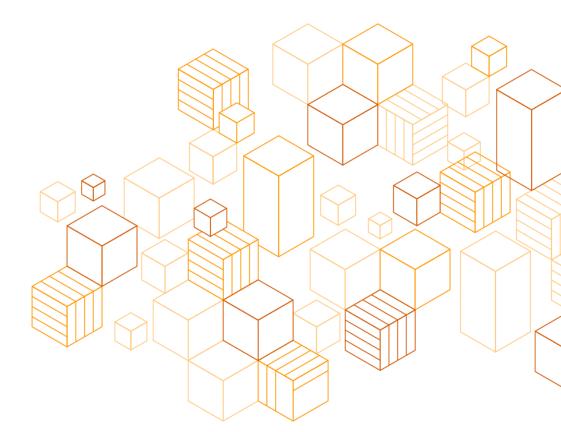
Studio in the Cloud

Add-on Tutorials

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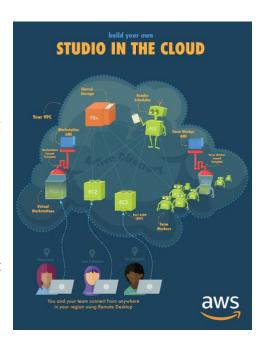
Tutorial 8: Add-On - Upgrading to Teradici for Desktop Streaming

Estimated Time to Complete: 40 minutes

Review of Studio in the Cloud

If you're reached this tutorial, you most likely have already completed our previous Studio in the Cloud tutorials in which we provided step-by-step instructions for setting up virtual workstations, cloud storage and cloud rendering. By the end of the 7 part series, you have a fully cloud-based studio that leverages the scale, power, and convenience of AWS.

Those tutorials are meant to provide you with the basic infrastructure for a cloud studio with the most straight forward implementation possible. However, it is by no means a stopping point. There are many additional ways to build onto and customize your studio.



Overview of this Tutorial

The purpose of this tutorial is to show you how to add the power of <u>Teradici</u> to your Studio in the Cloud. <u>Teradici Cloud Access Software</u> is a powerful solution for connecting to and streaming the desktops of your virtual workstations that is an alternative to Remote Desktop.

We'll walk you through the steps of adding Teradici as a desktop streaming solution to your existing Studio in the Cloud setup



Prerequisites

Complete the Previous Tutorials

This add-on tutorial assumes that you've already completed at least Tutorials 1-5 in our previous Studio in the Cloud tutorial series. If you are new to Studio in the Cloud, you can find the first tutorial here: <u>Studio in the Cloud Implementation Guide.</u>

If you have already completed the Studio in the Cloud tutorials, then you're all set to continue with the steps below.

Obtain a Teradici License

If you are already a Teradici customer and have a Cloud Access Plus license or registration code, all you need to do is locate it so that you can enter it during setup later.

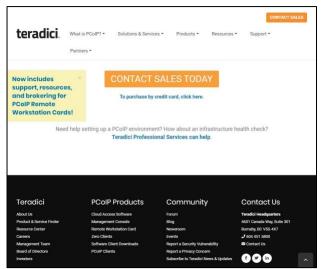
If you're not a Teradici customer, you have a few options:

- Use the Teradici Windows AMI from the AWS Marketplace
 - This AMI already has Teradici installed. Instead of requiring a license, the cost is built into the hourly pricing for the AMI. You pay an extra \$0.50/hour on top of the normal hourly price for your instance. However, starting with the Teradici AMI would also require you to re-install all the software from the previous Studio in the Cloud tutorials. For that reason, we won't be covering this option in this tutorial. Instead we'll walk you through installing Teradici yourself, which requires you to obtain a license using one of the methods below.
- Purchase a Teradici Subscription
 - o If you are ready to purchase Teradici, you can follow this link to their <u>Cloud Access Plus page</u>. At the bottom of the page are links to either contact Teradici sales or purchase with a credit card. If purchasing, make sure to choose the Cloud License Server option. Once your purchase is complete and you receive your registration code, keep it handy for later.
- Request a trial license



You can request a trial license by contacting Teradici sales using this form: https://connect.teradici.com/cas-demo. When filling out the form, make sure to mention that you are interested in the Graphics edition, which is required for the GPU-enabled instances you use for your workstations. After you have been contacted by Teradici sales and arrange to get a trial license, you will receive a registration code via email.

Once you have your Teradici registration code, you can move onto the steps below.





Startup Notes

We're going to add Teradici Cloud Access Software to your existing Windows workstation. As a starting point, we'll need to launch a fresh, new instance using your Windows Workstation launch template. Note: you may have named this "My-Studio-Workstation-LT" if you followed the naming convention in our previous tutorials.

Launch a New Instance from Your Windows Workstation Launch Template

- In the EC2 Dashboard navigate to your Launch Templates
- Select your Windows Workstation Launch Template (e.g., My-Studio-Workstation-LT), click the Actions menu and select Launch instance from template
- Select the most recent version in Source template version
- Leave number of instances at 1

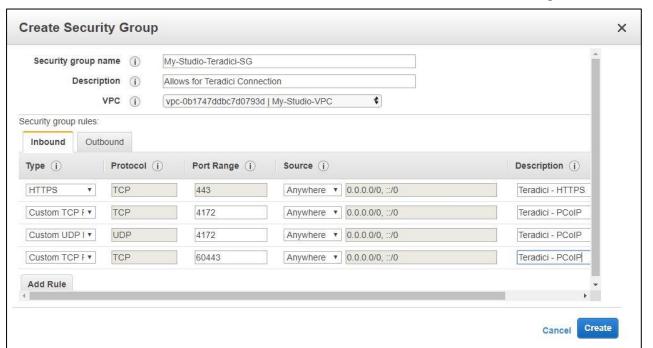


- In **Instance Tags**, change the **Name** value to **Workstation_Win_Teradici** and click the check boxes to tag the volumes as well.
- You can leave the rest of the launch template at its defaults and click Launch instance from template

Create a Teradici Security Group

While your fresh Windows workstation is starting up, you can create a new security group to allow the type of traffic needed by Teradici.

- Go to Services→ EC2
- Select Security Groups in the left side panel under Network & Security
- Click Create Security Group
- Choose a name for your security group (e.g., My-Studio-Teradici-SG)
- Set the Description to Allows for Teradici Connection
- Set the VPC to the VPC you created in the earlier Studio in the Cloud tutorials
 (e.g. My-Studio-VPC). You can also find this information on the <u>Important</u>
 <u>Information Cheat Sheet</u> that you filled out while completing the previous Studio in the Cloud tutorials.
- Make sure the **Inbound tab** is selected and then add the following rules:





Note: As in earlier tutorials, we are initially opening up this security group to inbound traffic from any IP address. However, if you limited your source IP addresses during your Studio in the Cloud setup, you'll want to do the same here.

If you will be accessing your instances over the public Internet, then after initial testing we recommend that you look into an <u>AWS Direct Connect</u> connection and/or VPN so that your connection will be private and secure. You may use third party VPN software, but AWS also provides a robust set of VPN solutions called <u>AWS VPN</u>. More information about how to connect to your VPC using VPN can be found <u>here</u>.

Click Create.

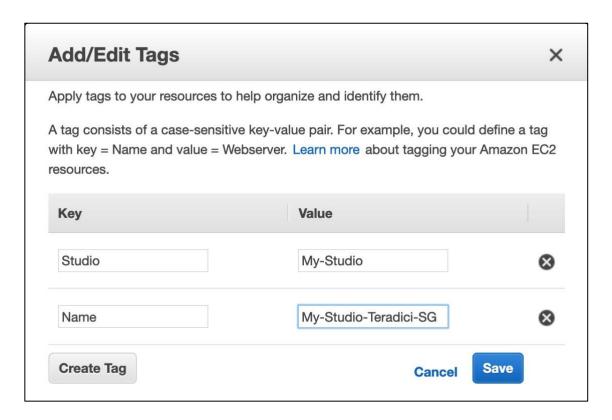
Add a Tag to Your Security Group

Just as we did for the other security groups in the tutorials, we should add "Studio" and "Name" tags to this new Teradici security group as well.

- Select your Teradici Security Group from the list. Because we haven't set a
 name tag yet, look under the Security group name column to identify the
 correct one.
- On the Tags tab in the bottom panel, click Add/Edit Tags
- In the Add/Edit Tags popup window, click Create Tag
- For Key enter Studio
- For **Value** enter the name you picked for your studio (e.g., My-Studio) *You can find your studio name on the cheat sheet.*
- Next, you'll add a Name for your security group. Click Create Tag again.
- For Key enter Name



• For **Value** enter a name for the security group (e.g., My-Studio-Teradici-SG)

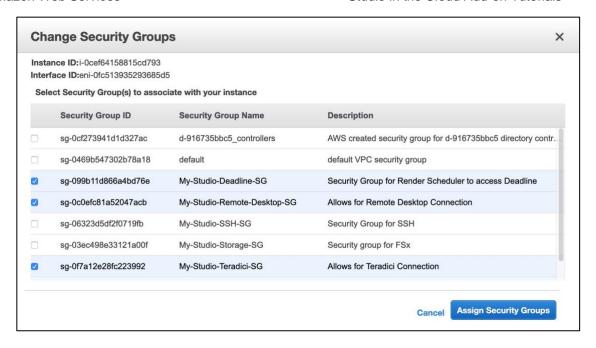


- When you're done, click Save
- Enter the name and Group ID of your Teradici security group on the Important Information Cheat Sheet. Because not everyone will be adding Teradici, there's not an existing section on the sheet to enter this information, but you can use the Notes section at the bottom to enter it on your own.

Assign New Security Group to Your Instance

- Click Instances in the left hand panel
- Select your Workstation Win Teradici instance
- Right-click and go to Networking→Change Security Groups
- Click the checkbox next to My-Studio-Teradici-SG
- Click Assign Security Groups





Log in to Your Workstation Instance

Just as we did in Tutorial 5 when we originally set up your Windows workstation, in order to install Teradici Cloud Access Software on your instance, you'll need to log in as **Administrator**.

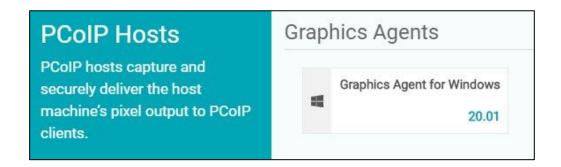
- Once your new instance has initialized and passed 2/2 checks, log into it as Administrator:
 - Select your Workstation Win Teradici instance and click Connect
 - Click Download the Remote Desktop File
 - Open Remote Desktop
 - The username should already be set to Administrator. In Tutorial 3, we manually set the Administrator password to match your Active Directory Admin password, so you can just enter that here without having to click Get Password. You can also find your Active Directory Admin password under the Tutorial 2 section of the cheat sheet.
 - Note: Sometimes it takes an extra few minutes after 2/2 checks are passed for the instance to be fully ready to login. If your first login attempt fails, wait a few minutes and try again.



Install Teradici on the Workstation Instance

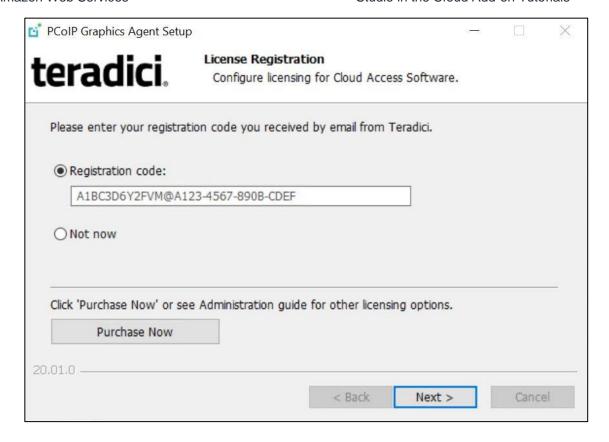
You'll need to download the latest version of the Teradici Cloud Access Software from their website to your new workstation instance. <u>Note</u>: At the time of writing, the latest version was 20.01, but the version you see may be higher.

- Open Firefox on your instance and navigate to the <u>Teradici Cloud Access</u> <u>Software webpage</u>.
- In the PCoIP Hosts section, click Graphics Agent for Windows



- In the popup window, click Download
- Scroll through (and read) the end user license agreement and click Agree and download
- Save the installer and then run it when the download is complete
 - Choose your language and click **OK**
 - Click Next and then click I Agree to accept the end user license agreement
 - Leave the destination folder at the default and click Install
 - Enter your Registration code and click Next





- If you recently purchased a subscription or were given a trial license, you should have gotten an email with your registration code. If you are an existing Teradici customer, whoever manages your account should be able to provide you with your code.
- If you did not previously purchase a subscription and want to do so now, click Purchase Now and select Cloud Access +
- If you use a proxy server for Internet access, enter its address and port number. Otherwise, just click Next.
- Leave Reboot now selected and click Finish
- Your Remote Desktop session will disconnect and your instance will start rebooting.

Download Client to Your Local Machine

In order to connect to your instance, you'll need to download and install the Teradici client software to your local computer.



- On your local computer, go back to the <u>Teradici Cloud Access Software</u> webpage.
- In the PCoIP Clients section, download the version of the Software Client for the OS of your local machine.



- As before, in the popup window, click **Download**, accept the end use license agreement and click **Agree and download**
- Save the installer to your local machine and then run it when the download is complete
 - Proceed through the installation prompts as you did for the Graphics
 Agent. If you would like a desktop shortcut, make sure to check the box next to that option at the end of the install process.

Connect Using Teradici

Now that you have the graphics agent installed on your instance and the software client installed locally, you're all ready to connect to your workstation instance!



 Run the client software on your local computer by double-clicking the desktop shortcut or by going to Start—Teradici—PCoIP Client (Windows)



- In the Host Address or Code field, enter the Public IP address of your Workstation instance.
 - You can locate the public IP address of your instance by going to the list of running instances in the AWS Console, selecting the instance and looking in the Description tab.
- In **Connection Name**, enter a name for this connection (e.g., Workstation-Win)
- Click Next
- If you get a popup that says "Cannot verify your connection", click Connect Insecurely to continue
 - Note: Windows sees the connection as insecure, but because the PCoIP protocol used by Teradici is inherently secure, your connection is still completely safe. From a <u>Teradici support page</u>:



1

Note: About insecure connections

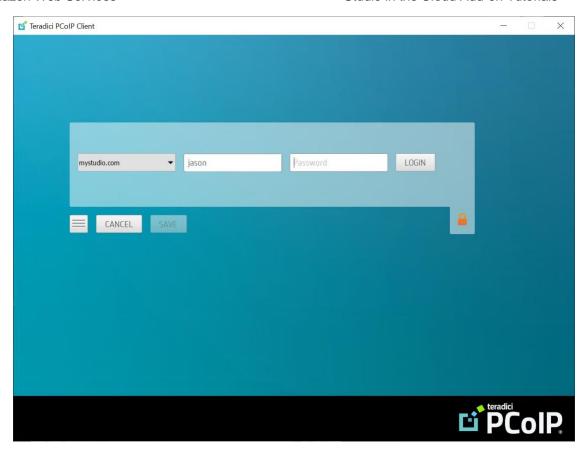
Windows sees this connection as insecure because the PCoIP Agent uses a self-signed certificate and not one signed by a trusted certificate authority. **The PCoIP session is inherently secure, so connecting this way is safe.** If you would like to avoid this step in the future, you can create your own certificate and install the appropriate files on the remote machine and your PCoIP clients.

o For links to more information about Teradici security, see the Appendix.

• Enter the **Username** and **Password**

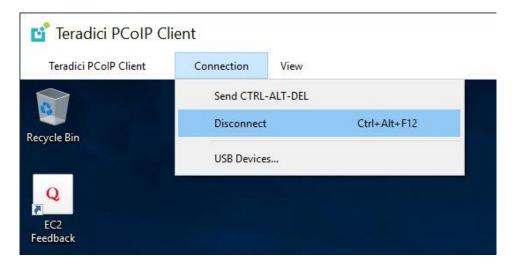
- Try logging in as a user (e.g., jason). Your Active Directory DNS name (e.g., mystudio.com) should already be selected in the drop down on the left, so there is no need to enter it before the username.
- Note: Sometimes it takes an extra moment after rebooting for your instance to reconnect to Active Directory. If you don't see your Active Directory DNS name in the drop down on the left, exit the Teradici client, wait a minute then try again.





