

How to Migrate to MailEnable using the Migration Console

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1. OVERVIEW

The process of migrating from a legacy mail system platform can be complex, depending on the mail server you are migrating from. Typically, it not only requires recreating user accounts and setting up domains, but also requires that you migrate the message store data from the legacy mail system.

Fortunately, MailEnable provides an extension that allows an almost transparent migration from other mail systems.

The majority of the migration process is automated and all you need to do is configure MailEnable to understand the network address of the legacy server.

2. MAILENABLE MIGRATION CONSOLE

MailEnable's Migration Console provides a single interface for importing configuration and user data from legacy mail systems. The system is comprised of two parts; the migration wizards, and the migration console.

These are outlined below:

Migration Wizards: Migration wizards allow you to specify the type of legacy mail system you wish to migrate from. At the current time, Migration Wizards are available for:

- Exchange (or servers providing Exchange Web Services)
- IceWarp
- IMail
- Generic Mail Server Migration Wizard (this migrates using the IMAP protocol)

Migration Console: The Migration Console allows you to manage the import process associated with a defined Migration Strategy (that has been created using one of the above mentioned Migration Wizards).

These wizards configure the migration engine with migration strategies that progressively migrate configuration data and message content from the legacy mail system.

When a user attempts to login, MailEnable will use the supplied credentials to connect to the legacy system. A mailbox account will be created for the user. There is also an option to pull all messages from the remote server. If this option is enabled, MailEnable will scan all folders and pull all the messages/data from the remote mail system into the MailEnable mailbox.

3. SELECT THE MIGRATION APPROACH

There are three principle types of migration approaches; Server Migration, Domain Migration and a Pre-loaded Migrations. These are explained further under their respective headings below:

Server Migration

Server Migration should be used when you want to move all the domains hosted on a legacy mail server to the new MailEnable server.

A server migration does not require any pre configuration steps, as the domains and mailboxes are extracted from the legacy server as users authenticate (and their corresponding mail account is created in MailEnable at that time). You can use the Migration Centre to define the details of the legacy server and initiate the migration strategy.

Domain Migration

Domain Migration is similar to a server migration, but it applies where you only want to migrate a subset of domains from a legacy server.

To migrate a discrete list of domains, you will need to export a list of all the domains that your legacy mail server has configured. Most legacy mail systems will provide a utility that allows you to export a list of the domains to a simple tab delimited files.

You will then need to import/add those domains within MailEnable. Once you have done so, you should launch the Migration Centre utility to configure the migration strategy.

Pre-Loaded Migration

Pre-loaded Migration involves pre-loading all the domains and their respective user accounts/mailboxes into MailEnable before you attempt to migrate their message store content from the legacy system. This migration approach assumes that you either have access to user accounts and their passwords or that you intend to reset all your users passwords when they are migrated to the new system.

Ideally, if you are able to extract a list of logins/mailboxes with their associated passwords then you can simply import these into MailEnable and only use the migration console to move messages/contacts/calendar, etc. This is not imperative however, since it is possible to configure the migration strategy to extract users (and passwords) from your legacy mail system.

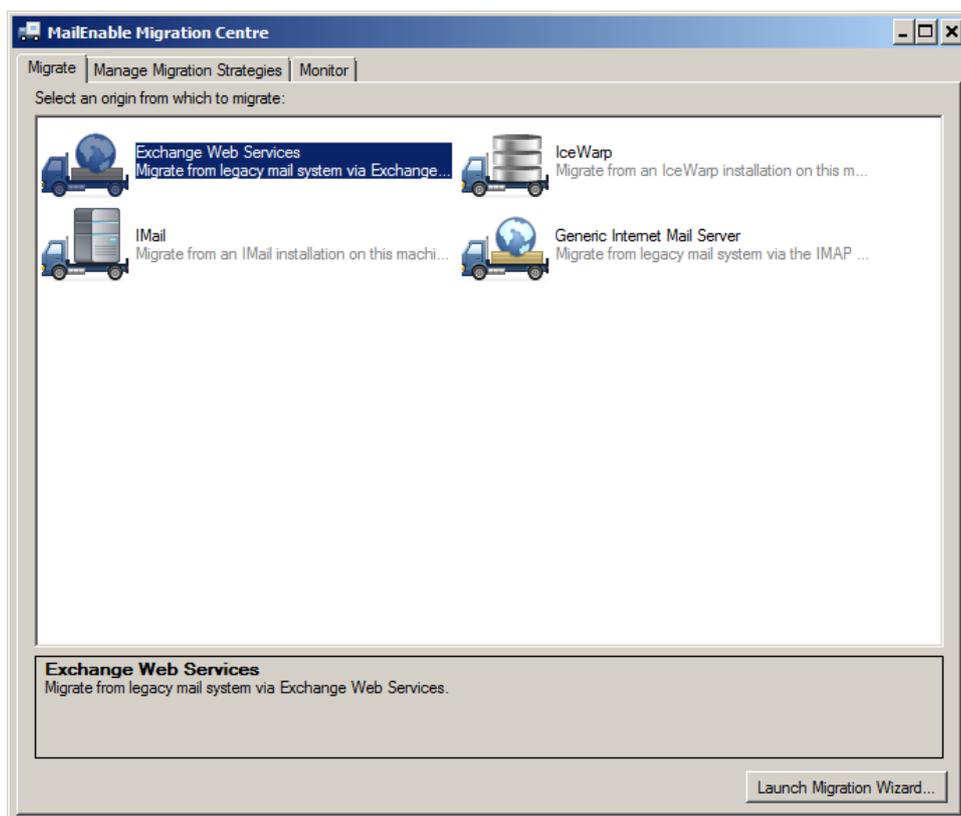
If you do not know the passwords for your users, and you are not able to reset them, then you should use either of the Domain or Server migration approaches (which will allow you to capture user credentials as they attempt to access their e-mail).

4. MIGRATING FROM MICROSOFT EXCHANGE

This section describes the configuration steps for migrating from Microsoft Exchange. MailEnable's Migration Centre uses Exchange Web Services (EWS) to migrate Folders, Messages, Appointments, Tasks and Contacts from Microsoft Exchange.

SELECTING THE MIGRATION APPROACH (EXCHANGE WEB SERVICES)

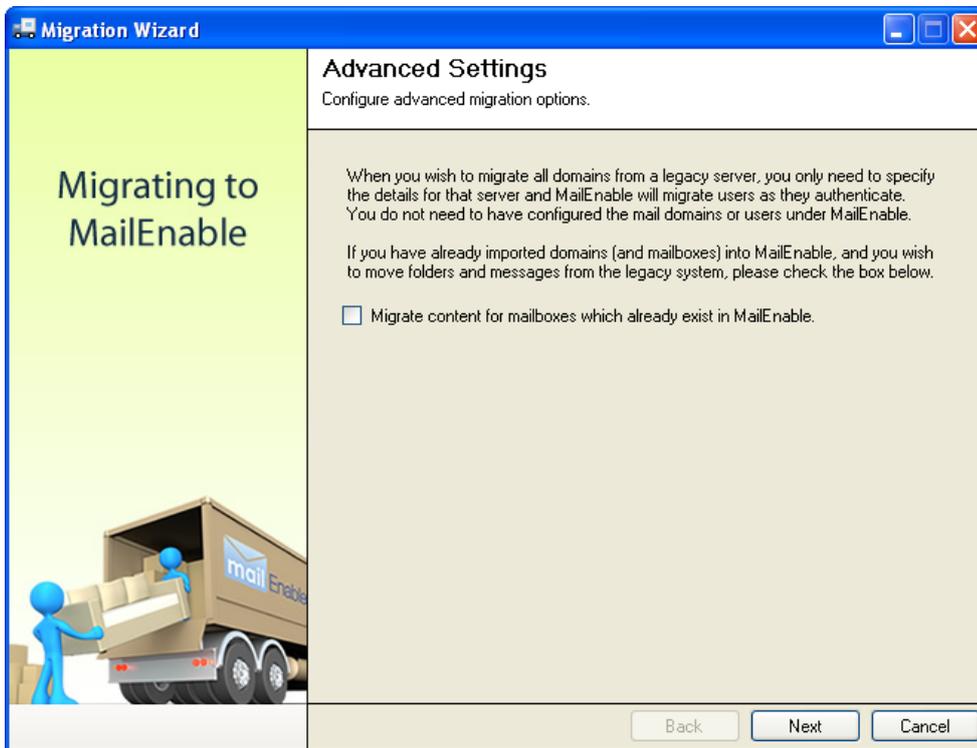
From the Migrate tab, select Exchange Web Services



Then select "Launch Migration Wizard..." down on the bottom right of the screen.

