Install Structured Importer

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Use the Structured Importer UDC plugin to import spots and media to IXM One. Upon import, the system automatically creates spot and media groups for the imported files. In addition, you can configure import options such as automatically adding spots to playlists, or clearing spot groups and playlists before importing new content.

Prerequisites

Consider the following prerequisites before you use the Structured Importer:

- You must have a base directory for importing. For example, a folder on the IXM Server.

- You can only import to existing playlists in IXM One. They're not created during the import.

- You must create a JSON configuration file to configure import settings.

Install the plugin

> *Note*
>
> *We recommend using the latest versions of importers and spots so that you can take advantage of the latest fixes and features.*

To install the Structured Importer UDC plugin, perform the following steps:

1. Stop the UDC service.

2. Open the release folder and go to `Server.zip\Plugins\Udc\StructuredImporter`.

3. Copy all files from there into the folder `UDCService/plugins` on the server. If the **plugins** folder doesn't exist, create it.

4. Start the UDC service.

Configure the data import

You must create a configuration file that contains settings for the importer. This allows you to specify how and where files are imported.

Save the config file anywhere on the server where the server services have access to.

There are two import options with different requirements. Basically, the server makes the difference. You can upload files either to the IXM Server or via an FTP server.

Upload files to the IXM Server

To upload files to the IXM Server, you must create a folder structure below the base directory that matches the spot groups, media groups, and playlists in IXM One.

Putting a spot or media file in one of these folders, uploads it to the corresponding group and playlist in IXM One.

Import via an FTP server

To import via an FTP server, you must create a folder structure below the base directory on an FTP server and store the files there.

The files are transferred to the server and all sub-folders are automatically adopted. You don't need to create them manually on the server.
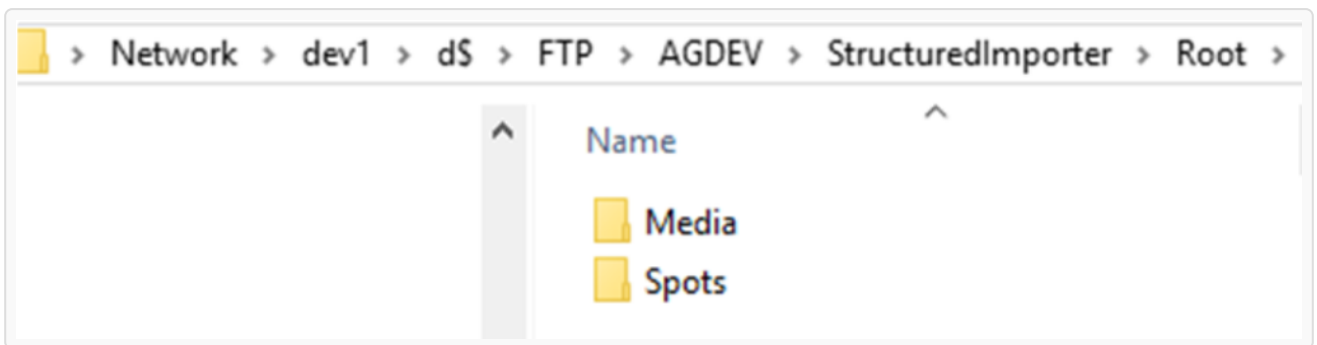
Configure upload to spot and media groups

Configure the upload of files to spot an media groups either via the IXM Server or an FTP server depending on your setup.

IXM Server

If you import a spot or media file via the IXM Server, it's imported to the corresponding spot or media group in IXM One.

