REMOTE TRANSCODER

Installation & Administration Manual

For Presentations2Go environments

Presentations2Go Server	SSH connection	Linux Remote Transcoder

Desktop setup tool → SSH → /opt/remote-transcoder → transcoding jobs

Version 1.1 | 17 August 2026

Security Warning — Linux Security Updates

The Remote Transcoder Setup does not perform standard Linux operating system security updates.

Installing or updating the Remote Transcoder software only installs or updates the Remote Transcoder components required for the transcoding service. It does **not** replace the normal Linux operating system maintenance process and does not automatically install the latest security updates for the Linux distribution.

The Linux server administrator remains responsible for:

- installing regular Linux security updates;
- keeping the Linux kernel and installed system packages up to date;
- applying security patches for the Linux distribution;
- monitoring relevant security advisories;
- maintaining the firewall and SSH configuration;
- ensuring that the server remains within the organization's security and patching policy.

Do not assume that running Remote Transcoder Setup or updating the Remote Transcoder package means that the Linux server itself is fully patched.

The Remote Transcoder Setup should therefore be considered an **application installation and management tool**, not a replacement for the Linux operating system's normal security and maintenance procedures.

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2 Overview

The Remote Transcoder is a Linux-based transcoding service designed to process transcoding jobs for a Presentations2Go environment. A Windows desktop application, Remote Transcoder Setup, is used to connect to a Linux server over SSH and install, configure, start, stop, update, or uninstall the remote transcoder service.

Important workflow distinction. The Presentations2Go server remains responsible for preparing and finalizing jobs. The local component determines what needs to be transcoded and prepares the job for execution. The remote Linux transcoder performs the resource-intensive transcoding work. After transcoding, the local Presentations2Go server completes the job, including the final user-facing actions such as the Play button and adding the result to the catalogue.

After installation, the Linux machine contains the remote transcoder software under /opt/remote-transcoder. The service can then be used by the Presentations2Go server as a remote transcoding provider.

Key concept: The desktop application is an administration and installation tool. The actual transcoding service runs on the Linux server.

3 Architecture and Components

The solution consists of three logical components:

- Presentations2Go server — submits transcoding work and can use configured remote transcoding providers.
- Remote Transcoder Setup — Windows desktop application used to establish the SSH connection and manage the Linux installation.
- Linux Remote Transcoder — the service installed under /opt/remote-transcoder and responsible for processing transcoding jobs.

3.1 Installation and job flow

3.1.1 Adding and assigning remote servers

- Use The General Settings / Transcoding / Manage to add additional remote transcoding servers.
- After a server has been added and is reachable, it can be selected as an active provider.
- In Server Status, the available transcoding servers are shown together with their reachability and resource status.
- The providers selected for actual use are visually distinguished in the administration interface.

3.1.2 Local transcoding and remote transcoding

- The General Settings / Transcoding configuration determines which transcoding providers may be actively used.

- Local transcoding can be disabled when the intention is to use the remote Linux servers for the large transcoding jobs.
- Disabling local transcoding does not remove the local preparation and finalization steps. The local Presentations2Go server still determines what the job is, prepares it, and completes the result after remote transcoding.
- This separation allows the heavy processing to be distributed across one or more Linux servers while keeping the Presentations2Go workflow centralized.

3.1.3 Example deployment

- One Presentations2Go server can use both local and remote providers according to the configured provider selection.
- If local transcoding is disabled, the heavy transcoding workload can be handled by the selected Linux providers.
- Several Presentations2Go servers can share the same pool of Linux remote transcoders, provided the network and server configuration allow this.
- Adding more remote Linux workers increases the available transcoding capacity and can allow more jobs to run simultaneously.

1. An administrator opens Remote Transcoder Setup on Windows.
2. The administrator enters the Linux server address and SSH credentials.
3. The desktop tool connects to the Linux server using SSH.
4. The required software and service are installed or updated under /opt/remote-transcoder.
5. The Linux service is configured to start automatically when Linux boots.
6. The Presentations2Go server is configured to use the Linux machine as a remote transcoding provider.
7. When a job is assigned to the provider, the remote transcoder selects an available CPU/GPU resource according to its configured priority.

Remote versus local responsibilities. The remote service is intended to offload the heavy transcoding workload; it does not move the complete Presentations2Go workflow to Linux. The local Presentations2Go server still prepares and completes the job.

3.2 Multiple remote transcoding servers

- Multiple Linux servers can be installed and made available as a pool of remote transcoding resources.
- The servers can be physical or virtual Linux machines and may be equipped with a GPU or operate using CPU-based transcoding.
- A single Presentations2Go server can use multiple remote transcoding providers, increasing the number of jobs that can run simultaneously.
- The same remote transcoding server can also be used by multiple Presentations2Go servers, which makes a shared transcoding pool possible.

4 Prerequisites

Before installation, make sure the following are available:

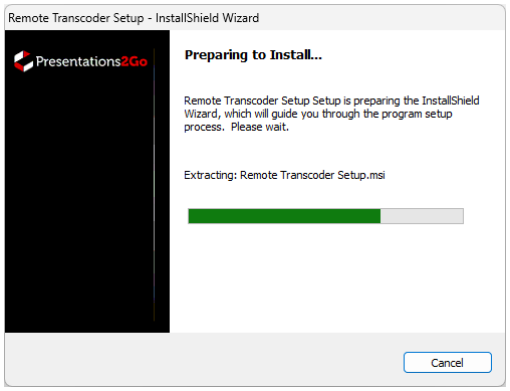
- A Windows workstation/server with the Remote Transcoder Setup application installed.
- A Linux server (Ubuntu/Debian) that can be reached from the Windows workstation over SSH.