SELECTING ANY ADVANCED SETTINGS (EXCHANGE WEB SERVICES)

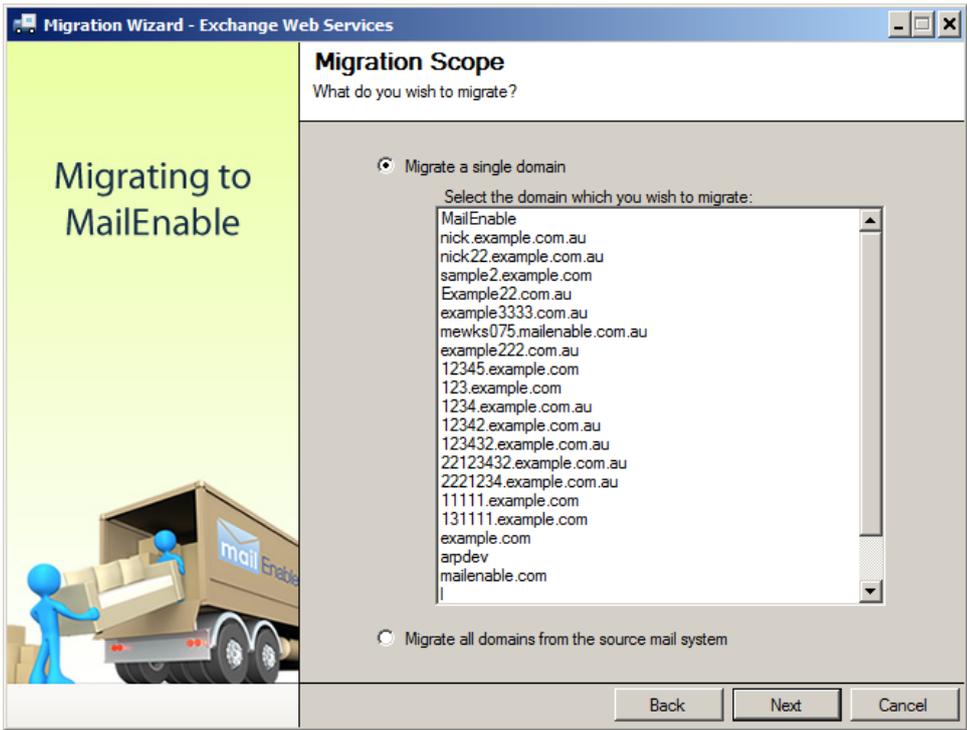
The wizard will now ask you whether you have already imported any mailboxes from the legacy mail server. This dialog will present as follows:



If you have not imported any mailbox configuration data from the legacy mail system, then you should leave this unchecked.

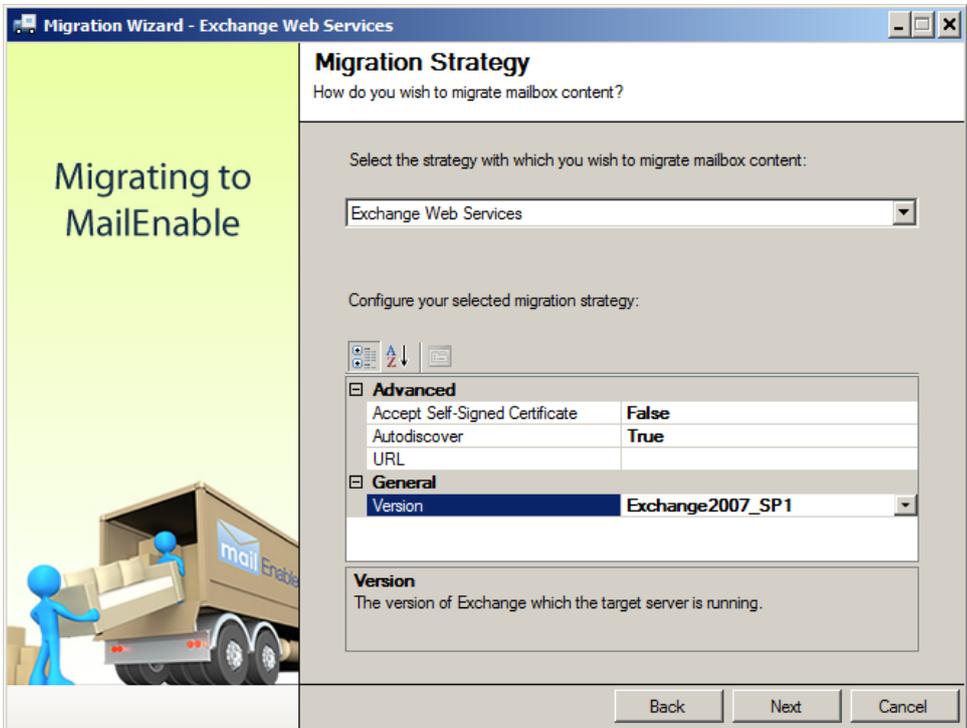
MIGRATION SCOPE (EXCHANGE WEB SERVICES)

The Migration Scope screen allows you to select whether you want to import a domain that you have already configured under MailEnable or if you want to import all e-mail domains off the legacy system.



MIGRATION STRATEGY (EXCHANGE WEB SERVICES)

The Migration Strategy screen allows you to provide details for the target Exchange server.



The following parameters are available:

Setting	Meaning
Accept Self-Signed Certificate	This is an advanced security option that allows you to specify whether the Migration Wizard should connect to an exchange server that has a self-signed certificate. If the Exchange server has a valid SSL certificate, then you can set this to false . If your server has a self-signed or temporary certificate then you can set this to true . If you are unsure, then you should set the option to true .
Autodiscover	Controls whether to automatically discover the URL for the Exchange server. If Autodiscover is not selected, then the URL must be supplied.
URL	This is the URL that is used to access the Exchange server. By default this would be in the form of https://[fully qualified server name]/EWS/Exchange.asmx. Example: https://www.mailenable.com/EWS/Exchange.asmx
Version	This allows you to specify the version of the target Exchange server. Currently the Migration Wizard will allow migration from servers running Exchange 2007 SP1 through to Exchange 2010 SP2.

Click Next to continue (which will actually configure and launch the Migration Strategy).

5. MIGRATING FROM A GENERIC MAIL SERVER

This section describes the configuration steps for migrating from a Generic Internet Mail Server (using the IMAP protocol).

