Wayne's World of ACS Administration Tips and Tricks

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IBM i 35 YEARS

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Agenda

Let's Create

- Debug Data Collection
- Shortcut to other Admin Interfaces from ACS
- AcsConfig.properties
- Protecting AcsConfig.properties
- ACS Restrictions
- Scripting ACS functions
- Ask Me Anything

Southeast Michigan IBM i User Group

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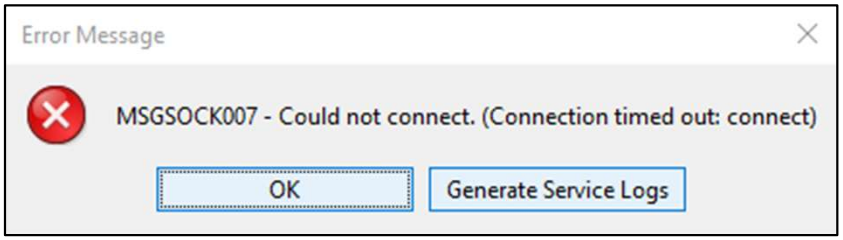
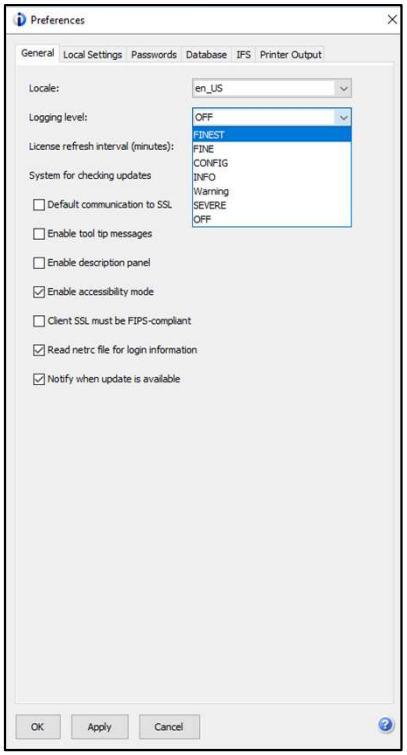
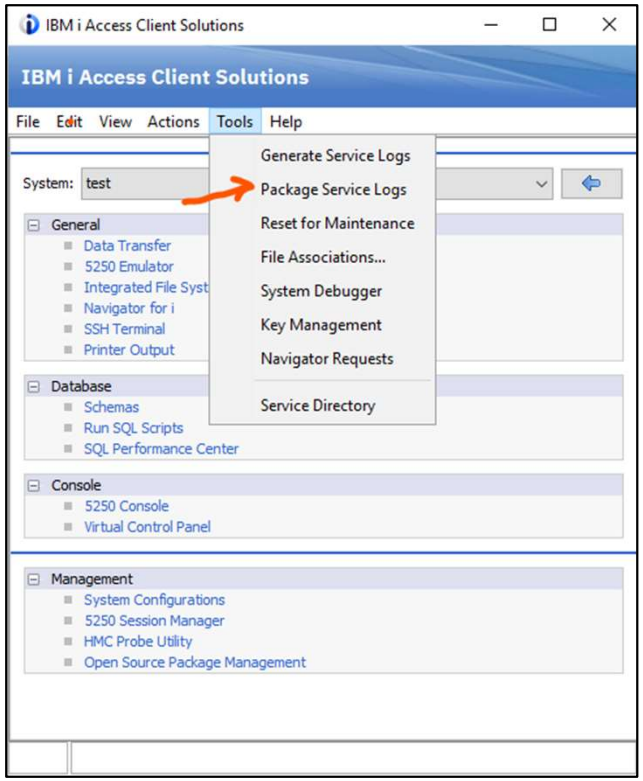
Debug Data Collection

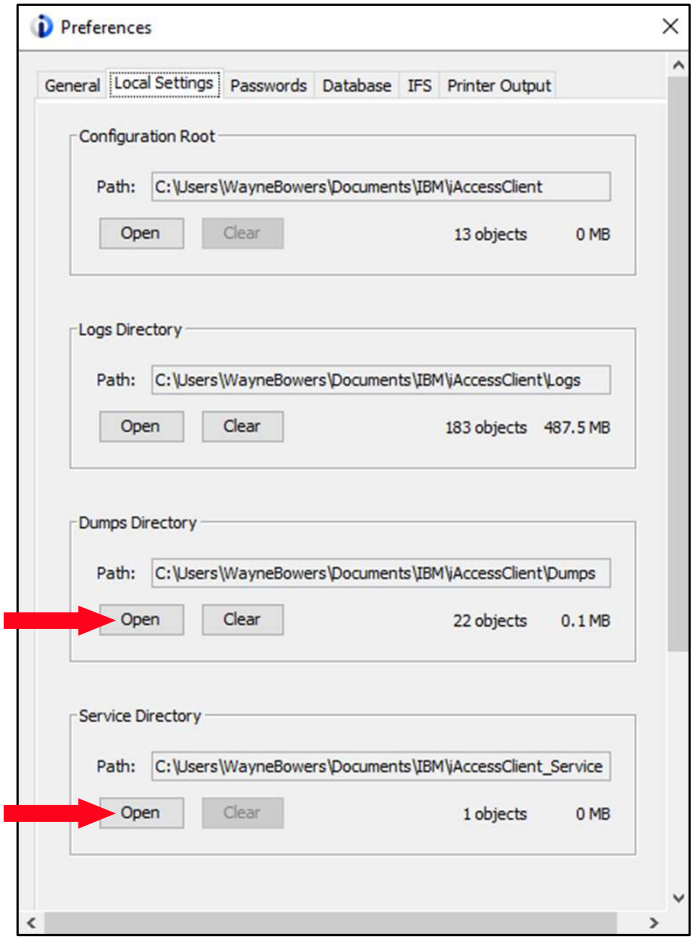






Generate Service Logs

Package Service Logs



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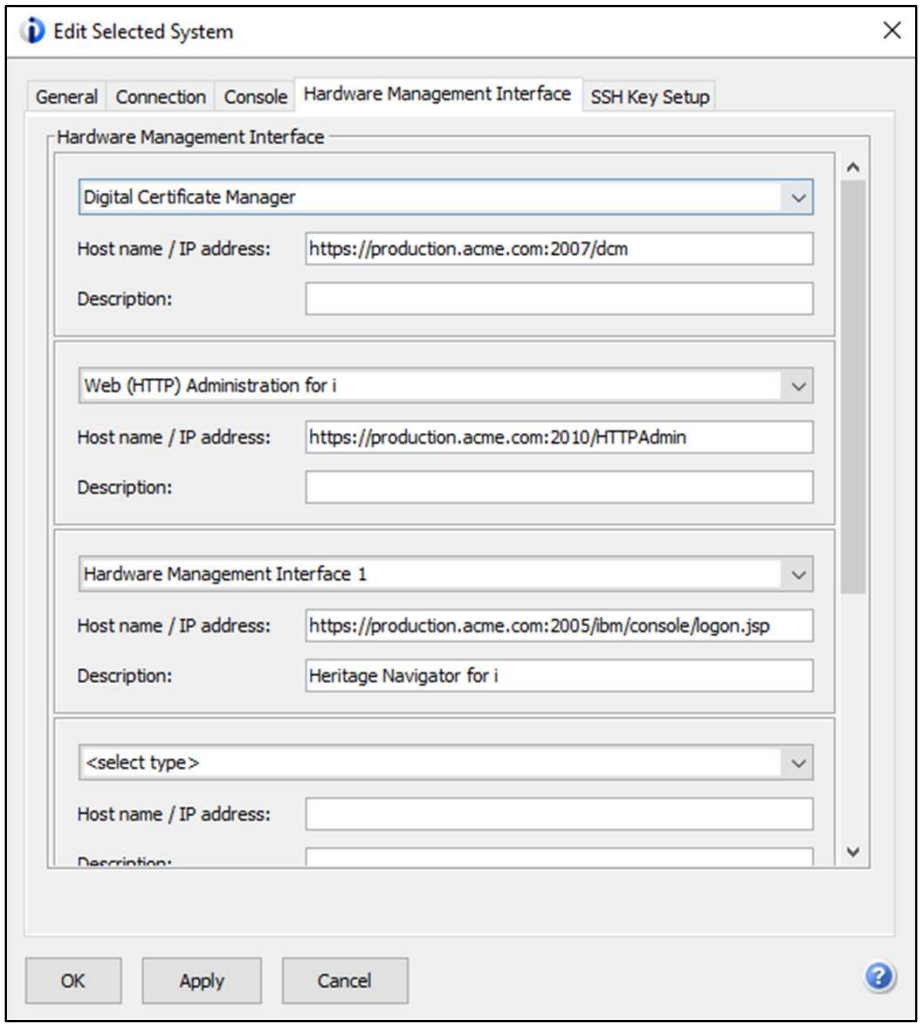
Manage Other Interfaces



