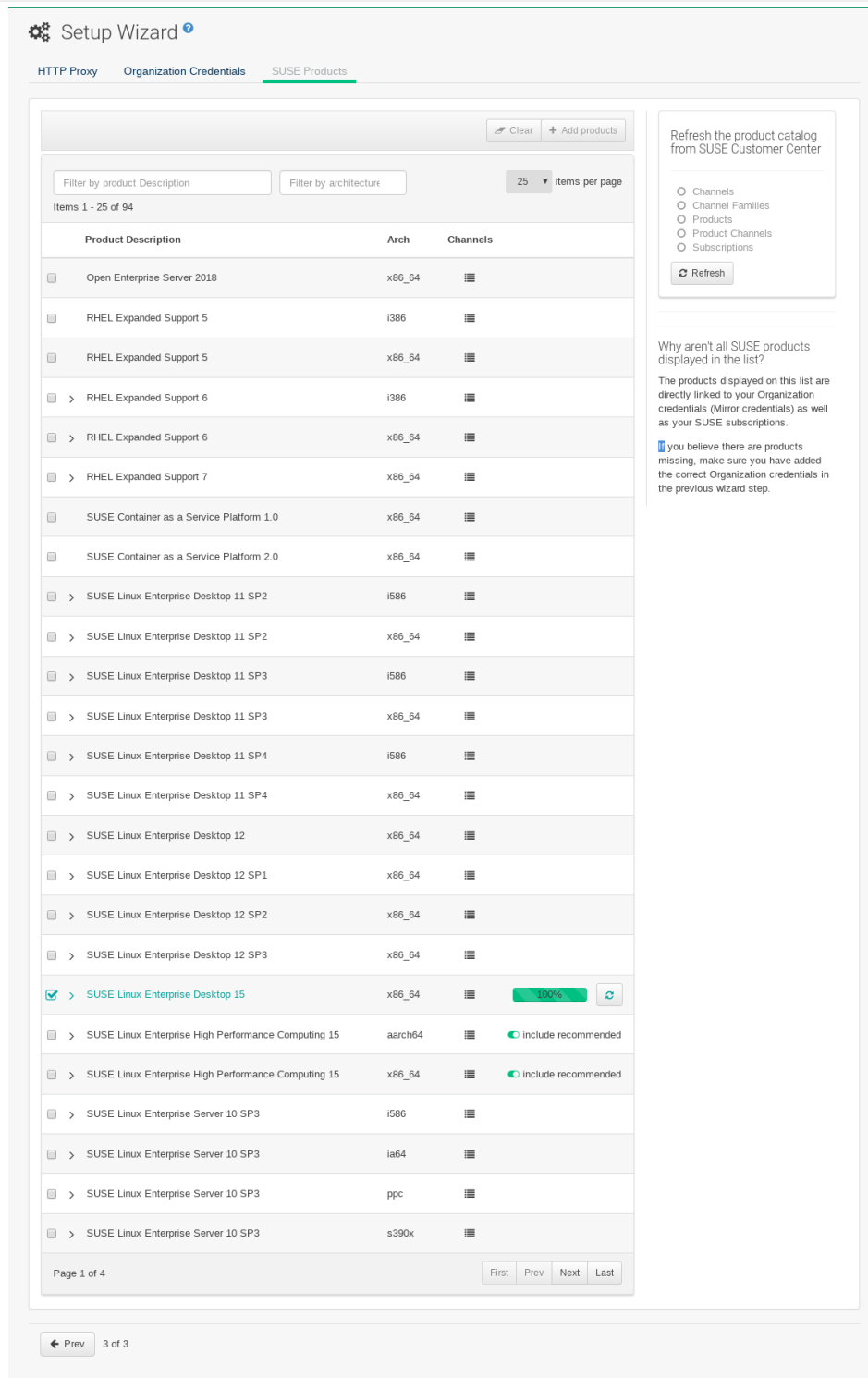
Procedure: Entering Organization Credentials

1. Open a browser and proceed to your servers FQDN.
2. Enter your username (default is admin) and the password you set during the deployment process.
3. In the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Web UI, select **Admin › Setup Wizard**.
4. From the Setup Wizard page select the **[Organization Credentials]** tab.
5. Click **[Add a new credential]**.
6. Point your browser to the SUSE Customer Center.
7. Select your organization from the left navigation.
8. Select the users tab from the top of the page then **[Organization Credentials]**.
9. Make a note of your **Mirroring credentials**.
10. Back in the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Web UI enter your Username and Password, and confirm with **[Save]**.

When the credentials are confirmed with a green check-mark icon, proceed with [Procedure: Synchronizing with SUSE Customer Center](#).

Procedure: Synchronizing with SUSE Customer Center

1. In the Web UI, navigate to **Admin › Setup Wizard**.
2. From the Setup Wizard page select the SUSE Products tab. If you recently registered with SUSE Customer Center a list of products will begin populating the table. This operation could take up to a few minutes. You can monitor the progress of the operation in section on the right Refresh the product catalog from SUSE Customer Center. The table of products lists architecture, channels, and status information. For more information, see **Reference › Admin**.



3. Use the Filter by product description and Filter by architecture to filter the list of displayed products. The channels listed on the **[Products]** page provide repositories for clients.
 - Add channels to SUSE Multi-Linux Manager by selecting the check box to the left of each channel. Click the arrow symbol to the left of the description to unfold a product and list available modules.
 - Click **[Add Products]** at the top of the page to start product synchronization.

After adding the channel, SUSE Multi-Linux Manager will schedule the channel to be synchronized. This can

take a long time as SUSE Multi-Linux Manager will copy channel software sources from the SUSE repositories located at SUSE Customer Center to the local `/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes/var-spacewalk/` directory of your server.

When the channel is fully synchronized, a bootstrap repository for it will be automatically generated. This step is crucial for successfully bootstrapping clients, ensuring that the channel synchronization and distribution are operational on the client side. This completes the installation and configuration of SUSE Multi-Linux Manager, along with preparing the channels necessary for bootstrapping clients.

When the channel synchronization process is complete, you can proceed with registering the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Proxy or additional clients.

For more instructions, see **Client-configuration › Registration-overview**.

3.1.1.7. Entering the Container for Management

To get to a shell inside the container, run on the container host:

```
mgctl term
```

3.1.2. SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Server Deployment as a Virtual Machine - KVM

This chapter provides the required Virtual Machine settings for deployment of SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 as an image. KVM will be combined with Virtual Machine Manager (virt-manager) as a sandbox for this installation.

3.1.2.1. Available Images



The preferred method for deploying SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Server is to use one of the following available images. All tools are included in these images greatly simplifying deployment.

Images for SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 are available at [SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 VM images](#).



Customized SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 VM images are provided only for SL Micro 6.1. To run the product on SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7, use the standard SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7 installation media available at <https://www.suse.com/download/sles/> and enable the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 extensions on top of it.

Table 10. Available Server Images

Architecture	Image Format
aarch64	qcow2, vmdk
x86_64	qcow2, vmdk, raw, Self Installer
ppc64le	raw, Self Installer
s390x *	qcow2, raw

* Two storage options are available for s390x: CDL DASD and FBA.

3.1.2.2. Virtual Machine Manager (virt-manager) Settings

Enter the following settings when creating a new virtual machine using **virt-manager**.



This table specifies the minimum requirements. These are suitable for a quick test installation, such as a server with one client. If you want to use a production environment and need background information about disk space, see **Installation-and-upgrade › Hardware-requirements**.

KVM Settings	
Installation Method	Import Existing Disk Image
OS:	Linux
Version:	SUSE Multi-Linux Manager-Server.x86_64-5.1.*.qcow2
Memory:	Minimum *)
CPU's:	Minimum *)
Storage Format:	.qcow2 40 GB (Default) Root Partition
Name:	test-setup
Network	Bridge br0

*) For minimum values, see [installation-and-upgrade:hardware-requirements.pdf](#).

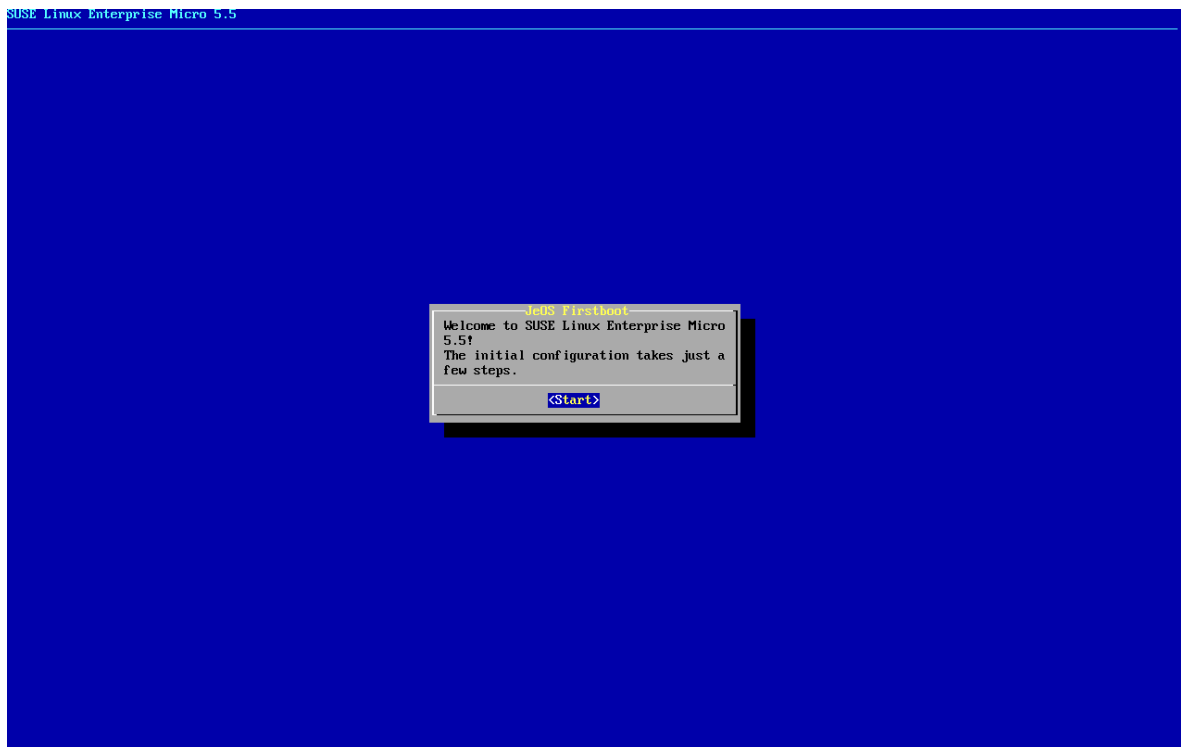
3.1.2.3. Initial KVM Setup

Procedure: Creating Initial Setup

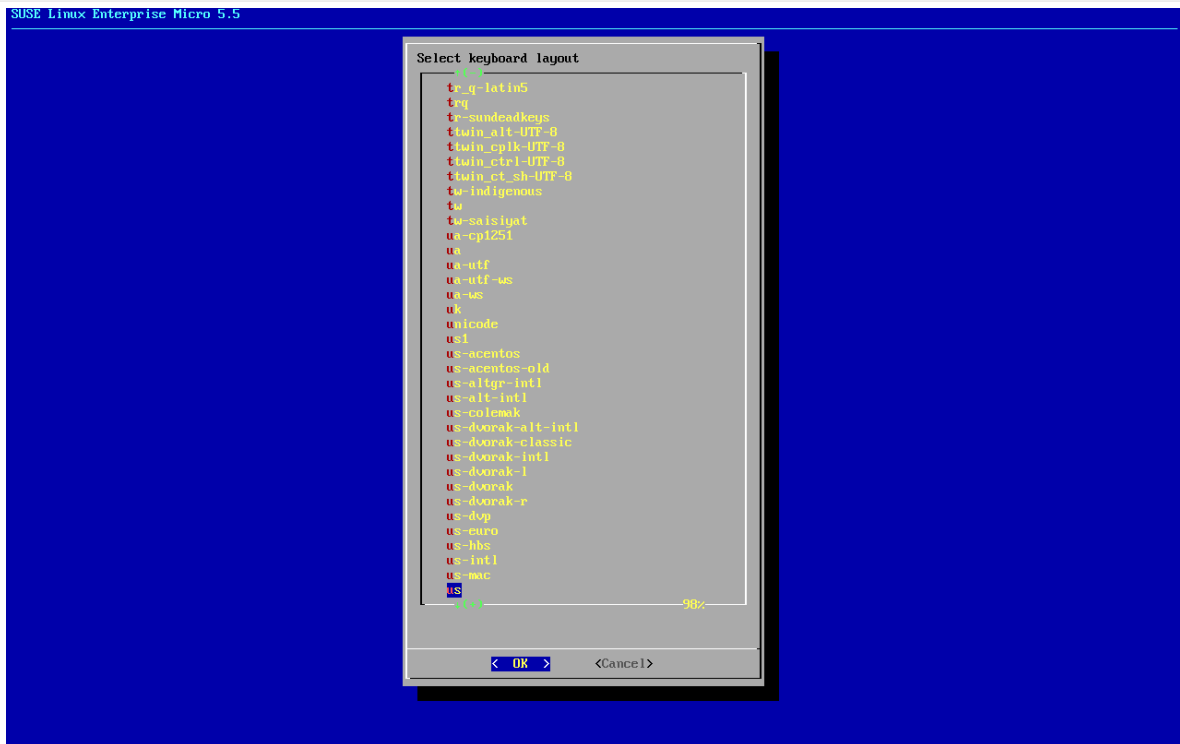
1. Create a new virtual machine using the downloaded Minimal KVM image and select Import existing disk

image.

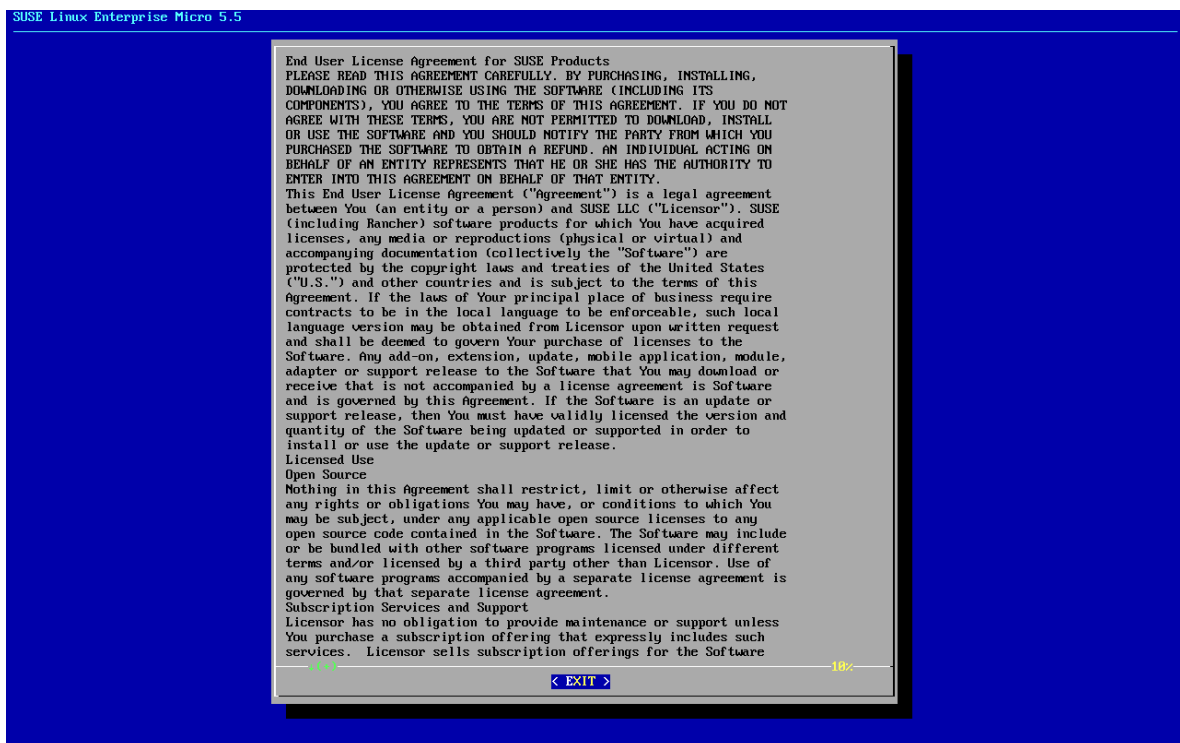
2. Configure RAM and number of CPUs.
3. Name your KVM machine.
4. Click **[Begin Installation]** to boot from the image.
5. At the JeOS Firstboot screen select start to continue.



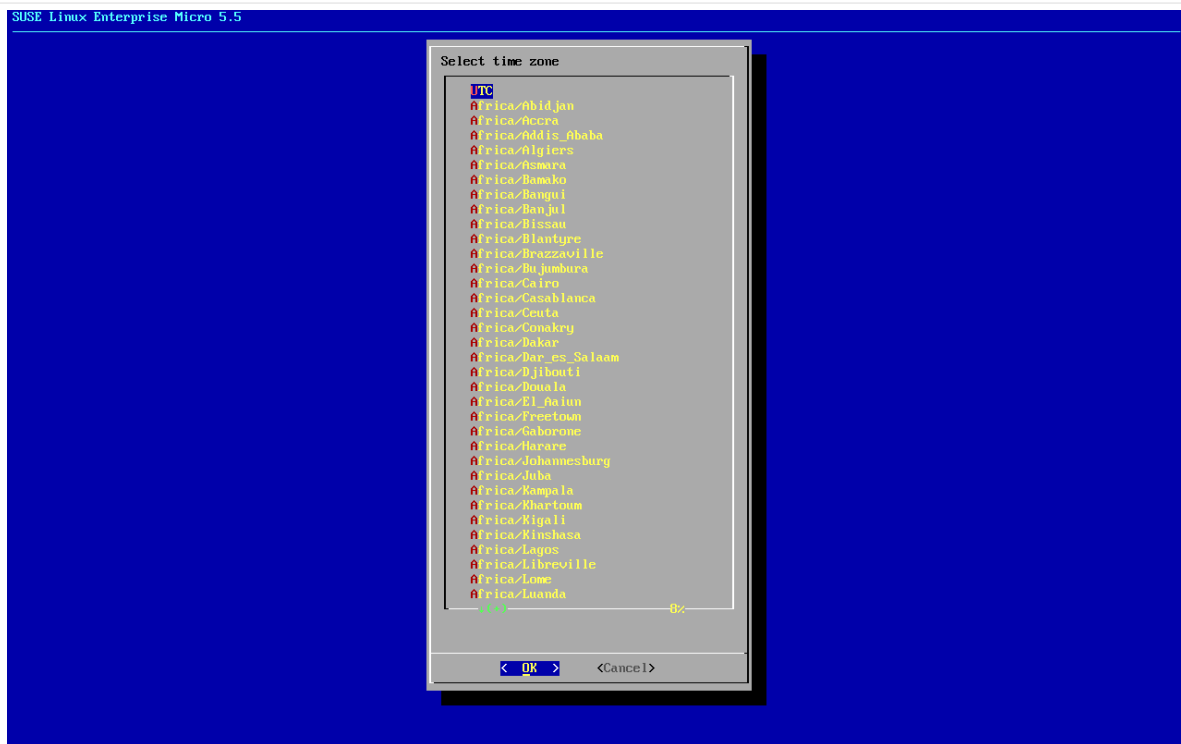
6. Select keyboard layout.



