Preparing and Deploying LANrev Apps

Introduction

Deploying in-house iOS apps to managed iOS devices using LANrev requires the LANrev Apps iOS application to be installed on each device.

Due to the requirements of iOS, installing LANrev Apps on managed devices requires you to prepare it in-house and send it out.

HEAT Software provides a script that you can use to prepare LANrev Apps for deployment to your managed devices. This document describes using the script and sending out the prepared app.

NOTE Instead of using the procedure described below, you can also use the Configure iOS Apps utility that is included on the LANrev installation disk. See the utility's Help menu for more information.

Requirements

- A computer running macOS on which Apple's iOS SDK is installed: The provided script requires this operating system and development environment.
  Since LANrev itself is not required for this procedure, it often will be easiest to perform it on the development computer that was used to create your in-house apps.
- Properly set-up MDM server (see the Installation section of the LANrev manual for details)
- ConfigureLANrevApps.sh script
- Valid signing identity, accessible through the macOS Keychain utility that corresponds to your organization's iOS distribution certificate
- Enterprise distribution provisioning profile that is to be attached to the app. It must correspond to the signing identity.
- LANrev Apps iOS app bundle (LANrev Apps.ipa), included on the LANrev macOS disk

Preparing and Deploying LANrev Apps

There are two main steps involved:

- First you prepare LANrev Apps, which involves signing it with your certificate and specifying the URL of your MDM server.
- Then you send it out to the administered iOS devices.

Although you can rename LANrev Apps before distributing it, this documentation always refers to it by the name "LANrev Apps".

Preparing LANrev Apps

To prepare LANrev Apps for distribution with the Configure-LANrevApps.sh script:

1. Copy the script, the provisioning profile, and the LANrev Apps app bundle to convenient locations on your computer.

2. Make sure that the signing identity is available in your keychain.

3. Run the script by entering this command in the terminal:

```
ConfigureLANrevApps.sh --in <app> --out <prepared_app>
   --signingidentity <identity> --provisioningprofile <profile>
   --mdmurl <url> [--appname <name>] [--iconfile <icon>]
```

Where the parameters are:

- *<app>*: The LANrev Apps app bundle
- *<prepared_app>*: The location where the script is to create the prepared copy of LANrev Apps it creates as output. Any existing file at this location will be silently overwritten. You can specify the location of the input file (i.e., *<app>*).
- *<identity>*: The name under which the signing identity is stored in Keychain
- *<profile>*: The distribution provisioning profile that will be used to authorize the LANrev Apps app on the iOS devices
- *<url>*: The URL of the MDM server that you have set up Make sure to include the "https://" protocol specifier.
- *<name>*: The name that the prepared app will have and that is displayed on the iOS device. This is an optional parameter; if you omit it, the app will be named "LANrev Apps".
- *<icon>*: The name of a graphics file that contains a different icon for the app to be displayed on the iOS device. The graphics file must have the PNG format and have a size of 57 by 57 pixels.

  This is an optional parameter; if you omit it, the app has the default icon as supplied by HEAT Software.

For example:

```
ConfigureLANrevApps.sh \
--in "/Users/johndoe/Documents/to-convert/LANrev\ Apps.app" \
--out "/Users/johndoe/Documents/to-deploy/LANrev\ Apps.ipa" \
--signingidentity "iPhone Distribution" \
--provisioningprofile "/Users/johndoe/Documents/
                            My_App_Store.mobileprovision"\
--mdmurl "https://mdm.mycompany.com"\
--name "MyAppStore"\
--iconfile "/Users/johndoe/Documents/MyAppStoreIcon.png"
```

The script stores the URL of your MDM server in the app, optionally changes the name and/or icon, re-signs the app using your identity, and saves the resulting new app file at the specified location.

You can now distribute this app file as described below.

Distributing LANrev Apps

To distribute the LANrev Apps app to administered iOS devices:

1. Make sure that LANrev Apps has been prepared as described above.

2. Enroll all iOS devices to which you want to distribute the app in LANrev.

    This is described in the Installation section of the LANrev manual.

3. In LANrev's **Mobile Devices** window, import the prepared application file create by the script (see above). This creates a configuration profile called "Install LANrev Apps".

    See the LANrev manual for details.

4. Install the imported configuration profile on all administered iOS devices.

    See the LANrev manual for details.

    You can install the profile either manually or via a policy. If you install it via a policy, it is removed automatically once LANrev Apps has been installed, ensuring that users do find the installation icon on their home screens although they already have the app.

    The installed configuration profile appears as an icon on the home screens of the iOS devices, like an app. Clicking on this profile displays a dialog in which users are asked whether to install LANrev Apps. Clicking OK in this dialog immediately installs the app.

    Clicking **OK** in this dialog launches Safari on the iOS device and, after an interval of up to a minute during which there is no feedback, displays a confirmation dialog in which users have to agree to install the app.

5. Communicate to the users (e.g., by e-mail) that they should click on the configuration profile and accept the installation request.

Also communicate to the users that they must enable push notifications on their devices for LANrev Apps to work properly.

When users have performed these steps (installing the app and enabling push notifications), they have access to all apps you make available to their devices through LANrev. They can also receive messages you send to them from LANrev.