Edit Hardware Management Interface via AcsConfig.properties

```
##########################################################
# Hardware Management Interface Customizations:

# Setting com.ibm.iaccess.HMI1 will rename "Hardware
Management Interface 1" in the ACS GUI panels.
# Setting com.ibm.iaccess.HMI2 will rename "Hardware
Management Interface 2" in the ACS GUI panels.
# Example 1:
com.ibm.iaccess.HMI1=Heritage Navigator for i
# Example 2:
#     com.ibm.iaccess.HMI2=Management Web Application
```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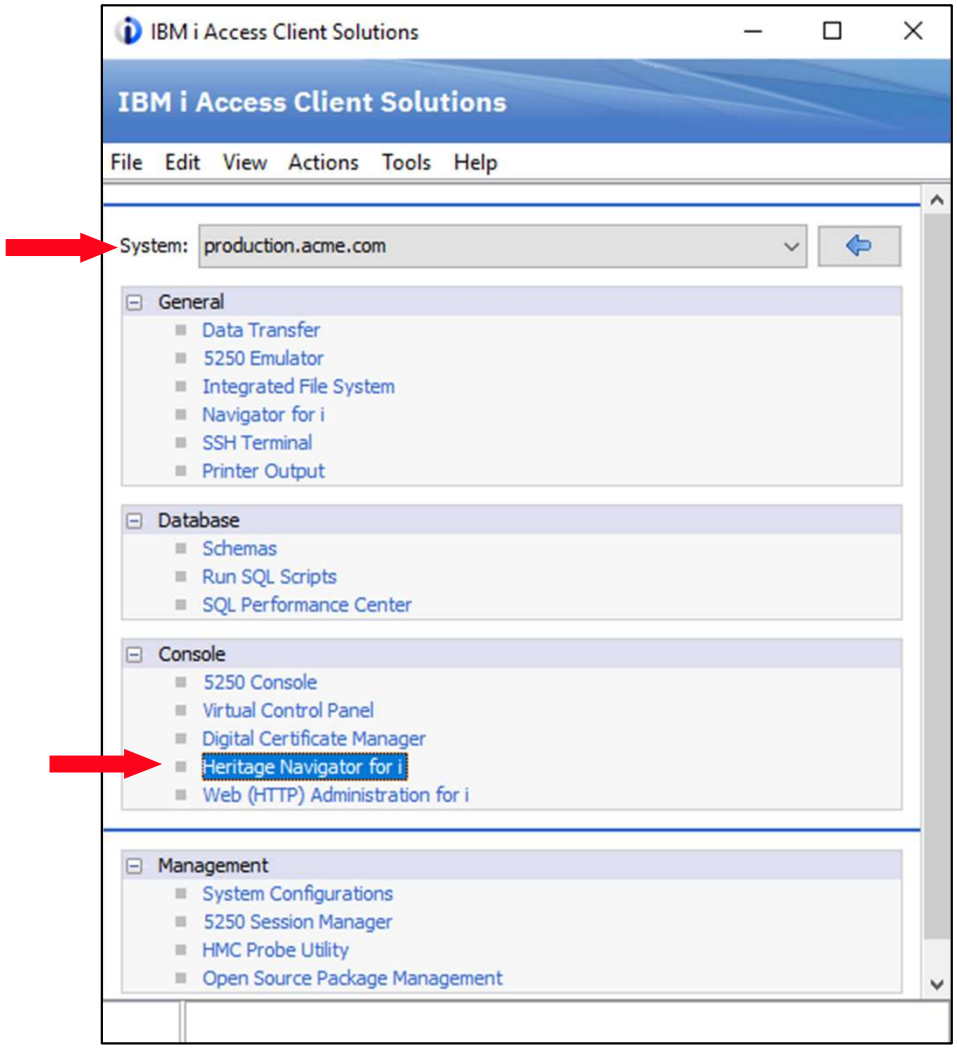
Manage Other Interfaces



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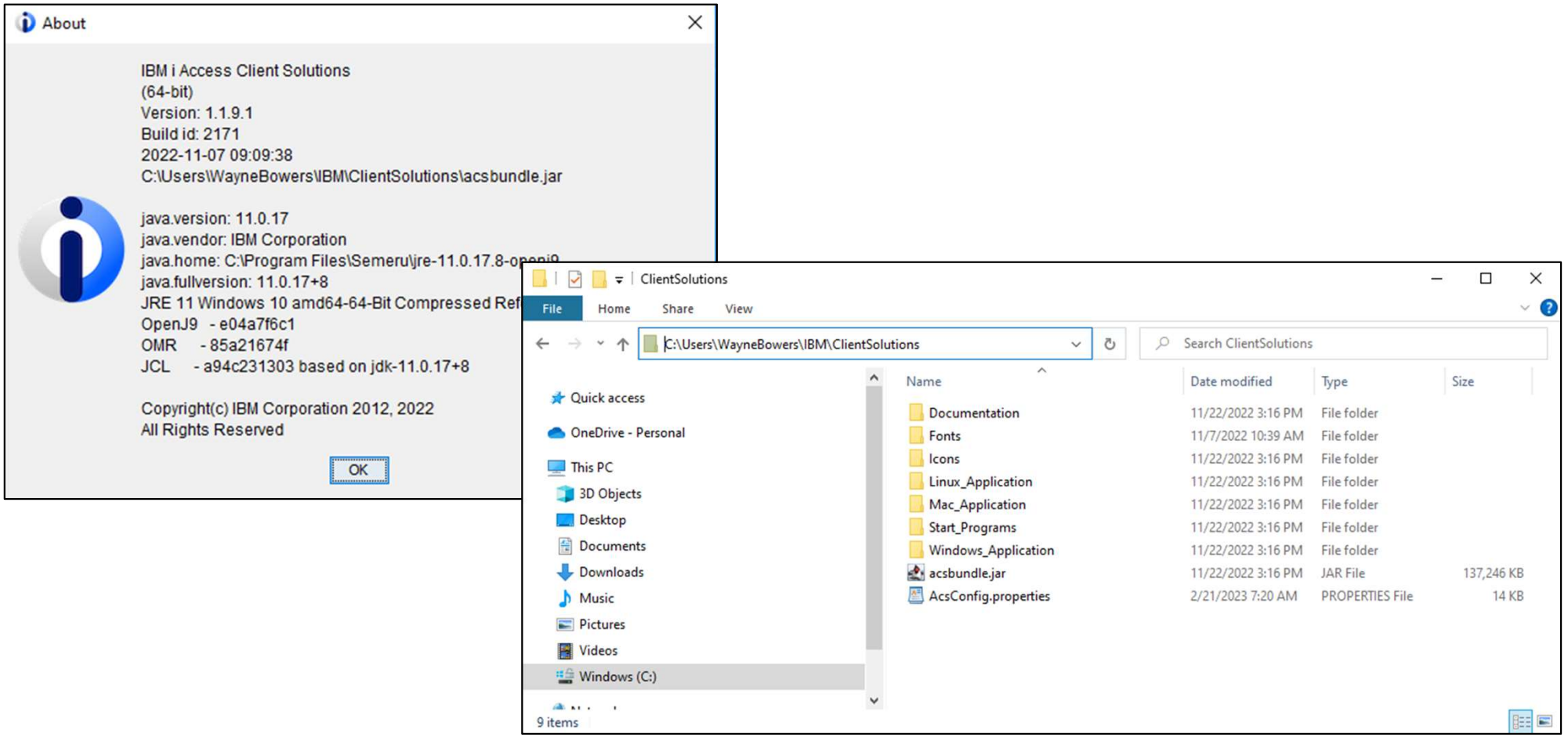