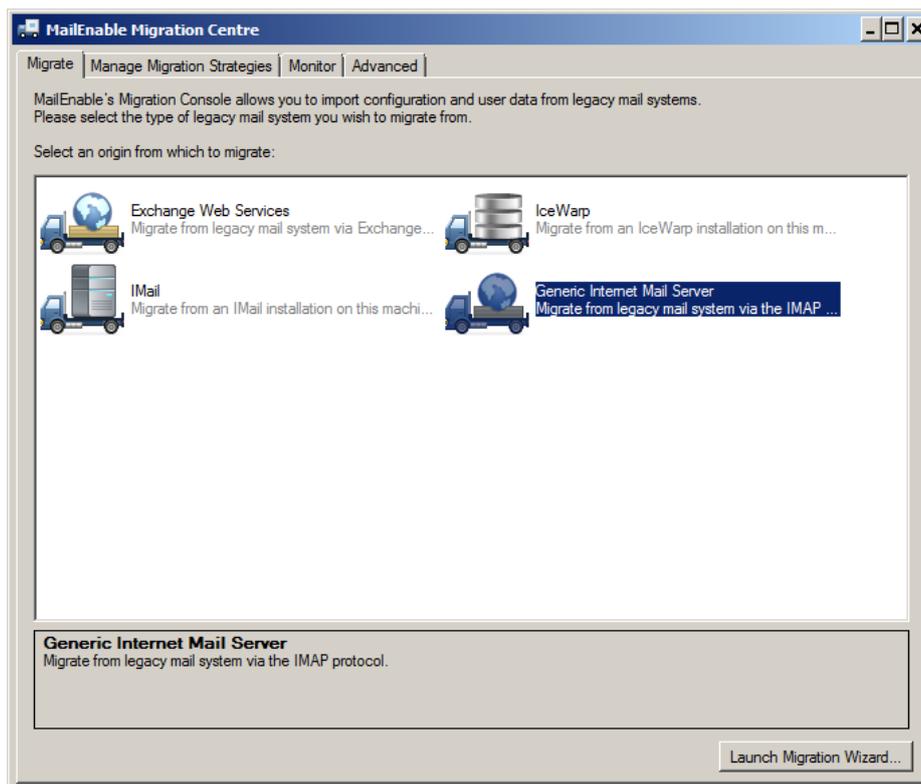
MailEnable's migration wizard is designed to capture user accounts and credentials as they authenticate against MailEnable. When the users authenticate (which is validated against the legacy mail server), their mail account is created under MailEnable, and the content from the legacy mail server is queued for migration.

If you are fortunate enough to have exported and created the user accounts in MailEnable (i.e.: you were able to extract the user passwords from the legacy mail system), then you can simply use the wizard to queue the importing of their mail folders and messages from the legacy mail server.

The Generic Mail Server migration agent uses the IMAP protocol to replicate the user's folders and messages from the legacy mail server.

SELECTING THE MIGRATION APPROACH (GENERIC INTERNET MAIL SERVER)

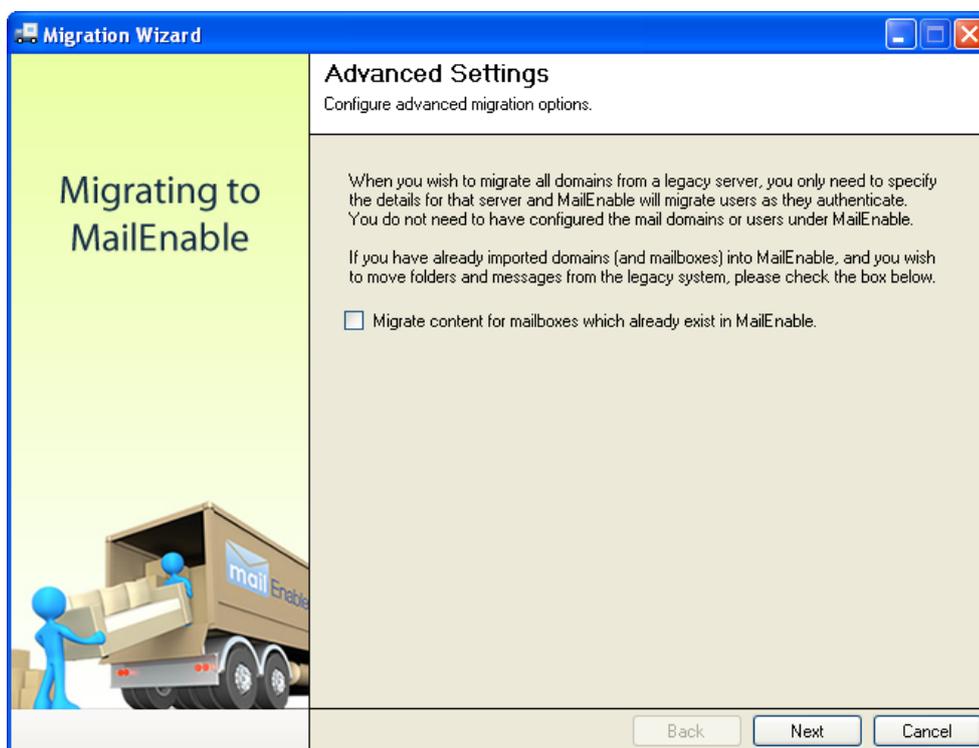
From the Migrate tab, select Generic Internet Mail Server.



Then select "Launch Migration Wizard.." down on the bottom right of the screen.

SELECTING ANY ADVANCED SETTINGS (GENERIC INTERNET MAIL SERVER)

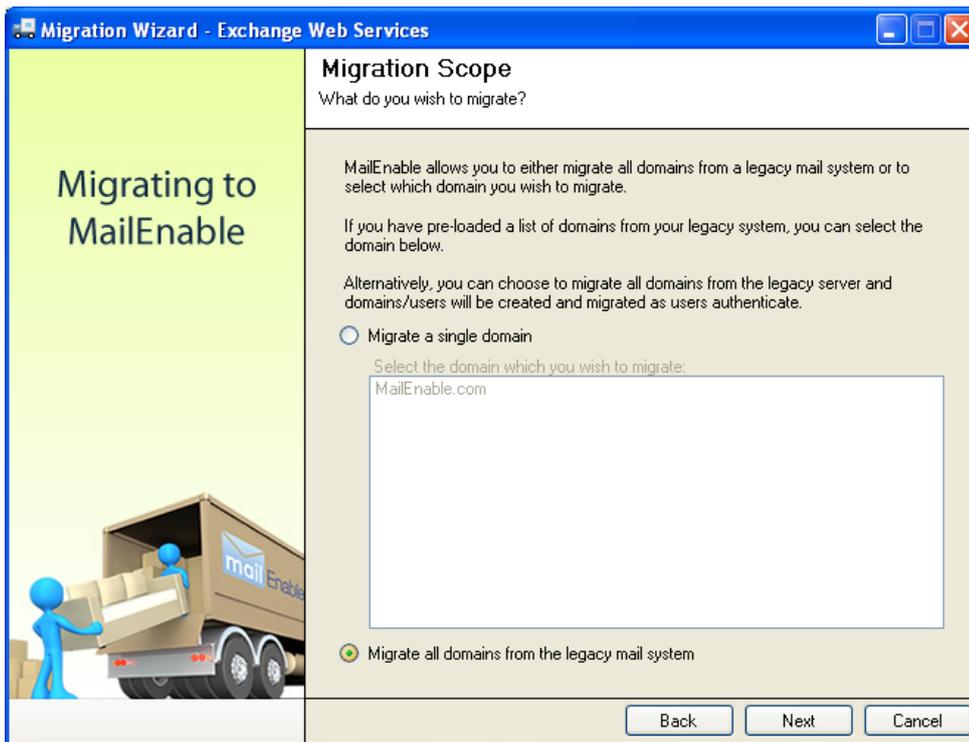
The wizard will now ask you whether you have already imported any mailboxes from the legacy mail server. This dialog will present as follows:



If you have not imported any mailbox configuration data from the legacy mail system, then you should leave this unchecked.

