



BlastLogic

BlastLogic Server

Installation Procedure

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About Maptek Documents |

The following conventions are typically used in training manuals and guides:

Example	Description
Design > Object Edit	Text in bold are commands or options selected from a menu, panel, or button.
Top Down or Bottom-Up design method	Text in bold is also used for emphasis, specific terms, tab names, column names, panel group names etc.
<LEVEL>_SURVEY_ POINTS>	File names or extensions, variables, formulas, text entry, layers, triangulations, databases, scripts, macros, and data such as displayed in the Report window, are in code font.

 **Tip:** Designates a hint such as an effective use of an option.

 **Note:** Designates a point to draw attention to; an informational comment.

 **Important:** Designates an alert to draw particular attention to.

Contents |

About Maptek Documents	iii
1. Preparation and Planning	1
2. Installing a New Server Instance	4
2.1 Step 1: Install SQL Server	4
2.2 Step 2: Configure the service account	5
2.3 Step 3: Configure Maptek Account licences	7
2.4 Step 4: Install and configure BlastLogic Server	7
2.5 Step 5: Establish databases	12
2.6 Step 6: Make your user account a super user	13
2.7 Step 7: Start the service	13
2.8 Step 8: Housekeeping	14
3. Upgrading a Server Instance	16
4. Downgrading a Server Instance	18
5. Database Backup and Restore	19
5.1 Back up and restore site database	19
5.2 Back up and restore master database	21
6. Migrating a Site to Another Server Instance	22
6.1 Migration principles	22
6.2 Migration procedure	23

1. Preparation and Planning |

To install and use the BlastLogic Server, you must meet the following prerequisites:

- **Obtain sufficient permissions to install software and start Windows services on the designated Windows machines.**

Typically, this means your account must be a local administrator of the machine that runs the BlastLogic Server.

- **Have sufficient Active Directory permissions.**

The BlastLogic Server service runs under a dedicated domain service account. Therefore, you will need Active Directory permissions enabling you to create the service account and grant the service account the **Log on as a service** rights (by either using the local security policy on the target machine or using the Group Policy).

- **Have sufficient permissions to execute the setspn command on a domain controller.**

The BlastLogic Server service typically authenticates users against Active Directory. You will need sufficient permissions to execute the `setspn` command on a domain controller to grant the service account permissions to query Active Directory in order to authenticate users and retrieve user account details for the purpose of synchronisation.

- **Use an SQL Server High Availability instance.**

The BlastLogic Server uses Microsoft SQL Server as its primary data store. For High Availability deployments, we recommend that an SQL Server High Availability instance be used, for example:

- Always On failover cluster instance
- Always On availability groups
- Log shipping

Moreover, to complete the BlastLogic Server installation, you will need one of the following:

- **Access to an existing SQL Server (2012 or later) instance.**

If you do not have sufficient permissions to create or restore databases, logins, and users, you may need to contact your local database administrator to perform some of the installation steps.

Or

- **Install a new instance of SQL Server (2012 or later).**

Installing a new instance of SQL Server is outside the scope of this document. Please contact your IT service provider for assistance.

- **Obtain the chain of trust certification.**

The BlastLogic Server can serve clients over hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) or hypertext transfer protocol secure (HTTPS). HTTPS is recommended for optimum security; however, it does require a valid certificate trust chain to be in place between a certificate authority, the server machine, and all client machines. We recommend that you delegate this to your IT services provider who should install the certificate on the chosen server machine in the Computer Account Personal store before installing the BlastLogic Server.

The options for establishing the required Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) certificate are as follows:

- **Internal certificate authority**

Typically in an Enterprise network, an in-house certificate authority (such as Microsoft Active Directory Certificate Services (ADCS)) is deployed. This can be used to issue an SSL certificate for your BlastLogic Server and is the simplest and the most cost-effective option.

- **External certificate authority**

If you do not have an internal certificate authority, you can use an external certificate authority such as GeoTrust or RapidSSL. In that case, your BlastLogic Server will need to be installed with a fully qualified host name (for example, **blastlogic.customer.com**) and then you will need to purchase a certificate from the external certificate authority to match that host name.

- **Have a Windows 64-bit host.**

The BlastLogic Server software is distributed by Maptek as a ZIP archive (.zip). It is available in 64-bit only and thus requires a Windows 64-bit host.

- **Have the Microsoft .NET Framework 4.8 or later installed.**

- **Have a server URL configured (including a host name).**

When installing the BlastLogic Server, a server URL (including a host name) must be configured. By default, this is simply the name of the host computer. However, we recommend using a DNS CNAME entry as the host instead. The main benefits of using a CNAME are as follows:

- If at some point the BlastLogic Server service needs to be moved to another host, you will only need to update the CNAME entry to point to the new host. Clients will not need to be aware of the change and will not need to resynchronise their local cache.
 - By using a simple and meaningful host name (for example, **blastlogic**) rather than a typical corporate named server (for example, **AUSBNEYT4874c87**), users will find it

much easier to remember and correctly type in the server URL. Consider that a simple URL (for example, **http://blastlogic/PROD** is much easier to support .

Note: By default, the BlastLogic Server serves clients using HTTP on port 80 or HTTPS on port 443. You can specify the port and virtual directory path during installation. We recommend using the default ports. However, you may like to discuss port selection with your local IT network services provider rather than accepting the default value. Whatever port you specify, there must be no other software on the server machine listening to the same port.

Note: The BlastLogic Server allows users to upload file attachments. These can be stored on the BlastLogic Server itself or on a file server by specifying a UNC path. The best place to store attachments depends on High Availability requirements, available disk space, and expected consumption. If redundancy is required, we recommend that you store file attachments on a redundant file server.

2. Installing a New Server Instance

2.1 Step 1: Install SQL Server

Note: The BlastLogic Server supports SQL Server 2012 SP4, 2014 SP3, 2016 SP 2, 2017, and 2019.

Note: The following procedure targets a default, non-redundant SQL Server instance. For large installations or installations requiring High Availability, an experienced SQL Server database administrator should provide a suitably configured instance.

Follow these steps to install SQL Server:

1. If not already installed, install .NET Framework 4.8.
2. Run the SQL Server installation file.
3. When the files have been extracted, select **New SQL Server stand-alone installation or add features to an existing installation**.
4. In the **Product Updates**, click **Next**.
5. Accept the license terms and click **Next**.
6. In the **Feature Selection** panel, select the **Database Engine Services** checkbox and click **Next**.

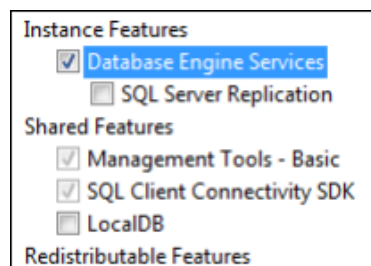


Figure 2-1 SQL Server feature selection

7. In the **Instance Configuration** panel, select **Default instance**.

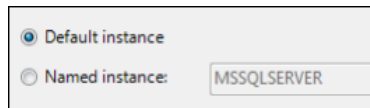


Figure 2-2 Instance configuration

8. In the **Server Configuration** panel, keep the default values and click **Next**.
9. Configure the database tabs as follows:
 - a. **Server Configuration:**
 - For authentication mode, select **Mixed Mode**.
 - Enter a strong password of your choosing and make a record of it.
 - Click **Add Current User**.
 - b. **Data Directories:**

Change the data root directory to your hard drive (for example, C:\MSSQL or D:\MSSQL)

 **Tip:** If you have more than one hard drive to choose from, select a fast hard drive with large capacity.
 - c. **User Instances:** No changes required.
 - d. **FILESTREAM:** No changes required.
 - e. Click **Next**.
10. In the **Error Reporting** panel, select the required settings and click **Next**. The installation will now proceed and can take several minutes.
11. When the installation is complete, click **Close**.