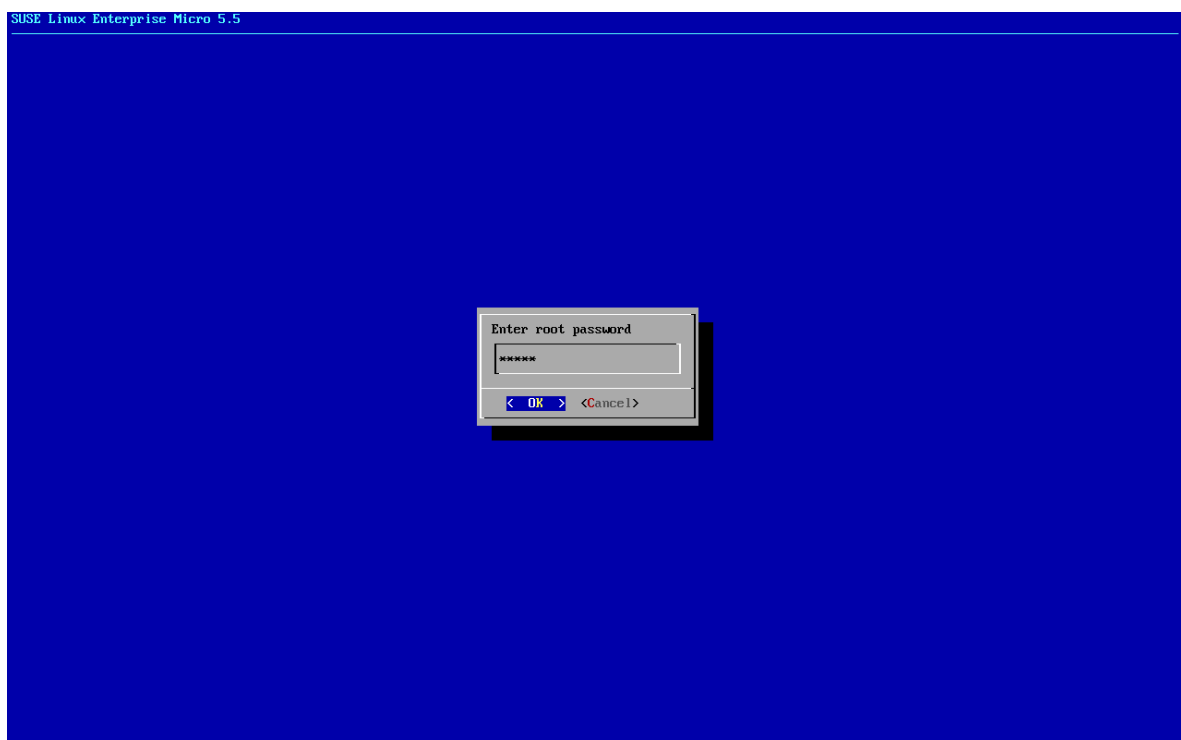
7. Accept the license agreement.



8. Select your time zone.



9. Enter a password for root.



10. When installation completes log in as root.
11. Proceed to the next section.

3.1.2.4. Register SL Micro and SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Server



The SL Micro 6.1 entitlement is included within the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager entitlement, so it does not require a separate registration code.



SUSE Multi-Linux Manager server hosts that are hardened for security may restrict execution of files from the /tmp folder. In such cases, as a workaround, export the TMPDIR environment variable to another existing path before running mgradm.

For example:

```
export TMPDIR=/path/to/other/tmp
```

In SUSE Multi-Linux Manager updates, tools will be changed to make this workaround unnecessary.

Procedure: Registering SL Micro and SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1

1. Boot the virtual machine.
2. Log in as root.
3. Register SL Micro with SCC.

```
transactional-update register -r <REGCODE> -e <your_email>
```

4. Reboot.
5. Register SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 with SUSE Customer Center.

```
transactional-update register -p Multi-Linux-Manager-Server/5.1/x86_64 -r <REGCODE>
```

6. Reboot.
7. Update the system:

```
transactional-update
```

8. If updates were applied reboot.
9. This step is optional. However, if custom persistent storage is required for your infrastructure, use the mgr-storage-server tool.

For more information, see `mgr-storage-server --help`. This tool simplifies creating the container storage and database volumes. Use the command in the following manner:

```
mgr-storage-server <storage-disk-device> [<database-disk-device>]
```

For example:

```
mgr-storage-server /dev/nvme1n1 /dev/nvme2n1
```



This command will move the persistent storage volumes at `/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes` to specified storage devices.

For more information, see

- **Installation-and-upgrade › Container-management**
- **Administration › Troubleshooting**

10. Deploy SUSE Multi-Linux Manager.



If you use VM images as a migration target, here as the last step, execute the command `mgradm migrate` instead of `mgradm install`.

Execute one of the following commands, depending on the SSL certificate variant (self-signed or third-party). Replace `<FQDN>` with your fully qualified domain name of the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server:

- Using self-signed certificates provided by SUSE Multi-Linux Manager:

```
mgradm install podman <FQDN>
```

- With importing SSL certificates using third-party SSL certificate flags (the example can adjusted if not all these certificates are needed):

```
mgradm install podman <FQDN> \
--ssl-ca-intermediate <strings> \
--ssl-ca-root <string> \
--ssl-server-cert <string> \
--ssl-server-key <string> \
--ssl-db-ca-intermediate <strings> \
--ssl-db-ca-root <string> \
--ssl-db-cert <string> \
--ssl-db-key <string>
```

For more information, see `mgradm install podman --help`.

3.1.3. SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Server Deployment as a Virtual Machine - VMware

This chapter provides the required Virtual Machine settings for deployment of SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 as an Image. VMware will be used as a sandbox for this installation.

3.1.3.1. Available Images



The preferred method for deploying SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Server is to use one of the following available images. All tools are included in these images greatly simplifying deployment.

Images for SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 are available at [SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 VM images](#).



Customized SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 VM images are provided only for SL Micro 6.1. To run the product on SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7, use the standard SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7 installation media available at <https://www.suse.com/download/sles/> and enable the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 extensions on top of it.



For more information on preparing raw images, see <https://documentation.suse.com/sle-micro/6.1/html/Micro-deployment-raw-images-virtual-machines/index.html#deployment-preparing-configuration-device>.

For additional information on the self install images, see <https://documentation.suse.com/sle-micro/6.1/html/Micro-deployment-selfinstall-images/index.html>

Table 11. Available Server Images

Architecture	Image Format
aarch64	qcow2, vmdk
x86_64	qcow2, vmdk, raw, Self Installer
ppc64le	raw, Self Installer
s390x *	qcow2, raw

* Two storage options are available for s390x: CDL DASD and FBA.

3.1.3.2. SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Virtual Machine Settings - VMware

This section describes VMware configurations, focusing on the creation of an extra virtual disk essential for the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager storage partition within VMware environments.

Procedure: Creating the VMware Virtual Machine

1. Download SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server .vmdk file then transfer a copy to your VMware storage.
2. Make a copy of uploaded .vmdk file using VMware web interface. This will convert provided .vmdk file to the format suitable for vSphere hypervisor.
3. Create and name a new virtual machine based on the Guest OS Family Linux and Guest OS Version SUSE Linux Enterprise 15 (64-bit).

+

1. Add an additional Hard Disk 2 of 500 GB (or more).
2. Configure RAM and number of CPUs with minimum values. *)
3. Set the network adapter as required.
4. Power on the VM, and follow firstboot dialogs (keyboard layout, license agreement, time zone, password for root).
5. When installation completes log in as root.
6. Proceed to the next section.

*) For minimum values, see [installation-and-upgrade:hardware-requirements.pdf](#).

3.1.3.3. Register SL Micro and SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Server

Before starting obtain your SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Registration Code from SUSE Customer Center - <https://scc.suse.com>.



The SL Micro 6.1 entitlement is included within the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager entitlement, so it does not require a separate registration code.



SUSE Multi-Linux Manager server hosts that are hardened for security may restrict execution of files from the /tmp folder. In such cases, as a workaround, export the TMPDIR environment variable to another existing path before running mgradm.

For example:

```
export TMPDIR=/path/to/other/tmp
```

In SUSE Multi-Linux Manager updates, tools will be changed to make this workaround unnecessary.

Procedure: Registering SL Micro and SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1

1. Boot the virtual machine.
2. Log in as root.
3. Register SL Micro with SCC.

```
transactional-update register -r <REGCODE> -e <your_email>
```

4. Reboot.
5. Register SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 with SUSE Customer Center.

```
transactional-update register -p Multi-Linux-Manager-Server/5.1/x86_64 -r <REGCODE>
```

6. Reboot
7. Update the system:

```
transactional-update
```

8. If updates were applied reboot.
9. This step is optional. However, if custom persistent storage is required for your infrastructure, use the `mgr-storage-server` tool.

For more information, see `mgr-storage-server --help`. This tool simplifies creating the container storage and database volumes. Use the command in the following manner:

```
mgr-storage-server <storage-disk-device> [<database-disk-device>]
```

For example:

```
mgr-storage-server /dev/nvme1n1 /dev/nvme2n1
```



This command will create the persistent storage volumes at `/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes`.

For more information, see

- **Installation-and-upgrade › Container-management**
- **Administration › Troubleshooting**

10. Deploy SUSE Multi-Linux Manager.



If you use VM images as a migration target, here as the last step, execute the command `mgradm migrate` instead of `mgradm install`.

Execute one of the following commands, depending on the SSL certificate variant (self-signed or third-party). Replace `<FQDN>` with your fully qualified domain name of the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server:

- Using self-signed certificates provided by SUSE Multi-Linux Manager:

```
mgradm install podman <FQDN>
```

- With importing SSL certificates using third-party SSL certificate flags (the example can adjusted if not all these certificates are needed):

```
mgradm install podman <FQDN> \
--ssl-ca-intermediate <strings> \
--ssl-ca-root <string> \
--ssl-server-cert <string> \
--ssl-server-key <string> \
--ssl-db-ca-intermediate <strings> \
--ssl-db-ca-root <string> \
--ssl-db-cert <string> \
--ssl-db-key <string>
```

For more information, see `mgradm install podman --help`.

3.1.4. SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server Air-gapped Deployment

3.1.4.1. What is Air-gapped deployment?

Air-gapped deployment refers to the setup and operation of any networked system that is physically isolated from insecure networks, especially the internet. This type of deployment is commonly used in high-security environments such as military installations, financial systems, critical infrastructure, and anywhere sensitive data is handled and must be protected from external threats.

3.1.4.2. Deployments

SUSE Multi-Linux Manager supports two deployment variants.

3.1.4.2.1. Deploy with Virtual Machine

The recommended installation method is using the provided SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Virtual Machine Image option, since all the needed tools and container images are pre-loaded and will work out of the box.

For more information about installing SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server Virtual Machine, see [Deploy Server as a Virtual Machine](#).

To upgrade SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server, users should upgrade all packages in the system and follow the procedures defined in [Server Upgrade](#).

3.1.4.2.2. Deploy SUSE Multi-Linux Manager on SL Micro

SUSE Multi-Linux Manager also provides all the needed container images in RPM's that can be installed on the system.



User should make the needed RPM available on the internal network. That can be done by using a second SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server or an RMT server.

Procedure: Install SUSE Multi-Linux Manager on SL Micro in air-gapped deployment

1. Install SL Micro.
2. Update the system.
3. Install tools packages and image packages (replace \$ARCH\$ with the correct architecture).

```
transactional-update pkg install mgradm* mgrecl* suse-multi-linux-manager-5.1-  
$ARCH$-server-*
```

4. Reboot.
5. Deploy SUSE Multi-Linux Manager with mgradm.

For more detailed information about installing SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server on SL Micro, see [Deploy Server as a Virtual Machine](#).

To upgrade SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server, users should upgrade all packages in the system and follow the procedures defined in [Server Upgrade](#).

3.1.4.3. PTFs

The PTF images are not available as packages. This means that they should be pulled using podman on a machine with internet access, then saved in an archive, transferred to the air-gapped machine and loaded there.

Procedure: Pulling the image on a machine with internet access

1. Install podman.
2. Authenticate against the SUSE Registry using the SCC credentials:

```
set +o history
echo SCC_MIRRORING_PASSWORD | podman login -u "SCC_MIRRORING_USER" --password
-stdin registry.suse.com
set -o history
```

3. Create a /tmp/ptf-images temporary file with the URL of the PTF images, one per line. In most of the cases only the server image is needed and it can be created with a command like the following, after replacing the SCC_USERID and PTFID values.

```
SCC_USERID=aXXXX
PTFID=12345
echo "registry.suse.com/a/$SCC_USERID/$PTFID/suse/multi-linux-
manager/5.1/x86_64/server:latest-ptf-$PTFID" >>/tmp/ptf-images
```

4. Pull each of the container images of the PTF and save them in a tar archive.

```
for image in `cat /tmp/ptf-images`; do
    podman pull $image
done
podman save -o /tmp/ptf-images.tar `cat /tmp/ptf-images`
```

5. Transfer the /tmp/ptf-images.tar images archive on the server to patch.

Procedure: Loading the images on the server to patch

1. Ensure the ptf-images.tar file is available on the server.
2. Load the images from the archive:

```
podman load -i ptf-images.tar
```

3. Install the PTF as it would be done on a connected machine, using command:

```
mgradm support ptf podman [--test|--ptf] NUMBER --user SCC_ACCOUNT
```

Because the images are already loaded they will not be pulled.

3.1.5. Public Cloud Deployment

Public clouds provide SUSE Multi-Linux Manager under a Bring-your-own-subscription (BYOS) or Pay-as-you-go (PAYG) models.

For more information about using SUSE Multi-Linux Manager in the public cloud, see **Specialized-guides › Public-cloud-guide**.

3.1.6. Connect PAYG instance

In the three major public cloud providers (AWS, GCP and Azure), SUSE:

- provides customized PAYG product images for SLES, SLES for SAP, etc.
- operates per-region RMT Servers mirroring repositories for products available as PAYG

This document describes how to connect existing PAYG instance to SUSE Multi-Linux Manager server, and gives basic information about credentials collection from the instance. The goal of this connection is to extract authentication data so the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server can connect to a cloud RMT host. Then the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server has access to products on the RMT host that are not already available with the SCC organization credentials.

Before using PAYG feature make sure that:

- The PAYG instance is launched from the correct SUSE product image (for example, SLES, SLES for SAP, or SLE HPC) to allow access to the desired repositories
- SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server has connectivity to the PAYG instance (ideally in the same region) either directly or via a bastion
- A basic SCC account is required. Enter your valid SCC credentials in **Admin › Setup Wizard › Organization Credentials**. This account is required for accessing the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager client tools for bootstrapping regardless of PAYG instances.
- If you bootstrap the PAYG instance to SUSE Manager, SUSE Manager will disable its PAYG repositories then add repositories from where it mirrored the data from the RMT server. The final result will be PAYG instances acquiring the same repositories from the RMT servers but through the SUSE Manager server

itself. Of course repositories can still be setup primarily from SCC.

3.1.6.1. Connecting PAYG instance

Procedure: Connecting new PAYG instance

1. In the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Web UI, navigate to **Admin › Setup Wizard › PAYG**, and click **[Add PAYG]**.
2. Start with the page section PAYG connection Description.
3. In the Description field, add the description.
4. Move to the page section Instance SSH connection data.
5. In the Host field, enter the instance DNS or IP address to connect from SUSE Multi-Linux Manager.
6. In the SSH Port field, enter the port number or use default value 22.
7. In the User field, enter the username as specified in the cloud.
8. In the Password field, enter the password.
9. In the SSH Private Key field, enter the instance key.
10. In the SSH Private Key Passphrase field, enter the key passphrase.



Authentication keys must always be in PEM format.

If you are not connecting directly to the instance, but via SSH bastion, proceed with [Procedure: Adding SSH bastion connection data](#).

Otherwise, continue with [Procedure: Finishing PAYG connecting](#).

Procedure: Adding SSH bastion connection data

1. Navigate to the page section Bastion SSH connection data.
2. In the Host field, enter the bastion hostname.
3. In the SSH Port field, enter the bastion port number.
4. In the User field, enter the bastion username.
5. In the Password field, enter the bastion password.
6. In the SSH Private Key field, enter the bastion key.
7. In the SSH Private Key Passphrase field, enter the bastion key passphrase.

Complete the setup process with [Procedure: Finishing PAYG connecting](#).

Procedure: Finishing PAYG connecting

1. To complete adding new PAYG connection data, click **[Create]**.
2. Return to PAYG connection data Details page. The updated connection status is displayed on the top section named Information.
3. Connection status is shown in Admin > Setup Wizard > Pay-as-you-go screen too.
4. If the authentication data for the instance are correct, the column Status shows "Credentials successfully updated."



If the invalid data are entered at any point, the newly created instance is shown in Admin > Setup Wizard > PAYG, with column Status displaying error message.

As soon as the authentication data is available on the server, the list of available products is updated.

Available products are all versions of the same product family and architecture as the one installed in the PAYG instance. For example, if the instance has the SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP1 product installed, SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP2, SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP3, SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP4 and SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP5 are automatically shown in Admin > Setup Wizard > Products.

Once the products are shown as available, the user can add a product to SUSE Multi-Linux Manager by selecting the checkbox next to the product name and clicking **[Add product]**.

After the success message you can verify the newly added channels in the Web UI, by navigating to Software > Channel List > All.

To monitor the syncing progress of each channel, check the log files in the `/var/log/rhn/reposync` directory on the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server.



If a product is provided by both the PAYG instance and one of the SCC subscriptions, it will appear only once in the products list.

When the channels belonging to that product are synced, the data might still come from the SCC subscription, and not from the Pay-As-You-Go instance.

3.1.6.2. Instance credential collect status

SUSE Multi-Linux Manager server uses credentials collected from the instance to connect to the RMT server and to download the packages using reposync. These credentials are refreshed every 10 minutes by taskomatic using the defined SSH connection data. Connection to RMT server always uses the last known authentication credentials collected from the PAYG instance.