- Click **Login** to connect to your instance
- Once connected, Teradici works much like Remote Desktop. A new window will open that shows the desktop of your instance.
 - One difference from Remote Desktop is how to disconnect your session. For now, keep your Teradici session open so that you can start creating a Teradici AMI in the next section.
 - In the future, when you want to end your Teradici session, you will select Connection in the Teradici windows's menu bar, then select Disconnect



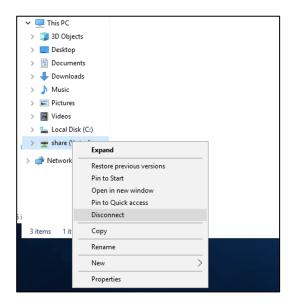


Create a Teradici AMI and Launch Template

Since you now have Teradici working on one Windows workstation instance, we're going to create a new AMI and launch template to make it really easy to launch new workstations that will already be set up and ready to go.

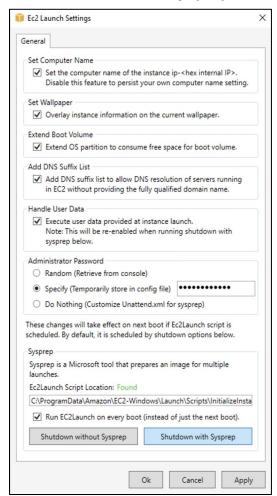
Preparing Your Instance

- Disconnect from your FSx Drive (Z:)
 - Open the File Explorer
 - Under This PC on the left, right-click the Z: choose Disconnect





- Go to the Start Menu and launch Ec2LaunchSettings
- You may be prompted to enter the Admin user (e.g., Admin) and password for your domain
- After the Ec2 Launches Settings window opens (it may take a minute), check the following:
 - Make sure Set Computer Name is selected
 - Check that Administrator Password is set to Specify and input the Administrator Password for your Active Directory(e.g. password for mystudio\Admin)
- Select Run EC2Launch on every boot
- Click Shutdown with Sysprep





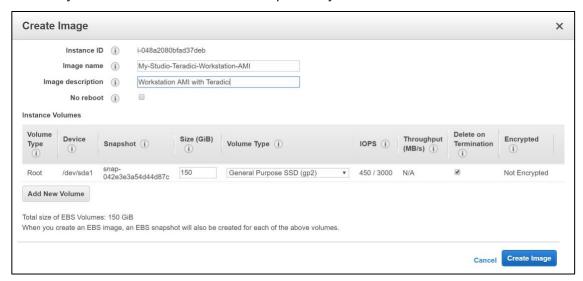
- Click Yes
- This will shut down your instance after a few processes run. <u>Note</u>: It can take a few minutes for Sysprep to run and shut down the instance. Don't worry if it looks like nothing is happening, it will eventually finish and shut down on its own.

Create Teradici Workstation AMI

Navigate back to the EC2 Dashboard and find
the Workstation_Win_Teradici instance that has just been shut down. Note: If
the instance state is still listed as running, refresh the page in your browser to
see the updated status. Wait until the status is listed as stopped before
continuing to the next step.



- Right-click the instance and choose Image → Create Image
- Give it an appropriate name (e.g., My-Studio-Teradici-Workstation-AMI)
- Give your workstation AMI a description if you want.



- Click Create Image, then click Close.
- In the green confirmation message, click the View pending image link



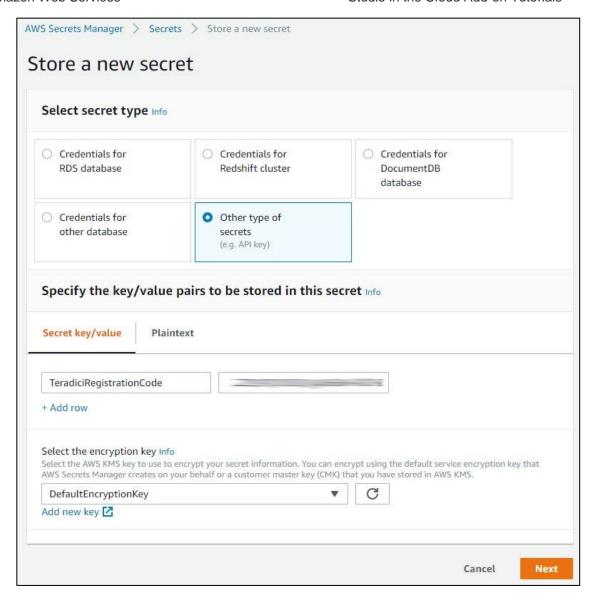
- The AMI will take 5-10 minutes to become available. While you're waiting, do the following:
 - Create at a **Studio** tag (e.g., My-Studio) and **Name** tag (e.g., My-Studio-Teradici-Workstation-AMI) for your AMI.
 - Create a new secret for your Teradici registration code, see instructions below.

Create a New Secret for Your Registration Code

Each new instance you launch needs to be registered as a host before Teradici will work. Instead of requiring you to re-enter the registration code each time you launch an instance, we're going to create a secret in Secrets Manager to securely store it. Then we'll add some lines to the user data of the launch template to automatically retrieve that code and register the new instance as a host.

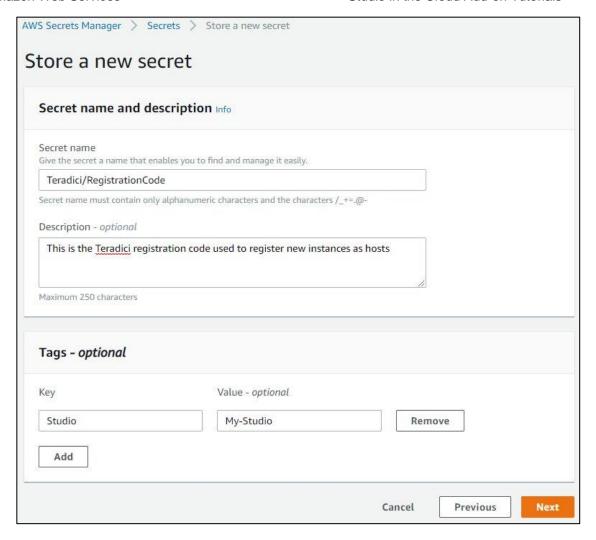
- Go to Services → Security, Identity, & Compliance → Secrets Manager
- Click Store a new secret
- Under Select secret type, select Other type of secrets
- Under Specify the key/value pairs to be stored in this secret enter a key/value pair for your Teradici registration code
 - o In the first field, enter a key name of **TeradiciRegistrationCode**
 - In the field to the right of that, enter the Teradici registration code that you used when installing Teradici on your workstation instance
 - At the bottom of the page, under Select the encryption key, check that DefaultEncryptionKey is selected.





- Click Next.
- Under Secret name, enter Teradici/RegistrationCode
- Enter an optional description
- Under Tags optional, enter Key: Studio and Value: <name of your studio> (e.g., My-Studio)





- Click Next.
- Under Configure automatic rotation, check that Disable automatic rotation is selected.
- Click Next.
- Review the information for your secret and if all looks well, click **Store** at the bottom of the page.

Check that Your AMI Is Ready

Before creating a launch template, you need to make sure that the AMI you created above is ready.

Go to Services → EC2

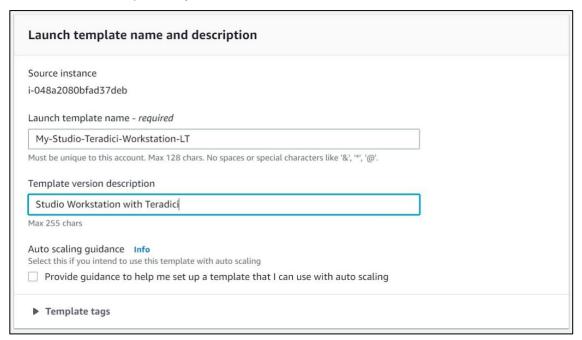


- Click AMIs in the left panel
- Find your Teradici AMI in the list of AMIs. Once the status is listed as available, you're good to go

Create Workstation Launch Template

Now that your secret has been stored and your AMI is ready, you can create a Teradici launch template.

- Click Instances in the left panel
- Right-click your Workstation_Win_Teradici instance and choose Create
 Template From Instance
- Name your launch template (e.g., My-Studio-Teradici-Workstation-LT).
- Give it a description if you want



 You will need to change the AMI ID to point to the one that you previously created

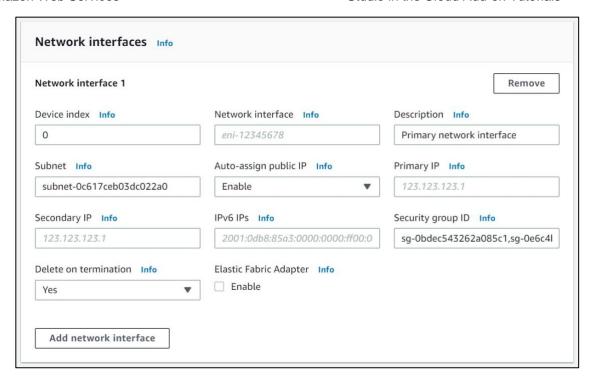


 In the AMI dropdown, scroll down to the My AMIs section and then select the Teradici Workstation AMI (e.g., My-Studio-Teradici-Workstation-AMI) that you just made.



- Under Network interfaces, set Auto-assign public IP to Enable, otherwise you
 will not be able to connect to the instances you launch
- Also under Network interfaces, check Security Group ID field and make sure that ids for the following three security groups are listed:
 - o your **Deadline Security Group** (e.g., My-Studio-Deadline-SG)
 - your Remote Desktop Security Group (e.g., My-Studio-Remote-Desktop-SG)
 - o and your **Teradici Security Group** (e.g., My-Studio-Teradici-SG)
 - If any security group is missing, add it now, being careful to put a comma between security group IDs
 - Note: If you don't anticipate needing to use Remote Desktop to connect to your instances anymore, then you may remove the Remote Desktop Security Group from the list of Security Group IDs for increased security.





• Open Advanced Details

 In **User data**, expand the size of the entry field to make it easier to read by clicking and dragging on the bottom right corner:



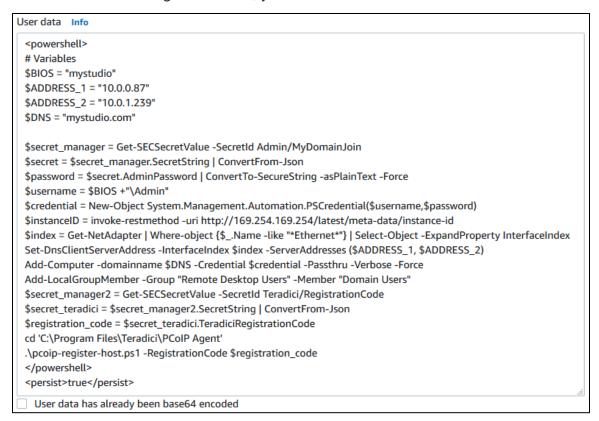
<shift>+click the image below to open a new browser tab with the text that needs to be entered into the User data entry field:



launch-template_user-data_01.txt - <shift>+click the image above to open the text file in a new tab



- Cut and paste the text from the browser tab into the **User data** entry field, adding it <u>after</u> the "Add-LocalGroupMember" line, <u>but before</u> the "</powershell>" line.
- After adding those lines, your user data will look similar to this:



- The new lines that we've added will retrieve your Teradici registration code from Secrets Manager and run a command to register this new instance as a Teradici host.
- Click Create launch template

You can use your new launch template to launch new Teradici-enabled Windows workstations whenever you need. They will be all ready to connect to with the Teradici client, no further set up needed.

Launch a New Teradici Workstation

• Go to Services → EC2 and click Launch Templates in the left panel



- Select your Workstation launch template (e.g., My-Studio-Teradici-Workstation-LT). Refer to your cheat sheet, if needed.
- Choose Actions → Launch instance from template
- Select the version (if this is your first time running through the tutorial you'll select version 1)
- Choose Launch instance from template
- Go back to Services → EC2 click Instances (running)
- When the instance is done initializing and shows 2/2 checks passed, you can use the Teradici client to log into using the <u>same procedure as before</u>.
 - Note: As a reminder, sometimes it takes an extra few minutes after 2/2 checks are passed for the instance to be fully ready to login. If your first login attempt fails, wait a few minutes and try again.
- Once you confirm that your new Workstation_Win_Teradici instance is running correctly, you can disconnect from it by selecting **Connection** in the Teradici window's menu bar, then **Disconnect**





Troubleshooting

If you ever get a license error when attempting to connect to an instance via the Teradici client, you can try re-registering it as a host to fix the problem.



Sometimes this can happen if you have only one Teradici demo license that was previously active on another virtual workstation and then try to activate it on a new workstation. Regardless of the exact situation, the instructions below should get things working again.

Re-register an Instance as a Teradici Host

- Connect to your instance using Remote Desktop
- Login as Administrator, using your Active Directory Admin password
- Launch PowerShell
- Navigate to the PCoIP Agent folder by running:

 $\verb"cd'C:\Program Files\Teradici\PCoIP Agent"$

.\pcoip-register-host.ps1 -RegistrationCode XXXXXXXXXXXX@YYYY-YYYY-YYYY

- Restart your instance
- After the instance has restarted, reconnect using Teradici



Optimizing Teradici for Your Network

There are a number of settings for the Teradici Graphics Agent that you can use to optimize performance for your local network. More information on the different settings can be found on Teradici's support page: <u>Teradici Graphics Agent Configuration Guide</u>.

Review

In this tutorial, you installed Teradici Cloud Access Software on a Windows workstation instance so that you can enjoy high performance desktop streaming. You also created a new AMI and launch template so that you can easily launch as many Teradici-enabled Windows workstations as you need.

Shut Down Notes

If you no longer need the Teradici workstation instance that you used to create the new AMI and launch template, you can terminate it at this time. Otherwise you can restart that instance and assign it to yourself or one of your artists.

Appendix

Links to AWS Documentation

- AWS Direct Connect
- AWS VPN
- VPN Connections to AWS VPC

Links to Other Resources

- Teradici Cloud Access Software
- Getting Started Guide Connecting with a PCoIP Client
- What is PCoIP Technology?
- Cloud Access Software Security Features
- PCoIP Software Client Security Modes
- Installing Certificates on PCoIP Client for Windows



• Teradici Graphics Agent Configuration Guide



Tutorial 9: Add-On - Using a Linux Instance for a Render Scheduler

Estimated Time to Complete: 2 hours

Review of Studio in the Cloud for Digital Content Creation

In our previous 7-part getting started series of tutorials we provided step-by-step instructions for setting up your own fully cloud-based studio for digital content creation. Those tutorials covered a basic setup of virtual workstations, cloud storage and cloud rendering, however there are many ways to expand and customize your studio to meet your production needs.

Linux vs. Windows Render Scheduler

The Render Scheduler instance that you set up in the previous tutorials will be running for most of the life of your studio, so it makes sense to figure out how to control the cost of that instance as much as possible. One way to do that is to use a **Linux** instance instead of **Windows** as they tend to be cheaper - often saving as much as 50%.

Setting up your Render Scheduler as a Linux instance is very similar to how you set up your Windows-based Render Scheduler - with the main difference being that you cannot connect to a Linux instance with Remote Desktop. Instead, we're going to take advantage of Amazon's **NICE DCV** - a high performance desktop and application streaming protocol. Not only will it handle both Windows *and* Linux instances, but it also has a raft of other great features, including:

- Multi-screen support Lets you expand the session desktop across up to four monitors.
- **Collaboration** Provides dynamic sessions that support multiple collaborative clients. Clients can connect and disconnect at any time during the session.
- Support for USB, smart card, and stylus remotization (Windows / Linux Only)— Lets you use your peripherals in a NICE DCV session just like you would on your local computer.



