

Univention Corporate Server



Extended installation documentation

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Chapter 1. Using a UCS appliance

In addition to the traditional installation, there is also the possibility of providing UCS via an appliance image. These appliance images can be used both for simple commissioning in a virtualization solution such as VMware and for providing a cloud instance.

Appliances can be created with minimal effort. This is described in Chapter 2.

Whilst some of the settings can be preconfigured globally in the image, it is still necessary for the end user to make final adjustments to the configuration, e.g., to set the computer name or the domain used. For this reason, a basic system is installed for the appliance image and a component set up, which then allows the end user to finalize the configuration. Alternatively, the configuration can also be performed automatically without user interaction. This is described in Section 2.3.

The interactive configuration can be performed in two ways:

- A graphic interface starts on the system, in which the web browser Firefox is started in full-screen mode and automatically accesses the configuration URL. This option is particularly suitable for images in virtualization solutions.
- The configuration can also be performed directly via an external web browser. In this case, the system's IP address must be known to the user (e.g., if it has been notified to him in advance in the scope of the provision of a cloud image).

In the scope of the initial configuration, the user can change the following settings in the default setting:

- Selection of the language, time zone and keyboard layout
- Configuration of the network settings
- Setup of a new UCS domain or joining a UCS or Microsoft Active Directory domain
- Software selection of UCS key components. The user can install software from other vendors at a later point in time via the Univention App Center.

Chapter 2. Creating a UCS appliance/ cloud image

2.1. Introduction

Feedback 

This article describes how to set up an appliance based on UCS 5.0. This type of appliance can also be used to provide preconfigured instances as a cloud service provider. The creation of images for typical virtualization solutions is another possible application scenario, see Section 2.2.3.

2.2. Performing the basic installation

Feedback 

The basic installation is performed using the standard UCS installer. Further information on the individual options can be found in the UCS manual. The installation should be performed in a virtualization solution. In this example, the installation is performed in QEMU. A qcow2 image should be selected for the hard drive for the virtual machine. Qcow2 images can be converted to different virtualization formats such as VirtualBox or VMware using a tool provided by Univention, see Section 2.2.3.

The following settings are configured for the basic image:

- The installation language can be selected as required. The locale of the system is set based on the selected language. If you want to be able to use the appliance in more than one language, you can add another locale at a later point in time.
- A preselection is made for the time zone which is then adapted subsequently by the users of the appliance.
- The keyboard layout is only relevant for local logins; it is not important for the web-based configuration.
- A configuration via DHCP is the most practical presetting for appliance images. The Univention Installer attempts to perform a DHCP request in the scope of the network configuration. The network configuration is only performed via DHCP if this is successful, i.e., an IP address must be assigned to the appliance for the duration of the setup. This can be done with an *IP client* object in the Univention Management Console.
- In the next step, the initial password is set for the root user. This root password is changed by the end user during the commissioning of the appliance image.
- The partitioning can be performed as required, e.g., by using an LVM. For an image that will be used in a cloud setup, a single root partition should be used. This allows growing the root partition based on the selected instance disk size.

Once the basic installation is complete, a dialogue is shown in which you can select whether to create a new UCS domain or join an existing domain. To create the appliance, **Control+Q** must be pressed at this point to interrupt the process. The installation continues for a short period of time, during which the **Starting Univention System Setup** message appears and the systems then restarts.

The installation of the basic image is now complete. Following a reboot, the user of the appliance is shown the dialogue for adjusting the configuration, see Chapter 1.

In most cases, the appliance needs to be preconfigured with a certain selection of software. The installation is usually performed via the Univention App Center, which, however, is not yet available at this point in time. The installation is thus performed via the command line. UCS standard components can be installed using the corresponding package names, e.g.

```
univention-install univention-printserver
```

Packages from the Univention App Center are installed with the command `univention-app install` once a valid license is available. The ID of an application can be retrieved with the command `univention-app list`:

```
univention-app install APPID
```

The system now needs to be shut down cleanly without filesystems still being mounted.

The qcow2 image (i.e., the hard drive of the virtual machine) is now copied. If the *default* storage pool of `libvirt` was used, the image is stored in the directory `/var/lib/libvirt/images/`.

Additional steps are required if the image is to be used in Amazon EC2 (see Section 2.2.1), OpenStack (see Section 2.2.2) or as a VMware / VirtualBox appliance (see Section 2.2.3).

2.2.1. Providing an image for Amazon EC2

Feedback 

The following adjustments need to be made for an image that is to be used in Amazon EC2.