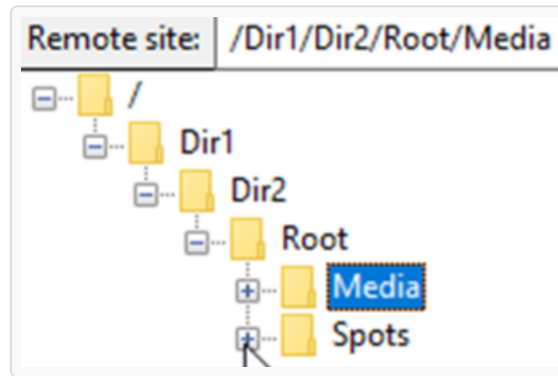To make this possible, create the following folder structure on the server:

- Media groups: `path to root\Media`

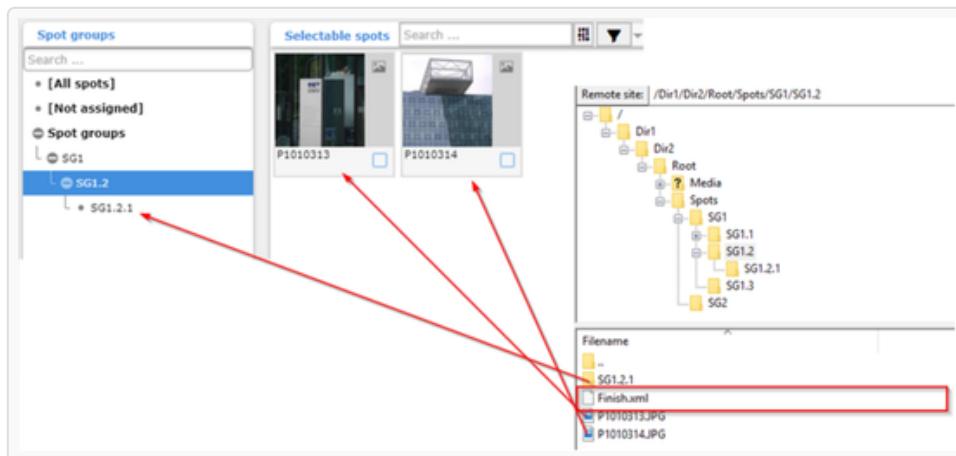- Spot groups: `path to root\Spots`

FTP server

If you deposit a spot or media file in a folder on the FTP server, it's automatically copied to the base directory on the IXM Server and imported to the corresponding spot or media group in IXM One.

To make this possible, create the following folder structure on the FTP server:

The folder structure on the IXM Server is created automatically.

Configure upload to playlists

You can import spots directly to your general playlists. This applies to both the IXM Server and FTP servers.

> *Note*
>
> *Please notes the following limitations:*
>
> • *The import doesn't create playlists. Create the playlists in IXM One beforehand.*
>
> • *You can only import to general playlists, screen playlists are not supported.*

To upload spots to playlists, create a sub-folder within a spot group folder with the name of an existing playlist in square brackets.

Create the following folder structure: `path to root\spots\spot group hierarchy\[name of playlist]`

Upload to playlists with a start date

You can also create a playlist version with a start date when importing spots. To do so, create a sub-folder in the playlist folder with the date and time.

Create the following folder structure: `path to root\spots\spot group hierarchy\[{name of playlist}]\YYYYMMDDhhmmss`

Create the configuration file

To enable the import from any server, you must create a JSON configuration file called configuration.json with the following entries:

Entry	Description
ApiKey	Provide your API key. You can create API keys for users in IXM One. The API key user is the creator of imported spots or media.
ImportType	Specify the import type with one of the following entries: • **Local**: the files are imported directly from a folder to the server (base directory). • **FTP**: the files are copied from an FTP server to a folder on the server and imported.
BaseDirectory	Provide the path to the folder that contains the spots.
SpotDuration	Specify the duration for spots whose duration information is not available, such as images, PDF files, or HTML basic
Ftp	If you use an FTP server, specify the following details: • **Host**: provide the name of the FTP host. • **User**: provide the name of the FTP user. • **Password**: provide the FTP password. • **SourceFtpDirectory**: provide the path to the root directory on the FTP server.

Example **configuration.json** file:

```
{
  "ApiKey": "3D1E08CBD56FE3668BE3C4148EBBC9*****",
  "ImportType": "Ftp",
  "BaseDirectory": "\\\\qa11\\data\\StructuredImporter\\FtpImport",
  "SpotDuration": 13,
"Ftp": {
    "Host": "support.grassfish.tv",
    "User": "*****",
    "Password": "*****",
    "SourceFtpDirectory": "/Dir1/Dir2/Root"
  }
}
```

If paths contain backslashes, you must mask them with escape sequences (**'\'**). Network drives require four backslashes at the beginning (**'\\\\'**).

