# **Pro-face Connect**

**Quick Start Guide** 

PFCNT-QSG\_04 02/2025



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The information provided in this document contains general descriptions, technical characteristics and/or recommendations related to products/solutions.

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# **Safety Information**

## Important Information

Read these instructions carefully, and look at the equipment to become familiar with the device before trying to install, operate, service, or maintain it. The following special messages may appear throughout this documentation or on the equipment to warn of potential hazards or to call attention to information that clarifies or simplifies a procedure.



The addition of this symbol to a "Danger" or "Warning" safety label indicates that an electrical hazard exists which will result in personal injury if the instructions are not followed



This is the safety alert symbol. It is used to alert you to potential personal injury hazards. Obey all safety messages that follow this symbol to avoid possible injury or death.

### **A** DANGER

**DANGER** indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, **will result in** death or serious injury.

### **A** WARNING

**WARNING** indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, **could result in** death or serious injury.

## **A** CAUTION

**CAUTION** indicates a hazardous situation which, if not avoided, **could result** in minor or moderate injury.

## **NOTICE**

NOTICE is used to address practices not related to physical injury.

## **Please Note**

Electrical equipment should be installed, operated, serviced, and maintained only by qualified personnel. No responsibility is assumed by Schneider Electric for any consequences arising out of the use of this material.

A qualified person is one who has skills and knowledge related to the construction and operation of electrical equipment and its installation, and has received safety training to recognize and avoid the hazards involved.

## **About the Document**

## **Document Scope**

This document describes how to quickly install, configure, and test Pro-face Connect. Pro-face Connect provides secure remote access to devices as if you were on site.

**NOTE:** Read and understand this document and all related documents, page 6 before installing, operating, or maintaining your Pro-face Connect.

Pro-face Connect users should read through the entire document to understand all features.

# **Validity Note**

This documentation is valid for this product.

Restrictions about this product are available at https://www.pro-face.com/trans/en/manual/1072.html

# **General Cybersecurity Information**

In recent years, the growing number of networked machines and production plants has seen a corresponding increase in the potential for cyber threats, such as unauthorized access, data breaches, and operational disruptions. You must, therefore, consider all possible cybersecurity measures to help protect assets and systems against such threats.

To help keep your Pro-face products secure and protected, it is in your best interest to implement the cybersecurity best practices as described in the Cybersecurity Best Practices document.

Pro-face provides additional information and assistance:

- Visit the Security Notification page to find security notifications.
- Contact us to report vulnerabilities and incidents.

## **Product Related Cybersecurity Information**

Use this product inside a secure industrial automation and control system. Total protection of components (equipment/devices), systems, organizations, and networks from cyber attack threats requires multi-layered cyber risk mitigation measures, early detection of incidents, and appropriate response and recovery plans when incidents occur. For more information about cybersecurity, refer to the Pro-face HMI/iPC Cybersecurity Guide:

https://www.proface.com/en/download/manual/cybersecurity guide

## **▲WARNING**

# POTENTIAL COMPROMISE OF SYSTEM AVAILABILITY, INTEGRITY, AND CONFIDENTIALITY

- Change default passwords at first use to help prevent unauthorized access to device settings, controls and information.
- Disable unused ports/services and default accounts, where possible, to minimize pathways for malicious attacks.
- Place networked devices behind multiple layers of cyber defenses (such as firewalls, network segmentation, and network intrusion detection and protection).
- Apply the latest updates and hotfixes to your Operating System and software.
- Use cybersecurity best practices (for example: least privilege, separation of duties) to help prevent unauthorized exposure, loss, modification of data and logs, interruption of services, or unintended operation.

Failure to follow these instructions can result in death, serious injury, or equipment damage.

## Available Languages of the Document

The document is available in these languages:

- English (PFCNT-QSG-EN)
- Japanese (PFCNT-QSG-JA)

## **Related Documents**

Title of documentation	Reference number
Cybersecurity Best Practice	Refer to General Cybersecurity Information., page 5
HMI/IPC Cybersecurity Guide	PFHMIIPCCS-MM01-EN (ENG)
	PFHMIIPCCS-MM01-JA (JPN)

You can download the manuals related to this product, such as the other software manual, from the Pro-face download page (https://www.pro-face.com/trans/en/manual/1085.html).