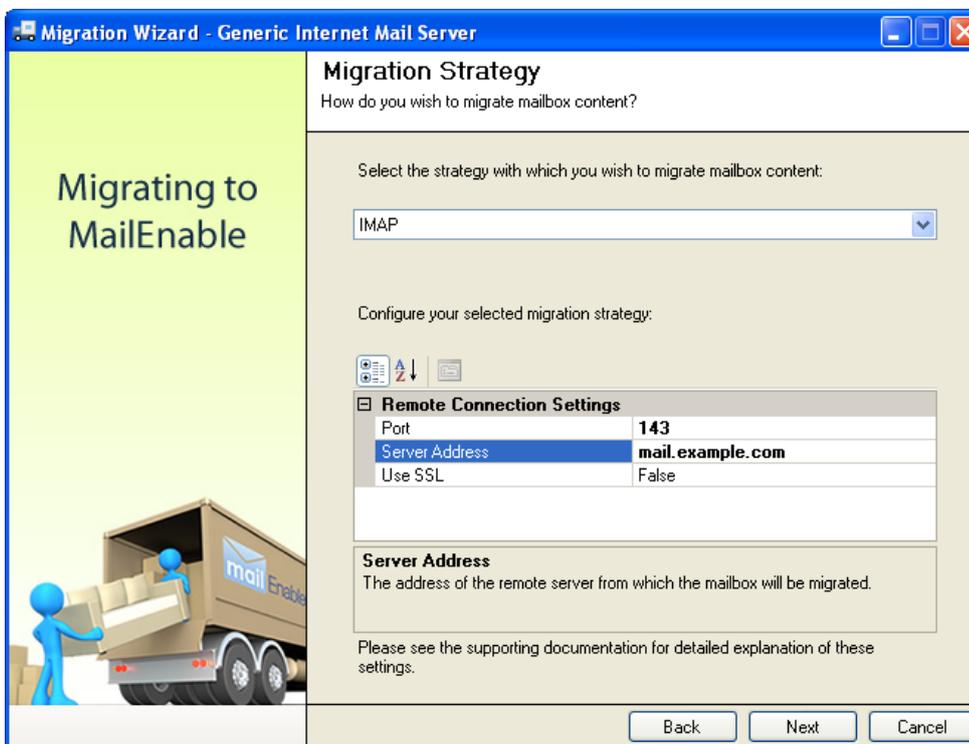
MIGRATION SCOPE (GENERIC INTERNET MAIL SERVER)

The Migration Scope Screen allows you to select whether you want to import a domain that you have already configured under MailEnable or if you want to import all e-mail domains off the legacy system.



MIGRATION STRATEGY (GENERIC INTERNET MAIL SERVER)

The Migration Strategy screen allows you to provide details for the legacy mail server. In this case the migration process will leverage the IMAP protocol to move folders and messages from the legacy mail server.



The following Parameters are available:

Setting	Meaning
Port	The IMAP port number of the legacy mail server. The IMAP port number is typically 143. If you are running the software on the same server as MailEnable, you will need to have changed it to a different port or bound the legacy mail server to a different IP address on the server.
Server Address	This is the server name or local IP address of the legacy mail server.
Use SSL	This defines whether the Port that the legacy server is listening on requires SSL.

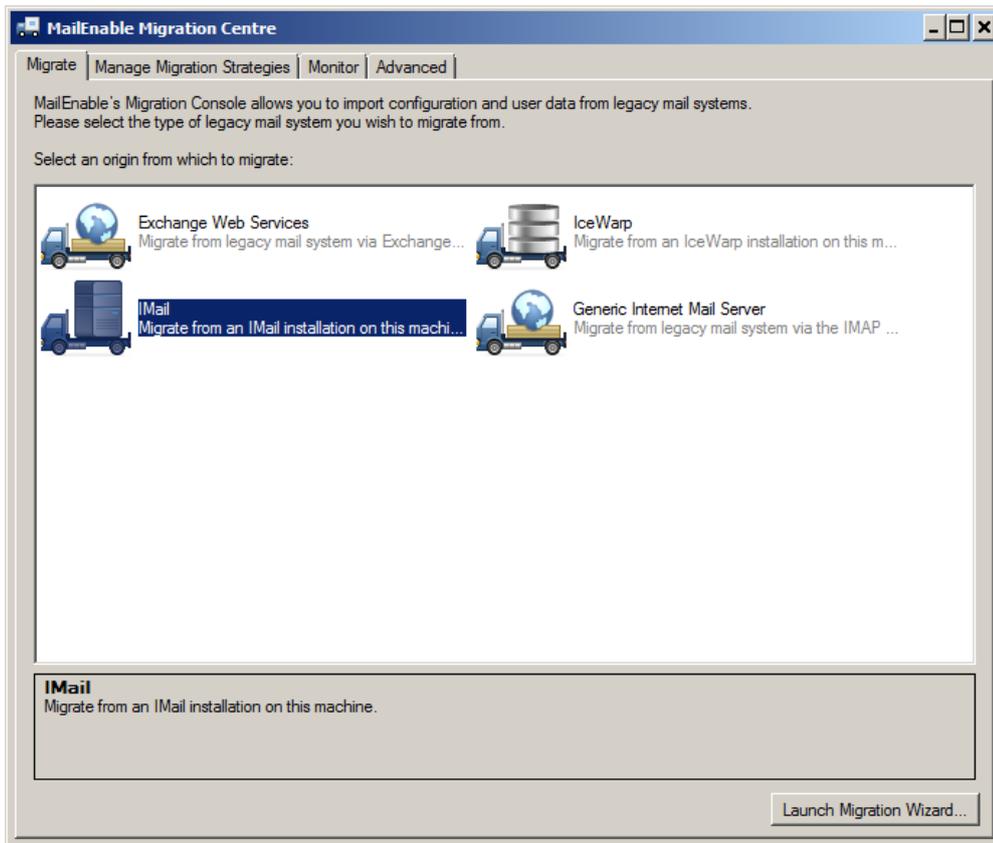
Click Next to continue (which will actually configure and launch the Migration Strategy).

6. MIGRATING FROM IPSWITCH IMAIL

This section describes the configuration steps for migrating from Ipswitch IMail. MailEnable's Migration Centre will query the IMail configuration and extract domains, users and passwords into MailEnable. It will then queue the migration of user folders and messages via the IMAP protocol.

