

iFinger Distributed Software System (DSS) Whitepaper

Introduction

iFinger Distributed Software System (DSS), is iFinger's Network solution for small and medium sized companies. The main purpose with this solution is that distribution, installation and maintenance is easy and efficient and it requires almost no administration. The system includes a DSS server that handles the licence administration. This gives user rights to each user and the client installed dictionaries. There are no requirements to configuration of the client software. The preferred configuration can be predefined, and the setup of the clients is handled automatically from the server.



Software

The system includes three modules; the iFinger search engine, dictionaries and the DSS server. The DSS server must be installed on a Microsoft Windows platform, i.e. Microsoft Windows Server 2003, Microsoft Windows XP or similar, and must be available for clients at installation time. There is no need for a dedicated server. Measurement of availability is described in page 2.

When the server is installed you can configure the ifinger search engine installation set to the preferred configuration, either by an ifinger consultant or your local network administrator. The installation packages for the search engine and the dictionaries must then be made available for the clients either on a file server or as a part of an internal distribution system.

Distribution/ Installation

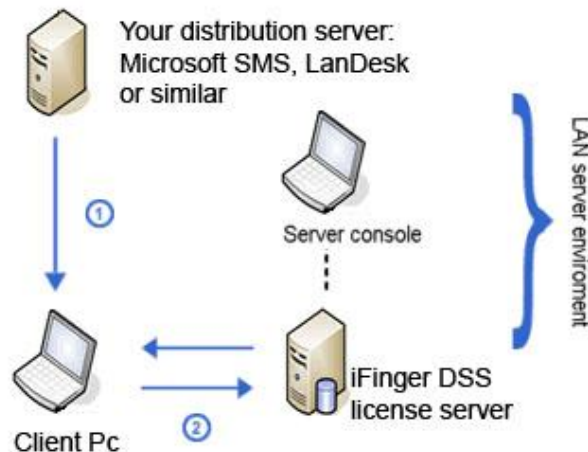


Fig. 1: standard LAN setup

The installation packages for the dictionaries can be configured individually with different compositions, so that the clients get the required dictionaries. After a successful installation it will occur at start-up a negotiation between the client and the server about the rights of use of the installed dictionaries. The server will count and check the number of free licences and draw a certificate for each client who approves access.

Microsoft Terminal Service

iFinger DSS can be installed in an Terminal Service environment. The client software uses Windows username as identification and access the DSS license server when a user connects to the terminal service. The server will respond with a certificate which is stored in the users profile on the terminal service host.

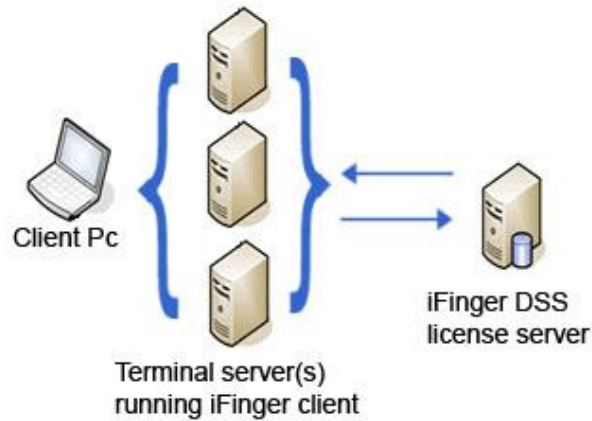


Fig. 2: possible terminal service setup

iFinger installed on a terminal server will work isolated with applications installed on the same server, and will not affect locally installed applications on the client pc.

Usage

When the clients receive the certificate they can start using the dictionaries. All dictionaries will be installed locally on each computer (portable or stationary), and this means that it's not depending of connection to a network.

Occasionally the clients need to connect to the network to renew his licence. This is handled automatically as a negotiation between the client and the server, and don't require any administration. The time frame for renewing the licence is a part of a contract between the customer and ifinger.

Maintenance

Necessary administration of the DSS is very limited. The DSS administrator can add/remove one or more dictionaries for a user, or completely remove a user from the server.

