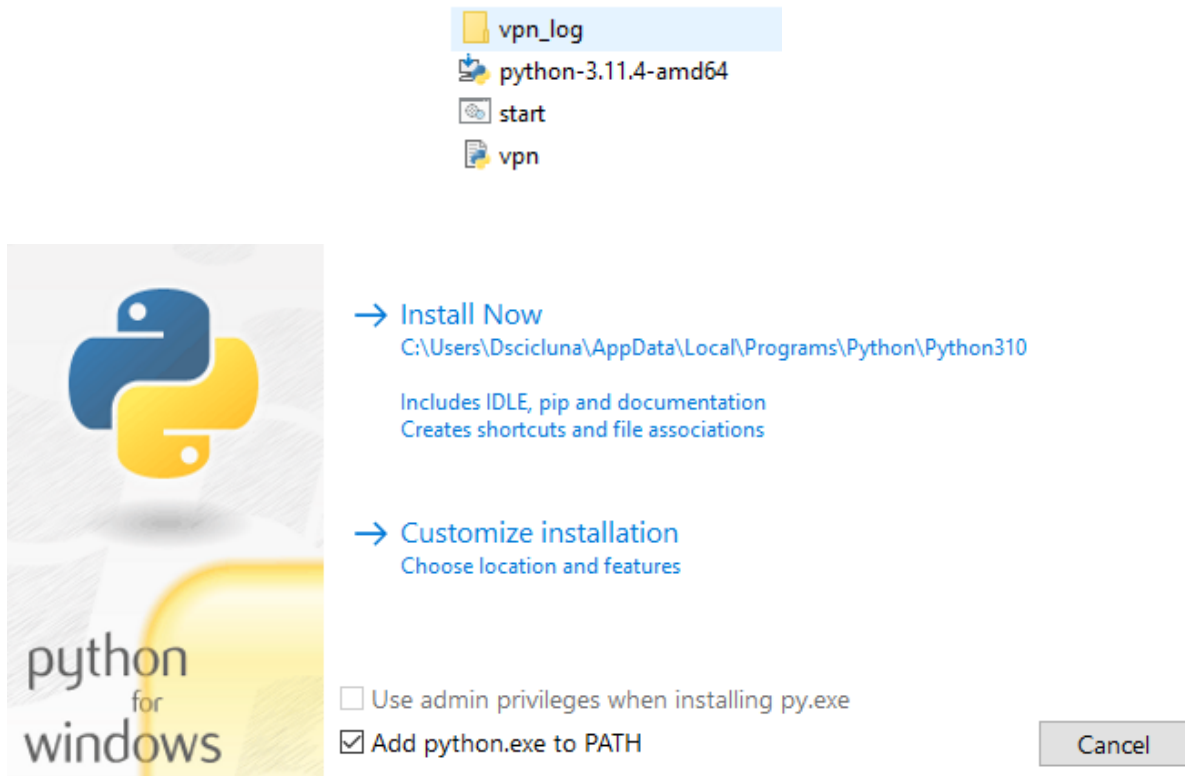


VPN Notifier Python Installation Instruction

1. First install the Python environment, the installer will be inside the folder bundle where the program is located.



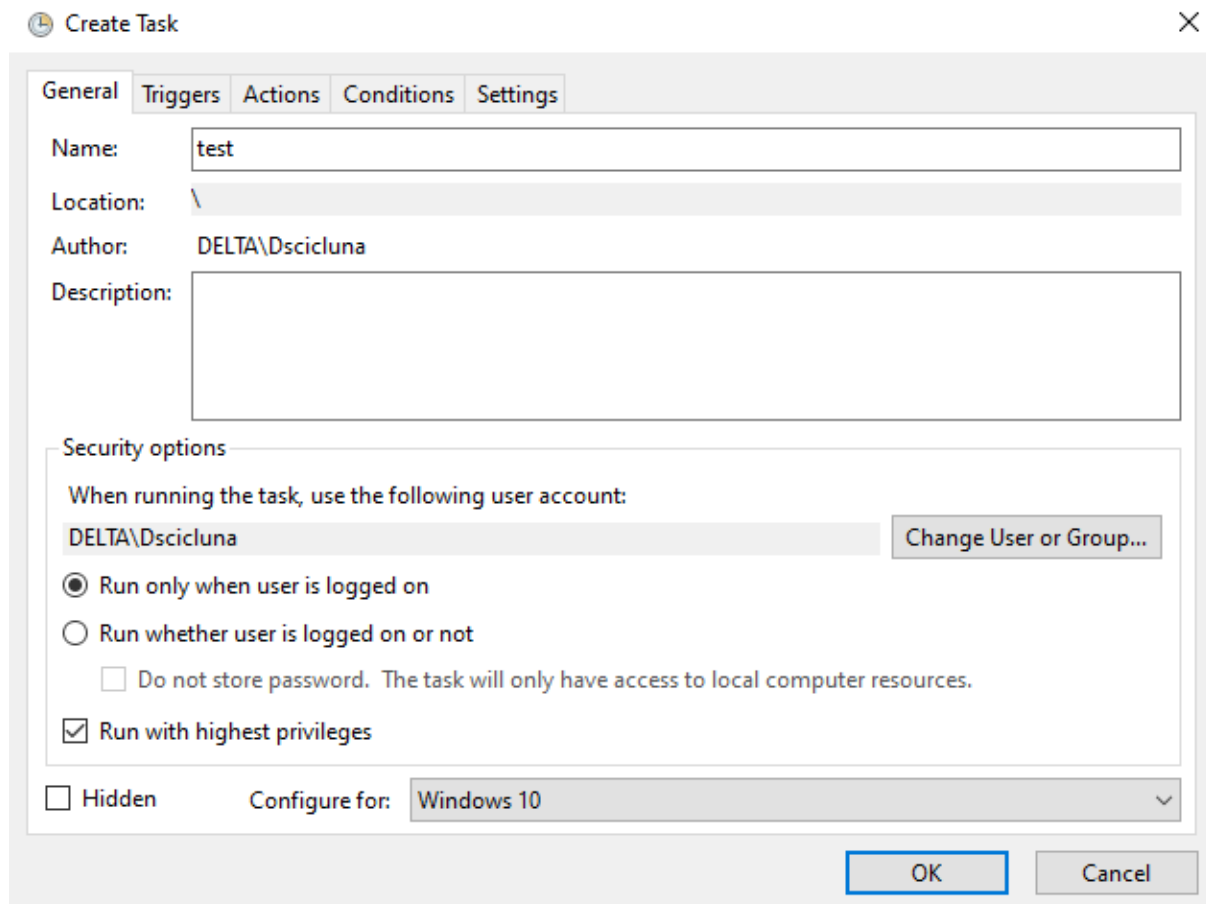
Important to tick “Add python.exe to PATH” BEFORE you press “Install Now”

Program Installation:

To start the program every time the user logs on, we need to create a basic task using the window 's Task Scheduler.

Start.bat is used to execute the Python script and can be used easily by the task scheduler without the need to point to the system where the Python executable is located.

1. Open Task Scheduler
2. Create a Task

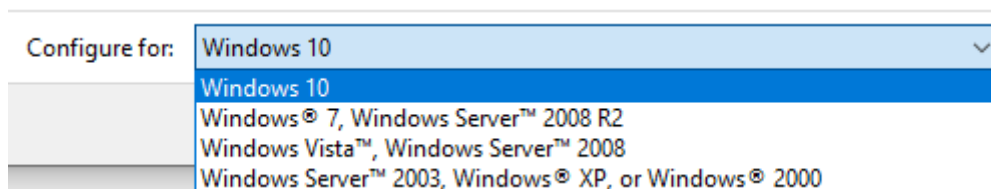


The screenshot shows the 'Create Task' dialog box with the following details:

- General tab:**
 - Name: test
 - Location: \
 - Author: DELTA\Dscicluna
 - Description: (empty text box)
- Security options:**
 - When running the task, use the following user account: DELTA\Dscicluna (with a 'Change User or Group...' button)
 - ☒ Run only when user is logged on
 - ☐ Run whether user is logged on or not
 - ☐ Do not store password. The task will only have access to local computer resources.
 - ☒ Run with highest privileges
- ☐ Hidden
- Configure for: Windows 10 (dropdown menu)

Buttons: OK, Cancel

Configuration should match with the operating system you are using.



The close-up shows the 'Configure for' dropdown menu with the following options:

- Windows 10 (selected)
- Windows 10
- Windows® 7, Windows Server™ 2008 R2
- Windows Vista™, Windows Server™ 2008
- Windows Server™ 2003, Windows® XP, or Windows® 2000

3. Name the job as you wish.
4. Create a trigger to determine when will the program is executed.

Create Task

GeneralTriggersActionsConditionsSettings

When you create a task, you can specify the conditions that will trigger the task.

Trigger	Details	Status
---------	---------	--------

New...

Edit...

Delete

OK

Cancel

5. Press New

New Trigger

Begin the task: At log on

Settings

☒ Any user

☐ Specific user: DELTA\Dscicluna

Change User...

