



FORUM SYSTEMS SENTRY™ VERSION 9

AMAZON AMI INSTALLATION GUIDE



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INTRODUCTION TO THE AMAZON AMI INSTALLATION GUIDE

Audience for the Amazon AMI Installation Guide

The *Forum Systems Sentry™ Version 9 Amazon AMI Installation Guide* is for IT or Network Administrators who will install the virtual Amazon AMI based form factor of the Forum Sentry API Security Gateway.

Documentation Set

For the full documentation set, FAQs, best practices, security advisories, and more, please visit the [Forum Systems Support Help Desk](#) site.

Several chapters in this document link to Help Desk articles.

Minimum Requirements

All instances available within Amazon AWS for Forum Sentry have been designated with the minimum requirements to run Forum Sentry. These requirements are documented in the Help Desk article linked below:

[Forum Sentry Amazon AMI Requirements](#)

AMAZON AMI INSTALLATION PROCEDURE

Overview

The Forum Sentry AMI is available to launch either from the AWS Marketplace or directly from the AWS EC2 Management console. Once you have launched an AWS Instance from the Forum Sentry AMI, you will need to license Sentry and configure an administrator account.

The Forum Sentry AMI is licensed as BYOL (bring your own license) which means a license from Forum Systems or a Forum Systems' partner is required to use the product. AWS usage fees are separate from this license.

Launching the Forum Sentry AMI from the AWS Marketplace

1. Find the Forum Sentry AMI in the AWS Marketplace either by searching for "Forum Sentry" or using the following link: [Forum Sentry AMI in AWS Marketplace](#)
2. Click the "Continue to Subscribe" button to start the launch wizard.
3. Follow the prompts to configure and launch an AWS Instance from this AMI in the desired region.
4. Be sure to select an instance type that meets the [minimum requirements](#).
5. Once launched, follow the instructions in this guide for licensing Forum Sentry.

Launching the Forum Sentry AMI from the AWS EC2 Management Console

1. Launch the EC2 Management Console and navigate to the desired region.
2. Under Images → AMIs change the filter option to "Public images".
3. Search for "Sentry" to locate the latest AMI. An example name is "Sentry AMI - 9.39-2027796a-fd73-4f4f-bf04-13a32a7d3355-ami-0de5ee456446d8f03.4". If you are unclear on which AMI to launch, please contact Forum Systems Support at support@forumsys.com for the AMI ID. Note that the AMI ID is different for each region.
4. Click Launch and continue to the next screen to launch your Forum Sentry AMI instance.
5. Ensure that the EC2 Security Group allows access on TCP ports 5050 and 22 from your location.

Accessing the Forum Sentry Instance

1. Once launched, your EC2 instance should have a public IP and DNS name.
2. Launch a web browser and go to either the IP or the DNS name on HTTPS port 5050. For instance, use `https://[DNS Name]:5050/` to access the Forum Sentry Web Administration (WebAdmin) interface.
3. When accessing the WebAdmin, a security alert screen may appear for the default SSL Certificate used by Sentry. Accept this certificate to access the WebAdmin interface. The SSL certificate can then be changed from the System->Settings->System page.

Upgrading the Forum Sentry Instance

1. To obtain new upgrades to Forum Sentry instances, go to <https://downloads.forumsys.com> with the credentials provided to you by your support team. If you do not have credentials to access the downloads site, you can request them via our Helpdesk at <https://helpdesk.forumsys.com>. Once you have access to the download portal, you can choose the version of Forum Sentry to download per your support team's recommendations.

2. Launch a web browser and go to either the IP or the DNS name on HTTPS port 5050. For instance, use `https://[DNS Name]:5050/` to access the Forum Sentry Web Administration (WebAdmin) interface.
3. Go to System->Upgrade and choose the download file and fingerprint validation file downloaded from step 1 above. This will apply the upgrade and restart the instance. All existing policies will remain and are backward compatible.

Forum Sentry Licensing

The Forum Sentry AMI requires a license be obtained from Forum Systems or a Forum Systems' partner to use the product.

Forum Sentry v9 supports both permanent and floating license types. Permanent licensing is instance-based is node locked to that AMI instance Server ID. Floating licenses are shared among Sentry instances and are applied to a Forum Systems license server for shared usage. For more information on the elastic licensing model please contact Forum Systems Support and/or review the [Forum Sentry License Server User Guide](#).