- GPU sharing (Linux NICE DCV servers only) Lets you share one or more
 physical GPUs between multiple virtual sessions running on a Linux NICE DCV
 server.
- Lossless quality video compression Supports lossless quality video compression when the network and processor conditions allow.
- No cost solution There is no additional cost for using NICE DCV on AWS, you only pay the normal cost of the EC2 Linux instance.

Overview of this Tutorial

This tutorial will teach you how to launch a Linux instance, connect to it via DCV, install a new Deadline Repository and update your workers and workstations to connect to it.

Prerequisites

Complete the Previous Tutorials

This tutorial is based off the **Studio in the Cloud for Digital Content Creation** tutorial series. If you haven't completed that series, we highly recommend you do, as we will be utilizing much of the architecture we have already created. You can find the first tutorial here: <u>Studio in the Cloud Implementation Guide</u>.

Download the DCV client

In order to connect to your Linux instance with DCV, you will need to download the DCV client software to your local computer. You can find download links for Windows, Linux and MacOS here: NICE DCV Clients. Click the OS that you want to use to go to specific download and installation instructions.

Using AWS Marketplace AMIs

Instead of installing the NICE DCV software from scratch on a basic Linux instance, we're going to start with an Amazon Machine Image (AMI) from the AWS Marketplace. To review, an AMI contains a specific configuration of operating system and other software for your instance. In past tutorials we created AMIs for specific instance types in your studio, such as User Management and Windows Workstations.

The AWS Marketplace hosts thousands of AMIs that have already been created with specific software installed. Using one of these AMIs can save you the time and hassle

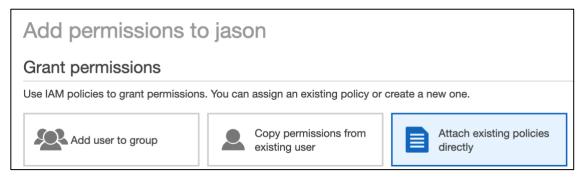


of installing and configuring software on your own. In this case, we're going to start with a Marketplace AMI that already has the NICE DCV Server installed.

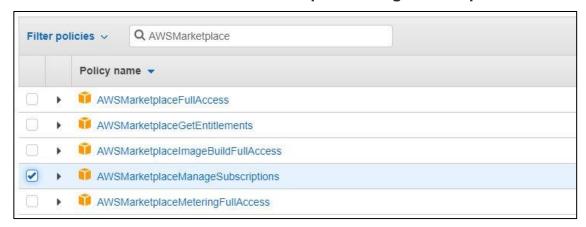
Before you can launch a Linux instance using that Marketplace AMI, you'll need to add some extra permissions to your user.

Add Marketplace Permissions to Your User

- Go to Services→Security, Identity, & Compliance→IAM
- In the navigation panel on the left, select Users
- Click the user for your account
- Click Add permissions
- Click Attach existing policies directly



- Search for AWSMarketplace
- Click the checkbox next to AWSMarketplaceManageSubscriptions



Click Next:Review



Click Add permissions

Connect to a Linux Instance with DCV

Now that you have permissions to access the DCV Marketplace AMI, we're going to launch a Linux instance and make sure we can connect to it via the DCV client.

Launch an EC2 Instance

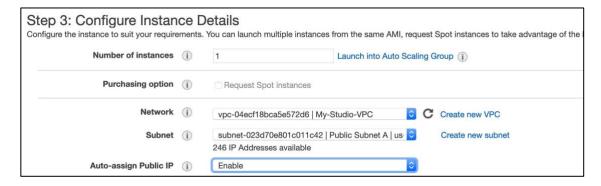
- Go to Services→ EC2 and click Instances (running) to see a list of your running instances
- Click Launch Instances
- Type Nice DCV for Amazon Linux 2 in the search bar where you're choosing your Amazon Machine Image
- Click AWS Marketplace to list only instances that exist in the AWS Marketplace
- Click Select next to NICE DCV for Amazon Linux 2



- A pricing list for the various instance types will come up, showing you what the costs will be.
- Click Continue
- Choose an m5.xlarge instance type. If this isn't powerful enough, you can always increase it later. Note: If you don't see the m5.xlarge as an option, click the "Previous" button and then click "Cancel" to return to the list of AMIs. Be sure to select "NICE DCV for Amazon Linux 2" and not "NICE DCV for Amazon Linux 2 (ARM)".
- Click Next: Configure Instance Details
 - Set the **Network** to your VPC (e.g., My-Studio-VPC)
 - Set the Subnet to Public Subnet A



Set Auto-Assign IP to Enable



Set your IAM Role to EC2DomainJoin



- Click Next: Add Storage
 - Set your Volume Size to 100 (GiB)



- Click Next: Add Tags
- Click Next: Add Tags and then add tags for Studio and Name
 - Set Studio to My-Studio
 - Set Name to Render Scheduler Linux
- Click Next: Configure Security Groups



- This setting is already pre-populated with a default security group for connecting via DCV. For now, we'll leave the rules alone and add the other required security groups later.
- Leave the setting as Create a new security group
- Change the Security group name to My-Studio-NICE-DCV-SG
- Leave the **Description** as is
- You will see warnings at the bottom of the screen about not being able to connect to the instance and recommending limiting access to known IP addresses.
 - We'll be adding another security group to this instance later that will allow you to connect to it.

Note: As in earlier tutorials, we are initially opening up this security group to inbound traffic from any IP address. However, if you limited your source IP addresses during your Studio in the Cloud setup, you'll want to do the same here. If you will be accessing your instances over the public Internet, then after initial testing we recommend that you look into an AWS Direct Connect connection and/or VPN so that your connection will be private and secure. You may use third party VPN software, but AWS also provides a robust set of VPN solutions called AWS VPN. More information about how to connect to your VPC using VPN can be found here.

Click Review and Launch

- Click Launch to launch your instance
- Choose the **key pair** that you created when you originally set up your Studio in the Cloud and then click **Launch Instances**. If you don't remember the name of the key pair you created, you can find it at the bottom of the Tutorial 1 section of the <u>Important Information Cheat Sheet</u>.
- Once your instance has started launching, you'll receive a Launch Status page.



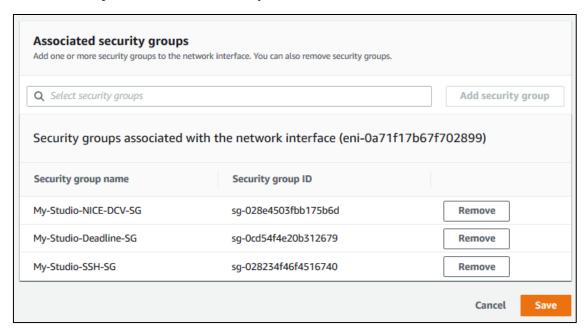


On this page is a link to Usage Instructions that will tell you how to get started
with NICE DCV. Click View Usage Instructions. Feel free to read through the
instructions to get an idea of what we're going to next. Don't worry, we're going
to step you through everything below to ensure your instance is ready to use.

Check Security Group

In order to connect with DCV, you need to make sure the instance security groups allow **inbound traffic** to **TCP port 8443**. Luckily, the default security group allows for that port! However, we will need to add two additional security groups to allow us to connect to the instance and open the ports needed for Deadline so that it can be used as a Render Scheduler.

- Go to Services→ EC2 and click Instances (running) to see a list of your running instances.
- Select Render Scheduler Linux
- Choose Actions → Security → Change security groups
- Add **My-Studio-Deadline-SG** so you can open all the required deadline ports.
- Add My-Studio-SSH-SG so you can connect to the instance via SSH.



Click Save



Make Sure the Instance Can Access the License File

In order to get access to the DCV license file, your instance IAM profile must have access to the Internet and be able access the required S3 Endpoint. The usage instructions for the NICE DCV AMI have documentation on how to set that up, but we'll walk you through what you need to check below. If you'd like to look at the official instructions for reference, you can find them

here: https://docs.aws.amazon.com/dcv/latest/adminguide/setting-up-license.html.

Let's check if our current setup has access or not. Essentially, the documentation wants you to give the instance these permissions:

Permissions – *Note:* <*shift*>+*click the image to open the text in a new tab.*

What that's saying is that we want to **allow** the instance to be able to **get** an **s3 Object** from a specific resource - in this case a specific DCV license.

Let's look at our current instance and see if we already have permissions that match this.

- Back in the list of Running Instances, select your Render Scheduler -Linux instance.
- In the **Details** tab on the bottom of the page, find **IAM Role**.
- Click EC2DomainJoin
 - This will take you to a summary of the IAM policies attached to your instance.





- Click AmazonS3ReadOnlyAccess
- Click **JSON** to see what the json definition looks like.

AmasonS3ReadOnlyAccess JSON settings

As you can see from the **Actions** listed, we have permission for all actions that start with "s3:Get*", and the DCV docs say we need permission for "s3:GetObject". Theoretically, we should already have the permission we need, so there's nothing additional we need to do here.

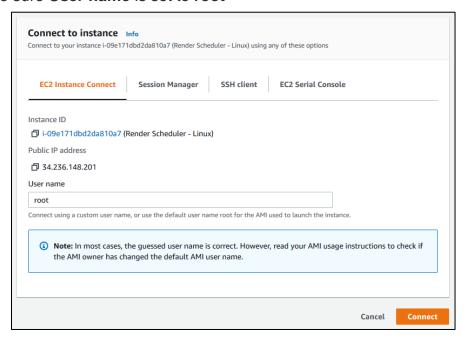
Connect to the Render Scheduler - Linux Instance with SSH

Now it's time to connect to the remote machine via **SSH** and get it ready to connect via DCV. This process will seem very similar to you if you remember how we set up the Linux worker instances in <u>Tutorial 6: Setting Up a Linux Farm Worker and Spot Fleet Request</u>.

Go to Services → EC2



- Click **Instances (running)** to see your list of running instances.
- Check that your Render Scheduler Linux instance is running and has passed 2/2 checks, then Select it.
- Click Connect
- Choose EC2 Instance Connect
- Make sure User name is set to root



- Click Connect
- A window will open with access to your instance. <u>Note</u>: The browser-based SSH connection will automatically timeout after a few minutes of inactivity and the window will become unresponsive. If that happens to you, close the connection window and open a new one.
- Run the following command to update the install.

yum -y update

o Note: It may take a minute or two for the update to complete running.



Set the Password for root

One difference between the Linux-based Render Scheduler and the Windows one is that your login will be different. For Linux, we'll be using the user **root** instead of **Administrator**. Thus, we need to create a password for this user.

• Run the passwd command:

passwd root

• Enter a password for root that you can remember. You may opt to choose the same password as your Active Directory Admin password. But if not, be sure to enter the new password in the Notes section of your cheat sheet.

Create a DCV Session

Now it's time to prepare your instance to be connected to. To do this, you'll need to create a "session":

Type the following command to create a session

dcv create-session render-scheduler -- owner root

- Note: you can name your session whatever you wish. In this case, we're naming it "render-scheduler" so we know what this session will be used for.
- If you'd like more information on managing NICE DCV sessions, refer to this documentation: Managing NICE DCV Sessions

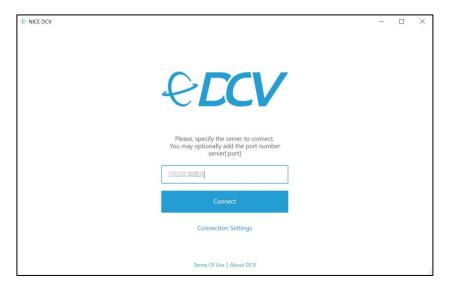
Connect to Your DCV Session

- Back in the AWS Console, select your Render Scheduler Linux instance from the list
- In the Description tab below, copy the IPv4 Public IP Address.

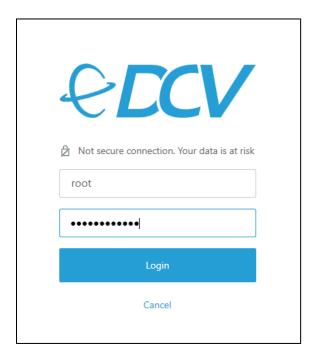




- Run the DCV Client on your local computer
- Paste the Public IP Address that you copied above into the Hostname/IP Address field.



- Click Connect
- When it pops up a warning about the connection not being secure, click Trust (or Proceed if on MacOS)
- Enter your **Username** as **root**, and **Password** with the password you set earlier.





- Click Login
- You are now connected to your Linux instance via the DCV Client!



Make Sure DCV Always Runs

In this example we *manually* created a session in order to connect to DCV. For the purpose of our Studio in the Cloud, we would rather the DCV service started *automatically*, ensuring we can start and stop the machine and still connect via DCV.

Enable the DCV Service

- Load a terminal in the DCV Session by going to Applications → Favorites →
 Terminal
- Execute the following code to make sure the DCV Service starts automatically.

systemctl enable dcvserver

 Note: Pasting with <ctrl>+v does not work with the Terminal app on your Linux instance, but you can right-click and select "Paste" instead.



Create a Script to Start the Session

Next, we'll need to ensure that the session starts automatically when our instance restarts. To do this we're going to create our own service similar to the one we enabled above, except it will be our own code that gets run every time the system starts!

To do this, we'll first create a bash script that will start our session for us. If you're not comfortable editing text with **vi**, you may want to download a more visual text editor. It's relatively easy to install **gedit** on your instance, so if you'd like to you can do that now.

yum -y install gedit

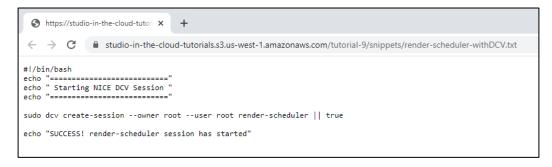
- Now from a shell, create a file called render-scheduler.sh
 with either gedit or vi. If you need a refresher on vi commands, see this
 webpage: <u>Vi Cheat Sheet</u>. gedit is a GUI-based editor, so it may be more
 intuitive to use if you're not familiar with vi.
 - If you're using vi:

vi /usr/bin/render-scheduler.sh

If you're using gedit:

gedit /usr/bin/render-scheduler.sh

Enter the following code into the text editor and save it.



render-scheduler.sh – *Note:* <*shift>+click the image to open the text in a new tab.*

Save and quit. Once the file is saved, you'll need to make it executable.

chmod +x /usr/bin/render-scheduler.sh

 This file will start the render-scheduler dcv session whenever it's executed. Let's give it a try:



/usr/bin/render-scheduler.sh

Did you receive an error stating it had trouble creating the session? Since we
manually ran the same "sudo dcv create-session" command earlier to create a
DCV session, we're getting an error that one already exists. But when our
instance restarts that command will only get run once by the script we just
created, so everything will be fine.

Create the Service to Run the Script

The next step is to create the **service** that will execute this file every time the instance is started. The nice thing about working this way is that we can modify this file to add more options any time we want and it will be executed again whenever the system is restarted. It's similar to the user data settings we have on the instance, but in this case it's much more controllable.

- Create the service file using either gedit or vi:
 - If you're using vi:

vi /etc/systemd/system/render-scheduler.service

If you're using gedit:

gedit /etc/systemd/system/render-scheduler.service

Enter the following code into the text editor and save it.

```
1
2  [Unit]
3  Description=Start DCV Render Scheduler session service.
4
5  [Service]
6  Type=simple
7  ExecStart=/bin/bash /usr/bin/render-scheduler.sh
8
9  [Install]
10  WantedBy=multi-user.target
11
```

render-scheduler.service – Note: <shift>+click the image to open the text in a new tab.

- This is a relatively simple service that will simply execute the file we created earlier (/usr/bin/render-scheduler.sh).
- o The key here is the line **ExecStart** that tells the service what script to run.



- Quit the editor after the file is saved.
- Next we'll start the service

systemctl start render-scheduler

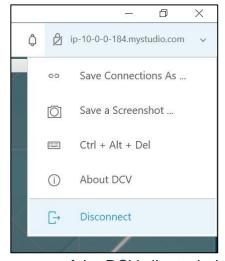
And then make sure it will start automatically on boot.

systemctl enable render-scheduler

Check that the Service Is Working

If this has all been set up correctly, you should be able to stop your instance, start it again, and then connect to the new IP address using the DCV client, without having to manually start the session.