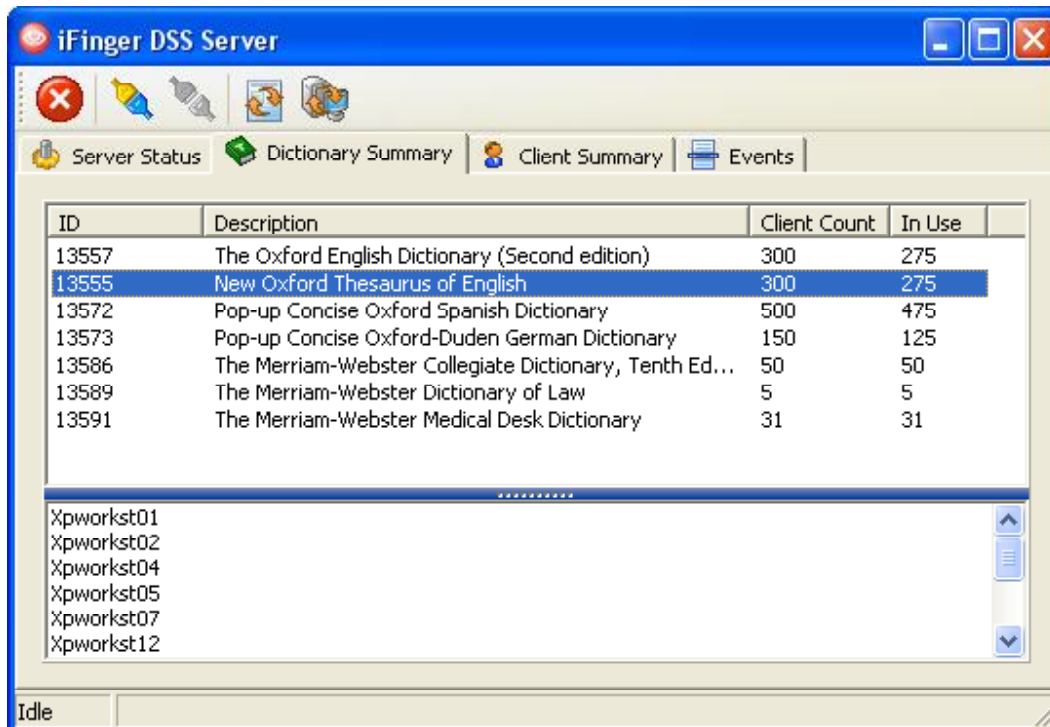


Fig. 3: Summary of number of licences and the ones in use.

If a client installation is removed and you want the licences to be available for other clients, this can be handled easily from the DSS configuration panel.

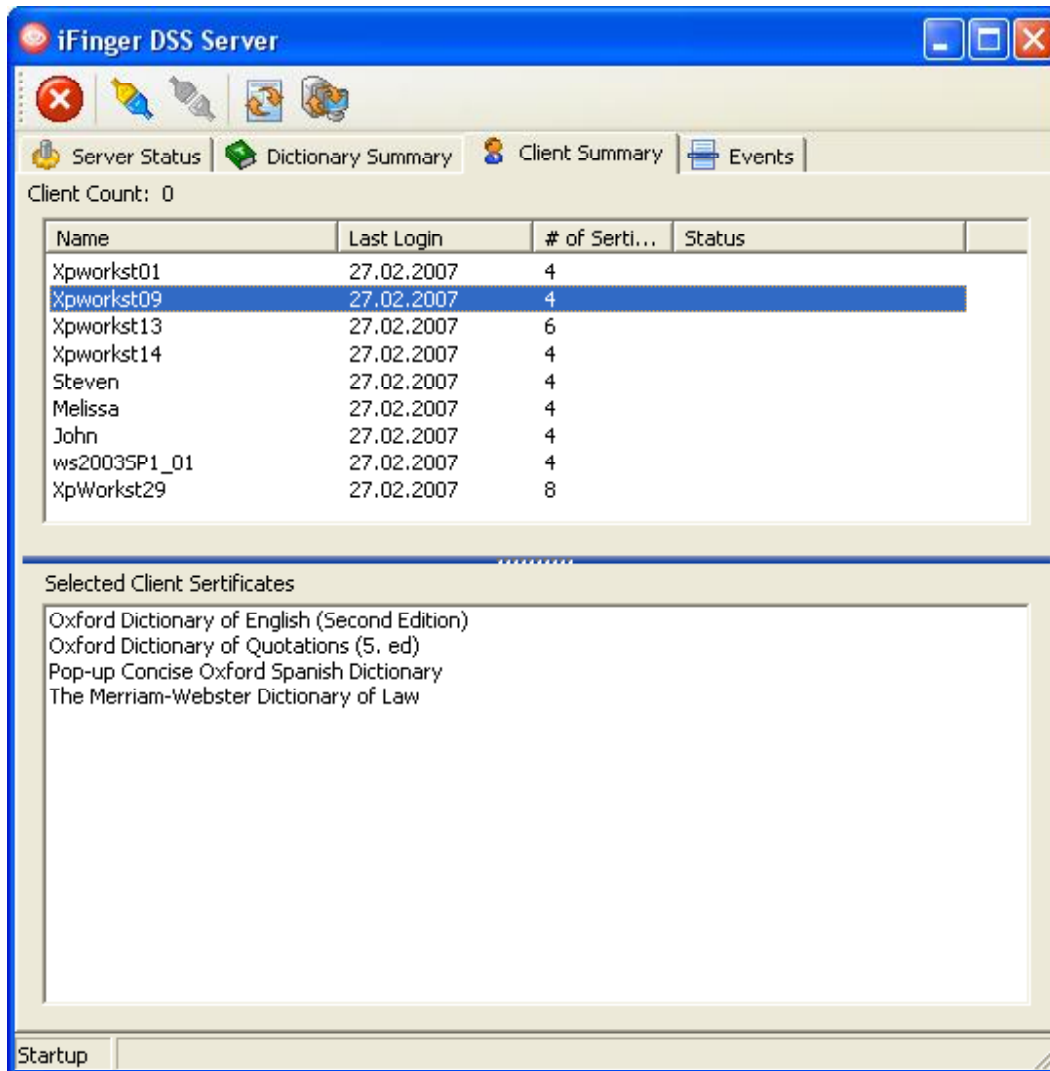


Fig. 4: Client administration panel.

Use this panel to remove a client and its dictionaries, or one single dictionary. The licence is now released so that another client can use it.