SELECTING THE MIGRATION APPROACH (IPSWITCH IMAIL SERVER)

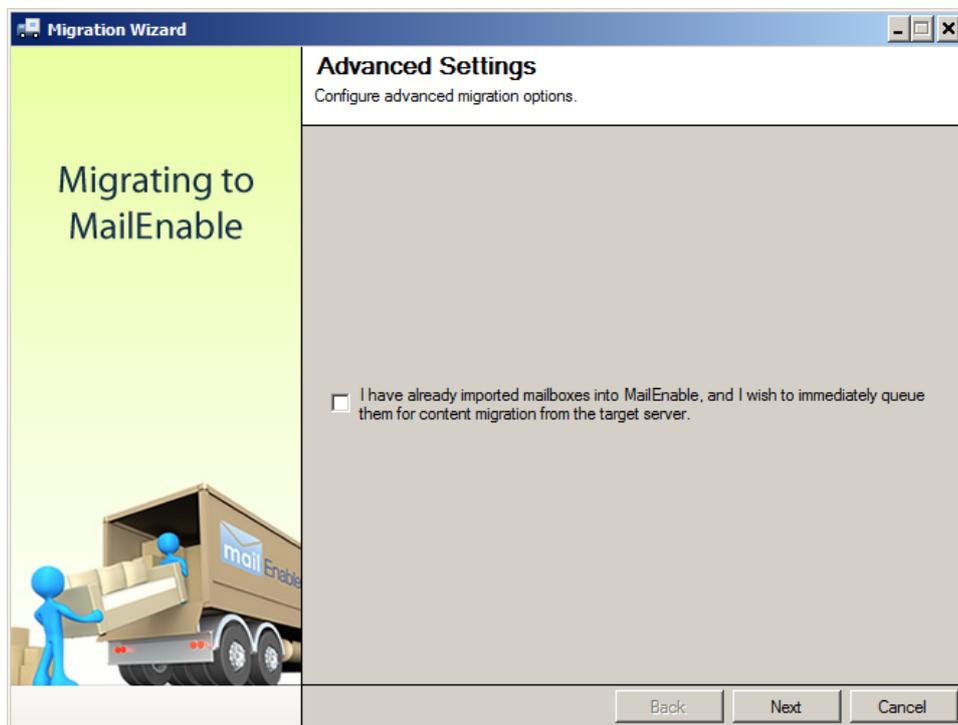
From the Migrate tab, select IMail.



Then select "Launch Migration Wizard.." down on the bottom right of the screen.

SELECTING ANY ADVANCED SETTINGS (IPSWITCH IMAIL SERVER)

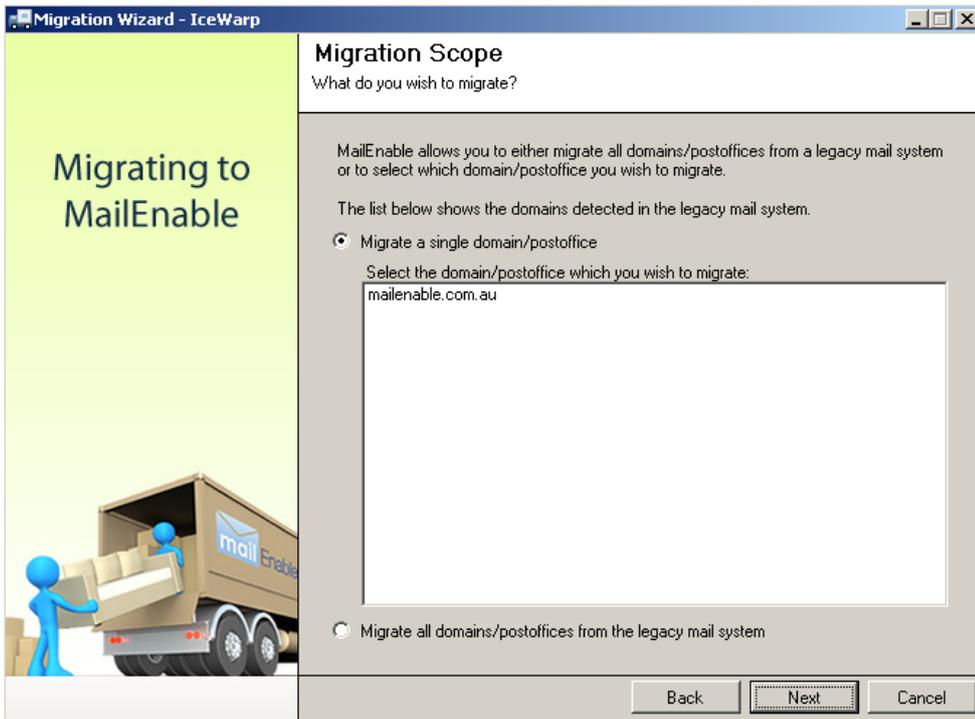
The wizard will now ask you whether you have already imported any mailboxes from the legacy mail server. This dialog will present as follows:



If you have not imported any mailbox configuration data from the legacy mail system, then you should leave this unchecked.

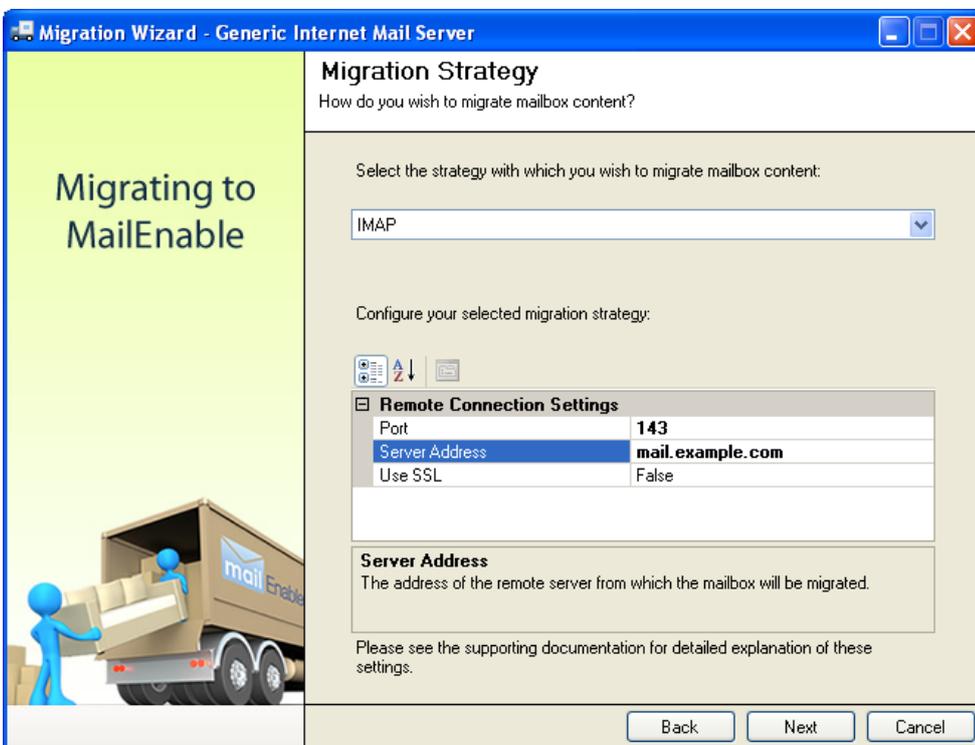
MIGRATION SCOPE (IPSWITCH IMAIL SERVER)

The Migration Scope screen allows you to select whether you want to import a domain that you have already configured under MailEnable or if you want to import all e-mail domains off the legacy system.



MIGRATION STRATEGY (IPSWITCH IMAIL SERVER)

The Migration Strategy screen allows you to provide details for the legacy mail server. In this case the migration process will leverage the IMAP protocol to move folders and messages from the legacy mail server.



The following Parameters are available:

Setting	Meaning
Port	The IMAP port number of the legacy mail server. The IMAP port number is typically 143. If you are running the software on the same server as MailEnable, you will need to have changed it to a different port or bound the legacy mail server to a different IP address on the server.
Server Address	This is the server name or local IP address of the legacy mail server.
Use SSL	This defines whether the Port that the legacy server is listening on requires SSL.