• **Disconnect** your session by clicking on the drop down menu in the upper right



corner of the DCV client window or by closing the client altogether

- Go EC2 → Instances
- Select the Render Scheduler Linux instance
- Choose Instance state → Stop instance
- After the instance has stopped, choose **Instance State** → **Start instance**
- Once the instance has spun up and is ready to use, copy the **public IP address**.



- Note: The public IP address will change every time the instance stops and then starts. If you want to maintain the same public IP address, this is possible through something called an Elastic IP Address.
- Open the DCV Client and connect to the new public IP address
- Log in using root and the password from before.
- If you were able to start a session congratulations! You've successfully created a Linux service to automatically create a DCV Session! We'll be working with this service a bit later to do more magic as well.

Troubleshooting

- If you weren't able to reconnect your DCV session, try connecting to the instance using the SSH techniques in the beginning of the tutorial. Then make sure all your code was entered correctly.
- If your Linux session is left idle for too long, it may go to the lock screen. If that happens you will need to re-enter the password for root to unlock the session.
 The lock screen looks like this:



To unlock, hit the <enter> key or start typing your password and the password entry prompt should appear:





Join Active Directory

- To join Active Directory from your Linux Render Scheduler run these commands.
 Make sure you update the red text to match the name of your Active
 Directory. You'll be replacing the two instances of "mystudio.com" with your Active Directory's DNS Name.
- Load a terminal in the DCV Session by going to Applications → Favorites →
 Terminal
- Enter the commands below, making sure to swap out "mystudio.com" for your Active Directory's DNS name, if different. You can find the DNS name under Tutorial 2 on the cheat sheet.
- First install the specific tools to make it possible to connect to Active Directory.

yum -y install sssd realmd krb5-workstation samba-common-tools

Then join Active Directory

realm join -U Admin@mystudio.com mystudio.com --verbose

 You should receive a message that says: Successfully discovered: mystudio.com (or your DNS name, if different)



- Type in the password for your Active Directory and you will see a message that says: Successfully enrolled machine in realm
- In preparation for the next step, it is recommended to perform a mkdir in /mnt/ to create a directory for the FSx mount.

mkdir /mnt/studio

Mount FSx File System

• First run this command to install some utilities:

yum -y install cifs-utils

 Next run the command below and enter the Active Directory Admin password when prompted. Make sure to replace MYSTUDIO with your Active Directory's DNS Name and type it in all capital letters.

kinit Admin@MYSTUDIO.COM

- Finally, run the command below to mount your FSx drive. Again, make sure you update the red text to match your Active Directory DNS Name and the FSx DNS Name. You can find this information under Tutorial 2 and Tutorial 3 on your cheat sheet.
 - Note: Check the direction of the slashes when you enter the FSx DNS Name since they are "\" when on Windows, but "/" when on Linux, as we are here.

mount -t cifs -o user=Admin@MYSTUDIO.COM,cruid=\$(id -u),uid=\$(id -u),sec=krb5 //fs-0c0b4fab1db1b9a0e.mystudio.com/share /mnt/studio -o vers=3.0

Again, note which text is capitalized. These commands ARE case sensitive.

To test and see if it mounted correctly, do an Is of the directory

Is /mnt/studio

If you see a few folders returning back, then you've connected correctly!



Modify render-scheduler.sh to Mount Active Directory

Now that we have Active Directory mounted in this session, we'll want to modify our render-scheduler service to always mount Active Directory when we're starting and stopping our instance.

- Edit the render-sceduler.sh file with your favorite editor (vi or gedit)
 - o If you're using vi:

```
vi /usr/bin/render-scheduler.sh
```

o If you're using gedit:

```
gedit /usr/bin/render-scheduler.sh
```

 Add the lines about connecting to Active Directory after the previous lines you created. The final script should look like the following. Don't forget to modify the region, drive, and studio in lines 15, 16, and 17 based on your own settings.

render-scheduler.sh with added Active Directory code. - Note: <shift>+click the image to open the text in a new tab.

 IMPORTANT: You will need to update the items highlighted below in yellow with specific information for your studio

```
15 region="<mark>us-west-1</mark>"
16 drive="<mark>fs-0ae486d73ab12a677</mark>"
17 studio="<mark>mystudio</mark>"
```



 The next time you stop and start your instance, it should automatically create a session and mount active directory for you. Feel free to test if you want, or continue on and start installing Deadline.

Install Deadline Tools

Install Deadline Repository

First we'll install the Deadline Repository. Luckily, you should have all the installer files in your /mnt/studio/installers/thinkbox folder from when you set up Studio in the Cloud initially.

- Load a Terminal in the DCV Session by going to Applications → Favorites → Terminal
- Run the command below to go to the installers location for thinkbox

cd /mnt/studio/installers/thinkbox

 You should have the DeadlineRepository and DeadlineClient installers for Linux there. Run the command below. <u>Note</u>: You may need to replace the version number (e.g., 10.1.12.1) with number of the version that you are using:

./DeadlineRepository-10.1.17.4-linux-x64-installer.run

If you don't have the installers, follow the instructions from <u>Tutorial 4: Building a Render</u> Scheduler with AWS Thinkbox Deadline and then run the installer.

The steps should be very similar to the ones you followed initially for Windows. The only difference is that we're going to create a new location to install the certificates to so we don't overwrite the old ones.

- Click Forward when the Welcome message appears
- Accept the License Agreement and click Forward
- Leave the Repository Directory at the default and click Forward
- Leave the database type as MongoDB and click Forward
- Select Install a new MongoDB database on this machine and click Forward



- Click Yes to accept the new file descriptor limit
- Click Forward when it asks to download MongoDB
- Click I accept the agreement to accept the SSPL license agreement and then click Forward
- Leave all the MongoDB installation options at the default and click Forward
- We're going to change the location of the Certificate Directory
 - Click the Browse icon next to the Certificate Directory text field
 - Navigate to /mnt/studio/app_env/thinkbox
 - Click New Folder
 - Name the new folder DeadlineCertificates_linux and click Create
 - Double-click the new folder in the file browser
 - Click OK
- For Certificate Password and Confirm Password, enter your Active Directory
 admin password. Note: For simplicity, we are re-using the Active Directory
 admin password here for this tutorial setup. However, if you desire, you can use
 a different password. In that case, make sure to enter the Linux Certificate
 Password you choose in the Notes section of the Important Information Cheat
 Sheet.
- Uncheck Use client certificate for DB user authentication and click Forward
- Leave Enable Secrets Management selected and click Forward
- For Admin Username enter your Active Directory admin username (e.g., Admin)
- For Password enter your Active Directory admin password and click Forward. Note: Again, like we did with the Certificate Password, we are re-using the Active Directory admin password. If your Active Directory admin password does not meet the requirements for the Deadline installer, you may need to create a new password. If so, be sure to enter this Linux Deadline Secrets Management Password in the Notes section of the Important Information Cheat Sheet.
- Click Forward two more times
- Wait for it to install the Deadline Repository



Click Finish when it's done.

Install Deadline Client

Now we'll install the Deadline Client. Again, it's very similar to what we've done in the past.

Install Isb

yum -y install lsb

Change directories so you are inside installers/thinkbox.

cd /mnt/studio/installers/thinkbox

• To install the Deadline Client run this command. <u>Note</u>: Again, the Deadline Client may be a different version than what is specified here. Adjust as needed.

./DeadlineClient-10.1.17.4-linux-x64-installer.run

- Give these answers to the prompts:
 - Click Forward when the Welcome message appears
 - Accept the License Agreement and click Forward
 - Leave Installation Directory at the default and click Forward
 - Select Remote Connection Server and click Forward
 - Leave the Repository Directory as default and click Forward
 - Set the Database TLS
 Certificate to /mnt/studio/app_env/thinkbox/DeadlineCertificates_linux/certs/Deadline10Client.pfx
 - For TLS Certificate Password enter the Linux Certificate Password you used when installing the Repository above. (This may be the same as your Active Directory admin password. If not, you can find it in the Notes section of your cheat sheet.) Click Forward
 - Leave Assign server role and grant master key access selected and click Forward



- On the OS User Credentials page, check that Username is set to root and click Forward
- Enter the Linux Deadline Secrets Management Admin Username and Password that you entered during the Repository installation instructions above. (Again, this may be the same as your Active Directory admin password. If not, look in the Notes section of your cheat sheet for the Linux Deadline Secrets Management password you chose.)
- Leave Name of the current master key at the default value of defaultKey and click Forward
- Leave Launch Worker When Launcher Starts checked and click Forward
- Leave Block auto upgrade via a secure setting selected and click
 Forward
- Leave the Remote Connection Server (RCS) options at the default and click Forward
- Make sure Generate New Certificates is enabled and click Forward
- Set the Certificate Directory to the same directory where you put the Deadline10Client.pfx
 certificate: /mnt/studio/app_env/thinkbox/DeadlineCertificates_linux
- Leave the Certificate Password blank and click Forward
- Click Forward again to continue the install
- Click Finish when you're done.

Launch Deadline RCS, Deadline Pulse, and Deadline Monitor

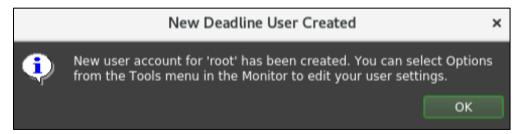
In a Terminal window, run the following command to run Deadline RCS

/opt/Thinkbox/Deadline10/bin/deadlinercs &

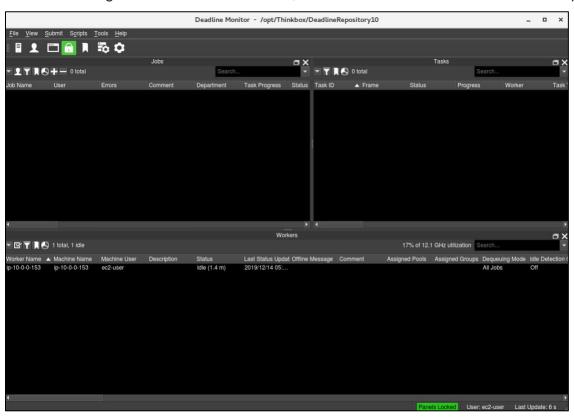
- Minimize the Terminal window to leave RCS running
- Run Deadline Pulse by going to Applications → Other → Deadline Pulse 10
- You can minimize the Deadline Pulse window to leave it running



- Run the Deadline Monitor by going to Applications → Other → Deadline Monitor 10
- At this point the **Deadline Worker** application should have launched automatically as well
- You can also minimize the Deadline Worker window to leave it running in the background
- It may take a minute for the **Deadline Monitor** to start up, but once it does, it will create a new account for you called **root**



• After clicking **OK** in the window above, the Deadline Monitor window should open





Create an Identity Registry Setting

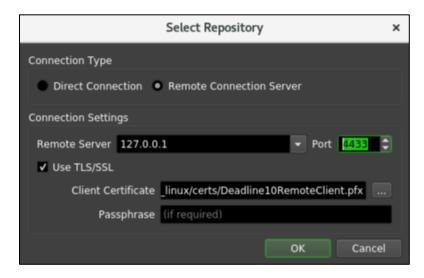
Deadline securely manages sensitive information such as API keys, Usage Based Licensing activation codes, passwords, etc. using secrets. This is similar to how we used AWS Secrets Manager to store your Active Directory Admin password in Tutorial 3.

Deadline assigns "server" or "client" roles to each machine that attempts to connect to the Deadline Repository. When we installed the Deadline Client above, your Render Scheduler was automatically assigned to the "server" role since it will be running the Remote Connection Server (RCS). We need to make sure that the workstation and farm worker machines that are created in other tutorials are assigned "client" roles, otherwise they will not have access to the Deadline secrets. To do that, we're going to create an Identity Registration Setting in the Deadline Monitor.

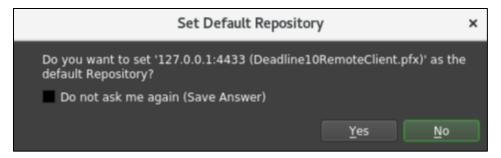
By default the Render Scheduler connects to the Repository using a direct connection, but in order to manage identity settings, we must connect using a secure remote connection instead. So first we'll change our repository connection and then move on to creating the identity settings.

- 1. In the **Deadline Monitor**, choose **File**→**Change Repository**...
- 2. For Connection Type select Remote Connection Server
- Next, under Connection Settings set the following:
 - a. Remote Server to 127.0.0.1
 - b. **Port** to **4433**
 - c. Make sure Use TLS/SSL is checked
 - d. Set Client Certificate to /mnt/studio/app_env/thinkbox/DeadlineCertificates_linux/certs/Deadline10RemoteClient.pfx
 - e. Leave **Passphrase** blank



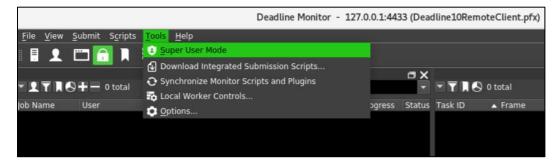


- 4. Click OK
- 5. Click No



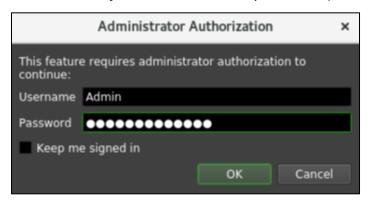
<u>Note</u>: We are only temporarily connecting to the Repository with a Remote Connection. We don't want to make this the default, which is why we're answering "no" above. The next time you close and reopen the Deadline Monitor, it will automatically reconnect using a Direct Connection again.

Wait until it reconnects to the Repository, then choose Tools → Super User
 Mode

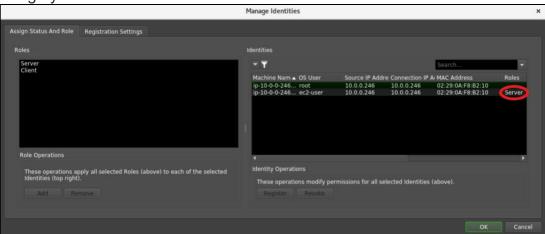




- 7. Then choose **Tools** → **Manage Identities**...
- 8. Enter the Secrets Management **Admin Username** and **Password** that you created when you installed the Deadline and click **OK**. (Again, this may be same as your Active Directory admin password. *Refer to the Notes section of your cheat sheet if you used a different password.*)



9. In the **Assign Status and Role** tab, you'll notice that your Render Scheduler is already assigned to the "server" role. Now we'll create a setting to automatically assign your workstations and farm workers to the "client" role.



- 10. Click the **Registration Settings** tab
- 11. Click **Add** and then enter the following information on the right side of the window under Registration Settings:
 - a. Set Name to Workstations and Workers
 - b. Set Enabled to True
 - c. Leave Client Filter Type set to IPv4 Match
 - d. Set Client Filter to 10.0.*.*



- e. Set Default Status to Registered
- f. Set **Default Role** to **Client**



12. Click OK

Set Mapped Paths

Because we will be using Linux workers for rendering, we need to create some mapped pathing to make sure our file paths convert from Windows to Linux correctly. For example, a file located at Z:\project\myshow\shot_01.ma on your Windows machine will need to be mapped to /mnt/studio/project/myshow/shot_01.ma. Deadline can do this automatically when it's set up correctly.

- In the **Deadline Monitor**, choose **Tools** → **Configure Repository Options**
- Click Mapped Paths
- Under Global Rules click Add
 - For Replace Path, enter Z:
 - For Windows Path, enter Z:
 - For Linux Path, enter /mnt/studio
- Click OK
- Click **OK** again to close the window



Set Up Render Groups

Now we want to create a render group. You can create multiple groups if you want, but for our case a single one will be fine.

- Go Tools → Manage Groups...
- Click New
- For Group name enter: linux_worker
- Click OK
- Click **OK** again

Test Your Setup

To test the setup, we're going to do a quick batch render test. We'll be creating a simple python file that will accept the frame number and print it to the render logs.