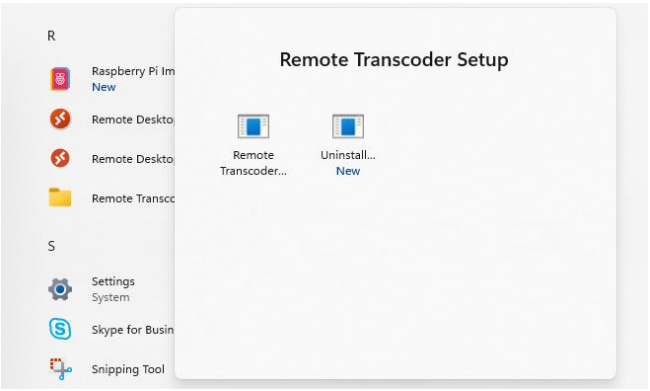
- An SSH account with sufficient privileges to install and manage the remote transcoder service.
- The SSH port used by the Linux server. The setup screen defaults to port 22.
- Network connectivity between the Presentations2Go server and the Linux transcoder.
- A supported transcoding resource on the Linux server, such as CPU, NVIDIA GPU, or another detected hardware encoder.

Important: The screenshots show a password field used for connecting and installing/updating. The UI states that the password is required for Connect and install/update and is never stored.

5 Installing the Remote Transcoder

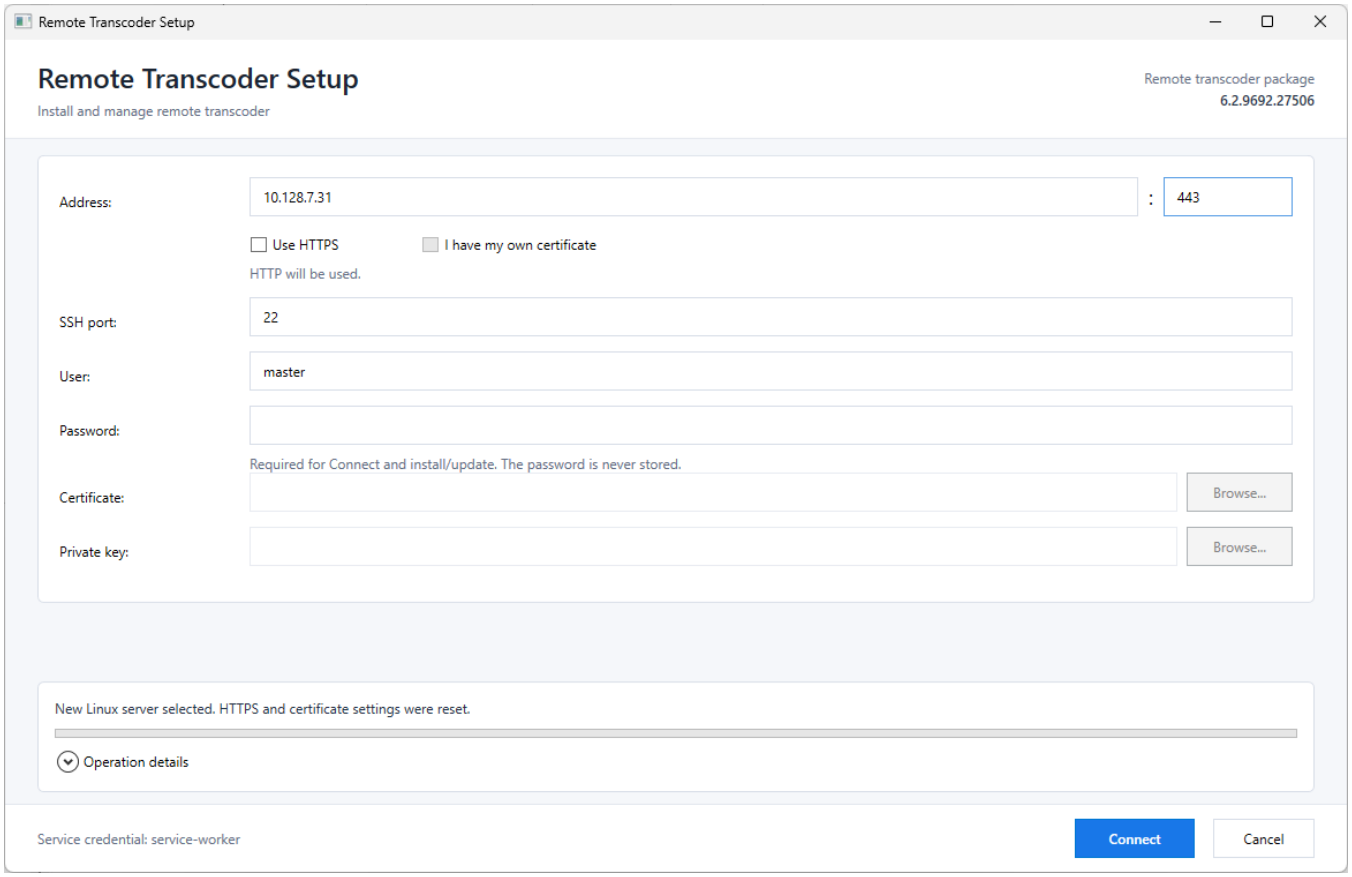
The installation is performed from the Remote Transcoder Setup application.