The following Univention Configuration Registry variables can be used to generate the GRUB configuration in this format additionally. The bootloader configuration is also adapted:

```
DEV='/dev/xvda' GRUB='(hd0)'  
grub-mkdevicemap ||  
  echo "${GRUB} ${DEV}" >/boot/grub/device.map  
append="$(ucr get grub/append |  
  sed -re "s|/dev/sda|${DEV}|g;s|(no)?splash|g")"  
xargs -d'\n' ucr set <<__UCR__  
grub/append=${append}  
grub/boot=${DEV}  
grub/root=${DEV}1  
grub/bootsplash=no  
grub/quiet=no  
grub/rootdelay=0  
grub/timeout=0  
grub/terminal=console serial  
grub/serialcommand=serial --unit=0 --speed=115200 --word=8 --parity=no  
  --stop=1  
__UCR__  
update-initramfs -uk all  
update-grub
```

The initial login to the EC2 instance is performed via a SSH host key. To prevent SSH logins from occurring with the default root password of the standard image during commissioning of the instance, the initial root password is removed. The following Univention Configuration Registry variable configures this start mode:

```
usermod -p \* root  
ucr set server/amazon=true
```

The name server should be set; in this example to OpenDNS. Additionally, the timeout when waiting for a DHCP request answer is lowered.

```
ucr set nameserver1=208.67.222.222 dns/forwarder1=208.67.222.222  
ucr unset nameserver2 nameserver3  
ucr unset dns/forwarder2 dns/forwarder3  
ucr set interfaces/eth0/type=dhcp dhclient/options/timeout=12
```

```
ucr set timeserver=169.254.169.123 # AWS internal
```

2.2.2. Providing an image for OpenStack

 Feedback 

The provisioning for OpenStack images occurs via Cloud-Init (see Section 2.3.2). Cloud-Init is a standardized solution for configuration of an image. Cloud-Init checks a range of data sources for an existing configuration. The *univention-cloud-init* package must be installed to prepare an image for provisioning via Cloud-Init:

```
univention-install cloud-init
```

The local Firefox session should not be started when running as an OpenStack instance.

```
ucr set system/setup/boot/start=false
```

The initial login to the OpenStack instance is performed via a SSH host key. To prevent SSH logins from occurring with the default root password of the standard image during commissioning of the instance, the initial root password is removed.

```
usermod -p \* root
```

2.2.3. Providing an image for VMware/VirtualBox

 Feedback 

Virtualization images for VirtualBox, VMware Player and VMware ESX can also be created on the basis of the qcow2 images above. The package *generate-appliance* provides tools for this.

The `generate_appliance` tool must be started and the qcow2 image selected with the parameter `-s`:

```
generate_appliance -s appliance.qcow2
```

The virtual machine is assigned one CPU and a gigabyte of RAM as standard. If the appliance has a higher storage or CPU power requirement, the parameter `-m` can be used to specify a different quantity of RAM in megabytes and `-c` can be used to assign a different number of CPUs. The parameters `--vendor` and `--product` can be used to specify a vendor and product name.

By default three different virtualization images are generated from the qcow2 image. The generation for a type can be suppressed using the respectively given option:

- Zipped VMware compatible images (e.g. for VMware Player), can be suppressed with `--no-vmware`
- VirtualBox OVA image, can be suppressed with `--no-ova-virtualbox`
- VMware ESX OVA image, can be suppressed with `--no-ova-esxi`

2.3. Automatic configuration of an appliance

 Feedback 

Instead of an interactive configuration of the appliance by the user, it can also be performed automatically. The automatic configuration can either be performed via cloud-init (a general tool for the provision of cloud images) or a Univention appliance mode profile file.

2.3.1. Automatic configuration with a UCS appliance mode profile file

 Feedback 

Automatic configuration with the UCS appliance mode requires creating a profile file `/var/cache/univention-system-setup/profile`. Example configuration:

```
hostname="ucs"
domainname="testdom.local"
windows/domain="TESTDOM"
ldap/base="dc=testdom,dc=local"
root_password="univention"

locale/default="de_DE.UTF-8:UTF-8"
components="univention-s4-connector univention-samba4"
packages_install="univention-s4-connector univention-samba4"
packages_remove=""

server/role="domaincontroller_master"

interfaces/eth0/type=""
interfaces/eth0/address="192.0.2.2"
interfaces/eth0/netmask="255.0.0.0"
interfaces/eth0/network="10.0.0.0"
interfaces/eth0/broadcast="10.255.255.255"
dns/forwarder1="192.0.2.2"
gateway="192.0.2.1"
```

If `interfaces/eth0/type` is set to `dynamic`, DHCP is used for the network configuration.

Then the `/usr/lib/univention-system-setup/scripts/setup-join.sh` tool needs to be run once. Then Apache and the UMC server need to be restarted:

```
systemctl restart apache2 univention-management-console-server
```

2.3.2. Automatic configuration of an appliance with Cloud-Init

Feedback 

Note

This chapter is not up-to-date with UCS 5.

Cloud-Init works on a configuration file in the cloud configuration format. The configuration file is provided by the respective cloud service; the type of provision differs from cloud solution to cloud solution. It is currently only possible to provide a Primary Directory Node.

The configuration file may be adapted for different scenarios. To setup a domain, the `ucs_setup` section is required. Note that the supplied `ldap_base` is used in other configuration sections as well.

The following includes an example file with which a Primary Directory Node can be provided. In addition, several files are generated on the system: the UCS license to be installed and a file with the apps to be installed from the Univention App Center. The license in this example is the default *core edition license*. More information about requesting a proper license can be found in Section 2.3.3.

