



ADVANCED
NETWORK DEVICES

InformaCast Quick Start

Version 1.0

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U.S.A

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Static Electric Warning



TROUBLESHOOTING AND ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

User Support: <https://www.anet.com/user-support/>
Technical Resources: <https://www.anetd.com/user-support/technical-resources/>
AND Legal Disclaimer: <https://www.anetd.com/legal/>

OVERVIEW

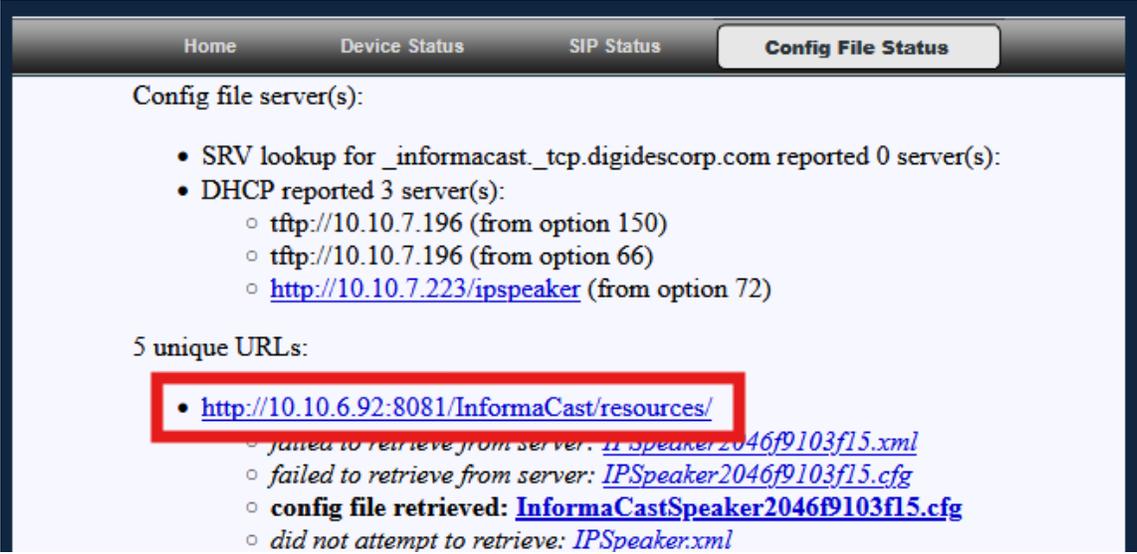
AND devices are designed with inherent capability for InformaCast integration. All of our devices can register to InformaCast. Once registered, InformaCast can be used to control our devices, and our devices can be used to trigger events in InformaCast.

INITIAL SETUP

One unique aspect of setting up our devices in an InformaCast environment is the required use of configuration files. InformaCast will automatically serve configuration to any device that asks for one, and our devices will automatically request one if they find the InformaCast resource location. In some cases, you may need to first advertise the InformaCast server's resource location so the devices can find it to get configuration from. Retrieving configuration is necessary to configure the InformaCast server on the device so that it will begin to register.

FINDING THE INFORMACAST RESOURCE LOCATION

To determine if your AND device has discovered the InformaCast resource location, first navigate to the device's web interface by entering its IP into a web browser. Navigate to the Config File Status page and locate the text "{X} unique URLs". If {X} is 0, your InformaCast server has not been found. Otherwise, check the list below that line for your InformaCast server's IP address, followed by ":8081/InformaCast/resources" as shown below:



Home Device Status SIP Status **Config File Status**

Config file server(s):

- SRV lookup for `_informacast._tcp.digidescorp.com` reported 0 server(s):
- DHCP reported 3 server(s):
 - <tftp://10.10.7.196> (from option 150)
 - <tftp://10.10.7.196> (from option 66)
 - <http://10.10.7.223/ipspeaker> (from option 72)

5 unique URLs:

- <http://10.10.6.92:8081/InformaCast/resources/>
- failed to retrieve from server: [IPSpeaker2046f9103f15.xml](#)
- failed to retrieve from server: [IPSpeaker2046f9103f15.cfg](#)
- config file retrieved: [InformaCastSpeaker2046f9103f15.cfg](#)
- did not attempt to retrieve: [IPSpeaker.xml](#)

If this URL exists, then the device has found the InformaCast server resource location, and you can skip the next section. If it does not, or the device reports "0 unique URLs," follow the next section to advertise the location.