2.2 Step 2: Configure the service account

 **Note:** The BlastLogic Server version 2021 and newer require an outgoing firewall rule to allow the BlastLogic Server to access account.maptek.com and api.account.maptek.com.

 **Note:** To run BlastMCF on your on-premises server, you must ensure that the network allows the server application to access <https://api.mcf.account.maptek.com>.

The BlastLogic Server runs as a Windows service that logs on using a least privileged service account. By convention, the service account is typically named **BlastLogicService**, but you can use any name.

 **Important:** Your BlastLogic service account must be a member of the **Service** database role for the SQL Server instance that you have installed.

2.2.1 Establishing service account

Ask your local network administrator to create a new service account called **BlastLogicService** (or select a different name, as required). The account should be configured to never expire. The network administrator will choose a suitable password and provide it to you after creating the account.

2.2.2 Configure user rights

The service account must have the **Log on as a service** user rights on the target machine. The easiest way to do this is to use local security policy (however, your network administrator may choose to do it using Group Policy). Follow these steps to configure user rights using local security policy:

1. Click **Start**, go to **Control Panel > Administrative Tools**, and select **Local Security Policy**.
2. Open **Local Policies** and select **User Rights Assignment**.
3. Double-click **Log on as a service**.
4. Click **Add User or Group**.

 **Note:** If your service account is already listed, skip to the next section.

5. Enter the name of your service account (for example, `BlastLogicService`) and click **OK**.
6. Click **OK**.

2.2.3 Authorise your service account to query Active Directory

To use Windows Authentication, the service must be able to query Active Directory to authenticate users and retrieve user accounts details (for example, user's full name). To authorise the service account to authenticate against Active Directory, a domain administrator will need to execute the following commands:

```
setspn -S HTTP/<BlastLogic Server host name> <domain name>\<service account name>
```

```
setspn -S HTTP/<Fully qualified BlastLogic Server host name> <domain name>\<service account name>
```

Example

```
setspn -S HTTP/BlastLogicServer DOMAIN\BlastLogicService
```

```
setspn -S HTTP/BlastLogicServer.domain.local DOMAIN\BlastLogicService
```

 **Tip:** To determine computer names, open **Control Panel** and go to the **System Security > System**.

2.3 Step 3: Configure Maptek Account licences

The BlastLogic Server 2021 and later versions require Maptek Account licences to function. Maptek Account licences must be configured in the Maptek Account web portal and the BlastLogic Server must be configured to use those licences. For information on configuring Maptek Account, see the *BlastLogic Server and BlastLogic Tablet Licensing Procedure*.

2.4 Step 4: Install and configure BlastLogic Server

Follow these steps to install and configure the BlastLogic Server:

1. Copy the installation ZIP archive (.zip) to a temporary location, for example, C:\TEMP.
2. Extract the ZIP archive.
3. Open the folder containing the extracted files and run the **Setup.exe** file.
4. Click **Install**.
5. Proceed as follows:
 - a. **Step 1: Change the default values as required.**

If your company has provisioned a DNS CNAME entry (for example, **blastlogic**) pointing to the application server, be sure to enter this as the URL host. The BlastLogic Server can listen to multiple URIs. To add a new URI, click the **Add** button and specify the host,

port, and path for that URI. Click **Next** to proceed to the next step.

Instance Name
Enter a name for this instance, e.g. PRODUCTION, TRAINING, UAT.
Instance 4

URL Scheme
Select the URL scheme to run the service on.
NOTE: Basic Authentication can only be used with https.
☒ https (secure, recommended)
☐ http (less secure)

Web Service URLs
Specify the URL(s) for the web service.
• The host is typically the name of the machine running the service, but can be a DNS alias or an IP address.
• The TCP port is typically 443 for https or 80 for http.
The resulting URL must not be in use by another application, or another BlastLogic Server instance.

Scheme	Host	Port	Path	Uri
https://	adl-dsk-055	443	/BL/Instance 4	https://adl-dsk-055/BL/Instance 4

Buttons: Delete, Add, Cancel, Next

Figure 2-3 BlastLogic Server Installer panel (Step 1)

b. **Step 2: Change the Attachments folder (if required).**

Next, enter the password of the service account as supplied by your network administrator and click **Install**.

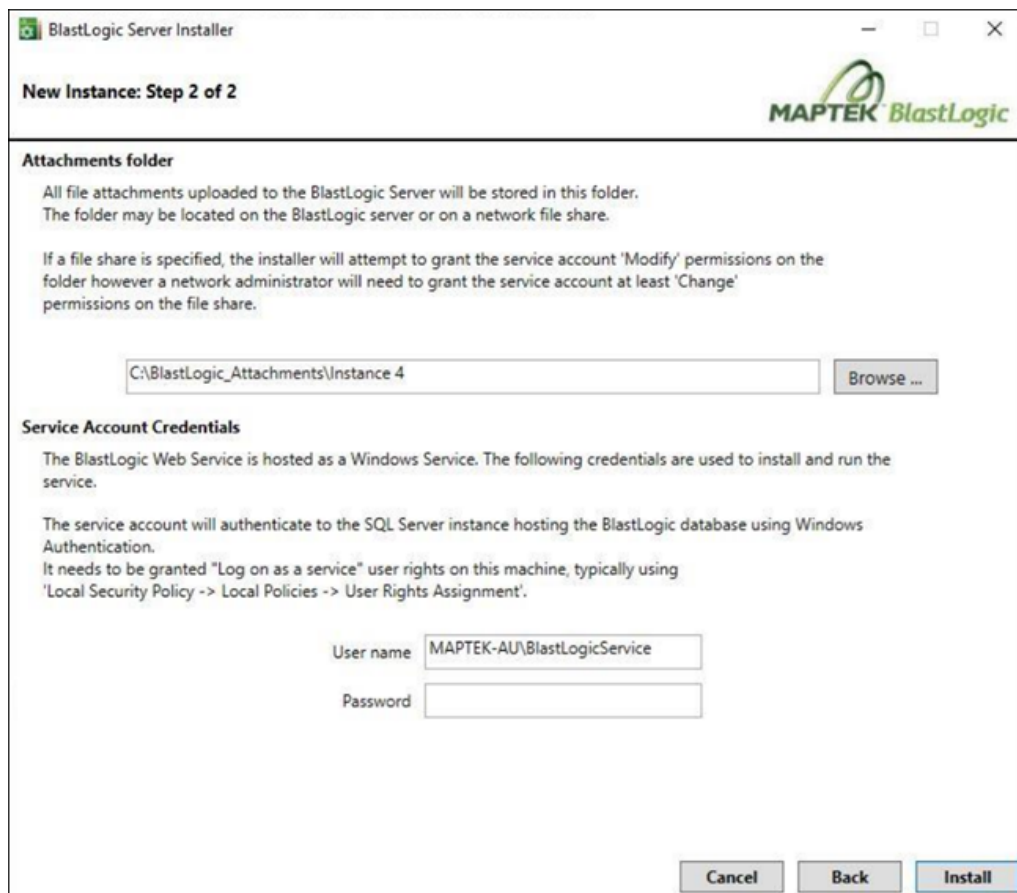


Figure 2-4 BlastLogic Server Installer panel (Step 2)

6. A **User Account Control (UAC)** window will appear. Click **Yes**.
7. A completion notification window will be displayed after a short time. Click **OK**.
8. A second UAC window will appear. Click **Yes**.
9. The **Maptek BlastLogic Server Configuration Utility** panel will appear.