Two example hook scripts are generated which are called after setup is finished: One calls `wget` for a given URL, which could be used to signal an external service that the provisioning of the instance is done.

```
#cloud-config
#
ucs_setup:
  hostname: myucsprimary
  domainname: ucs.local
  windowsdomain: UCS
```

```

ldap_base: dc=ucs,dc=local
rootpassword: univention
defaultlocale: de_DE.UTF-8:UTF-8
components:
packages_install:
packages_remove:
write_files:
- content: |
    dn: cn=admin,cn=license,cn=univention,dc=ucs,dc=local
    objectClass: top
    objectClass: univentionLicense
    objectClass: univentionObject
    univentionObjectType: settings/license
    univentionLicenseEndDate: unlimited
    univentionLicenseModule: admin
    cn: admin
    univentionLicenseBaseDN: UCS Core Edition
    univentionLicenseUsers: unlimited
    univentionLicenseServers: unlimited
    univentionLicenseManagedClients: unlimited
    univentionLicenseCorporateClients: unlimited
    univentionLicenseVirtualDesktopUsers: 0
    univentionLicenseVirtualDesktopClients: 0
    univentionLicenseSupport: 0
    univentionLicensePremiumSupport: 0
    univentionLicenseVersion: 2
    univentionLicenseType: UCS
    univentionLicenseSignature: ZjofUmITUqpyF5q
+AfEli6EwsKXGWYnkh3JLJH3/bXqvD26nG
    aLa+cpcr6g9Stkx2Lslh1feGCpsdvowkA3T
+SftPHSX0Fds78QgyatoiFlA6mbbtMf3ABbMfW9Glt
    IZBbxxDFD+hMO/7yOHwaFZM3xb1I2ToJ1D2+ xvOxrZe2SCZd4KJIXpupnmJnAC/
D4Y9iqHPytVPU3
    QlI6zXnGU5q47RN/tdXLTPv7mHoiXRWh282TN0lnEiiQxwiQ4u2ghWE1x/EWY/
CXvZm0PQcsFqGyB
    v72WdEUOex1Yuf3BgZ7QfLOQ2XIv6KPKCyYqZqlSNp8Xk+IpKjDqL+aq0oyeg==
    owner: root:root
    path: /var/cache/univention-system-setup/license
    permissions: '0400'
- content: |
    simplesamlphp
    adconnector
    owner: root:root
    path: /var/cache/univention-system-setup/installapps
    permissions: '0400'
- content: |
    #!/bin/sh
    wget http://myURL/page?myparam=myValue
    owner: root:root
    path: /usr/lib/univention-system-setup/appliance-hooks.d/90_wget_url
    permissions: '0755'

```

The file with the apps to be installed contains a list of IDs of applications from the Univention App Center, see Section 2.2. The list in the example above installs the Univention AD Connector and the SAML integration on the provided Primary Directory Node

2.3.3. License management in cloud instances

Feedback 

By default a UCS installation has a *core edition license*. An updated license from Univention is required in order to use the App Center. For standard installations it is sent to the user by e-mail and then set up in the Univention Management Console.

Cloud service providers have the possibility of retrieving UCS licenses via an API, i.e., if a new instance is to be created for a customer, the license can be retrieved via the API and then installed in the provided instance directly.

Access to the license server requires a user name and a password. These can be requested from Univention at <sales@univention.de>. In this document, `https://license.univention.de/shop/example/` is used as an example URL for the license server.

2.3.3.1. API for retrieving UCS licenses

Feedback 

The licenses are retrieved via HTTPS from the Univention license server `license.univention.de`. The retrieval can be performed completely with `wget`.

Firstly, a session with the license server must be opened, in this case with the user name `univention` and the password `secret` as an example. It is also possible to request more than one license in one session.

```
wget \  
  --keep-session-cookies \  
  --save-cookies cookie.db \  
  --load-cookies cookie.db \  
  --post-data='username=univention&password=secret' \  
  https://license.univention.de/shop/example/
```

A license can also be ordered with a POST request via `wget`. Please note that special characters such as blank spaces must be escaped in URL-encoded syntax, see <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Percent-encoding> for details.

```
wget \  
  --keep-session-cookies \  
  --save-cookies cookie.db \  
  --load-cookies cookie.db \  
  --post-data='kundeEmail=customer@example&\  
'kundeUnternehmen=New%20Customern&\  
'EndDate=27.11.2015&\  
'BaseDN=dc%3Ddrei%2Cdc%3Dzwei%2Cdc%3Dtest&\  
'Servers=0&\  
'Support=0&\  
'PremiumSupport=0&\  
'Users=100&\  
'ManagedClients=0&\  
'CorporateClients=0&\  
'VirtualDesktopUsers=0&\  
'VirtualDesktopClients=0&\  
'Type=UCS' \  
  https://license.univention.de/shop/example/order
```

If the order is successful, the return code 202 is returned. The HTML data includes the tag `orderid`, which identifies the order number of a successful order:

```
...
```

License management in cloud instances

```
<span id="orderid">21</span>  
...
```

If the order fails, a return code 4xx is returned and the `details` tag includes additional information, e.g.:

```
...  
<span id="details">Not a valid date: u'27.11.201'</span>  
...
```

Should it not be possible to process an order due to a server error, 5xx is output as the return code. The order can then be repeated at a later point in time.