The status of the PAYG instance credentials collect is shown in the column Status or on the instance details page. When the instance is not reachable, the credential update process will fail.

When the instance is unreachable, the credential update process will fail and the credentials will become invalid after the second failed refresh. Synchronization of channels will fail when the credentials are invalid. To avoid this keep the connected instances running.

PAYG instance remains connected to SUSE Multi-Linux Manager server unless SSH connection data is explicitly deleted. To delete the SSH connection data to the instance, use [\[proc-deleting-connection-data-to-instance\]](#).

PAYG instance may not be accessible from the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager server at all times.

- If the instance exists, but is stopped, the last known credentials will be used to try to connect to the instance. How long the credentials remain valid depends on the cloud provider.
- If the instance no longer exists, but is still registered with SUMA, its credentials are no longer valid and the authentication will fail. The error message is shown in the column Status.



The error message only indicates that the instance is not available. Further diagnostics about the status of the instance needs to be done on the cloud provider.



Any of the following actions or changes in the PAYG instance will lead to credentials failing: * removing zypper credentials files * removing the imported certificates * removing cloud-specific entries from `/etc/hosts`

3.1.6.3. Registering PAYG system as a client

You can register a PAYG instance from where you harvest the credentials as a Salt client. The instance needs to have a valid cloud connection registered, otherwise it will not have access to channels. If the user removes the cloud packages, the credentials harvesting may stop working.

First set up the PAYG instance to collect authentication data, so it can synchronize the channels.

The rest of the process is the same as for any non-public-cloud client and consists of synchronizing channels, automatic bootstrap script creation, activation key creation and starting the registration.

For more about registering clients, see **Client-configuration › Registration-overview**.

3.1.6.4. Troubleshooting

Checking the credentials

- If the script fails to collect the credentials, it should provide a proper error message in the logs and in the Web UI.
- If the credentials are not working, `reposync` should show the proper error.

Using registercloudguest

- Refreshing or changing the registercloudguest connection to the public cloud update infrastructure should not interfere with the credentials usage.
- Running `registercloudguest --clean` will cause problems if no new cloud connection is registered with the cloud guest command.

3.2. Install SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy

There are various scenarios to deploy a SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy. All these scenarios presume you have already successfully deployed a SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Server.

3.2.1. SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Proxy Deployment

This guide outlines the deployment process for the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Proxy container on SL Micro 6.1 or SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7. This guide presumes you have already successfully deployed a SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Server.



- SL Micro is only supported as regular minion (default contact method) for the time being.
- We are working on managing it as Salt SSH client (salt-ssh contact method), too.

To successfully deploy, you will perform the following actions:

Procedure: Deploying Proxy

1. Review hardware requirements.
2. Synchronize the SL Micro 6.1 or SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7 parent channel and the proxy extension child channel on the server.
3. Install SL Micro or SUSE Linux Enterprise Server on a bare-metal machine.
4. During the installation, register SL Micro or SUSE Linux Enterprise Server along with the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy extension.
5. Create a Salt activation key.
6. Bootstrap the proxy as a client with the default connection method.
7. Generate a proxy configuration.
8. Transfer the proxy configuration from server to proxy.
9. Use the proxy configuration to register the client as a proxy with SUSE

Multi-Linux Manager.

Supported operating system for the Proxy Container Host

The supported operating system for the container host are SL Micro 6.1 and SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7.



Container host

A container host is a server equipped with a container engine like Podman, which lets it manage and deploy containers. These containers hold applications and their essential parts, such as libraries, but not a full operating system, making them lightweight. This setup ensures applications run the same way in different environments. The container host supplies the necessary resources such as CPU, memory, and storage for these containers.

3.2.1.1. Hardware Requirements for the Proxy

For more information about hardware requirements for deploying SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy, see [installation-and-upgrade:hardware-requirements.pdf](#).

3.2.1.2. Synchronize the Parent and Proxy Extension Child Channels

This section presumes that you have already entered your organization credentials under the **Admin › Setup Wizard › Organization Credentials** in the server's Web UI. Products are listed on the **Admin › Setup Wizard › Products** page. This channel must be fully synchronized on the server, with the child channel Proxy as an extension option selected.

Procedure: Synchronizing the Parent Channel and Proxy Extension

1. In the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Web UI select **Admin › Products**.
2. From the products page enter SL Micro or SUSE Linux Enterprise Server in the filter field.
3. Next use the drop-down to select the required architecture. For this example x86-64.
4. In the Product Description field select the SL Micro 6.1 or SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7 checkbox then use the drop-down to select the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy Extension 5.1 x86_64 extension.

5. Click the **[Add products]** button.
6. Wait for the synchronization to complete.

3.2.1.3. Prepare SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy Host

In the following subsections, you either prepare the proxy host with SLE Micro or SUSE Linux Enterprise Server.

3.2.1.3.1. Prepare SL Micro 6.1 Host

Download the installation media

Procedure: Downloading the installation media

1. Locate the SL Micro 6.1 installation media at <https://www.suse.com/download/sle-micro/>, and download the appropriate media file.
2. Prepare a DVD or USB flash drive with the downloaded .iso image for installation.

Install SL Micro 6.1

For more information about preparing your machines (virtual or physical), see the [SL Micro Deployment Guide](#).

Procedure: Installing SL Micro 6.1

1. Insert the DVD or USB flash drive (USB disk or key) containing the installation image for SLE Micro 6.1.
2. Boot or reboot your system.
3. Use the arrow keys to select **Installation**.
4. Adjust Keyboard and language.
5. Click the checkbox to accept the license agreement.
6. Click **Next** to continue.
7. Select the registration method. For this example, we will register the server with SUSE Customer Center.



The SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 containers are installed as extensions. Depending on the specific extension needed from the list below, additional SUSE Customer Center registration codes will be required for each.

- SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Server
- SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Proxy
- SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Retail Branch Server



The SL Micro 6.1 entitlement is included within the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager entitlement, so it does not require a separate registration code.

8. Enter your SUSE Customer Center email address.
9. Enter your registration code for SL Micro 6.1.
10. Click **Next** to continue.
11. To install a proxy, select the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Proxy extension; to install a server, select the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Server extension **Checkbox**.
12. Click **Next** to continue.
13. Enter your SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 extension registration code.
14. Click **[Next]** to continue.
15. On the NTP Configuration page click **[Next]**.
16. On the Authentication for the System page enter a password for the root user. Click **[Next]**.
17. On the Installation Settings page click **[Install]**.

This concludes installation of SL Micro 6.1 and SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 as an extension.

OPTIONAL: Registration from the command line

If you added SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 as an extension during SL Micro 6.1 installation then you can skip this procedure. However, optionally you may skip registration during SL Micro 6.1 installation by selecting the **[Skip Registration]** button. This section provides steps on registering your products after SL Micro 6.1 installation.



The following steps register a SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 extension with the x86-64 architecture and thus require a registration code for the x86-64 architecture. To register ARM or s390x architectures use the correct registration code.

Procedure: Registering from the command line

1. List available extensions with the following command:

```
transactional-update --quiet register --list-extensions
```

2. From the list of available extensions, select the one you wish to install:
 - a. If installing the Server, use your SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server Extension 5.1 x86_64 registration code with following command:

```
transactional-update register -p Multi-Linux-Manager-Server/5.1/x86_64 -r <reg_code>
```

- b. If installing the Proxy, use your SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy Extension 5.1 x86_64 registration code with following command:

```
transactional-update register -p Multi-Linux-Manager-Proxy/5.1/x86_64 -r <reg_code>
```

3. Reboot.

Update the system

Procedure: Updating the system

1. Log in as **root**.
2. Run **transactional-update**:

```
transactional-update
```

3. Reboot.



SL Micro is designed to update itself automatically by default and will reboot after applying updates. However, this behavior is not desirable for the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager environment. To prevent automatic updates on your server, SUSE Multi-Linux Manager disables the transactional-update timer during the bootstrap process.

If you prefer the SL Micro default behavior, enable the timer by running the following command:

```
systemctl enable --now transactional-update.timer
```

To continue with deployment, see [installation-and-upgrade:container-deployment/mlm/proxy-deployment-mlm.pdf](#).

3.2.1.3.2. Prepare SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7 host

Alternatively, you can deploy SUSE Multi-Linux Manager on SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7.

The following procedures describe the main steps of the installation process.

Install SUSE Multi-Linux Manager extensions on SUSE Linux Enterprise Server

Procedure: Installing SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Extensions on SUSE Linux Enterprise Server

1. Locate and download SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7 .iso at <https://www.suse.com/download/sles/>.
2. Make sure that you have registration codes both for the host operating system (SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7) and extensions
3. Start the installation of SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7.
 - a. On the Language, keyboard and product selection select the product to install.
 - b. On the License agreement read the agreement and check I Agree to the License Terms.
4. Select the registration method. For this example, we will register the server with SUSE Customer Center.

5. Enter your SUSE Customer Center email address.
6. Enter your registration code for SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7.
7. Click Next to continue.



Please note that for SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7, you are required to have a valid SUSE Linux Enterprise Server subscription and corresponding registration code, which you must provide on this screen. You will be required to enter the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Extension registration code below.

8. In the screen Extensions and Modules Selection check the following:
 - Select the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server Extension to install the Server, or the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy Extension to install the Proxy.
 - Basesystem Module
 - Containers Module
9. Click Next to continue.
10. Enter your SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 extension registration code.
11. Click **[Next]** to continue.
12. Complete the installation.
13. When the installation completes, log in to the newly installed server as root.
14. Update the System (optional, if the system was not set to download updates during install):

```
zypper up
```

15. Reboot.

OPTIONAL: Registration from the command line

If you added SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 as an extension during SUSE Linux Enterprise Server installation then you can skip this procedure.

However, optionally you may skip registration during SUSE Linux Enterprise Server installation by selecting the **[Skip Registration]** button. This section provides steps on registering your products after SUSE Linux Enterprise Server installation.



The following steps register a SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 extension with the x86-64 architecture and thus require a registration code for the x86-64 architecture.

To register ARM or s390x architectures use the correct registration code.

Procedure: Registering from the command line

1. List available extensions with the following command:

```
SUSEConnect --list-extensions
```

2. From the list of available extensions, select the one you wish to install:

- If installing the Server, use your SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server Extension 5.1 x86_64 registration code. For example for SUSE Linux Enterprise 15 SP7, use the following commands:

```
SUSEConnect -r <regcode>
SUSEConnect -p sle-module-containers/15.7/x86_64
SUSEConnect -p Multi-Linux-Manager-Server-SLE/5.1/x86_64 -r <regcode>
```

- If installing the Proxy, use your SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy Extension 5.1 x86_64 registration code with the following command:

```
SUSEConnect -p Multi-Linux-Manager-Proxy-SLE/5.1/x86_64 -r <regcode>
```

Install and enable podman**Procedure: Installing podman**

1. Log in as root and install the product package.
 - On the server:

```
zypper in podman
zypper in -t product SUSE-Multi-Linux-Manager-Server
```

- On the proxies:

```
zypper in podman
zypper in -t product SUSE-Multi-Linux-Manager-Proxy
```



Make sure that package `podman` is installed. Additionally, on the server `mgradm` and `mgradm-bash-completion` or on the proxies, `mgrpky` and `mgrpky-bash-completion` also need to be installed.

2. Start the Podman service by rebooting the system, or running a command:

```
systemctl enable --now podman.service
```

To continue with deployment, see [installation-and-upgrade:container-deployment/mlm/proxy-deployment-mlm.pdf](#).

3.2.1.4. Configure Custom Persistent Storage

Configuring persistent storage is optional, but it is the only way to avoid serious trouble with container full disk conditions. If custom persistent storage is required for your infrastructure, use the `mgr-storage-proxy` tool.

- For more information, see `mgr-storage-proxy --help`. This tool simplifies creating the container storage and Squid cache volumes.

Use the command in the following manner:

```
mgr-storage-proxy <storage-disk-device>
```

For example:

```
mgr-storage-proxy /dev/nvme1n1
```



This command will create the persistent storage volumes at `/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes`.

For more information, see

- Installation-and-upgrade › Container-management
- Administration › Troubleshooting

3.2.1.5. Create an Activation Key for the Proxy

Procedure: Creating an Activation Key

1. Navigate to **Systems › Activation Keys** , and click [**Create key**].
2. Create an activation key for the proxy host with SL Micro 6.1 or SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7 as the parent channel.

This key should include all recommended channels and the proxy as an extension child channel.

3. Proceed to bootstrapping the proxy host as a default client.

3.2.1.6. Bootstrap the Proxy Host as a Client

Procedure: Bootstrapping the Proxy Host

1. Select **Systems › Bootstrapping**.
2. Fill in the fields for your proxy host.
3. Select the activation key created in the previous step from the drop-down.
4. Click [**Bootstrap**].
5. Wait for the bootstrap process to complete successfully. Check the **Salt** menu and confirm the Salt key is listed and accepted.
6. Reboot the proxy host if the operating system is SL Micro.
7. Select the host from the **System** list and trigger a second reboot in case of SL Micro after all events are finished to conclude the onboarding.

Procedure: Updating the Proxy Host

1. Select the host from the **Systems** list and apply all patches to update it.
2. Reboot the proxy host if the operating system is SL Micro.

3.2.1.7. Generate Proxy Configuration

The configuration archive of the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy is generated by the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server. Each additional Proxy requires its own configuration archive.

For the containerized SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy, you must build a new proxy configuration file and then redeploy the container for the changes to take effect. This is the process for updating settings, including the SSL certificate.



For Podman deployment, the container host for the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy must be registered as a client to the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server prior to generating this proxy configuration.

If a proxy FQDN is used to generate a proxy container configuration that is not a registered client (as in the Kubernetes use case), a new system entry will appear in system list. This new entry will be shown under previously entered Proxy FQDN value and will be of Foreign system type.



Peripheral servers are always using third-party SSL certificates. If the hub server has generated the certificates for the peripheral server, it needs to generate the certificate of each proxy too. On the hub server, run the following command.

```
mgctl exec -ti -- rhn-ssl-tool --gen-server --dir="/root/ssl-build"
--set-country="COUNTRY" \
--set-state="STATE" --set-city="CITY" --set-org="ORGANIZATION" \
--set-org-unit="ORGANIZATION UNIT" --set-email="name@example.com" \
--set-hostname=PROXY --set-cname="proxy.example.com"
```

The files to use will be `*/root/ssl-build/RHN-ORG-TRUSTED-SSL-CERT` as the root CA, `*/root/ssl-build/<hostname>/server.crt` as the proxy certificate and `*/root/ssl-build/<hostname>/server.key` as the proxy certificate's key.

3.2.1.7.1. Generate the Proxy Configuration with Web UI

Procedure: Generating a Proxy Container Configuration Using Web UI

1. In the Web UI, navigate to **Systems › Proxy Configuration** and fill the required data.
2. In the Proxy FQDN field type fully qualified domain name for the proxy.
3. In the Parent FQDN field type fully qualified domain name for the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server or another SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy.
4. In the Proxy SSH port field type SSH port on which SSH service is listening

on SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy. Recommended is to keep default 8022.

5. In the Max Squid cache size [MB] field type maximal allowed size for Squid cache. Recommended is to use at most 80% of available storage for the containers.



2 GB represents the default proxy squid cache size. This will need to be adjusted for your environment.

6. In the SSL certificate selection list choose if new server certificate should be generated for SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy or an existing one should be used. You can consider generated certificates as SUSE Multi-Linux Manager builtin (self signed) certificates.

Depending on the choice then provide either path to signing CA certificate to generate a new certificate or path to an existing certificate and its key to be used as proxy certificate.

The CA certificates generated by the server are stored in the `/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes/root/_data/ssl-build` directory.

For more information about existing or custom certificates and the concept of corporate and intermediate certificates, see **Administration › Ssl-certs-imported**.

7. Click **[Generate]** to register a new proxy FQDN in the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server and generate a configuration archive (`config.tar.gz`) containing details for the container host.
8. After a few moments you are presented with file to download. Save this file locally.

3.2.1.7.2. Generate Proxy Configuration With spacecmd and Self-Signed Certificate

You can generate a Proxy configuration using spacecmd.

Procedure: Generating Proxy Configuration with spacecmd and Self-Signed Certificate

1. SSH into your container host.
2. Execute the following command replacing the Server and Proxy FQDN:

```
mgrctl exec -ti 'spacecmd proxy_container_config_generate_cert -- dev-pxy.example.com dev-srv.example.com 2048 email@example.com -o /tmp/config.tar.gz'
```

3. Copy the generated configuration from the server container:

```
mgrctl cp server:/tmp/config.tar.gz .
```

3.2.1.7.3. Generate Proxy Configuration With spacecmd and Custom Certificate

You can generate a Proxy configuration using spacecmd for custom certificates rather than the default self-signed certificates.

Procedure: Generating Proxy Configuration with spacecmd and Custom Certificate

1. SSH into your Server container host.
2. Execute the following commands replacing the Server and Proxy FQDN:

```
for f in ca.crt proxy.crt proxy.key; do
  mgrctl cp $f server:/tmp/$f
done
mgrctl exec -ti 'spacecmd proxy_container_config -- -p 8022 pxy.example.com
srv.example.com 2048 email@example.com /tmp/ca.crt /tmp/proxy.crt
/tmp/proxy.key -o /tmp/config.tar.gz'
```

3. If your setup uses an intermediate CA, copy it as well and include it in the command with the `-i` option (can be provided multiple times if needed) :

```
mgrctl cp intermediateCA.pem server:/tmp/intermediateCA.pem
mgrctl exec -ti 'spacecmd proxy_container_config -- -p 8022 -i
/tmp/intermediateCA.pem pxy.example.com srv.example.com 2048 email@example.com
/tmp/ca.crt /tmp/proxy.crt /tmp/proxy.key -o /tmp/config.tar.gz'
```

4. Copy the generated configuration from the server container:

```
mgrctl cp server:/tmp/config.tar.gz .
```

3.2.1.8. Transfer the Proxy Configuration

The Web UI generates a configuration archive. This archive needs to be made available on the proxy container host.

Procedure: Copying the Proxy Configuration

1. If not already done, copy the configuration archive (config.tar.gz) generated in the previous step from the server container to the server host:

```
mgrctl cp server:/root/config.tar.gz .
```

2. If not already done, copy the files from the server host to the proxy host:

```
scp config.tar.gz <proxy-FQDN>:/root
```

3. On the proxy host, install the Proxy with:

```
mgrpky install podman config.tar.gz
```

3.2.1.9. Start the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy

Container can now be started with the mgrpky command:

Procedure: Starting and Checking Proxy Status

1. Start the proxy by calling:

```
mgrpky start
```

2. Check container status by calling:

```
mgrpky status
```

Five SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy containers should be present and should be part of the proxy-pod container pod:

- proxy-salt-broker
- proxy-httpd
- proxy-tftpd
- proxy-squid
- proxy-ssh

3.2.1.10. Use a Custom Container Image for a Service

By default, the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy suite is configured to use the same image version and registry path for each of its services. However, it is possible to override the default values for a specific service using the install parameters ending with `-tag` and `-image`.

