



Installing Parity Server

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Installing Parity Server

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About This Book

This preface describes the contents of *Installing Parity Server*.

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Intended Audience

This manual provides information for system or network administrators who will install the Parity Server software. Staff who install the software should be familiar with networking concepts and have experience with the Windows operating system and SQL Server management. In addition, if your site will use features that integrate Parity and Active Directory, administrators and installers should be familiar with Active Directory concepts and use.

The Parity Agent can be installed on Windows and Mac/OS X operating systems, so the installer or administrator responsible for installing and managing agents should be familiar with installing software on the supported client systems at your site.

Chapter Overview

Installing Parity Server is your guide to the installation and initial configuration of the Parity Server. It is organized as follows:

	Chapter	Description
1	Preparing for Parity Installation	Provides an installation overview and background information helpful to know before you begin installing Parity.
2	Installing Parity	Explains how to install (or upgrade) and start the Parity Server software.
3	Logging In to Parity	Explains how to log in to the Parity Console.

Note

- This guide, which focuses on Parity Server installation, does not include full instructions for installing third-party products, such as Windows Server and SQL Server. For any third-party product that you install separately for use with Parity, see the documentation that came with the product.
- Instructions for installing the Parity Agent on computers to be managed by the Parity Server are in the “Managing Computers” chapter in the *Using Parity* guide. This is available as both online help from the Parity Console and as a PDF file.

Other Parity Documentation

You will need some or all of the following Parity documentation to accomplish tasks not covered in *Installing Parity Server*. These documents are available either in the Parity distribution you received or through the Bit9 Technical Support website. Some of these documents are updated with every new released build while others are updated only for minor or major version changes.

- ***Operating Environment Requirements*** – Describes the hardware and software platform requirements for Parity Server, the SQL Server database that stores Parity data, and the Parity Agent.
- ***Using Parity*** – Provides complete information about configuring and operating Parity Server as well as instructions for deploying and managing Parity Agents.
- ***Parity Release Notes*** – Provides version- and build-specific information about new features, corrective content, and known issues with the release.
- ***Parity Events Integration Guide*** – Provides a detailed inventory of events recorded by Parity and includes instructions for integrating Parity event data with third-party SIEM systems via Syslog.



Chapter 1

Preparing for Parity Installation

This chapter describes the contents of your Parity shipment and provides an installation overview, preparation requirements, and general information about third-party applications integrated or compatible with Parity.

The separate *Operating Environment Requirements* document provides guidelines for hardware and software required for Parity. You must have an environment meeting these requirements before you begin the procedures described in this document.

This document also includes instructions for upgrading Parity from a previous version. However, you may receive additional upgrade documentation from your Bit9 Support representative, and, if so, you should have it available for the upgrade process.

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About the Parity Distribution

Bit9 supplies the Parity Server installation program as a download or on media. New installations also will receive a Parity license key to be used during installation.

Table 1: Parity Distribution Contents

Contents	Description
Parity Software	Parity Server installation files. When installed and configured, the Parity Server creates policy-specific Parity Agent installers.
Documentation	<p>When installed, Parity Console includes online Help describing Parity features and procedures, including how to install the Parity Agent on endpoints. You can view the Help contents page by choosing Help in the console menu. <i>Context-sensitive Help</i> can be launched by clicking the Help (?) button on console page you are interested in.</p> <p>PDF versions of the following user documentation can be downloaded from the Bit9 Support web site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Release Notes</i> • <i>Operating Environment Requirements</i> • <i>Installing Parity Server</i> • <i>Using Parity (identical to online help)</i> • <i>Parity Events Integration Guide</i> <p>Note: If you received Parity on media, your distribution might include the PDF documents in addition to the server installer.</p>

Parity License Keys

Parity Server can be licensed at two feature levels:

- **Parity Visibility:** This level provides all of Parity's file and event tracking and reporting capabilities, but does not include support for control features such as file bans and device blocking.
- **Parity Suite:** This provides the full features of Parity Visibility and Parity Control.

These licenses are based on the number of agents running at each level. You can mix licenses on the same server, having, for example, 20 Parity Visibility licenses and 50 Parity Suite licenses. In addition, you can purchase the Parity Control upgrade at any time to bring Parity Visibility licenses up to Parity Suite level.

Important

During a new Parity Server installation, you will be prompted for a license key, and so having this key available before you begin installation is recommended. This license key determines the number of licenses you have at each feature level. A new installation completed without a license key is a full-featured, 30-day evaluation version (without any special options). You can add or upgrade a license key after installation, through the System Configuration page of the Parity Console.

Upgrade installations and reconnections to existing Parity databases do not require a license key, but if one is provided by Bit9, apply it during the installation process. For instructions on adding licenses after installation, see the Parity Configuration chapter in the *Using Parity* guide.

Licenses for Optional Features

In addition to determining the number of agents in Visibility vs. full Control mode, the license key can add optional features to your Parity installation. This includes the Bit9 Connector for Network Security Devices and the File Upload feature. If you plan to use these features, be sure to obtain the correct license from Bit9.

Installation Overview

Parity includes server and agent components. Server software installs on standard Windows-Server-based computers, and can be run on a virtual machine. The server installation procedure handles all operating system configuration except for IIS, for which you must follow the configuration on page 16.

Agent software installs on server, desktop, and laptop computers, and on POS (point-of-sale) systems; it may be installed on Windows and Mac systems that meet the *Operating Environment Requirements*. The agent provides initial security rules to endpoint computers and enables connected systems to interact with the Parity Server for ongoing management. .

Note

Downloadable Parity Agent installers are created dynamically by the server according to protection levels you specify for computers associated with a policy. Separate media is not provided or required for agent installation. Instructions for installing the Parity Agent appear both in the “Managing Computers” chapter of the *Using Parity* guide and online console help.

A Parity Server installation follows these high-level steps:

Step 1: Determine your appropriate hardware and database configuration.

Parity Server and its database may be set up on a single system. Depending upon your own preferences and the number of clients you will manage with Parity, you may require a dedicated system for a database server and/or for a Syslog server. You also may install Parity in a virtualized environment. See the *Operating Environment Requirements* document to determine the right choices for your environment.

Step 2: Procure the required hardware for the Parity Server.

Step 3: Install Windows Server, IIS, and .NET on the Parity Server hardware.

Use a clean Windows Server installation with all the latest patches from Microsoft. Then install the Internet Information Services (IIS) version supplied with your Windows Server, using the configuration described in “[Web Server Configuration](#)” on page 16. Also, install Microsoft .NET 3.5 SP1 framework with the default settings and the latest patches.

Step 4: Confirm that you have Windows Installer 4.5 on the Parity Server system.

Parity Server installer requires that you have Windows Installer 4.5 (or greater). You can check the Windows Installer version by typing `msiexec /?` at a command prompt.

If necessary, you can download Windows Installer 4.5 from the following location:

<http://www.microsoft.com/download/en/details.aspx?id=8483>

Step 5 - option 1: Install your own licensed copy of SQL Server on the same system as Parity Server *before* you install Parity Server.

Follow the SQL Server configuration instructions in the *Operating Environment Requirements* document; in particular, note whether the number of endpoints you plan to manage requires the use of option 2.

- or -

Step 5 - option 2: To use a remote database server, procure the hardware, operating system, and your own licensed copy of SQL Server, then prepare the system.

Connect the SQL Server to the Parity server by a minimum latency, gigabit backbone.

Step 6: Install and configure Parity Server software.

Install Parity Server software on the dedicated computer.

Step 7: (Optional) Install Bit9 Extensions.

If you have any optional extensions, such as Bit9 Connector for Network Security Devices, install them after you install the Parity Server software, using the separate instructions provided with the extension.

SQL Server Account Configuration

The user account that will access a remote Parity database must have been added to SQL Server with “sysadmin” checked in the Server Roles. This should be done before installation of the Parity Server.

Certain server metrics are collected by Bit9 to allow monitoring of the internal health of the server and to provide diagnostics in case of SQL database issues. This information is very important in helping Bit9 support your server installation, and also provides server performance data that may contribute to future product improvements. For this data to be available, the SQL account used by ParityServer and ParityReporter services must have permissions granted by the following calls:

```
GRANT ALTER SERVER STATE TO [<ParityAccount>]
GRANT VIEW SERVER STATE TO [<ParityAccount>]
GRANT VIEW ANY DEFINITION TO [<ParityAccount>]
GRANT ALTER TRACE TO [<ParityAccount>]
```

Installing the Platform Software

Follow these guidelines for installing or upgrading the platform software for Parity Server:

1. Ensure that the server is a dedicated, trusted computer that uses the NTFS file system, not FAT or FAT32.
2. If you are repurposing another computer to use as the Parity Server, reformat the disk. During reformatting, select NTFS (the default file system).

Important

- Commercial servers commonly bundle vendor-specific server-management utilities with Windows Server. If you install Parity on a server that is bundled with server management utilities, there might be unexpected interactions between the utilities and Parity.
- If your company has any server-hardening procedures that you intend to use on this server, contact Bit9 Support to confirm that Parity Server will run in the environment you create.
- Apply server-hardening procedures before installing Parity Server.

3. If the operating system is not preinstalled, follow the standard Microsoft instructions for installing it. Be sure you are using the US English version. Bit9 recommends that you select the default installation options.
4. If you have a network domain and you want to use Parity Server's Active Directory integration, add the server to the domain.
5. Install Internet Information Services (IIS) — you may need the Windows Server media. See "[Web Server Configuration](#)" on page 16 for the required IIS configuration.

Note

Once IIS is installed, you cannot change the server name and still have IIS function correctly. If you need to change the server name for any reason, contact Bit9 Support.

6. If you currently have an earlier version of Windows than those listed in the Parity operating system requirements, upgrade to the required version and service pack.
7. Install Microsoft .NET 3.5 SP1 Framework on the Parity Server. If necessary, go to <http://www.microsoft.com/downloads> and choose the latest version for download.
8. Download and install any current patches for each element of the platform software.

Network Requirements

See the *Operating Environment Requirements* document for full network details. In addition to the requirements described there:

- If you intend to use the Active Directory integration features of Parity Server, the server must be a member of a domain. See the *Using Parity* guide for more information on Active Directory integration features.
- Bit9 recommends that your Parity Server have access to a remote network share for backup purposes, or that you make other reliable backup arrangements.

Data Export Options

Parity provides data export options including downloadable reports in CSV format, read-only views into certain elements of the database, and Syslog messaging that exposes relevant event data and statistics for programmatic analysis. For any database configuration, events will be stored in the primary Parity Server database. If you want to log Parity events to an external SQL Server, see “Parity Configuration” in the *Using Parity* guide. For more information on the external views into the database, see “Live Inventory SDK: Database Views” in the *Using Parity* guide.

Web Server Configuration

Parity works with the IIS 6.0 web server on Windows Server 2003, IIS 7.0 on Windows Server 2008, or IIS 7.5 on Windows Server 2008 R2. Do a clean IIS installation before you install Parity. In normal use with Parity, the web server starts at boot time. Parity does not support substitution or co-installation of any other web servers.

Once IIS is installed, you cannot change the server name and still have IIS function correctly. If you need to change the server name for any reason, contact Bit9 Support.

If you are using IIS 7.0 or 7.5, verify the following **IIS Roles Manager** configuration:

- Common HTTP Features: All
- Application development:
 - ASP.NET
 - .NET Extensibility
 - CGI
 - ISAPI Extensions
 - ISAPI Filters
- Health & Diagnostics:
 - HTTP Logging
 - Logging Tools
 - Request Monitor
 - Tracing
- Security:
 - Basic Authentication
 - Windows Authentication
 - URL Authorization
 - Request Filtering
 - IP and Domain Restrictions
- Performance: None
- Management Tools:
 - IIS Management Console
 - IIS Management Scripts and Tools
 - Management Service
- FTP Publishing Service: None

Supported Web Browsers

You access Parity features through a Web-based user interface called the Parity Console. Although other browsers with HTML frame support should work, these Bit9-certified browsers are recommended:

- Microsoft Internet Explorer Version 8.0 or higher
- Mozilla Firefox 9.0 or higher
- Chrome 16.0 or higher
- Safari 5.1.2 or higher (on OS X only)

Browser Configuration

All browsers must be enabled for JavaScript to access to the console and online Help.