Advanced settings

☐ Delay task for: 15 minutes

☐ Repeat task every: 1 hour for a duration of: 1 day

☐ Stop all running tasks at end of repetition duration

☐ Stop task if it runs longer than: 3 days

☐ Activate: 11/08/2023 13:04:12

☐ Synchronize across time zones

☐ Expire: 11/08/2024 13:04:12

☐ Synchronize across time zones

☒ Enabled

OK

Cancel

6. When finished press ok and go to the action tab.
7. Press new.
8. This is the configuration that is required.

Program/Script: Locate the file that contains the program and select the .bat file.

Add arguments: for our case, this is left empty.

Start in this is used for the system to change the active directory, you must select the folder that contains the .py file and .bat

For example

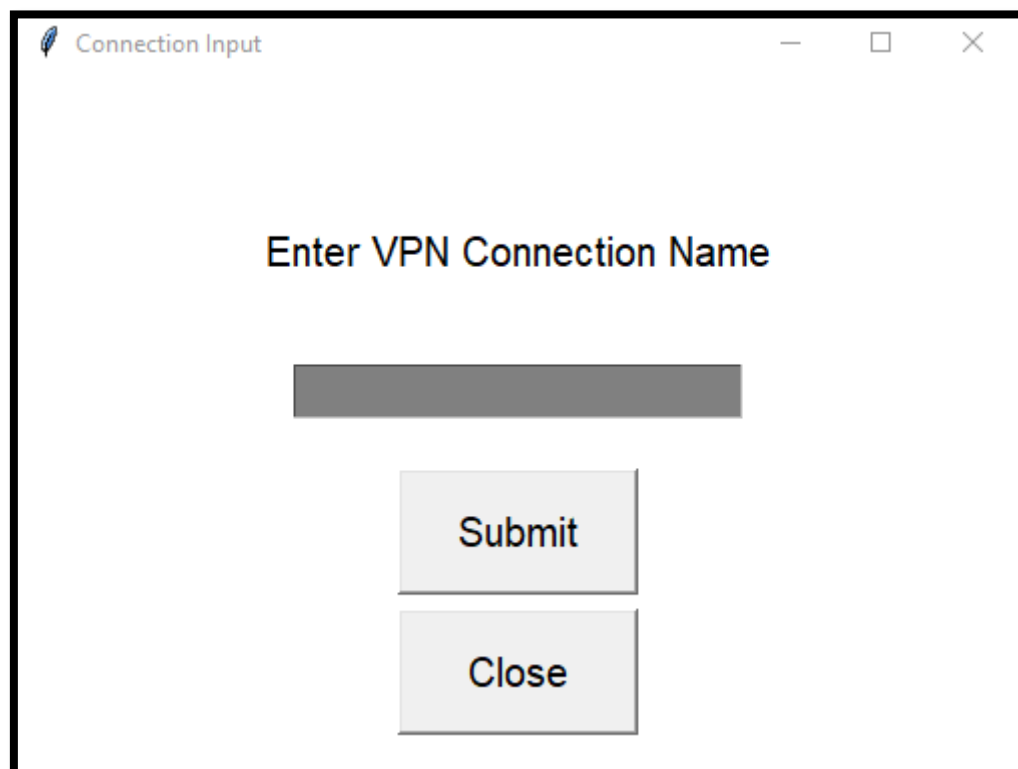
1. Program/Script:

C:\Users\Dscicluna\OneDrive - Delta Malta Ltd\PCData\Desktop\VPN_NOTIFY\start.bat

2. Start in

"C:\Users\Dscicluna\OneDrive - Delta Malta Ltd\PCData\Desktop\VPN_NOTIFY\"

When the program begins to execute the following will open



Connection Input

Enter VPN Connection Name

Submit

Close



It is the utmost important, note to close the cmd line, or else the program will not function. If you wish to immediately close said program, it is safe to do so by pressing CNTRL-C to gracefully shut it down.

You as the user will be able to enter any connection name as you wish. This will allow the program to continuously ping the connection name you choose example: venus.delta.malta or ws-spare01

Connection Input

Enter VPN Connection Name

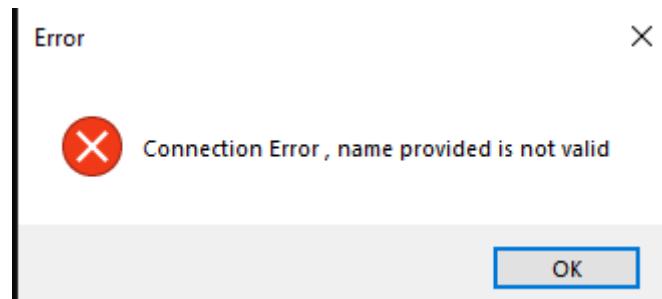
venus.delta.malta

Submit

Close

The program has been equipped with basic error handling to detect if entered domain name or IP address is valid, if not I will keep asking until the user decides to either enter the correct domain name or press CTRL-C to exit.