For example:

```
mgrpky install podman --httpd-tag 0.1.0 --httpd-image registry.opensuse.org/uyuni/proxy-httpd /path/to/config.tar.gz
```

It adjusts the configuration file for the httpd service, where `registry.opensuse.org/uyuni/proxy-httpds` is the image to use and `0.1.0` is the version tag, before restarting it.

To reset the values to defaults, run the install command again without those parameters:

```
mgrpky install podman /path/to/config.tar.gz
```

This command first resets the configuration of all services to the global defaults and then reloads it.

3.2.2. Convert a Client to MLM Proxy

3.2.2.1. Overview

This chapter describes how to convert a client system into a SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy using the Web UI.

It assumes that the proxy host system has already been bootstrapped, is subscribed to the base operating

system channel (such as SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7 or SL Micro 6.1) and to the Proxy Extension channel.

For information about client onboarding, see **Client-configuration › Registration-overview**.

3.2.2.2. Requirements

Before starting the conversion, ensure the following requirements are fulfilled.

3.2.2.2.1. Supported Systems

Only the following operating systems are currently supported for proxy conversion:

- SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7
- SL Micro 6.1

3.2.2.2.2. Client Must Be

- Already onboarded in SUSE Multi-Linux Manager
- Reachable via the network
- Subscribed to the appropriate proxy extension channel:
 - SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy Extension 5.1 (matching architecture)

3.2.2.3. Preparation

Before proceeding with the proxy conversion, make sure the following preparations are completed to avoid interruptions during the conversion process.

3.2.2.3.1. SSL Certificates

Valid SSL certificates are required to secure communication between the proxy and other components.

You need:

- The public certificate of the Certificate Authority (CA) that signed the certificate on the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager server
- A certificate for the proxy.
- The corresponding private key for the proxy certificate.



⋮ If your CA uses an intermediate certificate chain, you must include all intermediate

certificates as well.

If you are not using third party certificates, you can generate them using the `rhn-ssl-tool` inside the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager container.

Generate a proxy certificate

1. On the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager server host, run:

```
mgrctl exec -ti -- rhn-ssl-tool --gen-server \
  --set-hostname="<PROXY-FQDN>" \
  --dir="/root/ssl-build"
```

For more information about other parameters, see **Administration › Ssl-certs-selfsigned**.

2. Transfer the certificates to SUSE Multi-Linux Manager server host

```
mgrctl cp server:/root/ssl-build/<PROXY-FQDN>/server.crt /root/proxycert.pem
mgrctl cp server:/root/ssl-build/<PROXY-FQDN>/server.key /root/proxykey.pem
mgrctl cp server:/root/ssl-build/RHN-ORG-TRUSTED-SSL-CERT /root/rootca.pem
```



To confirm the exact folder where the certificates and key files were generated, you can list the directories with:

```
mgrctl exec -ti -- ls -ltd /root/ssl-build/*/
```

3. Transfer the certificates from the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager server host to your local machine or other target system:

```
scp <MLM-FQDN>:/root/proxycert.pem ./
scp <MLM-FQDN>:/root/proxykey.pem ./
scp <MLM-FQDN>:/root/rootca.pem ./
```

3.2.2.3.2. Packages Preparation

It is recommended to deploy the container images as RPM packages. Please ensure the following packages are installed on the client:

- `suse-multi-linux-manager-5.1-<ARCH>-proxy-httpd-image`
- `suse-multi-linux-manager-5.1-<ARCH>-proxy-salt-broker-image`
- `suse-multi-linux-manager-5.1-<ARCH>-proxy-squid-image`
- `suse-multi-linux-manager-5.1-<ARCH>-proxy-ssh-image`
- `suse-multi-linux-manager-5.1-<ARCH>-proxy-tftpd-image`

You can install these packages from the Web UI by navigating to the **Software > Packages > Install** tab, then searching for the packages above, and installing them.

For details on air-gapped deployment, see **Installation-and-upgrade > Container-deployment**

3.2.2.4. Setup Proxy Client

1. Navigate to the client's Overview page.
2. Click button **[Convert to Proxy]**.

Confirm you were redirected to the proxy configuration form.

This page can be accessed later from the **Details > Proxy > Configuration** tab.

3. In the Web UI, navigate to **Proxy > Configuration** and fill in the required data:

Procedure: Configuring the Proxy

- a. In the Parent FQDN field, type the fully qualified domain name for the parent server or proxy.
- b. In the Proxy SSH port field, type the SSH port on which the SSH service is listening on the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy. It is recommended to keep the default: 8022.
- c. In the Max Squid cache size field, type the maximum allowed size for the Squid cache, in Gigabytes.
- d. In the Proxy admin email field, type the administrator's email address.
- e. In the Certificates section, provide the certificates for the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy, obtained in the preparation step.
- f. In the Source section, select one of the two options: RPM or Registry.
 - The RPM option is recommended for air-gapped or restricted environments.
 - The Registry option can be used if connectivity to the container image registry is available. If selected, you will be prompted to choose between two sub-options: Simple or Advanced.
 - If Simple is selected, provide values in the Registry URL and Containers Tag fields.
 - For Registry URL use: `registry.suse.com/suse/multi-linux-manager/5.1/x86_64`.
 - Select the tag from the drop-down list.
 - If Advanced is selected, an additional section of the form is shown:
 - For each individual container URL field, use the registry: `registry.suse.com/suse/multi-linux-manager/5.1/x86_64` followed by the corresponding suffix, for example, `proxy-httpd` or `salt-broker`.
 - Select the tag from the drop-down list.

4. Once all fields are filled, click **[Apply]** to apply the configuration and schedule the proxy installation task.

3.2.2.5. Verify Proxy Activation

Check the client's event history to confirm task success.

(Optional) Access the proxy's HTTP endpoint to validate it shows a welcome page.

3.2.3. SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy Deployment as a Virtual Machine - KVM

This chapter provides the Virtual Machine settings for deployment of SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Proxy as an image. KVM will be combined with Virtual Machine Manager (virt-manager) as a sandbox for this installation.

3.2.3.1. Available Images



The preferred method for deploying SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy is to use one of the following available images. All tools are included in these images simplifying deployment.

Images for SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Proxy are available at [SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 VM images](#).



Customized SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 VM images are provided only for SL Micro 6.1. To run the product on SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7, use the standard SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7 installation media available at <https://www.suse.com/download/sles/> and enable the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 extensions on top of it.



For more information on preparing raw images, see <https://documentation.suse.com/sle-micro/6.1/html/Micro-deployment-raw-images-virtual-machines/index.html#deployment-preparing-configuration-device>.

For additional information on the self install images, see <https://documentation.suse.com/sle-micro/6.1/html/Micro-deployment-selfinstall-images/index.html>

Table 12. Available Proxy Images

Architecture	Image Format
aarch64	qcow2, vmdk
x86_64	qcow2, vmdk, raw, Self Installer

3.2.3.2. Virtual Machine Manager (virt-manager) Settings

Enter the following settings when creating a new virtual machine using **virt-manager**.



This table specifies the minimum requirements. These are suitable for a quick test installation, such as a proxy with one client.

If you want to use a production environment and need background information about disk space, see **Installation-and-upgrade › Hardware-requirements**.

KVM Settings	
Installation Method	Import Existing Disk Image
OS:	Linux
Version:	SUSE Multi-Linux Manager-Proxy.x86_64-5.1.*.qcow2
Memory:	Minimum *)
CPU's:	Minimum *)
Storage Format:	.qcow2 40 GB (Default) Root Partition
Name:	test-setup
Network	Bridge br0

*) For minimum values, see [installation-and-upgrade:hardware-requirements.pdf](#).



/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes Minimum 100 GB. Storage requirements should be calculated for the number of ISO distribution images, containers, and bootstrap repositories you will use.

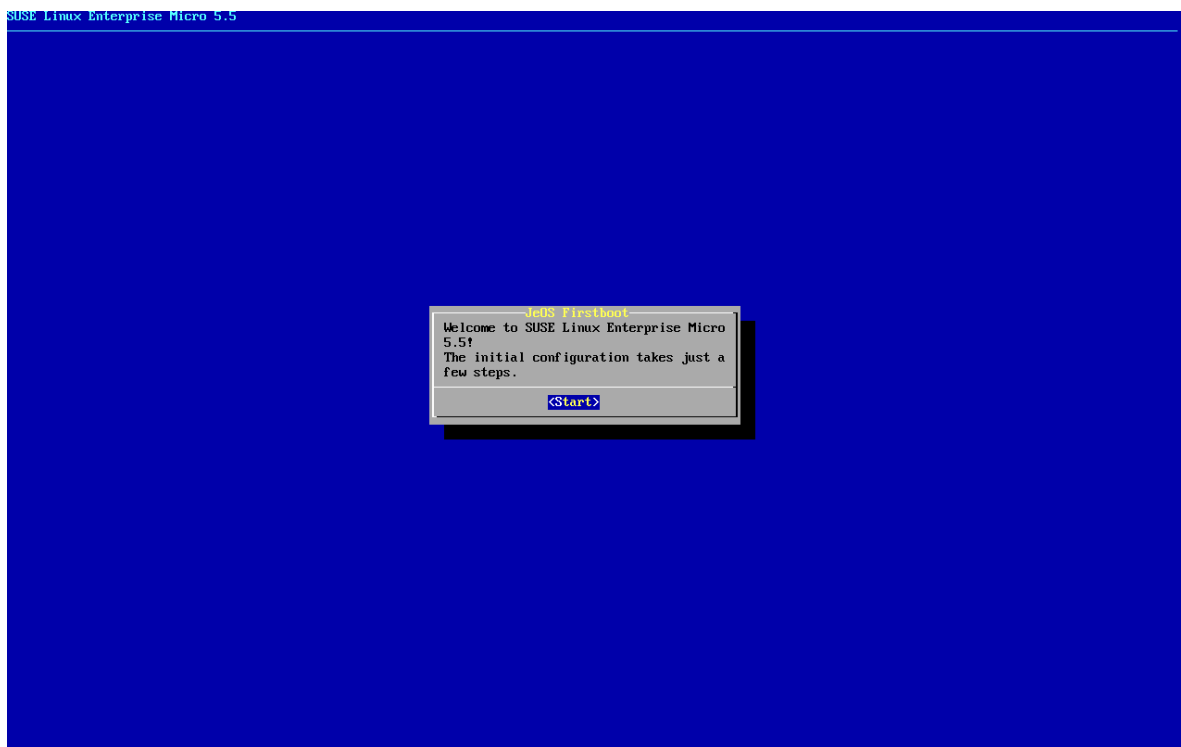
3.2.3.3. Initial KVM Setup

For settings, see [installation-and-upgrade:container-deployment/mlm/proxy-deployment-vm-mlm.pdf](#).

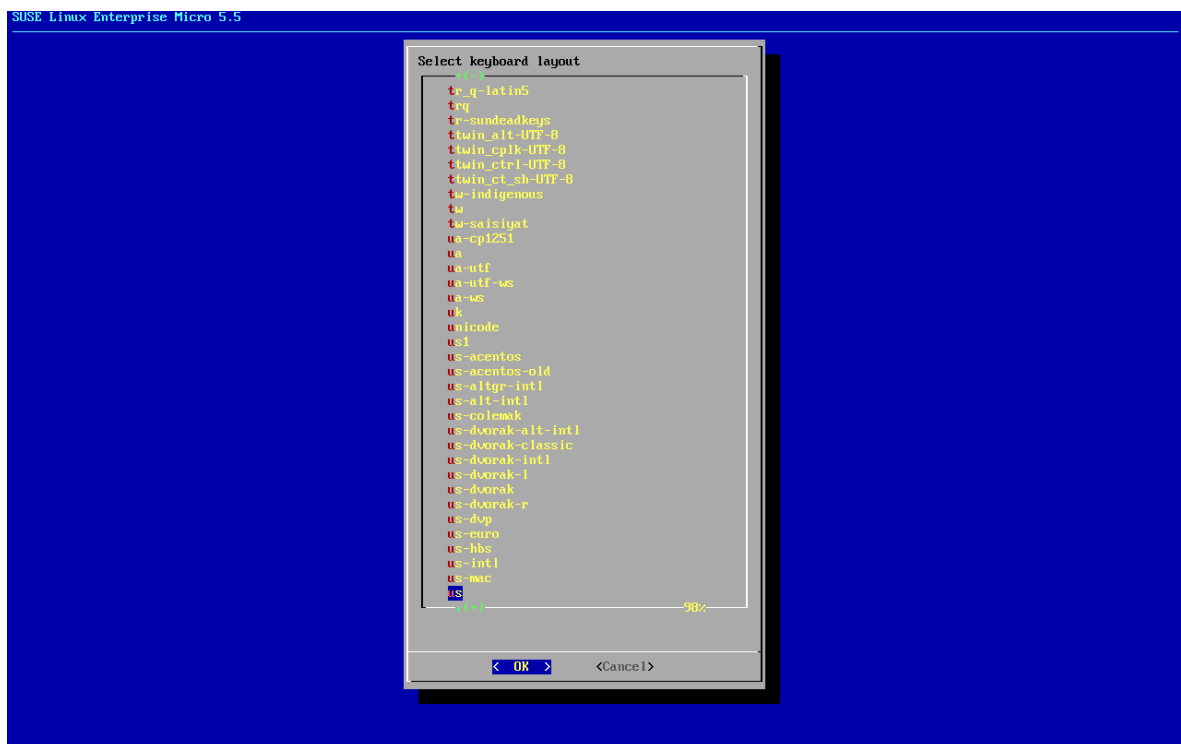
Procedure: Creating Initial Setup

1. Create a new virtual machine using the downloaded Minimal KVM image and select Import existing disk image.
2. Configure RAM and number of CPUs with minimum values. *)
3. Name your KVM machine and select the Customize configuration before install check box.

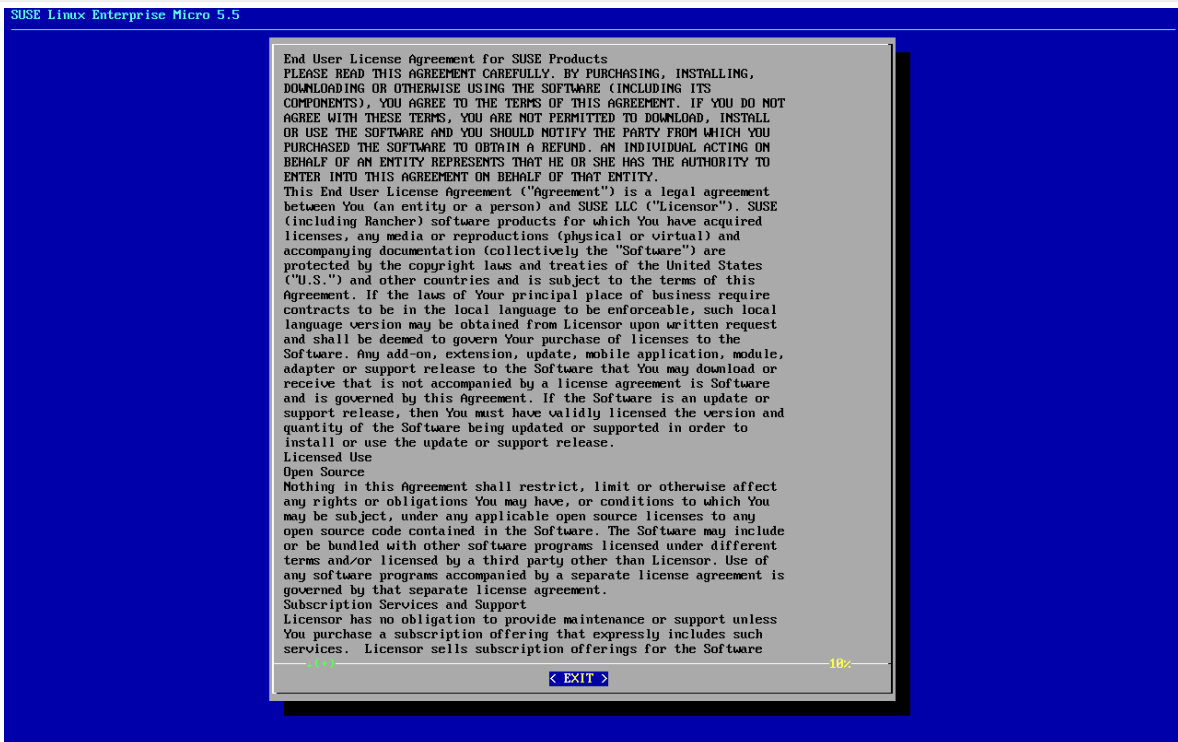
4. Click **[Begin Installation]** to boot from the image.
5. At the JeOS Firstboot screen select start to continue.



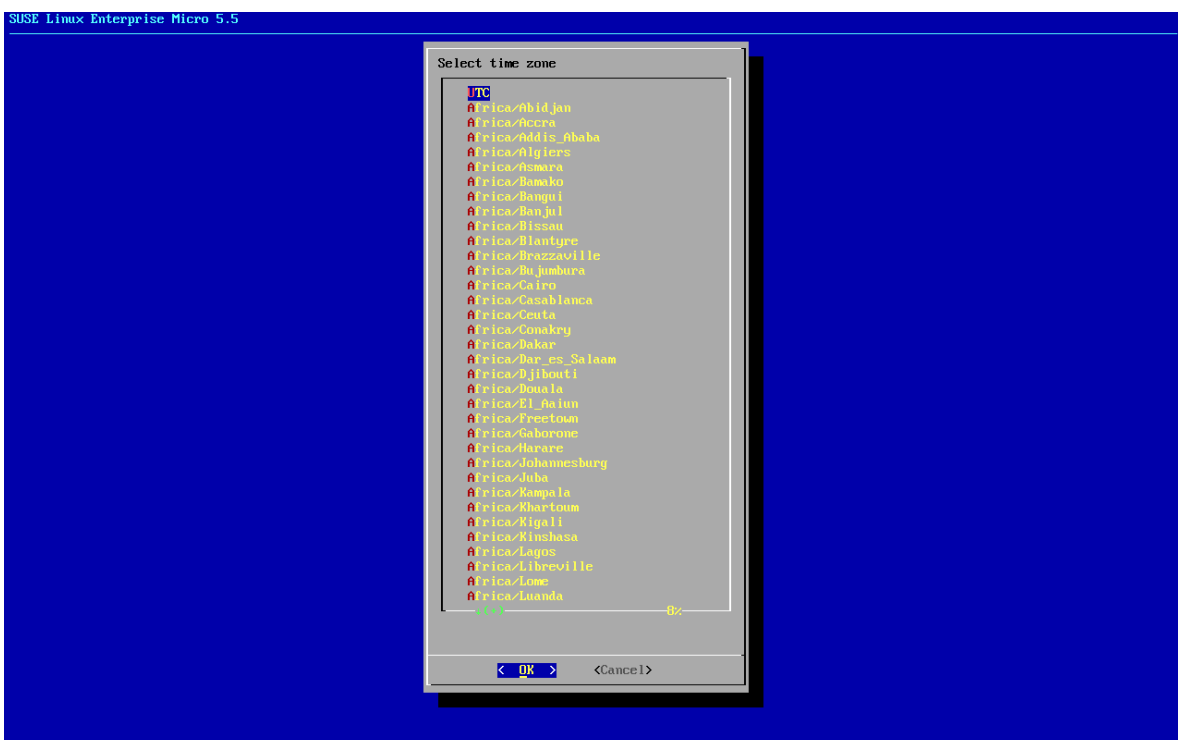
6. Select keyboard layout.