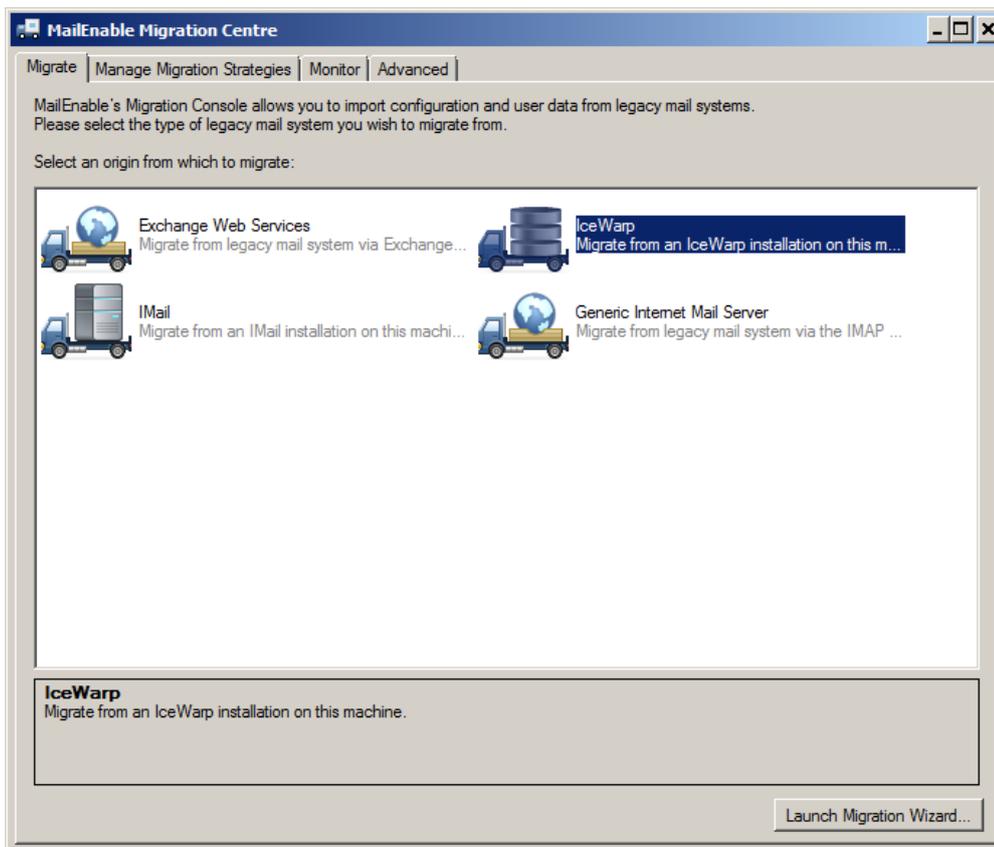
Click Next to continue (which will actually configure and launch the Migration Strategy).

7. MIGRATING FROM ICEWARP/MERAK MAIL SERVER

This section describes the configuration steps for migrating from IceWarp. MailEnable's Migration Centre uses IMAP to migrate the email data, but will use the IceWarp API in order to populate the accounts with their passwords. Due to it using the IceWarp API you need to install MailEnable on the IceWarp server. If this is not possible you can use the generic IMAP migration method from remote. The advantage of installing MailEnable on the IceWarp server is that you can get all the mailboxes created and populated with the email data before waiting for a user to authenticate (which is needed to capture the password).

SELECTING THE MIGRATION APPROACH (ICEWARP/MERAK MAIL SERVER)

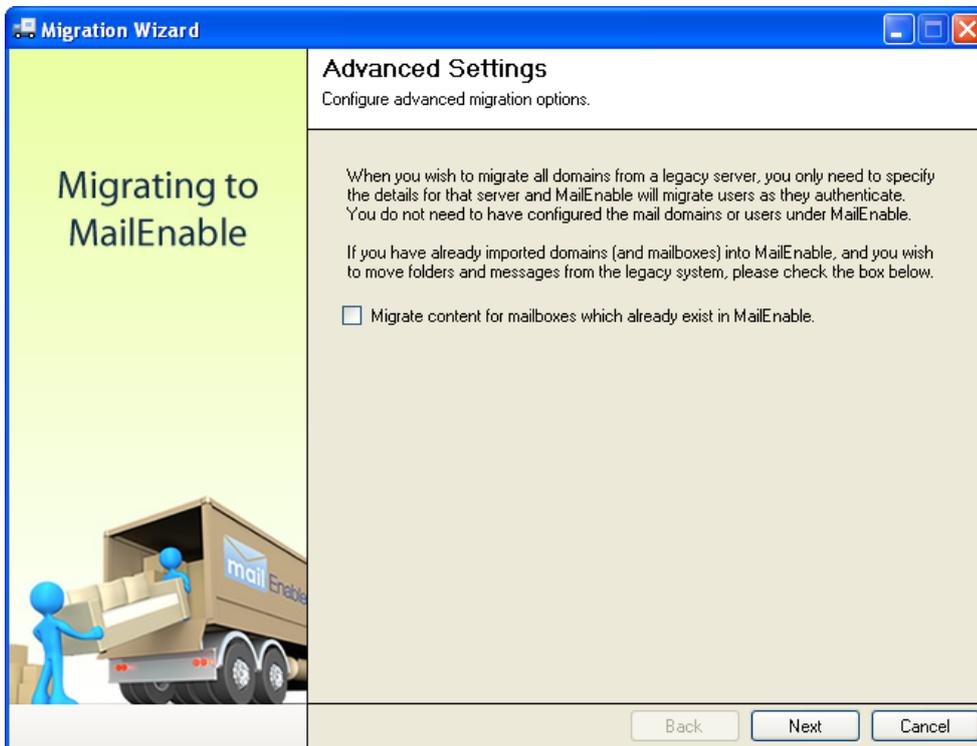
From the Migrate tab, select IceWarp



Then select "Launch Migration Wizard..." down on the bottom right of the screen.

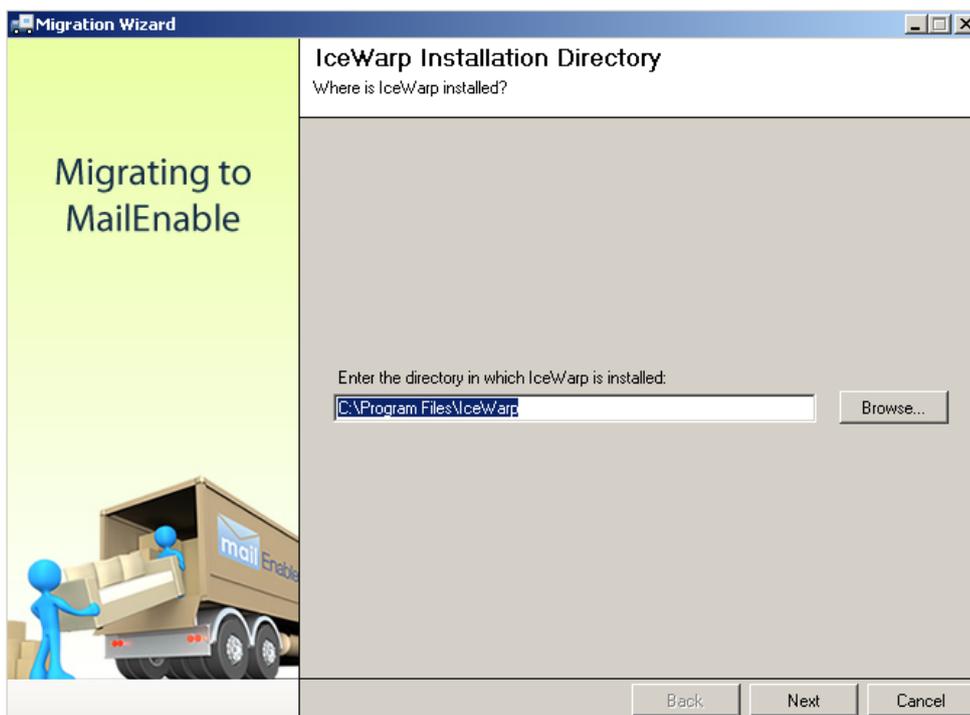
SELECTING ANY ADVANCED SETTINGS (ICEWARP/MERAK MAIL SERVER)