This is what the user will see when the domain name is correct.



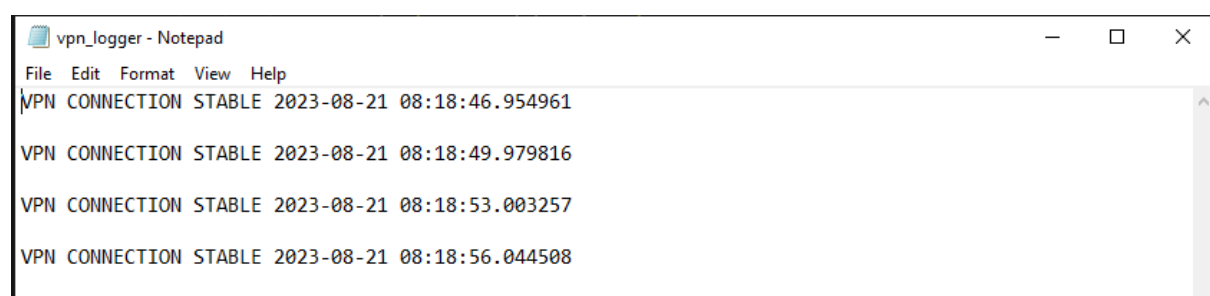
The same thing will happen if the user submits with the text box empty

Once , a suitable domain name / ip address is inserted :

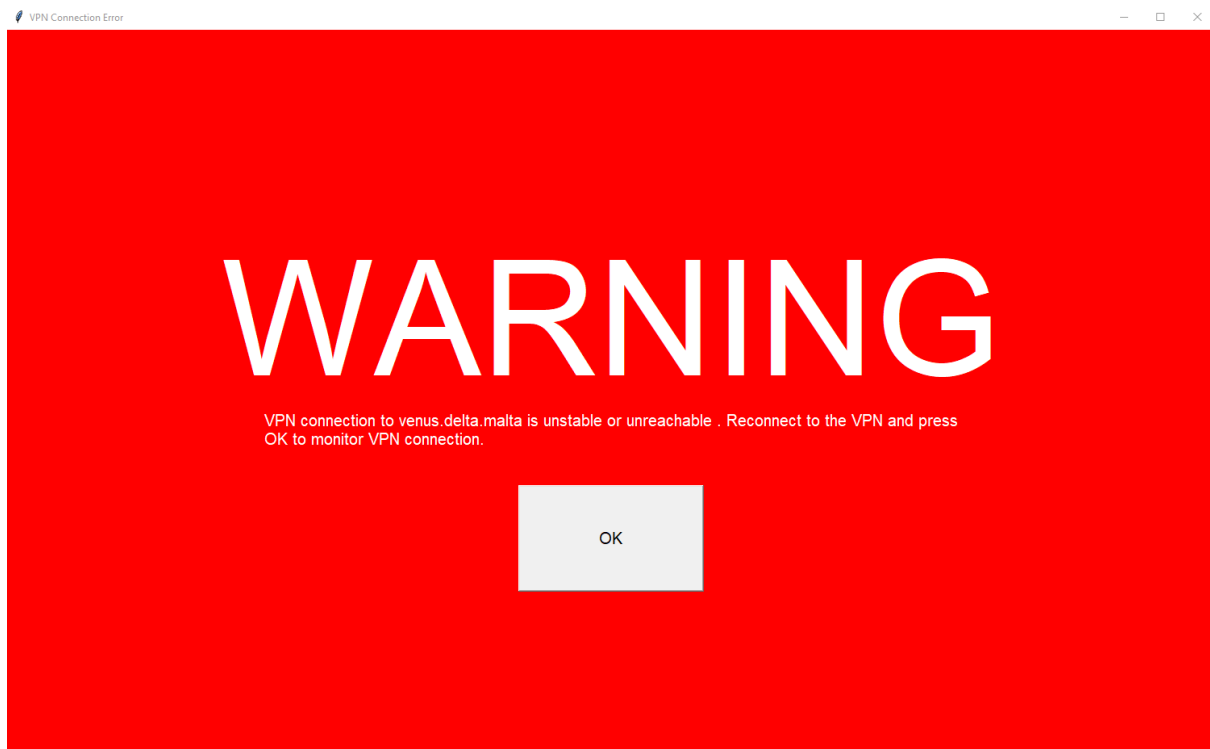
```
VPN Notifier Window
In Progress .....
Entered text: febgf
Entered text: venus.delta.malta

Process Started
Started Notifier , to stop current batch job press Ctrl-C on terminal
```

In the same directory where the program is located, a log folder containing “Ping” results will be generated to determine at which time or day the VPN was stable or unstable.