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AcsConfig.properties

Let's Create

- IBM i Access Client Solutions uses a product configuration file, named "AcsConfig.properties"
- AcsConfig.properties is simply a list of configuration properties and values.
- These properties may also be specified on the command line
  -D<property>=<value>

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AcsConfig.properties

```
################################################################################
# Configuration Location:
#
# com.ibm.iaccess.AcsBaseDirectory determines the configuration location.
#
# Special keywords are provided which can be used when defining the configuration
# path.  When the keywords are used in the specified path, the keywords will be
# substituted with the text or path they define.  Only one keyword can be used
# in the configuration path.  The special keywords and their meanings are:
#       {USER} - The current user id. This keyword can be anywhere in the path
# The following keywords can only be at the beginning of the specified path:
#       {PRODUCTDIR} - the path to the same directory as acsbundle.jar
#       {TEMPDIR} - the path to a platform specific temporary directory
#       {ROOT} - the path to the root of the file system
#       {HOME} - the path to the user's home directory
#       {DEFAULT} - the default path the product would normally use
#
# Technical Note:
# We do not recommend sharing a configuration between multiple users.
# For example, if X were a shared network drive, the following setting may
# cause unpredictable results:
#     com.ibm.iaccess.AcsBaseDirectory=X:/Shared_Network_drive/config_directory
# There are several problems with multiple users sharing this configuration path:
# 1. Unpredictable results will occur if multiple users simultaneously use the
#    configuration.
# 2. This example assumes each user has the X drive mapped to the same location.
# 3. Using a network drive in the configuration would not work from a Linux or
#    Mac client.  Using the provided keywords, as in the examples below,
#    will work on Windows, Linux and Mac.
#
# When sharing a configuration path between multiple users, the {USER}
# keyword should be used to avoid collisions with other users.  It will
# be substituted with the user id of the current user.
#
# When setting the configuration path, use a forward slash ('/') instead of a
# backward slash ('\') as the directory separator.  This will work on all
# operating systems including Windows.
#
# Here are some recommended sample configurations:
#
# Example 1 - local configuration for current user (default):
```

Prop length : 12,225 lines : 229 | Ln : 229 Col : 1 Sel : 0 | 0 | Windows (CR LF) | UTF-8 | INS

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AcsConfig.properties Settings

Let's Create

- com.ibm.iaccess.AcsBaseDirectory
  User's Configuration Root Directory
- com.ibm.iaccess.autoimport & com.ibm.iaccess.autoimport.version
  Automatically import a configuration
- ~~com.ibm.iaccess.ExcludeComps &~~ com.ibm.iaccess.IncludeComps
  What components are available or allowed to be used
- com.ibm.iaccess.PreferredSSHClient
  Keyword or path to indicate the SSH Terminal client to be used
- com.ibm.iaccess.PC5250Compatibility
  Changes 5250 emulator behavior to match PC5250
- com.ibm.iaccess.splf.FilterRestricted
  Controls whether or not the Printer Output filter is available

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AcsConfig.properties Settings

Let's Create

- com.ibm.iaccess.SkipWindowsConfigImport
  Prevents the import of Access for Windows or ACS Window App package configurations when IBM i ACS Base package is launched
- com.ibm.iaccess.DefaultCommunicationToSSL
  Sets all connections to default with SSL enabled
- com.ibm.iaccess.CertFile
  Specifies the location of the cacerts Key Database file
- com.ibm.iaccess.DisableCertificateAuthorityPrompt
  Prevents prompting the user for Certificate Trust and requires manual trust configuration
- com.ibm.iaccess.SQLCustomExamples
  User defined location for user created Run SQL Scripts examples
- com.ibm.iaccess.DefaultIFSDownloadOrViewToUtf8Text
  IFS Downloads will default to UTF8 text. Can override with Download…

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Protecting AcsConfig.properties

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- In some environments it may be desired to protect that file so that it isn't easily available for users to edit
- There are 2 primary ways to approach this
  - Write protect the file and/or mark the file as hidden
  - Use the file inside of the product acsbundle.jar archive

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Protecting AcsConfig.properties

Let's Create

- Use the file inside of the product acsbundle.jar archive
- A java jar file is in essence a compressed archive
- acsbundle.jar, the IBM i ACS application bundle, contains a copy of AcsConfig.properties and this copy will be used if it doesn't exist outside the jar
- Tools like 7zip are available to open and manipulate files within a java jar archive

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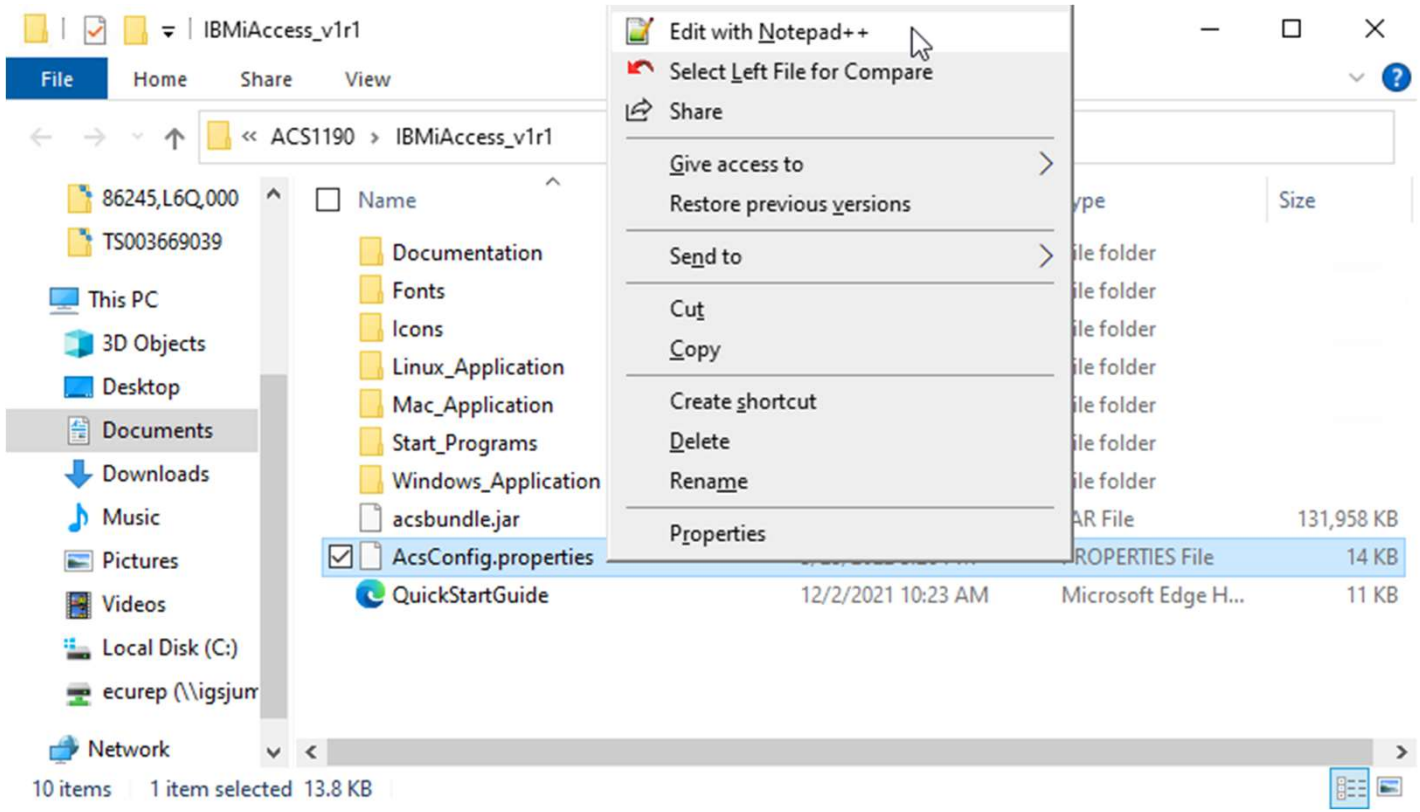
Protecting AcsConfig.properties