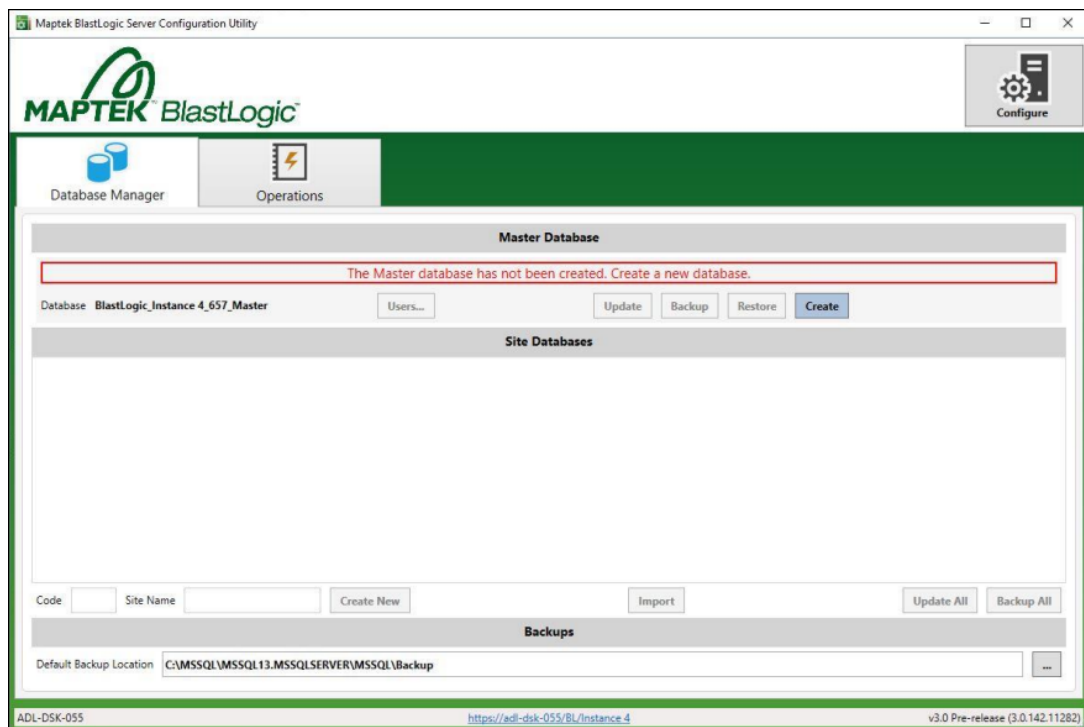


Figure 2-5 The Maptek BlastLogic Server Configuration Utility panel

The configuration utility will attempt to configure the server automatically, however you may need to click the **Configure** button on the top right of the panel to make some changes, as follows:

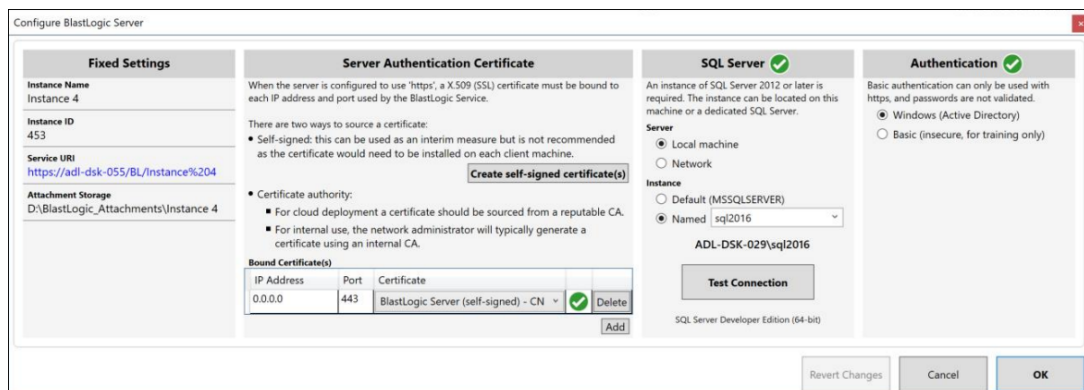


Figure 2-6 BlastLogic Server configuration panel

a. Server Authentication Certificate (HTTPS only)

If a valid SSL certificate has been installed on the server, it will be available in the **Certificate** drop-down. If the drop-down is empty, then a valid certificate was not found in the **Current User Certificate** or **Trusted Root Certification Authorities Certificate** stores. Contact your IT service provider to resolve the issue.

Note: Using a self-signed certificate is not a valid option for production deployments.

The BlastLogic Server can listen to multiple URIs that can relate to different IP addresses and ports. A different SSL certificate can be bound to each IP address and port. Therefore, add the IP addresses and ports as required. Next, select the appropriate SSL certificate for each IP address and port from the **Certificate** drop-down.

Note: 0.0.0.0 is a wildcard IP address. Any certificate bound to 0.0.0.0 will affect all requests to this server on any IP address.

b. **SQL Server**

If you followed the instructions in **Step 1** (see [2.1 Step 1: Install SQL Server](#) on page 4) and installed a local, default SQL Server instance, then the SQL Server settings should not require changing. Otherwise, select the appropriate server and instance for your environment.

c. **Authentication**

Windows is the default setting and is recommended for on-premise production deployments. You can use **Basic** if your machine is used for training or demonstration purposes.

Note: **Microsoft Entra ID** is used for cloud deployment, and is not in the scope of this document.

2.5 Step 5: Establish databases

BlastLogic uses one *master* database and one or more *site* databases. The master database contains the directory of BlastLogic site databases, users, and permissions. Each site database contains the blast-related data for a particular site (excluding file attachments, as these are stored in the file system).