Following ordering of a license, it takes a few seconds before the license is generated. It can then be retrieved in LDIF format using the order number. If the request above returns e.g. the order number 465, the file name is thus `465.ldif`. The request specified below waits for the availability of the license for up to sixty seconds:

```
wget \  
  --keep-session-cookies \  
  --save-cookies cookie.db \  
  --load-cookies cookie.db \  
  https://license.univention.de/shop/example/orders/465.ldif
```

Chapter 3. Profile-based installation

In addition to the interactive installation described in the [ucs-manual], a profile-based installation of UCS is also possible. With this method, the settings for the *Debian Installer* and *Univention System Setup* are specified in a pre-seed file.

The Debian Installer consists of a number of special-purpose components to perform each installation task. Each component performs its task, asking the user questions as necessary to do its job. The questions themselves are given priorities, and the priority of questions to be asked is set when the installer is started.

When a default installation is performed, only essential (**priority=high**) questions will be asked. This results in a highly automated installation process with little user interaction.

If there is a problem, the user will see an error screen, and the installer menu may be shown in order to select some alternative action. Serious error notifications are set to **priority=critical** so the user will always be notified.

Power users may be more comfortable with a menu-driven interface, where each step is controlled by the user rather than the installer performing each step automatically in sequence. To use the installer in a manual, menu-driven way, add the boot argument **priority=medium**.

If your hardware requires you to pass options to kernel modules as they are installed, you will need to start the installer in “expert” mode. This can be done by adding the boot argument **priority=low**.

Depending on the selected priority the installer will ask more or less questions. The installer will either use internal default values or the values from the profile. To perform the installation fully unattended all required answers must be provided through the installation profile. Therefore **priority=critical** should be specified under **additional start options** for UCS systems using the profile from Section 3.2.

3.1. Structure of profile files

Feedback 

An installation profile is a text file which can be edited with any editor. The file must use the UTF-8 character encoding. Empty lines and lines starting with a hash character (#) are ignored. All other lines should follow the four column layout required by debconf, which is fully described in [d-i]:

```
# Comment  
<owner> <question name> <question type> <value>
```

The *owner* of most questions will be `d-i`, which is the *Debian Installer*. The *question type* depends on the questions and can be `boolean`, `string` or `select`. Any questions not answered by the pre-seed file is asked interactively and will prevent an unattended installation.

3.2. Example installation profile

Feedback 

A template file is provided as `/usr/share/doc/univention-net-installer/examples/TEMPLATE1`. It contains the minimum required settings to perform a fully automatic installation of a Managed Node with no additional software. It will use the German keyboard layout and language settings. It will re-partition the hard-disk without asking any questions and will use LVM to manage the disk space. No additional software will be installed.

```
#  
# This file overwrites /proc/cmdline overwrites preseed.cfg in the  
# InitRamFs!  
#
```

¹ The file may be stored compressed with the `.gz` extension. Use `gunzip` to uncompress a copy of that file.