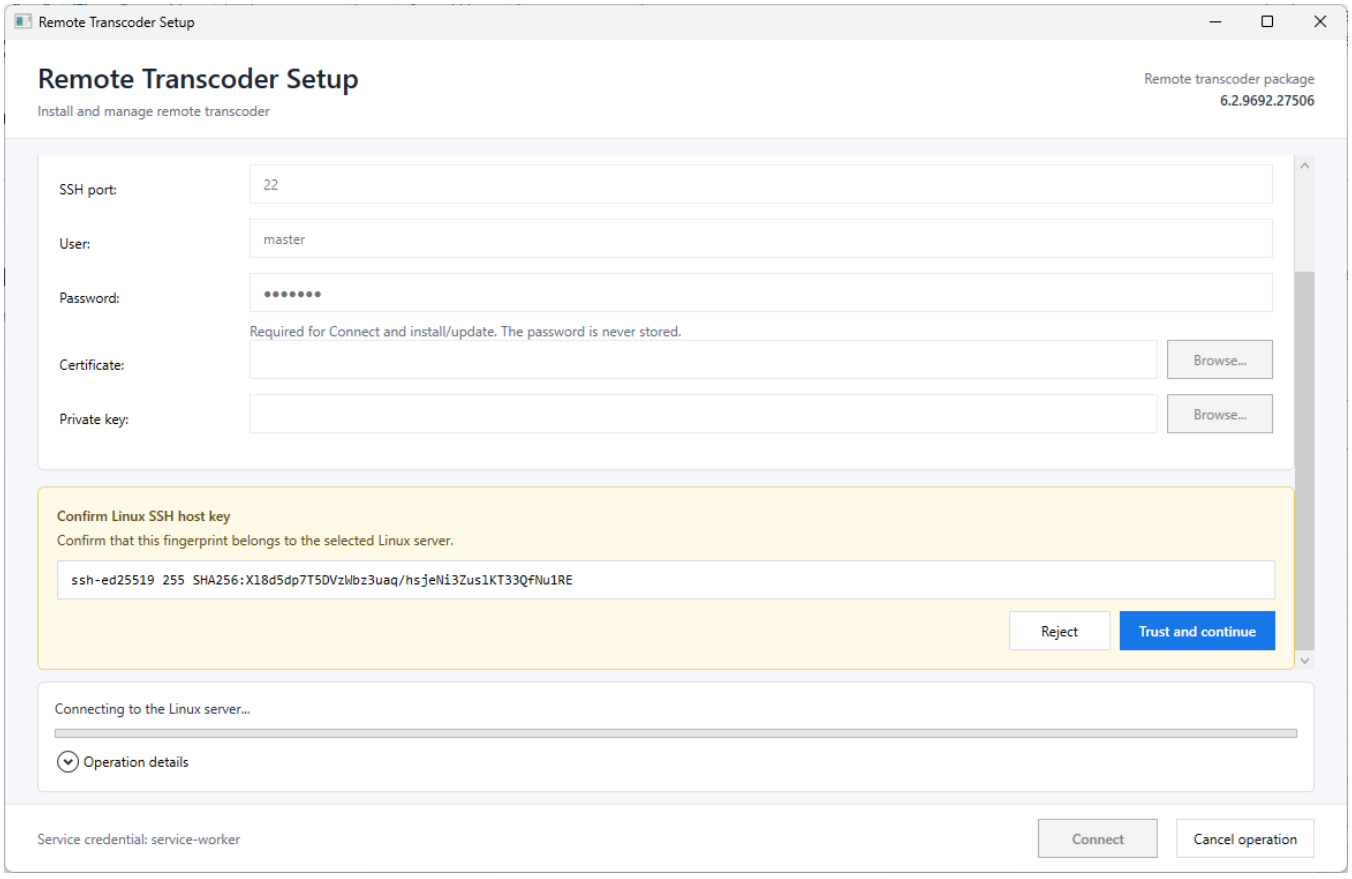




5.1 Enter the Linux connection details

Open Remote Transcoder Setup and enter the connection information for the target Linux server.