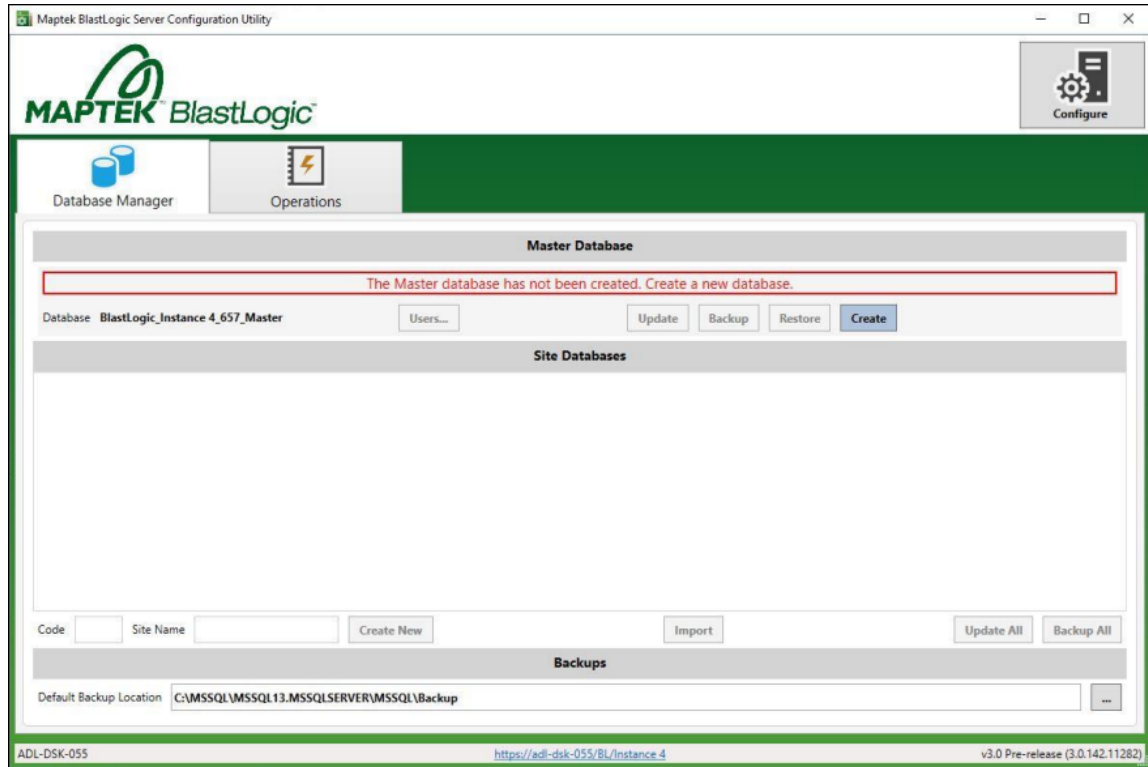


Figure 2-7 The Maptek BlastLogic Server Configuration Utility panel

First, you need to create a master database. To do so, click the **Create** button under the **Master Database** in the **Maptek BlastLogic Server Configuration Utility** panel.

You can also create new site databases and import site database backups. To create a new site database, enter its code and site name in the corresponding fields under the **Site Databases** in the **Maptek BlastLogic Server Configuration Utility** panel and click **Create New**. To import a site database backup, click **Import**.

Note: You must create at least one site database.

2.6 Step 6: Make your user account a super user

By default, the BlastLogic Server has no users configured. To be able to log in to the server once configured, we recommend that you make your account a super user.

Follow these steps to turn your account into a super user:

1. Click the **Users...** button in the **Maptek BlastLogic Server Configuration Utility** panel.
2. If you are not already listed as a super user, enter your user name and click **Add**.

Manage super users

Add a new Super User

User name (e.g. DOMAIN\john.doe, john.doe@domain.local or John Doe) **Add**

Current Super Users

This utility only supports creating, activating or upgrading users to global super users.
Day to day user / role management should be performed using the BlastLogic Desktop System Administration facility.

MAPTEK-AU\user.name	Active	GLOBAL

Close

Figure 2-8 Adding a new super user

2.7 Step 7: Start the service

After completing the previous steps, you now need to start the BlastLogic Server Windows Service by clicking the **Operations** tab in the **Maptek BlastLogic Server Configuration Utility** panel. If the service fails to start, inspect the application log events that may be helpful in diagnosing the problem. With the service now running, start the BlastLogic Desktop client and try to log in using the URL that you have specified earlier (see [2.3 Step 3: Configure Maptek Account licences](#) on page 7 for details).

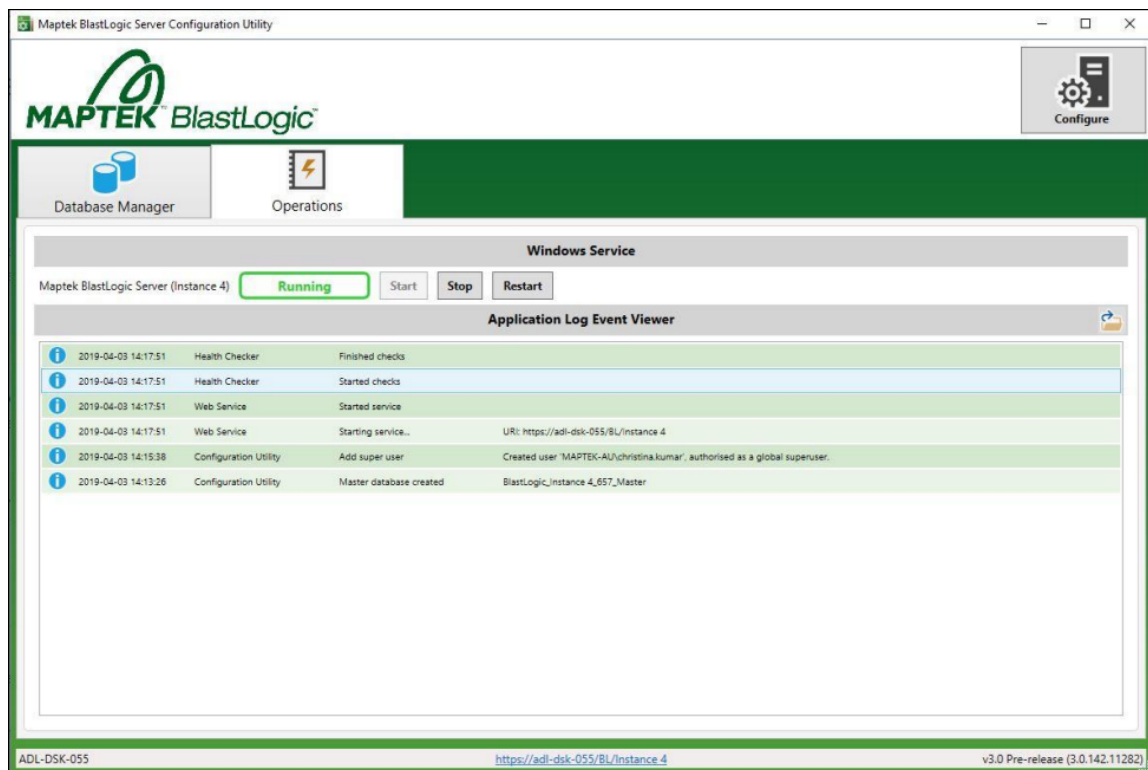


Figure 2-9 Operations tab in the Maptek BlastLogic Server Configuration Utility panel

2.8 Step 8: Housekeeping

Now that the server is installed and running, you can adjust the Windows Service properties for BlastLogic and fine-tune the Windows firewall settings.

2.8.1 Adjusting the Windows Service properties for BlastLogic

By default, the BlastLogic service will start automatically every time you start Windows. Occasionally during system boot, the service may fail to start, typically because SQL Server does not start in time. Using the **Delayed Start** option usually resolves problems like this.

Follow these steps to enable the **Delayed Start** option:

1. Click  (Start) on the Windows taskbar and go to **Control Panel > Windows Tools > Services**.
2. Scroll down to **Maptek BlastLogic Server <instance name>**, right-click on it and select **Properties**.

3. Change the **Start up type** by selecting **Automatic (Delayed Start)**. This will allow you to achieve the best results when your machine reboots.
4. Click **OK**.

2.8.2 Fine-tuning the Windows firewall settings

By default, the installer creates an inbound rule that may allow anybody on any network to which your computer is connected to access the BlastLogic Server. When the machine is connected to a public network, for example, an airport Wi-Fi, any computer on the network may attempt to log in to the BlastLogic Server. Therefore, we highly recommend that the firewall rules are reviewed by your network administrator or a security professional.

3. Upgrading a Server Instance

Upgrading a server instance is a routine upgrade that does not require clients to be upgraded immediately.

Follow these steps to upgrade a BlastLogic Server instance:

1. Open the BlastLogic Server installation file (Setup.exe).
2. The **BlastLogic Server Installer** panel will appear. Select the server instance to upgrade.
3. Click **Upgrade**.

