
Preparing In-house Apps for Deployment

Introduction

Deploying in-house iOS apps to managed iOS devices requires them to be properly prepared.

Due to the requirements of iOS, the app must be signed and an enterprise provisioning profile must be attached. In addition, the provisioning profile included with the app bundle by Xcode must be removed.

HEAT Software provides a script that handles the required steps automatically; this document describes using the script.

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 Mac 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.
- PrepareAppForDeployment.sh script
- Valid signing identity, accessible through the Mac 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.
- iOS app bundle as created by Xcode

Using the script

To prepare an app for distribution with the PrepareAppForDeployment.sh script:

1. Copy the script, the provisioning profile, and the 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:

```
PrepareAppForDeployment.sh --in <app> --out <prepared_app>  
--signingidentity <identity> --provisioningprofile <profile>
```

Where the parameters are:

- `<app>`: The app bundle created by Xcode
- `<prepared_app>`: The location where the script is to create the prepared app 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 app on the iOS devices

For example:

```
PrepareAppForDeployment.sh \  
--in "/Users/johndoe/Documents/apps-to-convert/InHouse.app" \  
--out "/Users/johndoe/Documents/apps-to-deploy/InHouse.ipa" \  
--signingidentity "iPhone Distribution" \  
--provisioningprofile "/Users/johndoe/Documents/  
In_House_App.mobileprovision"
```

The script extracts the profile from the app bundle, resigns the app using your identity, and saves the resulting new app file at the specified location.

You can now use this app file, together with the specified provisioning profile, to distribute the app to iOS devices as described in the LANrev manual.