

Installing Software for the OpenVPN® Certificate Authority

One of the principal features of routers is their support of virtual private networks (VPNs). This document discusses installation of software for OpenVPN® certificate authority.¹

Caution: It is recommended that separate machines be used for generating certificates and for hosting a VPN endpoint port, as an extra layer of security. Develop the certificate authority and generate certificates on a management console, not on an EN™ router. Then use the EN™ router's management system to load the certificates onto the router.

See the following:

- [Section 1.1, *Software Installation for OpenVPN® Certificate Authorization*](#), on page 1
- [Section 1.2, *More Information*](#), on page 3

1.1 Software Installation for OpenVPN® Certificate Authorization

Use the following steps to download and install the OpenVPN® certificate authority software that is appropriate for the operating system (Windows, Unix, or other) on the console managing the EN™ Router. (The steps are written for use on a Windows system.)

Note: For an overview of the process, see <https://openvpn.net/> and study information for setting up OpenVPN®.

1. OpenVPN® uses transport layer security (TLS, successor to secure socket layers, SSL). For information about VPNs that use IP security (IPsec), see one of the following documents:

Configuring IPsec VPNs in the EN-1000™

Configuring IPsec VPNs in the EN-2000™

The EN-4000™ in IPsec Virtual Private Networks

- 1 On your computer's management screen, open the directory C:\Program Files\, and create a subdirectory named **\OpenVPN**.
 - ❖ The \OpenVPN subdirectory is created.
- 2 Go to <https://openvpn.net/community-downloads/>, and download the installation file for your system. For example, to download the certificate authority routine for Windows, select *openvpn-install-2.4.7-1603.exe* (or the latest installation software for a Windows system).

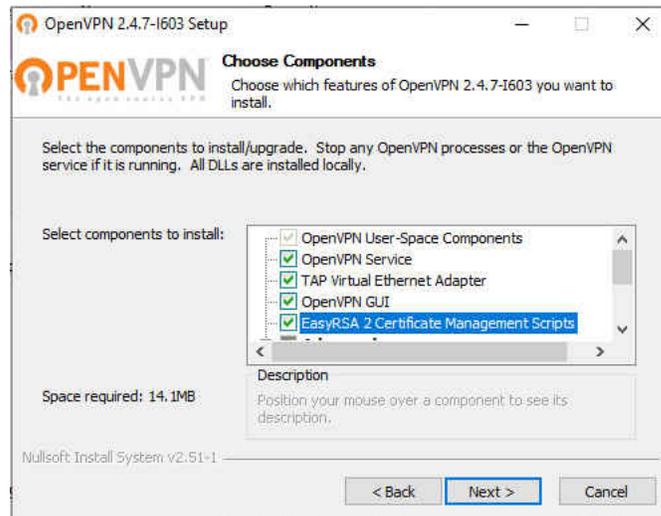
Note: In Windows, save the .exe file in the subdirectory C:\Program Files\OpenVPN.

- 3 Select (in Windows, double-click) the downloaded .exe file to run the installation procedure.

❖ A box opens to show the components to include in the installation.

Note: Be sure to select **EasyRSA Certificate Management Scripts**, as shown in [Figure 1-1](#).

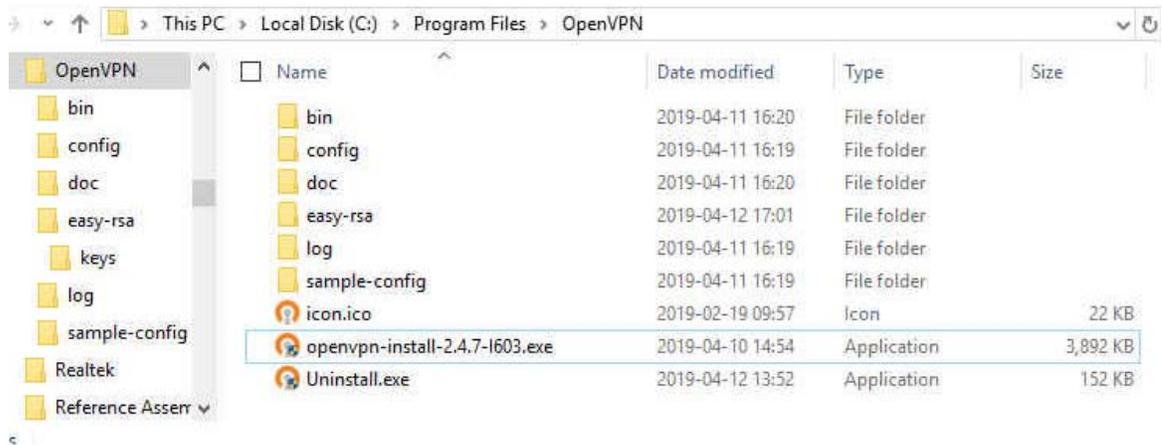
Figure 1-1. Select EasyRSA Certificate Management Scripts



❖ The \OpenVPN directory system is created, including files and subdirectories needed for configuring and developing the certificate authority ([Figure 1-2](#)).

Note: The program files for certificate authority development and certificate generation are placed into the \easy-rsa subdirectory.

Figure 1-2. OpenVPN Directory



1.2 More Information

For a list of documents for OpenVPN® connections over EN routers, see the [Reference Manual for OpenVPN® on EN™ Routers](#).

