

# AME Installation Guide

Active Circle Storage System

## Active Media Explorer

Version 2.2.3

### Abstract

This document describes the prerequisites and the installation procedures for the Active Media Explorer.

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## Prerequisites

Active Media Explorer (AME) is a web based interface that can be accessed from any recent major web browser. The AME software needs to be installed on a server connected to an Active Circle configuration. The table below lists the software necessary for installing and running Active Media Explorer version 2.2.3:

**Table 1. Prerequisites for the Active Media Explorer**

Type	Software
Operating System	CentOS Linux 7.0 or higher
Storage System	Active Circle version 4.6
API	Active Media Connector version 4.6
Web Server	Apache with h264 module
Database	MariaDB
PHP	PHP version 5



### Important

The server where the AME will be installed must have internet access.



### Note

The CentOS Linux 6.X operating system is supported only for existing system.

The AME can be installed on a dedicated server or on an Active Circle node. It can be also installed on the same machine as the AMC and/or the ADM web application.

If the AME is installed on:

- an Active Circle node, the OS prerequisites are Active Circle's requirements.
- a dedicated server, the OS prerequisites must be installed while firewalld and SELinux service deactivated.

## Installation

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The installation process for the Active Media Explorer consists of two separate steps:

1. Installing software packages and tools required to support common AME features
2. Installing the AME software

The installation executables for both steps can be downloaded from the Active Circle FTP Server <ftp://ftp.active-circle.com>. They are located in the following directory:

`downloads/Binaries/AME`

The binary installation files are named according to the following syntax:

- `ame_package-3.3.3.run`: The executable which installs the Linux packages required to support certain AME features
- `ame-2.2.3.run`: The executable which installs the AME software, where "3" is the patch level

Make the binaries installation file executable:

```
chmod +x ame*
```

## Installing dependencies

Check your internet connexion and install the Active Media Explorer install package, by running the installation executable:

```
./ame_package-3.3.3.run
```

The numbers in *italics* represent the version of the AME install package. Replace the values if your executable is newer.

This will install and deploy the prerequisites and their configuration files automatically. If prompted during the installation, enter "y" and press Enter to confirm.

```
[...]  
OS packages for web servers and media management installed  
OK exiting
```

This process take at least 20 minutes to complete.



### Tip

For manual installation, it is possible to extract the contents of the executable without installation, using the `--help` option.

## Installing the AME software

To install the AME software, scripts and configuration files, run the installation executables:

```
./ame-2.2.3.run
```

The numbers in *italics* represent the version of the AME software. Replace the values if your executable is newer.

This will install AME software and automatically deploy database and PHP files. If prompted during the installation, enter "y" and press Enter to confirm.

```
[...]  
=====
```

Active Media Explorer installed successfully  
To finish the Active Media Explorer configuration you must:

- Start the AME service, use the following commande:  
    service ame start
- Access the web interface using the url:  
    http://localhost/

For more information to configure automatic AME start see file: /ame/README  
=====

Please read the following sections for instructions on how to configure the system before starting AME for the first time.



### Tip

For manual installation, it is possible to extract the contents of the executable without installation, using the `--help` option.

## Configuration

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The configuration of the Active Media Explorer is done in three stages:

1. Before AME is started (scripts and configuration files)
2. During the first access to the AME web interface
3. Using the **Administration** area of the AME web interface (this is outside the scope of this document, please see the document *AME Administration Guide* for more information).

## Configure Active Circle prerequisites for the AME

Using the Active Circle Administration Tool application, create the pool, policies and shares prerequisites for the AME.

### Tape Pools:

`ame_backup` TAR LTO Tape pool: used to store proxies and backups of AME

### Policies:

`on_disks` Disk policy: 1 copy on disk from 0 to infinity. Storage policy used by AME  
`ame_backup` Tape policy: 1 copy on `ame_backup` tap pool from 0 to infinity. Archive policy used by AME

### Shares:

`ame_proxy` With following policies : `on_disks` and `ame_backup`. Active archiving every night. Contains the MP4 proxies of AME videos.  
`ame_backup` With `ame_backup` policy. Active archiving every night. Contains the daily backup of AME data

By default, AME is configured to use **httpd port 80**. The Active Circle nodes also use this port number by default. To avoid a conflict, you must therefore modify the httpd port for the Active Circle node that you are using with AME. AME will not start if the node is already using httpd port 80. The node must be restarted for the change to take effect.