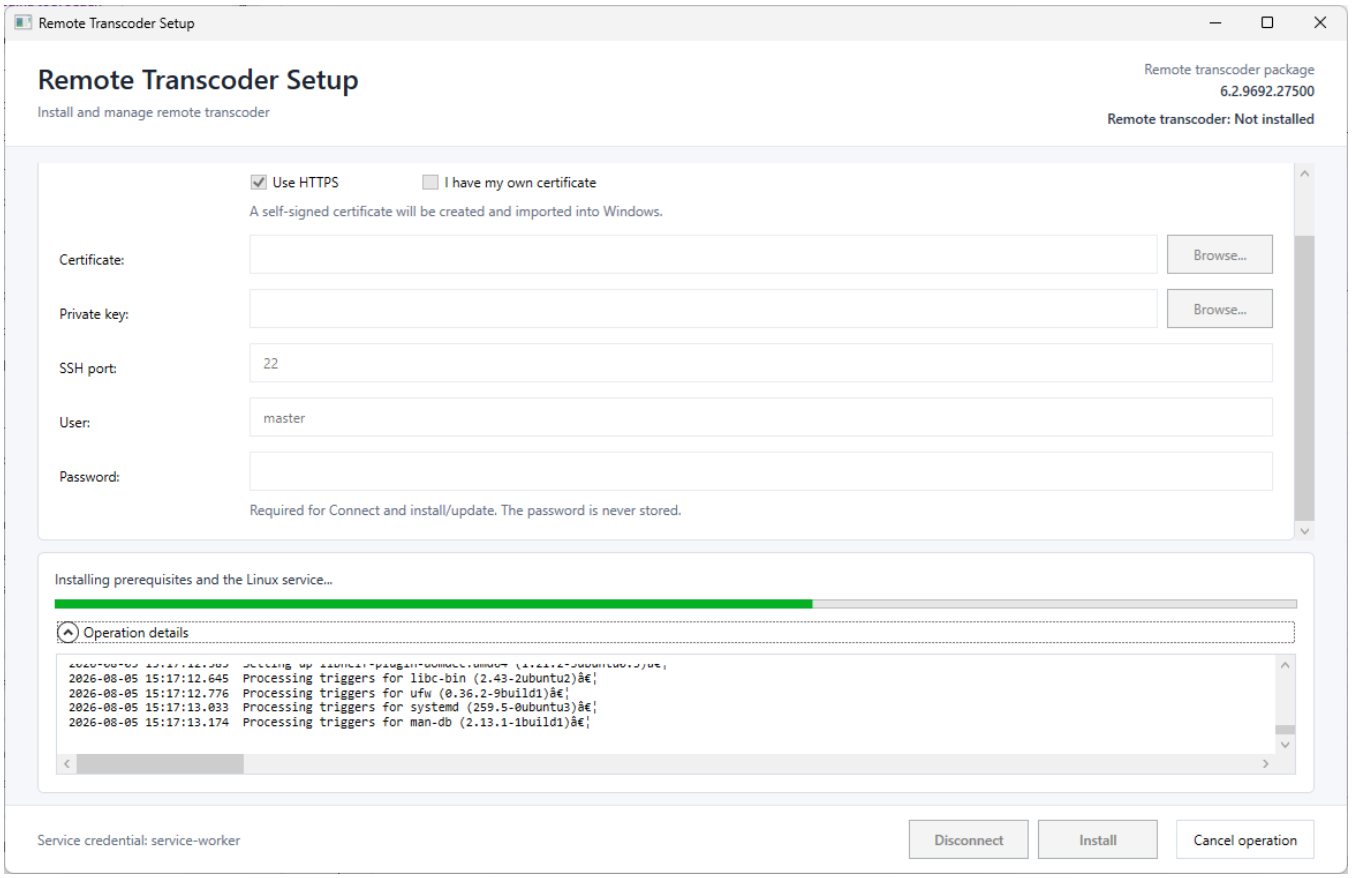


- Address — hostname or IP address of the Linux server.

- HTTPS — optional HTTPS configuration shown by the setup application.
- Certificate / Private key — certificate-related fields when HTTPS or a custom certificate is used.
- SSH port — SSH port of the Linux server; the example shows 22.
- User — Linux account used by the setup tool.
- Password — password used for connecting and installing/updating.

5.2 Start the installation

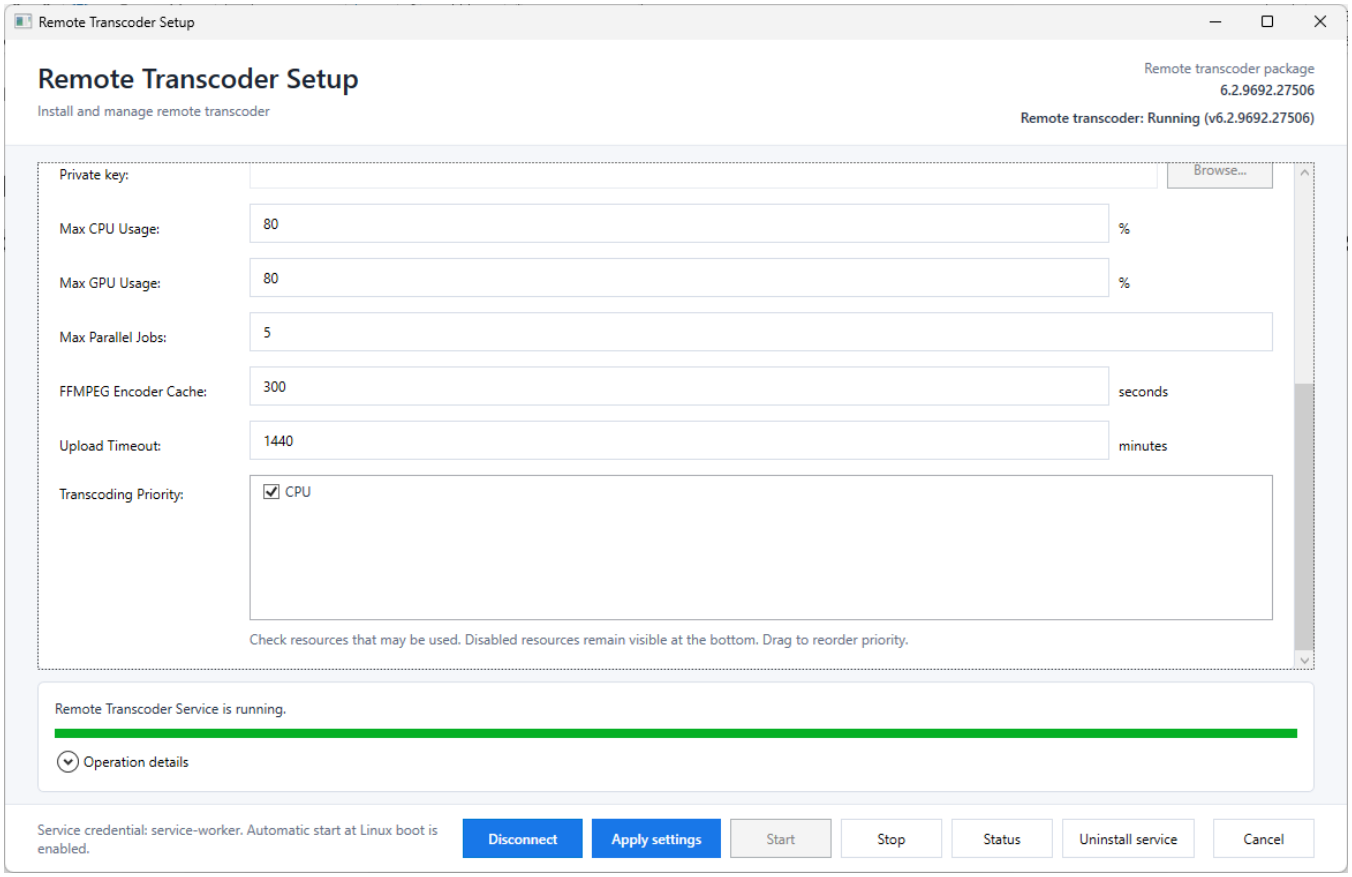
- Enter the connection details.
- Use Connect to establish the SSH connection.
- Start the installation using Install.
- Review the operation details while prerequisites and the Linux service are installed.
- Wait until the operation is completed successfully.