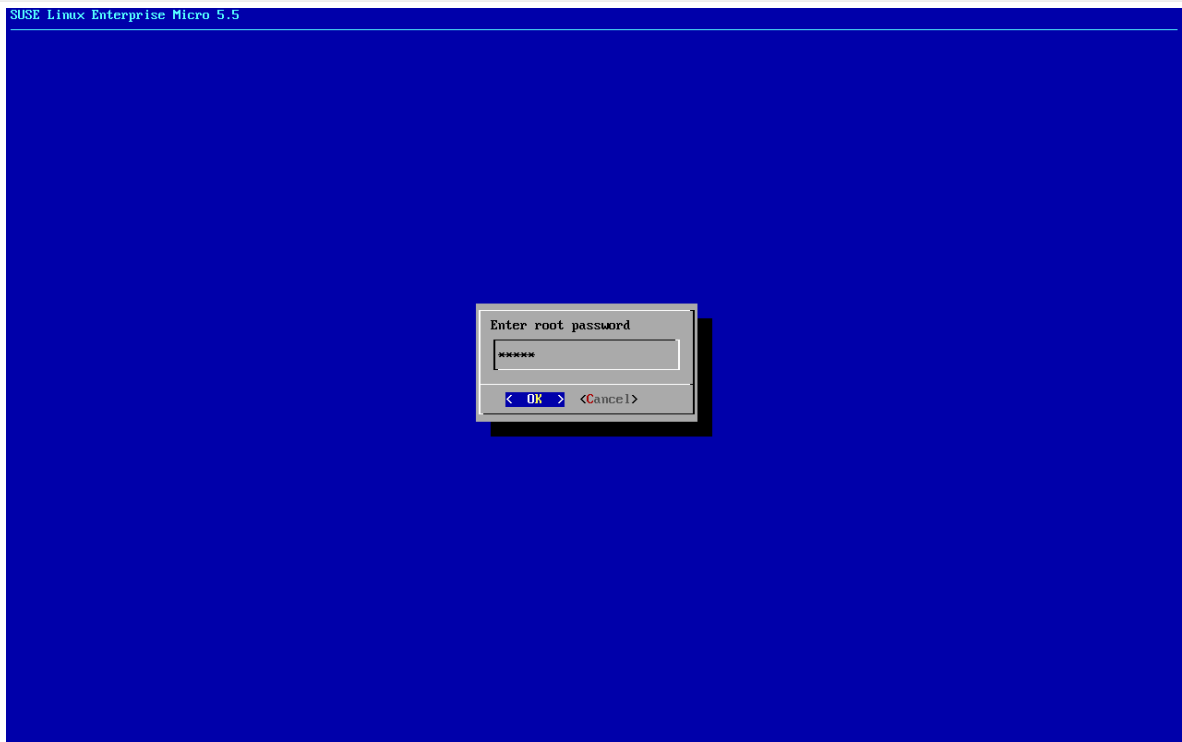
7. Accept the license agreement.



8. Select your time zone.



9. Enter a password for root.



10. When installation completes log in as root.
11. Proceed to the next section.

*) For minimum values, see [installation-and-upgrade:hardware-requirements.pdf](#).

3.2.3.4. Register SL Micro and SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Proxy

Procedure: Registering SL Micro and SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Proxy

1. Boot the virtual machine.
2. Log in as root.
3. Register SL Micro with SCC.

```
transactional-update register -r <REGCODE> -e <your_email>
```

4. Reboot.
5. Register SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Proxy with SUSE Customer Center.

```
transactional-update register -p Multi-Linux-Manager-Proxy/5.1/x86_64 -r <REGCODE>
```

6. Reboot.

7. Update the system:

```
transactional-update
```

8. If updates were applied reboot.

9. This step is optional. However, if custom persistent storage is required for your infrastructure, use the mgr-storage-proxy tool.

- For more information, see `mgr-storage-proxy --help`. This tool simplifies creating the container volumes.
- Use the command in the following manner:

```
mgr-storage-proxy <storage-disk-device>
```

For example:

```
mgr-storage-proxy /dev/nvme1n1
```

This command will move the persistent storage volumes at `/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes` to the specified storage device.



For more information, see

- **Installation-and-upgrade › Container-management**
- **Administration › Troubleshooting**

3.2.3.5. Create an Activation Key for the Proxy

Procedure: Creating an Activation Key

- Navigate to **Systems › Activation Keys**, and click **[Create key]**.
- Create an activation key for the proxy host with SL Micro 6.1 or SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7 as the parent channel.

This key should include all recommended channels and the proxy as an extension child channel.

- Proceed to bootstrapping the proxy host as a default client.

3.2.3.6. Generate Proxy Configuration

The configuration archive of the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy is generated by the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server. Each additional Proxy requires its own configuration archive.

For the containerized SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy, you must build a new proxy configuration file and then redeploy the container for the changes to take effect. This is the process for updating settings, including the SSL certificate.



For Podman deployment, the container host for the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy must be registered as a client to the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server prior to generating this proxy configuration.

If a proxy FQDN is used to generate a proxy container configuration that is not a registered client (as in the Kubernetes use case), a new system entry will appear in system list. This new entry will be shown under previously entered Proxy FQDN value and will be of Foreign system type.



Peripheral servers are always using third-party SSL certificates. If the hub server has generated the certificates for the peripheral server, it needs to generate the certificate of each proxy too. On the hub server, run the following command.

```
mgctl exec -ti -- rhn-ssl-tool --gen-server --dir="/root/ssl-build"
--set-country="COUNTRY" \
--set-state="STATE" --set-city="CITY" --set-org="ORGANIZATION" \
--set-org-unit="ORGANIZATION UNIT" --set-email="name@example.com" \
--set-hostname=PROXY --set-cname="proxy.example.com"
```

The files to use will be `*/root/ssl-build/RHN-ORG-TRUSTED-SSL-CERT` as the root CA, `*/root/ssl-build/<hostname>/server.crt` as the proxy certificate and `*/root/ssl-build/<hostname>/server.key` as the proxy certificate's key.

3.2.3.6.1. Generate the Proxy Configuration with Web UI

Procedure: Generating a Proxy Container Configuration Using Web UI

1. In the Web UI, navigate to **Systems › Proxy Configuration** and fill the required data.
2. In the Proxy FQDN field type fully qualified domain name for the proxy.
3. In the Parent FQDN field type fully qualified domain name for the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server or another SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy.
4. In the Proxy SSH port field type SSH port on which SSH service is listening

on SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy. Recommended is to keep default 8022.

5. In the Max Squid cache size [MB] field type maximal allowed size for Squid cache. Recommended is to use at most 80% of available storage for the containers.



2 GB represents the default proxy squid cache size. This will need to be adjusted for your environment.

6. In the SSL certificate selection list choose if new server certificate should be generated for SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy or an existing one should be used. You can consider generated certificates as SUSE Multi-Linux Manager builtin (self signed) certificates.

Depending on the choice then provide either path to signing CA certificate to generate a new certificate or path to an existing certificate and its key to be used as proxy certificate.

The CA certificates generated by the server are stored in the `/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes/root/_data/ssl-build` directory.

For more information about existing or custom certificates and the concept of corporate and intermediate certificates, see **Administration › Ssl-certs-imported**.

7. Click **[Generate]** to register a new proxy FQDN in the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server and generate a configuration archive (`config.tar.gz`) containing details for the container host.
8. After a few moments you are presented with file to download. Save this file locally.

3.2.3.6.2. Generate Proxy Configuration With spacecmd and Self-Signed Certificate

You can generate a Proxy configuration using spacecmd.

Procedure: Generating Proxy Configuration with spacecmd and Self-Signed Certificate

1. SSH into your container host.
2. Execute the following command replacing the Server and Proxy FQDN:

```
mgrctl exec -ti 'spacecmd proxy_container_config_generate_cert -- dev-pxy.example.com dev-srv.example.com 2048 email@example.com -o /tmp/config.tar.gz'
```

3. Copy the generated configuration from the server container:

```
mgrctl cp server:/tmp/config.tar.gz .
```

3.2.3.6.3. Generate Proxy Configuration With spacecmd and Custom Certificate

You can generate a Proxy configuration using spacecmd for custom certificates rather than the default self-signed certificates.

Procedure: Generating Proxy Configuration with spacecmd and Custom Certificate

1. SSH into your Server container host.
2. Execute the following commands replacing the Server and Proxy FQDN:

```
for f in ca.crt proxy.crt proxy.key; do
  mgrctl cp $f server:/tmp/$f
done
mgrctl exec -ti 'spacecmd proxy_container_config -- -p 8022 pxy.example.com
srv.example.com 2048 email@example.com /tmp/ca.crt /tmp/proxy.crt
/tmp/proxy.key -o /tmp/config.tar.gz'
```

3. If your setup uses an intermediate CA, copy it as well and include it in the command with the `-i` option (can be provided multiple times if needed) :


```
mgrctl cp intermediateCA.pem server:/tmp/intermediateCA.pem
mgrctl exec -ti 'spacecmd proxy_container_config -- -p 8022 -i
/tmp/intermediateCA.pem pxy.example.com srv.example.com 2048 email@example.com
/tmp/ca.crt /tmp/proxy.crt /tmp/proxy.key -o /tmp/config.tar.gz'
```

4. Copy the generated configuration from the server container:

```
mgrctl cp server:/tmp/config.tar.gz .
```

3.2.3.7. Transfer the Proxy Configuration

The Web UI generates a configuration archive. This archive needs to be made available on the proxy container host.

Procedure: Copying the Proxy Configuration

1. If not already done, copy the configuration archive (config.tar.gz) generated in the previous step from the server container to the server host:

```
mgrctl cp server:/root/config.tar.gz .
```

2. If not already done, copy the files from the server host to the proxy host:

```
scp config.tar.gz <proxy-FQDN>:/root
```

3. On the proxy host, install the Proxy with:

```
mgrpky install podman config.tar.gz
```

3.2.3.8. Start the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Proxy

Container can now be started with the mgrpky command:

Procedure: Start and Check Proxy Status

1. Start the Proxy by calling:

```
mgrpky start
```

2. Check container status by calling:

```
mgrpky status
```

Five SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy containers should be present and should be part of the proxy-pod container pod:

- proxy-salt-broker
- proxy-httpd
- proxy-tftpd
- proxy-squid
- proxy-ssh

3.2.3.8.1. Using a Custom Container Image for a Service

By default, the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy suite is set to use the same image version and registry path for each of its services. However, it is possible to override the default values for a specific service using the install parameters ending with `-tag` and `-image`.

For example, use it like this:

```
mgrpky install podman --httpd-tag 0.1.0 --httpd-image registry.opensuse.org/uyuni/proxy-httpd /path/to/config.tar.gz
```

It adjusts the configuration file for the httpd service, where `registry.opensuse.org/uyuni/proxy-httpds` is the image to use and `0.1.0` is the version tag, before restarting it.

To reset the values to defaults, run the install command again without those parameters:

```
mgrpky install podman /path/to/config.tar.gz
```

This command first resets the configuration of all services to the global defaults and then reloads it.

3.2.4. SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy Deployment as a Virtual Machine - VMware

This chapter provides the Virtual Machine settings for deployment of SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Proxy as an image. VMware will be used as a sandbox for this installation.

3.2.4.1. Available Images



The preferred method for deploying SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy is to use one of the

following available images. All tools are included in these images simplifying deployment.

Images for SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Proxy are available at [SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 VM images](#).



Customized SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 VM images are provided only for SL Micro 6.1. To run the product on SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7, use the standard SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7 installation media available at <https://www.suse.com/download/sles/> and enable the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 extensions on top of it.



For more information on preparing raw images, see <https://documentation.suse.com/sle-micro/6.1/html/Micro-deployment-raw-images-virtual-machines/index.html#deployment-preparing-configuration-device>.

For additional information on the self install images, see <https://documentation.suse.com/sle-micro/6.1/html/Micro-deployment-selfinstall-images/index.html>

Table 13. Available Proxy Images

Architecture	Image Format
aarch64	qcow2, vmdk
x86_64	qcow2, vmdk, raw, Self Installer

3.2.4.2. Virtual Machine Settings - VMware

This section describes VMware configurations, focusing on the creation of an extra virtual disk essential for the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy storage partition within VMware environments.



This section specifies the minimum requirements. These are suitable for a quick test installation, such as a proxy with one client.

If you want to use a production environment and need background information about disk space, see **Installation-and-upgrade › Hardware-requirements**.

Procedure: Creating the VMware Virtual Machine

1. Download SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy .vmdk file then transfer a copy to your VMware storage.
2. Make a copy of uploaded .vmdk file using VMware web interface. This will convert provided .vmdk file to the format suitable for vSphere hypervisor.
3. Create and name a new virtual machine based on the Guest OS Family Linux and Guest OS Version SUSE Linux Enterprise 15 (64-bit).

4. Add an additional Hard Disk 2 of 100 GB (or more).
5. Configure RAM and number of CPUs with minimum values. *)
6. Set the network adapter as required.
7. Power on the VM, and follow firstboot dialogs (keyboard layout, license agreement, time zone, password for root).
8. When installation completes log in as root.
9. Proceed to the next section.

*) For minimum values, see [installation-and-upgrade:hardware-requirements.pdf](#).

3.2.4.3. Register SL Micro and SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Proxy

Procedure: Registering SL Micro and SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Proxy

1. Boot the virtual machine.
2. Log in as root.
3. Register SL Micro with SCC.

```
transactional-update register -r <REGCODE> -e <your_email>
```

4. Reboot.
5. Register SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Proxy with SUSE Customer Center.

```
transactional-update register -p Multi-Linux-Manager-Proxy/5.1/x86_64 -r <REGCODE>
```

6. Reboot.
7. Update the system:

```
transactional-update
```

8. If updates were applied reboot.
9. This step is optional. However, if custom persistent storage is required for your infrastructure, use the `mgr-storage-proxy` tool.
 - For more information, see `mgr-storage-proxy --help`. This tool simplifies creating the container volumes.
 - Use the command in the following manner:

```
mgr-storage-proxy <storage-disk-device>
```

For example:

```
mgr-storage-proxy /dev/nvme1n1
```



This command will move the persistent storage volumes at `/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes` to the specified storage device.

For more information, see

- [Installation-and-upgrade › Container-management](#)
- [Administration › Troubleshooting](#)

3.2.4.4. Create an Activation Key for the Proxy

Procedure: Creating an Activation Key

1. Navigate to **Systems › Activation Keys** , and click **[Create key]**.
2. Create an activation key for the proxy host with SL Micro 6.1 or SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7 as the parent channel.

This key should include all recommended channels and the proxy as an extension child channel.

3. Proceed to bootstrapping the proxy host as a default client.

3.2.4.5. Generate Proxy Configuration

The configuration archive of the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy is generated by the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server. Each additional Proxy requires its own configuration archive.

For the containerized SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy, you must build a new proxy configuration file and then redeploy the container for the changes to take effect. This is the process for updating settings, including the SSL certificate.



For Podman deployment, the container host for the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy must be registered as a client to the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server prior to generating this proxy configuration.

If a proxy FQDN is used to generate a proxy container configuration that is not a registered client (as in the

Kubernetes use case), a new system entry will appear in system list. This new entry will be shown under previously entered Proxy FQDN value and will be of Foreign system type.



Peripheral servers are always using third-party SSL certificates. If the hub server has generated the certificates for the peripheral server, it needs to generate the certificate of each proxy too. On the hub server, run the following command.

```
mgrctl exec -ti -- rhn-ssl-tool --gen-server --dir="/root/ssl-build"
--set-country="COUNTRY" \
--set-state="STATE" --set-city="CITY" --set-org="ORGANIZATION" \
--set-org-unit="ORGANIZATION UNIT" --set-email="name@example.com" \
--set-hostname=PROXY --set-cname="proxy.example.com"
```

The files to use will be `*/root/ssl-build/RHN-ORG-TRUSTED-SSL-CERT` as the root CA, `*/root/ssl-build/<hostname>/server.crt` as the proxy certificate and `*/root/ssl-build/<hostname>/server.key` as the proxy certificate's key.

3.2.4.5.1. Generate the Proxy Configuration with Web UI

Procedure: Generating a Proxy Container Configuration Using Web UI

1. In the Web UI, navigate to **Systems › Proxy Configuration** and fill the required data.
2. In the Proxy FQDN field type fully qualified domain name for the proxy.
3. In the Parent FQDN field type fully qualified domain name for the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server or another SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy.
4. In the Proxy SSH port field type SSH port on which SSH service is listening on SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy. Recommended is to keep default 8022.
5. In the Max Squid cache size [MB] field type maximal allowed size for Squid cache. Recommended is to use at most 80% of available storage for the containers.



2 GB represents the default proxy squid cache size. This will need to be adjusted for your environment.

6. In the SSL certificate selection list choose if new server certificate should be generated for SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy or an existing one should

be used. You can consider generated certificates as SUSE Multi-Linux Manager builtin (self signed) certificates.

Depending on the choice then provide either path to signing CA certificate to generate a new certificate or path to an existing certificate and its key to be used as proxy certificate.

The CA certificates generated by the server are stored in the `/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes/root/_data/ssl-build` directory.

For more information about existing or custom certificates and the concept of corporate and intermediate certificates, see **Administration › Ssl-certs-imported**.

7. Click **[Generate]** to register a new proxy FQDN in the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server and generate a configuration archive (config.tar.gz) containing details for the container host.
8. After a few moments you are presented with file to download. Save this file locally.

3.2.4.5.2. Generate Proxy Configuration With spacecmd and Self-Signed Certificate

You can generate a Proxy configuration using spacecmd.