On an Active Circle server, run these commands to modify the httpd port and restart the Active Circle node:

```
accircleproperty -C nodename -P httpd.port -V 8080
```

CentOS 6: `service activecircle restart`

CentOS 7: `systemctl restart activecircle`

Replace `nodename` with the real name of the node where AME is installed. We recommend using port number 8080, which leaves port number 8081 for the [Active Media Connector](#).

You can also modify this circle property and restart the node using the Active Circle Administration Tool application. For more information, please see the *Active Circle Administration Guide*.

## Configure AMC Connection

The AME installation assumes by default that situation mentioned above is the case, and configures the AMC connection on "localhost" with the IP address 127.0.0.1. If the AMC is running on a different machine, or the port has been changed, please follow the instructions in this section.

### IP Address for the AMC

If the AMC is running on a different machine than the AME, you need to modify the IP address in the `/etc/hosts` file on the system where the AME is installed. The AMC line is the one with the hostname "acapi".

File to edit:                `/etc/hosts`  
Line to modify:            `127.0.0.1 acapi`

Replace `127.0.0.1` with the actual IP address of the system where the AMC is running.

### Port for AMC

If the Active Media Connector is configured with another http port than 8081, you need to modify the port number in the file `/etc/httpd/conf.d/acapi.conf` on the system where the AME is installed:

File to edit:                `/etc/httpd/conf.d/acapi.conf`  
Line to modify:            `ProxyPass /acapi http://acapi:8081/acapi`  
Line to modify:            `ProxyPassReverse /acapi http://acapi:8081/acapi`

Replace `8081` with the port number used by AMC (do *not* use port number 80).

## Starting AME

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### Note

Active Circle and the Active Media Connector must be running and accessible before starting the Active Media Explorer.

## Starting the service

To start the AME service, run this command:

- CentOS 6: `service ame start`
- CentOS 7: `systemctl start ame`

The startup process will start the database, mount volumes and start the web server.

This is sample screen output for a successful start of the AME:

```
[...]
Starting volume  ame_data:                [ OK: Mounted ]
Starting volume  filestore:              [ OK: Mounted ]
Starting volume  backup:                 [ OK: Mounted ]
Starting httpd:                            [ OK ]
```

The above output assumes that some volumes have been configured. They may not exist during the first startup. Volumes must be configured in the AME interface.

To stop the AME service, run this command:

- CentOS 6: `service ame stop`
- CentOS 7: `systemctl stop ame`

Stopping the AME service will also stop the Apache web server and the AME database, as well as unmount the volumes from the AME system. However, this will *not* affect the running of the Active Circle http server or the Tomcat web server used by the AMC.