Example installation profile

```
#
# The following options must be set through the PXE configuration❶#
# Delay asking for locale and keyboard layout after pre-seeding via
network
#d-i auto-install/enable boolean true
# Only ask for critical questions
#d-i debconf/priority select critical
# Disable graphical installer
#d-i debian-installer/framebuffer boolean false

# no live installer
d-i live-installer/enable boolean false

#
# Use interfaces with link
#
d-i netcfg/dhcp_timeout string 60

#
# Use dummy hostname and domain
#
d-i netcfg/get_hostname string unassigned-hostname
d-i netcfg/get_domain string unassigned-domain
krb5-config krb5-config/default_realm string UNASSIGNED-REALM
krb5-config krb5-config/kerberos_servers string localhost
krb5-config krb5-config/admin_server string localhost

#
# Select German as default locale and for keyboard layout❷#
d-i debian-installer/locale string de_DE.UTF-8
d-i keyboard-configuration/xkb-keymap select de(nodeadkeys)
#d-i keyboard-configuration/modelcode string pc105
d-i ucr/xorg/keyboard/options/XkbModel string pc105
#d-i keyboard-configuration/layoutcode string de
d-i ucr/xorg/keyboard/options/XkbLayout string de
#d-i keyboard-configuration/variantcode string nodeadkeys
d-i ucr/xorg/keyboard/options/XkbVariant string nodeadkeys
#d-i keyboard-configuration/optionscode string
d-i ucr/xorg/keyboard/options/XkbOptions string
#d-i debian-installer/keymap select de-latin1-nodeadkeys

#
# Configure local repository server
#
d-i debian-installer/allow_unauthenticated boolean true
d-i mirror/country string manual
d-i mirror/protocol select http
d-i mirror/http/proxy string
# The host name of the repository server is filled through the PXE
configuration generated by UDM
#d-i mirror/http/hostname string updates.software-univention.de❸d-i
mirror/http/directory string /univention-repository/
d-i mirror/codename string ucs501
```

```
d-i mirror/suite string uc501
d-i mirror/udeb/suite string ucs501

#
# Disable password for user 'root'
#
d-i passwd/root-login boolean true
# Alternative: printf "secret" | mkpasswd -s -m sha-512
d-i passwd/root-password-crypted string *4d-i passwd/make-user boolean
false

#
# Partition hard disk: Use "lvm" and one big "/" partition5#
# Choices: lvm crypto regular
d-i partman-auto/method string lvm
# Choices: atomic home multi
d-i partman-auto/choose_recipe string atomic
d-i partman-auto/init_automatically_partition select 60some_device_lvm
d-i partman-auto/init_automatically_partition seen false
d-i partman-auto-lvm/new_vg_name string vg_ucs
d-i partman-lvm/device_remove_lvm boolean true
d-i partman-md/device_remove_md boolean true
d-i partman-lvm/confirm boolean true
d-i partman-lvm/confirm_nooverwrite boolean true
d-i partman-partitioning/confirm_write_new_label boolean true
d-i partman/choose_partition select finish
d-i partman/confirm boolean true
d-i partman/confirm_nooverwrite boolean true

# Pre-select the standard UCS kernel
#d-i base-installer/kernel/image string linux-image-amd64
d-i base-installer/includes string less univention-config
d-i base-installer/debootstrap_script string /usr/share/debootstrap/
scripts/sid

#
# Only minimal install
#
d-i apt-setup/use_mirror boolean false
d-i apt-setup/no_mirror boolean true
d-i apt-setup/services-select multiselect none
d-i apt-setup/cdrom/set-first boolean false
tasksel tasksel/first multiselect none
d-i pkgsel/include string univention-system-setup-boot univention-
management-console-web-server univention-management-console-module-setup
linux-image-amd64 openssh-server univention-base-packages
postfix postfix/main_mailer_type string No configuration
openssh-server ssh/disable_cr_auth boolean false
d-i ucf/changeprompt select keep_current
d-i pkgsel/upgrade select none
popularity-contest popularity-contest/participate boolean false

#
# Install GRUB in MBR by default on new systems
```

Example installation profile

```
#
d-i grub-installer/only_debian boolean true
d-i grub-installer/bootdev string default
grub-pc grub-pc/install_devices multiselect
grub-pc grub-pc/install_devices_empty boolean true

#
# After installation
#
d-i finish-install/reboot_in_progress note
d-i cdrom-detect/eject boolean true

#
# Disable starting "Univention System Setup Boot"❹#
d-i ucr/system/setup/boot/start string false

#
# Univention System Setup profile
#
#univention-system-setup-boot uss/root_password string
univention-system-setup-boot uss/components string
univention-system-setup-boot uss/packages_install string
univention-system-setup-boot uss/packages_remove string
# Choices: domaincontroller_master domaincontroller_backup
domaincontroller_slave memberserver
univention-system-setup-boot uss/server/role string memberserver
#univention-system-setup-boot uss/ldap/base string dc=example,dc=com
```

❶ These settings must be configured as PXE command line parameters in **additional start options**. They are listed here for reference only and cannot be changed through this file:

- The parameter `auto-install/enable` is used to switch the order of some installer modules: The network should be configured and the `preseed.cfg` should be loaded *before* the first questions about the locale settings are asked.
- The parameter `netcfg/choose_interface=auto` tells the installer to use the same interface which was used for the PXE boot.
- Also some of those early questions are asked at priority level high. The priority level should be raised to `critical` to hide them.

The long parameter names can be abbreviated as `auto=true priority=critical interface=auto`.

- ❷ If the locale settings are not consistent, the installer will ask interactively for corrections. The keyboard related settings must be configured through Univention Configuration Registry - the questions starting with `keyboard-configuration/xkb-...` will not work!
- ❸ The location of the local repository is filled in through the PXE configuration. By default the value of the Univention Configuration Registry variable `repository/online/server` is used. It can be over-written by specifying the value here in the profile file. For use with the public repository specify `updates.software-univention.de` here.
- ❹ By default no password is set, which will prevent logging in. It should be replaced by an encrypted password, which can be used by running a command like `printf "secret" | mkpasswd -s -m sha-512`
- ❺ By default all existing partitions will be wiped without asking any question! They will be replaced by a single file system for `/` using LVM. See [d-i] for more advanced partitioning schemas.

- ⑥ This sections contains the UCS specific settings, which are normally configured through *Univention System Setup*. For an unattended installation the graphical installer is disabled. All other values starting with `uss/` are copied to the installation profile. The variables are described in Section 3.3.

3.3. Overview of profile variables

 Feedback 

3.3.1. Profile variables - System properties

 Feedback 

The following profile variables can be used to specify basic properties of the computer such as the computer name, its role within the UCS domain and the name of the domain the computer should join.

