# Custom Action Definition: Roaming Profile Install Folder

RISA products install many databases, sample files and region defaults. Some of these files are installed into C:\Users\<username>\Documents\RISA. (the “My Documents” folder)

“Roaming” users are NT domain users remotely logging in to a machine other than their own. Roaming changes the way the My Documents folder is used by merging user files and data across the network.

When the RISA installer detects that a roaming user is installing the software, it avoids using the “My Documents” folder – changes the default location for these files. Instead of installing into C:\Users\<username>\Documents, the installer writes the documents to C:\RISA. This prevents network performance issues as all the RISA sample databases, files and defaults will not be transmitted over the network as part of the user’s profile.

To accomplish this behavior the new AI installer defines a property “USERFILES\_RISA”. (corresponding to the IA variable USERFILES\_RISA) This is normally “C:\Users\<username>\Documents\RISA”. The Advanced Installer will deploy the data files wherever this property is set.

We will create a new custom action “DetectRoaming” which will examine Windows and set this property to C:\RISA, if the user is considered to be “roaming”. (Actually, the roaming decision is slightly more complicated, as described below.)

IsRoamingProfile

1. Do we consider the user profile to be “roaming”?
   1. Use windows special folder API to retrieve folder paths by enum: Environment.GetFolderPath(Environment.SpecialFolder.MyDocuments)
   2. User is roaming if this path is an UNC path (check for prefix of \\)
   3. Or User is roaming if the special folder path to “My Documents” (C:\Users\<username>\Documents) is not inside the path to “USERPROFILE” (C:\Users\<username>)
   4. If neither are true, and “My Documents” folder and “Program Files” folder do not exist, then consider the user to be roaming.
2. If the user profile is considered to be “roaming”, adjust the USERFILES\_RISA property:
   1. If roaming, set USERFILES\_RISA = “C:\RISA”
   2. If not roaming, set USERFILES\_RISA = “C:\Users\<username>\Documents\RISA”

What was implemented:

Diagram, engineering drawing

Description automatically generated