FOREWORD

This document is intended for the users trying to access VLP for the first time. This Document assumes that you have a VLP reservation that is ACTIVE in state.

**Note:** If you are yet to make a VLP reservation, please follow the below link for an Audio and Video tutorial that guides you in making a VLP reservation.


Before getting started, please ensure that you have the following:

**Checklist**

1. IBM ID and Password to access the VLP web site.
2. VPN ID and Password
3. SSH ID and Password
4. User ID and Password to access the Reserved VLP system.
5. Root ID and Password to access the Reserved VLP system.
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# Reserved System Login Information Form

The following table is provided for you to record your reserved system login information:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Initial</th>
<th>Changed</th>
<th>Changed</th>
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</thead>
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</tr>
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<td>User ID:</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>VPN Appliance IP Address:</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>SSH Gateway IP Address:</td>
<td>32.97.185.46</td>
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<td>VPN Appliance Password:</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>SSH Gateway Password:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>VPN Client Group Name and Password:</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Reserved System(s) Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Initial</th>
<th>Changed</th>
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Where to get your VLP Reservation information: User ID, Password and IP Addresses

The VPN Appliance and SSH Gateway initial and last reset Passwords and IP Addresses are available on the connection Information at:

www.ibm.com/systems/vlp

- Click on the ‘Reservation management’ tab.
- Log in with your Partner World User ID and Password.
- Click on the Connection information.

The VPN and SSH Gateway IP Address and your passwords will be displayed as follows:

Note: A button is provided to reset your VPN and SSH passwords.

To obtain your VLP reserved system’s IP address, click the “My reservations” and click on the Project name that you would like to work with.
Connecting to your VLP System – A User Guide

Click the “Res ID” number for each reservation within the project.

The VLP reserved system IP address, User ID, and Initial passwords are displayed. You may record your information on the Reserved System Login Information Form.

Note: For ease of understanding, we have referred to the items on the Reserved System Login Information Form with the respective item numbers throughout this document.
Establish a network connection between your local system and VLP network:

Connectivity between your local system and VLP network can be established by two methods, either through VPN or through SSH.

Please refer to the Appendix of this document for more information about VPN connectivity.

**Method I: VPN Connectivity**

In VLP, VPN connectivity is established using the VPN Any Connect appliance. Please refer the following steps to install VPN Any connect appliance (first time users) and establish VPN connectivity.

1. Launch a browser and enter the url: https://vlpvpn.centers.ihost.com and press Enter.

2. Click on Logon button to provide VPN username and password

3. Click on continue.

4. You may get a prompt to run add-on for ActiveX Controls. Please allow the add-ons and click on Run.
5. Installation of VPN appliance will take place for first time users and once the installation is completed, appliance will try to establish VPN connection. You would see following screens during installation.

The following window will be prompted. Firewall on your system may prompt you to allow vpndowloader.exe, vpnagent.exe and vpnui.exe files. Please allow ONLY these files and connection to this VPN server.

Next, software would be downloaded and installed on your local machine.

While connecting to VPN gateway you will see following screen.

6. You would see the following screen, once the connection is successfully established and also an icon in system tray:
Connecting to your VLP System – A User Guide

And an icon in system tray

7. To establish or reconnect to the gateway. Click on the icon to get following screen.

Click on connect and provide VPN username and Password details and click accept on next window to establish VPN connection to the gateway.

Note: To ensure that the VPN connectivity has been established, please issue the following DOS command from the DOS prompt of your local client.

C:\ipconfig

You should notice that the ip address of your local client as 172.29.XX.XX.

8. Now you can access your VLP reservation.

9. You can close the browser window but the VPN client will stay connected.

10. When you would like to disconnect, you can right click on the system tray icon and click on disconnect to log out from VPN connection.
Connecting to your VLP System – A User Guide

Configuring PuTTY client to access AIX or Linux Systems:

The following instructions explain how to connect to your VLP reserved system after you are connected to the VLP Network. Most Linux distributions include an SSH client. AIX has a SSH client on the "bonus" CD. Windows systems can use the PuTTY client, available at:

http://www.chiark.greenend.org.uk/~sgtatham/putty/download.html

See Appendix B for information on the installation and usage of PuTTY.

Note: IBM does not make any recommendations about the use of this client. Please read the documentation and disclaimers that come with it.

You can use PuTTY or another SSH client to connect to your VLP reserved system (Telnet is not enabled on AIX and Linux VLP systems)

Start PuTTY or another SSH Client. This example illustrates using PuTTY in Windows environment.

Enter the IP address of your VLP reserved system in the Host Name (or IP address) and select SSH under Protocol.

Press the Open button, and a new SSH session will open. Log in with your User ID and password.