ADVERTISING THE INFORMACAST RESOURCE LOCATION

The most recommended method of advertising the InformaCast resource location is by using DNS SRV records. Please follow [this Singlewire support page](#) to configure a DNS SRV record for your InformaCast server.

If you would prefer another method, the InformaCast server can also be advertised with DHCP option 72. To use this DHCP option, configure option 72 on your DHCP server with the URL “http://{SERVER IP}:8081/InformaCast/resources”.

Though it is no longer recommended, SLP is the final and simplest way to advertise your InformaCast server. Some installations may have SLP enabled by default, allowing the devices to find the server as soon as it spins up. If you would like to use SLP, it can be enabled or disabled within the InformaCast application under Admin → Settings → SLP Parameters. If using SLP, ensure that the scope is set to “Berbee Applications”.

INFORMACAST CONFIGURATION FILES

InformaCast automatically generates configuration files for your devices whenever they request one. When a device requests a configuration file, it will do so by requesting a MAC-specific file (InformaCastSpeaker<MAC>.cfg) from the InformaCast server. These MAC-specific configuration files are generated on the fly from the global file InformaCastSpeaker.cfg. Any changes made to the global file will thus be reflected in every device registered to InformaCast. You can use other scopes of configuration file to apply configuration with more precision if desired. Refer to AN066 in the supplemental material section at the end of this document for more information.

To place or edit configuration files on your InformaCast server, you will need to first access the resource location directly. The easiest way to do so is using an FTP client like WinSCP.

- Use SFTP protocol, port 22, and the IP of your InformaCast Server as the Host Name. The default username for InformaCast is “admin” with no password.
- After logging onto the server, navigate to the resource location at /data/d_[version_number]/usr/local/singlewire/InformaCast/web/resources/
- Place or edit configuration file(s) in this location. The global file InformaCastSpeaker.cfg should be here by default.

The MAC-specific files retrieved by the device will always be an exact copy of the global file, except for the <Servers> tag which may be dynamically modified when generating the file. This only happens when using distributed activation groups, as InformaCast may alter the <Servers> tag based on the rules defined for activation groups. It is important to note that the file is re-generated every time it is loaded, and the file that you end up viewing is determined by the requesting user’s IP and MAC.

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL

InformaCast Fusion Foundations – For questions specific to InformaCast Fusion, this course by Singlewire offers a comprehensive overview. <https://support.singlewire.com/s/article/informacast-fusion-foundations>

AN066: Using Configuration Files – More detail on hosting and creating configuration files. The last two sections of this document cover a simple method for config file creation in an InformaCast environment. https://anetd.com/wp-content/uploads/AND_AN066_Using_Configuration_Files.pdf

AN016: Using Message Priorities with InformaCast – Use more features of our devices such as the flashers and general purpose output with priority-based actions. https://anetd.com/wp-content/uploads/AND_AN016_Using_Message_Priorities_with_InformaCast.pdf

AN018: Configuring M2M in InformaCast Fusion – Utilize InformaCast’s M2M plugin for general purpose input monitoring to trigger notifications from a button press, or remote general purpose output activation. https://anetd.com/wp-content/uploads/AND_AN018_Configuring_Device_for_M2M_Fusion.pdf

AN069: Dynamic Background Images with InformaCast – Send custom images to our HD display devices through InformaCast. https://anetd.com/wp-content/uploads/AND_AN069_Dynamic_Images_IC.pdf

AN072: Registering a SIP Intercom in InformaCast – Register our devices to InformaCast’s SIP service for inter-device calling, or remote activation of notifications through the DialCast feature. https://anetd.com/wp-content/uploads/AND_AN072_Register_SIP_InformaCast.pdf