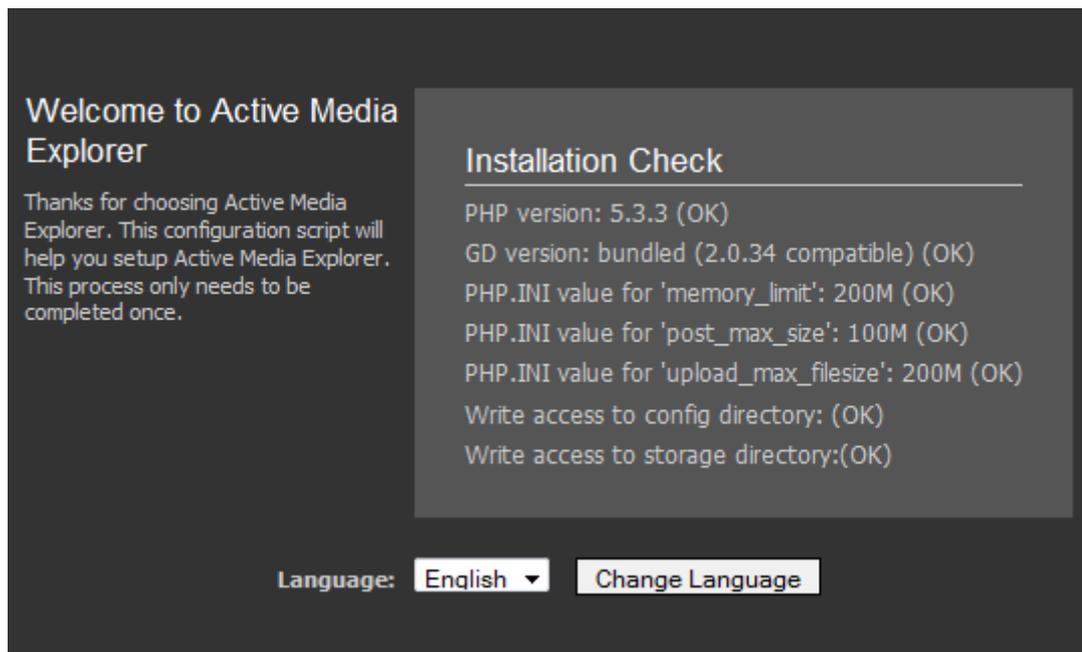
## Initial setup

After the AME service has been started, to complete the setup, you must connect to the AME interface using a web browser.

Point your web browser to the following address:

`http://localhost` If the web browser is running on the AME machine  
`http://ame_server` If you are connecting from another machine replace `ame_server` with the actual host name or IP address of the server where AME is installed

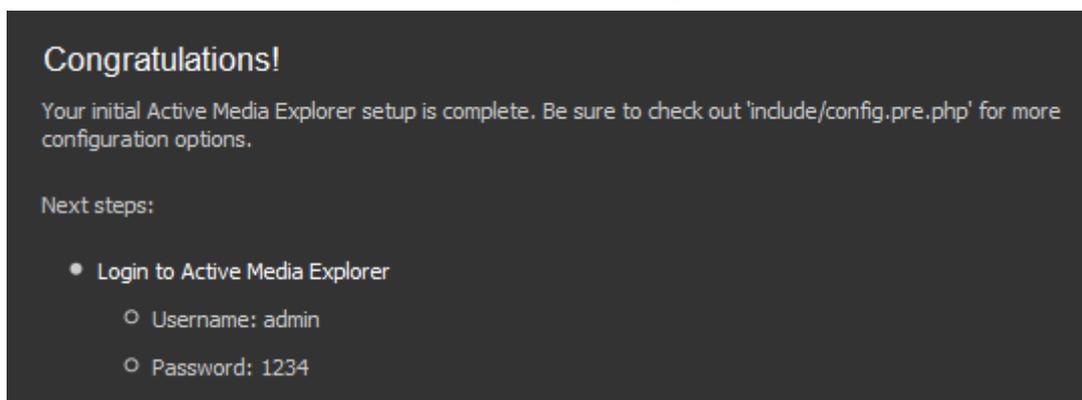
The page **Active Media Explorer: Initial Configuration** will be displayed. The top part shows a welcome message, displays information from an installation check and lets you select the language for the AME interface.