In Internet Explorer, you may need to adjust your overall security settings or set the Parity Console address to be part of your Local Intranet or Trusted Sites zone in order to access the console. The security settings are accessed by choosing **Tools > Internet Options** in Internet Explorer and clicking on the **Security** tab.



Chapter 2

Installing Parity

This chapter explains how to install or upgrade Parity Server. When you have successfully completed the server installation procedures, see “Managing Computers” in the *Using Parity* guide (or online help from the Parity Console) for agent installation and upgrade instructions.

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Pre-installation Check

Before installing Parity, ensure that:

- the server on which you will install it meets the requirements in the *Operating Environment Requirements* for Parity 7.0.1
- IIS is installed and configured as described in “[Web Server Configuration](#)” on page 16
- SQL Server is installed according to the requirements in the *Operating Environment Requirements* for Parity 7.0.1

Important

SQL Server is required for Parity Server operation and must be installed *before* you install Parity Server. See the separate *Operating Environment Requirements* document for information about supported versions and configuration of SQL Server. Have the SQL Server location, instance (if any), and login information available during Parity Server installation.

During Parity installation, you will have a choice to use Windows authentication or SQL authentication to configure access to the SQL Server by the Parity Server. Bit9 strongly encourages using a specific Windows Domain account for installing and logging in to Parity Server, and using Windows authentication for database access. For either authentication method, the account you use to access the database must be added to SQL Server with “sysadmin” checked in the Server Roles.

Depending upon your configuration, the Parity Server installer might make one or both of the following changes in addition to installing Parity:

- The FastCGI module will be automatically installed by the Parity Server installer on Windows Server 2003 SP2 configurations.
- If dedicated SQL Server hardware is used, Parity Server will install the required SQL Server drivers locally on the Parity Server machine. These drivers are from SQL Server 2008 R2.

Installing Parity Server Software

You install the Parity Server using standard installation dialogs. During installation, you specify system-configuration information about the server and optionally provide your own web-server certificate. You must log in as a Windows administrator to install Parity.

The system on which you install the server must have an IP address that is visible to all computers running the Parity Agent, with a fully qualified DNS domain name or alias. In addition, to use Parity’s Active Directory integration features without special configuration, the Parity Server must be installed in the same AD forest as:

- users you plan to allow Parity Console access via their AD login
- computers and users whose AD information you plan to use for automatic security policy assignment

Important

If you need to have the Parity Server in a different AD forest than computers and users you want to use in Parity integrations, contact Bit9 Technical Support for special instructions.

If you are installing a completely new Parity Server, follow the steps in [“Installing a New Parity Server”](#) on page 22.

If you are installing new Parity Server software with a backup Parity database, skip to [“Installing Parity and Restoring or Reconnecting to a Database”](#) on page 34.

If you are upgrading from a previous version of Parity Server, skip to [“Upgrading from a Previous Parity Version”](#) on page 48. You also might receive a supplemental document with newer instructions for Bit9 Parity upgrade from your Bit9 Technical Support representative.

Important

Several Parity Server administrative features are disabled by a reinstallation or upgrade of the server. Log in to Parity Server and re-enable the ones you use:

- System backup is disabled. To re-enable, go to the System Backup section of the System Configuration page.
- Automatic upgrades of agents are disabled. To re-enable, go to the Advanced Options tab of the System Configuration page. This should be done only after determining and configuring an upgrade plan that avoids excess load on the server and network.
- See [“Review Post-Upgrade Server Configuration”](#) on page 52 for more details about re-enabling features after an upgrade.

Installing a New Parity Server

These instructions are for a completely new installation of Parity, with a new database (no restorations of or reconnections to an existing Parity database).

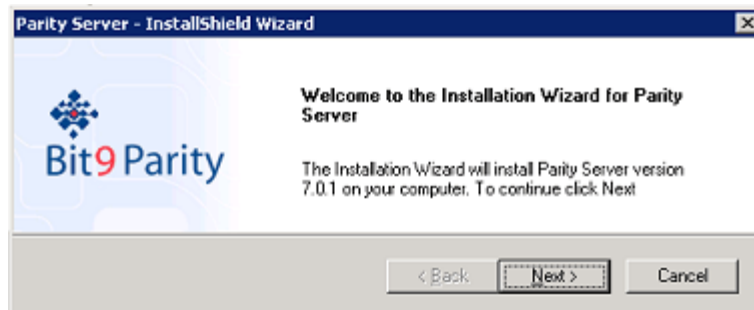
To install a new Parity Server:

1. Log in using an account with local Windows administrator credentials. If you plan to use Windows Authentication to login to a remote Parity database, install Parity using an account that has been added to SQL Server with “sysadmin” checked in the Server Roles. Bit9 strongly encourages using a specific Domain account for installing and logging in to Parity Server, and for database access, to simplify control of both database and Active Directory permissions.

Important

Do not change the privileges of the account used to install Parity after installation. This account must continue to have local administrator privileges for Parity Server to function properly, and will also be used for server upgrades.

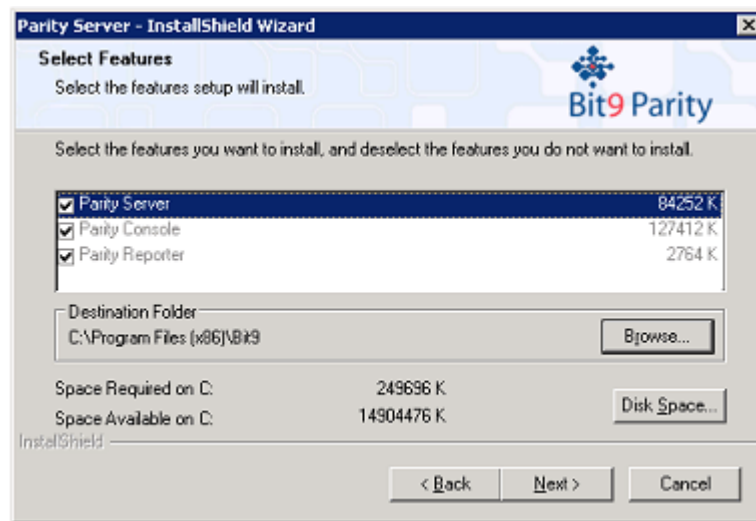
2. Make the Parity Server installation file available to the installation computer (either by download or inserting media in an accessible location).
3. Run the installer in either of the following ways:
 - a. To install on a local server, double-click the `ParityServerSetup.exe` file to start the installation program. Continue to the next step.
 - b. To install from a remote desktop, copy the `ParityServerSetup.exe` file to the installation computer and execute the file.



4. From the Welcome page, click **Next**. The License Agreement screen appears.



5. Review the Bit9 Parity software license agreement. You must agree to the license terms to install Parity. When you click **I accept** and continue, you agree to all terms of use. To continue, click the **Next** button. The Select Features dialog appears.



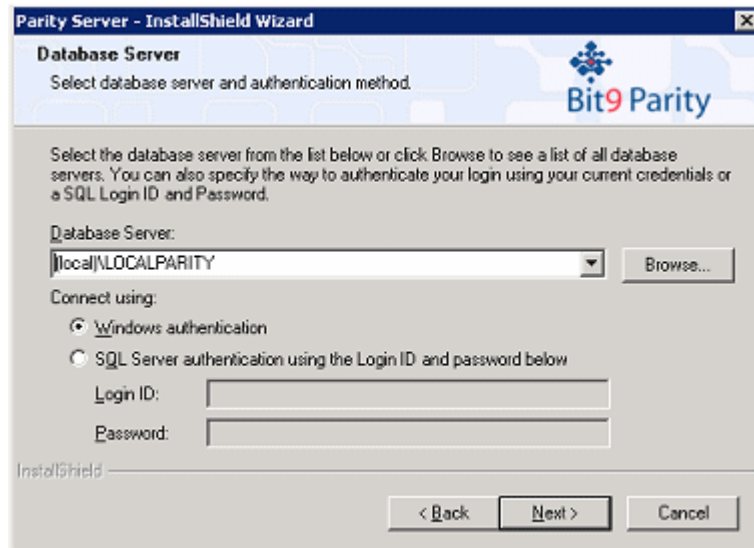
6. The Select Features screen provides information about the features being installed by Parity, the installation folder, and the space required and available for installation:
 - a. Although they have checkboxes, Parity Console, Parity Server, and Parity Reporter are always installed — they cannot be deselected. Parity Console is the web interface to Parity Server. Parity Reporter is the service that connects Parity Server to Bit9’s Parity Knowledge service, which provides access to a database of file information. Reporter, which runs as a Windows service, also provides essential reporting capabilities for Parity Server.
 - b. Either keep the default installation folder (which differs from 32-bit to 64-bit systems) or click **Browse** and navigate to the folder in which you want to install

Parity. If you don't choose the default, use a path that has only valid ASCII characters, not Unicode. When you have chosen the folder, click **Next**.

Note

At this point in the installation, the installer program checks to be certain that it can write to the folders and registry locations needed. If any issues are found, they (and their paths) are listed in a dialog, and you must resolve them before continuing the Parity installation.

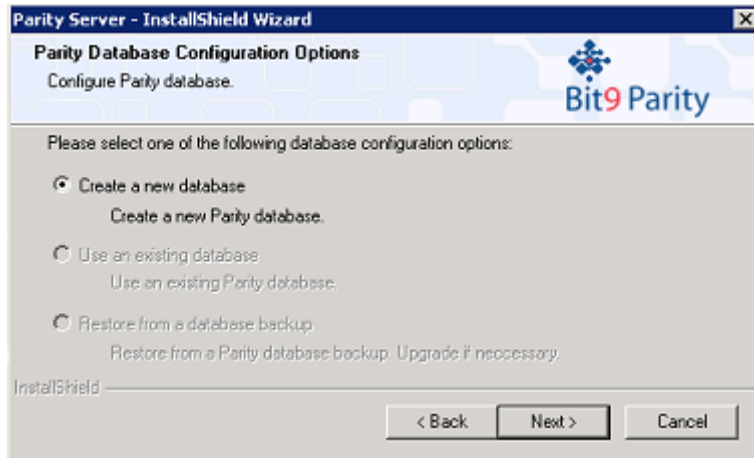
7. The Database Server screen appears next. It includes two configuration choices:



- a. In the Database Server field, enter the name of the SQL server, and (if any), its instance name, you are using for Parity Server data.
- b. With the Connect Using radio buttons, choose Windows Authentication (i.e., with the user doing the Parity installation) or SQL Server Authentication. If you choose SQL Server Authentication, provide the Login ID and Password. Your choice here determines how access to the SQL Server by Parity will be authenticated, both during and after Parity installation.
- c. When you have entered all database information, click **Next**.

Note: For either authentication method, the user must have been given the “sysadmin” Server Role in SQL Server.

8. The Parity Database Configuration Options screen appears next.

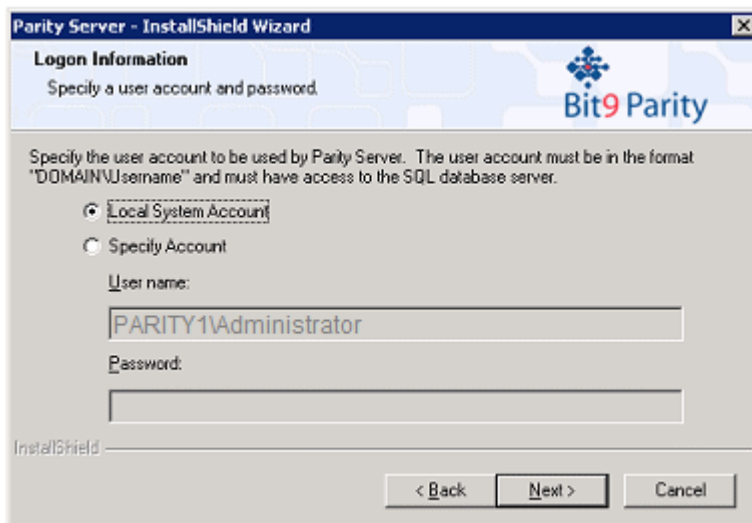


On the Parity Database Configuration Options dialog, choose **Create a new database** if you are installing Parity for the first time and then click **Next**.