Table 3.1. Profile variables - System properties

| Name | Function |
|------------------------------|---|
| <code>server/role</code> | The system role. You may choose from <code>domaincontroller_master</code> (for Primary Directory Node), <code>domaincontroller_backup</code> (for Backup Directory Node), <code>domaincontroller_slave</code> (for Replica Directory Node) and <code>memberserver</code> (for Managed Node). The properties of the system roles are described in the domain services chapter of the [ucs-manual]. |
| <code>hostname</code> | The computer name. The name must only contain the letters a to z in lowercase, the figures 0 to 9 and hyphens. Although underscore are allowed as well, they should not be used as they are not supported everywhere. The name must begin with a letter. |
| <code>domainname</code> | The name of the DNS domain in which the computer is joined. |
| <code>windows/domain</code> | The name of the NetBIOS domain used by Samba. This variable should only be defined for the system role Primary Directory Node. |
| <code>locales</code> | Localization packages to be installed (locales). If more than one locale is specified, the locales are separated by blank spaces. |
| <code>locale/default</code> | The standard locale for the computer, e.g. <code>en_GB.UTF-8:UTF-8</code> . More information on system locales can be found at [locales]. |
| <code>country, keymap</code> | The keyboard layout for the computer, specified in the form of an X11 <i>keymap</i> entry, e.g. <code>de-latin1</code> . |
| <code>timezone</code> | The time zone for the computer, e.g. <code>Europe/Berlin</code> . A complete list of possible configuration options is shown in the <i>Basic settings</i> module of the Univention Management Console. |
| <code>root_password</code> | The password for the <i>root</i> user for this computer. On a Primary Directory Node, this password is also used for the <i>Administrator's</i> password. |

3.3.2. Profile variables - LDAP settings and domain joins

 Feedback 

Automatically joining the computer into the domain is currently not supported for security reasons.

Table 3.2. Profile variables - LDAP settings and domain joins

| Name | Function |
|-------------------------|---|
| <code>start/join</code> | As standard, all computers apart from the Primary Directory Node attempt to join the UCS domain in the course of the installation. If this parameter is set to <code>false</code> , the automatic domain join is deactivated. |

| Name | Function |
|-----------|--|
| ldap/base | The base DN of the LDAP domain. In general, the base DN <code>dc=example,dc=com</code> is used in a domain <code>example.com</code> . This variable is only evaluated on the system role Primary Directory Node. |

3.3.3. Profile variables - Network configuration

Feedback 

By default automatically installed systems use DHCP. The following profile variables can be used to specify the network configuration of the computer.

General information on the network configuration and the use of the name servers can be found in Chapter *Network configuration* of the [ucs-manual].

The settings for network cards must be performed completely. It is not possible to leave individual settings blank. For example, if there is no IP address for the device `eth0` in the profile, in addition to the IP address, the `interfaces/eth0/netmask` will also be requested.

Table 3.3. Profile variables - Network configuration

| Name | Function |
|--|---|
| <code>interfaces/ethN/type</code> | If this parameter is set to <code>dynamic</code> or <code>dhcp</code> , the network interface <code>ethN</code> procures its network configuration via DHCP. The settings of <code>interfaces/ethN/address</code> , <code>interfaces/ethN/netmask</code> , <code>interfaces/ethN/network</code> , <code>interfaces/ethN/broadcast</code> , <code>nameserverN</code> and <code>gateway</code> then become optional, but can still be used to over-write the configuration provided by DHCP. If no DHCP offer is received, a random IP address from the link-local network <code>169.254.x.x</code> is used. For manual configuration this parameter must be set to <code>static</code> . |
| <code>interfaces/ethN/address</code> | The IPv4 address of the physical network interface <code>ethN</code> . |
| <code>interfaces/ethN/netmask</code> | The network mask of the subnetwork from which the IPv4 address of <code>ethN</code> originates. |
| <code>gateway</code> | The IPv4 address of the gateway which the computer should use as standard. Alternatively, one can specify the computer name or the FQDN that can be resolved into the IP address. |
| <code>interfaces/ethN/ipv6/name/address</code> | An IPv6 address of the physical network interface <code>ethN</code> in static configuration. Multiple addresses can be assigned by using different <code>name</code> prefixes. |
| <code>interfaces/ethN/ipv6/name/prefix</code> | The prefix length of the IPv6 address of the physical network interface <code>ethN</code> in static configuration. |
| <code>ipv6/gateway</code> | The IPv6 address of the gateway which the computer should use as standard. It is not obligatory to enter a gateway for IPv6, but recommended. An IPv6 gateway configured here has preference over router advertisements, which might otherwise be able to change the route. |
| <code>interfaces/ethN/acceptRA</code> | If this setting is set to <code>yes</code> , the stateless address auto-configuration (SLAAC) is used. In this, the IP address is assigned from the routers of the local network segment. If the variable is set to <code>no</code> , the configuration is performed statically via <code>interfaces/ethN/ip6</code> and <code>interfaces/ethN/prefix6</code> (see there). |
| <code>nameserver1, nameserver2, nameserver3</code> | The IP address of the name server which should perform the name resolution. It is possible to specify up to three name servers. |

| Name | Function |
|--|---|
| dns/forwarder1, dns/forwarder2, dns/forwarder3 | The IP address of the name server intended to serve as the forwarder for a locally installed DNS service. It is possible to specify up to three forwarders. |
| proxy/http | The URL of a proxy server to be used when downloading accessing the Internet. The specified URL is adopted in the Univention Configuration Registry variables <code>proxy/http</code> and <code>proxy/ftp</code> . This setting is only required if packages are to be installed which download additional packages from external web servers; e.g., the installation program for the Flash plugin. Example: <code>proxy/http="http://proxy.example.com:8080"</code> |

3.3.4. Profile variables - Software selection

 Feedback 

The following profile variables refer to software packages which are to be installed on the computer.