The wizard will now ask you whether you have already imported any mailboxes from the legacy mail server. This dialog will present as follows:



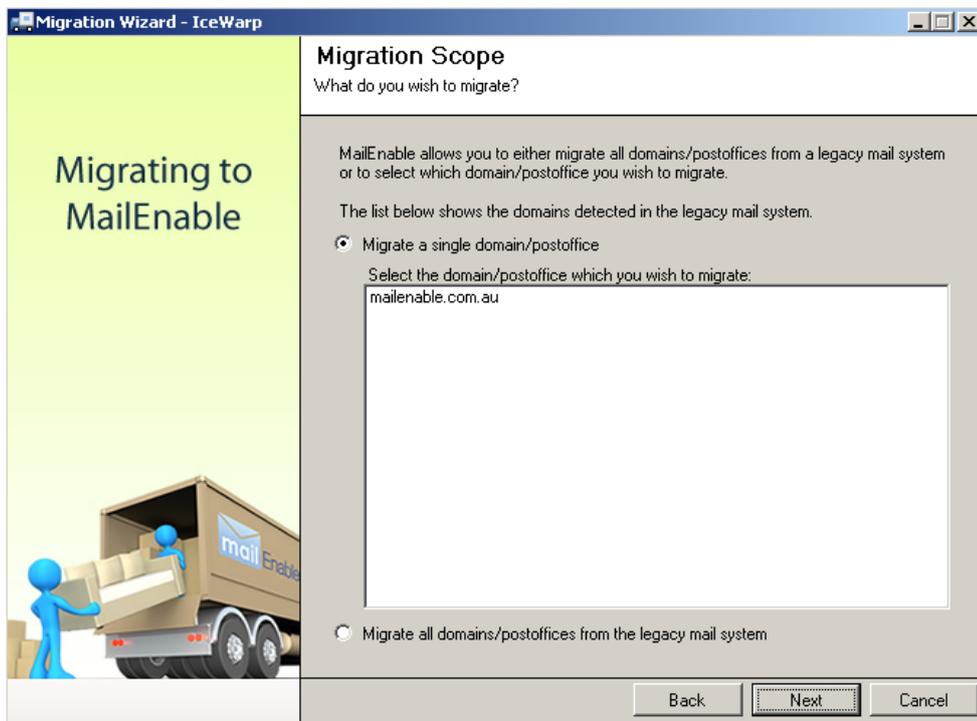
If you have not imported any mailbox configuration data from the legacy mail system, then you should leave this unchecked.

SELECTING LEGACY INSTALL DIRECTORY (ICEWARP/MERAK MAIL SERVER)



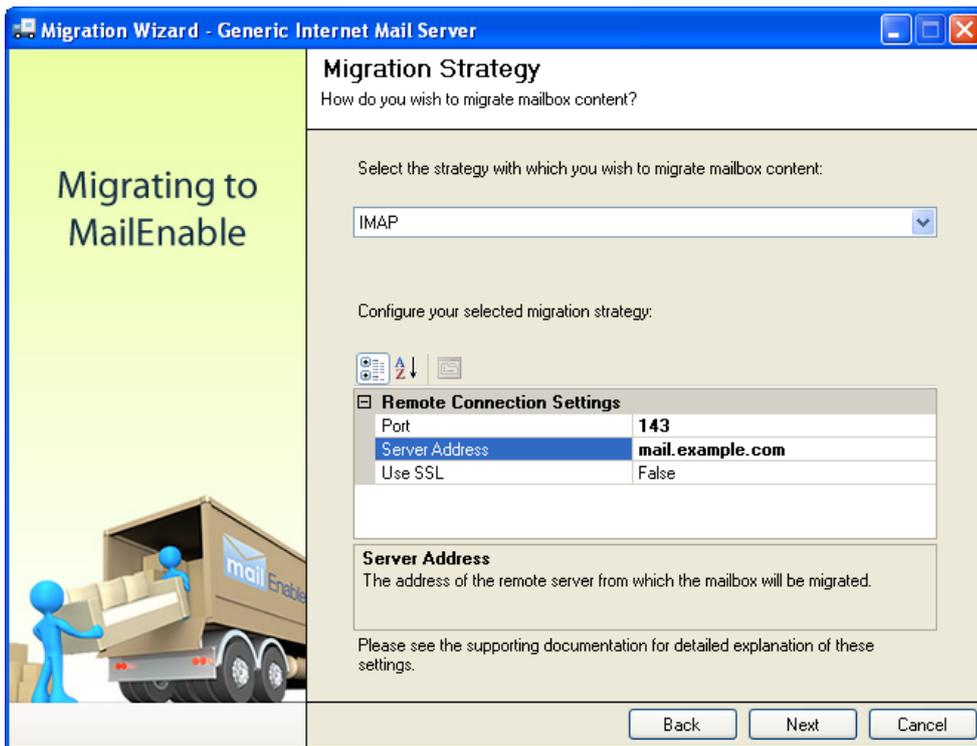
MIGRATION SCOPE (ICEWARP/MERAK MAIL SERVER)

The Migration Scope screen allows you to select whether you want to import a domain that you have already configured under MailEnable or if you want to import all e-mail domains off the legacy system.



MIGRATION STRATEGY (ICEWARP/MERAK MAIL SERVER)

The Migration Strategy screen allows you to provide details for the legacy mail server. In this case the migration process will leverage the IMAP protocol to move folders and messages from the legacy mail server.



The following Parameters are available:

Setting	Meaning
Port	The IMAP port number of the legacy mail server. The IMAP port number is typically 143. If you are running the software on the same server as MailEnable, you will need to have changed it to a different port or bound the legacy mail server to a different IP address on the server.
Server Address	This is the server name or local IP address of the legacy mail server.
Use SSL	This defines whether the Port that the legacy server is listening on requires SSL.

Click Next to continue (which will actually configure and launch the Migration Strategy).

8. MANAGING MIGRATION STRATEGIES

Once you have defined a Migration Strategy, it will appear under the “Manage Migration Strategies” tab of the Migration Utility. You are able to Enable, Disable or Delete a Migration Strategy.

Disabling a Migration Strategy will suspend the import of any mailboxes from the legacy mail system.