Note

The other database configuration options, *Use an existing database* and *Restore from a database backup*, are described in [“Installing Parity and Restoring or Reconnecting to a Database”](#) on page 34.

9. On the Logon Information screen, choose the logon account to be used by the Parity Server. This will also be the account used to install future patches and upgrades. You can choose one of two modes of logging in:

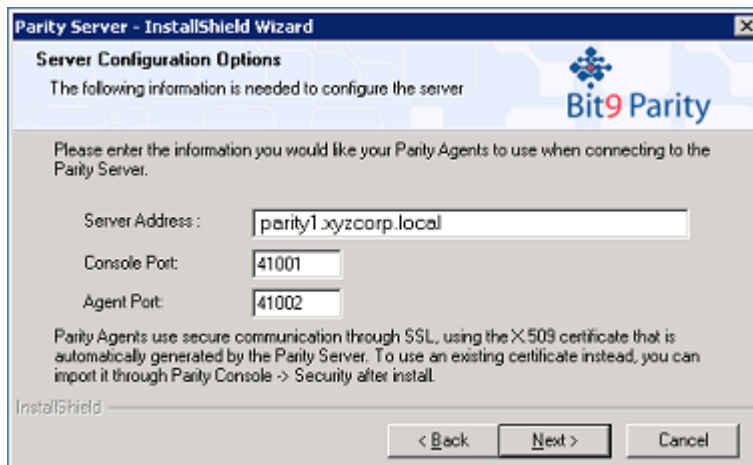


- a. The Local System Account radio button instructs the installer to configure Parity to use the built-in Windows System account.
- b. The Specify Account radio button activates the Username and Password fields so that you can provide account information. As the screen notes, the account you provide must be in the format DOMAIN\Username and have full access to the SQL database server. The default for this choice is the currently logged in user.

Notes

- Bit9 strongly encourages using the Specific Account option to simplify control of database and Active Directory permissions. In general, the installer should be run by this same Domain account.
- For local SQL Server Express databases, the currently logged in user *must* be the same as the user specified in the Logon Information installation dialog, and the user must have the “sysadmin” Server Role. If you enter a different user, an error message appears and you must re-enter the current user.
- For remote databases, to use a Domain account to access the SQL database, you must run the installer as that account and choose the Specific Account option for that account. This user account must have the “sysadmin” Server Role in SQL Server. If you provide an invalid login account, Parity installation will fail later in the process, and you will need to reinstall.

- c. When you have provided logon information, click **Next**.
10. The Server Configuration Options screen appears next.



From the Server Configuration Options screen, review the configuration settings. In the Server Address field, the preferred address for Parity Server is a fully qualified DNS name or alias that is resolvable by all computers running Parity Agent. Although not recommended, if the server is assigned a static IP address that will not change at reboot time, you can keep the default IP address selected for the Parity Server. The installation program automatically supplies the correct information for the installation computer. The Console Port, which is used for communications between the Parity Server and Parity Console, is 41001. The Agent Port, which is used for SSL communication with Parity Agents, is 41002.

Notes

- Bit9 strongly recommends the use of a fully qualified DNS name or alias for Server Address whenever possible. Use of a CNAME (alias) may provide more flexibility and reliability.
- If you use multiple NICs, make sure the FQDN you use in the Server Configuration screen refers to the address of the card(s) you want the Parity agents to connect to.
- An SSL certificate is automatically generated to protect communications between the Parity Server and its agents. If the Common name of the server does not match the server name configured here, server and agents will be unable to communicate correctly.
After installation is complete, you can replace this certificate with an existing certificate on the **Administration > System Configuration > Security** page in the Parity Console.

When you have reviewed the server configuration and made any necessary changes, click **Next**.

11. If you chose **Specify Account** in the (*Parity Server*) Logon Information screen (step 9), another Logon Information screen appears next, for *Parity Console under IIS*.

This screen allows you to specify different user credentials to start the IIS process for Parity Console, the web-based user interface for the Parity Server.

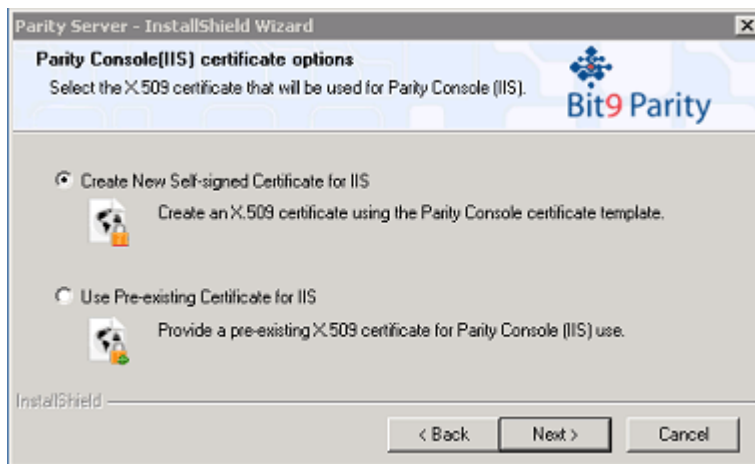
- a. Choose **Local System Account** to configure Parity to use the built-in Windows system account to start the IIS process for Parity Console.
- b. Choose **Specify Account** to activate the Username and Password fields so that you can provide account information. As the screen notes, the account you provide must be in the format DOMAIN\Username.

Note

If you use a logon other than the current user, a warning dialog will be shown: “The Parity Server installer is unable to validate whether the specified account is able to access the SQL database server. Are you sure you want to continue?” If you are certain the account you provided is valid, choose **Yes**.

c. Click **Next**.

12. The Certificate Options screen appears next. Choose the digital certificate that will appear to Parity Console users. You either create a certificate using a template provided by Bit9 or substitute your company’s certificate.



- a. If you do not have your own certificate, choose **Create Certificate**. This allows you to create a Bit9 self-signed certificate. You can either leave Bit9’s default information or supply certificate information that identifies your own organization instead. Self-signed certificates will generate warning boxes when you log in to Parity Console using Internet Explorer or Firefox, although Firefox will allow you to permanently accept the certificate to eliminate future warnings. To create a certificate, choose **Create Certificate**, click the **Next** button, and skip to Step 13.
- b. To substitute your own certificate, choose **Use Pre-existing Certificate**, click the **Next** button, and skip to Step 14.

Notes

- The Bit9 self-signed certificate cannot be universally trusted because it is not created through a trusted provider such as Verisign or Thawte. This is why it generates a warning on login. While this doesn't interfere with Parity operation, you may want to acquire your own, trusted certificate to avoid the warning.
- It is possible that Firefox browsers will not allow use of self-signed certificates that specify the hostname as an IPv6 address. This has been a known Firefox issue: see https://bugzilla.mozilla.org/show_bug.cgi?id=633001

IPv6 itself is fully supported for Parity, and if a FQDN representing an IPv6 address is used in the certificate, Firefox should accept the certificate.

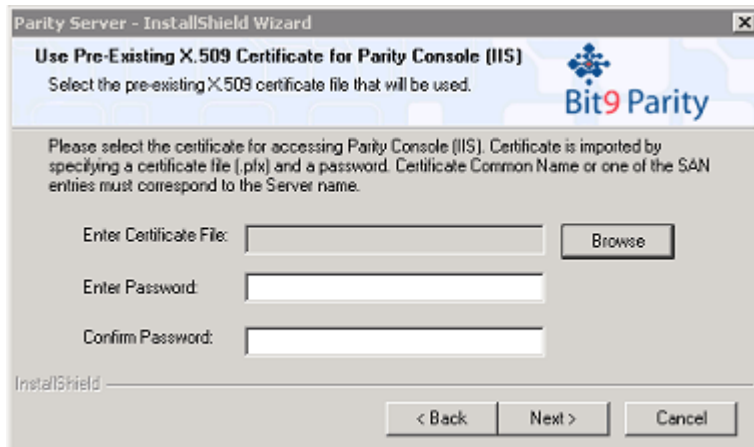
- A self-signed certificate with a validity period greater than 20 years will not be usable. If necessary, create and use a new certificate with a shorter validity.

13. If you chose Create Certificate, the Create X.509 Certificate screen appears.

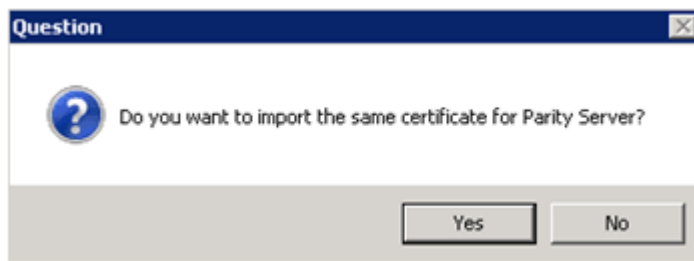
- a. By default, all certificate details correspond to Bit9 name and address data. Please replace them with details of your company. The default password is 'password'. Bit9 recommends that you change it, and keep a record of your new password so it can be retrieved for later use. The Common Name field defaults to the IP Address or DNS Name of the Parity Server; it cannot be changed. If Parity Server is reachable by multiple DNS names, you can use the Subject Alternate Name field to specify the alternate names.

When the certificate is validated against a computer, it is validated against a Common Name or one of the Subject Alternative Name entries (if they exist). If both are present, names in the Subject Alternative Name field have priority.

- b. When the information you want is in all fields, click **Next** to create the certificate and skip to the License Key screen (step 15).
14. If you chose Use Pre-existing Certificate, the Use Pre-existing X.509 Certificate screen appears. Enter the required information:

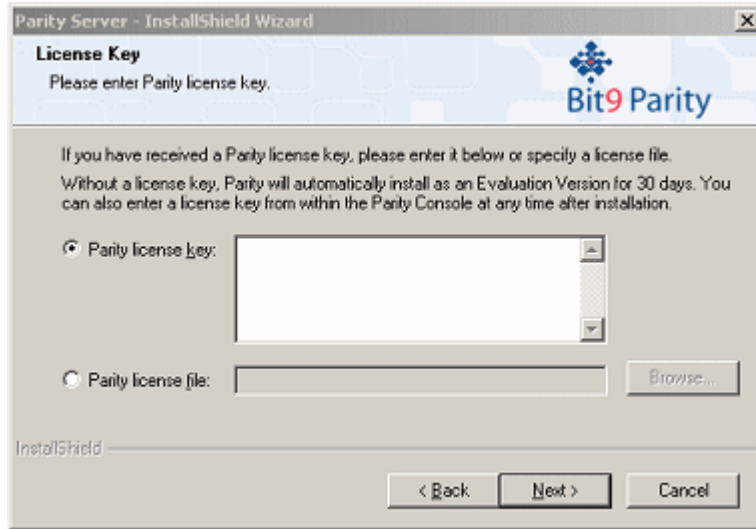


- a. Click the **Browse** button next to the *Enter Certificate File* field, navigate to the PFX (PKCS.12) certificate file you want to use, and click **Open** when you have located the file. The filename appears in the certificate file box.
- b. Enter the password for the certificate, and re-enter it in the confirmation field.
- c. When you have entered the certificate file and the passwords, click **Next** to validate the certificate file with the password.



- d. A dialog box appears allowing you to use the same certificate for Agent-Server communications. Choose **Yes** to use the same certificate or **No** if you want Parity to generate a different, self-signed certificate for Agent-Server communications (you can modify this certificate or choose a new one through the Parity Console later). After you make your choice, the License Key screen appears.

15. On the License Key screen, you enter the license key provided by Bit9. This key determines how many agents you can run at each of the two Parity feature levels: Parity Visibility and Parity Suite.



