Acronis SCS
Files Connect 10.5

Trouble-free File Server Access and Search for Macs

Acronis SCS Files Connect (formerly ExtremeZ-IP) is the only solution that provides the rich experience Mac users demand when connecting to Windows or NAS file servers, while maintaining the compatibility required by IT. At its core, Acronis SCS Files Connect is an AFP file-sharing and full-content search service that runs on your Windows server and enables Macs to connect to file shares and NAS via AFP instead of the SMB protocol.

AFP solution to SMB problems

macOS has always supported two network protocols:
- AFP, Apple's native file-sharing protocol for Mac
- SMB, the native file-sharing protocol for Windows and typically used for NAS storage

With each macOS update, Apple has attempted to improve Mac SMB compatibility. But even with the SMB3 support in macOS 10.12 Sierra, Mac users continue to report frustrating problems, especially with key applications such as Microsoft Office and Adobe Creative Suite. Acronis SCS Files Connect AFP support solves common Mac SMB problems, including:
- Long delays mounting shares, browsing folders, opening files
- File corruption
- Disappearing files
- Crashing applications
- Permissions problems
- Disconnected sessions
- Locked files and file naming issues

IT managers in thousands of companies have found that by connecting to shares using the native AFP protocol, their Mac users can stop suffering those types of SMB problems, which improves productivity, while reducing frustration and help desk calls. Since Acronis SCS Files Connect is a server-side solution, all Macs are automatically supported, whether they're running older or new versions of macOS.

IMPROVED! Nearly instant Spotlight searching

When Mac users connect over SMB to a Windows or NAS file share, they lose the nearly instant Spotlight filename and content searches they're used to when searching locally or against a macOS Server. Acronis SCS Files Connect solves that by linking Spotlight searches to a server-side index.

For files on Windows servers, it links seamlessly with the native Windows Search service. Since the Windows Search service cannot index NAS shares, Acronis SCS Files Connect includes an additional indexing option: Acronis SCS Content Indexing, which can index filenames, content, or both, making searches hundreds of times faster.

Mac / Windows integration

Acronis SCS Files Connect easily integrates with key Windows infrastructure elements, including:
- Kerberos / Single Sign On
- DFS / Network Reshare
- Home directories
- Clustering
- Quotas
- File name policies

It also supports the Mac-oriented features that end users expect:
- Time Machine backups
- UNIX / ACL permissions
- Print queue support
- Domain password change

THE CHALLENGES OF A MIXED MAC-WINDOWS ENVIRONMENT

If your organization is one of the estimated 91 percent of enterprises that have Mac users in need of accessing files and documents in a mixed Mac-Windows environment, you know firsthand that Windows and Macs communicate with one another differently.
When Mac users try to access Windows file and print servers they typically experience performance, data integrity, search slowness and many other issues, and your business is impacted in many ways:

- Cripplingly slow, filename-only search of file shares
- Mac users struggling with file corruption, file permissions, application incompatibilities, files disappearing, locked files, file naming issues, and disconnected sessions
- Mac users experiencing issues with the same access to file and print resources as PC users
- Reliability issues mounting and accessing shares from servers and NAS within the enterprise
- High levels of help desk calls because of the above

WHAT'S NEW IN ACRONIS SCS FILES CONNECT 10.5

New Mac client application

A new Mac client application acts as a handy unified interface to quickly locate and access all file shares and DFS resources available on your network via both AFP and SMB.

EXCLUSIVE! Simplified file share and printer location

- Connect via both AFP and SMB
- Bypass the process of individually mounting file shares
- One simple window into all available resources
- Browse a list of all network printers and quickly add them to your Mac

EXCLUSIVE! Fast, powerful search capabilities

- Use a new Mac menu bar tool or the Mac client application interface to perform Spotlight searches of SMB file shares
- Searches can target one, many, or all available file shares
- Advanced search query parameters are available, including Windows and Mac file tags

Spotlight search improvements

- Real-time search index updates
- File content indexing limits
- File indexing exclusion rules
- Intelligent handling of archived files
- Integrated Windows Search controls
- Windows and Mac file tags support

Smart handling of Windows .URL shortcuts

A Volume Properties option can convert Windows .URL shortcuts to a Mac alias. If these shortcuts point to UNC paths that Acronis SCS Files Connect is giving AFP file-share access to, Mac users will be able to double-click the .URL file to open the item it points to.

KEY FEATURES

IMPROVED! AFP and SMB connection to file shares

With Acronis SCS Files Connect, Macs can connect to and mount file shares on Windows file servers and NAS as native AFP volumes or via SMB protocol. This allows Mac users to continue using the same tools and applications for accessing servers and printers that they always have.

IMPROVED! Full content Spotlight searching

Acronis SCS Files Connect links Mac Spotlight to a server-side index that seamlessly integrates with the native Windows Search service or a built-in Acronis SCS content indexer.

ShadowConnect

By leveraging the Microsoft's Shadow Copy (VSS), ShadowConnect brings the ability to restore previous versions of files to Mac users.

Network Reshare and DFS support

With the Network Reshare feature, Mac clients can use AFP file sharing to connect to one Acronis SCS Files Connect server, and access files and folders located on additional SMB file servers and NAS devices, as well as Distributed File System (DFS) file shares.

File name policies support

Acronis SCS Files Connect can be configured to prevent the Mac client from actively saving, creating, or renaming files with characters that are "illegal" in Microsoft applications, or with file name and path lengths that can cause issues for Windows users.

Active Directory support

With Acronis SCS Files Connect, Mac users leverage their existing network accounts and a Kerberos-based single sign on to access files on the network in accordance with Active Directory permissions mapped to effective Mac permissions, ensuring security.

Acronis SCS

For additional information, please visit
www.AcronisSCS.com

System requirements

Server
- Operating System: Windows Server 2016, 2012 R2, or 2008 R2 recommended
- Windows 10, 8, 7, Vista, XP Pro, XP Embedded
- Processor: Dual or quad core recommended
- RAM: 2 GB minimum; 4 GB recommended
- Acronis SCS Files Connect volumes must be on NTFS formatted drives

Mac
- Mac OS X 10.2.3 or later supported, including macOS 10.12 Sierra
- No Mac software installation is required, some features require Mac client software

Mobile
- Acronis SCS Access mobile app running on iOS, Android, or Windows tablet