# Information on Non-Inclusive or Insensitive Terminology

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## **Pro-face Connect**

## **Overview**

Pro-face Connect allows technicians and programmers to remotely monitor, diagnose, control, and program devices. This can significantly reduce the cost of maintaining devices and maximize device uptime. Remote access to the device is achieved by means of a private, point-to-point connection. Access to this connection is strictly controlled and all data sent and received on the connection is encrypted.

## **Supported Models**

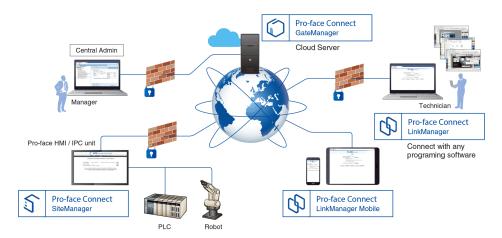
For a complete list of appliances that support Pro-face Connect, refer to Supported Models List.

**NOTE:** Available models differ depending on the screen editing software you are using. Check the supported models of Pro-face Connect with your screen editing software (that is, GP-Pro EX or BLUE).

## **Use Case**

This quick start guide presents a typical use case for the deployment of Pro-face Connect. It describes how to install and configure the components of a Pro-face Connect solution, then use them to control an HMI display unit located on a remote work site from a laptop computer located in a local office.

The following figure shows the use case:



### NOTE:

- The HMI appliance and the PLC must be on the same local network at the work site. Modify all IP addresses that appear in this guide to those used on your network.
- This document illustrates one possible use case. Pro-face Connect supports many different device types and architectures. Adapt the steps in this document to correspond to your environment.

# **Use Case Components**

## **Overview**

The following sections describe the components of the use case solution.

For overall system requirements, refer to Operating Environment.

## Licenses

You must have applicable licenses to use Pro-face Connect.

For more information about the available license types, click on the following link: https://www.pro-face.com/trans/en/manual/1061.html.

This document assumes the use of a 30-day free trial pack of licenses, which includes:

- 1 x Pro-face Connect GateManager license
- 1 x Pro-face Connect SiteManager Extended 5 agents license
- 1 x Pro-face Connect LinkManager license
- 1 x Pro-face Connect LinkManager Mobile license

## **HMI/IPC** Appliance

This use case assumes the use of a GP4000 Series touchscreen display unit compatible with the latest version of the GP-Pro EX (Ver. 4.07.100 or later).

**NOTE:** The HMI appliance must have Internet access. For HMI appliances with no Web browser in the application, you can check this as follows:

- 1. Temporarily connect a PC at the same network connection point
- 2. Set the PC network settings to those of the HMI appliance
- 3. Start an Internet browser on the PC and check you can access Web pages.

This may require retrieving settings or obtaining authorization from the IT infrastructure of the work site. Only outbound authorization is required in most cases

For a complete list of appliances that support Pro-face Connect, refer to Supported Model List.

## SiteManager

The SiteManager software runs on the HMI appliance. It is installed on the appliance as part of GP-Pro EX RunTime.

To be registered with the GateManager component, SiteManager requires outgoing access to specific ports and protocols. At least one of the following outbound rules must be granted on the HMI appliance:

- TLS through Web proxy
- HTTPS to remote IP address of GateManager, remote port 443
- TLS over HTTP to remote IP address of GateManager, remote port 80

The SiteManager has a web user interface in order to configure it. The SiteManager web user interface is accessible from the GateManager web user interface.

# LinkManager

The LinkManager software is installed on a laptop computer in the office and is typically used by service engineers. LinkManager allows secure remote access to devices.

This use case assumes:

- A laptop computer running Windows 10, 64-bit edition
- A Windows user account on the laptop computer with administrator privileges.
- Access to the Internet using the HTTPS protocol. This may need to be configured on the corporate firewall and/or the personal firewall on the PC.

# LinkManager Mobile

LinkManager Mobile allows users to remotely access equipment via their iPhone, iPad or Android devices.

It is designed for accessing graphical interfaces on PLCs or HMIs, for example.

For more information, refer to the Pro-face Remote HMI FAQ on the Pro-face Website.

# GateManager

The GateManager software runs on a Schneider Electric-hosted network server. You use GateManager to create secure, encrypted connections between appliances on the work site and the LinkManager software running on personal computers in the office. The Web-based user interface requires use of the HTTPS protocol. When you request a trial license, or purchase a license, a secure, private customer domain folder on the server is automatically created. Login credentials of a GateManager administrator account on this customer domain are then provided by email.