Table 3.4. Profile variables - Software selection

| Name | Function |
|------------------|---|
| packages_install | This settings names packages which are additionally installed. If more than one package is specified, the packages are separated by blank spaces. |
| packages_remove | This settings names packages which should be removed. If more than one package is specified, the packages are separated by blank spaces. |

3.3.5. Profile variables - SSL

 Feedback 

A SSL certification infrastructure is set up during installation of a Primary Directory Node. If no settings are configured, automatic names are given for the certificate.

Table 3.5. Profile variables - SSL

| Name | Function |
|------------------------|--|
| ssl/country | The ISO country code of the certification body appearing in the certificate (root CA), specified with two capital letters. |
| ssl/state | The region, county or province that appears in the certificate of the root CA. |
| ssl/locality | Place appearing in the certificate of the root CA. |
| ssl/organization | Name of the organization that appears in the certificate of the root CA. |
| ssl/organizationalunit | Name of the organizational unit or department of the organization that appears in the certificate of the root CA. |
| ssl/email | E-mail address that appears in the certificate of the root CA. |

3.4. Network-based PXE installations with Univention Net Installer

 Feedback 

Network-based, profile-based installations via PXE are performed with the Univention Net Installer, which can be set up using the package *univention-net-installer*. This installs the required TFTP server and WWW

server configuration. In addition a DHCP server is required, which is provided by the package *univention-dhcp*. If the DHCP server and the PXE server of the Univention Net Installer are operated on separate systems, the PXE server must be assigned via a DHCP boot policy.

```
univention-install univention-net-installer univention-dhcp
```

The installation process consists of multiple steps, which contact different services and servers:

1. First the *DHCP server* is contacted. It sends the client to the **Boot server** (by default the DHCP server itself) configured through the *DHCP Boot* policy to request the boot loader given in **Boot filename** (`pxelinux.0`).
2. Then the client downloads the boot loader via the `tftp` protocol from the *PXE server*. The boot loader scans the server for the client configuration file in `pxelinux.cfg/`. The referenced Linux kernel (`linux`) and initial RAM disk file (`initrd.gz`) are then downloaded. Those names can be changed through the Univention Configuration Registry variables `pxe/installer/kernel` and `pxe/installer/initrd`².
3. Finally the UCS installer downloads the profiles and package files using `http`. The **Name of the installation profile** is configured in the computer entry in LDAP. The file is fetched from the *PXE server* by default, but the prefix can be overwritten through the Univention Configuration Registry variable `pxe/installer/profiles`. As an alternative the name can also be specified as an absolute URL.
4. The package files are fetched from the *repository server*, which is configured through the Univention Configuration Registry variable `repository/online/server` on the PXE server.

Univention Net Installer supports both the interactive and profile-based installation. Any questions not answered in the pre-seed file forces the installer to interactive mode.

Profiles should be copied into the directory `/var/lib/univention-client-boot/preseed/` on the PXE server, which is accessible through `http://HOST-NAME/univention-client-boot/preseed/`.

Univention Net Installer can either directly use the repository server `https://updates.software-univention.de/` or a local repository server. The later one is advisable as it reduces the amount of data needing to be downloaded for each installation.

3.4.1. Local repository

 Feedback 

The local repository must first be initialized once using the command `univention-repository-create`. Since UCS 5.0-1 the PXE kernel and installer must be copied manually from the ISO image to the correct location in `/var/lib/univention-client-boot/installer/`.

```
mount /dev/cdrom /media/cdrom0
install -m644 /media/cdrom0/netboot/linux \
  /var/lib/univention-client-boot/
install -m644 /media/cdrom0/netboot/initrd.gz \
  /var/lib/univention-client-boot/
umount /media/cdrom0
```

² Newer versions of the PXE boot loader support downloading through `http`, which can be faster and more reliable in certain environments. This can be enabled by specifying URLs starting with `http://` as file names.

Instead of mounting the DVD a downloaded ISO image can also be mounted by using `mount -o loop,ro /path/to/UCS.iso /media/cdrom0`. Alternatively the files can be downloaded from <http://updates.software-univention.de/pxe/5.0-1/amd64/gtk/debian-installer/amd64/>:

```
cd /var/lib/univention-client-boot/
PXE='http://updates.software-univention.de/pxe/'
PXE+=$(ucr filter <<<'@@version/version@@-@@version/patchlevel@@')
PXE+=/amd64/gtk/debian-installer/amd64
wget -O linux "$PXE/linux"
wget -O initrd.gz "$PXE/initrd.gz"
```

The procedure should be repeated for each new release. Otherwise new installations will still start with an older release, which might require extra time for updating. For more information on local repositories see the software deployment chapter of the [ucs-manual].