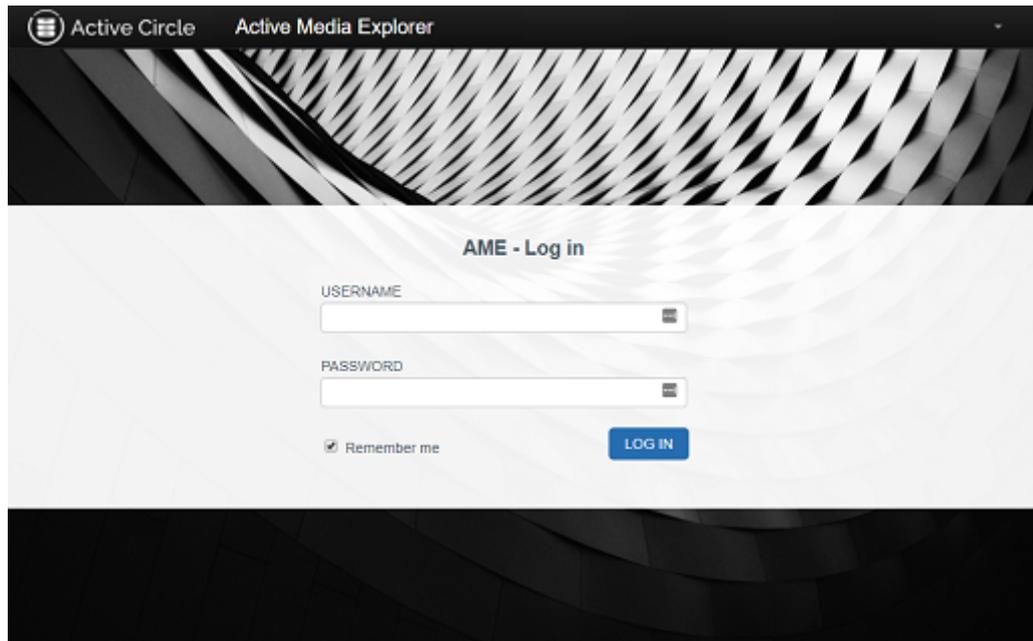
Below that, a list of preconfigured settings for the Active Media Explorer is shown. All the required settings are on the **Basic** page, and all the fields should already be filled out with information for your installation. You may look through the settings if you wish, but for a normal installation there should be no need to modify these settings. Most of them can be configured later, if necessary.

Click on the [Begin Installation](#) button at the bottom of the page to complete the setup.

When the setup is complete, you should see this message on the screen:

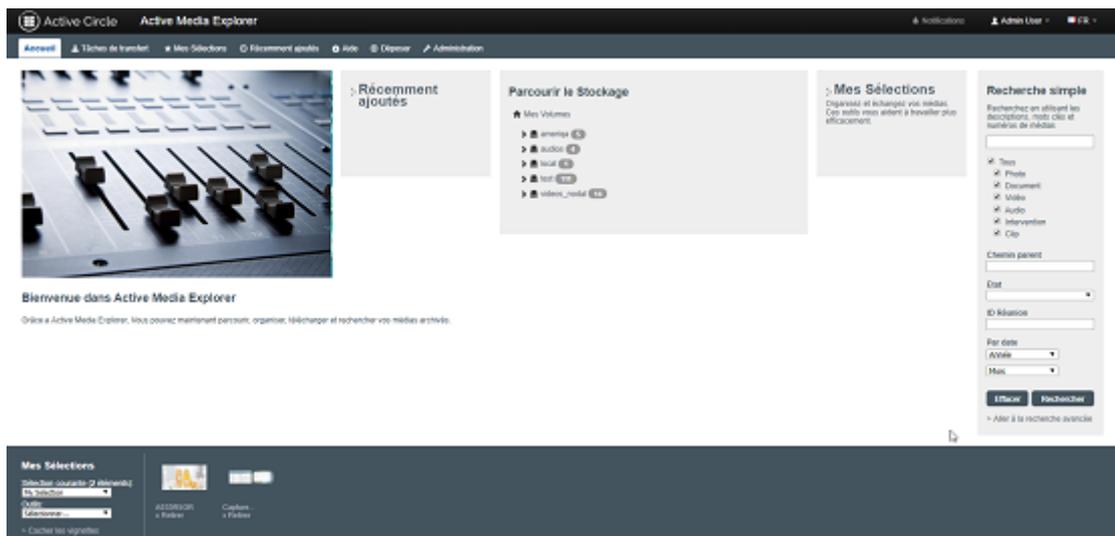


Note the user name and password, and click on the link **Login to Active Media Explorer**.



On the login page, enter the user name and password (by default: admin/1234), select the interface language and click on **Log in**.

The main page of the Active Media Explorer will be displayed.



From here, you have access to all the product functionality and administration tasks.

## Advanced Configuration

This section contains an overview of the configuration files that can be used to modify settings otherwise unavailable from the AME Administration interface.



### Tip

Configuring media types for ingest can no longer be performed by editing configuration files. This functionality is now part of the AME Administration interface. For more information, please see the document *AME Administration Guide*.