It is the role of the GateManager administrator to configure this domain. This involves:

- · Attaching purchased licenses to SiteManager appliances.
- Creating subdomains for organizing equipment based on their purpose, access level, physical location, and so on.
- Verifying for the entire customer domain the network status of all SiteManager and LinkManager components.
- Creating and managing other GateManager administrator accounts and LinkManager user accounts.

## **AWARNING**

### **EQUIPMENT DAMAGE**

- Before any maintenance action, ensure by phone that you have on-site agreement.
- Before any update, ensure that you have a stable Internet and electricity environment.
- In particular, do not use 3G through a mobile phone setup as tethering hotspot for any update

Failure to follow these instructions can result in death, serious injury, or equipment damage.

## **Device**

This use case assumes the use of a PLC, which has a configurable Ethernet interface. The device must be physically connected to the HMI appliance with an Ethernet cable. Make a note of the Ethernet configuration details (IP address and subnet mask) of the device.

Pro-face Connect supports a wide range of both Schneider Electric and third-party devices.

# **Remote Monitoring Software**

Pro-face Connect only establishes a connection to the appliance. Therefore, any remote monitoring software can be used provided that the network requirements (open ports, and so on) are met.

This use case assumes the use of GP-Viewer EX, installed on the same laptop computer as the LinkManager software.

## **Internet Browser**

An Internet browser is required to access the Web-based user interfaces of LinkManager, SiteManager, and GateManager.

This document assumes the use of Google Chrome. Any recent version of Mozilla Firefox or Microsoft Edge can also be used.

# **Configuring a Web-Proxy Server**

Depending on the network policies in place at the work site, outgoing connections to the Internet may be restricted (IP address range blocked, port range blocked, protocol types blocked, and so on). Both the SiteManager and LinkManager components may require a Web proxy to access the Internet.

If this is the case, contact the network administrator of your work site for help in setting up the connection to the Internet to use a Web proxy.

Viewer Settings Pro-face Remote HMI SiteManager Embedded

Web-proxy Address:

Web-proxy Account:

Web-proxy Password:

Reset to Default Apply Changes

Exit Back 2016/08/31 13:59:28

The SiteManager user interface, for example, allows you to configure a Web proxy:

**Web-proxy Address**. IP address of the Web proxy. An IP address, optionally followed by a colon (:) and a port number. For example, *10.11.0.100:9400* or *10.0.11.0.100* (port 80 is used by default).

Web-proxy Account. Web proxy user name, if any.

Web-proxy Password. Password for the Web proxy user name, if any.

**NOTE:** For information on how to enter this interface, or details about each setup item, refer to the *GP-Pro EX Reference Manual*.

# **Installation Overview**

# **Installation Steps**

# **AWARNING**

## UNINTENDED EQUIPMENT OPERATION

This product must be installed and configured by qualified software installation staff with administrator rights.

Failure to follow these instructions can result in death, serious injury, or equipment damage.

### Perform the steps in the following order:

- 1. Connect to the GateManager user interface, page 14
- 2. Create user accounts, page 16
- Enable the SiteManager connection of the HMI appliance to GateManager, page 18
- 4. Register the HMI appliance with SiteManager, page 19
- 5. Create an agent, page 21
- 6. Install LinkManager, page 23
- 7. Log in to LinkManager and test the connection, page 24
- 8. Connect to the appliance remotely

**NOTE:** When using Pro-face Remote HMI with Pro-face Connect, it is required to set up the Pro-face Connect LinkManager Mobile parameters into the Pro-face Remote HMI user interface. To configure Pro-face Remote HMI, refer to the Pro-face Remote HMI FAQ on the Pro-face Website.