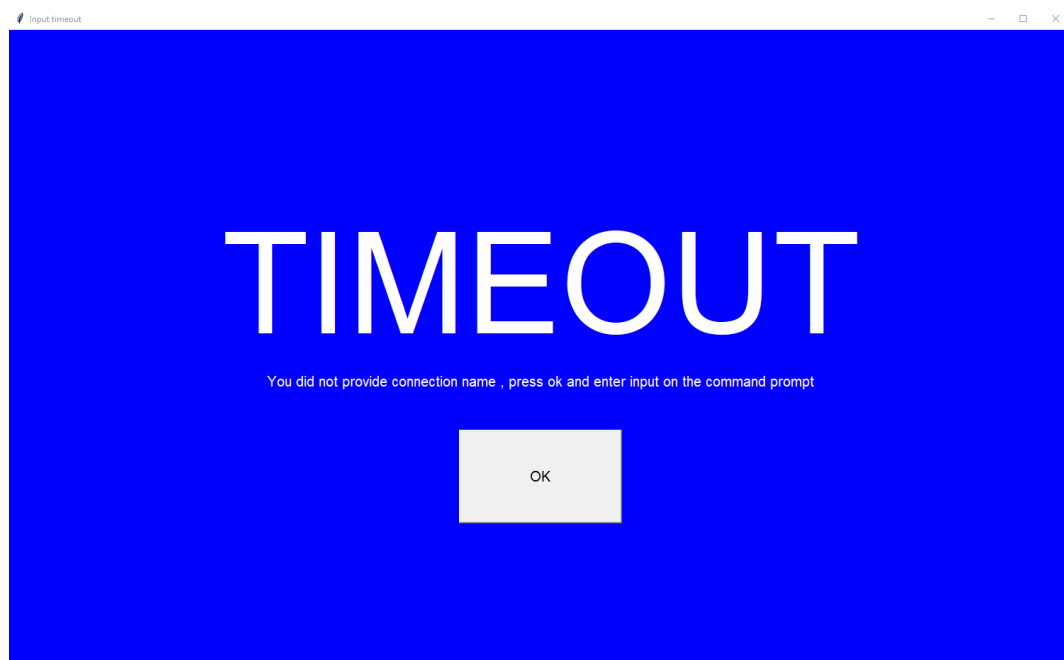
This is the warning window that pops up whenever a connection is lost.



You must establish a connection to the VPN again before you press OK; otherwise, it will keep popping up. Reminder, if you wish to close the program press CTRL-C on the command terminal.

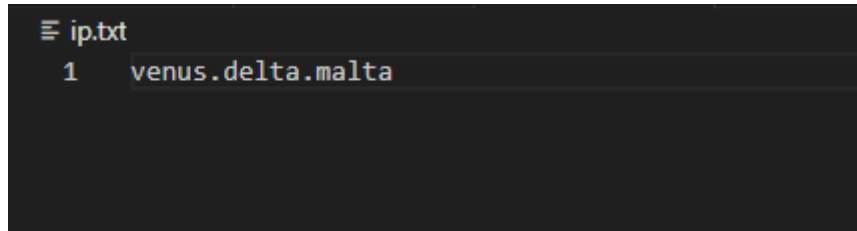
Timeout error handling:

The program has been updated with a feature that notifies the user if has not entered a VPN connection name in the terminal when the program is idle for five minutes.



Pre-configuration setting:

The program can search a Txt file with the IP address/ domain name inside it. This will allow the program to be pre-configured to minimize human intervention. The program will create an "ip.txt" file in case the file has been deleted.

A screenshot of a text editor window with a dark background. The title bar at the top reads "ip.txt". The editor contains a single line of text: "1 venus.delta.malta". The number "1" is on the left, and "venus.delta.malta" is to its right. The text is in a light-colored monospace font.

```
ip.txt
1  venus.delta.malta
```

If the name is valid, the program will start monitoring that connection.

If the txt file is empty, the program will switch to manual mode, this means the user must input an IP address from the command prompt. Once the IP address has been inputted and verified, it will store that input in the same file for future use.

In case you want to change the domain connection you can do the following:

1. You can change the name inside the txt folder, no spaces, and leave the text on the first line.
2. Delete the txt file itself, the program will request the user to input his choice and save that connection in the txt file for future use.