- Open a new Terminal by going to Applications → Favorites → Terminal
- In the terminal, create a python file called test_render.py with either **gedit** or **vi**:
 - o If you're using vi:

```
vi ~/test_render.py
```

o If you're using gedit:

```
gedit ~/test_render.py
```

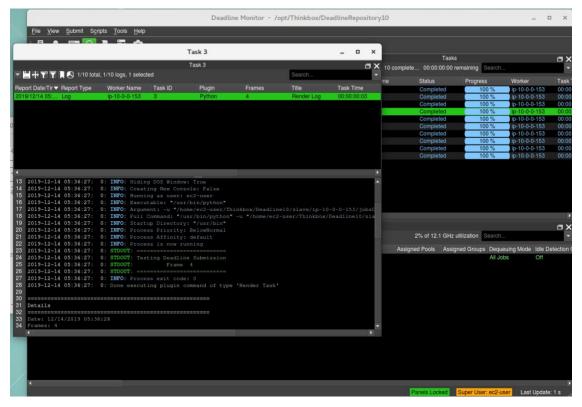
• Enter the following text:

test_render.py – Note: <shift>+click the image to open the text in a new tab.

Save your file and quit.



- Inside the Deadline Monitor, go Submit → Miscellaneous → Python
- Under Job Name enter Test Render
- Set the Frame List to 1-10
- Set the Python Script File to /root/test_render.py
- Set Arguments to <STARTFRAME> by clicking Start Frame Tag
- Make sure Python Version is 2.7
- Click Submit
- Once the job has started picking up, you should be able to track your render in the monitor. Open a task and look at the log to see if it worked correctly.



Make Sure Deadline Monitor, Deadline RCS & Deadline Pulse Always Run When Logging In

In order for the Render Scheduler to work effectively, it's important for these three tools to be running. In order to make sure they run every time you log into the Render

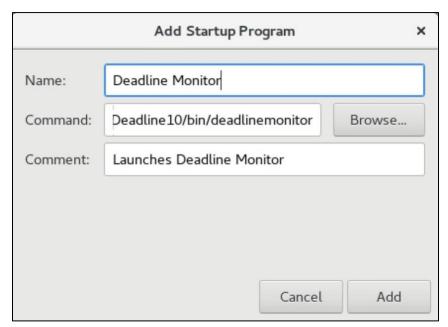


Scheduler as root, we can set them up to start automatically. This way you just need to login as root and the Render Scheduler will be ready to go.

• Open up the **Terminal** and run:

gnome-session-properties

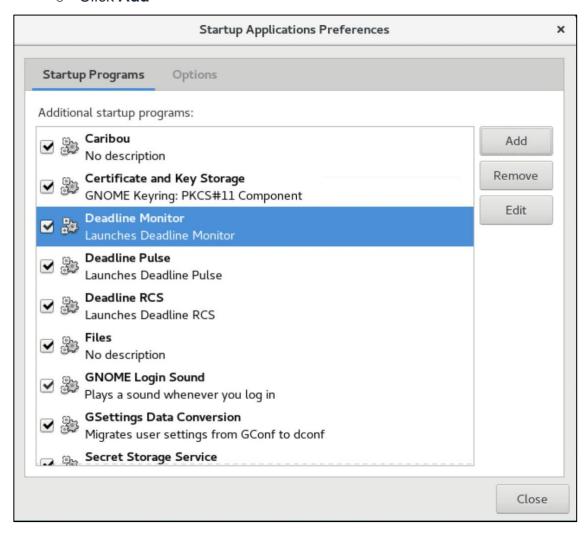
- This will allow you to add additional startup programs that will run every time you log in.
- Add Deadline Monitor by clicking Add
 - For Name enter Deadline Monitor
 - o For Command enter /opt/Thinkbox/Deadline10/bin/deadlinemonitor
 - For Comment enter Launches Deadline Monitor



- Click Add
- Add Deadline Pulse by clicking Add
 - For Name enter Deadline Pulse
 - For Command enter /opt/Thinkbox/Deadline10/bin/deadlinepulse
 - For Comment enter Launches Deadline Pulse



- Click Add
- Add Deadline RCS by clicking Add
 - For Name enter Deadline RCS
 - For Command enter /opt/Thinkbox/Deadline10/bin/deadlinercs
 - For Comment enter Launches Deadline RCS
 - Click Add



- Click Close
- You now have all three Deadline apps ready to load when you log in as root after a restart. Congratulations!



Note: When you login to your Render Scheduler after a restart, you will see the Deadline Pulse and Monitor applications visible and running, but will not see a Terminal window running Deadline RCS. Don't worry, even though you can't see it, it is running in the background.

Update Linux Worker

Now that our Render Scheduler is up and running on a Linux instance, we will need to update our workers to point to this new instance. This is a relatively quick fix, but we will need to update our AMI to point to the new Render Scheduler.

Launch a Worker

- Go to Services → EC2
- Click Launch Templates
- Select the My-Studio-Worker-LT
- Choose Actions → Launch instance from template
- Under **Source template version**, make sure the most recent version is selected
- Under Resource tags, change the name to Worker-Linux-new
 - Note: We're changing the name here so that it's easy to identify our new Linux worker in case you still have any old workers around in your instance list from completing the previous tutorials. You'll definitely want to launch a new Linux worker from the template, rather than trying to reuse an old one, just to ensure that you have all the correct user data and other settings.
- Scroll down and click Launch instance from template

Modify Worker deadline.ini File

- Once the worker is running and ready to connect, Select it and choose Connect
- Select EC2 Instance Connect and username root just like you did before with the Linux Render Scheduler.
- Stop the deadlineworker by typing



/opt/Thinkbox/Deadline10/bin/deadlineworker -shutdown

• When the **shutdown** is **complete**, modify the **deadline.ini** file. Again, if you need a refresher on vi commands, see this webpage: Vi Cheat Sheet.

vi /var/lib/Thinkbox/Deadline10/deadline.ini

- You're going to be modifying the two lines that have ProxyRoot which point to the IP address for the Render Scheduler, and change the line for the Certificate.
- First go and get the private IP address for the new Render Scheduler -Linux instance by selecting it in the EC2 Instances console and looking in the Description Tab.
- Find a line that looks something like (note: your IP address will be different):

ProxyRoot=10.0.0.219:4433

and replace it with the **private IP address** for your new Linux Render Scheduler. Note: Make sure to use the private IP address and not the public IP address that you used when connecting with DCV

ProxyRoot=10.0.0.153:4433

Now do the same for the line that has ProxyRoot0

ProxyRoot0=10.0.0.219:4433

becomes:

ProxyRoot0=10.0.0.153:4433

 Next change the path in ProxySSLCertificate to point to the new DeadlineCertificates linux path

 $ProxySSLCertificate = /mnt/studio/app_env/thinkbox/Deadline Certificates/Deadline 10 Remote Client.pfx \\$

changes to:

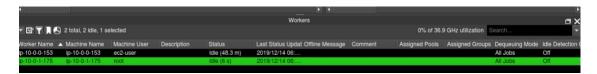
 $ProxySSLCertificate = /mnt/studio/app_env/thinkbox/DeadlineCertificates_linux/certs/Deadline10RemoteClient.pfx \\$



- Now quit and save by typing :wq
- Restart the deadlineworker to get these new changes

/opt/Thinkbox/Deadline10/bin/deadlineworker -nogui

 If you've set the values correctly, when you go check your Deadline Monitor in the new Linux Render Scheduler, your worker will now show up!



Create a New AMI for Your Worker

- Shut down your new Linux worker instance and create an Image of it.
 - o Go to Services→EC2
 - Click Instances
 - Right click your Worker-Linux-new instance and choose Stop instance
- Once stopped, right click it again and choose Images and templates → Create image
- Enter a name for your image (e.g., My-Studio-Worker-v02-AMI) and a description for your image
- Check that the size of your volume is set to 300 GiB
- Click Create image
- In the navigation pane on the left, under Images, select AMIs.
- Find the name of your Linux Worker AMI in the list and note the AMI ID as
 well. Write down both of these in your cheat sheet. Because not everyone will be
 adding a Linux Render Scheduler, there's not an existing section on the sheet to
 enter this information, but you can use the Notes section at the bottom to enter it
 on your own.
- Add appropriate Name and Studio tags.
- Wait a few minutes while the AMI is pending.



Modify Worker Launch Template

- Now we need to update the Launch Template to use this new AMI.
- Go to Services → EC2
- Click Launch Templates
- Choose the My-Studio-Worker-LT
- Choose Actions → Modify template
- Update the description to something like "Updated worker to point to Render Scheduler - Linux"
- Update the Amazon Machine Image to point to the new AMI (My-Studio-Worker-v02-AMI)
 - If you see a popup that says some of your settings will be changed, click
 Confirm Changes
- Under Storage (volumes) change Volume type to Don't include in template.
- Open Advanced Details
- Look at the **EBS-optimized instance** setting. Make sure it is set to **Don't** include in launch template. Even if it is already set to that, open the drop down menu and select it again.
- Scroll down and click Create template version
- Go back to your list of Launch Templates
- Choose My-Studio-Worker-LT
- Notice that the **Default Version** is **1**, but the **Latest Version** is **2**.
- Choose Actions → Set default version
- Set the version to 2 and click Set as default version
- Now the latest version of the template will use version 2.

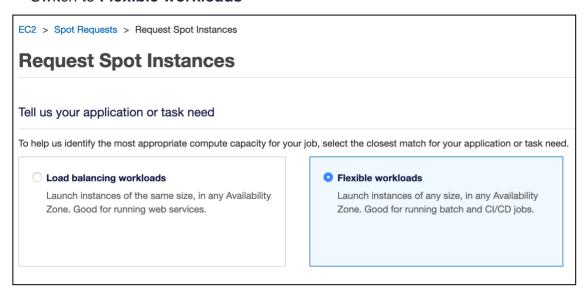
Creating Your Render Fleet

To allow Deadline to automatically spin up Linux workers for us we need to create a spot request.

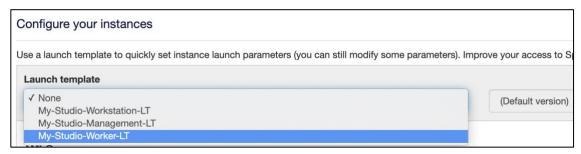
• In the EC2 Console, click Spot Requests on the left hand bar



- Click Request Spot Instances
- Switch to Flexible workloads



 Select your updated Linux Worker Launch Template (e.g., My-Studio-Worker_LT) in the Launch Template bar, and make sure it is the correct version.



- Most of the settings can be left as default.
- Scroll down and select your **Total Target Capacity**. Set it to whatever you want: 1, 5, 10, etc.
- Select the checkbox next to Maintain target capacity
- Once you are ready to go DO NOT CLICK Launch.
- Scroll down to the bottom and look in the left corner.
- Click JSON config and this will download a file called config.json.



 We will modify this configuration file to tell Deadline what instances to launch when someone submits a render for a given group.

Attaching Render Fleet

- Switch over to your Render Scheduler Linux instance in the DCV client
- Go Tools→ Configure Events
 - If you don't see Configure Events, make sure you Enable Super User mode in the Tools menu
- Click Spot
 - Make sure to set the State to Global Enabled
 - Enter the access key ID and secret access key for your IAM user. If you created a new IAM user in Tutorial 1 you can find the access key ID and secret access key in the credentials.csv you downloaded at that time. You can find the location of your credentials.csv on the cheat sheet.
 - If you didn't setup the IAM user for your account or do not have the credentials.csv handy, you can create a new access key using these directions: Where's My Secret Access Key?
 - Make sure the **Region** is set correctly
 - Inside the Spot Fleet Request Configurations you'll paste the contents of your config.json, but be sure to add it with the following line in front of it:

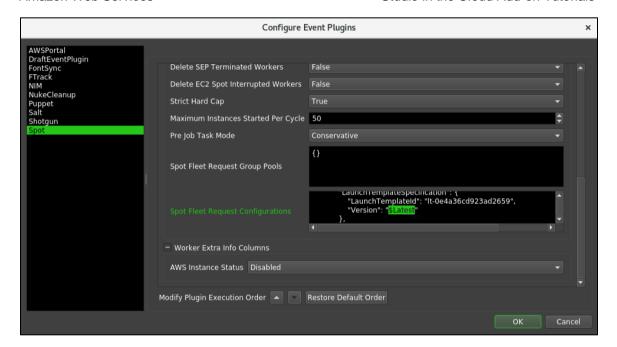
{"linux_worker":

And this line after:

}

- Also in the Spot Fleet Request Configurations field, find the line that refers to the version number of your Linux worker launch template. It is located under the LaunchTemplateId and should currently be set to 1.
- Change 2 to \$Latest. Using the value of \$Latest will ensure that the Spot Fleet Request Configuration is always pointing to the latest version of your template, in case you need to update it later.







When you're all done, the whole thing should look something like:

```
{"linux_worker":
    "IamFleetRole": "arn:aws:iam::86847329516:role/aws-ec2-spot-fleet-tagging-role", "AllocationStrategy": "capacityOptimized",
    "TargetCapacity": 1,
    "ValidFrom": "2021-07-22T19:24:56Z", 
"ValidUntil": "2022-07-22T19:24:56Z"
    "TerminateInstancesWithExpiration": true,
    "LaunchSpecifications": [],
     "Type": "maintain"
    "LaunchTemplateConfigs": [
              "LaunchTemplateSpecification": {
                  "LaunchTemplateId": "lt-0e4a36cd923ad2649",
"Version": "$Latest"
             },
"Overrides": [
                       "InstanceType": "m5.2xlarge",
                       "WeightedCapacity": 1,
                       "SubnetId": "subnet-0a93a4e620416d2f4"
                       "InstanceType": "m5ad.2xlarge",
                       "WeightedCapacity": 1,
                       "SubnetId": "subnet-0a93a4e620416d2f4"
                       "InstanceType": "m5d.2xlarge",
                       "WeightedCapacity": 1,
"SubnetId": "subnet-0a93a4e620416d2f4"
                       "InstanceType": "m5.4xlarge",
                       "WeightedCapacity": 1,
                       "SubnetId": "subnet-0a93a4e620416d2f4"
                       "InstanceType": "m5.8xlarge",
                       "WeightedCapacity": 1,
                       "SubnetId": "subnet-0a93a4e620416d2f4"
                       "InstanceType": "m5.12xlarge",
                       "WeightedCapacity": 1,
                       "SubnetId": "subnet-0a93a4e620416d2f4"
                       "InstanceType": "m5.16xlarge",
                       "WeightedCapacity": 1,
"SubnetId": "subnet-0a93a4e620416d2f4"
                       "InstanceType": "m5.metal",
                       "WeightedCapacity": 1,
                       "SubnetId": "subnet-0a93a4e620416d2f4"
                       "InstanceType": "m5.24xlarge",
                       "WeightedCapacity": 1,
                       "SubnetId": "subnet-0a93a4e620416d2f4"
             ]
        }
    ]
```

Example config.json

Click OK



- Run House Cleaning by going to Tools → Perform House Cleaning
 - This will help force the changes you've made to the Spot Event plugin to get recognized.

Test the Spot Event Plugin

Now it's time to test the spot event plugin. To do this, we'll move the test_render.py script to a location that one of the workers can find it, and then run another test. This time we'll also specify the linux_worker group to see if we can get some workers to spin up.

- Open up a Terminal on your Linux Render Scheduler
- Move the test_render.py file to /mnt/studio

mv /root/test_render.py /mnt/studio/test_render.py

- In Deadline Monitor choose Submit → Miscellaneous → Python
- Set the Job Name to Test Spot
- Set Group to linux worker
- Set the Frame List to 1-10
- Set Python Script File to /mnt/studio/test_render.py
- Click Submit
- Now wait a few minutes for the Spot Event Plugin to start working.
- If you want to check on the Spot request, go to Services → EC2 and then click Spot Requests. A Fleet Request should appear, launching render workers.
 - Note: It can take 5 minutes for the spot event plugin to start for the first time. If you don't see any requests and you are confident that it should be working, just be patient. It might take a while.