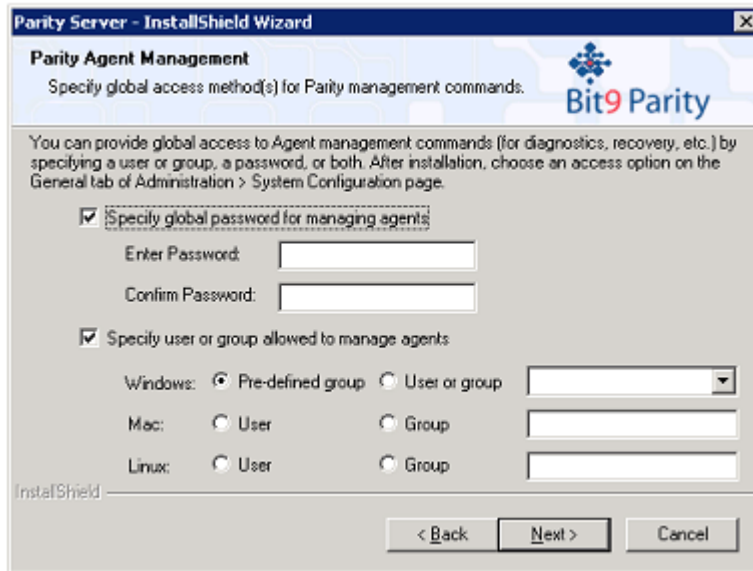
You have two options for entering the key:

- a. Click the *Parity license key* radio button if you want to cut and paste the license key (for example, from an email message or other communication).
- or-**
- Click the *Parity license file* radio button if you want to provide the name and path to a license file containing the key. License key files have the file extension **.lic**. When you click this radio button, the Browse button is activated so that you can locate and select the license file using the standard Windows Choose File dialog.

Note

You do not have to enter a license key. When no key is provided, Parity Server is installed with a 30-day evaluation license. After installation, you can update the license at any time from the System Configuration page of the Parity Console.

- b. When you have provided either the license key text or a license file, or have chosen not to enter a key, click **Next**. The Parity Agent Management screen appears.



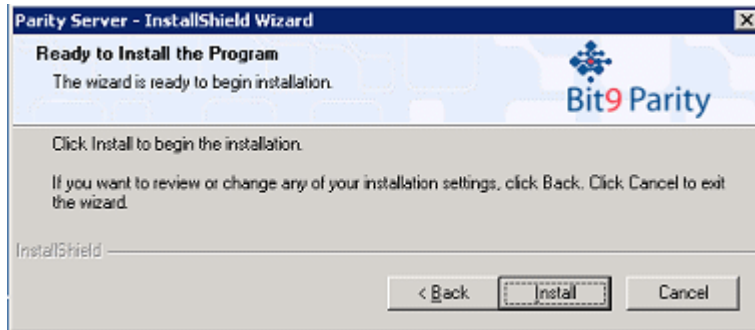
16. On the Parity Agent Management screen, you can enable global access to agent management commands used for diagnostics, recovery, and other special situations. Although you can configure this after installing Parity, it is highly recommended that you configure this feature before installing agents since your choice (or lack of one) is built into the agents when you install them. It is especially important to set up a global access method if you will have agents that are offline frequently or at all times. The choices are:
- a. Specify a global password for managing agents: Check this box, then enter and confirm a password, if you want to enable access to agent management commands on all agents via a single password.
 - b. Specify a user or group allowed to manage agents for each platform (Windows and Mac are supported at this time): Check this box if you want to enable access to agent management commands by choosing a pre-defined group from a menu (for Windows) or by entering a user or group name used at your site. Provide a user or group for each agent platform you have in your Parity environment.

Notes

- If you define both a user/group and a password, *either* access method is sufficient on its own.
- If you plan to manage clients from computers running Vista or Windows 7, use of pre-defined Windows groups for access privileges is not recommended because Windows UAC may not provide the expected membership in a group.
- See “Configuring Agent Management Privileges” in the *Using Parity* guide for more information about configuring agent management access.

- c. Click **Next**. The Ready to Install screen appears.

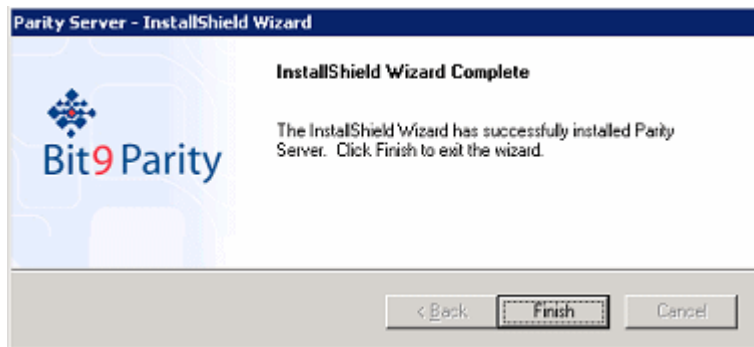
17. If you are satisfied with your installation choices, click the **Install** button on the Ready to Install screen:



18. Parity installation begins, and an installation status bar appears, showing progress.



19. When the InstallShield Wizard Complete screen appears, the installation is complete.
- In some cases, you will need to restart the server computer after installation is completed, and the dialog will include an option to restart now. Choose to restart now unless you need to complete some other activity on this computer.
 - Click the **Finish** button. Parity Server, which runs as a service, begins to operate after you click this button. Installation logs are placed in the Bit9 installation folder (for example, *C:\Program Files (x86)\Bit9*).



Installing Parity and Restoring or Reconnecting to a Database

Parity's installation program provides the option of reconnecting to an existing database. In addition, you can restore a database from backup, if necessary, and then reconnect to that.

- If your database server and Parity Server are on the same machine, you can *reconnect* to an existing database or *restore* the database from backup using the procedure below. The Parity installation program will prompt you for all necessary information.
- If you have a remote Parity database and that database is operational, you can *reconnect* to it using the procedure below. The Parity installation program will prompt you for all necessary information. *Restore* is not an option for remote databases.
- If you need to *restore* a Parity database on a remote system, contact Bit9 Support for instructions.

Important

- When you reinstall Parity Server or upgrade to a new version, system backup and automatic agent upgrades are disabled. External event logging may be disabled as well. All can be re-enabled in the System Configuration pages of the Parity Console. The agent upgrade can be enabled on the Advanced Options tab.
- If the database you want to restore or reconnect to is a SQL Server 2005 Express database, contact Bit9 Support before continuing.
- If you are restoring from or reconnecting to a Parity 7.0.0 or greater database, and if you imported one or more certificates as part of your original Parity installation, those certificates are available in the database, and you can use them when you restore or reconnect. You will need the password for each certificate to reuse them.
- If you are upgrading from a previous version of Parity Server, see section [“Upgrading from a Previous Parity Version”](#) on page 48 instead of this section. You may also receive supplemental Bit9 Parity field upgrade instructions from your Bit9 Support representative.
- During Parity installation, you will have a choice to use Windows authentication or SQL authentication to configure access to the SQL Server by the Parity Server. For either authentication method, the account you use to access the database must be added to SQL Server with “sysadmin” checked in the Server Roles.
- If you need to reconnect to the database and you are running Bit9 Connector for Network Security Devices, you must run the separate Bit9 Connector installer after completing the Parity Server reconnect.

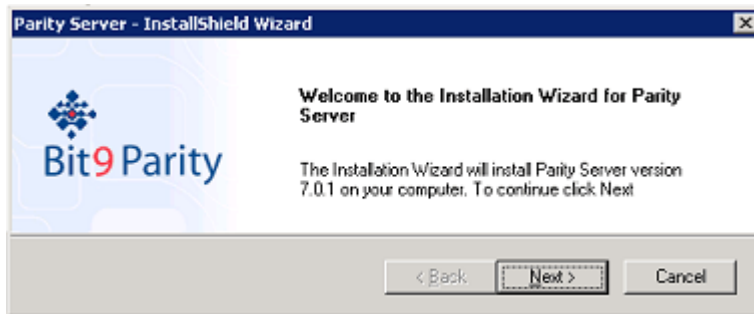
To install Parity Server and reconnect to or restore a backup of a database:

1. Log in using an account with local Windows administrator credentials. If you plan to use Windows Authentication to login to a remote Parity database, install Parity logged in with an account that has been added to SQL Server with “sysadmin” checked in the Server Roles. Bit9 strongly encourages using a specific Domain account for installing and logging in to Parity Server, and for database access, to simplify control of both database and Active Directory permissions.

Important

Do not change the privileges of the account used to install Parity after installation. This account must continue to have local administrator privileges for Parity Server to function properly, and will also be used for server upgrades.

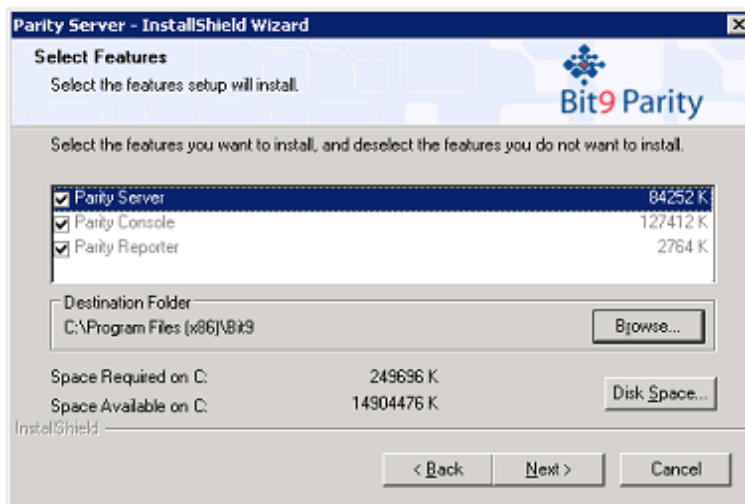
2. Make the Parity Server installation file available to the installation computer (either by download or inserting media in an accessible location).
3. Run the installer in either of the following ways:
 - a. To install on a local server, double-click the `ParityServerSetup.exe` file to start the installation program. Continue to the next step.
 - b. To install from a remote desktop, copy the `ParityServerSetup.exe` file to the installation computer and execute the file. Continue to the next step.



4. From the Welcome page, click **Next**. The License Agreement screen appears.

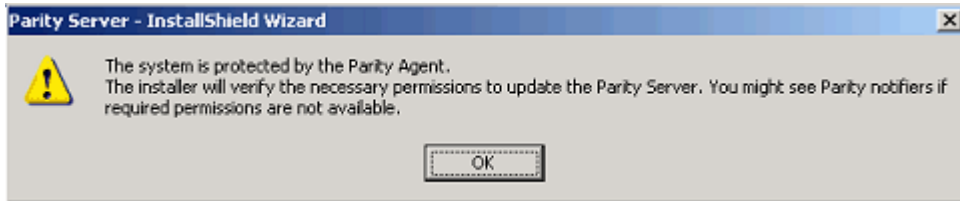


5. Review the Bit9 Parity software license agreement. You must agree to the license terms to install Parity. When you click the **I accept** button and continue, you agree to all terms of use. To continue, click the **Next** button. The Select Features dialog appears.



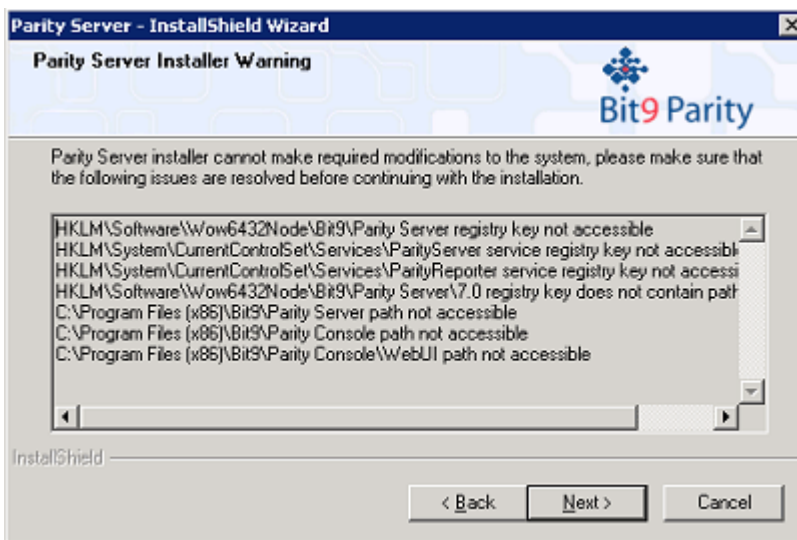
- a. Although they have checkboxes, Parity Console, Parity Server, and Parity Reporter are always installed — they cannot be deselected. Parity Console is the web interface to Parity Server. Parity Reporter is the service that connects Parity Server to Bit9’s Parity Knowledge service, which provides access to a database of file information. Reporter, which runs as a Windows service, also provides essential reporting capabilities for Parity Server.
- b. Either keep the default installation folder (which differs from 32-bit to 64-bit systems) or click **Browse** and navigate to the folder in which you want to install Parity. If you don’t choose the default, use a path that has only valid ASCII characters, not Unicode. When you have chosen the folder, click **Next**.