# **Step 1: Connecting to the GateManager**

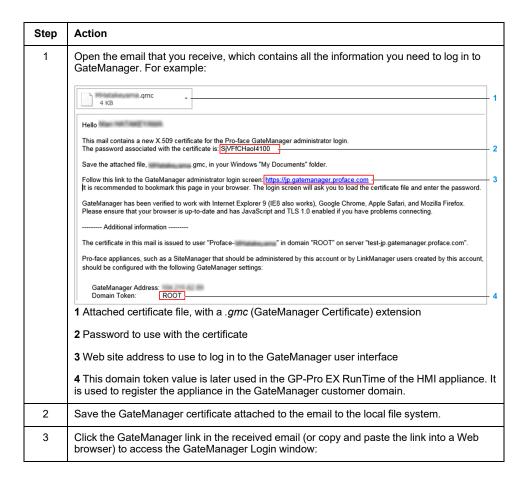
## **Overview**

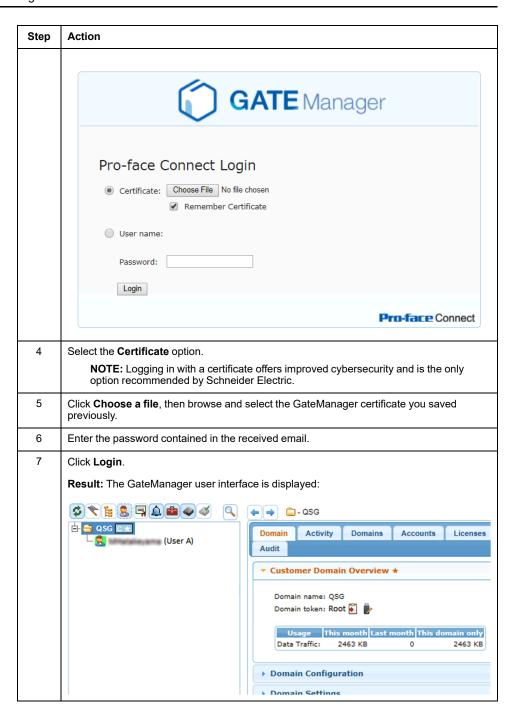
The first step is to request a trial license for Pro-face Connect, then log in to the GateManager user interface using the credentials provided. This step can be done on the laptop computer in the office or any other computer.

## **Obtaining a Trial License**

Step	Action
1	Contact your country's point of sale.
2	Ask for a Pro-face Connect trial, by providing an email address for receiving the credentials of a user account for the usage of such a trial.
	Result: A message is sent to the email address you provide.

# Logging In to GateManager





# **Step 2: Creating User Accounts**

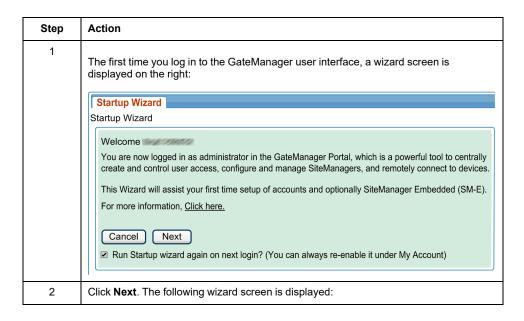
## **Overview**

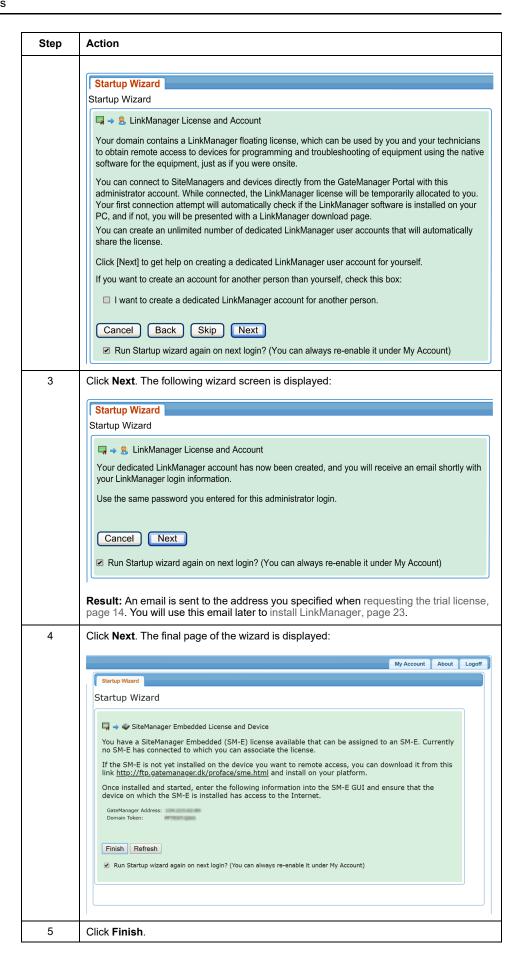
Once you have accessed the GateManager user interface, the next step is to create user accounts.