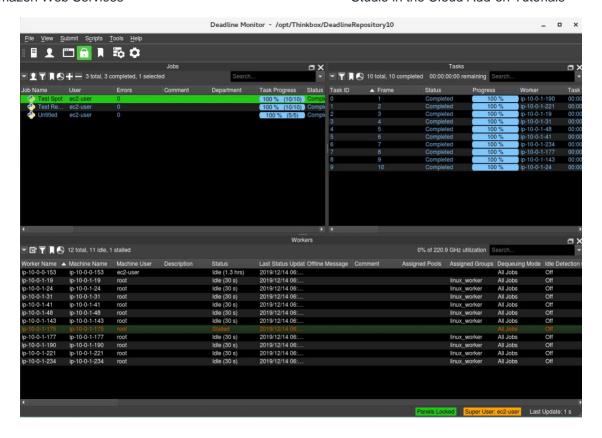


- If the Spot request is not there double check that you set the correct region
- If the Spot request is there, but no workers are spinning up, you can check for errors by clicking pending fulfillment on the Spot request status, and going to the History tab. It should give you a good idea of any issues you may encounter.



 Once the status of the spot request has changed from pending fulfillment to fulfilled, you should see a new worker pop up in the Worker list in the Deadline Monitor and your frames should start rendering.





Update Workstation

We're almost done! The next step is to update our Workstation AMI to point to the new Render Scheduler just like we did with the workers.

Launch a Workstation

- Go to Services → EC2
- Click Launch Templates
- Select the My-Studio-Workstation-LT
- Choose Actions → Launch instance from template
- Under Resource tags, change the name to Workstation_Win_new
 - Note: As with the Linux worker, we're adding "_new" to the end of the name for this instance so that we can tell it apart from any other Windows workstations we might currently have in our instance list.



Scroll down and click Launch instance from template

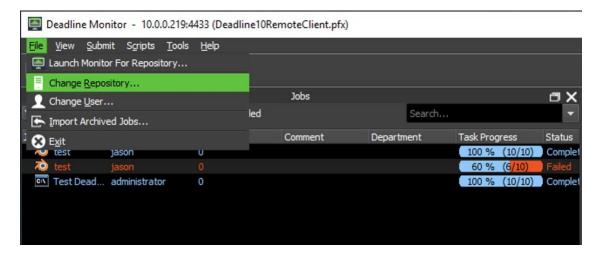
Connect to the Studio FSx Drive

- Once the workstation is running and ready to connect, select it and choose Connect
- Log in as **Administrator** (NOT mystudio/Admin) because we'll be modifying the ini file and running SysPrep.
- Open a **File Explorer** window.
- From the navigation pane, right-click This PC and choose Map Network Drive...
- Choose a drive letter of your choice for **Drive** (e.g., **Z**:)
- Enter the full CNAME Alias for your file share that you noted above for **Folder**.
 - o e.g., \\studio.mystudio.com\share
 - o click Finish
- Use your Active Directory Admin login credentials. For example:
 - Username: Admin
 - Password: Your Admin Password

Modify Workstation Repository

- Open the Monitor by going Start → Thinkbox → Deadline Monitor
- When it opens, it will be pointing at the old repository.
- Choose File → Change Repository...





- Change the Remote Server to the private IP address of your new Render Scheduler - Linux
- Modify the Client Certificate to point to the new Linux certificates path (e.g.,
 Z:/app_env/thinkbox/DeadlineCertificates_linux/certs/Deadline10RemoteClient.pf

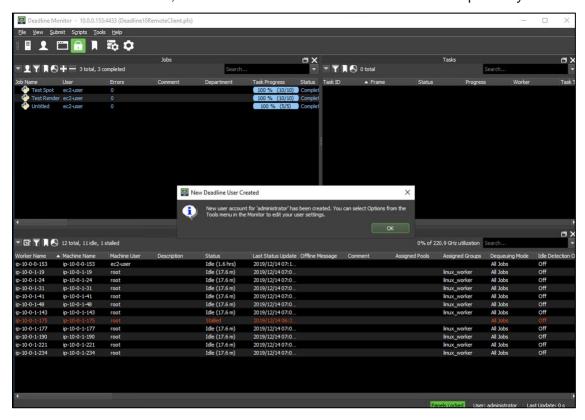


x)

- Click OK
- When it asks if you want to Change the repository, check Save Answer and click
 Yes



After a few seconds, the Monitor will switch over to the new repository!



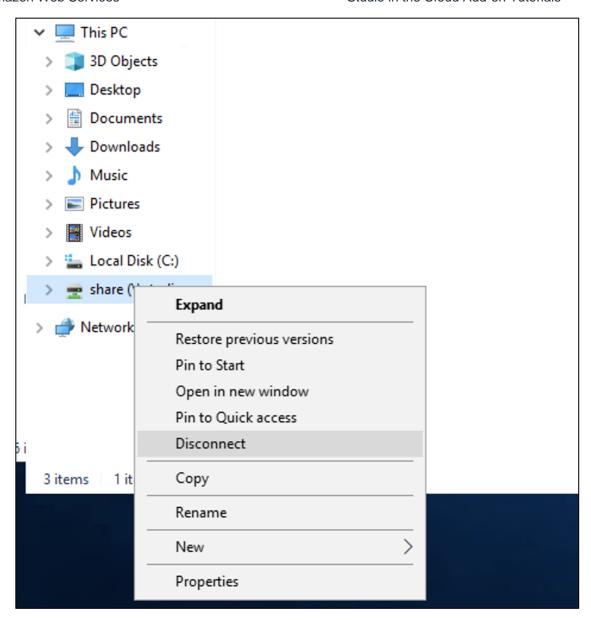
• Quit out of Deadline Monitor

Preparing Your Instance to Create a New AMI

Now that you've updated your Deadline settings, we'll need to make a new AMI with these settings, and update our Launch Template.

- Disconnect from your FSx Drive (Z:)
 - o Open the File Explorer
 - Under This PC on the left, right-click the Z: drive and choose Disconnect

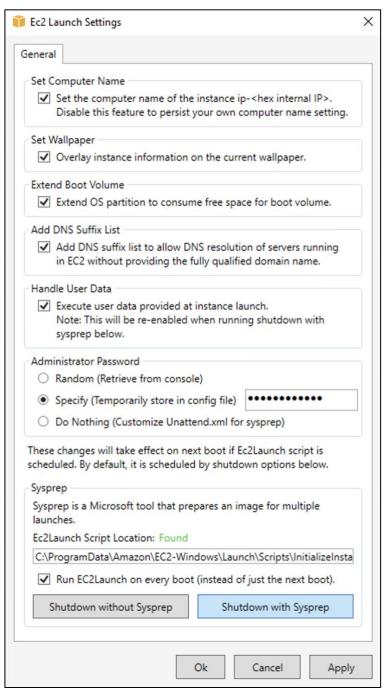




- Go to the start menu, type Ec2LaunchSettings and launch it
- Make sure **Set Computer Name** is selected
 - o This will ensure each instance you create has a unique name.
- Check that Administrator Password is set to Specify and input the Administrator Password for your Active Directory(e.g. password for mystudio\Admin)
- Select Run EC2Launch on every boot



Click Shutdown with Sysprep

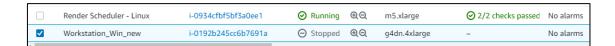


- Click Yes
- This will shut down your instance after a few processes run. It can take a few minutes, so feel free to grab a coffee (or tea).

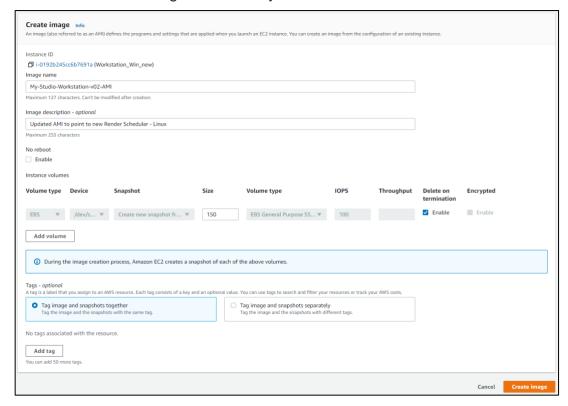


Create Workstation AMI

 Navigate back to the EC2 Dashboard and find the Workstation that has just been shut down, if it is not completely stopped yet, wait for that process to finish



- Right-click the instance and choose Images and templates → Create image
- Give it an appropriate name (e.g., My-Studio-Workstation-v02-AMI) Record the AMI name in the Notes section on your cheat sheet.
- Give your workstation AMI a description if you want.
- Increase its storage if necessary.



Click Create image



- AMI creation can also take 5 to 10 minutes to complete. How about more coffee?
 - To see if your AMI is ready click AMIs in the left panel. The AMI will need to finish creating before you can create a Launch Template with it.
 - While you're waiting, you can also add Tags to your AMI. Again, we recommend creating at least a **Studio** tag and **Name** tag.
 - Now is a good time to note the AMI ID in the Notes section of the cheat sheet. You can find the ID by selecting the AMI from the list and looking at the top left of the Details tab.

Modify Workstation Launch Template

- Now we need to update the Launch Template to use this new AMI.
- Go to Services → EC2
- Click Launch Templates
- Choose the My-Studio-Workstation-LT
- Choose Actions → Modify template
- Update the description to something like "Updated workstation to point to Render Scheduler - Linux"
- Update the Amazon Machine Image to point to the new AMI (e.g., My-Studio-Workstation-v02-AMI)
- Scroll down and click Create template version
- Go back to your list of Launch Templates
- Choose My-Studio-Workstation-LT
- Notice that the **Default Version** is 1, but the **Latest Version** is 2.
- Choose Actions → Set default version
- Set the Template version to 2 and click Set as default version
- Now the default version of the template will be version 2.

Test Workstation

• Use the new Launch Template to launch a new Workstation.



- Once it's up, connect and log in as one of your user accounts (e.g., mystudio\jason)
- Make sure that when you run the Deadline Monitor you're connecting to the new Render Scheduler - Linux instance. <u>Note</u>: You can tell that you're connected to your new Render Scheduler by looking at the list of jobs. If you see your "Test Spot" job from earlier, then you should be good to go.
- Go ahead and launch a new render from Blender and make sure it works correctly. If all goes as planned - you're now using your new Linux-based Render Scheduler!

Shut Down Old Render Scheduler

• You can go ahead and terminate your old Render Scheduler if you aren't going to use it anymore.

Appendix

Links to AWS Documentation

- NICE DCV Clients
- AWS Direct Connect
- AWS VPN
- VPN Connections to AWS VPC
- Managing NICE DCV Sessions
- Deadline Secrets Management
- Getting Started With Deadline Secrets Management

Links to Other Resources

Vi Cheat Sheet



Tutorial 10: Add-On - Using Linux and Teradici for a Workstation

Estimated Time to Complete: 1 hour, 30 minutes

Review of Studio in the Cloud

The first 7 of our Studio in the Cloud tutorials helped you create a fully cloud-based studio that leverages the power, scale and convenience of AWS. This basic setup introduced you to virtual workstations, cloud storage and cloud rendering and how they can be combined to move creative work into the cloud. In these add-on tutorials, we have been providing instructions for different ways you can leverage the flexibility and depth of AWS to customize your studio in different ways.

Overview of this Tutorial

In our first add-on tutorial, <u>Tutorial 8: Upgrading to Teradici for Desktop Streaming</u>, we showed you how to add desktop streaming with Teradici to your existing Windowsbased artist workstations. This tutorial will show you how to create a Linux-based artist workstation and connect to it using <u>Teradici Cloud Access Software</u>. We'll install necessary applications, including Blender and Deadline, and create an AMI (Amazon Machine Image) and launch template that you can use to start up as many additional Linux workstations as you need.

Teradici Cloud Access Software

Because you cannot connect to a Linux instance using Remote Desktop, we will be using Teradici Cloud Access Software instead. Similar to Remote Desktop, Teradici streams pixels and audio from a virtual machine in the cloud to your local desktop and sends keyboard and mouse information back. However, it also has a few advantages over Remote Desktop:

- High-performance remote visualization with true 4:4:4 color accuracy and lossless image quality
- Delivers graphics intensive workloads to any endpoint (including PCoIP clients for Windows, Mac, Chrome OS, Android, iOS and zero clients)
- Highly performant across variable network conditions



Linux vs. Windows Workstations

If you already completed our other add-on tutorial, <u>Tutorial 9: Using a Linux Instance for a Render Scheduler</u>, you know that one of the motivations behind using Linux over Windows is cost savings. Your artist workstations will be running whenever your artists are working, so switching them to Linux can help cut down on those hourly costs. For the same type of instance, the hourly cost of just the instance by itself can be up to 50% cheaper for Linux vs. Windows.

In Tutorial 8, where we added Teradici to your existing Windows-workstations, we walked you through installing Teradici manually. We did this so that you would not have to re-install any software from previous tutorials. However, in this case, since we'll be switching from Windows to Linux, we'll need to re-install software anyway. As a result, for this tutorial we'll be using the <u>Teradici Linux AMI from the AWS Marketplace</u>. Since this AMI already has Teradici installed, it will save us setup time so that you and your artists can get working more quickly. Instead of requiring a separate license, the cost of using Teradici is built into the hourly pricing for the AMI. You pay an extra \$0.50/hour on top of the normal hourly price for your instance.

Even taking the added hourly cost of the Teradici AMI into account, you should still see a cost savings of at least 10% by switching your Windows workstations to Linux workstations with Teradici. Rather than pay by the hour for Teradici software, it is also possible to purchase an annual subscription. For more information, see the <u>Teradici Linux AMI Subscription page</u>.

Prerequisites

Complete the Previous Tutorials

This add-on tutorial assumes that you've already completed at least Tutorials 1-4 in our previous Studio in the Cloud tutorial series. If you are new to Studio in the Cloud, you can find the first tutorial here: <u>Tutorial 1: Getting Started with AWS Virtual Workstations</u>. If you have already completed the Studio in the Cloud tutorials, then you're all set to continue with the steps below.

Check Your G Instance Quota

You likely already checked your G instance quota at least once when you started the Studio in the Cloud tutorials. You may even have needed to submit a quota increase request when you started Tutorial 1 and another when you started launching more Windows G4 instances for your artists in Tutorial 7. In any case, it's a good idea to



check your quota again, to make sure that you have enough quota to cover the new G4 instance you will be launching in this tutorial. For instructions on checking your quota value and requesting an increase, see the instructions in the Appendix for Tutorial 1.

<u>Note</u>: If you currently have any G4 instances currently running, you will need to make sure that your **Applied quota value** is at least:

(16 x (total number of G4s running + 1))

Each of the g4dn.4xlarge instances that are used for workstations uses 16 vCPUs of quota, so you want to make sure your quota covers all the G4s you have running, plus one more for this tutorial. For example, if you currently have 2 G4s running, your Applied quota value will need to be at least (16 x (2 +1)) or 48, in order to complete this tutorial.

Quota increase requests can take up to 48 hours to process, so if you need to submit an increase request, it's best to do it as soon as possible.

Make Sure Your Render Scheduler Is Running

We'll be running a test at the end of this tutorial to make sure that we can submit a render job to your Render Scheduler from your new Linux workstation. If you've been using your Studio in the Cloud, then most likely your Render Scheduler instance is already running and ready to go. However, if you stopped it, navigate to the EC2 dashboard and start it now.

If you have a Windows Render Scheduler from Tutorial 4:

Make sure to login as Administrator and start up the Deadline Monitor,
 Deadline Remote Connection Server (RCS), and Deadline Pulse.

If you have a Linux Render Scheduler from Tutorial 9:

Login as root and verify that Deadline Pulse and Deadline Monitor are running.
 Deadline RCS should automatically be running in the background, not visible to you.

Create a DHCP Options Set

If you completed Tutorial 6, then you already created a DHCP options set that enables a Linux instance to connect to the Directory Service for user authentication. However, if you haven't completed Tutorial 6, then you will need to create a DHCP options set



before continuing. Follow the <u>instructions in Tutorial 6</u> to **Create DHCP Settings** and **Attach Your VPC to the DHCP Options Set**.