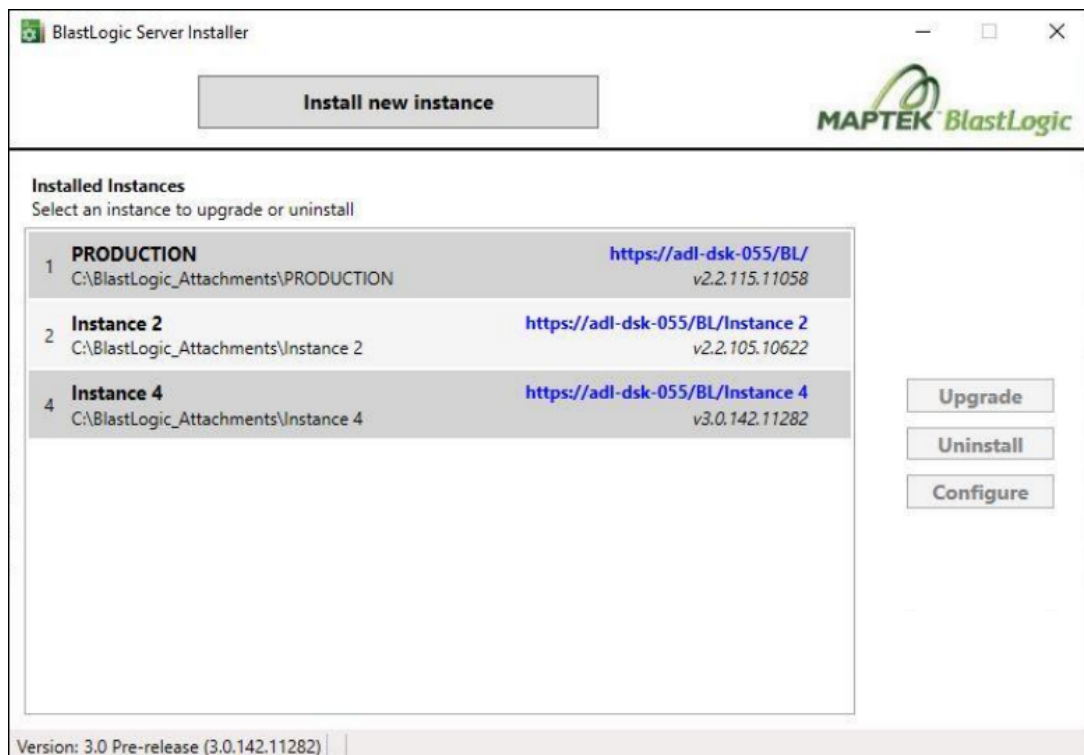


Figure 3-1 The BlastLogic Server Installer panel

4. A **User Account Control** (UAC) prompt will appear. Click **Yes**.
5. A second UAC prompt will be displayed. Click **Yes**.
6. The **Maptek BlastLogic Server Configuration Utility** panel will appear. Apply the required database updates.

Note: If you have SQL replication enabled, it can disrupt database updates and require the BlastLogic database to be restored to earlier backups. We strongly recommend disabling SQL replication before applying database updates.

4. Downgrading a Server Instance

Server downgrade reverts a server instance to an earlier version. Downgrading is intended to be used to restore a server to a previous state if the server upgrade experiences problems.

Important: Most server upgrades require the site and (or) master databases to be updated. If a BlastLogic database is updated, server downgrade will not undo database updates. Reverting a database update requires restoring a database backup. Newer versions of BlastLogic databases are not compatible with older versions of the BlastLogic Server. Therefore, before downgrading the server, you need to ensure that appropriate database backups are available.

Follow these steps to downgrade a BlastLogic Server instance:

1. Open the BlastLogic Server installation file (Setup.exe).
2. The **BlastLogic Server Installer** panel will appear. Select the server instance to downgrade.
3. Click **Downgrade**.

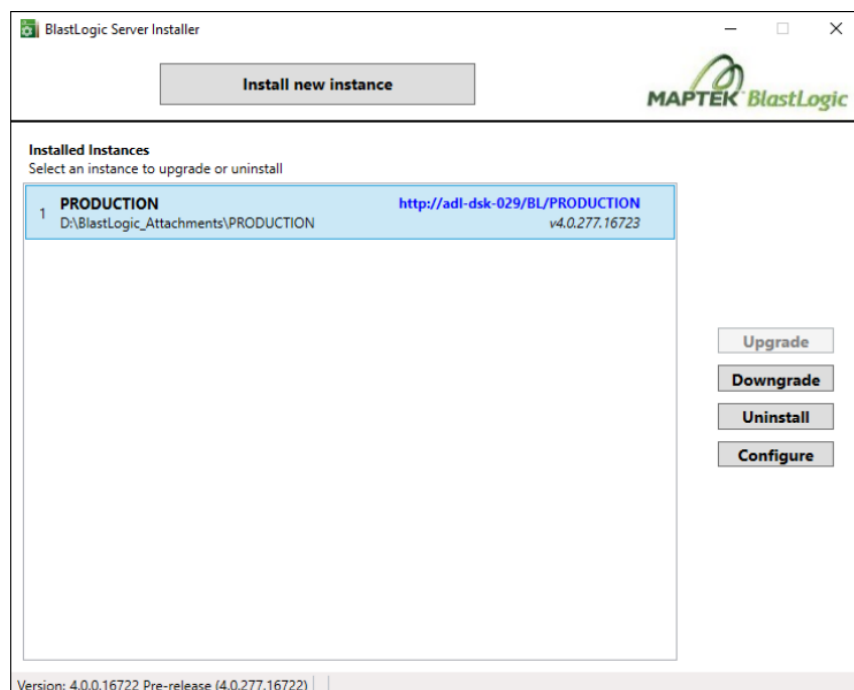


Figure 4-1 The BlastLogic Server Installer panel

The downgrade should proceed without requiring further input. Once it is complete, the **Maptek BlastLogic Server Configuration Utility** panel will appear.

5. Database Backup and Restore

Use the following procedure to back up and restore site and master databases.

5.1 Back up and restore site database

You can back up each site database separately or all sites in one operation. See below for details.

Follow these steps to back up a site database:

1. Open the **Maptek BlastLogic Server Configuration Utility** panel.
2. In the **Database Manager** tab, click the **Backup** button for the required site.

