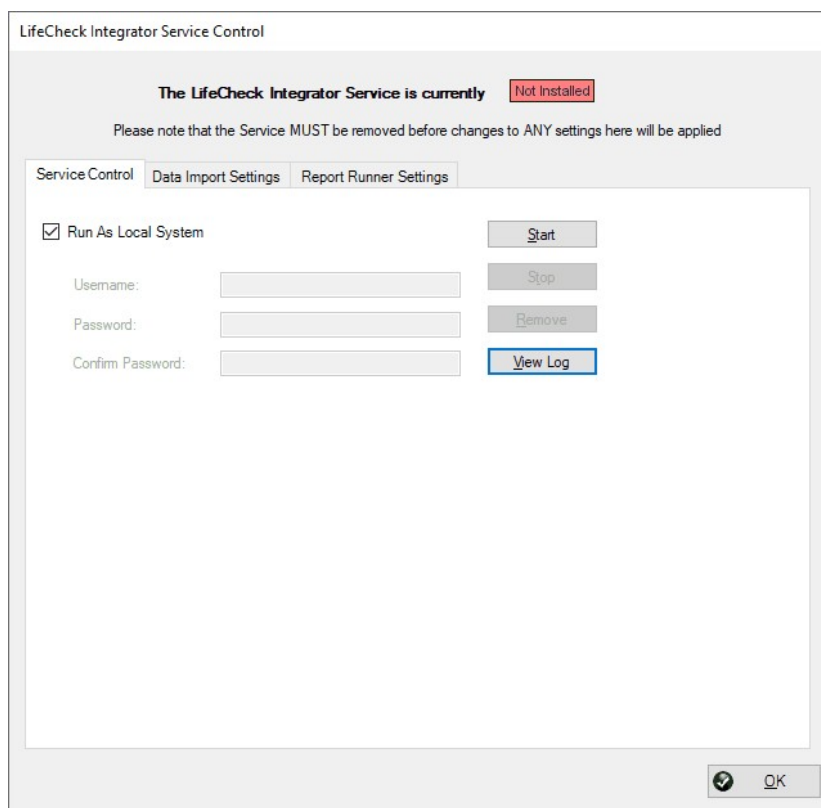


LifeCheck Technical Note

ID: TN013
Created: 27 April 2022
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Description: The LifeCheck Integrator Service

The purpose of this technical note is to detail the operation of the LifeCheck Integrator Service added as an optional module for v5.6 onwards. The LifeCheck Integration Service is a Windows Service which automates the importation of parts and components and the execution of reports previously configured for offline running. It is an option licenced module which may be added to your copy of LifeCheck via an updated product licence key.

The Integration Service is controlled using the window displayed on selecting Administration>Integration Service Control from the main LifeCheck menu. Please note that you **MUST** run LifeCheck under an Administrator Account to be able to access the service control. If this is the case and the appropriate option is licenced, the following window will be displayed.



The first tab allows the service itself to be controlled. LifeCheck allows the service to be run either under the local system account or under any other nominated user account. Note the account used must also be able to access the LifeCheck SQL Database.

Controlling the Service

To Start the database, click the Start button. After a few seconds, the screen should refresh and the service status should show Running. If the service does not start, review the service log by clicking the View Log button or view the service event log using the system Event Viewer utility. The Integrator Event Log is named LCIService.

The service itself contains 2 distinct tasks, one which handles the processing of LifeCheck Import Files (see Importing Parts and Components), and the other handles the running of reports which have been marked as Run Report Offline when saved (see Reporting on Component Life).

Configuring the Data Import Task

The data import task is configured using the tab shown below. Note the settings here may be changed while the service is running but will only be picked up by the service if it is restarted.

The screenshot shows the 'LifeCheck Integrator Service Control' window with the 'Data Import Settings' tab selected. At the top, a status bar indicates 'The LifeCheck Integrator Service is currently Not Installed'. Below this, a note states: 'Please note that the Service MUST be removed before changes to ANY settings here will be applied'. The settings are organized into three tabs: 'Service Control', 'Data Import Settings' (active), and 'Report Runner Settings'. Under 'Data Import Settings', the 'Import File Root Folder' is set to 'c:\temp\lifecheck\import'. There are checkboxes for 'Create Parts if they do not already exist' and 'Update Existing Part Definitions', both of which are checked. The 'Check for Files Every' is set to '60 Minutes'. The 'Import into Department' is set to 'Admin' and the 'Location' is set to 'Inspection'. There is a checkbox for 'Email the Import File Log To' with the email address 'cdrew@trenchant-tech.com' entered. At the bottom, there is a section titled 'Import Error Files' showing a count of '1' and the text 'Last Error File Created - 25/04/2022 15:59:58', with a 'View Errors' button. The window has an 'OK' button at the bottom right.

Import File Root Folder

This is the root folder which will be monitored by the integration Service for LifeCheck Import Files (comma-separated format files with the extension .csv). Beneath this folder, LifeCheck will create additional folders as required such as

Errors

This folder will contain any import files which generated errors (mainly validation errors)

Logs

This folder will contain log files created as part of the import process which details the parts and components created by the import

Processed

This folder contains those files which have been successfully processed by the import task. On successful import, the file imported is moved to this folder to avoid being imported a second time. Clicking the Logs button will open Windows File Explorer displaying the contents of the logs folder.

Create Parts if they do not already Exist

When checked, the import task will create any parts read from the import file which do not already exist in the database. It may be useful to leave this un-checked if the import file has been generated by another application/system and may contain parts which are not required in the LifeCheck database.