Add Marketplace Permissions to Your User, If Needed

Since we'll be using a Teradici AMI from the AWS Marketplace as the starting point for our Linux workstation, we'll need to make sure that your user has permissions to use Marketplace AMIs. If you completed Tutorial 9: Using a Linux Instance for a Render Scheduler, you should already have the necessary permissions. If not, then follow the instructions for Add marketplace permissions to your user instructions to add them now.

Download the Teradici Client

You may have already done this in Tutorial 8, if not follow the instructions at the bottom of page 8 of Tutorial 8: <u>Download client to your local machine</u>.

Locate Your Important Information Cheat Sheet

If you completed the other tutorials, then you probably already filled out the Important Information Cheat Sheet. We'll be referring back to some of this information in this tutorial, so you should locate your filled out cheat sheet. If you never filled out the cheat sheet, you should download it now as we'll be entering some new notes on it during this tutorial. Note: Because the add-on tutorials are optional, you will be entering any information from this tutorial into the "Notes" section at the bottom of the cheat sheet.

Launch an Instance with the Teradici Marketplace AMI

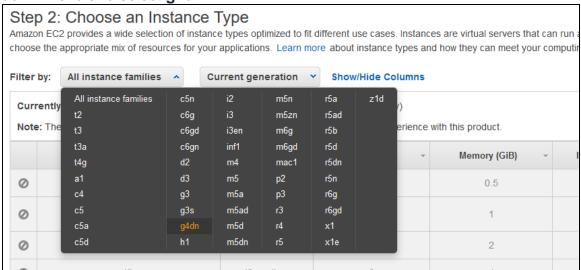
Once you've completed all the prerequisites above, you're ready to launch an instance with the Marketplace AMI.

- From the AWS Console go to Services→ EC2 and click Instances (running) to see a list of your running instances
- Click Launch Instance
- For Step 1: Choose an Amazon Machine Image (AMI), enter Teradici in the search box and hit <enter>
- On the left, below the search box, click AWS Marketplace to list only AMIs that exist in the AWS Marketplace
- In the list, find the entry for Teradici CAS for CentOS 7 and click Select next to it





- A pricing list for the various instance types will come up, showing you what the costs will be.
- This page also has links to more information about the Teradici software as well as usage instructions, but don't worry, we'll walk you through all the steps below!
- Click Continue
- For Step 2: Choose an Instance Type, open the All instance families drop down menu and select g4dn



- Next, choose a g4dn.4xlarge instance type and click Next: Configure Instance
 Details
- For Step 3: Configure Instance Details set the following:
 - Set Network to your VPC from the other tutorials (e.g., My-Studio-VPC)
 - Set Subnet to Public Subnet A
 - Set Auto-assign Public IP to Enable
 - Set IAM role to EC2DomainJoin
 - Click Next: Add Storage



- For Step 4: Add Storage:
 - Set storage to 150 GiB
 - Click Next: Add Tags
- For Step 5: Add Tags:
 - Add a tag with Key = Name and Value = Workstation_Linux
 - Add a tag with Key = Studio and Value = <name of your studio> (e.g., My-Studio)
 - Click Next: Configure Security Group
- For Step 6: Configure Security Group:
 - This page is already pre-populated with a security group that was generated by the AWS Marketplace for Teradici Linux connections, so we're going to re-use that
 - Leave Create a new security group selected
 - Change the Security group name to <name of your studio>-Linux-Teradici-SG (e.g., My-Studio-Linux-Teradici-SG)
 - Leave the **Description** as-is
 - You'll see a warning at the bottom of the screen recommending that you limit access to known IP addresses

Note: As in earlier tutorials, we are initially opening up this security group to inbound traffic from any IP address. However, if you limited your source IP addresses during your Studio in the Cloud setup, you'll want to do the same here. If you will be accessing your instances over the public Internet, then after initial testing we recommend that you look into an AWS Direct Connect connection and/or VPN so that your connection will be private and secure. You may use third party VPN software, but AWS also provides a robust set of VPN solutions called AWS VPN. More information about how to connect to your VPC using VPN can be found here.

- Click Review and Launch
- Click Launch to launch your instance

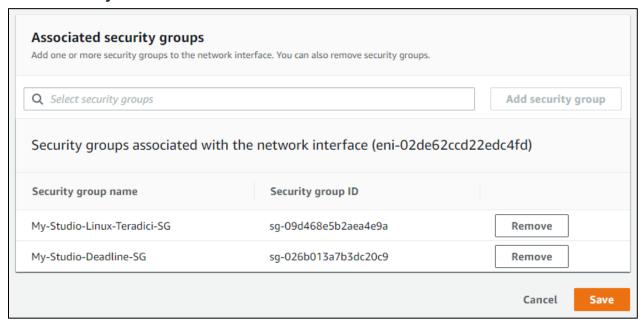


 Choose the key pair that you created when you originally set up your Studio in the Cloud and then click Launch Instances. If you don't remember the name of the key pair you created, you can find it at the bottom of the Tutorial 1 section of the Important Information Cheat Sheet.

Add the Deadline Security Group to the Instance

We already opened the ports that we need to connect to our new Linux instance with Teradici, but before we continue, we should also add the Deadline security group that we created in Tutorial 4 as well. We'll need that in order to setup Deadline on our Linux workstation later in this tutorial.

- Go to Services→ EC2 and click Instances (running) to see a list of your running instances.
- Select Workstation_Linux
- Choose Actions → Security → Change security groups
- Add My-Studio-Deadline-SG



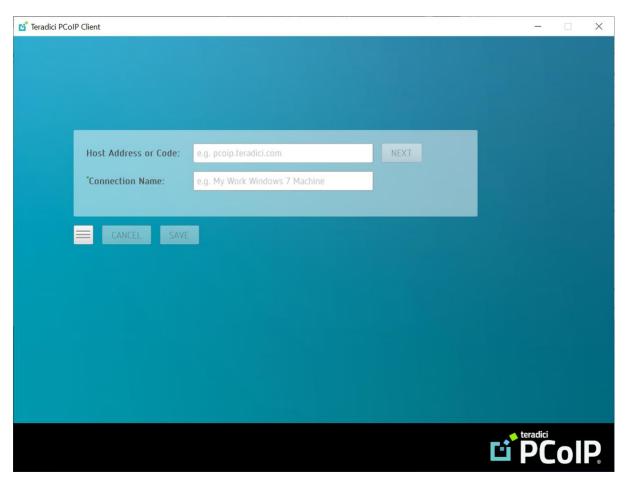
- Now is a good time to note the Security Group ID of the Linux Teradici security group(e.g., My-Studio-Linux-Teradici-SG) that you created when launching your instance. You should enter its name and ID in the "Notes" section of the Important Information Cheat Sheet that you used for the other tutorials.
- Click Save



Connect to Instance with Teradici

Since we used the Teradici Marketplace AMI to launch your Linux instance, it should already setup to connect to using the Teradici client software on your local machine.

- Once the status of your Workstation_Linux instance has changed to 2/2 checks passed, it is ready for you to connect
- Launch the Teradici client software on your local machine by double-clicking the desktop shortcut or by going to Start→Teradici→PColP Client (Windows)



- In the Host Address or Code field, enter the IPv4 Public IP of your workstation instance.
 - Note: You can locate the IPv4 Public IP of your instance by going to the list of running instances in the AWS Console, selecting the instance and looking in the Description tab
- Click Next



- If you get a popup that says "Cannot verify your connection", click **Connect Insecurely** to continue.
 - Note: This connection is seen as insecure by Windows, but because the PCoIP protocol used by Teradici is inherently secure, your connection is still completely safe. From a Teradici support page:

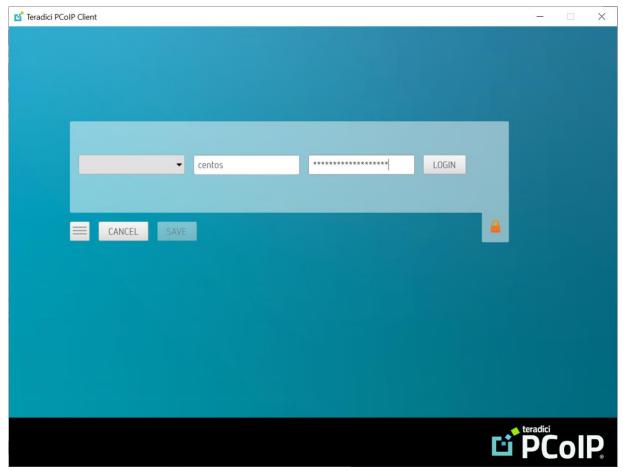
Note: About insecure connections

Windows sees this connection as insecure because the PCoIP Agent uses a self-signed certificate and not one signed by a trusted certificate authority. **The PCoIP session is inherently secure, so connecting this way is safe.** If you would like to avoid this step in the future, you can create your own certificate and install the appropriate files on the remote machine and your PCoIP clients.

- o For links to more information about Teradici security, see the Appendix
- For **Username** enter **centos**
- For **Password**, use the **Instance ID** for your instance



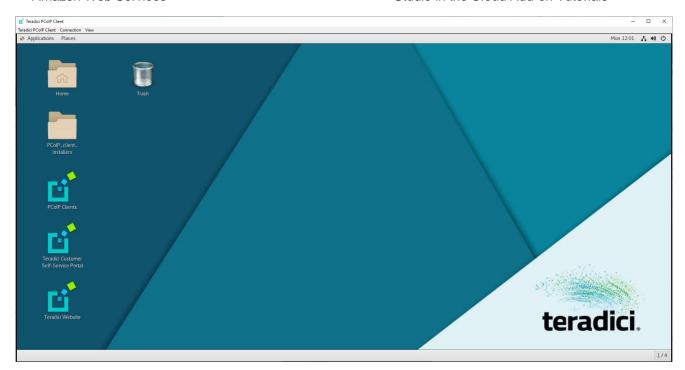
You can find the Instance ID of your instance in the Description tab like we



did for the IPv4 Public IP above

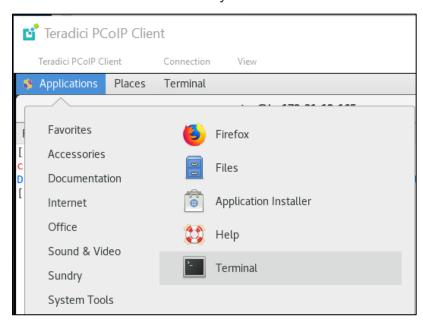
- Click Login to connect to your instance
- Once your Teradici session connects, you'll see the desktop for your Linux workstation. <u>Note</u>: The first time you connect, you may see a black screen for a minute or two, but don't worry, the session should eventually connect and you will see a desktop similar to the one below.





Connect to Active Directory

 Launch a Terminal by using the Applications menu at the top left of the desktop. You can find Terminal under System Tools.



• First we need to update the Linux instance with the latest software. In the **Terminal** run the command below:



sudo yum -y update

- Note: This initial update can take several minutes and may appear to freeze on some cleanup steps. But don't worry, just let it run for a few minutes and it should finish successfully.
- Next we'll install some specific tools to make it possible to connect to Active Directory:

sudo yum -y install sssd realmd krb5-workstation samba-common-tools

After that, we'll run a command to actually join your Active Directory:

sudo realm join -U Admin@mystudio.com mystudio.com --verbose

- You should receive a message that says: Successfully discovered: mystudio.com (or your DNS name, if different)
- Type in the password for your Active Directory and you will see a message that says: Successfully enrolled machine in realm
- In preparation for the next step, it is recommended to perform a mkdir in /mnt/ to create a directory for the FSx mount.

sudo mkdir /mnt/studio

Mount FSx File System

Now we'll mount your FSx file system so that your Linux workstation has access to shared storage.

First run this command to install some utilities:

sudo yum -y install cifs-utils

 Next run the command below and enter the Active Directory Admin password when prompted. Make sure to replace MYSTUDIO.COM with your Active Directory's DNS Name and type it in all capital letters.

kinit Admin@MYSTUDIO.COM



- Finally, run the command below to mount your FSx drive. Again, make sure you update the red text to match your Active Directory DNS Name and the FSx DNS Name. You can find this information under Tutorial 2 and Tutorial 3 on your cheat sheet.
- Note: Check the direction of the slashes when you enter the FSx DNS Name since they are "\" when on Windows, but "/" when on Linux.

```
sudo mount -t cifs -o user=Admin@MYSTUDIO.COM, cruid=$(id -u), uid=$(id -
u), sec=krb5, file_mode=0777, dir_mode=0777 //fs-
0c0b4fab1db1b9a0e.mystudio.com/share /mnt/studio -o vers=3.0
```

Again, note which text is capitalized. These commands ARE case sensitive.

To test and see if it mounted correctly, run this command:

Is /mnt/studio

If you see a few folders returning back, then you've connected correctly!

Create a Script to Automatically Mount FSx

We want to make sure that every time our Linux workstation restarts that the FSx file system is automatically re-mounted. To do that, we're going to create a script that can be run on instance startup. If you completed Tutorial 9, we did something similar there for the Linux render scheduler.

From the **Terminal** run

sudo gedit /usr/bin/workstation.sh

 <shift>+click the image below to open a new browser tab with the text that needs to be entered into the gedit window:

```
★ https://studio-in-the-cloud-tutorials.s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/tutorial-10/snippets/workstation_mount-script_01.txt
★ ★ ★ B studio-in-the-cloud-tutorials.s3-us-west-1.amazonaws.com/tutorial-10/snippets/workstation_mount-script_01.txt
# Variables
# Va
```

workstation_mount-script_01.txt - <shift>+click the image above to open the text file in a new tab

Cut and paste the text from the browser tab into the gedit window



 IMPORTANT: You will need to update the items highlighted below in yellow with specific information for your studio:



- Update the value in quotes to the right of region with the region for your studio. You can find your region on your cheat sheet.
- Update the value in quotes to the right of drive with your FSx File System ID.
 This can also be found on the cheat sheet.
- Update the value in quotes to the right of studio with the Directory NetBios
 name for your studio (e.g., mystudio). Refer to your cheat sheet for this as well.
- Your workstation.sh file should look something like this when you're done:

- · Save the file and exit the editor
- Next run the command below to add execute permissions to your script:

sudo chmod +x /usr/bin/workstation.sh

Create a Service to Run the Script

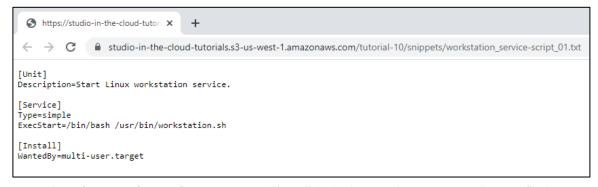
Next, you're going to create a service that will execute this script every time the instance is started. The nice thing about working this way is that we can modify this file to add more options any time we want and it will be executed again whenever the system is restarted. It's similar to the user data settings we have on the instance, but in this case it's much more controllable.

Create the service file using gedit

sudo gedit /etc/systemd/system/workstation.service



 <shift>+click the image below to open a new browser tab with the text that needs to be entered into the gedit window:



workstation_service-script_01.txt - <shift>+click the image above to open the text file in a new tab

- Cut and paste the text from the browser tab into the gedit window
- Your workstation.sh file should look like this when you're done:



- Save the file and exit the editor
- Next we'll start the service

sudo systemctl start workstation

And then make sure will start automatically on boot

sudo systemctl enable workstation

Install the AWS Command Line Interface

Our workstation.sh startup script that we created above makes use of the AWS Command Line Interface (AWS CLI) to run some commands that retrieve your Active Directory's Admin user's password. But the Teradici Marketplace Linux AMI doesn't come with the AWS CLI installed by default, so we need to install it now.