Let's Create

- Edit AcsConfig.properties



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Protecting AcsConfig.properties

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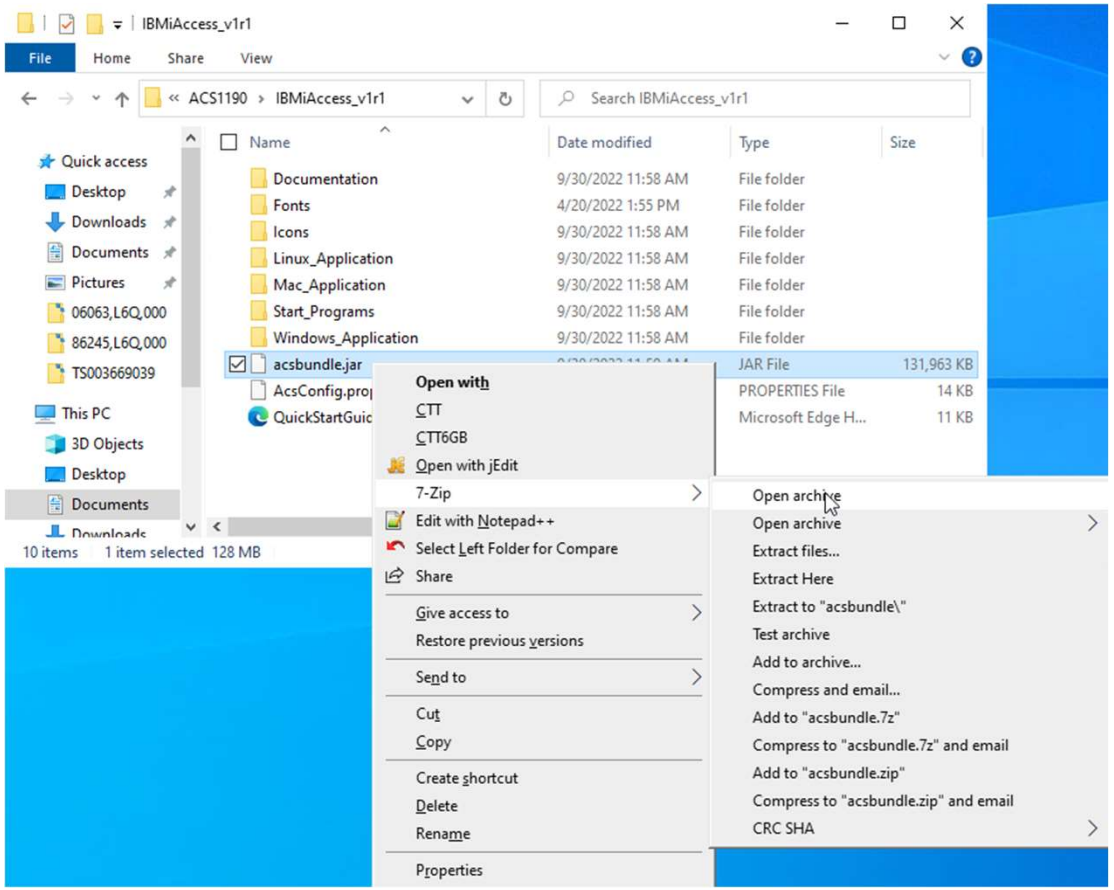
- Use the file inside of the product acsbundle.jar archive



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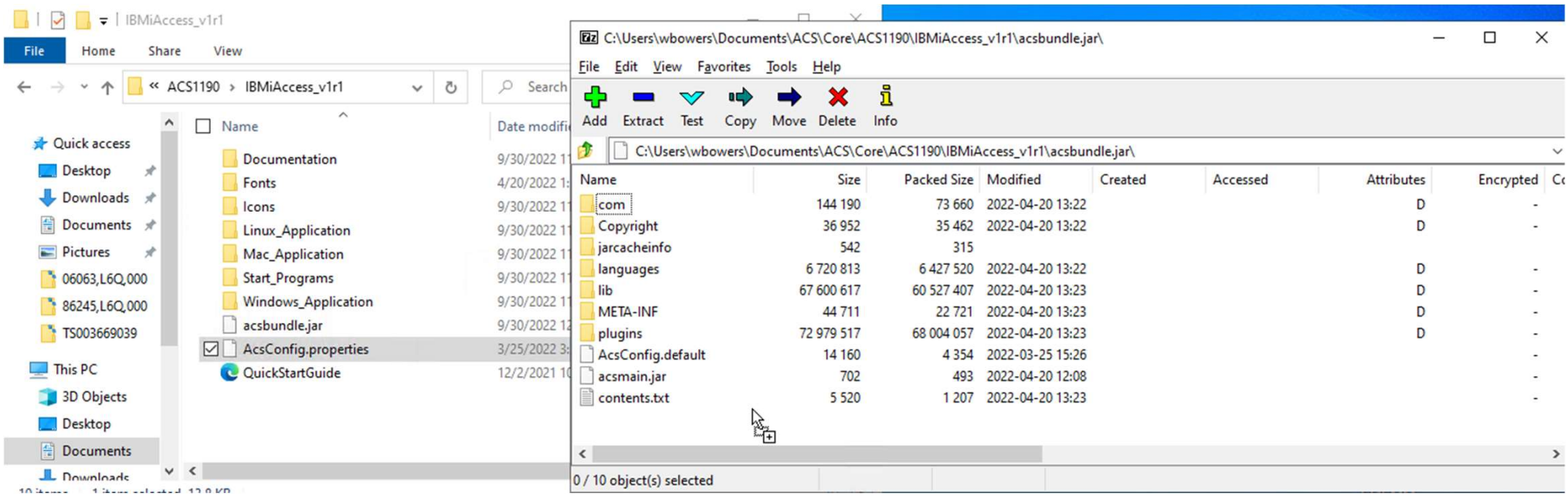
Protecting AcsConfig.properties

