



Gestix Manual

*Personal Web
Sharing/Web Service
FAQ*

Gestix.com

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Publication Date and Software Version

Published on June, 2008. Gestix Version 4.1

Note: For complementary information about the subject on this manual, please visit the support page on the Gestix website (<http://www.gestix.com>).

Conteúdo

Copyright.....	i
Publication Date and Software Version.....	i
What is the Personal Web Sharing?.....	2
What the Personal Web Sharing does?.....	3
What the Personal Web Sharing does not?.....	4
Conclusion.....	5

What is the Personal Web Sharing?

The Personal Web Sharing (Apache or IIS) is really a local web server that is included by default on most operating systems (for example, Windows XP, Mac OS X, Linux), and can be added to those systems that do not include it (for example XP-Home).

What the Personal Web Sharing does?

It enables the HTTP service that responds to the requests submitted by the browser and directed to that specific computer (for example a request whose address starts with <http://localhost> is always directed to the local computer), the Personal Web Sharing returns these requests with the page associated with the requested address.

What the Personal Web Sharing does not?

It does not give access to any computer file outside the safe and specific locations that are configured for that purpose.

For Gestix this safe location is `c:\program files\gestix\www` (Windows), `/Library/Gestix/www` (Mac) or `/var/lib/gestix/www` (Linux by RPM DEB).

For increased security the Gestix program does not place any sensible data at this location: the database is at a different location inaccessible to the web service. It is the Gestix program (`www/cgi-bin/gestix.cgi`), enabled with the user credentials, that directly accesses the database and brings the information to the web server embedded in the HTML pages it generates.

It does not allow access from outside the local network unless it is specifically configured for that.

By default when the Web Service is activated only the local computer and the computers connected on the local network can access the service. Otherwise it is necessary to intervene at the internal configuration of the web server, which is not an easy task without the administrator's password and very profound knowledge.

Conclusion

When active the Web Service enables the HTTP service (usually called Web Server) on the local computer (localhost) and on the network that the computer is connected. Usually an office computer is connected on a local network and is not accessible from the outside. These circumstances are maintained before and after the Web Service is activated.