GateManager Account Type	Description
Domain Administrator	An option provided by the Premium Access add-on. Allows customers to administer their own customer domain. Allows the creation of sub-domains to manage customers and/or have complete control over which LinkManager users can assess which agents.
	<b>NOTE:</b> For sales status, please contact your country's point of sale.
Basic Administrator	Standard administrator role managing the customer domain. Performs tasks such as license management and controlling LinkManager.
LinkManager User	The user role for a technician or expert: the physical person who establishes the connection from the laptop computer to the HMI appliance.

Before starting, take time to consider these roles within your organization. There may be more than one role per person, depending on the size of your organization. Therefore, you may require to create multiple accounts for the same physical person.

# Creating the Domain Administrator, the Basic Administrator, and the LinkManager User Accounts





# **Step 3: Enabling the SiteManager Connection of the HMI Appliance to GateManager**

## **Overview**

The next step is to enable the SiteManager software on the HMI appliance and establish a network connection between the appliance—physically located on the work site—and the GateManager server.

# **Activating and Configuring the SiteManager Software**

Step	Action		
1	Enter Offline mode, then on the menu touch Main Unit Settings - Remote Viewer Settings, and select SiteManager Embedded.  NOTE:  • When SiteManager Embedded is not available, use GP-Pro EX Ver.4.07.100 or later to transfer the system to the display unit.  • For information on how to enter Offline mode, or details about each setup item, refer to the GP-Pro EX Reference Manual. You can download the manual from the Pro-face support site.		
2	Set the Remote Management option to Enabled:		
	Viewer Time Zone Pro-face Remote HMI SiteManager Embedded  Remote Management Enabled		
3	Specify the following items:  1. In the GateManager Address field, type the IP address of the GateManager server. This address is contained in the email you received when registering your trial version of Pro-face Connect. Refer to Logging in to GateManager, page 14  2. In the Domain Token field, type the domain token assigned to you, "***-Inc". This is contained in the email you received when registering your trial version of Pro-face Connect. Refer to Logging in to GateManager, page 14  3. In the Appliance Name field, type a unique name for your appliance, for example "GP-4601T". This name is later used to identify the appliance in the GateManager user interface.  If the HMI appliance has been previously configured, it is strongly recommended to click the Reset to default button in the bottom left of the window to return SiteManager to its factory default settings.  NOTE: If your appliance uses a proxy server, you may also need to complete the Web-proxy Address, Web-proxy Account, and Web-proxy Password fields. Refer to Configuring a Web-Proxy Server, page 11.		
4	Click the Apply Changes button.  Result: In a few seconds, the indicator next to the Status turns green to indicate a successful connection to your domain on the GateManager server:  Status:  Connected		
5	To exit <b>Offline</b> mode, touch <b>Exit</b> .		

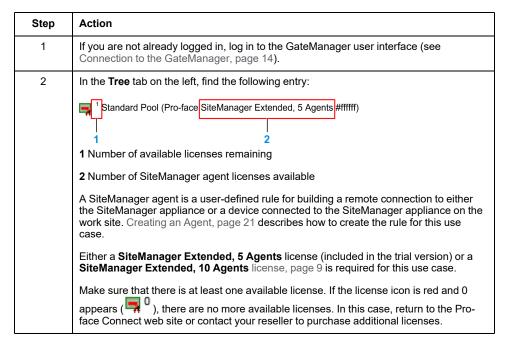
# Step 4: Registering an Appliance on GateManager

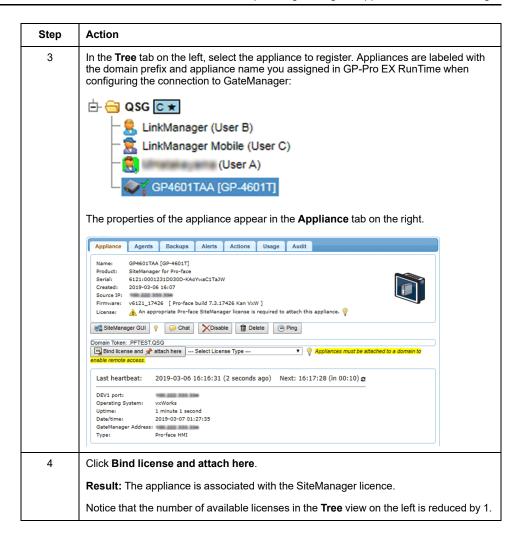
## **Overview**

Every HMI/IPC appliance and device deployed as part of a Pro-face Connect solution must be associated with a license you have purchased. This association is made in the GateManager user interface.