- Drag and Drop the AcsConfig.properties file into the 7zip opened acsbundle.jar



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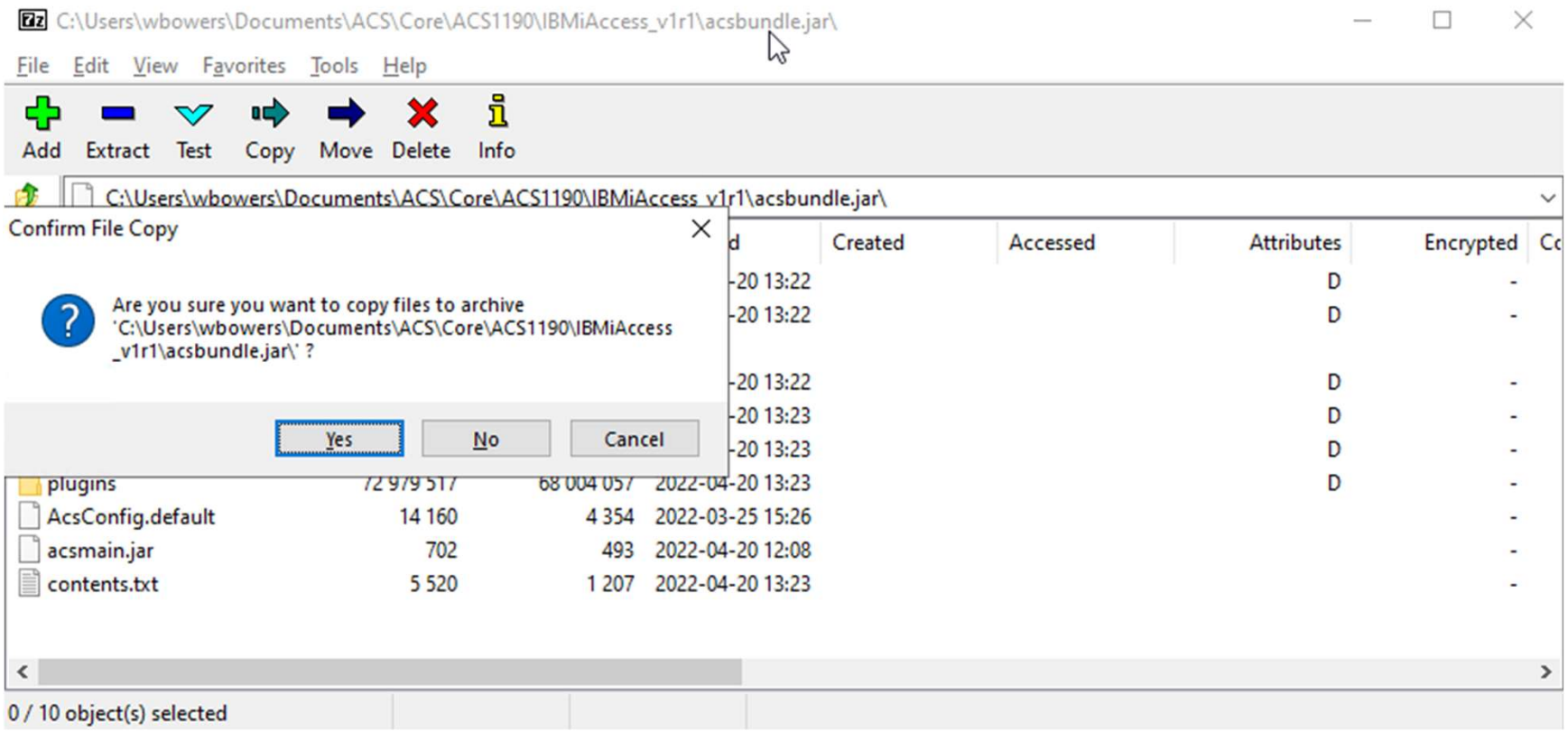
Protecting AcsConfig.properties

Let's Create

- Yes to copying the file into the archive



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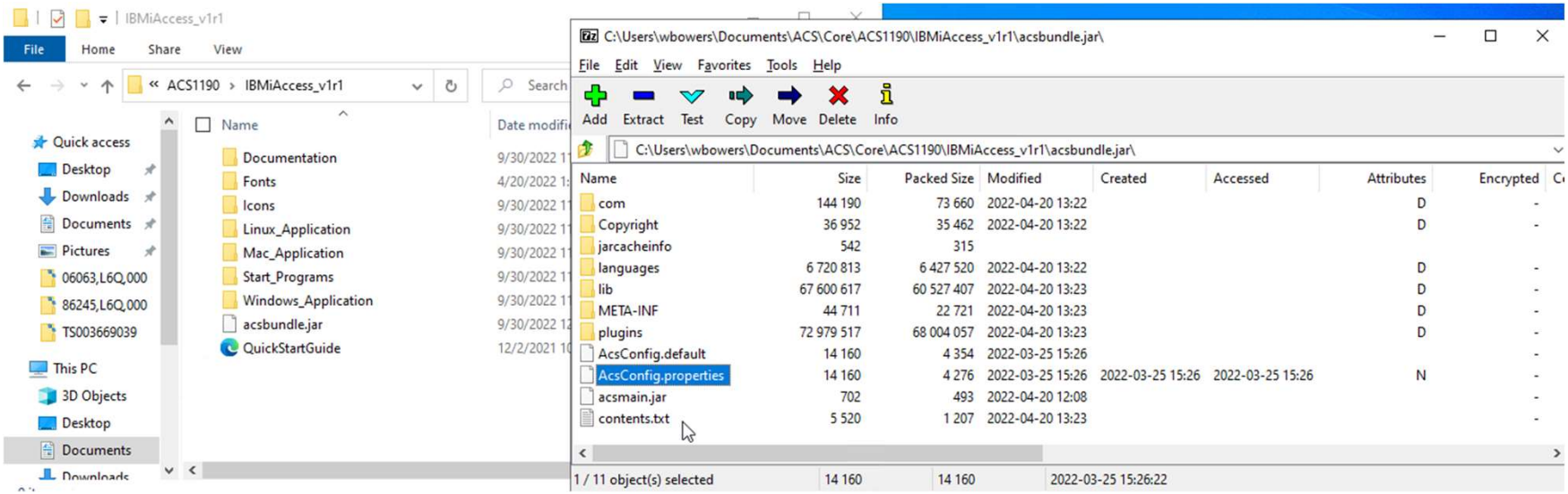
Protecting AcsConfig.properties

Let's Create

- Move the AcsConfig.properties file out of it's default location
  - Save to a safe location as it will be needed when upgrading
- AcsConfig.properties now exists inside acsbundle.jar, but not outside of it



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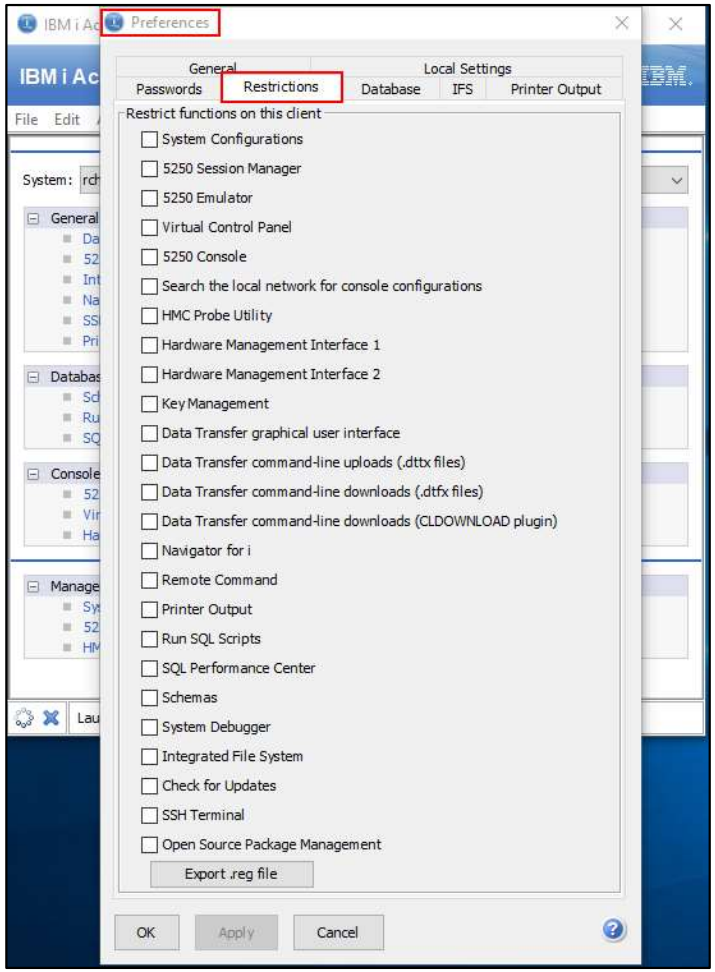
Restrictions

- Can be set via the IBM i Access Client Solutions application when ran with Administrator or Root level authority
- Restrictions are stored locally on the PC in a location that is referenced anytime IBM i ACS is ran from any location
- GUI interface from Edit -> Preferences