5.3 Verify the installation

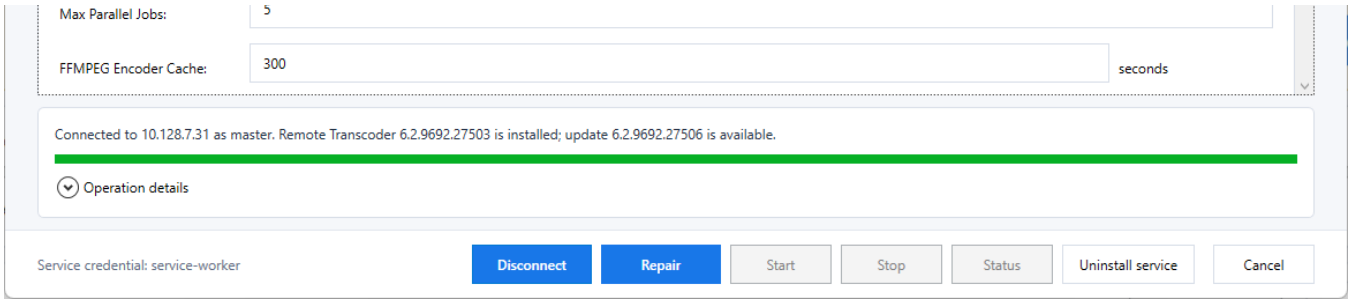
After installation, the setup application displays the remote transcoder status. A successful installation is indicated by the service being installed/running and the management controls becoming available.

The installed service uses the service credential shown in the UI as 'service-worker'. The setup screen also indicates that automatic start at Linux boot is enabled.



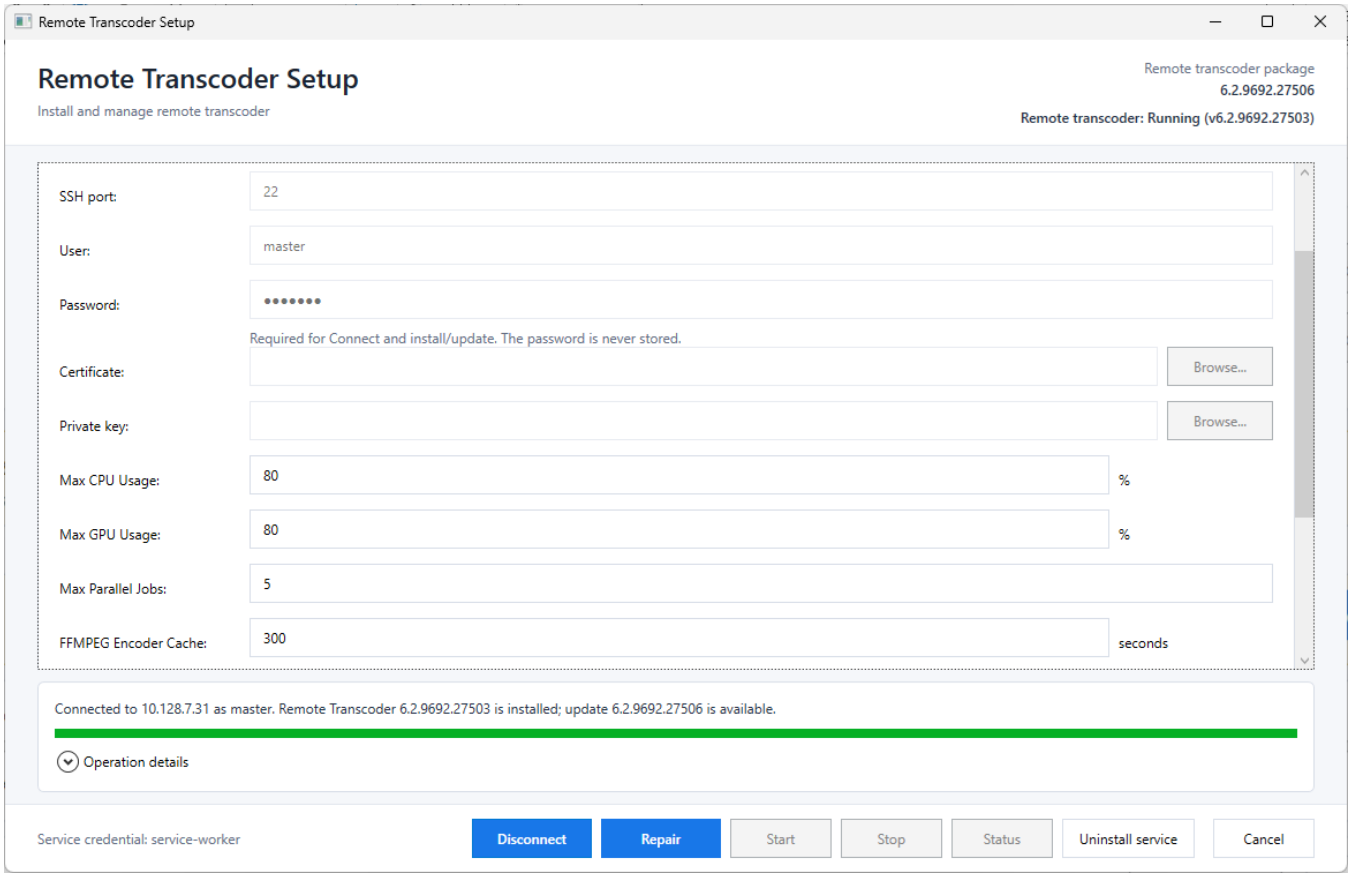
5.4 Update

When an update is available it is shown at the bottom of the interface. Select repair to install the latest version.



6 Configuring Transcoding Resources

The Remote Transcoder can limit resource usage and control which detected transcoding resources are considered and in which order they are preferred.