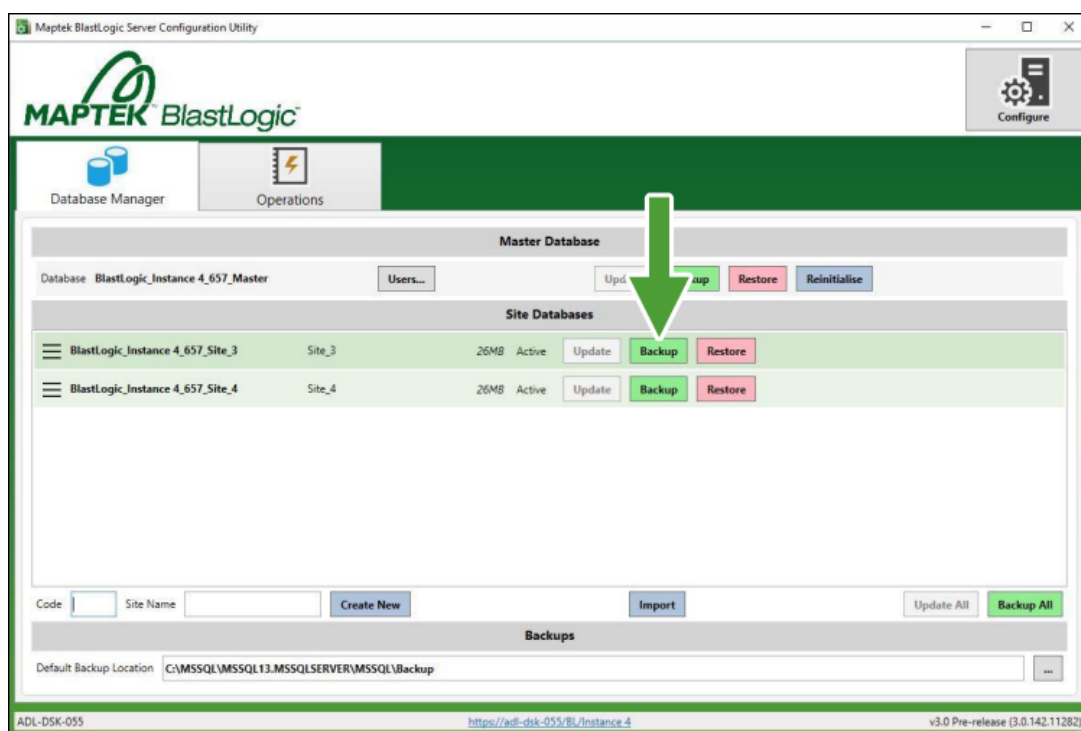


Figure 5-1 The site database **Backup** button in the **Maptek BlastLogic Server Configuration Utility** panel

The backup file will be saved to the default backup location that you have specified in the **Maptek BlastLogic Server Configuration Utility** panel, time-stamped with the current time.

 **Tip:** You can back up all sites in one operation by clicking the **Backup All** button. A separate backup file will be created for each site.

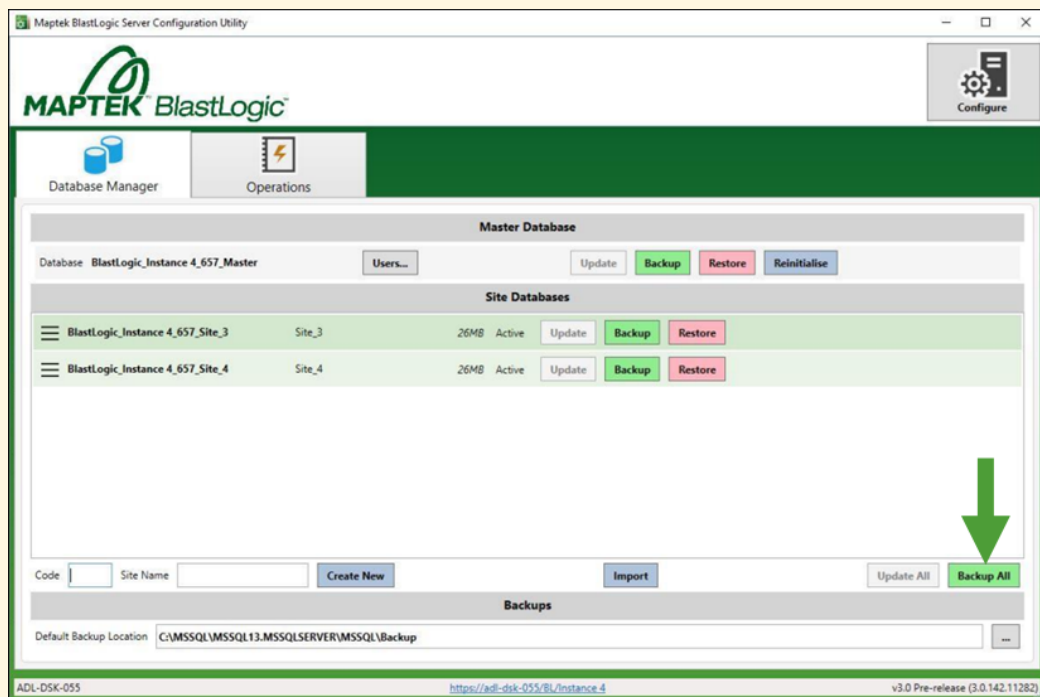


Figure 5-2 The Backup All button in the Maptek BlastLogic Server Configuration Utility panel

3. Open the **Operations** tab to check the file name of the saved backup copy file `.bak`.

To restore an existing site from a backup file, proceed as follows:

1. In the **Maptek BlastLogic Server Configuration Utility** panel, go to the **Database Manager** tab and click the **Restore** button for the required database.
2. Select the database backup file that you want to restore.

 **Important:** Restoring a site database will invalidate the database cache for the BlastLogic Desktop client, so the next time you open the restored site, the explorer will be empty and any unpublished objects will have been lost.

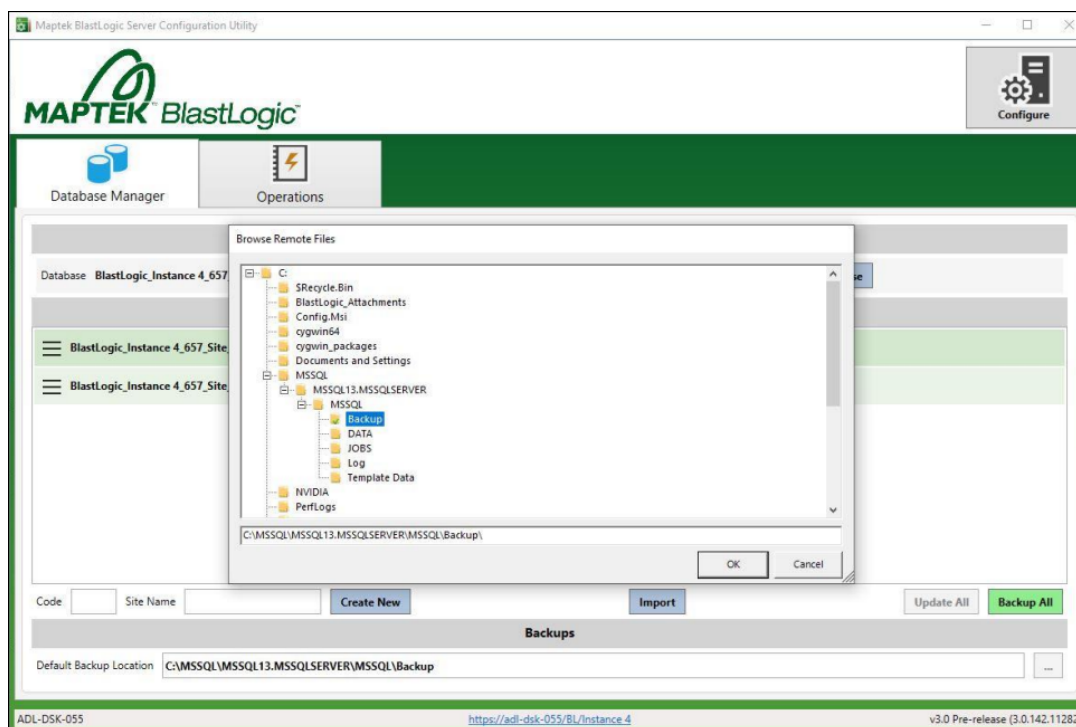


Figure 5-3 Restoring an existing site from a backup file

5.2 Back up and restore master database

The master database stores all users, user roles, hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) logs, and the list of sites.