6. At this point, the installation program checks that the server environment meets the requirement for Parity installation. If no issues are found, you will not see any additional dialogs, and the Database Server screen will appear (step 7). Warning dialogs appear under the following conditions:
- If files are detected in the installation directory, you will see a warning dialog. You must remove any files from the directory or choose a different folder before installation can proceed.
 - If Parity Agent is detected on the Parity Server computer, you will see the following dialog:



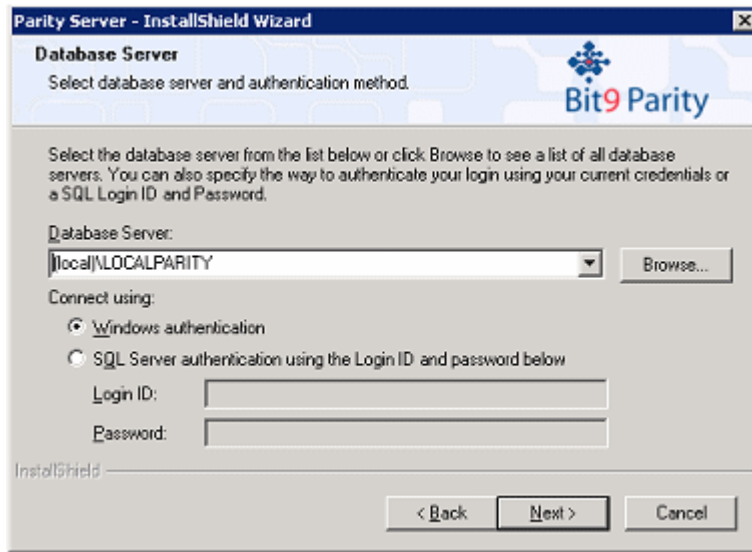
If this dialog appears, click **OK** to dismiss it and initiate the system check that determines whether the agent and/or other factors would prevent successful installation of the server.

- If the system check finds any issues that would prevent server installation from completing, you will see a dialog box similar to the following:



- If this dialog appears, use the information in it to change the appropriate settings and then click **Next** (you do not need to exit the installation while you remediate the problems). When you click Next, the system check is run again, and if all issues are remedied, the installation moves to the next step. If there are still outstanding issues, those issues will be listed again and you will have another opportunity to correct them. If necessary, you can click **Cancel** to exit the installation dialogs.

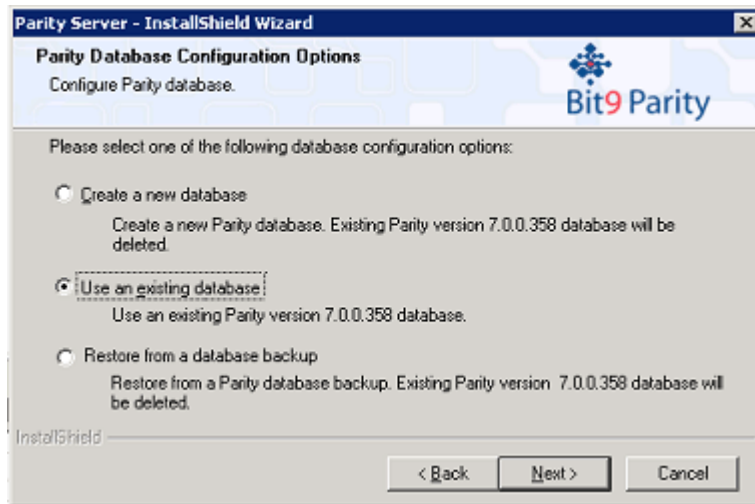
7. The Database Server screen appears next. This screen includes two configuration choices:



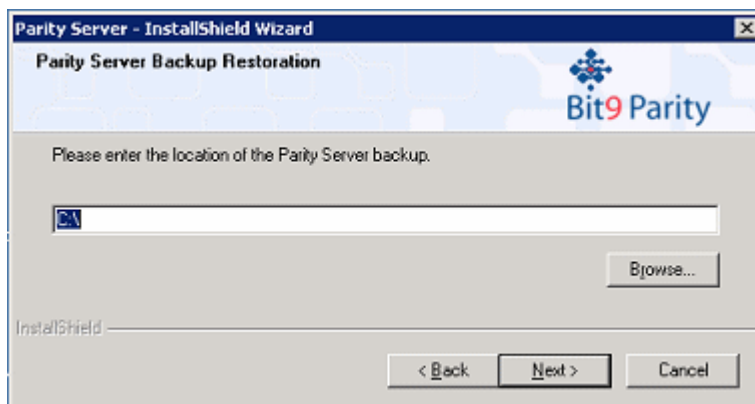
- a. Database Server is the name of the SQL server, and optionally, its instance. Enter the server name and instance name (if any) you use to connect to the server. If the database server is local, you will be able to reconnect, and if necessary, restore from backup files you have on the server. If the database server is remote, you will be able to reconnect only.
- b. With the Connect Using radio buttons, choose Windows Authentication (i.e., authenticate with the user doing the Parity installation) or SQL Server Authentication. If you choose SQL Server Authentication, provide the Login ID and Password. Your choice here determines how access to the SQL Server by Parity will be authenticated, both during and after Parity installation.
- c. When you are finished entering database information, click **Next**.

Note: For either authentication method, the user must have been given the “sysadmin” Server Role in SQL Server.

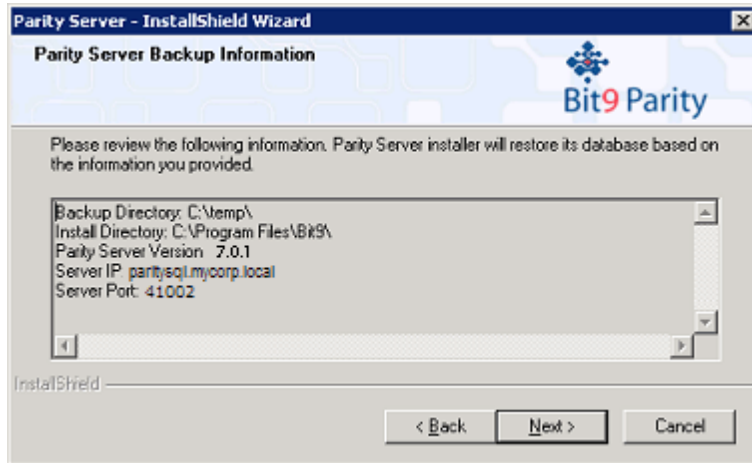
8. The Parity Database Configuration Options screen appears. The options on the screen depend upon whether a Parity database was detected at the location you provided on the previous screen:



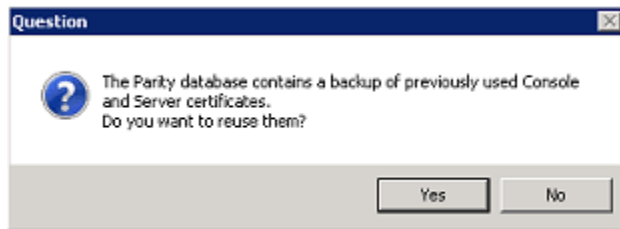
- a. If the installation program detects a usable Parity database, your choices are to create a new Parity database (and delete the existing database) or use an existing Parity database and upgrade it to 7.0.1. Choose **Use an existing database** to preserve your Parity data and upgrade the database, and then click **Next**. If you choose this option, a warning appears reminding you to backup your Parity database before proceeding. If you have recent backups, click **Yes** to continue, and skip to step 12.
 - b. If the database location you provided is local, the **Restore from a database backup** option is enabled. Choose this option to restore your previous database from a backup file, and click **Next** to continue.
9. If you chose **Restore from a database backup**, the Parity Server Backup Restoration screen appears.



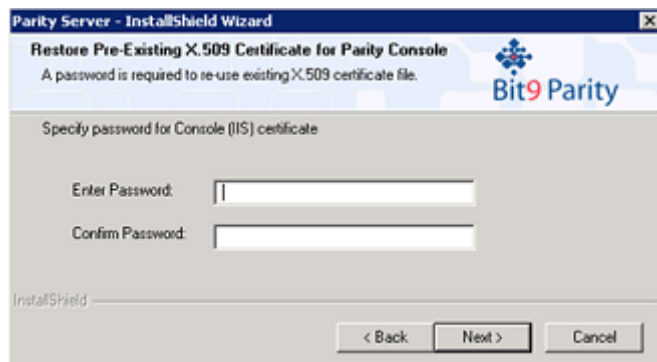
10. On the Backup Restoration screen, enter the path to the folder containing the backup database, or use the **Browse** button to locate it. Click **Next**. The Parity Server Backup Information screen appears.



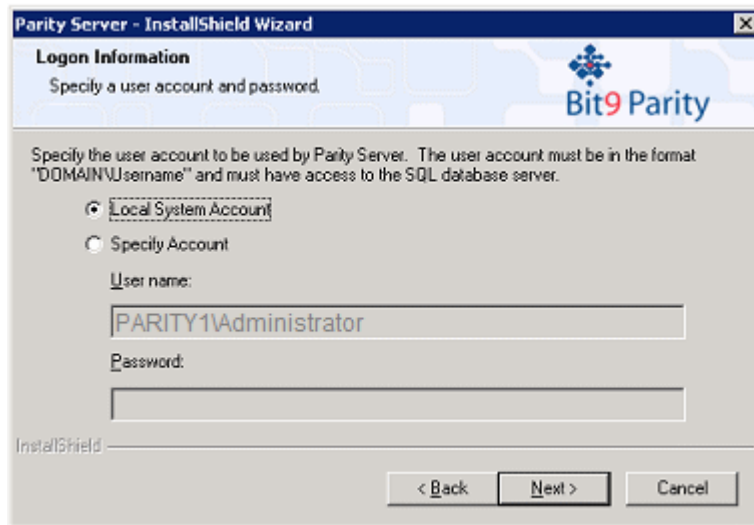
11. Examine the information on the Parity Server Backup Information screen. Note that if you are restoring from a backup from a previous version of Parity, that database will be updated to the version matching your installer if you proceed. Use the **Back** button if you want to use a backup other than the one described on this screen.
12. When the information on the Parity Server Backup Information screen is correct and you want to proceed, click **Next**. If there are certificates stored in the database, you are prompted to decide whether to re-use any stored certificates. The dialog will specify whether there is a console certificate only or certificates for both the console and the server.



13. If you want to re-use the certificate(s), click **Yes** in the dialog.
 - If you are restoring a database from backup, you will be prompted for the certificate passwords *after* the database is restored.
 - If you are reconnecting to a database, the Restore Pre-Existing X.509 Certificate for Parity Console screen appears.