You may be prompted to change your password. Enter your OLD password first and then enter your NEW password twice. You have now successfully completed connection to your VLP reserved system.
Connecting to IBM i Systems:

Once VPN connection is established, you can access your i5/OS system by using the 5250 emulator (recommended) or an SSH client. The following describes how to use the tn5250 emulator.

How to obtain a tn5250 emulator client:

You can use the 5250 emulator from iSeries Access or IBM Personal Communications. An additional site for the tn5250 client is:

http://sourceforge.net/project/showfiles.php?group_id=27533

IBM does not make any recommendations about the use of this client. Please read the documentation and disclaimers that come with it.

How to connect to your VLP reserved system with the tn5250 emulator client:

1. Connect to the VPN as described in earlier steps.

2. Now, start your 5250 emulator client and enter the IP address of the VLP reserved system.

3. Enter your User ID and sign in with the User ID or QSECOFR and appropriate password.
4. You will be prompted to change your password during first time sign-on. Enter your OLD password first and then enter your NEW password twice.

5. You are now signed into your reserved VLP system and can proceed with exploring the system.
Method II: SSH Gateway Connection

The following instructions explain how to connect to the VLP Network via the SSH Gateway rather than using the VPN Any Connect appliance.

1. Obtain the SSH client. Most Linux distributions include an SSH client. AIX has a SSH client on the "bonus" CD. Windows systems can use the PUTTY client, available at:

   http://www.chiark.greenend.org.uk/~sgtatham/putty/download.html

   **Note:** IBM does not make any recommendations about the use of these clients. Please read their documentation and disclaimers that come with them.

2. Start the SSH client session and connect to the SSH gateway IP address by entering **32.97.185.46** in the Host name field.

3. Enter your User ID and SSH Gateway Password at the Login prompt.

   **Note:** If connecting to the SSH gate for the first time, you will be prompted to change the initial password.
Connecting to your VLP System – A User Guide

When prompted, re-enter the ORIGINAL password.

You will now be prompted to enter the new password. Ensure that the new password meets the following password characteristics.

![Password characteristics](image1)

Now enter the NEW password, and then confirm the NEW password by entering it again.

![Password confirmation](image2)

4. You are now logged on to the VLP SSH Gateway system but NOT to your VLP reserved system.

**Note:** Executing commands at SSH gateway has been restricted to ‘ssh’ and ‘exit’ only. You cannot execute any other commands from this system.
Connecting to AIX or Linux Systems:

From your VLP SSH gateway connection, SSH to the VLP reserved system IP address, using your User ID and password

`ssh <VLP reserved_sustemuser_id>@<VLP reserved_system_IP_address>`

For Example: `ssh u0000999@172.29.1XX.XX`

The first time you connect to a VLP server, you may be asked to change your password. If you lose your password, you may reset it from the VLP Reservation Management page.

Upon entering the password for the first time, you will be prompted to change the password. Ensure that the new password meets the following password characteristics.

Enter the new password. You are now connected to the reserved VLP system through SSH gateway system.
Recommended Alternative: Client Side SSH Tunneling

This process does not require the user to issue any commands on the SSH Gateway. This method provides a secure encrypted transmission over the Internet from the user’s workstation to the gateway, much like VPN.

Connecting to AIX or Linux Systems:

Open PuTTY and navigate to Connection > SSH > Tunnels.

In this configuration, the Source port is the local port the user chooses to open on their workstation. The Destination is the IP address and port of the service running on the VLP reserved system. In this example, the service we’re connecting to is SSH port 22. Once this information is provided, press the Add button.

You can add multiple tunnels in the same SSH session, here we are opening another port on the local workstation that will be forwarded to HTTP service port 80 on the VLP Reservation.
Once all required tunnels have been added, navigate to the Session category on the left-hand side. For the Host Name (or IP address) field, provide the IP address for the SSH Gateway then press the Open button.

Authentication to the SSH Gateway will be required in order for the tunnels to be established. Enter your User ID and SSH Gateway Password. Once completed, this window can be minimized. Do not close the window or exit the session, as this will deactivate the tunnels.
Connecting to your VLP System – A User Guide

Now you can access the VLP reservation, to do so, open a NEW PuTTY session.

Since the tunnel setup opened a local port on your local workstation, you must connect to it by using localhost in the Host Name (or IP address) field. Be sure to also provide the correct value for the Port field then press the Open button.

You will now be authenticating to the VLP Reservation.

Enter your User ID and password for your VLP Reserved Server. You have successfully created a SSH Tunnel to your VLP Server.
Connecting to IBM i Systems:

Open PuTTY and navigate to Connection > SSH > Tunnels located in the Category section on the left-hand side.

In this configuration the Source port is the local port the user chooses to forward on their local workstation. The Destination field is the IP address and Port number of the service running on the VLP reserved server.