# Associating the HMI Appliance with a SiteManager License

**NOTE:** This may already have been done when using the wizard to create user accounts, page 16.





# **Step 5: Creating an Agent**

## **Overview**

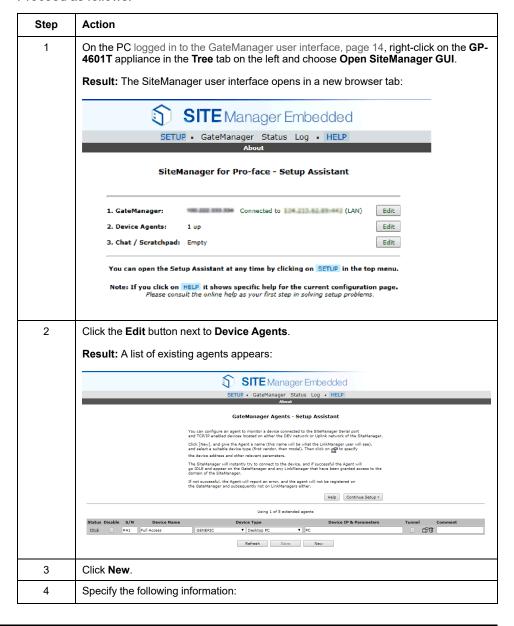
The next step is to create an agent that will allow direct access to the Ethernet interface of the PLC at the work site.

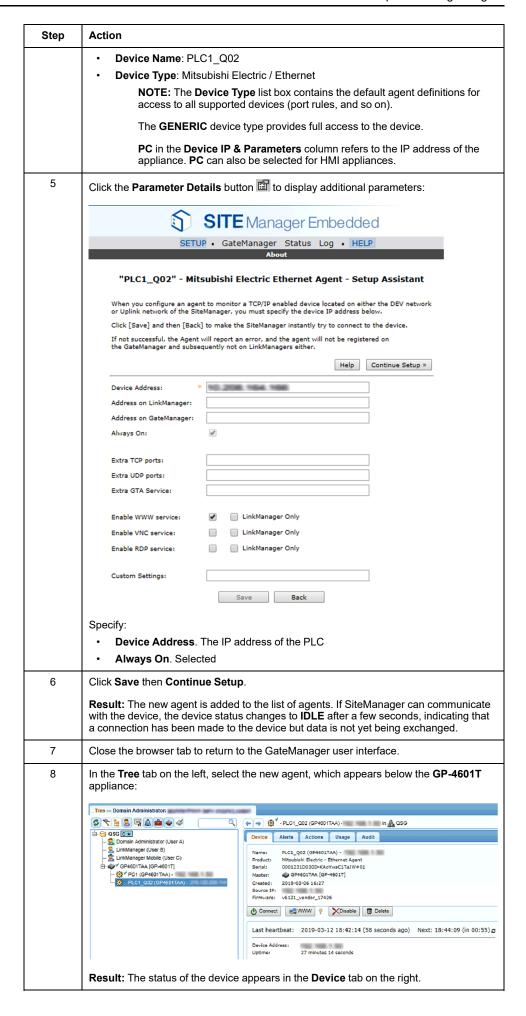
An agent is a user-defined rule containing all the parameters necessary for LinkManager to connect to an individual device. To connect to 5 devices, for example, you would need to create 5 different agents. The license in the trial version is an extended 5 license: up to 5 agents can be used with this appliance, permitting up to 5 extended devices behind the HMI/IPC appliance. Extended devices are those accessible from the HMI/IPC appliance over the network of the work site.

It is also possible for multiple agents to connect to the same device: for example one to establish an FTP connection to the device, and another to build a GP-Pro EX project transfer connection to the device.