6.1 Resource limits

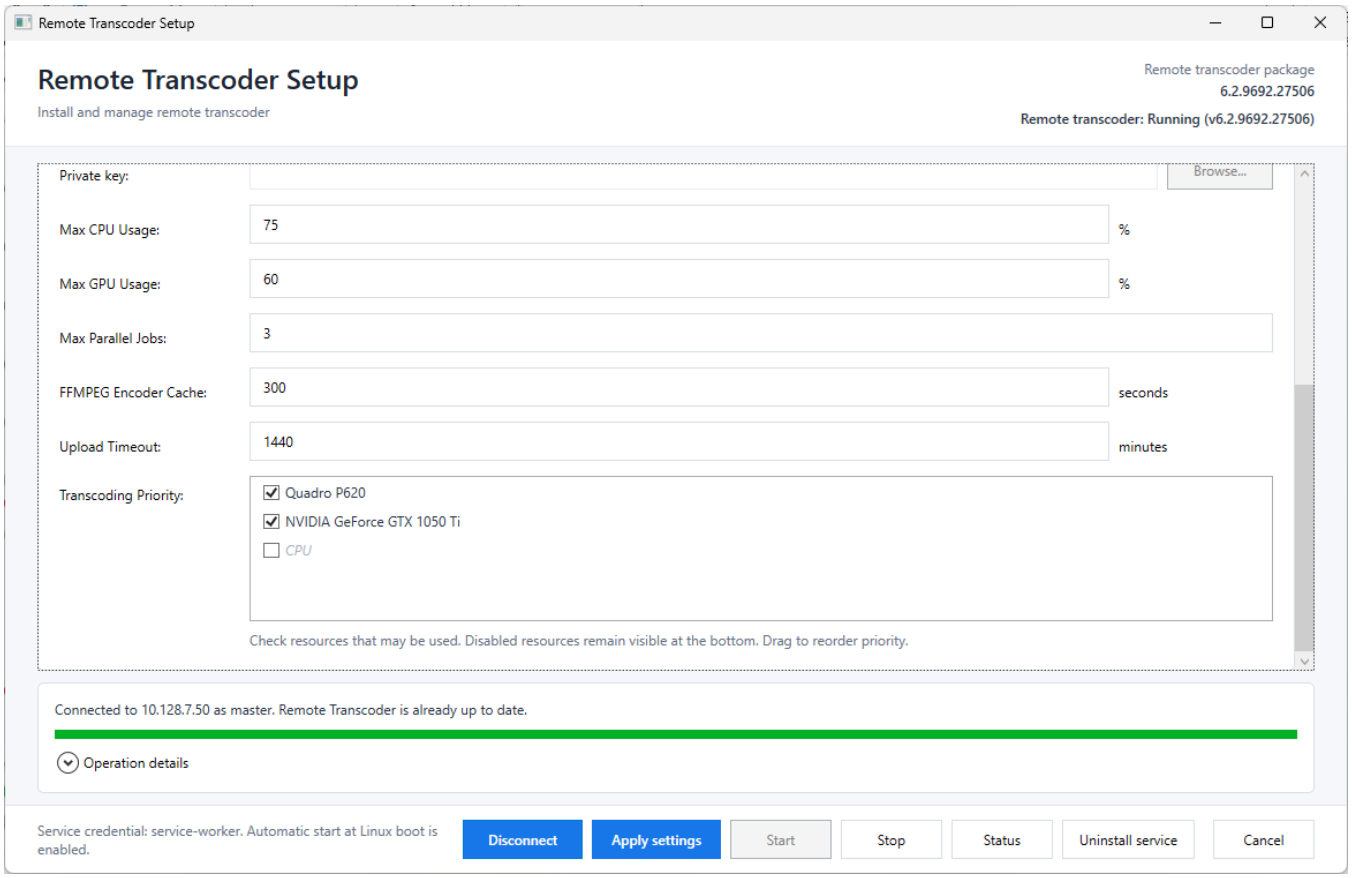
Setting	Meaning	Example shown in source
Max CPU Usage	Maximum CPU usage allowed for transcoding.	80%
Max GPU Usage	Maximum GPU usage allowed for transcoding.	80%
Max Parallel Jobs	Maximum number of transcoding jobs that can run in parallel.	5
FFMPEG Encoder Cache	Cache period for FFmpeg encoder information.	300 seconds
Upload Timeout	Timeout used for stale upload handling.	1440 minutes

The exact values are environment-dependent. The source documentation notes that CPU/GPU limits can be configured on the transcoding machine itself; they are therefore not part of the catalogue's general settings page.

- Consumer GPU cards can handle 8 simultaneous jobs, however, when using multi-bitrate output profiles, each bitrate counts a job. E.g. 720P + 1080P counts as 2 jobs. In case to many parallel jobs are set when using GPU it will cause failed jobs due to unavailable resources.

6.2 Transcoding Priority

The Transcoding Priority list determines which available resources are preferred. The current UI can show the detected resources as selectable items. A resource can be unchecked to disable it from the priority list. Drag and drop resources to change priority and commit with apply settings



Example: A server may show an NVIDIA GPU, an Intel Quick Sync resource and CPU. Unchecking an item removes it from the resources considered by the transcoder.

7 Managing the Remote Transcoder

Once the service has been installed, Remote Transcoder Setup provides management controls for the remote installation.

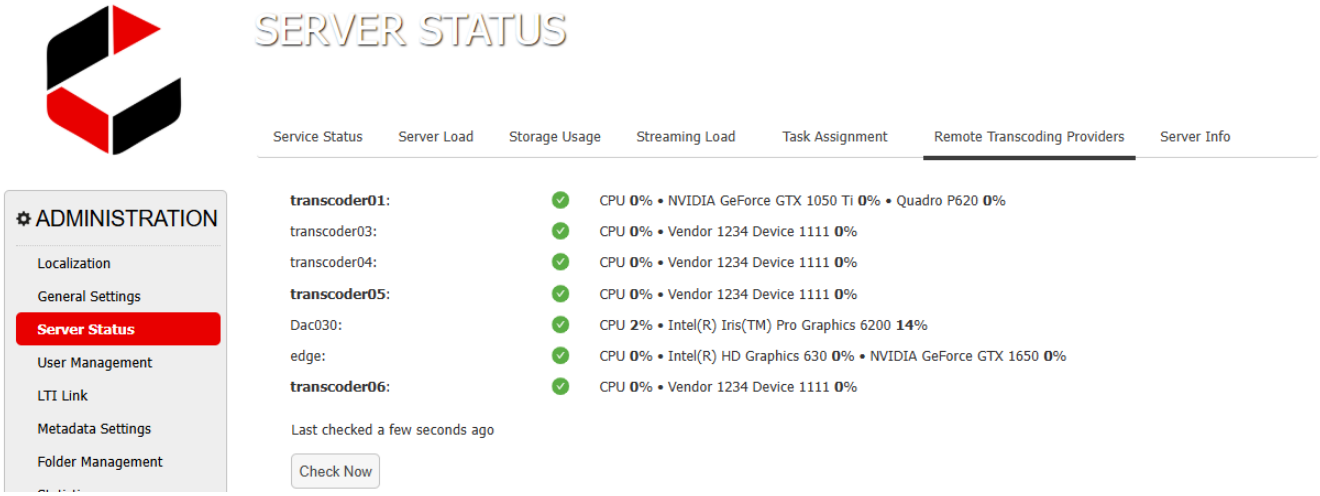
Control	Purpose
Connect / Disconnect	Establish or close the SSH management connection.
Apply settings	Send the current configuration to the remote transcoder.
Start	Start the remote transcoder service.
Stop	Stop the remote transcoder service.
Status	Check the current service status.
Uninstall service	Remove the installed remote transcoder service.