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Runtime Restrictions

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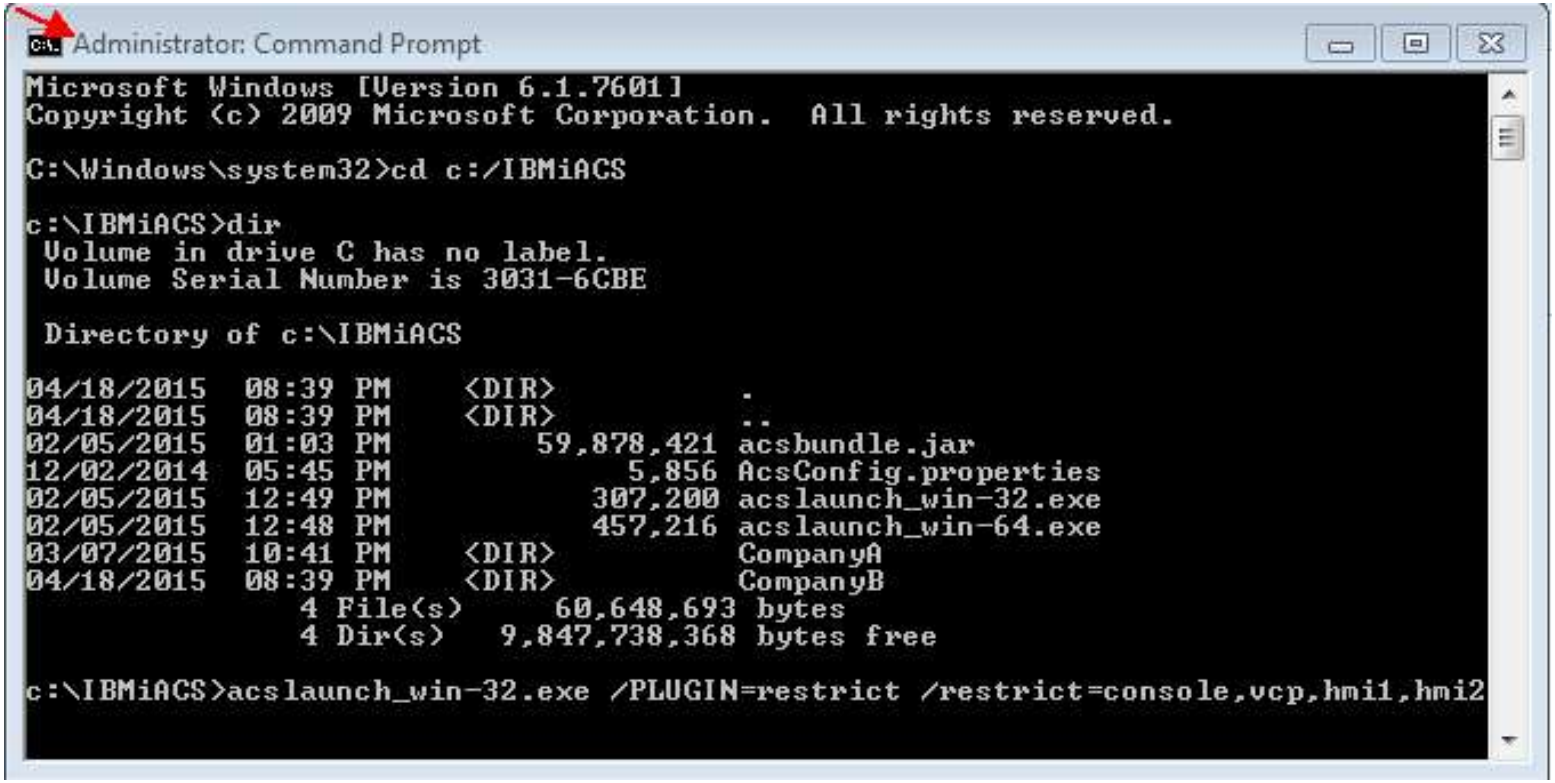
- For most it won't be feasible to use the GUI on multiple PCs
- Command Line option to restrict, unrestrict, list, export/import



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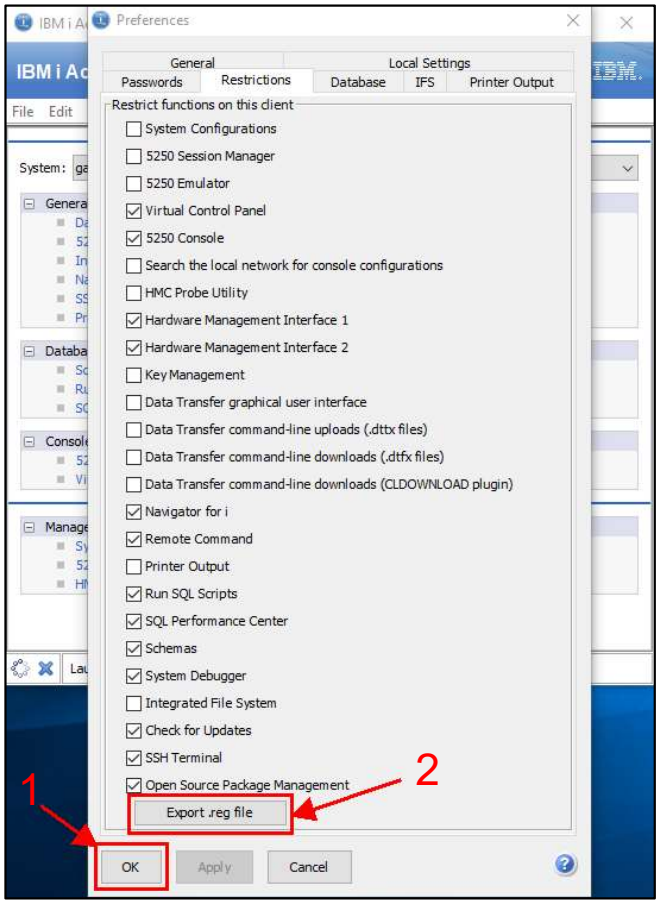
Restrictions

- Setup the desired restrictions
- Export those restrictions as a Windows registry file
- Use that Windows registry file to distribute the IBM i ACS restrictions across the enterprise

- regedit.exe /s acsrestrict.reg
- May use logon script or Windows Group Policies



https://blogs.technet.microsoft.com/askds/2007/08/14/deploying-custom-registry-changes-through-group-policy/

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/PLUGIN= functions

Let's Create

- IBM i ACS functions are defined as individual plugins
- GettingStarted Sections 9.1.# documents many functions that IBM i ACS can do from a command prompt/file/script by passing the acslaunch.exe the /PLUGIN= parameters

---

9.0 Advanced Topics

9.1 More command-line Options

Many of the functions that are available from the main GUI are also available from the command-line. These functions may be invoked by providing the appropriate parameters to any of the command-line options shown in: section 7.3 Starting the Product (using the command-line)

For example:

```
Start_Programs\Windows_x86-64\acslaunch_win-64.exe parm1 parm2 ...
```