Procedure: Generating Proxy Configuration with spacecmd and Self-Signed Certificate

1. SSH into your container host.
2. Execute the following command replacing the Server and Proxy FQDN:

```
mgrctl exec -ti 'spacecmd proxy_container_config_generate_cert -- dev-
pxy.example.com dev-srv.example.com 2048 email@example.com -o
/tmp/config.tar.gz'
```

3. Copy the generated configuration from the server container:

```
mgrctl cp server:/tmp/config.tar.gz .
```

3.2.4.5.3. Generate Proxy Configuration With spacecmd and Custom Certificate

You can generate a Proxy configuration using spacecmd for custom certificates rather than the default self-signed certificates.

Procedure: Generating Proxy Configuration with spacecmd and Custom Certificate

1. SSH into your Server container host.
2. Execute the following commands replacing the Server and Proxy FQDN:

```
for f in ca.crt proxy.crt proxy.key; do
  mgrctl cp $f server:/tmp/$f
done
mgrctl exec -ti 'spacecmd proxy_container_config -- -p 8022 pxy.example.com
srv.example.com 2048 email@example.com /tmp/ca.crt /tmp/proxy.crt
/tmp/proxy.key -o /tmp/config.tar.gz'
```

3. If your setup uses an intermediate CA, copy it as well and include it in the command with the -i option (can be provided multiple times if needed):

```
mgrctl cp intermediateCA.pem server:/tmp/intermediateCA.pem
mgrctl exec -ti 'spacecmd proxy_container_config -- -p 8022 -i
/tmp/intermediateCA.pem pxy.example.com srv.example.com 2048 email@example.com
/tmp/ca.crt /tmp/proxy.crt /tmp/proxy.key -o /tmp/config.tar.gz'
```

4. Copy the generated configuration from the server container:

```
mgrctl cp server:/tmp/config.tar.gz .
```

3.2.4.6. Transfer the Proxy Configuration

The Web UI generates a configuration archive. This archive needs to be made available on the proxy container host.

Procedure: Copying the Proxy Configuration

1. If not already done, copy the configuration archive (config.tar.gz) generated in the previous step from the server container to the server host:


```
mgrctl cp server:/root/config.tar.gz .
```

2. If not already done, copy the files from the server host to the proxy host:

```
scp config.tar.gz <proxy-FQDN>:/root
```

3. On the proxy host, install the Proxy with:

```
mgrpky install podman config.tar.gz
```

3.2.4.7. Start the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Proxy

Container can now be started with the `mgrpky` command:

Procedure: Start and Check Proxy Status

1. Start the Proxy by calling:

```
mgrpky start
```

2. Check container status by calling:

```
mgrpky status
```

Five SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy containers should be present and should be part of the proxy-pod container pod:

- proxy-salt-broker
- proxy-httpd
- proxy-tftpd
- proxy-squid
- proxy-ssh

3.2.4.7.1. Using a Custom Container Image for a Service

By default, the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy suite is set to use the same image version and registry path for each of its services. However, it is possible to override the default values for a specific service using the install parameters ending with `-tag` and `-image`.

For example, use it like this:

```
mgrpky install podman --httpd-tag 0.1.0 --httpd-image registry.opensuse.org/uyuni/proxy-httpd /path/to/config.tar.gz
```

It adjusts the configuration file for the httpd service, where `registry.opensuse.org/uyuni/proxy-httpd` is the image to use and `0.1.0` is the version tag, before restarting it.

To reset the values to defaults, run the install command again without those parameters:

```
mgrpky install podman /path/to/config.tar.gz
```

This command first resets the configuration of all services to the global defaults and then reloads it.

3.2.5. SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Proxy Deployment on K3s

3.2.5.1. Installing K3s



SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy is supported on K3s running on top of SL Micro in a single node cluster. If you need to deploy it in any other Kubernetes environment, contact support for evaluation.

On the container host machine, install K3s (replace `<K3S_HOST_FQDN>` with the FQDN of your K3s host):

```
curl -sfl https://get.k3s.io | INSTALL_K3S_EXEC="--tls-san=<K3S_HOST_FQDN>" sh -
```

3.2.5.2. Installing Tools

The installation requires the `mgrpky` and `helm` packages.

The `mgrpky` and `helm` packages are available in the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy product repositories.

1. To install it, run:

```
transactional-update pkg install helm mgrpky
```

2. Reboot

3.2.5.2.1. Generate the Proxy Configuration with Web UI

Procedure: Generating a Proxy Container Configuration Using Web UI

1. In the Web UI, navigate to **Systems › Proxy Configuration** and fill the required data.

2. In the Proxy FQDN field type fully qualified domain name for the proxy.
3. In the Parent FQDN field type fully qualified domain name for the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server or another SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy.
4. In the Proxy SSH port field type SSH port on which SSH service is listening on SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy. Recommended is to keep default 8022.
5. In the Max Squid cache size [MB] field type maximal allowed size for Squid cache. Recommended is to use at most 80% of available storage for the containers.



2 GB represents the default proxy squid cache size. This will need to be adjusted for your environment.

6. In the SSL certificate selection list choose if new server certificate should be generated for SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy or an existing one should be used. You can consider generated certificates as SUSE Multi-Linux Manager builtin (self signed) certificates.

Depending on the choice then provide either path to signing CA certificate to generate a new certificate or path to an existing certificate and its key to be used as proxy certificate.

The CA certificates generated by the server are stored in the `/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes/root/_data/ssl-build` directory.

For more information about existing or custom certificates and the concept of corporate and intermediate certificates, see **Administration › Ssl-certs-imported**.

7. Click **[Generate]** to register a new proxy FQDN in the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server and generate a configuration archive (`config.tar.gz`) containing details for the container host.

8. After a few moments you are presented with file to download. Save this file locally.

3.2.5.2.2. Generate Proxy Configuration With spacecmd and Self-Signed Certificate

You can generate a Proxy configuration using spacecmd.

Procedure: Generating Proxy Configuration with spacecmd and Self-Signed Certificate

1. SSH into your container host.
2. Execute the following command replacing the Server and Proxy FQDN:

```
mgrctl exec -ti 'spacecmd proxy_container_config_generate_cert -- dev-pxy.example.com dev-srv.example.com 2048 email@example.com -o /tmp/config.tar.gz'
```

3. Copy the generated configuration from the server container:

```
mgrctl cp server:/tmp/config.tar.gz .
```

3.2.5.2.3. Generate Proxy Configuration With spacecmd and Custom Certificate

You can generate a Proxy configuration using spacecmd for custom certificates rather than the default self-signed certificates.

Procedure: Generating Proxy Configuration with spacecmd and Custom Certificate

1. SSH into your Server container host.
2. Execute the following commands replacing the Server and Proxy FQDN:

```
for f in ca.crt proxy.crt proxy.key; do
  mgrctl cp $f server:/tmp/$f
done
mgrctl exec -ti 'spacecmd proxy_container_config -- -p 8022 pxy.example.com
srv.example.com 2048 email@example.com /tmp/ca.crt /tmp/proxy.crt
/tmp/proxy.key -o /tmp/config.tar.gz'
```

3. If your setup uses an intermediate CA, copy it as well and include it in the command with the `-i` option (can be provided multiple times if needed) :

```
mgrctl cp intermediateCA.pem server:/tmp/intermediateCA.pem
mgrctl exec -ti 'spacecmd proxy_container_config -- -p 8022 -i
/tmp/intermediateCA.pem pxy.example.com srv.example.com 2048 email@example.com
/tmp/ca.crt /tmp/proxy.crt /tmp/proxy.key -o /tmp/config.tar.gz'
```

4. Copy the generated configuration from the server container:

```
mgrctl cp server:/tmp/config.tar.gz .
```

3.2.5.3. Deploying the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy Helm Chart

To configure the storage of the volumes to be used by the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy pod, define persistent volumes for the following claims. If you do not customize the storage configuration, K3s will automatically create the storage volumes for you.

The persistent volume claims are named:

- squid-cache-pv-claim
- package-cache-pv-claim
- tftp-boot-pv-claim

Create the configuration for the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy as documented in **Installation-and-upgrade › Container-deployment**. Copy the configuration tar.gz file and then install:

```
mgrpky install kubernetes /path/to/config.tar.gz
```

For more information see <https://kubernetes.io/docs/concepts/storage/persistent-volumes/> (kubernetes) or <https://rancher.com/docs/k3s/latest/en/storage/> (K3s) documentation.

3.2.6. SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy Air-gapped Deployment

3.2.6.1. What is air-gapped deployment?

Air-gapped deployment refers to the setup and operation of any networked system that is physically isolated from insecure networks, especially the internet. This type of deployment is commonly used in high-security environments such as military installations, financial systems, critical infrastructure, and anywhere sensitive data is handled and must be protected from external threats.



At the moment, air-gapped deployment is available only on SL Micro.

3.2.6.2. Deploy with Virtual Machine

The recommended installation method is using the provided SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Virtual Machine Image option, since all the needed tools and container images are pre-loaded and will work out of the box.

For more information about installing SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy Virtual Machine, see [Deploy Proxy as a Virtual Machine](#).

To upgrade SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy, users should follow the procedures defined in [Proxy Upgrade](#).

3.2.6.3. Deploy SUSE Multi-Linux Manager on SL Micro

SUSE Multi-Linux Manager also provides all the needed container images in RPM's that can be installed on the system.

Procedure: Install SUSE Multi-Linux Manager on SL Micro in Air-gapped

1. Install SL Micro.
2. Bootstrap the Proxy Host OS as a Client on SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server.
3. Update the system.
4. Install tools packages and image packages (replace \$ARCH\$ with the correct architecture)

```
transactional-update pkg install mgrpxy* mgrctl* suse-multi-linux-manager-5.1-$ARCH$-proxy-*
```

5. Reboot.
6. Deploy SUSE Multi-Linux Manager with mgrpxy.

For more detailed information about installing SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy on SL Micro, see [Deploy Proxy as a Virtual Machine](#).

To upgrade SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy, users should follow the procedures defined in [Proxy Upgrade](#).

Chapter 4. Upgrade and Migration

4.1. Server

4.1.1. Distribution Upgrade and Server Migration



- SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.0 must be stopped before the upgrade.
- SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.0 is not supported on top of SL Micro 6.1 & SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7 as host OS.

SUSE Multi-Linux Manager server hosts that are hardened for security may restrict execution of files from the /tmp folder. In such cases, as a workaround, export the TMPDIR environment variable to another existing path before running mgradm.



For example:

```
export TMPDIR=/path/to/other/tmp
```

In SUSE Multi-Linux Manager updates, tools will be changed to make this workaround unnecessary.

SSL certificates are needed at a later stage. If not using the self-signed generated CA and certificates, ensure you have the following before starting:

- A certificate authority (CA) SSL public certificate. If you are using a CA chain, all intermediate CAs must also be available.
- An SSL database private key.
- An SSL database certificate.

All files must be in PEM format.

The hostname of the SSL server certificate must match the fully qualified hostname of the machine you deploy them on. You can set the hostnames in the X509v3 Subject Alternative Name section of the certificate. You can also list multiple hostnames if your environment requires it. Supported Key types are RSA and EC (Elliptic Curve).



Database SSL certificate requires reportdb and db and the FQDN used to access the report database as Subject Alternative Name.

During a migration the server SSL certificate and CA chain are copied from the source server, meaning that only the database certificates are required.

SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.0 peripheral servers are always using third-party SSL certificates. If the hub server has generated the certificates for the peripheral server, it needs to generate the certificate for the peripheral database too. On the hub server, run the following command for each of the peripheral server to migrate.



```
mgrctl exec -ti -- rhn-ssl-tool --gen-server --dir="/root/ssl-build"
--set-country="COUNTRY" \
--set-state="STATE" --set-city="CITY" --set-org="ORGANIZATION" \
--set-org-unit="ORGANIZATION UNIT" --set-email="name@example.com" \
--set-hostname=<hostname>-reportdb --set-cname="example.com" --set
-cname=db --set-cname=reportdb
```

The files to use will be inside the server container and need to be copied to the new peripheral server host:

- /root/ssl-build/RHN-ORG-TRUSTED-SSL-CERT as the root CA,
- /root/ssl-build/<hostname>-reportdb/server.crt as the db certificate and
- /root/ssl-build/<hostname>-reportdb/server.key as the db certificate's key.

4.1.1.1. Client tools rebranding

SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 introduces a rebranded set of client tools for all supported operating systems. This transition is seamless, and users performing a new product synchronization should only notice the updated channel names.

Channels named SUSE Manager Client Tools for XYZ, used by clients previously registered with SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 4.3 or 5.0, are no longer available in version 5.1 and will no longer receive updates in 5.1.

Although the legacy channels remain assigned to existing clients after migration, the corresponding repositories have been removed.

To ensure continued updates, users must:

- Mirror the new SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Client Tools for XYZ channels for the relevant products and assign them to the appropriate clients.
- Unassign the outdated SUSE Manager Client Tools for XYZ channels.

This also means that any CLM projects based on the old client tools must be adjusted accordingly.

For example workflow, see **Common-workflows › Workflow-switch-to-new-client-tools-channels**.

4.1.1.2. SLE Micro 5.5 to SL Micro 6.1

This document provides the tested procedure to upgrade a SLE Micro 5.5 host deployed with SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.0 Server to SL Micro 6.1 and migrate to SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1.

4.1.1.2.1. Prerequisites

- SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.0 is installed and running on SLE Micro 5.5.
- System is registered and has active subscriptions with SCC.

4.1.1.2.2. Distribution upgrade and server migration

Procedure: Migration from SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.0 to SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1

1. Verify current product status.

```
SUSEConnect --status-text
```

Confirm:

- Base OS: SUSE Linux Enterprise Micro 5.5
- Extension: SUSE Manager Server 5.0 Extension

2. Ensure the system is updated.

```
transactional-update patch
```

- If patches were applied, stop the server and then reboot the system before proceeding to migration:

```
mgradm stop  
reboot
```

- If no updates were found, you can proceed directly to the migration step.

3. Start the migration.

```
transactional-update migration --auto-agree-with-licenses --gpg-auto-import  
-keys
```

Follow the prompts and select the available migration to **SUSE Linux Micro 6.1** and **SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server Extension 5.1**.

4. Stop the server and then reboot to apply changes.

```
mgradm stop  
reboot
```

5. Perform post-reboot checks.

Verify upgraded OS and SUSE Multi-Linux Manager extension:

```
cat /etc/os-release  
SUSEConnect --status-text
```

You should see:

- PRETTY_NAME="SUSE Linux Micro 6.1"
 - SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server 5.1 Extension
6. Enable root SSH access (if required). SL Micro 6.1 disables root login via SSH by default. Edit `/etc/ssh/sshd_config.d/sshd.conf`:

```
PermitRootLogin yes
```

And restart the service:

```
systemctl restart sshd
```

For more information, see **Administration › Troubleshooting**.

7. Verify SUSE Multi-Linux Manager tools

```
mgradm --version
```

Expected output:

- Version 5.1.11 or higher
- References 5.1.0 or higher

8. Upgrade server containers.

```
mgradm upgrade podman
```

Follow the prompts to pull and configure the new 5.1.0 containers.

9. Check the running containers:

```
podman ps
```

You should see:

- server:5.1.0 or higher
- server-postgresql:5.1.0 or higher



Errors for missing services like uyuni-db or saline during upgrade can be ignored if not installed previously.

4.1.1.2.3. Migration complete

The system is now running SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 on SL Micro 6.1. Validate your setup before resuming production operations. If you have a SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.0 proxy connected to this server, proceed to the **Installation-and-upgrade › Container-deployment** guide to upgrade the proxy host.

4.1.1.2.4. Database Backup Volume

Server migration or upgrade with `mgradm migration` or `mgradm upgrade` can create a volume with the database backup.

When the PostgreSQL database version is increased, the old database must be stored in a separate location before running the upgrade. For this purpose `mgradm` dynamically creates the volume `var-pgsql-backup`. When the migration or upgrade is done and the user has validated that the new system is working as expected, this volume can be removed safely.

4.1.1.3. SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP6 to 15 SP7

This document provides the tested procedure to upgrade a SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP6 host deployed with SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.0 Server to SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7 with SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1.

4.1.1.3.1. Prerequisites

- SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.0 is installed and running on SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP6.
- The system is registered and has valid subscriptions in SUSE Customer Center (SCC).
- Ensure backups are created before proceeding.

4.1.1.3.2. Distribution upgrade and server migration

Procedure: Migration from SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.0 to SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1

1. Verify current product status.

```
SUSEConnect --status-text
```

Confirm:

- Base OS: SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP6
- Extension: SUSE Manager Server 5.0 Extension

2. Apply all system patches.

```
zypper patch
```

3. Stop the server, and then reboot if the update stack was updated.

```
mgradm stop  
reboot
```

4. Launch the Zypper migration tool.

```
zypper migration
```

Zypper will show the possible migration targets with detailed summaries.

5. Select the appropriate target, and follow the prompts to complete the migration.
6. After the migration completes, stop the server and then reboot the system.

```
mgradm stop  
reboot
```

7. Perform post-reboot checks:

Verify upgraded OS and SUSE Multi-Linux Manager extension.

```
cat /etc/os-release  
SUSEConnect --status-text
```

You should see:

- VERSION="15-SP7"
- SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server 5.1 Extension for SLE

8. Verify SUSE Multi-Linux Manager tools version.

```
mgradm --version
```

Expected output:

- Version 5.1.11 or higher
- Image tag 5.1.0 or higher

9. Upgrade the server containers.

```
mgradm upgrade podman
```

Follow prompts to pull the new container images and reconfigure the environment.

10. Check the running containers.

```
podman ps
```

Expected containers:

- server:5.1.0 or higher
- server-postgresql:5.1.0 or higher

4.1.1.3.3. Migration complete

The system is now running SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 on SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7. Validate your setup before resuming production operations. If you have a SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.0 proxy connected to this server, proceed with **Installation-and-upgrade › Container-deployment**.

4.1.1.3.4. Database Backup Volume

Server migration or upgrade with mgradm migration or mgradm upgrade can create a volume with the database backup.

When the PostgreSQL database version is increased, the old database must be stored in a separate location before running the upgrade. For this purpose mgradm dynamically creates the volume `var-pgsql-backup`. When the migration or upgrade is done and the user has validated that the new system is working as expected, this volume can be removed safely.

4.1.2. SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server Migration to a Containerized Environment

4.1.2.1. Requirements and considerations

4.1.2.1.1. General requirements

- To migrate a SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 4.3 Server to a container, you require a new machine with SL Micro 6.1 or SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7 and mgradm installed.
- An in-place migration from SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 4.3 to 5.1 is not supported, regardless of whether the chosen host operating system is SL Micro 6.1 or SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7.
- Before migrating from SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 4.3 to 5.1, any existing traditional clients including the traditional proxies must be migrated to Salt. For more information about migrating traditional SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 4.3 clients to Salt clients, see [Migrate Traditional Clients to Salt Clients](#).
- Traditional contact protocol is no longer supported in SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.0 and later.