3.4.2. Public repository

 Feedback 

Even when the public repository server <https://updates.software-univention.de/> is used, some services and files must be available inside the local network. At minimum this includes the DHCP service, which assigns the client its IP address and tells it to continue fetching files from the next server. Historically this had to be a TFTP server, but nowadays this also can be any HTTP server. This has the benefit that HTTP is faster, more reliable and also works over the Internet.

Procedure 3.1. Setup network installation using public repository

1. Install the HTTP capable boot loader `lpxelinux.0`

```
ln -s /usr/lib/PXELINUX/lpxelinux.0 \
/var/lib/univention-client-boot/
```

2. Setup the *DHCP Boot* policy to use `lpxelinux.0`. Depending on the capabilities of the network card boot code the boot loader can either be fetched over the HTTP or TFTP protocol:

- a. For HTTP configure the absolute URL as the *boot filename*:

```
HOST="$(hostname -f)"
LDAP="$(ucr get ldap/base)"
HTTP="http://$HOST/univention-client-boot/lpxelinux.0"
udm policies/dhcp_boot modify \
--dn "cn=default-settings,cn=boot,cn=dhcp,cn=policies,$LDAP" \
--set boot_filename="$HTTP" \
--set boot_server=
```

- b. The installer performs its own second DHCP request. This again retrieves the DHCP option *boot filename*, which now contains the *URL* to the PXE loader. The installer wrongly interprets this as the URL for the profile `preseed`, which breaks the installation. Therefore the option needs to be overwritten when the installer performs this second query:

```
STMT='if substring (option vendor-class-identifier, 0, 3) =
"d-i" { filename ""; }'
udm dhcp/subnet list |
sed -ne 's/^DN: //p' |
xargs -d '\n' -nl udm dhcp/subnet modify \
--option options \
```

Assignment of a computer for automatic installation

```
--append statements="$STMT" \  
--dn
```

- For TFTP change *boot filename* to point to `lpxelinux.0`:

```
HOST="$(hostname -f)"  
LDAP="$(ucr get ldap/base)"  
udm policies/dhcp_boot modify \  
--dn "cn=default-settings,cn=boot,cn=dhcp,cn=policies,$LDAP" \  
--set boot_filename='lpxelinux.0' \  
--set boot_server="$HOST"
```

3. Configure the boot loader to load the Linux kernel and initial ram disk from the public repository server:

```
PXE='http://updates.software-univention.de/pxe'  
PXE="$PXE/5.0-1/amd64/gtk/debian-installer/amd64"  
ucr set \  
pxe/installer/kernel="$PXE/linux" \  
pxe/installer/initrd="$PXE/initrd.gz" \  
pxe/installer/ipappend=3
```

4. In the profile file the settings for *mirror/http/hostname* and *mirror/http/directory* must be changed to use the public server and its layout:

```
d-i mirror/http/hostname string updates.software-univention.de d-i  
mirror/http/directory string /
```

3.4.3. Assignment of a computer for automatic installation

 Feedback 

A computer to be installed via Univention Net Installer must firstly be registered in the computer management of the Univention Management Console. The following values must be set as a minimum:

- Hostname (General tab)
- MAC address (General tab)
- IP address (General tab)
- DNS forward and reverse zone entries (General tab)
- DHCP service entry (General tab)

The **(Re-)install on next boot** option must now be activated in the **Advanced settings** tab under **Deployment**.

The name of the installation profile relative to `/var/lib/univention-client-boot/preseed/` can be entered under **Name of installation profile**. As an alternative any other http server can be used as well, in which case an absolute URL must be given.

Options entered under **additional start options** are passed on to the kernel in network-based installations, e.g., for the deactivation of ACPI during system start. This can also be used to specify other pre-seed variables on a host-by-host basis. To perform an installation fully unattended see the explanations for the installation profile for a list of required options.

A PXE configuration file is created for every computer object under `/var/lib/univention-client-boot/pxelinux.cfg/`.

Tip

Several Univention Configuration Registry variable exist on the PXE server, which can be used to further customize the PXE configuration. Use `ucr search ^pxe/` to get a list of them including a short description. Those values will only be used when next a PXE configuration file is generated.

It must be verified that the boot order in BIOS of the system to be installed prefers a PXE network boot over hard disks or CD-ROMs.

On the next restart of the computer it will boot via PXE and is installed via the network.

By default the **(Re-)install on next boot** option needs to be reset manually after the installation has finished. Otherwise the computer will be reinstalled every time the host is booted! If the package *univention-net-installer-daemon* is installed on the server, the flag can be reset automatically.

Bibliography

[ucs-manual] Univention GmbH. 2021. *Univention Corporate Server - Manual for users and administrators*. <https://docs.software-univention.de/manual-5.0.html>.

[locales] Debian Project. 2013. *Locale - Debian Wiki*. <https://wiki.debian.org/Locale>.

[d-i] Debian Project. 2019. *Debian Installer - Automating the installation using pre-seeding*¹.

¹ <https://www.debian.org/releases/buster/amd64/apb.en.html>