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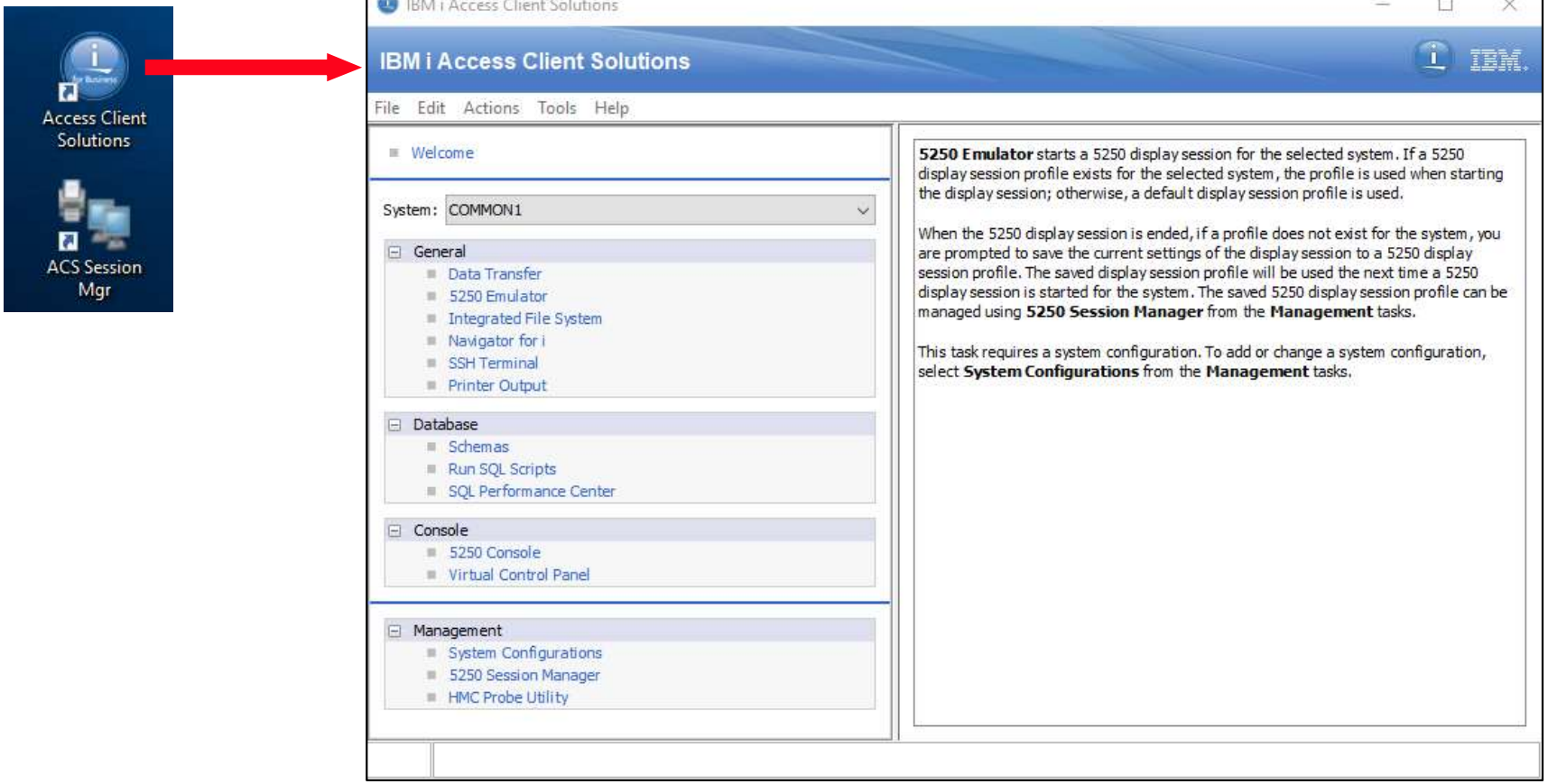
Main User Interface

Let's Create



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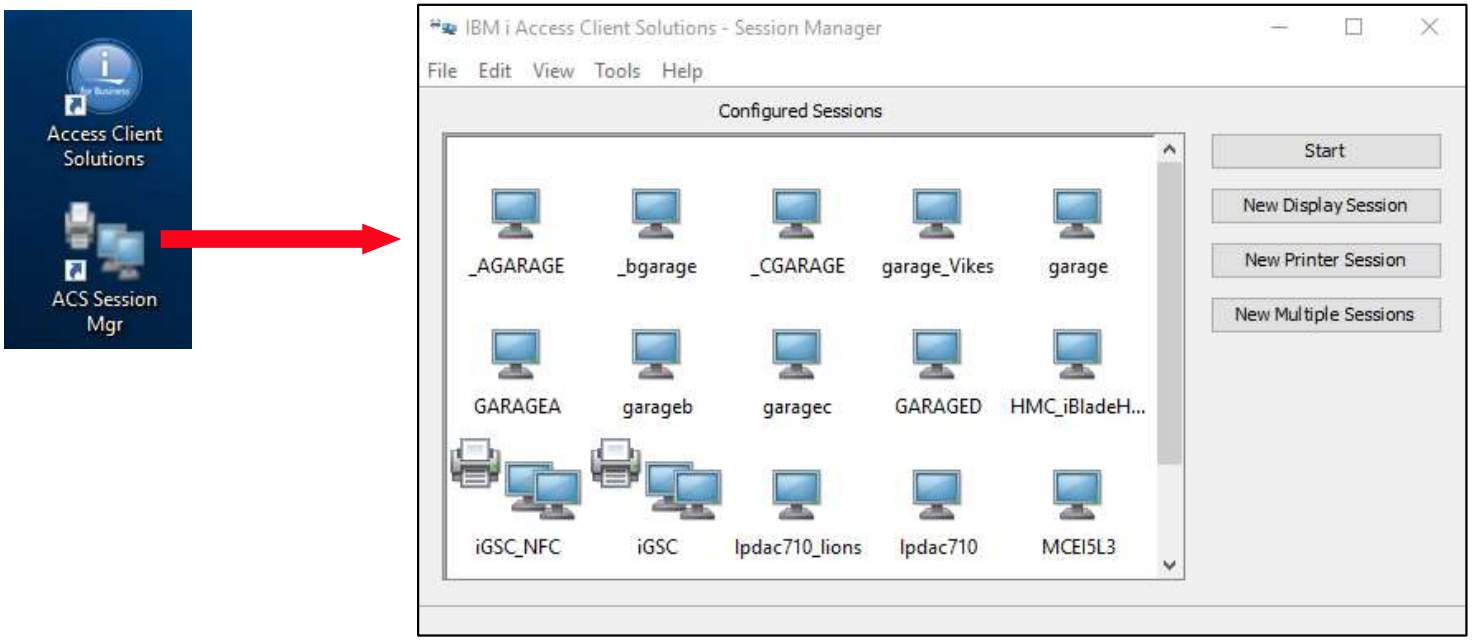
Session Manager Icon



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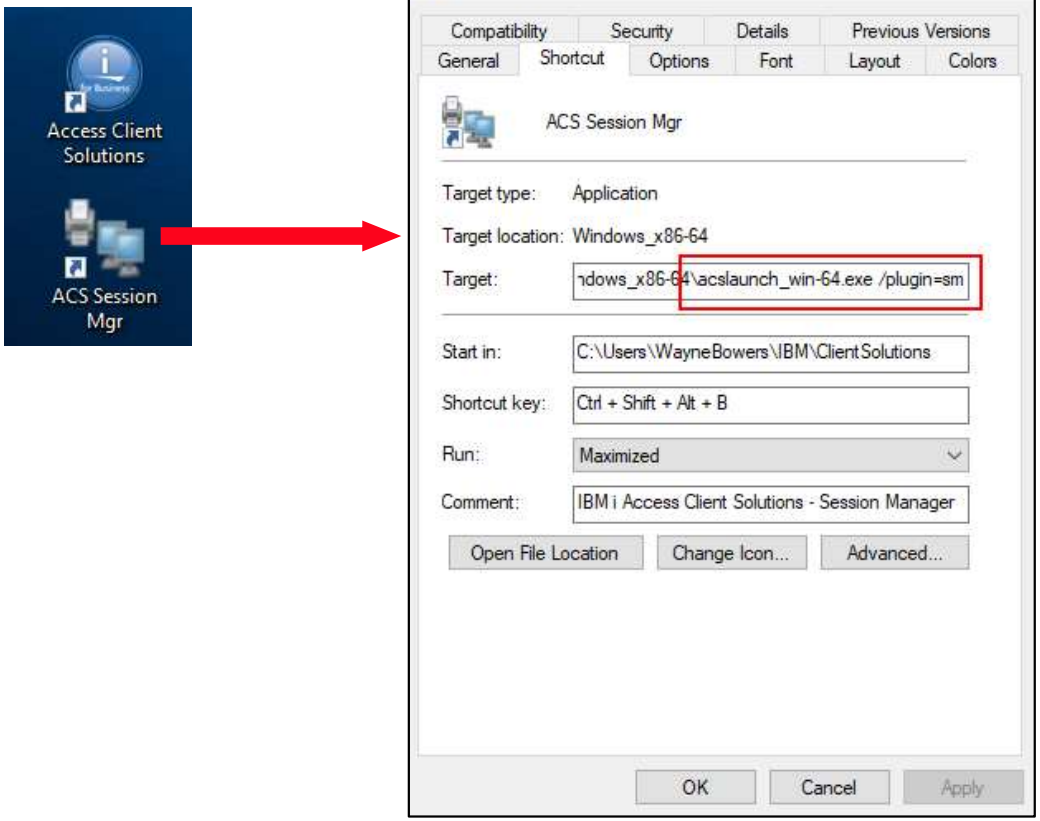
Session Manager Icon Properties



