Advanced File Transfer Setup Checklist

This document contains basic information required for setting up Advanced File Transfer (AFT). You need a basic understanding of the terms and concepts related to AFT to use it. For details about the information outlined here, refer to *AFT Overview*.

Note: A separate license is required to use the Advanced File Transfer Management menu and the AFT functionality.

AFT Terminology

Within Gentran Integration Suite, the Advanced File Transfer menu sets up and monitors the routing capability referred to as the *router*. Routing enables a *producer* of data to direct a file to a particular *consumer* of that data. The producer and consumer are *AFT partners* of the router. Partners can be external, such as customers or suppliers, or internal, such as business units of the entity hosting the router.

Administrators organize partners into *AFT communities* for ease of administration and to tailor the set of protocol choices that different AFT partners are offered. Each AFT partner belongs to only one AFT community. You cannot alter an AFT partner's membership in an AFT community, except by deleting that AFT partner and recreating that partner in a different AFT community.

The following table contains definitions of the AFT components:

Term	Definition
AFT community	Organization of protocols and options that are available to member AFT partners.
AFT partner	Individual profiles that belong to a community, with selected options within the structure of the community.
Consumer	Receives the data in a file transfer.
Consumer identification policy	Method the producer uses to identify the consumer to receive the file transfer. An example is 'use filename', where the consumer is identified by the name of the transferred file.
Endpoint	Either the initiating or the listening server in a file transfer.
Initiator	AFT partner who takes the first action in a file transfer, *initiating* activity.
Listener	AFT partner who waits for someone else to start a connection for a file transfer, *listening* for activity.
Producer	Supplies the data in a file transfer.
Router	Within Gentran Integration Suite, the AFT routing capability
Route record	Contains details about a route, including the endpoint, consumer, producer, start and end times, any errors that occurred, and other details.
Data flow	Aggregates in a single page all the documents that are related, and annotates them with correlation entries and file transfer events.

Term	Definition
Workflow	Contains a trace of the services that were invoked in the sequence defined by the business process, and the status of each service.
Communication session	Contains the authentication, authorization, file transfer, or non-file transfer records, for all communication activities that adapters participate in, whether or not the data actually gets transferred.

Stages of AFT Setup Process

The following table includes the stages of the AFT setup process. Details about each of the steps outlined here are in *AFT Overview*. You may want to make a copy of this checklist and use it to record any notes you may have.

Stage	Task	Your Notes
1.	Activate your license for AFT.	
2.	Plan your AFT communities and AFT partners	
3.	Edit your mailbox.properties file.	
4.	Enable a Mailbox schedule.	
5.	Prepare to use Connect:Direct for file transfer, if applicable.	
6.	Prepare PGP keys and certificates.	
7.	Enable the Advanced File Transfer menu.	
8.	Create AFT communities.	
9.	Create AFT partners.	
10.	Exchange keys and connection information with AFT partners.	
11.	Transfer files using AFT.	

Plan AFT Communities and AFT Partners

AFT partners exchange files with partners in the same community or different AFT communities, depending on the constraints of their AFT community. You may need many AFT communities to support the file transfer mechanisms that are required. Each AFT partner must belong to an AFT community. Each AFT partner can only belong to one AFT community.

AFT communities are distinct and separate from the EDI-centric communities created using the Community Management menu. Because AFT partners must belong to an AFT community, create the AFT community

first. The protocol selections made during the creation of the community determine the selections that display during the creation of the AFT partners in that AFT community.

Plan your AFT communities and AFT partners using the following worksheet:

Partners for AFT Community	Is Partner a Producer of Data?	Is Partner a Consumer of Data?	Does Partner Initiate Connections?	Does Partner Listen for Connections?	What Protocols Does Partner Use?	What Security Schemes Does Partner Use?