14. There database can contain either one or two certificate files, and there will be a dialog for each one found. Enter a password and click **Next** in each dialog.
- Note:** By default, the verified password from the first dialog will be pre-populated in the second dialog (if there is one). If there is a password problem, an error message will indicate that immediately and give you the chance to re-enter the password. If a valid password is provided but another certificate restoration problem occurs during the installation, an error message will appear and a self-signed certificate will be generated instead so that installation may continue.
15. After you complete the certificate dialogs, the Logon Information screen appears. On this screen, choose the logon account to be used by the Parity Server. You can choose one of two modes of logging in:

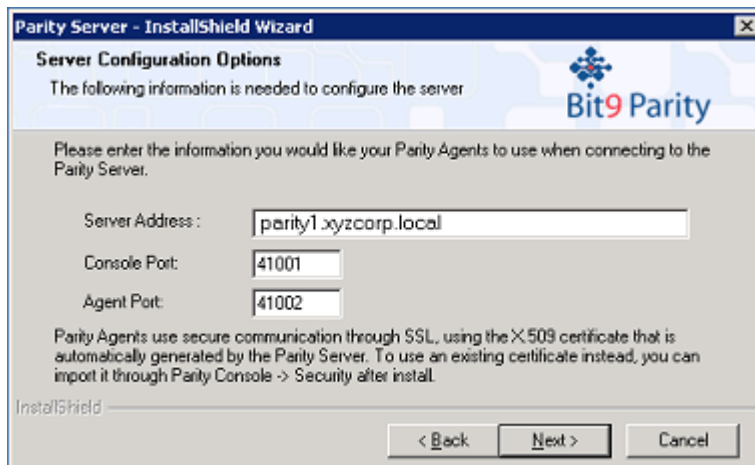


- a. The Local System Account radio button instructs the installation to configure parity to use the built-in Windows system account.
- b. The Specify Account radio button activates the Username and Password fields so that you can provide account information. As the screen notes, the account you provide must be in the format DOMAIN\Username and have full access to the SQL database server. The default for this choice is the currently logged in user.

Note

- Bit9 strongly encourages using a specific Domain account and the Specific Account option to simplify control of both database and Active Directory permissions. In general, the installer should be run by this same Domain account.
- In Parity 7.0.1, an SSL certificate is automatically generated to protect communications between the Parity Server and its agents. If the Common name of the server does not match the configured server name, then server and agents will be unable to communicate correctly.
- For local SQL Server Express databases, the currently logged in user must be the same as the user specified in the Login Account installation dialog. If you attempt to enter a different user, an error message appears and you must re-enter the current user. The logged in user must have been given the “sysadmin” Server Role in SQL Server.
- In the case of remote databases, the installation program cannot confirm the validity of the account you provide. Note that if you provide an invalid login account, Parity installation will be unsuccessful and you will need to reinstall.

16. When you have provided logon information, click **Next**. The Server Configuration Options screen appears.

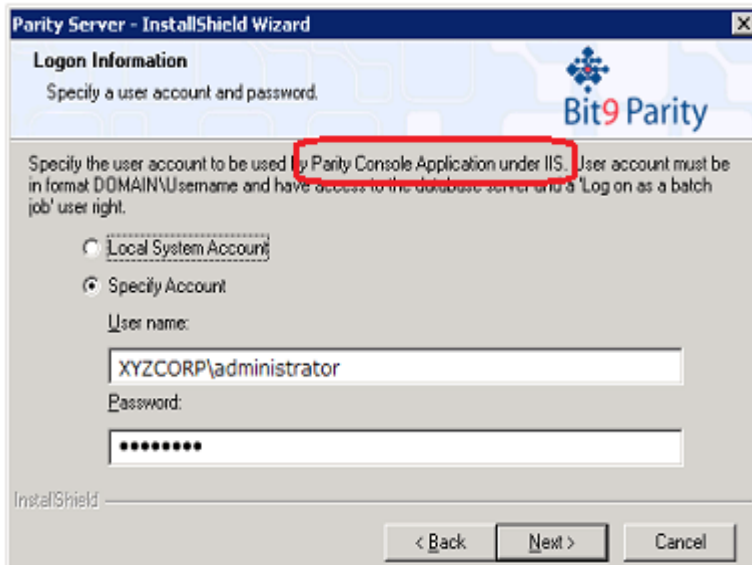


17. From the Server Configuration Options screen, review the configuration settings. In the Server Address field, the preferred address is a fully qualified DNS name (or alias) that is resolvable by all computers running Parity Agent. Although not recommended, if the server is assigned a static IP address that will not change at reboot time, you can keep the default IP address selected for the Parity Server. The installation program automatically supplies the correct information for the installation machine. Console Port, which is used for communications between the Parity Server and its user interface, is **41001**. Agent Port, which is used for communication with Parity Agents, is **41002**.

Note

- Bit9 strongly recommends the use of a fully qualified DNS name for Server Address whenever possible. Use of a CNAME (alias) may provide even more flexibility and reliability.
- If you use multiple NICs, make sure the FQDN you use in the Server Configuration screen refers to the address of the card(s) you want the Parity agents to connect to.
- If you are reconnecting to an existing Parity database, and you enter a Server Address other than the one you used previously, a dialog box appears asking you to choose one of the two addresses. If the new address you provided is actually a different server, click **Yes** to modify the database with the new name. If the new address you provided is an *alias* for the address currently in the database, click **No** to use the existing address from the database. Note that if you use the new address (i.e., click **Yes**), any existing Parity Agents will not be able to reconnect to the server unless you provide a DNS alias between the new and old names. If you are not sure which to choose or you made an error in entering the name, click **Cancel** to return to the configuration screen.

18. If you chose Specify an Account in the (Parity Server) Logon Information screen (step 12), another Logon Information screen appears next, for Parity Console (under IIS). Otherwise, go to step 19.



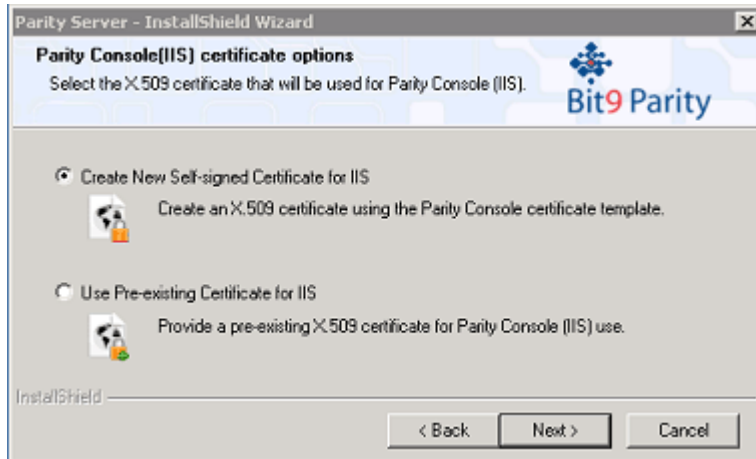
This screen allows you to specify a different logon for the Parity Console, the web-based user interface for the Parity Server.

- a. Choose **Local System Account** to configure Parity to use the built-in Windows system account for Parity Console logons.
- b. Choose **Specify Account** to activate the Username and Password fields so that you can provide account information. As the screen notes, the account you provide must be in the format DOMAIN\Username.

Note

If you use a logon other than the current user, a warning dialog will be shown: “The Parity Server installer is unable to validate whether the specified account is able to access the SQL database server. Are you sure you want to continue?” If you are certain the account you provided is valid, choose **Yes**.

- c. When you have provided Parity Console logon information, click **Next**. If you restored certificates in a previous step, skip to step 22.
19. If there were no certificates stored in the database, or if you chose not to restore them in a previous step, the Certificate Options screen appears. From the Certificate Options screen, choose the digital certificate that will appear to Parity Console users. You either create a certificate using a template provided by Bit9 or substitute your company’s certificate.



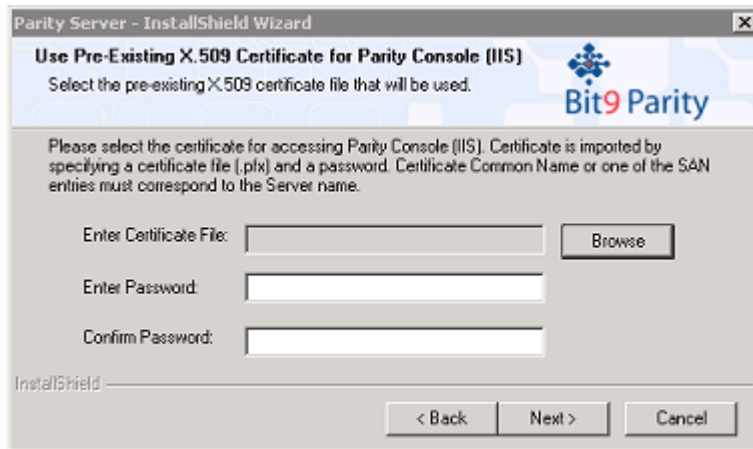
- a. If you do not have your own certificate, choose **Create Certificate**. This allows you to create a Bit9 self-signed certificate. Self-signed certificates will generate warning boxes when you log in to Parity Console using Internet Explorer or Firefox, although Firefox will allow you to permanently accept the certificate to eliminate future warnings. To create a certificate, choose **Create Certificate**, click the **Next** button, and skip to Step 20.
- b. To substitute your own certificate, choose **Use Pre-existing Certificate**, click the **Next** button, and skip to Step 21.

20. If you chose Create Certificate, the Create X.509 Certificate screen appears.

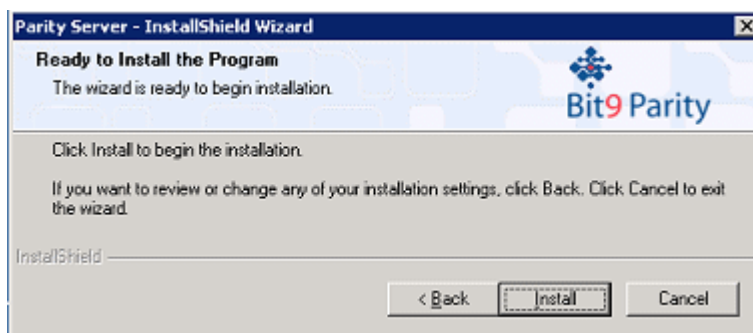
- a. By default, all certificate details correspond to Bit9 name and address data. Please replace them with details of your company. The default password is 'password'. Bit9 recommends that you change it, and keep a record of your new password so it can be retrieved for later use. The Common Name field defaults to the IP Address or DNS Name of the Parity Server; it cannot be changed. If Parity Server is reachable by multiple DNS names, you can use the Subject Alternate Name field to specify the alternate names.

When the certificate is validated against a computer, it is validated against the Common Name or one of the Subject Alternative Name entries (if they exist). If both are present, names in the Subject Alternative Name field have priority.

- b. When the information you want is in all fields, click **Next** to create the certificate and skip to step 22.
21. If you chose Use Pre-existing Certificate, the Use Pre-existing X.509 Certificate screen appears. Enter the required information:



- a. Click the **Browse** button next to the Enter certificate file field, navigate to the PFX (PKCS.12) certificate file you want to use, and click **Open** when you have located the file. The filename appears in the certificate file box.
 - b. Enter the password for the certificate, and re-enter it in the confirmation field.
 - c. When you have entered the certificate file and the password, click **Next**. The Ready to Install screen appears.
22. If you are satisfied with your installation choices, click the **Install** button.



23. Parity installation commences, and an installation status bar shows progress. When the InstallShield Wizard Complete screen appears, the installation is complete.
- In some cases, you will need to restart the server computer after installation is completed, and the dialog will include an option to restart now. Choose to restart now unless you need to complete some other activity on this computer.
 - Click the **Finish** button. Parity Server, which runs as a service, begins to operate after you click this button. Installation logs are placed in the Bit9 installation folder (for example, *C:\Program Files (x86)\Bit9*).



Upgrading from a Previous Parity Version

Upgrading to Parity 7.0.1 requires that your existing server be at version 6.0.2 or greater. See the *Release Notes* for this release for detailed information about build and patch numbers from which you can upgrade.

Upgrades from older Parity versions are not supported by the installation program, but Bit9 Support can help you make a transition from an earlier version.

Important

- Changing the Parity Server name at upgrade is not recommended, especially if you use your own distribution methods to upgrade Parity Agents. Consider using a CNAME for the Parity Server to avoid changing the configured name in Parity.
- Parity Server upgrades must be run as the Parity service user account that was configured during Parity Server installation. You can determine the name of this account by opening the Windows Task Manager and clicking the Services button in the bottom right corner. The name in the Log On As field next to Parity Server must be used (either by login or runas) to install the upgrade.
- Do not use the Parity installer program (ParitySetup.exe) to upgrade Parity Server from one build to another within the same version (e.g., from 7.0.1.542 to 7.0.1.829). Running the full installer in a build-to-build upgrade removes the current Parity instance instead of upgrading it. For build-to-build upgrades, there is a separate "patch" installation procedure. Apply the patch to the server according to the instructions you received with it, and then update Parity Agents as described in the "Managing Computers" chapter of the *Using Parity* guide (or online help).