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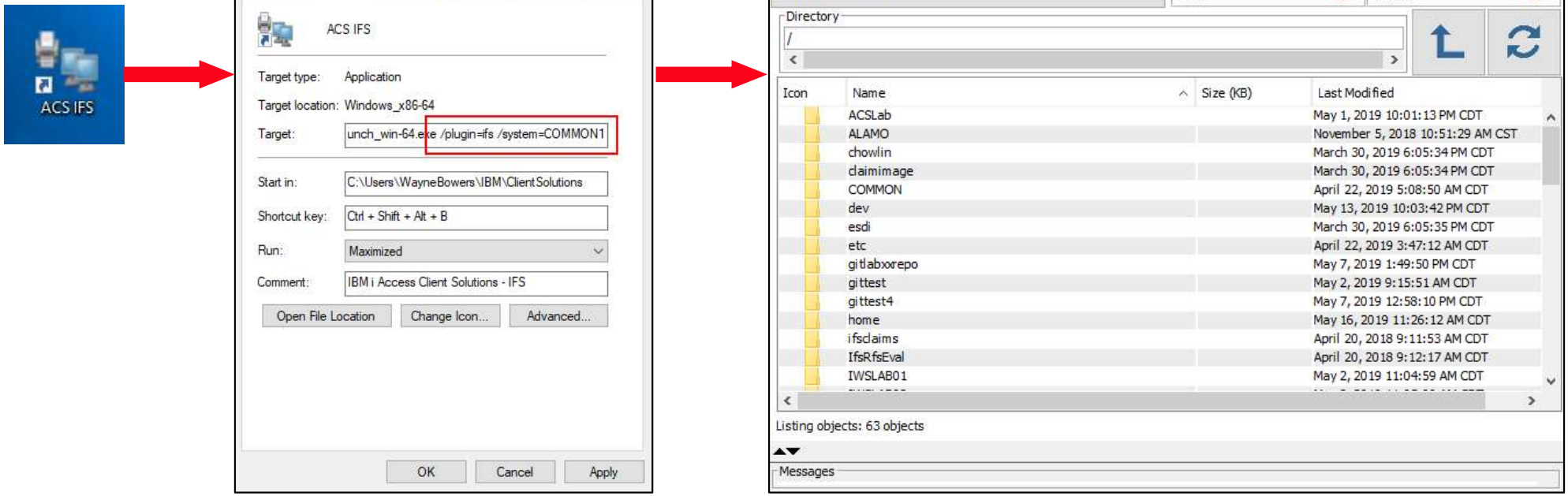
Create an Icon to Launch IFS

Let's Create



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Automate a Data Transfer

Let's Create

- `acslaunch_win-64.exe /plugin=download /userid=wayne c:\transfers\report.dtfx`

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Automate a Data Transfer

Let's Create

- `acslaunch_win-64.exe /plugin=logon /system=COMMON1 /userid=wayne /password=notmypwd`
- `acslaunch_win-64.exe /plugin=download /userid=wayne c:\transfers\report.dtfx`

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Automate a Data Transfer

Let's Create

- `acslaunch_win-64.exe /plugin=cfg /system=COMMON1 /userid=wayne /r`
- `acslaunch_win-64.exe /plugin=logon /system=COMMON1 /userid=wayne /password=notmypwd`
- `acslaunch_win-64.exe /plugin=download /userid=wayne c:\transfers\report.dtfx`

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Automate a Data Transfer – Run Dynamically on IBM i

Let's Create

```
PGM
  qsh cmd('java -cp /IBMiACS/acsbundle.jar -jar acsbundle.jar +
        /plugin=CLDownload /system=COMMON1 +
        /hostfile=QIWS/QCUSTCDT /sql="select * from QIWS/QCUSTCDT" +
        /clientfile=/home/WAYNE/qcustcdt.xlsx
ENDPGM
```


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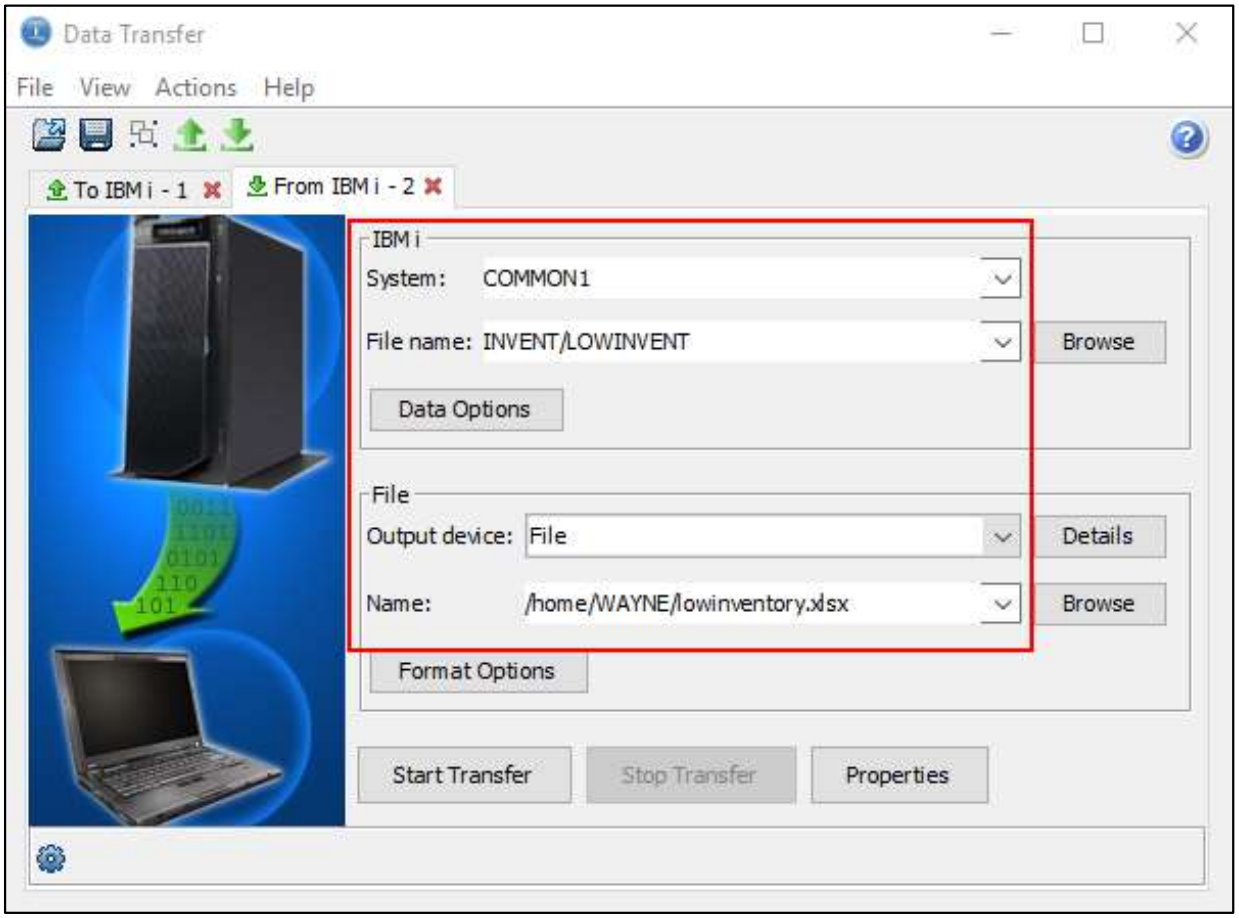
Automate a Data Transfer – Run Saved Transfer on IBM i



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Automate a Data Transfer – Run Saved Transfer on IBM i

Let's Create

```
PGM
  qsh cmd('java -cp /IBMiACS/acsbundle.jar -jar acsbundle.jar +
        /plugin=DOWNLOAD /home/WAYNE/inventory.dtfx +
        java -cp /IBMiACS/acsbundle.jar -jar acsbundle.jar +
        /plugin=MAINT /KILLDAEMON')
ENDPGM
```


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Wayne’s World

Ask
Me
Anything

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Thank You!!

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Let's Create

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