Update Existing part Definitions

When checked, the import task will update any parts read from the import file which already exist in the database. For example this can be used to update the part description if it has changed or such things as the part default cost or UILL flag status.

Check for Files Every 'n' Minutes

The Upload task will re-check the root folder specified above on a set interval looking for new files to import. This setting defines the frequency of these checks. The aim here is to not check too often as this could be an undesirable overhead but often enough that files are processed within a reasonable time of their appearing in the folder. The default of 60 minutes gives a reasonable compromise.

Import into Department / Location

These fields identify the department and location within that department to which imported components should be imported. This allows a central 'inspection' location to be defined into which all imported components will be created initially and so allows control over the distribution of these components.

Email the Import File Log To

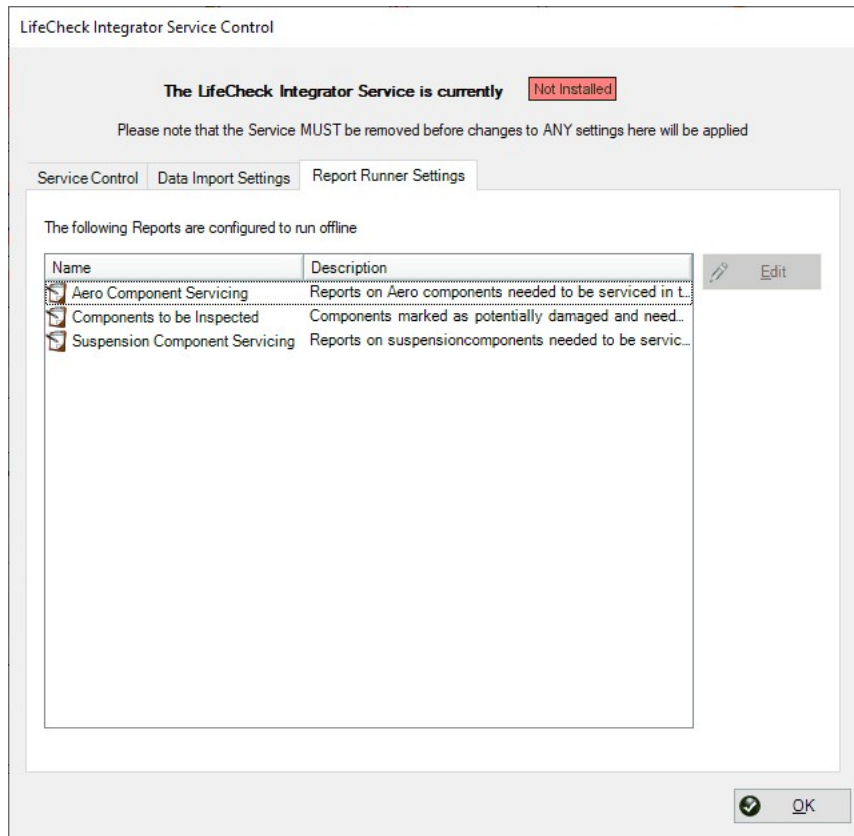
This optionally allows the log file created for the import to be emailed to 1 or more addresses as a further check on the import process. Separate email addresses using the semi-colon (;) character. Note that the Email system must be configured under Administration>Email Configuration.

Import Error Files

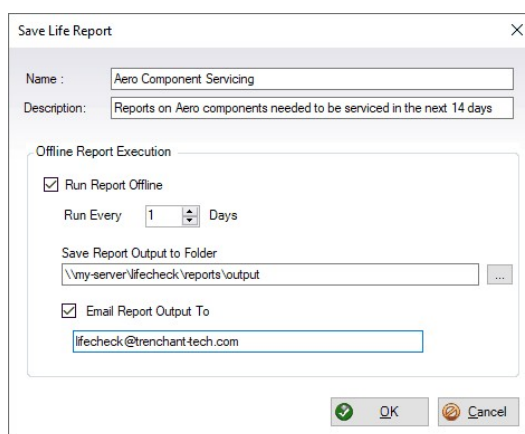
This gives a count of files which have not imported successfully and allows you to open the folder containing the failed import files. Files may fail for a number of reasons including an invalid format, missing columns, non-sequential BoM Levels or duplicated life codes. Consult the associated import log to determine the cause of the error.

Configuring the Report Runner Task

The Report Runner task is configured using the tab below and also specific settings in the report itself which may be defined as the report is saved. These are also detailed below.



The reports shown are those marked as to be run offline at the point at which they have been saved. You can check the offline running of these reports by selecting one from the list and clicking the Edit button to display the following window. Note this is the same window displayed in Show Life when saving a report.



Run Report Offline

When checked, this sets the report to be able to be run in offline mode by the Integration Service. The following settings define how the report will be run.

Run Every 'n' Days

This defines the frequency the report will be run as a number of days.

Save Report output to Folder

When run, the report will be run with its output directed to Microsoft Excel. The resultant Excel file will be saved to the folder specified noting that this folder must be specified before the report may be saved.

Email Report Output To

This optionally allows the Excel file created for the report to be emailed to 1 or more addresses as a further check on the import process. Separate email addresses using the semi-colon (;) character.

Note that the Email system must be configured under Administration>Email Configuration.

Disclaimer:

Please note that while every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this document, Trenchant Technology, Ltd may not be held responsible for any errors or omissions or any data loss which may occur through the use of this document. It is highly recommended that a backup of the LifeCheck database is made prior to making any changes such as importing parts.