## Configuration Files

The main configuration file in Active Media Explorer is:

```
/var/www/ame/include/config.php
```

This file is created after the initial configuration is completed in the web interface the first time Active Media Explorer is accessed. It contains all of the basic settings configured during installation. All custom settings should be entered in this file. The options may be copied from `config.pre.php` and configured here.

Below is a short description of other AME configuration files.

**Table 2. AME Configuration Files**

File	Description
<b>/ame/conf.list</b>	Contains a list of the configuration files for a standard installation of the AME.
<b>/etc/sysconfig/ame</b>	Defines the default backup location and the login and password for the AME database.
<b>/etc/cron.d/ame-backup</b>	Defines scripts for scheduling regular backups (not activated by default, you need remove the comment tag in front of the backup scripts you want to use).
<b>/etc/cron.d/ame-ingest</b>	Defines scripts that schedule automatic media ingestion to the AME every night at 11 PM as well hourly. Make sure that you verify that the scripts are configured and activated, and re-verify after a software upgrade, as the upgrade process may modify the ingest script definitions.
<b>/etc/cron.d/ame-sync</b>	Defines a script that schedules automatic synchronization with Active Circle every 30 minutes. This provides AME with status information on the resources in Active Circle (online, nearline, offline, primary/secondary tape location, etc.).
<b>/etc/httpd/conf.d/acapi.conf</b>	Defines the AMC (acapi) server and port number to the Apache web server.
<b>/etc/logrotate.d/ame</b>	Defines log rotation of the logs under <code>/var/log/ame</code> .

## Upgrading the software



### Note

This upgrade procedure can only be used to update version 1.6 or later of the Active Media Explorer. Any earlier versions must be upgraded manually. It is mandatory to upgrade in stages. If you have version 1.5 installed, please contact your Active Circle support team. If you have version 1.6 installed, please upgrade in version 2.0 then 2.1 and 2.2. Be sure to use the latest available patch of AME for upgrading.

## Prerequisite

You should have Active Circle version 4.6 or later and Active Media Connector 4.6 or later before you upgrade to the latest version of Active Media Explorer.

## Downloading the Upgrade

The upgrade packages can be downloaded from the Active Circle FTP server. They are located in the following directory:

```
/downloads/Binaries/AME
```

The binary installation files are the same as the ones used for a full installation, and they are named according to the following syntax:

- `ame_package-3.3.3.run`: The executable which installs the Linux packages required to support certain AME features
- `ame-2.2.3.run`: The executable which installs the AME software, where "3" is the patch level

Make executable the binaries installation file:

```
chmod +x ame*
```

## Installing the Upgrade



### Note

The upgrade procedure requires internet access, as it will download and update any required modules.

Follow these steps to install the updated files:

1. Make sure you are logged on as a `root` user.
2. Stop the AME:  
CentOS 6: `service ame stop`  
CentOS 7: `systemctl stop ame`
3. Run the dependency executable:

```
./ame_package-3.3.3.run
```

This will automatically update the prerequisites and their configuration files. If prompted during the installation, enter "y" and press Enter to confirm.

```
[...]
OS packages for web servers and media management installed
OK exiting
```

This process take at least 20 minutes to complete.

4. Run the installation executable by step:

if installed version is AME 1.6 start with `./ame-2.0.2.run` and then

if installed version is AME 2.0 start with `./ame-2.1.7.run` and then

if installed version is AME 2.1 start with `./ame-2.2.3.run`

The numbers in *italics* represent the version of the AME software. Replace the values if your executable is newer.

This will install AME software and deploy automatically database and PHP files. If prompted during the installation, enter "y" and press Enter to confirm.

```
[...]
=====
Active Media Explorer installed successfully
To finish the Active Media Explorer configuration you must:
- Start the AME service, use the following commande:
    service ame start
- Access the web interface using the url:
    http://localhost/

For more information to configure automatic AME start see file: /ame/README
=====
```

5. To start the service, type the following command:

- CentOS 6: `service ame start`
- CentOS 7: `systemctl start ame`

## For more information

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For information on how to use the Active Media Explorer, please see the user and administration documentation.

For additional information, contact your Active Circle representative or send an e-mail to [customer-support@active-circle.com](mailto:customer-support@active-circle.com).

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