This guide only covers the migration from SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 4.3 to 5.1.



Migrating an existing SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 instance to the same version while switching the host operating system from SL Micro 6.1 to SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7, or vice versa, is not handled by the `mgradm migrate` command.

4.1.2.1.2. Hostnames

- Current migration procedure does not include functionality for renaming hostnames. As a result, fully qualified domain name (FQDN) of the new server will remain the same as that of the old server.
- The IP address must remain unchanged to ensure that the clients can contact the server.



After the migration, it is necessary to manually update the DHCP and DNS records to point to the new server.

4.1.2.1.3. GPG keys

- Self-trusted GPG keys are not migrated.
- GPG keys that are trusted in the RPM database only are not migrated. Thus, synchronizing channels with `spacewalk-repo-sync` can fail.
- The administrator must migrate these keys manually from the 4.3 installation to the container host after the actual server migration.

Procedure: Manual migration of the 4.3 GPG keys to the new server

1. Copy the keys from the 4.3 server to the container host of the new server.
2. Later, add each key to the migrated server with the command `mgradm gpg add <PATH_TO_KEY_FILE>`.

4.1.2.1.4. SSL certificates

SSL certificates are needed at a later stage. If not using the self-signed generated CA and certificates, ensure you have the following before starting:

- A certificate authority (CA) SSL public certificate. If you are using a CA chain, all intermediate CAs must also be available.
- An SSL database private key.
- An SSL database certificate.

All files must be in PEM format.

The hostname of the SSL server certificate must match the fully qualified hostname of the machine you deploy them on. You can set the hostnames in the X509v3 Subject Alternative Name section of the certificate. You can also list multiple hostnames if your environment requires it. Supported Key types are RSA and EC (Elliptic Curve).



Database SSL certificate requires reportdb and db and the FQDN used to access the report database as Subject Alternative Name.

During a migration the server SSL certificate and CA chain are copied from the source server, meaning that only the database certificates are required

4.1.2.2. Migration

4.1.2.2.1. Prepare SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 server host



Do not pre-install SUSE Multi-Linux Manager on the prepared SL Micro 6.1 or SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7 system.

The migration process is designed to perform the server installation automatically. Running mgradm install and then mgradm migrate is not supported and will lead to an unsupported system state.

In the following steps, we are only preparing the host system, not installing the actual SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Server.

You can use VM images based on SL Micro 6.1 as a migration target. In such a scenario, you can prepare the host system as described in

- **Installation-and-upgrade › Container-deployment**

or

- **Installation-and-upgrade › Container-deployment.**

However, at the end the last step is executing the command `mgradm migrate <FQDN>` instead of `mgradm install <FQDN>`.

Prepare SL Micro 6.1 Host

Download the installation media

Procedure: Downloading the installation media

1. Locate the SL Micro 6.1 installation media at <https://www.suse.com/download/sle-micro/>, and download the appropriate media file.
2. Prepare a DVD or USB flash drive with the downloaded .iso image for installation.

Install SL Micro 6.1

For more information about preparing your machines (virtual or physical), see the [SL Micro Deployment Guide](#).

Procedure: Installing SL Micro 6.1

1. Insert the DVD or USB flash drive (USB disk or key) containing the installation image for SLE Micro 6.1.
2. Boot or reboot your system.
3. Use the arrow keys to select Installation.
4. Adjust Keyboard and language.
5. Click the checkbox to accept the license agreement.
6. Click Next to continue.
7. Select the registration method. For this example, we will register the server with SUSE Customer Center.



The SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 containers are installed as extensions. Depending on the specific extension needed from the list below, additional SUSE Customer Center registration codes will be required for each.

- SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Server
- SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Proxy
- SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Retail Branch Server



The SL Micro 6.1 entitlement is included within the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager entitlement, so it does not require a separate registration code.

8. Enter your SUSE Customer Center email address.
9. Enter your registration code for SL Micro 6.1.
10. Click Next to continue.
11. To install a proxy, select the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Proxy extension; to install a server, select the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Server extension Checkbox.
12. Click Next to continue.
13. Enter your SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 extension registration code.
14. Click **[Next]** to continue.
15. On the NTP Configuration page click **[Next]**.
16. On the Authentication for the System page enter a password for the root user. Click **[Next]**.
17. On the Installation Settings page click **[Install]**.

This concludes installation of SL Micro 6.1 and SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 as an extension.

OPTIONAL: Registration from the command line

If you added SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 as an extension during SL Micro 6.1 installation then you can skip this procedure. However, optionally you may skip registration during SL Micro 6.1 installation by selecting the **[Skip Registration]** button. This section provides steps on registering your products after SL Micro 6.1 installation.



The following steps register a SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 extension with the x86-64 architecture and thus require a registration code for the x86-64 architecture. To register ARM or s390x architectures use the correct registration code.

Procedure: Registering from the command line

1. List available extensions with the following command:

```
transactional-update --quiet register --list-extensions
```

2. From the list of available extensions, select the one you wish to install:
 - a. If installing the Server, use your SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server Extension 5.1 x86_64 registration code with following command:

```
transactional-update register -p Multi-Linux-Manager-Server/5.1/x86_64 -r <reg_code>
```

- b. If installing the Proxy, use your SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy Extension 5.1 x86_64 registration code with following command:

```
transactional-update register -p Multi-Linux-Manager-Proxy/5.1/x86_64 -r <reg_code>
```

3. Reboot.

Update the system

Procedure: Updating the system

1. Log in as **root**.
2. Run **transactional-update**:

```
transactional-update
```

3. Reboot.



SL Micro is designed to update itself automatically by default and will reboot after applying updates. However, this behavior is not desirable for the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager environment. To prevent automatic updates on your server, SUSE Multi-Linux Manager disables the transactional-update timer during the bootstrap process.

If you prefer the SL Micro default behavior, enable the timer by running the following command:

```
systemctl enable --now transactional-update.timer
```

Prepare SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7 host

Alternatively, you can deploy SUSE Multi-Linux Manager on SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7.

The following procedures describe the main steps of the installation process.

Install SUSE Multi-Linux Manager extensions on SUSE Linux Enterprise Server

Procedure: Installing SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Extensions on SUSE Linux Enterprise Server

1. Locate and download SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7 .iso at <https://www.suse.com/download/sles/>.
2. Make sure that you have registration codes both for the host operating system (SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7) and extensions
3. Start the installation of SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7.
 - a. On the Language, keyboard and product selection select the product to install.
 - b. On the License agreement read the agreement and check I Agree to the License Terms.
4. Select the registration method. For this example, we will register the server with SUSE Customer Center.
5. Enter your SUSE Customer Center email address.
6. Enter your registration code for SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7.
7. Click Next to continue.



Please note that for SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7, you are required to have a valid SUSE Linux Enterprise Server subscription and corresponding registration code, which you must provide on this screen. You will be required to enter the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Extension registration code below.

8. In the screen Extensions and Modules Selection check the following:
 - Select the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server Extension to install the Server, or the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy Extension to install the Proxy.
 - Basesystem Module
 - Containers Module
9. Click **Next** to continue.
10. Enter your SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 extension registration code.
11. Click **[Next]** to continue.
12. Complete the installation.
13. When the installation completes, log in to the newly installed server as root.
14. Update the System (optional, if the system was not set to download updates during install):

```
zypper up
```

15. Reboot.

OPTIONAL: Registration from the command line

If you added SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 as an extension during SUSE Linux Enterprise Server installation then you can skip this procedure.

However, optionally you may skip registration during SUSE Linux Enterprise Server installation by selecting the **[Skip Registration]** button. This section provides steps on registering your products after SUSE Linux Enterprise Server installation.



The following steps register a SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 extension with the x86-64 architecture and thus require a registration code for the x86-64 architecture.

To register ARM or s390x architectures use the correct registration code.

Procedure: Registering from the command line

1. List available extensions with the following command:

```
SUSEConnect --list-extensions
```

2. From the list of available extensions, select the one you wish to install:
 - If installing the Server, use your SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server Extension 5.1 x86_64 registration code. For example for SUSE Linux Enterprise 15 SP7, use the following commands:

```
SUSEConnect -r <regcode>
SUSEConnect -p sle-module-containers/15.7/x86_64
SUSEConnect -p Multi-Linux-Manager-Server-SLE/5.1/x86_64 -r <regcode>
```

- If installing the Proxy, use your SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy Extension 5.1 x86_64 registration code with the following command:

```
SUSEConnect -p Multi-Linux-Manager-Proxy-SLE/5.1/x86_64 -r <regcode>
```

Install and enable podman

Procedure: Installing podman

1. Log in as root and install the product package.

- On the server:

```
zypper in podman
zypper in -t product SUSE-Multi-Linux-Manager-Server
```

- On the proxies:

```
zypper in podman
zypper in -t product SUSE-Multi-Linux-Manager-Proxy
```



Make sure that package podman is installed. Additionally, on the server mgradm and mgradm-bash-completion or on the proxies, mgrpxy and mgrpxy-bash-completion also need to be installed.

2. Start the Podman service by rebooting the system, or running a command:

```
systemctl enable --now podman.service
```

4.1.2.2.2. SSH connection preparation

This step ensures that the new SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Server can connect to the existing 4.3 Server over SSH without requiring a password. It involves generating and configuring SSH keys, setting up an SSH agent, and copying the public key to the old server. This setup is required for the migration process to run without manual intervention.

Procedure: Preparing the SSH connection

1. Ensure that for root an SSH key exists on the new 5.1 server. If a key does not exist, create it with:

```
ssh-keygen -t rsa
```

2. The SSH configuration and agent should be ready on the new server for a connection to the 4.3 server that does not prompt for a password.

```
eval $(ssh-agent); ssh-add
```



To establish a connection that does not prompt for a password, the migration script relies on an SSH agent running on the new server. If the agent is not active yet, initiate it by running `eval $(ssh-agent)`. Then add the SSH key to the running agent with `ssh-add` followed by the path to the private key. You will be prompted to enter the password for the private key during this process.

3. Copy the public SSH key to the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 4.3 Server (<oldserver.fqdn>) with `ssh-copy-id`. Replace <oldserver.fqdn> with the FQDN of the 4.3 server:

```
ssh-copy-id <old server.fqdn>
```

The SSH key will be copied into the old server's `~/.ssh/authorized_keys` file. For more information, see the `ssh-copy-id` manpage.

4. Establish an SSH connection from the new server to the old SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server to check that no password is needed. Also there must not be any problem with the host fingerprint. In case of trouble, remove old fingerprints from the `~/.ssh/known_hosts` file. Then try again. The fingerprint will be stored in the local `~/.ssh/known_hosts` file.

4.1.2.2.3. Perform the migration

When planning your migration from SUSE Manager 4.3 to SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1, ensure that your target instance meets or exceeds the specifications of the old setup.

This includes, but is not limited to, memory (RAM), CPU Cores, Storage, and Network Bandwidth.



SUSE Multi-Linux Manager server hosts that are hardened for security may restrict execution of files from the `/tmp` folder. In such cases, as a workaround, export the `TMPDIR` environment variable to another existing path before running `mgradm`.

For example:

```
export TMPDIR=/path/to/other/tmp
```

In SUSE Multi-Linux Manager updates, tools will be changed to make this workaround unnecessary.

When migrating from SUSE Manager 4.3, you will be prompted for the Password for the CA key to generate. It is essential to enter the same CA password that was used in your SUSE Manager 4.3 installation.



Entering the wrong password will result in a failure to generate the database certificate and will cause the migration to abort with the following error:

```
Error: cannot configure db container: Cannot generate database
certificate: CA validation failed!
```

Make sure the correct CA password is available before starting the migration process.

Procedure: Performing the migration

1. This step is optional. If custom persistent storage is required for your infrastructure, use the `mgr-storage-server` tool. For more information about `mgr-storage-server`, see [installation-and-upgrade:hardware-requirements.pdf](#).
2. Execute the following command to migrate and set up a new SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 server. Replace `<oldserver.fqdn>` with the FQDN of the 4.3 server:



Make sure to upgrade your 4.3 server and apply all available updates before starting the migration process. Additionally, remove any unnecessary channels to help reduce the overall migration time.



The migration can take a very long time depending on the amount of data that needs to be replicated. To reduce downtime it is possible to run the migration multiple times in a process of initial replication, re-replication, or final replication and switch over while all the services on the old 4.3 server can stay up and running.

Only during the final migration, the processes on the old 4.3 server need to be stopped.

For all non-final replications add the parameter `--prepare` to prevent the automatic stopping of services on the old 4.3 server.

```
mgradm migrate podman <oldserver.fqdn> --prepare
```

Procedure: Final migration

1. Stop the SUSE Manager services on 4.3 Server:

```
spacewalk-service stop
```

2. Stop the PostgreSQL service on 4.3 Server:

```
systemctl stop postgresql
```

3. Perform the final migration on SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Server

```
mgradm migrate podman <oldserver.fqdn>
```

4. Migrate trusted SSL CA certificates.

Migration of the certificates

Trusted SSL CA certificates that were installed as part of an RPM and stored on SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 4.3 in the `/usr/share/pki/trust/anchors/` directory will not be migrated. Because SUSE does not install RPM packages in the container, the administrator must migrate these certificate files manually from the SUSE Manager 4.3 server after the migration.

Procedure: Migrating the certificates

1. Copy the file from the SUSE Manager 4.3 Server to the new SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Server. For example, as `/local/ca.file`.
2. Copy the file into the container with:

```
mgrctl cp /local/ca.file server:/etc/pki/trust/anchors/
```



After successfully running the `mgradm migrate` command, the Salt setup on all clients will still point to the old 4.3 server.

To redirect them to the 5.1 server, it is required to rename the new server at the infrastructure level (DHCP and DNS) to use the same FQDN and IP address as 4.3 server.

Adjusting the IP address can be avoided if the latest version of the minion is installed on the clients, as the newer version can automatically re-connect with the server using only the FQDN.

4.1.2.3. Client tools rebranding

SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 introduces a rebranded set of client tools for all supported operating systems. This transition is seamless, and users performing a new product synchronization should only notice the updated channel names.

Channels named SUSE Manager Client Tools for XYZ, used by clients previously registered with SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 4.3 or 5.0, are no longer available in version 5.1 and will no longer receive updates in 5.1.

Although the legacy channels remain assigned to existing clients after migration, the corresponding repositories have been removed.

To ensure continued updates, users must:

- Mirror the new SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Client Tools for XYZ channels for the relevant products and assign them to the appropriate clients.
- Unassign the outdated SUSE Manager Client Tools for XYZ channels.

This also means that any CLM projects based on the old client tools must be adjusted accordingly.

For example workflow, see **Common-workflows › Workflow-switch-to-new-client-tools-channels**.

4.1.3. SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server Upgrade

Before running the upgrade command, it is required to update the host operating system. Updating the host operating system will also result in the update of the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager tooling such as the `mgradm` tool.

Procedure: Upgrading Server

1. Refresh software repositories with `zypper`:

```
zypper ref
```

2. Depending on the host operating system, proceed with these steps:

For a transactional system such as SL Micro:

1. Apply available updates with `transactional-update`:

```
transactional-update
```

2. If updates were applied, reboot.

For SUSE Linux Enterprise Server:

Update installed software with `zypper`:

```
zypper up
```

3. The SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server container can be updated using the following command:

```
mgradm upgrade podman
```

This command will bring the status of the container up-to-date and restart the server.

4. Clean up the unused container images to free disk space:

```
podman image prune -a
```

Upgrading with third-party SSL certificate

If you are using third-party certificates, the database container needs to have an SSL certificate with the following Subject Alternate Names (SANs):

- db
- reportdb
- the externally facing fully qualified domain name

The same certificate can be used for both the main container and the database one, but it needs to have those SANs too.

In order to pass the new certificates to the upgrade command, use the `--ssl-db-ca-root`, `--ssl-db-cert` and `--ssl-db-key` parameters.

Upgrading to specific version

If you do not specify the tag parameter, it will default to upgrading to the most recent version. To upgrade to a specific version, provide the tag parameter with the desired image tag.

For more information on the upgrade command and its parameters, use the following command:

```
mgradm upgrade podman -h
```

For air-gapped installations, first upgrade the container RPM packages, then run the `mgradm` command.

4.1.3.1. Database Backup Volume

Server migration or upgrade with `mgradm migration` or `mgradm upgrade` can create a volume with the database backup.

When the PostgreSQL database version is increased, the old database must be stored in a separate location before running the upgrade. For this purpose `mgradm` dynamically creates the volume `var-pgsql-backup`. When the migration or upgrade is done and the user has validated that the new system is working as expected, this volume can be removed safely.

4.2. Proxy

4.2.1. Proxy Migration from 5.0 to 5.1

4.2.1.1. Introduction

This document provides the tested and validated procedures for migrating both the **host operating system** and the **proxy extension** in environments managed by **SUSE Multi-Linux Manager**, specifically targeting systems deployed with **SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy 5.0**.

The upgrade scenarios covered include:

- Migrating from **SUSE Linux Enterprise Micro (SLE Micro) 5.5** to **SLE Micro 6.1**
- Migrating from **SUSE Linux Enterprise Server (SLES) 15 SP6** to **SLES 15 SP7**
- Upgrading the **SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy Extension** from **version 5.0** to **version 5.1**



Before migrating the proxy, it is required to first migrate the SUSE Manager 5.0 Server to SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1.

4.2.1.2. SLE Micro 5.5 to SL Micro 6.1

This section provides the tested procedure to upgrade a SLE Micro 5.5 host deployed with SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.0 Proxy to SL Micro 6.1 with SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Proxy.

4.2.1.2.1. Prerequisites

- SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.0 Proxy is installed and running on SLE Micro 5.5.
- Proxy system is registered with the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server.

4.2.1.2.2. Distribution upgrade and proxy migration

Procedure: Migrate SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.0 Proxy to SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Proxy

1. Verify System and SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Tools version.

```
cat /etc/os-release  
mgrpxy --version
```

Confirm:

- Operating System: SLE Micro 5.5
- Tools version: mgrpxy version 0.1.29 or higher

2. Check running containers.

```
podman ps
```

Ensure the following containers are running:

- proxy-squid
- proxy-ssh
- proxy-httpd
- proxy-tftpd
- proxy-salt-broker

3. Refresh the product catalog

- In the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Web UI, navigate to **Admin › Setup Wizard › Products**.
- Click the Refresh button on the right-hand side to update the product catalog from SUSE Customer Center.

4. Synchronize the new Proxy Products in SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server.

For more information, see **Client-configuration › Products**.

Use the Web UI to synchronize:

- SUSE Linux Micro 6.1
- SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy Extension 5.1

5. Perform proxy product migration. For more information, see **Client-configuration › Client-upgrades-product-migration**.

