

Setting an update policy

By default, the EUpdate task included with the Virex software comes configured to download the most recent Virus Definition file updates directly from the Network Associates FTP site. This configuration can make administration simple and straightforward for small networks or individual Virex installations. If you have a large network, however, retaining this configuration can severely tax your external bandwidth if, as will happen if you leave the default configuration enabled, each network node tries to update its Virus Definition files at once.

Instead, Network Associates recommends using EUpdate to download new files to one server on your network, then using that server as a repository from which other computers on your network can download their own updates. By making these updated files available on one or more central servers on your network and configuring your remaining network nodes to download the updated files from those servers, you can

- Schedule network-wide Virus Definition file roll-outs for convenient times and with minimal intervention from either administrators or network users. Use the Virex Schedule Editor dialog box to set individual times when each network node will poll the server for updated files.



You might, for example, specify one convenient update time when you first deploy Virex software within your network, but then set a schedule that phases in or rotates Virus Definition file updates among different parts of the network. To learn how to schedule an EUpdate task, see [“Scheduling Virus Definition updates” on page 68](#).

- Split roll-out administration duties among different servers or domain controllers, among different regions of wide-area networks, or across other network divisions. Keeping update traffic primarily internal can also reduce the potential for network security breaches.
- Reduce the likelihood that you will need to wait to download new Virus Definition files. Traffic on Network Associates servers increases dramatically on regular Virus Update file publishing dates. Avoiding the competition for network bandwidth enables you to deploy your update with minimal interruptions.

Configuring EUpdate preferences

The Virex application's EUpdate preferences panel governs how and from where you download Virus Update files. After you set these preferences, you can update your files immediately, or schedule an update operation for a later time.

To set your EUpdate preferences, follow these steps:

1. Start the Virex application. To learn how to do so, see “Starting the Virex application” on page 23.
2. Click the Preferences button  in the Virex application toolbar.
3. The Preferences dialog box will appear. Scroll to the bottom of the preferences list, then click the EUpdate icon  to move to the correct preferences panel (Figure 8-1).

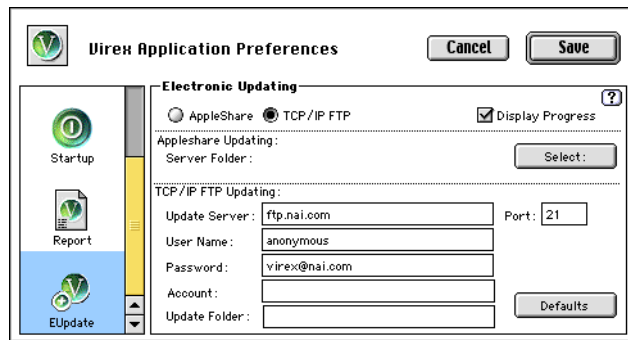




Figure 8-1. EUpdate preferences panel

4. Choose the protocol you want to use to connect to the site that stores the new Virus Definition files. Your choices are:
 - **AppleShare.** Click this button to tell the Virex application to download new files from an AppleShare server on your network. To use this update method, you or a system administrator must download the new Virex files from the Network Associates website to a central server on your network, then make a particular folder on that server available to all Macintosh computers that you want to update. Each computer you want to update must have that central folder mounted on the local system in order to download new files.

Next, click Select in the AppleShare Updating area to select the central folder you want to use. You must have the central folder mounted on your local computer to select it.

- **TCP/IP FTP.** Click this button to tell the Virex application to download new files from an FTP server on your network, or elsewhere on the Internet. By default, the Virex application will connect to the Network Associates FTP site to download new files. To change the default settings, follow these substeps:
 - a. Enter the fully qualified domain address in the Update Server text box in the TCP/IP FTP Updating area. You can enter either a domain name or a TCP/IP address here.
 - b. Enter a user name and password that has sufficient rights for FTP access to the server. If your server allows anonymous FTP access, enter `anonymous` in the User Name text box and any combination of characters in the Password text box. If you have an account designation necessary for access to the server, enter that information in the Account text box.
 - c. Specify which directory on the server the Virex application should go to in order to find new Virex files. By default, this text box lists a specific directory on the Network Associates FTP site.
 - d. If the FTP server from which you want to download new Virex files uses a different port designation for FTP connections, enter that value in the Port text box. By default, the Network Associates FTP site uses port 21.
- 5. To see the application's progress as it downloads a new Virus Definition file, select the Display Progress checkbox.
- 6. To save your settings and close the Virex Preferences dialog box, click Save. To close the dialog box without saving your changes, click Cancel. To restore the configuration options for electronic updating to those that came with the product, click Defaults.
- 7. To update your Virex files immediately, return to the Virex application main window, then click the eUpdate button .

The Virex application will immediately contact the server you specified in the Virex eUpdate Preferences module and download any new files it finds there. If your Virus Definition files are current, the application will tell you so. To stop the download, click  at any time during the operation.

Once you connect, the EUpdate utility will download and install your Virus Update files for you. The Virex application and control panel will begin to use the new files immediately.

Installing Virus Update files without EUpdate

Network Associates develops regular Virus Update files to combat new virus threats as they emerge. Each Virus Update file brings new detection and repair capabilities both to the Virex application, and to the Virex control panel. To ensure that you have the most effective protection available, download and install these update files as soon as Network Associates makes them available. You can use your favorite web browser or FTP client software to download new files from this FTP site:

<ftp://ftp.nai.com/pub/antivirus/datfiles/virex>

Network Associates stores new Virus Definition files on this site as BinHexed archives. If your browser or FTP client software does not automatically decode and unstuff the Virus Definition archives, you must use StuffIt, StuffIt Lite, or another compression utility that can read .hqx files and extract StuffIt archives to do so yourself. You can find the necessary utilities on most electronic services.

Next, locate the file you downloaded and extracted, then double-click it to start the update.

The Virex application will start and will update the Virus Definitions file in your Virex Preferences folder. The Virex application and Virex control panel will immediately begin using the updated virus definitions. Alternatively, you can open the Virex application, then choose Apply Update File from the File menu.

Network Associates recommends that you scan your system immediately to ensure that it does not have any of the new viruses that the update file detects.

-
- NOTE:** The latest Virus Update file includes all of the virus definitions available in previous Virus Definitions files.
-