To back up the master database, go to the **Database Manager** tab in **Maptek BlastLogic Server Configuration Utility** panel and click the **Backup** button corresponding to the master database. The backup file will be saved to the default backup location that you have specified in the **Maptek BlastLogic Server Configuration Utility** panel. To check the file name of the saved backup copy file `.bak`, open the **Operations** tab.

The master database can be restored from a backup; however, this is typically not required and should only be done on the advice of Maptek. To restore the master database from a backup file, go to the **Database Manager** tab in the **Maptek BlastLogic Server Configuration Utility** panel and click the **Restore** button for the master database. Next, select the database backup to restore.

6. Migrating a Site to Another Server Instance

Use the following procedure to move a site from one BlastLogic Server instance to another, and to move the site database from one SQL Server instance to another.

6.1 Migration principles

To migrate a site from one server instance to another, you must be mindful of the following migration principles:

- **SQL Server databases are not backwards-compatible.**

The destination version of SQL Server must be the same as or newer than the source SQL Server version.

Example: A backup from an SQL 2016 instance cannot be restored to an SQL 2012 instance.

- **BlastLogic Server databases are not backwards-compatible.**

The destination version of the BlastLogic Server must be the same as or newer than the source the BlastLogic Server version.

- **The user account performing the database backup and import (restoration) operations must have sufficient permissions.**

Your user account needs to have backup permissions on the source SQL Server and be an SQL Server's system administrator on the destination SQL Server. You will also need sufficient permissions to copy the SQL backup files (.bak) from the source SQL Server backup folder to the destination SQL Server backup folder.

6.2 Migration procedure

Follow these steps to migrate a site to another server instance:

1. Schedule an outage window (approximately two hours) and inform users about it in advance.
2. Confirm that all BlastLogic Tablets have been synchronised and all desktop users have published the data they want to keep.
3. Log in to the source site using the Desktop client and record any site-specific user roles for the site to be moved, as these will not be transferred to the destination automatically.

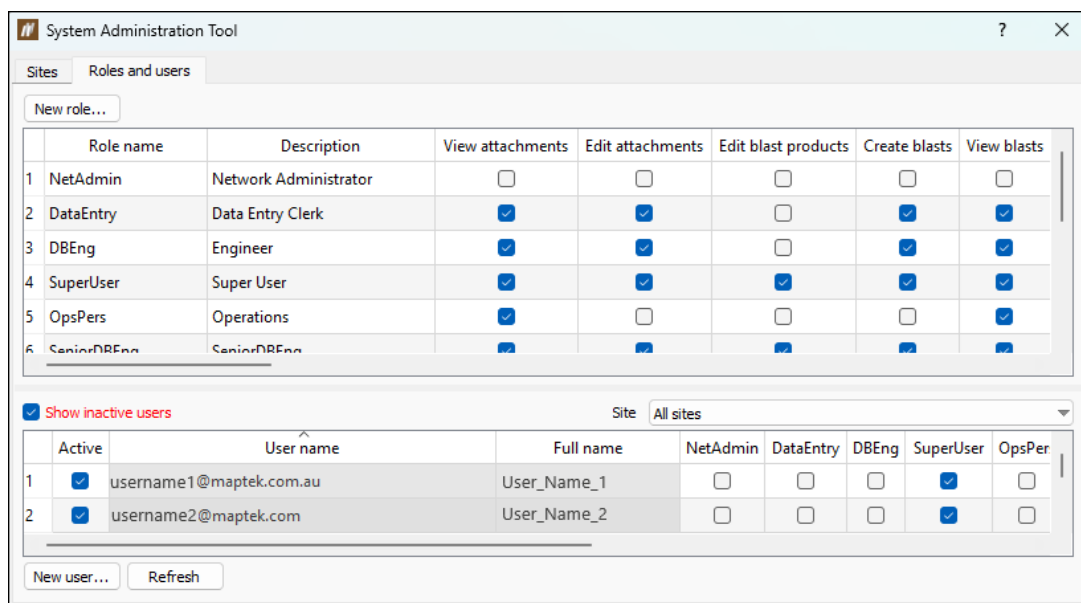


Figure 6-1 System Administration Tool panel (BlastLogic Desktop application)

4. Open the **Maptek BlastLogic Server Configuration Utility** panel on the source BlastLogic Server.
5. In the **Database Manager** tab, click the **Backup** button to backup the site to be migrated.

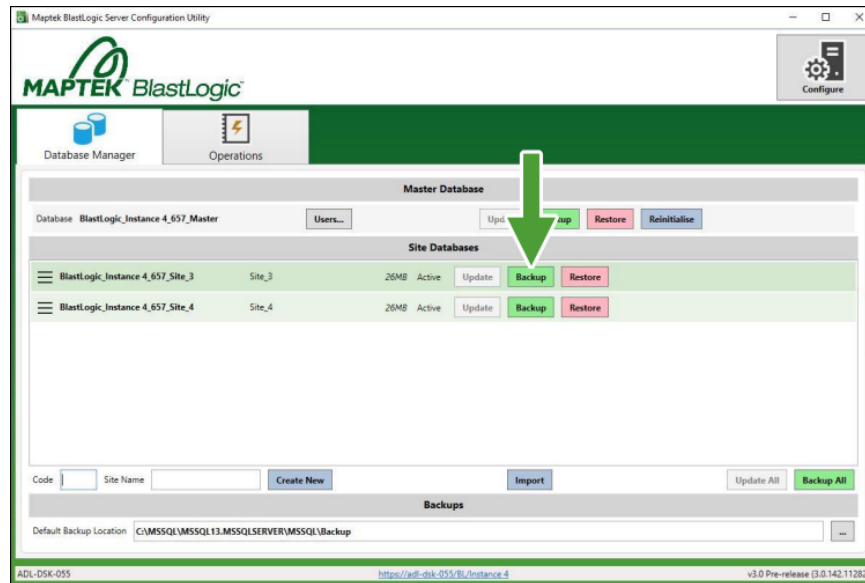


Figure 6-2 The site database **Backup** button in the Maptek BlastLogic Server Configuration Utility panel

See also: [Database Backup and Restore](#) on page 19

6. Copy the backup copy file (.bak) from the **Default Backup Location** folder on the source SQL Server to the **Default Backup Location** folder on the destination SQL Server. The **Default Backup Location** is listed in the **Database Manager** tab in the **Maptek BlastLogic Server Configuration Utility** panel.
7. Copy the file attachments folder for the relevant site from the **BlastLogic_Attachments** folder on the source BlastLogic Server to the destination server. You can find the **BlastLogic_Attachments** folder in the BlastLogic Server configuration panel.