If you inadvertently run the full installer for the build-to-build case, run it again, and, when prompted, select 'Use the existing database').

- If you are upgrading Parity Server on a system that is protected by Parity Agent, examine any custom rules that protect the Bit9 installation folder and its subfolder. These should be disabled prior to installing the upgrade and re-enabled after the upgrade is complete. The upgrade installation program will warn you if a Parity rule or third-party software is blocking access to a folder or registry location that Parity must access to complete the upgrade.

Upgrade Installation Overview

Upgrading Parity to version 7.0.1 involves the following high-level steps, most of which are described in more detail later in this section:

- Read through the separate *Operating Environment Requirements* document for the current version of Parity 7.0.1 to be sure your server platform meets the current hardware and software requirements for this release.

- Read through this upgrade section to get a full overview of the upgrade process.
- Contact Bit9 Technical Support (support@bit9.com or 877-248-9098) for any recent changes to upgrade procedures, or for advice on special cases, including strategies for getting to version 7.0.1 from a pre-6.0 version of Parity and what to do if you are currently running a Parity-installed version of SQL Server Express.
- Backup the Parity Server database.
- Disable third-party Parity Agent deployment mechanisms (such as SCCM).
- Either log in as the Parity service user account that was configured during Parity Server installation or use *runas* that user to install the upgrade.
- For upgrades to a different *version* number (e.g., from 6.0.2 to 7.0.1) run Parity Server installation (**ParityServerSetup.exe**). For build-to-build upgrades (e.g., 7.0.1.456 to 7.0.1.845), use the patch installation procedure, which does not require the steps in this document. Patch releases are accompanied by Release Notes describing any special considerations.
- Wait for automatic post-installation server updates to complete.
- Make any needed System Configuration changes to Parity Server.
- If you distribute agents using your own deployment mechanism, upgrade Parity Agent distribution points and re-enable deployment mechanisms.
- If you upgrade agents using Parity Server, re-enable Parity Server's upgrade features.

Important

When Parity Server is upgraded from one major version to another (such as v6.0.2 to v7.0.1), ongoing enhancements to “interesting” file identification make it necessary to rescan the fixed drives on all Parity-managed computers. These upgrades may also require a new inventory of files in any trusted directories to determine whether there are previously ignored files that are now considered interesting. For some upgrades, this process can involve activity similar to agent initialization, and may cause considerable input/output activity. This could take less than an hour or last for many hours, depending on the number of agents and files.

For both Parity-managed upgrades and third-party distribution methods, Bit9 recommends a phased upgrade of agents to avoid an unacceptable impact on network and server performance.

See the “Managing Computers” chapter in the Using Parity guide for full descriptions of agent installation and upgrade procedures.

- If you have used External Events Logging in a pre-7.0 version of Parity, update the database by running **external_events.sql** on the SQL Server after you upgrade Parity. Depending upon database size, this script could run for a considerable amount of time before completion.
- For agent upgrades, reboot on systems that prompt you to do so. This should only be necessary for certain systems running Windows XP.
- If you have used Syslog/SIEM integrations with Parity, such as QRadar or ArcSight, make sure to consult the *Parity Events: Integration Guide* for Parity

7.0.1 to prepare your configuration for required changes. Note that integrations with SPC and SMP integrations are not supported in Parity 7.0.1.

Note

- You cannot upgrade Parity Agents running on Windows 2000 systems. You can continue to run v6.x agents on those systems, but they will not have full v7.0.1 functionality.
- Changing the Parity Server name at upgrade is not recommended, especially if you use your own distribution methods to upgrade Parity Agents. Consider using a CNAME for the Parity Server to avoid changing the configured name in Parity.

Upgrade Pre-installation Requirements

Your existing Parity Server must be at least at the v6.0 level to be upgradable to 7.0.1. Also, all agents on all systems you plan to use with version 7.0.1 should be at least at the 6.0 level. See the “Managing Computers” chapter in the *Using Parity* guide (or Parity Console help) for details on agent upgrades.

Backup Parity Server

Bit9 recommends that you backup Parity Server *before* running the Parity Server installer for an upgrade. On the Parity Console System Configuration page, choose **System Backup** and make sure you have backups enabled, and that the status shows a recent successful backup to a location that will be unaffected by any upgrade activity on the Parity Server. Note that the Parity backup mechanism is disabled during the upgrade to provide a rollback database if necessary.

Important

System Backup does not backup IIS certificates. Also, pre-7.0 versions of Parity Server do not backup any Parity certificates. Please do a separate backup of IIS certificates, and if upgrading from 6.x, all Parity certificates, on a system other than the Parity Server.

Disable Software Deployment Mechanisms

Please disable any software deployment mechanisms, such as SCCM, used to distribute Parity Agent until after the upgrade completes and you have had an opportunity to update their respective distribution points with the upgraded Parity installers.

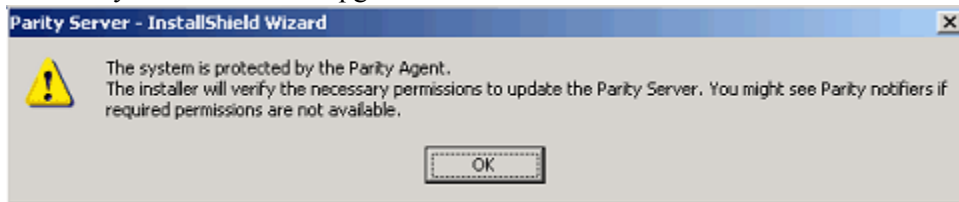
Run the Parity Upgrade Installation

Make the Parity 7.0.1 media or downloaded Parity 7.0.1 files available to your Parity Server. If you have a CD and no physical CD drive is present on the Parity Server, you can insert the CD in another machine, “share” the drive and mount that “share” from the Parity Server machine. Launch the **ParityServerSetup.exe** application to validate and upgrade the Parity Server components.

Upgrade Installation Checks

The upgrade installation program checks that the server environment meets the requirements for Parity installation. There are two important checks that might produce warnings after you initiate the upgrade:

- **Blocked Access Warning** – If the Parity Agent is installed on the system, a dialog box appears reporting that the installer will check to confirm that it has access to the necessary locations for an upgrade.



If the system check finds that Parity Agent or any other system software is blocking access to folders or registry locations needed by the installer, the issues will be listed in a dialog, and you will have the opportunity to remedy them and continue with the upgrade. When you correct the issues listed, click the **Next** button on the dialog to run the system check again and (if all issues are corrected) proceed with the upgrade.

- **Database Size Warning** – Parity Server upgrades can require a considerable amount of free storage space for the database. The installer attempts to confirm that there is enough space available for a database upgrade, and displays a dialog in these cases:
 - If it cannot determine whether there is enough space (for example, because it does not have privileges to view a remote database), it will display a dialog with the current database size, the estimated amount needed for an upgrade, and a recommendation to make sure there is enough space available.
 - If the installer can determine the free space available and determines that it is insufficient, it will display a dialog with the current and required amount of free space, and a warning that there is not enough space.



You have the option of continuing after either of these warnings, with or without remediating space issues. If the upgrade is continued and there really is not enough space, the upgrade program will exit and revert to the previous database and Parity version.

- **Bit9 Extension Uninstall** – If you have installed an extension to Parity, such as the Bit9 Connector for Network Security Devices, you are prompted to uninstall this

extension during the server upgrade. You must choose **Yes** to be able to continue the server upgrade – choosing **No** exits the upgrade installer. If you choose **Yes**, the separate extension uninstaller is run, and then the server upgrade installer continues. After the server upgrade is completed, you should re-install the extension using its own installation program.

Upgrade Completion

After the installer finishes and exits, the Parity Server starts running again and updates the existing agent installers for each policy and platform. This process takes a few minutes, the exact time depending upon the number of policies you have. If you are refreshing the version of Parity Agent installer on distribution points for a software deployment mechanism, make sure the agent installer has completed the upgrade to 7.0.1.

Note

In pre-7.0 releases of Parity, if IPv6 was configured on the server system, the Parity installation reverted it to IPv4 because IPv6 was not supported. In Parity 7.0.0 and later, IPv6 is supported. During an upgrade, if a system was changed by Parity to IPv4 during a previous installation, a dialog appears allowing you to return to IPv6 defaults. If you choose this option, future upgrades will maintain the IPv6 address option. This option requires a system reboot, which will be initiated by the Parity installer.

Review Post-Upgrade Server Configuration

After you run the Parity Server upgrade installation, complete the following checklist prior to upgrading agents:

- In the **Rules > Software Rules** section of Parity Console, review **Updaters** as necessary (e.g., to see any new updater versions or new updaters).
- In the **Rules > Software Rules** section of Parity Console, if you upgraded Parity Server on a system that is protected by Parity Agent, and you disabled certain **Custom** rules to allow the upgrade to run, re-enable those rules.
- In the **Administration > System Configuration** section of Parity Console, go to the **Advanced Options** tab, and modify the **Database Backup** configuration if necessary. Then re-enable backup.
- If you plan to use Reputation Approvals, it is better to enable it as soon as possible to avoid heavy network traffic later. This feature requires that you have Parity Knowledge Service enabled (**Administration > System Configuration > Licensing**). If you have it enabled, to access this new Parity 7.0 feature, choose **Rules > Software Rules** on the console menu and click the **Reputation** tab. See “Reputation Approvals” in the *Using Parity* guide for more information.
- Automatic Agent Upgrade is disabled in the server upgrade process. To re-enable:
 - Be sure that you have configured the policies you want to upgrade first for automatic upgrade, and those you don’t need upgraded right away not to upgrade. Upgrading large numbers of agents at once can create a large load on the server.
 - In the **Administration > System Configuration** section of Parity Console, choose the **Advanced Options** tab and re-enable automatic upgrades of Parity Agents.

- If you use a third-party software distribution system to install Parity Agents, re-enable the distribution system and update the distribution points as the next section specifies.
- For upgrades from pre-7.0 releases, the server will not export any new events to an external database until the schema is upgraded manually. If you have used External Event Logging in pre-7.0 releases, update the external events database after you finish the Parity Server upgrade installation.
 - Navigate to the **sql** folder in the Parity installation folder (for example, *c:\Program Files (x86)\Bit9\Parity Server\sql*) and copy **external_events.sql** to your remote database server.
 - On the database computer, use Management Studio to run **external_events.sql** on the Parity database. Note that the time required for the script to complete the update can be considerable, depending upon the size of your database.
- If you have used the Live Inventory SDK, review Appendix A of the *Using Parity* guide to see whether any of the fields you used have changed.
- If you are running optional extensions, such as Bit9 Connector for Network Security Devices, re-run the separate installation program for that extension after an upgrade from one Parity Server version to another (e.g., from 7.0.0 to 7.0.1). In such cases, contact Bit9 to be sure you have the latest version of the extension installer. Note that this should not be necessary for patch updates to the server.

Agent Upgrade Status

To make the upgrade process easier to manage, the Computers page in Parity Console provides an Upgrade Status column and also visually differentiates between computers running up-to-date agents and those running previous versions. On this page, computers running *previous* agent versions show an orange dot in the “Connected” column while up-to-date agents are shown with a blue dot.

Computer Name	Connected	Policy Status	Upgrade Status	IP Address	Policy
MYCORP\DESKTOP-3	●	Out of date	Not supported	10.4.23.8	--Administration--
MYCORP\DESKTOP-7	●	Up to date	Up to date	10.4.23.14	--IT Group--
MYCORP\LAPTOP-5	●	Policy out of date	Upgrade scheduled	10.4.23.65	--R&D Group--
MYCORP\LAPTOP-2	●	Out of date	Not requested	10.4.11.23	--Sales Group--
MYCORP\SERVER-1	●	Up to date	Up to date	10.4.23.16	--IT Group--

In addition, the Upgrade Status column in the Computers table shows a more detailed description of agent status as each agent goes through the upgrade process. Clients will transition to an Upgrade Status and Policy Status of “Up to Date” when all their upgrade processing has been completed.