## **Creating an Agent**

### Proceed as follows:





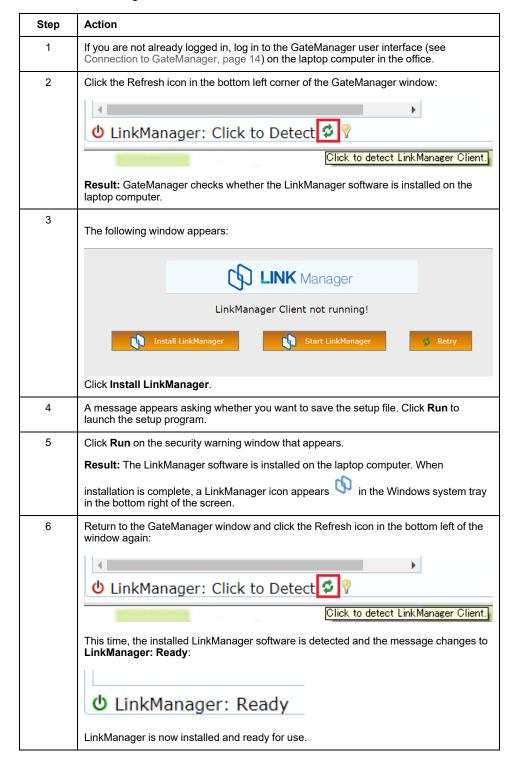
# Step 6: Installing LinkManager

## **Overview**

The next step is to install LinkManager on the laptop computer in the local office.

# Installing LinkManager

To install LinkManager:

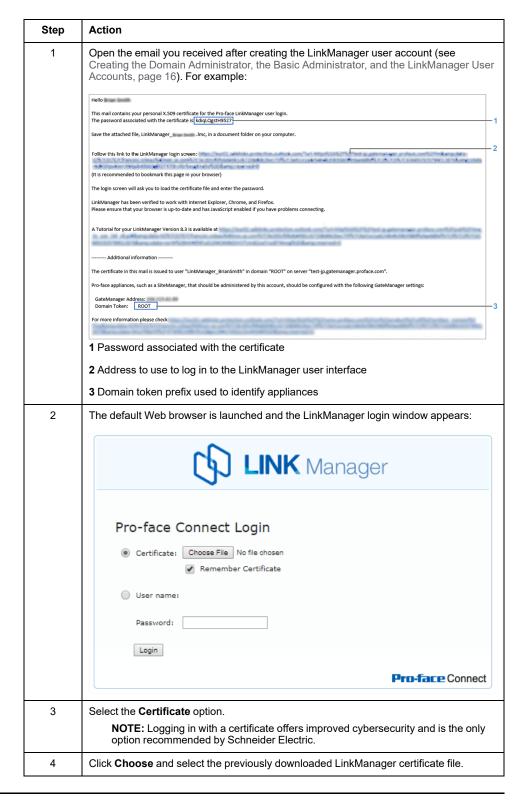


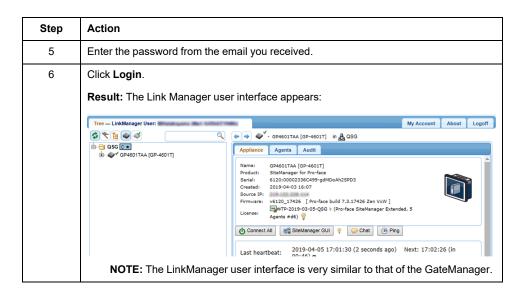
# Step 7: Starting LinkManager and Connecting to Device

## **Overview**

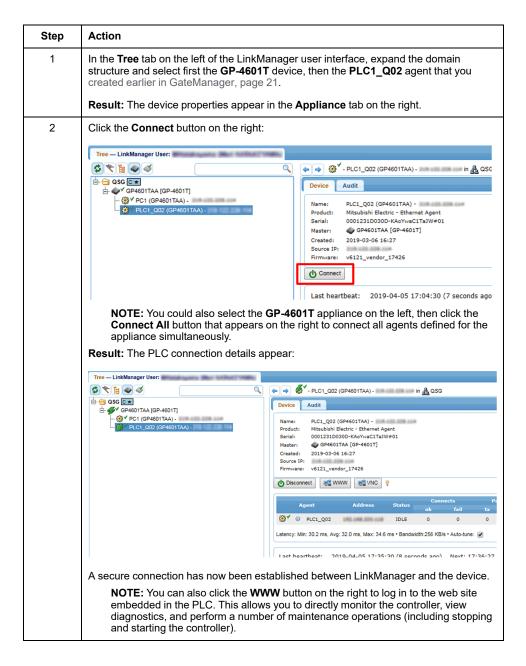
The next step is to log in to LinkManager on the laptop computer and view data generated by the device.