• Run this command in the **Terminal** to download the zip file for the AWS CLI:

curl "https://awscli.amazonaws.com/awscli-exe-linux-x86_64.zip" -o "awscliv2.zip"

Next run the following to unzip the file:

unzip awscliv2.zip

Finally, run this to install the AWS CLI:

sudo ./aws/install

- When the install is complete, you will get a message that says You can now run: /usr/local/bin/aws -version
 - You don't have to run the above command, but you can if you want to verify the version of the AWS CLI that you have just installed.
- For more details, see Installing the AWS CLI version 2 on Linux

Disconnect Your Teradici Session

To test that the service you created in the last step is working, we're going to stop and start your Linux workstation instance. But before we do that, we should disconnect our Teradici session.

From the Teradici client's menu bar, open the Connection menu, then select
 Disconnect



Check That the Service Is Working

If this has all been set up correctly, you should be able to stop your instance, start it again, and then connect to it and see that the FSx file system is already mounted.



- Go EC2 → Instances
- Select the Workstation_Linux instance
- Choose Instance State → Stop instance
- After the instance has stopped, choose **Instance State** → **Start instance**
- Once the instance has spun up and is ready to use, copy the IPv4 Public IP
 - Note: The public IP address changes every time an instance stops and starts
- Open the Teradici client on your local machine and enter the new public IP address
- Log in using username centos and the Instance ID for your instance that you used earlier
- Once logged in, open a **Terminal** and run:

Is /mnt/studio

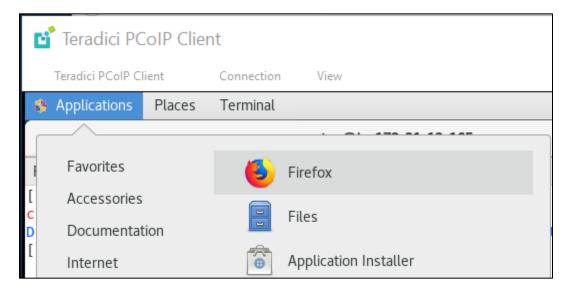
If all goes well, you should see the directories on your FSx file system

Download Blender Installer

If you already downloaded the Blender installer for Linux in Tutorial 5, you can skip to the next step in this tutorial: <u>Install Blender</u>. If not, follow these steps to download the installer:

Launch Firefox by using the **Applications** menu at the top left of the desktop.
 You can find Firefox under Favorites.





- In Firefox, navigate to https://www.blender.org/download/
- Click Download Blender 2.82a (the latest version at the time of publication). The version number you see may be different.
- When the window pops up asking what you would like to do with blender-2.82a-linux64.tar.xz, choose Save File and click OK.
- Back in the **Terminal**, create a blender folder in /mnt/studio/installers

mkdir /mnt/studio/installers/blender

• Once the download is complete navigate to your **Downloads** folder.

cd ~/Downloads

Move the installers to /mnt/studio/installers/blender

mv blender-*tar.xz /mnt/studio/installers/blender

Install Blender

In the Terminal, navigate to the installers directory on your FSx file system.

cd /mnt/studio/installers/blender

 Next, you should unzip the contents of the installer zip file to your Linux workstation:



sudo tar -xvf blender-*tar.xz -C /usr/local/

Finally, create an executable so you can run Blender by simply typing blender.
 Note: Make sure to substitute 2.93.1 with the version number that you downloaded.

sudo In -s /usr/local/blender-2.93.1-linux64/blender /usr/local/bin/blender

Install Additional Applications

There are two additional applications we would recommend installing, **DJV** and **Krita**:

- **DJV** (http://djv.sourceforge.net/) Professional media review software for VFX, animation, and film production.
- **Krita** (https://krita.org/) Professional open source painting program.

For each of these, we recommend creating a folder inside /mnt/studio/installers (e.g., /mnt/studio/installers/krita, /mnt/studio/installers/djv), downloading the installer files from the appropriate websites, and copying them to the installers location

Install the Deadline Client

Now we'll install the Deadline Client. Again, it's very similar to what we've done in the past.

• In the **Terminal**, run this command to install some extra libraries that are needed by Deadline:

sudo yum -y install lsb

• Next, navigate to the Thinkbox installers directory on your FSx file system

cd /mnt/studio/installers/thinkbox

• If you haven't done Tutorial 6, you will need to unzip the Deadline Linux installers. If you have done Tutorial 6, you can skip to the next step.

sudo tar -xvf Deadline-10*-linux-installers.tar

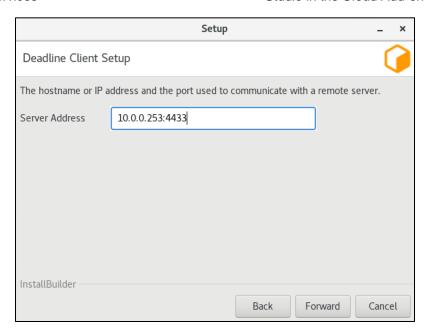
To install the Deadline Client run this command.



sudo ./DeadlineClient-10*-linux-x64-installer.run

- Give these answers to the prompts:
 - Click Forward when the Welcome message appears
 - Accept the License Agreement and click Forward
 - Leave Installation Directory at the default and click Forward
 - On the Select Installation Type page, leave Client selected and click Forward.
 - Note: There is no need to install the Remote Connection Server because this workstation is simply a client.
 - Leave the Repository Connection Type set to [Recommended]
 Remote Connection Server and click Forward
 - Put the Private IP address of the Render Scheduler machine into Server Address, and point it at port 4433
 - You should have already written down the Private IP for your Render Scheduler on the cheat sheet during Tutorial 4 if you have a Windows Render Scheduler or during Tutorial 9 if you have a Linux Render Scheduler. It should look something like (10.0.0.219)
 - Enter the private IP with a port number of 4433 into the server address field (e.g., 10.0.0.219:4433) <u>Note</u>: This is important, because the default port is 8080 and that won't work.



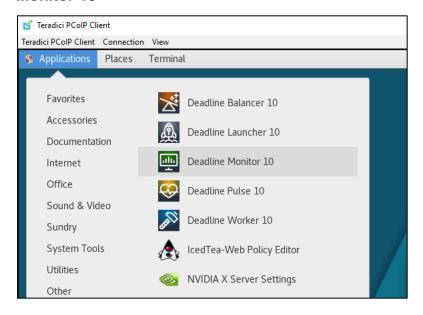


- Click Forward to continue
- Set the RCS TLS Certificate
 - If you have a Windows Render Scheduler that you created in Tutorial 4, set it to /mnt/studio/app_env/thinkbox/DeadlineCertificates/Deadline10 RemoteClient.pfx
 - If you followed Tutorial 9 to create a Linux Render Scheduler, set it to
 /mnt/studio/ann_env/thinkbox/DeadlineCertificates_linux/certs/
 - /mnt/studio/app_env/thinkbox/DeadlineCertificates_linux/certs/ Deadline10RemoteClient.pfx
- Leave the Certificate Password blank and click Forward
- Uncheck Launch Worker When Launcher Starts and click Forward
 - Note: We are turning this off because we are currently setting up one of our workstation machines. We don't want render workers to launch on these instances.
- Leave Block auto upgrade via a secure setting selected and click
 Forward
- Click Forward one more time to proceed the install
- Finally, click Finish to exit the installer

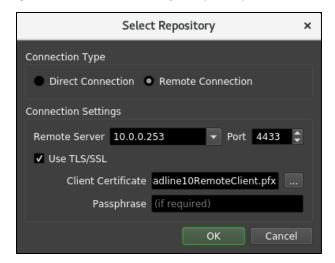


Connect to the Deadline Repository

 Run the Deadline Monitor by going to Applications → Other → Deadline Monitor 10



- You'll see a popup window that says a new account for 'centos' has been created. Click **OK** to continue.
- If you get an error saying it can't connect to the Repository make sure you have these options selected in the prompt. <u>Note</u>: Your IP address will be different. Also make sure you have the correct port (4433) selected.





- If it still doesn't work, double-check that your Render Scheduler instance is running, you're logged in as Administrator, and **Deadline Monitor**, **Deadline** RCS, and **Deadline Pulse** are all running.
- If it works correctly, you will be able to connect to the Deadline Monitor.

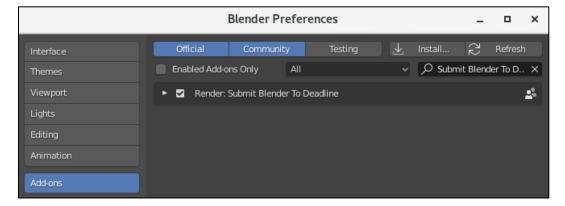
Install Deadline Blender Submitter

In preparation for working with your render farm, we recommend you install the Deadline Submitter add-on inside of Blender.

- Open a new Terminal window
 - Note: It is important to open a new Terminal window here instead of using your existing one. Otherwise some environment variables will not be set correctly.
- From the new Terminal, run the following command to launch Blender

blender &

- Go Edit → Preferences... (or File→Preferences for Blender 2.79 & earlier).
- Click **Add-ons** in the left panel.
- Click Install.
- Navigate to /mnt/studio/installers/thinkbox/submission/Blender/Client
- Choose DeadlineBlenderClient.py .
- Click Install Add-on. Wait a minute for the submitter to install.
- Click the checkbox next to Render: Submit Blender to Deadline add-on.





Close your preferences window.

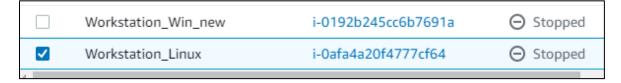
Test Submitting to Deadline

- Save your current scene (this is a requirement to submit to Deadline).
- Choose Render→Submit To Deadline.
- The Submit Blender Job To Deadline window will pop up.
- Change the Output File path to a location of your choosing.
- Change the Frame list from 1-250 to 1.
- Hit Submit and then close the submit window
- If it's not already running, open the **Deadline Monitor.**
- Your job will be sitting in the queue.
- Since we didn't specify a group in the render submission, the job will not actually render, but don't worry about that for now. All we wanted to do is test that our job was successfully submitted to your Render Scheduler. After finishing this tutorial, you can move on to <u>Tutorial 6: Setting Up a Linux Farm Worker and Spot</u> <u>Fleet Request</u> if you haven't already completed it previously.

Create a Linux Workstation AMI

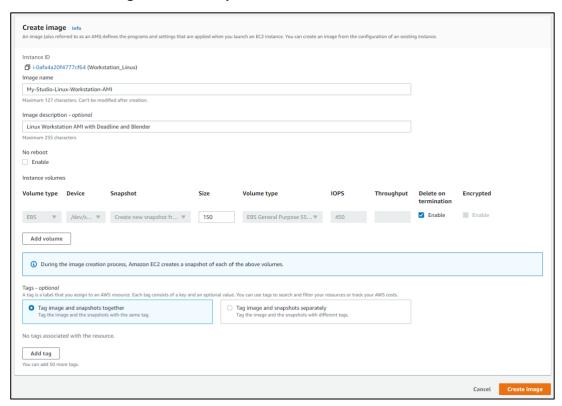
Now that you've set up your Linux workstation and installed applications, you'll want an easy way to launch another workstation just like this one without having to go through all the steps again. We already did something similar in Tutorial 3 when we created an AMI and launch template for your User Management instance.

- **Disconnect** from your Teradici session
- Next, in the AWS Console, go to Services→EC2
- Click Instances
- Right click your Workstation_Linux instance and choose Stop instance
- Wait for the Instance state to change to stopped





- Right-click the instance and choose Image and templates → Create image
- Give it an appropriate name (e.g., My-Studio-Linux-Workstation-AMI).
- Give your workstation AMI a description if you want.
- Increase its storage if necessary.



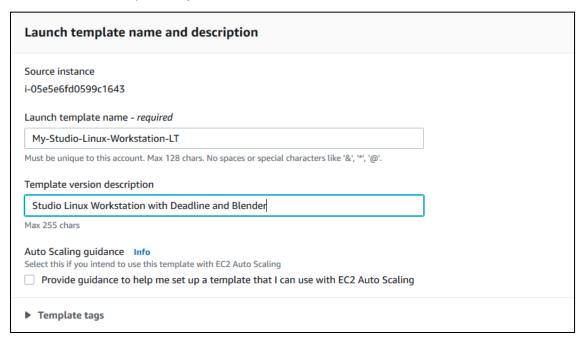
- Click Create Image.
- Wait 5 to 10 minutes for the new AMI to become available
 - To see if your AMI is ready, click AMIs in the left panel. The AMI will need to finish creating before you can create a Launch Template with it.
 - While you're waiting, you can also add Tags to your AMI. Again, we recommend creating at least a **Studio** tag and **Name** tag.
 - You may also want to enter the AMI ID and name in the Notes section of the <u>Important Information Cheat Sheet</u>.



Create Linux Workstation Launch Template

- Once your new AMI is listed as available, go to Services → EC2 and click Instances (running).
- Right-click your Workstation_Linux instance and choose Image and templates

 Create template from instance.
- Name your launch template (e.g., My-Studio-Linux-Workstation-LT)
- Give it a description if you want.



You will need to change the AMI ID to point to the one that you just created.



 In the AMI dropdown, scroll down to the My AMIs section and then select the Workstation AMI (e.g., My-Studio-Linux-Workstation-AMI) that you just

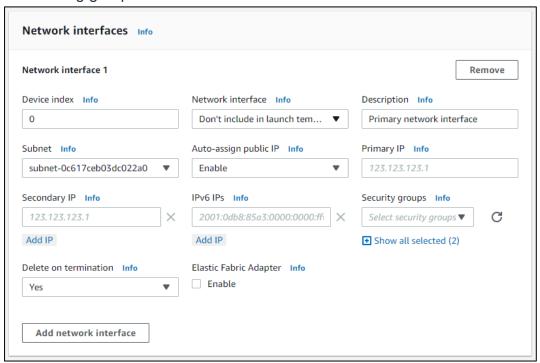


made.

- Under Network interfaces, set Auto-assign public IP to Enable, otherwise you
 will not be able to connect to the instances you launch.
- Also under Network interfaces, check that the Security Group IDs for both your Deadline Security Group (e.g., My-Studio-Deadline-SG) and your Linux Teradici Security Group (e.g., My-Studio-Linux-Teradici-SG) are listed. You can find the IDs for both of those security groups on your cheat sheet.
 - Click **Show all selected** to view the IDs for the currently selected security groups.



If either security group is missing, click the drop down menu and select the missing group.



• Click Create launch template.

Launch a New Workstation

Now let's test the launch template!

- Go to Services → EC2 and click Launch Templates in the left panel.
- Select your Linux Workstation launch template (e.g., My-Studio-Linux-Workstation-LT).
- Choose Actions → Launch instance from template.
- Select the version (if this is your first time running through the tutorial you'll select version 1).
- Choose Launch instance from template.
- Go back to Services → EC2, click Instances (running).
- When your new instance is done initializing you can connect to it using the Teradici client again. This time, instead of logging with username "centos", you can login with an Active Directory username and password



- Note: the syntax for logging in with an Active Directory username and password is different with Teradici on Linux. Instead of logging in as <domain_name>\<user>(mystudio\jason), your username should be <user>@domain_name (e.g., jason@mystudio.com)
- Note: The Deadline Blender submitter needs to be installed separately for each user. If they follow the <u>same instructions provided earlier in this tutorial</u>, they should be all set. This is also the case for the Windows workstations that are created in Tutorial 5. We call this out in the sample workflow instructions in Tutorial 7, but wanted to mention it here as well.

Shut Down Notes

- Once you confirm that your new Workstation_Linux instance is running correctly, feel free to terminate the old Workstation_Linux instance that you set up at the beginning of this tutorial. It should currently be listed as stopped in the instance list.
- If you or your artists don't have an immediate need for the Linux workstation that is running, you should stop or terminate it as well. Since you created a launch template for your Linux Workstation, you can easily spin up a new one whenever you want.

Appendix

Links to AWS Documentation

- AWS Direct Connect
- AWS VPN
- VPN Connections to AWS VPC
- VPN Connections to AWS VPC
- Installing the AWS CLI version 2 on Linux

Links to Other Resources

- Teradici Cloud Access Software
- Getting Started Guide Connecting with a PCoIP Client



- What is PCoIP Technology?
- Cloud Access Software Security Features
- PCoIP Software Client Security Modes
- Installing Certificates on PCoIP Client for Windows
- Teradici Graphics Agent Configuration Guide