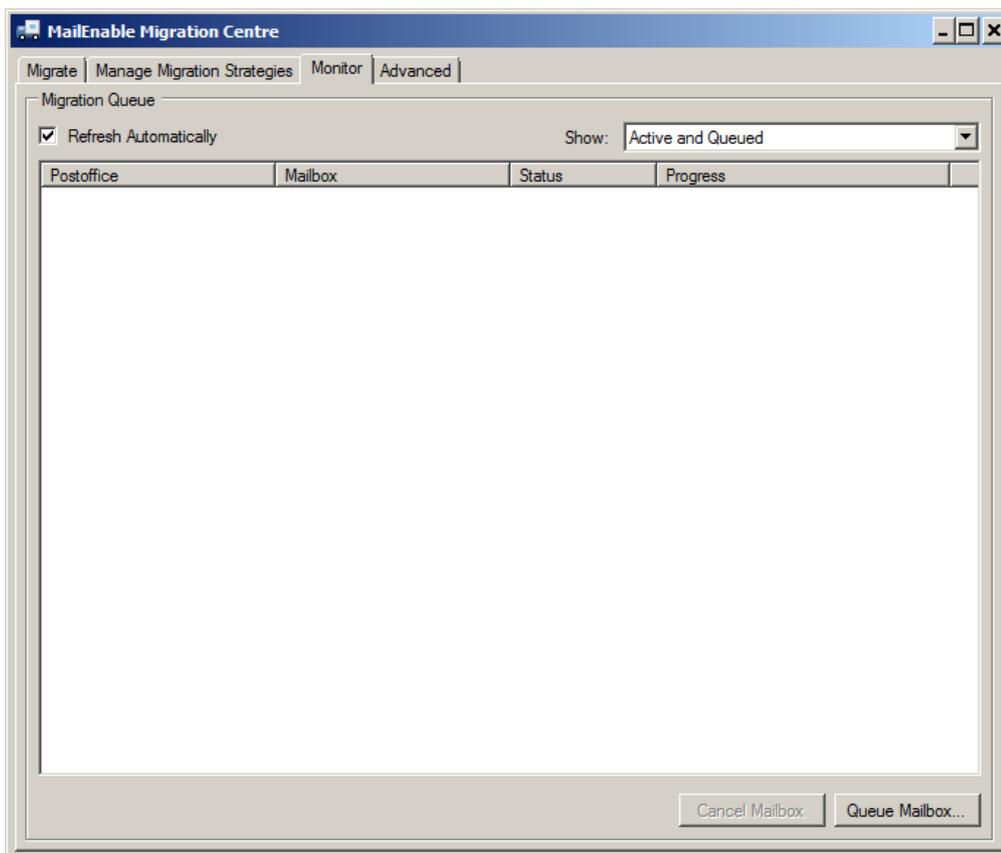
Deleting a Migration Strategy will suspend and delete the selected strategy. Any data already migrated will remain under MailEnable. Once you have deleted a strategy, it cannot be activated again; ie: you would need to define a new strategy.

Enabling a Migration Strategy will resume the import of any mailboxes from a previously disabled migration strategy.

MONITORING MIGRATION

When a migration strategy is in progress, mailboxes are queued for import from the target mail system. As they are queued, they will appear under the monitoring tab. You can select whether you wish to review only those in progress, those that are queued or the entire list.

You can also use this tab to queue the import of a single mailbox (which you may choose to do if you are testing or wish to manually import an individual mail user).



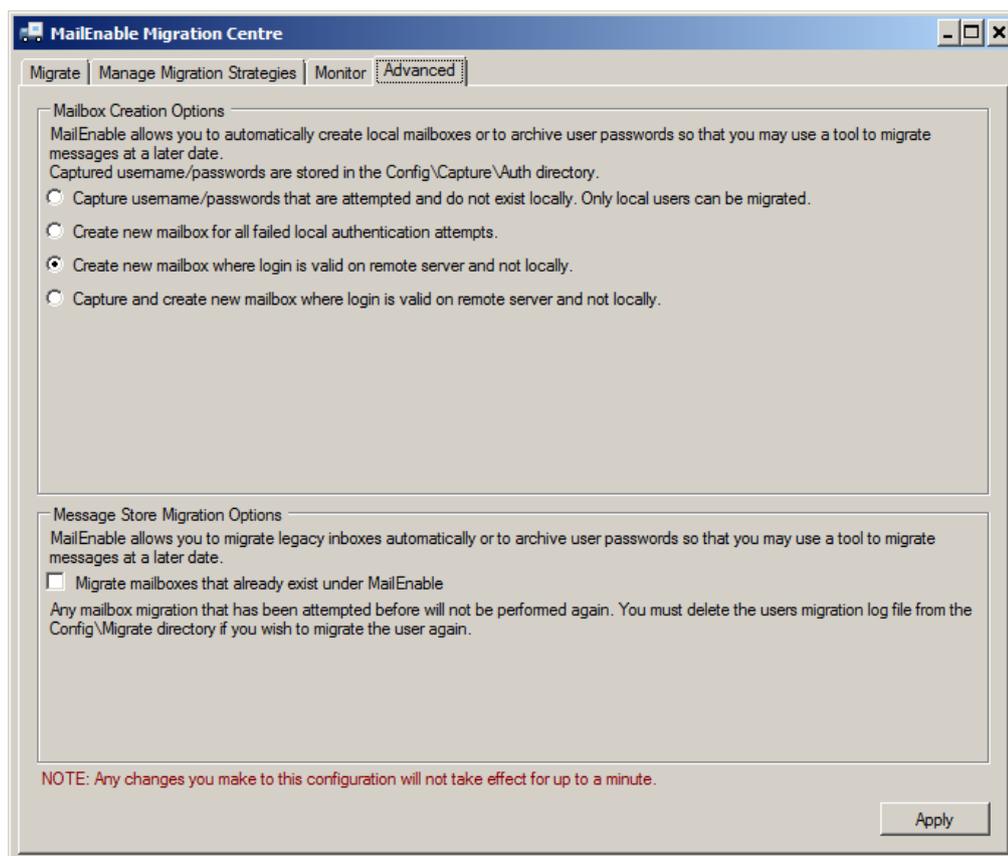
The Migration Console will report a list of which user accounts have been migrated and the overall progress of the migration itself.

You can then leave your mail system running in this mode for a month or two while users connect to your mail system. When they connect their mail will begin spooling from the legacy server to the new server.

Once your users have all logged (presumably after a month or so), you can simply uninstall your legacy server.

ADVANCED SETTINGS

The behaviour of Migration Strategies can be customised to either capture user credentials or create user accounts and queue the migration of message data from legacy mail systems. The following options exist for capturing credentials and queuing migrations.



MailEnable allows you to capture the login details supplied by users when they attempt to authenticate against MailEnable services (webmail, IMAP, POP, etc.). You can choose the action that is taken when authentication occurs. These actions are outlined below.

Setting	Description
Capture username/passwords that are attempted and do not exist locally. Only local users can be migrated.	This option will capture login details and store them in the "Config\Capture\Auth" directory for future processing (note: such processing would have to be done manually). You have the option to migrate user's data from legacy server when they authenticate successfully to the local

	server.
Capture new mailbox for all failed local authentication attempts.	This option will capture login details and automatically create a new account using these details. Warning: This option will create a new mailbox for every authentication attempt. You should not select this option unless you restrict inbound connections to known IP addresses.
Create new mailbox where login is valid on remote server and not locally.	This option will validate the login details against a remote server, then create a new account using these details if they are valid. Selecting this option also enables <i>Message Store Migration Options</i> , which allows you to migrate email data from the legacy server.
Capture and create new mailbox where login is valid on remote server and not locally.	This option is the same as the option above but will also capture the login details to the "Config\Capture\Auth" directory.

9. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How many mailboxes will be migrated at once?

Queued items are processed concurrently. A maximum of 10 items are migrated at once (prior to Version 7.04, this was 4). You can adjust this value by editing the following registry key:

Root: HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\[Wow6432Node]Mail Enable\Mail Enable\Migration

Value Type: DWORD_32

Value Name: Queue Processing Concurrency Limit

Value: Number of concurrent mailboxes to import. Default value is 10.

Note: If you set this value too high, you may place high load on the legacy mail server (and this may have diminishing returns).

How long will it take to migrate a mailbox?

The amount of time taken to migrate a mailbox depends on the size of the source mailbox. A mailbox with a large number of folders and messages may take quite some time to import. A rough estimate is that a small to moderate mailbox will take 10-15 minutes to migrate.

Can I test migrating a mailbox to determine how long it will take to migrate all my users?

Yes, you can do this by setting up the domain under MailEnable, with a known mailbox and selecting to only import that mailbox. You can then verify the amount of time that it takes to migrate that mailbox. You can also then reasonably deduce the amount of time it will take to migrate an entire domain or server.