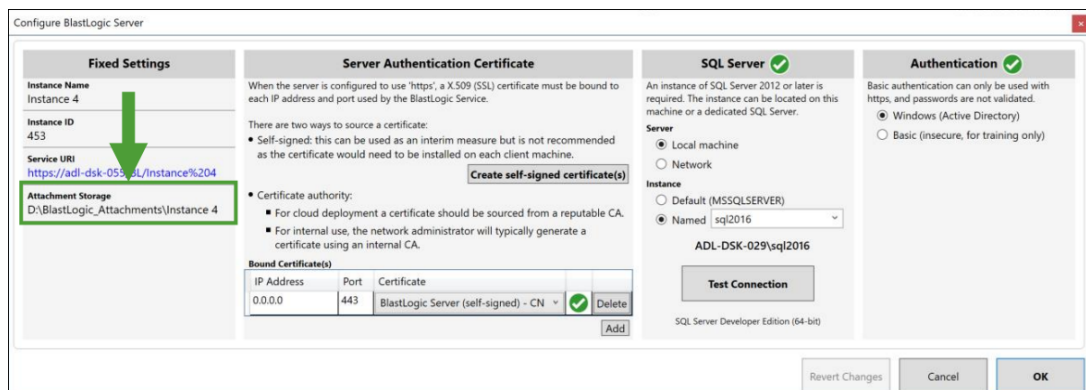


Figure 6-3 BlastLogic_Attachments folder location in the BlastLogic Server configuration panel

8. Open the **Maptek BlastLogic Server Configuration Utility** panel on the destination BlastLogic Server.
9. Click the **Import** button in the **Database Manager** tab of the **Maptek BlastLogic Server Configuration Utility** panel to import the site backup.
10. Apply any outstanding database updates by clicking the **Update** button corresponding to the required site in the **Database Manager** tab of the **Maptek BlastLogic Server Configuration Utility** panel.

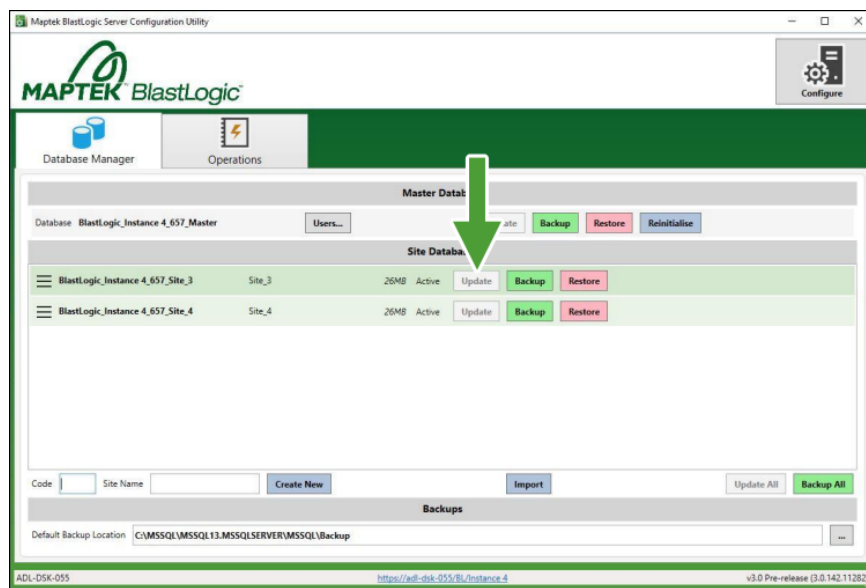


Figure 6-4 The site database **Update** button in the **Maptek BlastLogic Server Configuration Utility** panel

11. In the **Operations** tab of the **Maptek BlastLogic Server Configuration Utility** panel, ensure that the BlastLogic service is started.
12. Log in to the destination site using the Desktop client application and apply the user roles that you have recorded in step 3 of this procedure.
13. Arrange for an end user to conduct the following test:
 - a. Connect and log in to the destination service URI using the Desktop client. You can find the URI in the BlastLogic Server configuration panel.

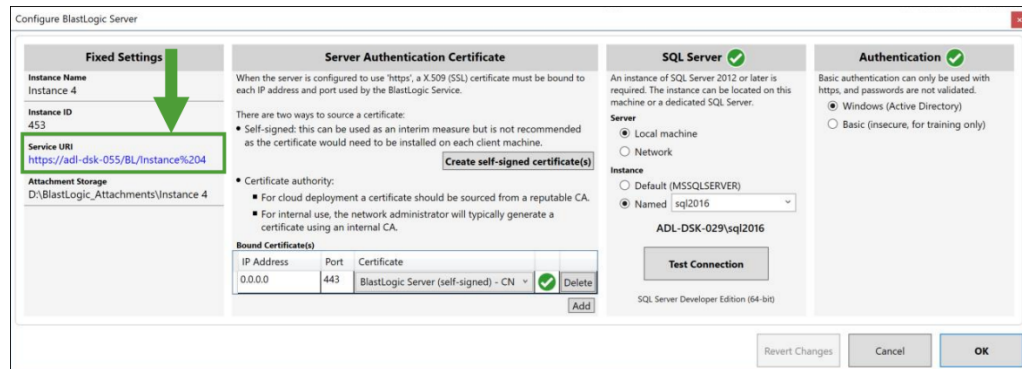


Figure 6-5 Service URI location in the BlastLogic Server configuration panel

- b. Select and open the migrated site.
- c. Use the Desktop client application to open a file attachment to confirm the attachments have been transferred correctly.

Note: This step is optional, however, we strongly recommend that you proceed with it.

14. The migrated site is now ready for use. Notify all users of the new Service URI destination.
15. Return to the source server and complete the following steps:
 - a. Delete the site database in the **Maptek BlastLogic Server Configuration Utility** panel.

Important: This step is required to prevent users from continuing to use the old site or server by mistake.

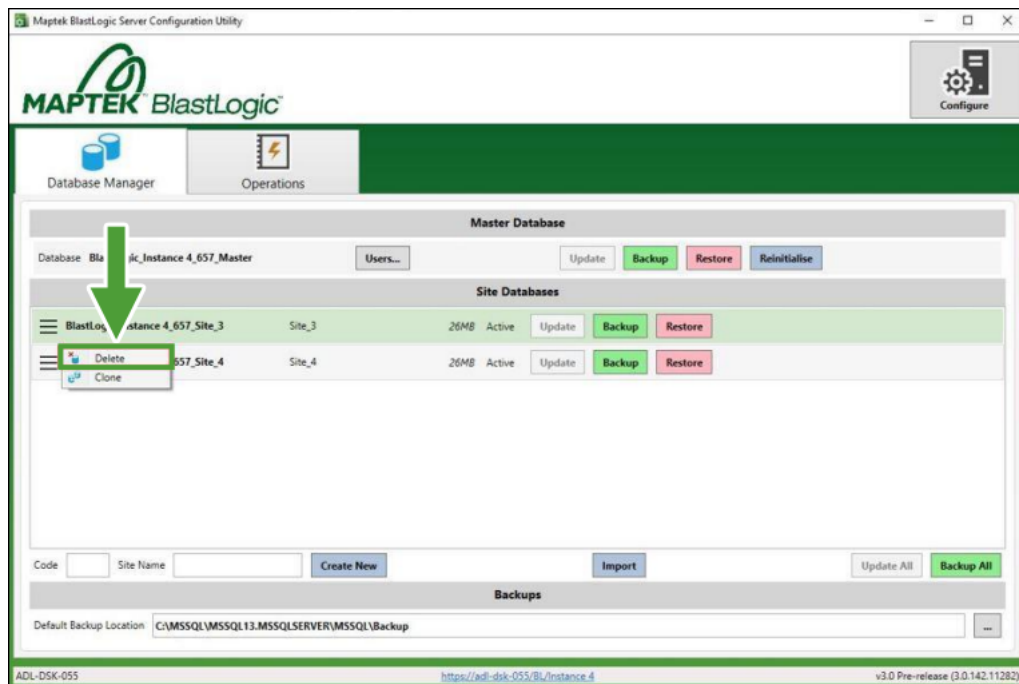


Figure 6-6 Deleting the selected site database in the Maptek BlastLogic Server Configuration Utility panel

- b. Delete the site folder in the **BlastLogic_Attachments** folder.