Cancel	Cancel the current setup or management operation.

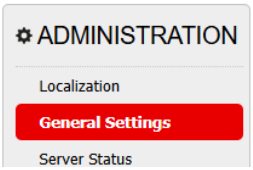
The Linux installation is located under /opt/remote-transcoder. This directory contains the installed remote transcoder software and its release/current structure.

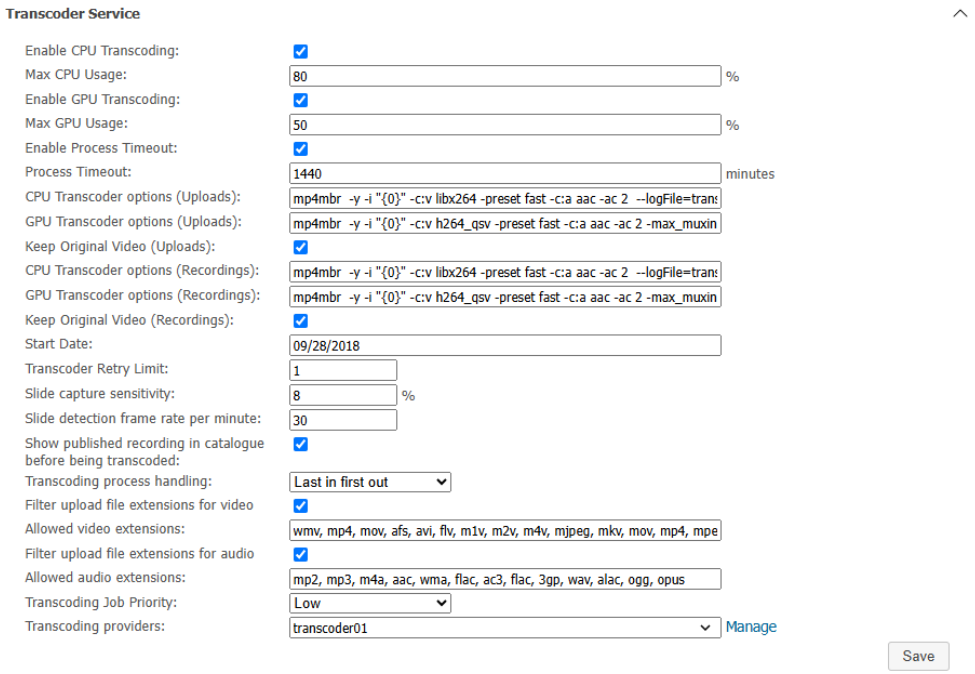
8 Presentations2Go Server Integration

After the Linux service is installed and running, the server can use it as a remote transcoding provider. The Presentations2Go administration interface exposes the available remote transcoding providers under the Remote Transcoding Providers area.

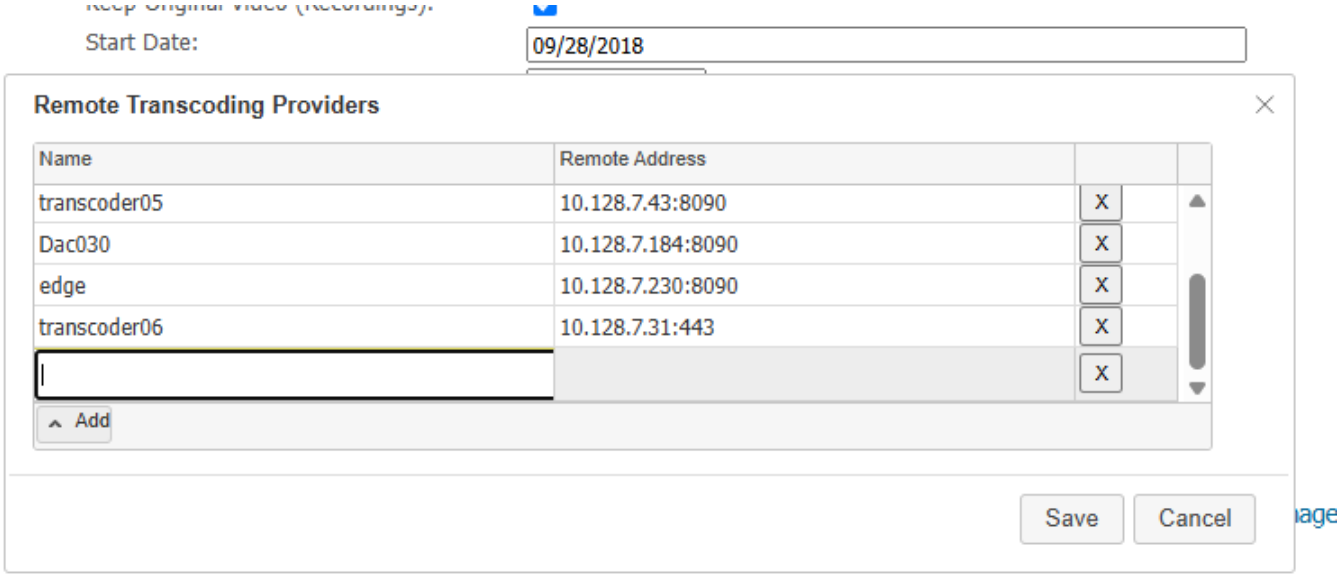


- Open the Presentations2Go administration area.
- Navigate to the General settings / Transcoding Service