To obtain a license, send the requested information to Forum Systems or your Forum Systems' partner contact. You can click directly on the licenses@forumsys.com to auto-populate your email client with the information required.

Note: Copy and paste the text into your email rather than sending a screenshot of the page as this will avoid issues in the generation of the license to the specified Server ID.

If you have a PO, please be sure to include your PO reference from your purchase when requesting a license. If this is a trial license request to evaluate the product, temporary licenses are available upon request.

LICENSE WARNING



A license for the server was not detected.

To request a floating license, please fill in the form below.

If a permanent license has already been obtained, upload the license in the form below.

To obtain a permanent license, please email licenses@forumsys.com or contact Forum Systems Customer Service at (888) 811-0060 and provide the following information:

- Name
- Company Name
- Purchase Order
- Email Address
- Server ID — EC290346-9CBB-235E-2D58-C26FC850B4E9
- Product — Sentry
- Product Version — 8.11.39
- Operating System — ForumOS
- Cores — 2

LICENSE REQUEST

Licensing Model: ☐ Floating ☒ Permanent

License File*: No file chosen




Figure 1: Example License Screen.

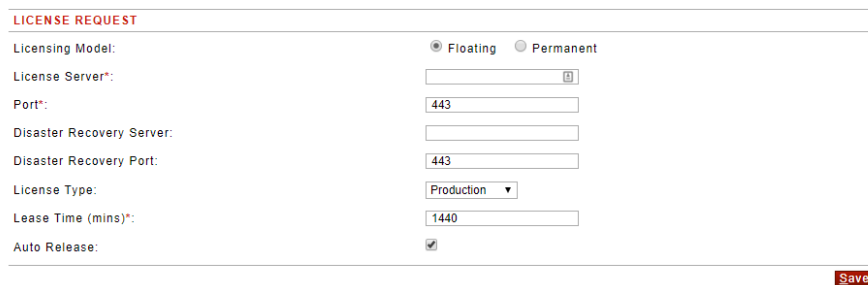
Importing a Permanent License

Once the permanent license has been received, the license XML file needs to be imported on the server running the software.

1. The email will contain full instructions, the process is straight forward. Simply select the license file and click Save.
2. Upon success, you will be prompted to create your Admin account which you can now use to access the WebAdmin and CLI (SSH) interfaces.
3. SSH into the instance using the same IP or DNS name used to access the WebAdmin interface, using the Admin account created in the previous step.
4. Upon first SSH access, you are prompted to enter an Enable Mode password – which is machine specific and not related to the Admin account.
5. The setup is now complete.

Utilizing the Floating License Model

If an existing Forum License Server is available to use, select the Floating licensing model to bring up the options.



The screenshot shows a web form titled "LICENSE REQUEST". It contains several fields for configuring a floating license. The "Licensing Model" is set to "Floating" (radio button selected). The "License Server*" field is empty with a help icon. The "Port*" field contains "443". The "Disaster Recovery Server:" field is empty. The "Disaster Recovery Port:" field contains "443". The "License Type:" dropdown menu is set to "Production". The "Lease Time (mins)*:" field contains "1440". The "Auto Release:" checkbox is checked. A red "Save" button is located at the bottom right of the form.

Figure 2: The Floating License Options.

The steps to utilize the Floating License model are as follows:

1. Enter the IP or DNS name of the production license server in the “License Server” field.
2. Enter the port of the license server.
3. Enter the IP or DNS name of the DR license server in the “Disaster Recovery Server” field.
4. Enter the port of the DR license server.
5. Select the license type (note the type must be available on the server).
6. Enter the lease time (in minutes).
7. Choose whether or not to have this Sentry instance return the license to the server upon shutdown by enabling or disabling “Auto Release”
8. Click Save.
9. Upon success, you will be prompted to create your Admin account which you can now use to access the WebAdmin and CLI (SSH) interfaces.
10. SSH into the instance using the same IP or DNS name used to access the WebAdmin interface, using the Admin account created in the previous step.
11. Upon first SSH access, you are prompted to enter an Enable Mode password – which is machine specific and not related to the Admin account.
12. The setup is now complete.

Next Steps

Once the admin account is created, you can now log into your Forum Sentry instance. For more information on configuration and management, please refer to the following resources:

[Forum Sentry Quick Start Guide](#)
[Forum Sentry WebAdmin Overview Video](#)

To contact Forum Systems Support please visit the [Help Desk](#) or email support@forumsys.com.