See the “Managing Computers” chapter in the *Using Parity* guide (or online help) for additional information about automatic and manual agent upgrades, and about monitoring upgrade status.

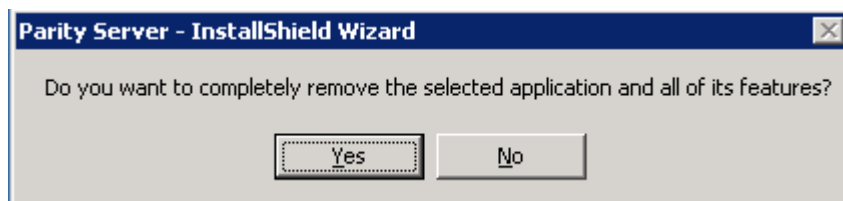
Uninstalling Parity Server Software

The server uninstallation program removes Parity files and associated third-party software installed on the system. To uninstall Parity Server, you must log in as a user with administrative privileges, preferably as the same Parity service user that was used to install Parity server. The uninstall program is on the **Start > All Programs > Bit9** menu, although you can also use the **Add or Remove Programs** interface in the Windows Control Panel. Consider the following points before you uninstall:

- If you are uninstalling and do not intend to reinstall the Parity server, place all policies in Disabled mode before uninstalling. Otherwise, computer users will not be able to uninstall the agent without special assistance. If you attempted to uninstall Parity server without changing all policies to Disabled mode first, contact Bit9 support.
- When you start the Parity Server installer/uninstaller program, it verifies that you have the permissions required to uninstall Parity. If there are any rules or permissions prevent un-installation from going forward, the installer provides a report detailing what must be done before you can proceed. This includes blocks due to an enabled Parity Agent on the computer running Parity Server and other folder or registry permission issues.
- Self-signed Parity certificates are removed during the uninstallation process. If you used a certificate from a certificate authority (i.e., one that is installed in the Windows Certificate Store), it is not removed.
- Database connection is required to properly detect, deactivate and uninstall any Extensions to the Parity Server, such as the Bit9 Connector. You can uninstall the server without connectivity, but this may leave the extension installed and listed in the Windows Add/Remove Programs window. In this case, you can uninstall the Bit9 Extension separately through the Add/Remove panel

To uninstall the Parity Server software:

1. Either go to the Control Panel and click **Parity Server** on the Remove Programs list, or on the Windows Start menu, choose **All Programs > Bit9 > Uninstall Parity Server**. A confirmation dialog appears.



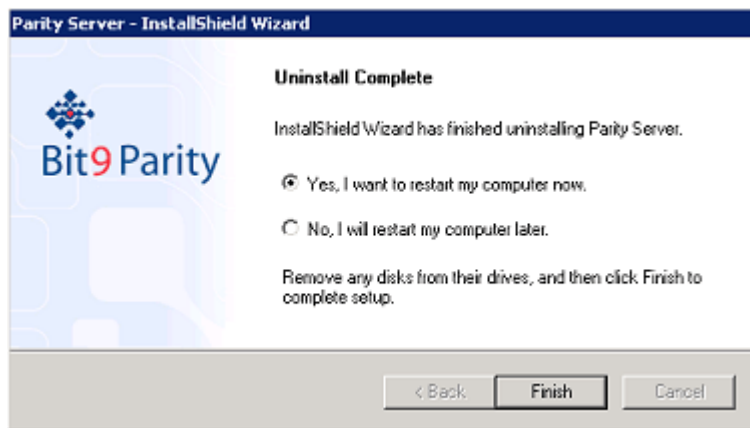
2. Click the **Yes** button to start the uninstallation process. When the uninstallation process is complete, the Uninstall Complete screen appears.

If any files could not be removed during the uninstallation process, the program will report which folders those files are in and recommend manual removal.

3. If you have installed any extensions to Parity, such as the Bit9 Connector for Network Security Devices, you may be prompted to uninstall the extension. If you see such a prompt during the server uninstall process, you must choose **Yes** to continue uninstalling the server. Choosing Yes causes the separate uninstaller for the extension to run, after which the server uninstall program continues.

Notes

- If the initial installation of your current Parity Server was done with a version prior to 7.0.0 Patch 10, you will not be prompted to uninstall any extensions, and you must manually uninstall them using the separate installer/uninstaller MSI for that extension.
 - If the initial installation of the Bit9 Connector was with 7.0.0 Patch 10, you must uninstall the Connector logged in as the user who installed it. Subsequent versions of the Connector allow uninstallation by any user with sufficient privileges.
4. Generally, you do not need to reboot your system after uninstalling Parity. If a reboot is necessary (which is true only if the uninstall program could not remove certain Parity files), the screen includes reboot options.



If the options appear, rebooting now is recommended unless you have other immediately necessary activity on the server (for example, an error in uninstalling).

- a. Choose a reboot option if prompted.
- b. Click **Finish**.

Notes

- For instructions on uninstalling the Parity Agent, refer to the *Using Parity* guide or online Help system.
- Uninstalling Parity Server reverts the IIS configuration to its state prior to Parity Server installation. Any configuration changes applied during the time Parity Server was installed are lost.
- The Parity Server uninstall program will *not* remove the Parity database. It must be deleted separately.
- If the FastCGI module was installed by Parity, the uninstall program presents a choice to un-install it or leave it installed once Parity itself has been uninstalled.



Chapter 3

Logging In to Parity

This chapter explains how to log in to the Parity console as an administrator. Logged in as an administrator, you can configure all aspects of the system and create hierarchical user accounts.

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Changing the Administrator Password	59
Viewing User Activities in the Events Table	60
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Logging In to the Parity Console

Parity employs a browser-based user interface called the *Parity Console*. You can log in to the console from a supported web browser on any computer with network access to Parity Server, including the Parity Server itself.

To use Parity Console and online help, JavaScript must be enabled on your browser. In Internet Explorer, you may need to adjust your security settings or set the Parity Server address to be part of your Local Intranet or Trusted Sites zone in order to access the Parity Console. The security settings are accessed from the Internet Explorer **Tools > Internet Options** menu, on the **Security** tab.

For your initial login, you use the built-in administrator account `admin`.

To log in to Parity:

1. From any supported web browser, enter the fully qualified domain name or alias of the Parity Server (IP addresss may be used but a FQDN or alias is preferred):

`https://server_name`

If you installed a verifiable digital certificate from a third-party authority as part of Parity Server installation, you go directly to the Parity login screen (step 3).

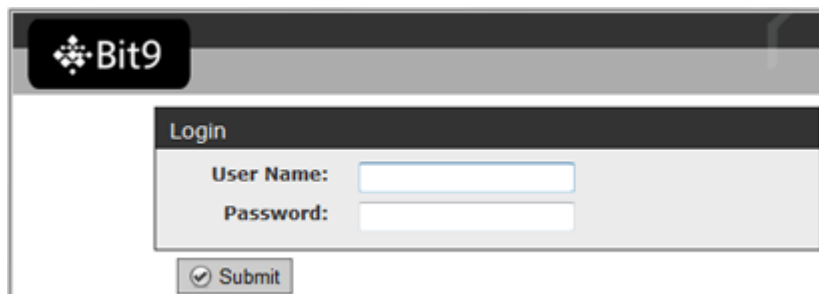
2. If you chose the Bit9 self-signed SSL certificate during Parity Server installation, the first time you enter the Parity Server URL, a certificate error appears. You can safely ignore the warning and click through the remaining confirmation screens. The warning appears because the authority of the self-signed certificate cannot be verified.

Note

To avoid future certificate warnings:

- In Firefox, accept the certificate permanently.
- In Internet Explorer, click through the warning, click the Certificate Error button in the IE toolbar, and install the self-signed certificate.
- In Safari, click **Show Certificate** on the warning and check the *Always trust...* box for the Parity Console certificate, and click **Continue**.

3. When the Parity login screen appears, enter the default user name (`admin`) and password (`admin`).



The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the Parity Console login interface. At the top left, there is a dark header with the Bit9 logo. Below the header, the main content area is light gray. A 'Login' form is centered on the page. The form has a title 'Login' and two input fields: 'User Name:' and 'Password:'. Below the input fields is a 'Submit' button with a checkmark icon.

4. Click the **Submit** button. The Parity Console Home page appears.

You should change the password for the `admin` account after logging in. See “[Changing the Administrator Password](#)” on page 59.

Note

For environments that require best security practices, Bit9 recommends using AD-based login accounts. See the separate *Using Parity* guide for more information about AD-based logins.

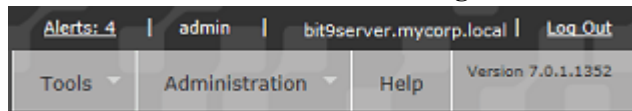
The console automatically logs users out after a specified period of inactivity. This can be modified on the System Administration page Advanced Options tab. You can modify the default starting page for the console using the dialog that appears when you choose **Tools > Preferences** on the console menu. See the online help in the console for additional information.

Logging Out of the Parity Console

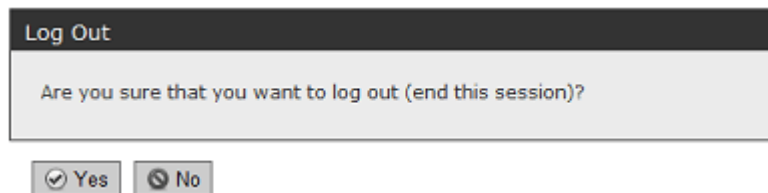
A logout link appears in the top right corner of the banner of the Parity web page. Logging out ends your Parity browser session.

To log out of Parity:

1. From the console banner, click the **Log Out** link:



2. Respond to the confirmation prompt:



Changing the Administrator Password

For security, regularly change your administrator password. After logging in to the built-in administration account `admin` for the first time, you should immediately change the password, which initially also is `admin`.

To change the default administrator password:

1. On the Parity Console menu, choose **Administration > Login Accounts**.
2. On the Login Accounts page, click the Edit (pencil and file) button next to the `admin` user.

3. From the Edit Login Account, change the password as follows:
 - a. In the Password field, enter the new password.
 - b. In the Confirm Password field, enter the password again.
 - c. Click the **Save** button.

Note

A Parity administrator can use this same series of steps to change the passwords of other users if their accounts were created *in* Parity. If a user logged in to Parity Console with an AD user account, that user's details, including password, cannot be modified in Parity.

Viewing User Activities in the Events Table

You can review the combined event and exception logs in the Parity Console Events table. Messages include a record of user actions, including logins, new users created, and changes to user accounts.

To view Parity log entries:

1. On the Parity Console menu, choose **Reports > Events**. The Events page appears, and by default shows All Events in the past hour in the table at the bottom of the page.
2. If you want to see a subset of the available events, you can make a choice on the Saved Views menu or create a special view using Show/Hide Filters and Show/Hide Columns.
3. If you want to use a different time range, choose a time from the Max Age menu, or click the Show/Hide Filters link to configure and **Apply** a more complex time range. The report table at the bottom of the page updates to show the new time range.


The “Event Reports” topic in *Using Parity* or online help describes other event report types. The log of events, which grows over time, is automatically pruned by Parity according to the schedule you set so it requires no manual maintenance. For more information, see the *Using Parity* guide or Help. To configure events to be output to a Syslog server from the Parity Console after installation, see the *Using Parity* guide or online Help.

Using Help

If you have questions about features outside of the installation and configuration tasks described in this manual, the Parity Console provides a context-sensitive Help system from which you can also navigate to other topics:

- When you click the **Help** button in the console menu, the Using Parity guide opens with an introductory screen and a table of contents.
- When you click a help button on an application page, the topic relevant to that page appears in addition to the table of contents.

To display online documentation within Parity:

1. Launch **Help** either of the following ways:
 - From any application table, click the Help  button.
 - On the console menu, click **Help**.
2. From the contents frame, review the displayed help topic or select your topic of interest.
3. To view more topics, expand the contents tree.
4. To view an alphabetical listing of topics, click the **Index** button. Each index entry is hyperlinked to the associated topic.
5. To search key words, click the **Search** button, enter search terms, and click **Go** or press **Enter** on your keyboard.



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