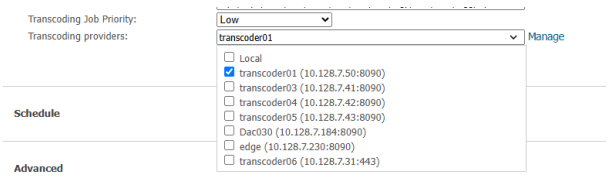




- Click Manage to add newly created remote transcoder servers



- Click Add and give the server a unique name
- Complete the ip address (or domainname) followed by the port to use
- Save settings



- Check the servers to be used for transcoding (local does not have to be selected)

- Save settings
- Navigate to the server status / Remote Transcoding Providers area.
- Verify that the remote transcoder is visible and has a healthy service status.
- Submit or process a test transcoding job and confirm that the remote transcoder receives it.

9 Monitoring Status and Availability

The Presentations2Go server status view can display the detected CPU/GPU resources and their current usage. The source screenshot uses a green status indicator for available/healthy providers and a red indicator when hardware usage is unavailable.

9.1 What the status page tells you

- A healthy/reachable provider is shown with its service status and detected hardware/resource information.
- The status view can show CPU usage and detected GPU or hardware encoder resources.
- A provider that is visible but reports unavailable hardware should not be assumed to be ready for production transcoding.
- The provider assignment determines which of the available servers are permitted to receive transcoding work.

Operational check: If a transcoder appears in the provider list but reports hardware as unavailable, investigate the Linux hardware/driver configuration before assigning production jobs to it.

9.2 Assigned versus available providers

The administration interface also distinguishes the providers selected for use from other providers visible in the settings list.

9.3 Recommended validation after installation

- Confirm the Linux service is running.
- Confirm the remote transcoder is reachable from the Presentations2Go server.
- Confirm the server appears in Server Status.
- Confirm it is selected/assigned as a Remote Transcoding Provider.
- Submit a test job and verify that the remote server receives the transcoding workload.
- Verify that the local Presentations2Go server completes the job and makes the result available in the catalogue.

10 Troubleshooting

10.1 Cannot connect over SSH

- Verify the Linux server address.
- Verify the SSH port. The setup UI defaults to 22.
- Confirm that the Linux account can log in through SSH.

- Check firewall rules between the Windows workstation and the Linux server.
- Verify that the SSH service is running on the Linux server.

10.2 Installation does not complete

- Expand Operation details in the setup tool and inspect the installation output.
- Check that the account has sufficient permissions to install the service and write under /opt/remote-transcoder.
- Check Linux package/dependency errors reported in the operation details.
- Retry the installation/update after correcting the reported Linux-side issue.

10.3 GPU or Quick Sync is not being used

- Check whether the resource appears in Transcoding Priority.
- Verify that the resource is checked/enabled.
- Check the priority order to make sure another resource is not always preferred.
- Verify the relevant Linux GPU/driver support.
- If a resource is known to be unreliable, disable it in the priority list rather than allowing it to receive jobs.

10.4 Hardware usage unavailable

A red status indicator in the Presentations2Go provider view can indicate that hardware usage is unavailable. Compare the provider's detected hardware with the resource configuration in Remote Transcoder Setup and check the Linux service/driver state.

10.5 Jobs fail or retry

The source material includes an example of transcoding jobs shown as Error/Retrying together with a Transcoder Log. When diagnosing a failed job, inspect the transcoder log and operation details before changing the resource priority.

11 Updating or Uninstalling

11.1 Updating

- Open Remote Transcoder Setup.
- Connect to the existing Linux installation.
- Review the detected remote transcoder status/version.
- Use the install/update operation supplied by the current build of the setup tool.
- Monitor Operation details until the update has completed.
- Check the service status after the update.

11.2 Uninstalling

- Connect to the Linux server from Remote Transcoder Setup.
- Select Uninstall service.
- Confirm the operation if prompted.
- Verify that the remote transcoder service is no longer running.
- If the machine is no longer required as a Presentations2Go provider, remove or disable it from the Presentations2Go provider assignment.

12 Security and Operational Recommendations

- Restrict SSH access to trusted administration networks where practical.
- Use a dedicated Linux account with only the privileges required by the installation process.
- Protect SSH credentials and private keys.
- Do not document production passwords or private keys in configuration manuals.
- Use HTTPS/certificates where required by the deployment's security policy.
- After installation, verify that the service starts automatically after a Linux reboot.
- Keep the remote transcoder and its host operating system maintained according to the organization's patching policy.

13 Configuration Reference

The following configuration names are explicitly present in the source material. Values shown below are examples/defaults from the development notes and should not be treated as mandatory production values.

Configuration	Example value	Description
TRANSCODER_MAX_CPU_USAGE_PERCENT	20	Maximum CPU usage percentage in the documented example.
TRANSCODER_MAX_GPU_USAGE_PERCENT	20	Maximum GPU usage percentage in the documented example.
TRANSCODER_MAX_PARALLEL_JOBS	2	Maximum parallel jobs in the documented example.
TRANSCODER_RESOURCE_PRIORITY	NVIDIA,INTEL,AMD,CPU	Example default resource priority from the development notes.
TRANSCODER_FFMPEG_ENCODER_CACHE_SECONDS	300	FFmpeg encoder cache period in seconds.
TRANSCODER_UPLOAD_STALE_MINUTES	1440	Upload stale timeout in minutes.

Version note: The screenshots in the supplied source material show Remote Transcoder package version 6.2.9692.2750. UI details may differ slightly in later builds.