Navigate to the proxy system and select **Systems › Overview › Software › Product Migration**.

Migrate from

- SLE Micro 5.5 + SUSE Manager Proxy 5.0 Extension

to

- SL Micro 6.1 + SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy Extension 5.1



Do not select optional channels when prompted, unless you have confirmed they are required.



It is recommended to do a dry-run first before performing the actual migration.

6. Monitor the migration action.

You can follow the process under **Systems › Details › Events** tab in the Web UI.

7. After the upgrade completes, stop the proxy container and then reboot the system.

```
mgrpky stop
reboot
```

8. Perform post-reboot checks.

Verify upgraded OS and SUSE Multi-Linux Manager extension:

```
cat /etc/os-release  
SUSEConnect --status-text
```

You should see:

- PRETTY_NAME="SUSE Linux Micro 6.1"
- SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy 5.1 Extension

9. Verify SUSE Multi-Linux Manager tools version.

```
mgrpky --version
```

Expected output:

- mgrpky version 5.1.11 or higher

10. Enable Root SSH Access (if required). SL Micro 6.1 disables root login via SSH by default. Edit `/etc/ssh/sshd_config.d/sshd.conf`:

```
PermitRootLogin yes
```

Restart the service:

```
systemctl restart sshd
```

For more information, see **Administration › Troubleshooting**.

11. Install the new proxy container images as RPM packages.

```
transactional-update pkg install suse-multi-linux-manager-5.1-x86_64-proxy*
```

12. Reboot the P-roxy.

13. Upgrade proxy containers and restart them.

```
mgrpky upgrade podman  
mgrpky stop  
mgrpky start
```


14. Confirm proxy containers are operational.

```
podman ps
```

All expected proxy containers should be up and running:

- proxy-salt-broker
- proxy-httpd
- proxy-squid
- proxy-tftpd
- proxy-ssh

4.2.1.2.3. Migration complete

The proxy host system is now running SL Micro 6.1 with updated SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Proxy packages and synchronized product channels.

4.2.1.3. SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP6 to 15 SP7

This section provides the procedure to upgrade a SUSE Linux Enterprise Server SP6 host deployed with SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.0 Proxy to SUSE Linux Enterprise Server SP7 with SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Proxy.

4.2.1.3.1. Prerequisites

- SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy 5.0 is installed and running on SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP6.
- Proxy system is registered with the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server.

4.2.1.3.2. Distribution upgrade and proxy migration

Procedure: Update SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy components on SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP6

1. Verify operating system and SUSE Multi-Linux Manager tools version.

```
cat /etc/os-release
mgrpxy --version
```

Confirm:

- Operating System: SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP6
- Tools version: mgrpxy version 0.1.29 or higher

2. List running proxy containers.

```
podman ps
```

Verify the following containers are running:

- proxy-salt-broker
- proxy-httpd
- proxy-squid
- proxy-tftpd
- proxy-ssh
- Supporting infrastructure container(s)

3. Synchronize the new proxy products in SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server.

For more information see **Client-configuration › Products**.

Using the Web UI, synchronize the following:

- SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7
 - SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy Extension for SLE 5.1



Proxy extensions are listed under Basesystem Module 15 SP7` > `Containers Module 15 SP7.

4. Perform proxy product migration. For more information, see **Client-configuration › Client-upgrades-product-migration**.

Navigate to the proxy system and select **Systems › Overview › Software › Product Migration**.

Migrate from

- SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP6 + SUSE Manager Proxy Extension 5.0

to

- SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7 + SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy Extension for SLE 5.1



When prompted, **do not select** optional channels unless you have confirmed they are required.



It is recommended to do a dry-run first before performing the actual migration.

5. Monitor the migration action.

You can follow the process under **Systems › Details › Events** tab in the Web UI.

6. After the upgrade completes, stop the proxy container and then reboot the system.

```
mgrpxy stop
reboot
```

7. Perform post-reboot checks:

Verify upgraded OS and SUSE Multi-Linux Manager extension.

```
cat /etc/os-release
SUSEConnect --status-text
```

You should see:

- PRETTY_NAME="SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7"

- SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy 5.1 Extension for SLE

8. Verify SUSE Multi-Linux Manager tools version.

```
mgrpky --version
```

Expected output:

- mgrpky version 5.1.11 or higher

9. Install the new proxy container images as RPM packages.

```
zypper install suse-multi-linux-manager-5.1-x86_64-proxy*
```

10. Upgrade proxy containers and restart them.

```
mgrpky upgrade podman
mgrpky stop
mgrpky start
```

11. Confirm proxy containers are operational.

```
podman ps
```

All expected proxy containers should be up and running:

- proxy-salt-broker
- proxy-httpd
- proxy-squid
- proxy-tftpd
- proxy-ssh

4.2.1.3.3. Migration complete

The proxy host system is now running SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7 with updated SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Proxy packages and synchronized product channels.

4.2.2. Proxy Migration from 4.3 to 5.1

4.2.2.1. Requirements and considerations

- To migrate a SUSE Manager 4.3 Proxy to SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1, you require a new machine with SL Micro 6.1 or SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7 and `mgrpxy` installed.
- An in-place migration from SUSE Manager 4.3 to 5.1 is not supported, regardless of whether the chosen host operating system is SL Micro 6.1 or SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7.
- Before migrating from SUSE Manager 4.3 to 5.1, any existing traditional clients including the traditional proxies must be migrated to Salt. For more information about migrating traditional SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 4.3 clients to Salt clients, see <https://documentation.suse.com/suma/4.3/en/suse-manager/client-configuration/contact-methods-migrate-traditional.html>.
- Traditional contact protocol is no longer supported in SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.0 and later.
- Before migrating a SUSE Manager 4.3 Proxy to SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1, the SUSE Manager 4.3 Server needs to be migrated first, see **Installation-and-upgrade › Container-deployment**.

4.2.2.2. Introduction

In SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 4.3, the proxy can be deployed using three different methods:

- RPM based
- containerized running on Podman
- containerized running on k3s

In SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1, RPM based support was removed, and only the containerized version running with podman or k3s is supported. Furthermore, the management of the containerized proxy running with Podman was re-designed and made simpler with the `mgrpxy` tool.

4.2.2.3. Deploy a new SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 proxy

Because an in-place migration is not supported, a deployment of a new SUSE Multi-Linux Manager proxy with a new FQDN is required. For more information on deploying a new proxy on SL Micro 6.1 or SUSE Linux Enterprise Server 15 SP7 see **Installation-and-upgrade › Install-proxy**.

4.2.2.4. Migrate clients to the new proxy



Before migrating the clients, ensure that the new SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Proxy is already deployed and fully functional.

Procedure: Migrating clients from the old to the new proxy

1. Log in to the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server Web UI.
2. From the left navigation, select **Systems › Systems List**.
3. Navigate to the old 4.3 proxy page, and click the Proxy tab.
4. Select all systems to "SSM".
5. From the left navigation, select **Systems › System Set Manager**.
6. Select the sub-menu **Misc › Proxy**.
7. From the drop-down select the new proxy to migrate to.
8. Click **[Change Proxy]**.

All selected clients will now be migrated to the new proxy. You can check the schedule progress to verify if all clients were successfully migrated.

After a few minutes, the clients will start to show the new connection path. When all clients have the connection path under the new proxy, the old SUSE Manager 4.3 Proxy system is not needed anymore and can be removed.

4.2.2.5. TFTP files synchronization

Containerized proxies do not use tftpsync mechanism to transfer tftproot files. Instead these files are transparently downloaded and cached on demand.

To prevent false positive errors during cobbler sync run, migrated 4.3 proxies need to be removed from tftpsync mechanism.

If you previously configured a 4.3 proxy to receive TFTP files, one of the following configuration option is required:



To get to a shell inside the container, run on the container host:

```
mgrctl term
```

- In the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 server container, run `configure-tftpsync.sh` with the list of remaining 4.3 proxies as arguments. If no 4.3 proxies remain, run `configure-tftpsync.sh` with no arguments.
- In the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 server container, manually remove the relevant proxy from the proxies setting in the `/etc/cobbler/settings.yaml` file. If there are no 4.3 proxies remaining, then manually

remove the proxies list completely.

4.2.3. SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy Upgrade

Before running the upgrade command, it is required to update the host operating system. Updating the host operating system will also result in the update of the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager tooling such as the mgrpxy tool.

Procedure: Upgrading Proxy

1. Refresh software repositories with zypper:

```
zypper ref
```

2. Depending on the host operating system, proceed with these steps:

For a transactional system such as SL Micro:

1. Apply available updates with transactional-update:

```
transactional-update
```

2. If updates were applied, reboot.

For SUSE Linux Enterprise Server:

Update installed software with zypper:

```
zypper up
```

3. The SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Proxy containers running on podman can be updated using the following command:

```
mgrpxy upgrade podman
```

Or, those running on a Kubernetes cluster can update using:

```
mgrpxy upgrade kubernetes
```

4. On podman, clean up the unused container images to free disk space:

```
podman image prune -a
```

On Kubernetes the image cleanup is handled automatically, or it depends on the Kubernetes distribution.



If you do not specify the tag parameter when upgrading to specific version, it will default to upgrading to the most recent version. To upgrade to a specific version, provide the tag parameter with the desired image tag.



While there is an option to upgrade a specific container using its specific tag, this feature is intended for applying PTFs only.

We highly recommend using the same tag for all proxy containers to ensure consistency under normal circumstances.

For air-gapped installations, first upgrade the container RPM packages, then run the `mgrpxy upgrade podman` command.

4.3. Clients

4.3.1. Upgrade Clients

Clients use the versioning system of their underlying operating system. For clients using SUSE operating systems, you can perform upgrades within the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Web UI.

For more information about upgrading clients, see **Client-configuration › Client-upgrades**.

Chapter 5. Basic Server and Proxy Management

5.1. Custom YAML Configuration and Deployment with mgradm

You have the option to create a custom mgradm.yaml file, which the mgradm tool can utilize during deployment.



mgradm will prompt for basic variables if they are not provided using command line parameters or the mgradm.yaml configuration file.

For security, **using command line parameters to specify passwords should be avoided.**

Use a configuration file with proper permissions instead.

Procedure: Deploying the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Container with Podman Using a Custom Configuration File

1. Prepare a configuration file named mgradm.yaml similar to the following example:

```
# Database password. Randomly generated by default
db:
  password: MySuperSecretDBPass

# Password for the CA certificate
ssl:
  password: MySuperSecretSSLPassword

# Your SUSE Customer Center credentials
scc:
  user: ccUsername
  password: ccPassword

# Organization name
organization: YourOrganization

# Email address sending the notifications
emailFrom: notifications@example.com

# Administrators account details
admin:
  password: MySuperSecretAdminPass
  login: LoginName
  firstName: Admin
  lastName: Admin
  email: email@example.com
```

2. From the terminal, as root, run the following command. Entering your server's FQDN is optional.

```
mgradm -c mgradm.yaml install podman <FQDN>
```



You must deploy the container as sudo or root. The following error will be displayed on the terminal if you miss this step.

```

INF Setting up uyuni network
9:58AM INF Enabling system service
9:58AM FTL Failed to open /etc/systemd/system/uyuni-server.service
for writing error="open /etc/systemd/system/uyuni-server.service:
permission denied"

```

3. Wait for deployment to complete.
4. Open a browser and proceed to your server's FQDN or IP address.

5.2. Starting and Stopping Containers

The SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Server container can be restarted, started, and stopped using the following commands:

To restart the SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1 Server execute the following command:

```

# mgradm restart
5:23PM INF Welcome to mgradm
5:23PM INF Executing command: restart

```

To start the server execute the following command:

```

# mgradm start
5:21PM INF Welcome to mgradm
5:21PM INF Executing command: start

```

To stop the server execute the following command:

```

# mgradm stop
5:21PM INF Welcome to mgradm
5:21PM INF Executing command: stop

```

5.3. Containers used by SUSE Multi-Linux Manager

Below is a list of containers used by SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1.

Table 14. Server Containers

Container Name	Description
uyuni-server	Main product container
uyuni-db	Database container for the product
uyuni-hub-xmlrpc	XML-RPC gateway for Hub deployment

Container Name	Description
uyuni-server-attestation	Server COCO attestation
uyuni-saline	Saline container for Salt observability
uyuni-server-migration	Migration helper container

Table 15. Proxy Containers

Container Name	Description
uyuni-proxy-httpd	Main proxy container handling all HTTP communication
uyuni-proxy-squid	Squid cache
uyuni-proxy-salt-broker	Salt forwarder
uyuni-proxy-ssh	SSH forwarder
uyuni-proxy-tftpd	TFTPD to HTTP translator and forwarder

5.4. Persistent Container Volumes

Modifications performed within containers are not retained. Any alterations made outside of persistent volumes will be discarded. Below is a list of persistent volumes for SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.1.

To customize the default volume locations, ensure you create the necessary volumes before launching the pod for the first time, utilizing the podman volume create command.



Ensure that this table aligns precisely with the volumes mapping outlined in both the Helm chart and the systemctl services definitions.

5.4.1. Server

The following volumes are stored under the **Podman** default storage location on the server.

Table 16. Persistent Volumes: Podman Default Storage

Volume Name	Volume Directory
Podman Storage	/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes/

Table 17. Persistent Volumes: root

Volume Name	Volume Directory
root	/root

Table 18. Persistent Volumes: var/

Volume Name	Volume Directory
var-cobbler	/var/lib/cobbler
var-salt	/var/lib/salt
var-pgsql	/var/lib/pgsql/data
var-pgsql-backup	/var/lib/pgsql-backup
var-cache	/var/cache
var-spacewalk	/var/spacewalk
var-log	/var/log

Table 19. Persistent Volumes: srv/

Volume Name	Volume Directory
srv-salt	/srv/salt
srv-www	/srv/www/
srv-tftpboot	/srv/tftpboot
srv-formulametadata	/srv/formula_metadata
srv-pillar	/srv/pillar
srv-susemanager	/srv/susemanager
srv-spacewalk	/srv/spacewalk

Table 20. Persistent Volumes: etc/

Volume Name	Volume Directory
etc-apache2	/etc/apache2
etc-rhn	/etc/rhn
etc-systemd-multi	/etc/systemd/system/multi-user.target.wants

Volume Name	Volume Directory
etc-systemd-sockets	/etc/systemd/system/sockets.target.wants
etc-salt	/etc/salt
etc-sssd	/etc/sssd
etc-tomcat	/etc/tomcat
etc-cobbler	/etc/cobbler
etc-sysconfig	/etc/sysconfig
etc-tls	/etc/pki/tls
etc-postfix	/etc/postfix
ca-cert	/etc/pki/trust/anchors

Table 21. Persistent Volumes: run/

Volume Name	Volume Directory
run-salt-master	/run/salt/master

5.4.2. Proxy

The following volumes are stored under the **Podman** default storage location on the proxy.

Table 22. Persistent Volumes: Podman Default Storage

Volume Name	Volume Directory
Podman Storage	/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes/

Table 23. Persistent Volumes: srv/

Volume Name	Volume Directory
uyuni-proxy-tftpboot	/srv/tftpboot

Table 24. Persistent Volumes: var/

Volume Name	Volume Directory
uyuni-proxy-rhn-cache	/var/cache/rhn

Volume Name	Volume Directory
uyuni-proxy-squid-cache	/var/cache/squid

5.5. Understanding mgr-storage-server and mgr-storage-proxy

mgr-storage-server and mgr-storage-proxy are helper scripts provided with SUSE Multi-Linux Manager 5.0 and later.

They are designed to configure storage for SUSE Multi-Linux Manager Server and Proxy.

The scripts take disk devices as arguments. mgr-storage-proxy requires a single argument for the storage disk device. mgr-storage-server requires a storage disk device and can optionally accept a second argument for a dedicated database disk device. While both normal and database storage can reside on the same disk, it is advisable to place the database on a dedicated, high-performance disk to ensure better performance and easier management.

5.5.1. What these tools do

Both mgr-storage-server and mgr-storage-proxy perform standard storage setup operations:

- Validate the provided storage devices.
- Ensure that devices are empty and suitable for use.
- Create XFS filesystems on the specified devices.
- Mount the devices temporarily for data migration.
- Move the relevant storage directories to the new devices.
- Create entries in /etc/fstab so that the storage mounts automatically on boot.
- Remount the devices at their final locations.

Table 25. Additional tool-specific behavior

mgr-storage-server	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Optionally supports a separate device for database storage.• Stops SUSE Manager services during migration, restarts them afterward.• Moves Podman volumes directory /var/lib/containers/storage/volumes to the prepared storage, and optionally /var/lib/containers/storage/volumes/var-pgsql to the prepared database storage.
--------------------	---

mgr-storage-proxy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focuses only on proxy storage (no database storage support). • Stops and restarts the proxy service during migration. • Moves podman volumes directory /var/lib/containers/storage/volumes to the prepared storage.
-------------------	---



Both tools automate standard Linux storage operations. There is no hidden or custom logic beyond what a Linux administrator would do manually.

5.5.2. What these tools do **not** do

- They do **not** create or manage LVM volumes.
- They do **not** configure RAID or complex storage topologies.
- They do **not** prevent you from managing storage using normal Linux tools after setup.
- They do **not** provide dynamic resizing or expansion capabilities — these must be handled using standard Linux storage tools.

5.5.3. Post-installation storage management

Once storage has been configured, you can safely manage it using standard Linux commands.

5.5.3.1. Examples

Listing 1. Example 1: Extending storage if using LVM

```
lvextend -L +10G /dev/your_vg/your_lv
xfs_growfs /var/lib/containers/storage/volumes
```

Example 2: Migrating to a larger disk

1. Add and format the new disk.
2. Mount it temporarily.
3. Use rsync to copy data.
4. Update /etc/fstab.
5. Remount at the correct location.

5.5.4. When to use, or not use



Always take a backup before making changes to your storage setup.

- Use these tools **only** during initial storage setup or when migrating to new storage where the tool is expected to handle data migration and update `/etc/fstab`.
- Do **not** rerun these scripts for resizing or expanding storage. Use standard Linux tools (e.g., `lvextend`, `xfs_growfs`) for such operations.

5.5.5. Summary

`mgr-storage-server` and `mgr-storage-proxy` help automate the initial persistent storage setup for SUSE Multi-Linux Manager components using standard Linux storage practices. They do not limit or interfere with standard storage management afterward.

After setup, continue managing your storage using familiar Linux tools.



A full database volume can cause significant issues with system operation. As disk usage notifications have not yet been adapted for containerized environments, users are encouraged to monitor the disk space used by Podman volumes themselves, either through tools such as Grafana, Prometheus, or any other preferred method. Pay particular attention to the `var-pgsql` volume, located under `/var/lib/containers/storage/volumes/`.

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