Prepare the data import

Before you set up the data importer, note that there are two different types of import. You must select the import type when you set up the data importer in IXM One. However, you might have to prepare your import type in advance.

You can use the default import or full import.

Default import

The default import allows you to specify import options via an XML file.

That means, you must create a file called Finish.xml file and store it in the base directory. That is a FTP or local folder on the server.

The importer immediately starts synchronizing when it finds the XML file in that folder.

To create the XML file, use the following structure:

```
 <?xml version="1.0"?>
 <FinishFile xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance" xmlns:xsd="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSch
  <ClearSpotGroups>true</ClearSpotGroups>
  <TruncateEmptyPlaylists>true</TruncateEmptyPlaylists>
   <ClearPlaylistIfExists>true</ClearPlaylistIfExists>
 </FinishFile>
```

Configure the following import options in the file:

`ClearSpotGroups`

- Set to **true** to delete existing spots from spot groups before importing new spots.

- Set to **false** to add new spots to existing spots.

`TruncateEmptyPlaylists`

- Set to **true** to delete existing spot instances from playlists if the imported playlist folder is empty.

- Set to **false** to ignore empty folder structures.

`ClearPlaylistIfExists`

- Set to **true** to delete all spot instances from playlists before the import.

- Set to **false** to add new spot instances to existing spot instances.

Full import

The full import follows standard import settings, which can't be changed. You don't need to create an XML file.

During the import, the following happens:

- If a spot group contains a spot that doesn't exist in the imported directory, it's removed from all playlists and spot groups.

- If an existing spot has changed, it's replaced with the new file. Spots that are not associated with any import folders are not affected.

- All spots from playlists that are affected by the import are removed before new spots are imported. The spot instances are assigned to the playlist and sorted alphabetically.

Configure spot time control

Optionally, you can specify the validity of imported spots. To do so, you must create a JSON file with time control settings for each spot and place it in the playlist folder.

Create a file with the name **[Spotname].json** and the following entries:

Entry	Description
ValidFrom	Specify the date and time from which the spot is valid.
ValidTo	Specify the date and time until which the spot is valid.
Weekdays	Specify the weekdays (MO, TU, WE, TH, FR, SA, SO) and holidays on which the spot is valid.
DailyFrom	Specify the time of day from which the spot is valid.
DailyTo	Specify the time of day until which the spot is valid.
Loops	Specify the iterations in which the spot is valid.

Example spotname.json file:

```
{
  "ValidFrom": "2020-05-10T11:59:10",
  "ValidTo": "2020-07-27T04:15:46",
  "Weekdays": {
    "Monday": false,
    "Tuesday": false,
    "Wednesday": false,
    "Thursday": false,
    "Friday": true,
```

```
    "Saturday": true,
    "Sunday": false,
    "Holiday": true
  },
  "DailyFrom": "05:00",
  "DailyTo": "21:30",
  "Loops": {
    "One": false,
    "Two": true,
    "Three": false,
    "Four": true,
    "Five": false,
    "Six": false
  }
}
```

Set up the data importer

To set up the data importer in IXM One, perform the following steps:

1. Go to **Administration > Content > Data importer > New**.

2. In the **Create data importer** dialog, select the Structured Importer as **Data importer**.

3. Enter a **Designation**. You'll use the designation when you select the data source of the spot.

4. Enter a **Display name**. The display name is the name of the data source in the system.

5. Switch to the **Feeds** tab and select one of the following **Feed definitions**:

   ◦ Default import

   ◦ Full import

6. As **Path**, enter the path to your config.json file.

7. Specify all other settings as required.

8. Click **Save** to save the data importer.

Start the data importer

To finish the installation, you must start the data import in IXM One. To do so, perform the following steps:

1. In IXM One, go to **Administration > Content > Data importer**.

2. Select the data importer that you want to start.

3. In the lower-right corner, select **Tools > Start import**.

4. Optionally, select **Display data** to display the imported data. Click **OK** to close the window.