In this example, we are forwarding port 22023 on your local workstation to the TELNET port of 23 through the SSH Gateway to your VLP reserved system. Once this information is provided, press the Add button.
You should now see the port appear in the forwarded port section:

Once the tunnel has been added, navigate to Session on the left-hand side in the Category section. For the Host Name (or IP address) field, provide the IP address for the SSH Gateway, select Protocol of SSH and then press the Open button.
Authentification to the SSH Gateway will be required in order for the tunnels to be established. Login with your SSH Gateway User ID and password.

Once completed, this window can be minimized. **Do NOT close the PuTTY window or exit the session; as this will deactivate the tunnels.**

Now we can access the VLP reservation via telnet with the tunnel that we have just created. Open a new PuTTY session.

Since the tunnel opened a local port on your local workstation, you must connect to it by typing localhost in the Host Name (or IP address) field. Be sure to also provide the Port number that you forwarded earlier. In this example, it is port number 22023. Since we have forwarded to port 23, select Telnet under the Protocol option. Press the Open button.

You will now be prompted with the Sign On screen of your VLP reserved IBM i system.
Enter the User ID and password your Reserved VLP Server. Normally it is u000XXXX or QSECOFR.
Appendix A: How to get a PartnerWorld ID & Password

Existing PartnerWorld ID & Password
You will need to go to this website to register for an Partnerworld ID:

You must register as a company member of PartnerWorld or become a new member of PartnerWorld.

Why do I need an IBM ID?

Your IBM Registration ID is your single point of access to IBM web applications that use IBM Registration. You need just one IBM ID and one password to access any IBM Registration based application. Furthermore, your information is centralized so you can update it in a convenient and secure location. The benefits of having an IBM Registration ID will increase over time as more and more IBM applications migrate to IBM Registration.
Appendix B: How to Install and Run the PuTTY Client

To obtain PuTTY, you can go to several sites. A suggestion to get PuTTY is to go to this site:

http://www.chiark.greenend.org.uk/~sgtatham/PuTTY/download.html

Scroll down the page and find your operating system. Double click the PuTTY.exe file so you can download the program.

A Save File Dialog will pop up. Choose the Option to Save the File. Pick a location to save your file, such as C:\temp.

Run PuTTY by first locating the PuTTY.exe file and double clicking on the PuTTY.exe file to run the program.

The PuTTY Dialog box will pop up.
Under Saved Sessions, Select Default Settings, then click on the Load button.

Now Under the Category list on the Left hand side, select SSH.

You will see this dialog box, under Preferred SSH Protocol Version, Select 2.

Under the Category Dialog box on the left hand side, Select Session. Now Select SSH under the Protocol Session.
Select Default Setting under Saved Sessions and click the Save button. You now have saved the settings that you have just configured so by default you will use SSH Protocol 2 when you use PuTTY.
Appendix C: What is a Virtual Private Network (VPN)?

A virtual private network (VPN) is a private network that uses a public network, such as the Internet, to create a secure private connection through a private tunnel. A VPN uses a virtual connection that is routed from a company's private network through the internet to a remote system or site. The VPN connection creates a secure connection between the user's machine and the remote network giving that user local access to the remote site. The user can then have access to the remote company’s network as if they were locally connected to that company’s network.

Troubleshooting tips while establishing VPN connectivity:

A user may encounter some problems, while establishing a VPN connection to the reserved VLP system. Please contact VLP support for assistance.

Please following the below steps to create a Problem Management Record (PMR) and notify the VLP Support Team.

Login to the VLP web site, with your IBM id and Password. Click on the VLP Support tab.
Click on the Reservation ID with which you are encountering the problem.

![Virtual Loaner Program](image)

To better assist you with your reservation, please select it from the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company name</th>
<th>Project name: Test one</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RES ID</td>
<td>Status</td>
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<tr>
<td>12381</td>
<td>Active</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>i5/OS V5R4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>POWER 5 on System i</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project name: Test</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RES ID</td>
<td>Status</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Active</td>
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<tr>
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<td>i5/OS V5R3</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>POWER 5 on System i</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you do not see your 'Res ID' number above or if you are requesting help without having an active reservation, then please click here: [no Res ID]

Please fill in the additional information about your reservation.

The fields indicated with an asterisk (*) are required to complete this transaction; other fields are optional. If you do not want to provide us with the required information, please use the Back button on your browser or close the window or browser session that is displaying this page, to return to the previous page.

**Reservation information**

- **Company**: IBM Corporation
- **Reservation ID**: Test one
- **Reservation status**: Active
- **Hardware**: POWER 5 on System i
- **Operating system**: i5/OS V5R4
- **Res ID**: 12381
- **Start date**: Oct 29, 2007 11:33 AM
- **End date**: Nov 03, 2007 11:33 AM

**Additional information**

Please enter your question

Mention in detail about the problem that you are encountering and press the 'Submit' button. This will notify the VLP Support team and you will be contacted by the IBM VLP Administrator through e-mail.