# Logging in to LinkManager

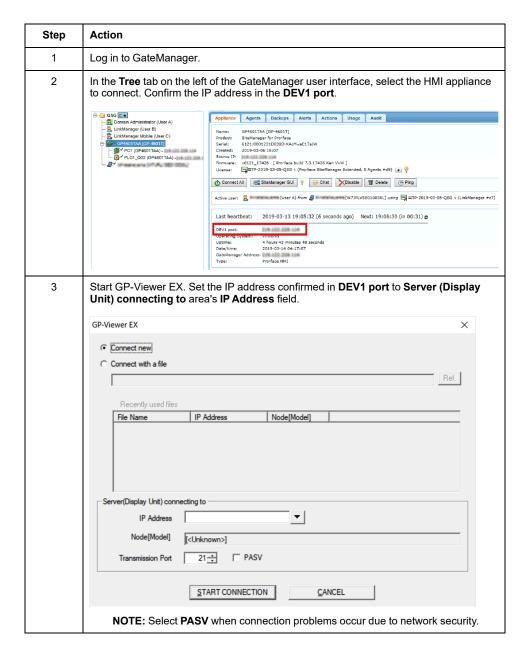


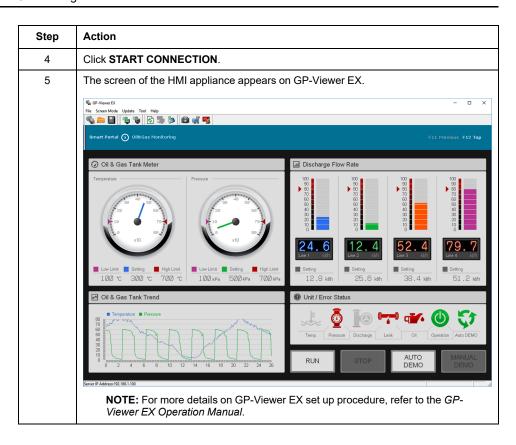


# Connecting to the PLC



# Remotely Accessing the HMI Appliance with GP-Viewer EX





# **Glossary**

### Α

### agent:

An object that contains all the parameters necessary for LinkManager, LinkManager Mobile, and Pro-face Remote HMI to connect to a remote device. For example, an agent might specify use of the FTP protocol, the IP address of the device, and use of the standard FTP port number.

### appliance:

An HMI/IPC display unit that LinkManager can connect to.

### D

### device:

A device, such as a Programmable Logic Controller (PLC), that connects to a display unit.

### display unit:

Indicates a touch-panel display unit manufactured by Schneider Electric for displaying the screen interface designed in Screen Editor or Logic Program Software.

#### domain token:

A text string provided to you when you register Pro-face Connect. When concatenated with the appliance name, uniquely identifies appliances in your domain.

#### domain:

A private area of the GateManager software in which to configure and manage users, appliances, licenses, audit logs, alerts, automated actions, and so on.

### G

### GateManager:

It is used for user administration and access control for LinkManager, and acts as communication broker between LinkManager and SiteManager.

### Н

### HTTPS:

Hyper Text Transfer Protocol Secure

### L

### LinkManager Mobile:

The software installed on your tablet or your smartphone, allows remote access to HMI appliances.

### LinkManager:

The software installed on your computer, allows remote access to SiteManager and/or devices represented by agents on the SiteManager.

### P

### **Pro-face Remote HMI:**

The app installed on your tablet or your smartphone, allows remote access to HMI appliances.

### S

### SiteManager Embedded Basic:

One of the license formats required to use SiteManager Embedded. Allows access to the display unit and registration of up to two agents.

### SiteManager Embedded Extended:

One of the license formats required to use SiteManager Embedded. Allows access to external IP devices – such as PLCs, IPCs, server, Web camera, and so on, on the same network as the display unit, and registration of five agents or more.

### SiteManager Embedded:

Software used to set up access to the Pro-face Connect network. This software may not be required as you can set up the network connection from the offline screen of some display units.

### SiteManager:

Refers to display units on the work site connected to the Pro-face Connect network.

#### subdomain:

A logical division of a domain, useful for organizing equipment based on purpose, access level, physical location, and so on.

### T

### TLS:

**Transport Layer Security** 

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www.pro-face.com

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