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Appendum A

to the VPS Guide for MT4

by ckowyong.com, 13 may 2008

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Acknowledgements

Thanks to Ben from Australia who provided the link to the excellent FREE software called Royal TS.

Introduction

The original VPS Guide for MT4 can be downloaded here :
http://ckowyong.com/blog/?page_id=20
It is a free guide for traders who would like to make use of Virtual Private Servers(VPS) to run their MetaTrader 4 platforms 24 x 7. It contains information on how to configure a VPS to ensure that it is optimal for running MT4, with a focus to make sure that it keeps running 24 x 7 even if your VPS provider reboots your VPS due to unforeseen circumstances.

Please note that the original guide is free. It has been reported that versions of the guide has been sold for about US$99. If you come across sites that are selling the original **VPS Guide for MT4** for a fee, please do me a favor and notify me. I can be contacted at ck@ckowyong.com

For all your Q's and A's regarding the **VPS Guide for MT4** and this **Appendum A**, please post them at **http://www.ckowyong.com/blog/vps**

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About this Appendum A

With the increasing use of Virtual Private Servers(**VPS**) for automated trading, a number of common issues have surfaced. The main issue is one that relates to connecting to the VPS in **CONSOLE** mode.

When we connect to a VPS, we are essentially opening up a terminal service(TS) session to the VPS. TS sessions can take 2 forms :

1. Normal TS session
2. **Console** Mode TS session

A Virtual Private Server behaves exactly like a server. It is able to allow multiple users to connect to it when using a normal TS sessions. Each user's session will be independent of the other. This is a situation that we **MUST AVOID** when using a VPS for trading.

The common issues encountered when connections are not connected in **CONSOLE** mode are as follows :

1. **Your account statement shows duplicate orders, as though you have 2 instances of the Expert Advisor running** : This happens if you have connected to your VPS using the normal TS mode. Doing so will start a new session which will launch a new instance of the MT4 that you have configured to start automatically. So if you have logged on to your VPS twice using the normal TS mode, you will have everything that you have configured to run automatically X 2. Two instances of MT4 will mean that your trades will double, which also means that your trading risks are doubled too.
2. **Your VPS becomes really really slow, or you may no longer be able to connect to your VPS** : When the number of sessions increases, the system resources available to your VPS will start to reduce. It may reach a stage where your VPS will start to behave very sluggishly, or you may even loose the ability to connect or log into your VPS. When this happens, you will need to restart your VPS using the VPS Control Panel (usually via the web-based PLESK interface) or you may need to get the support team at the VPS provider to reboot it for you.

For full details on how you can log on to your VPS in CONSOLE mode, please refer to the original **VPS Guide for MT4**, section 2, titled : **Setting up a shortcut to access your VPS**

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in console mode

When you are logged in to your VPS in **CONSOLE** mode, it ensures that you are the one and only person (or session) on the server. This will prevent new instances of your MT4 from being invoked by the startup script (ie. Startup.cmd) which runs every time a new session is logged into the VPS.

The rest of this document describes how you can make use of an excellent FREE software called **Royal TS** (http://code4ward.net/CS2) to ensure that you are connecting to your VPS in CONSOLE mode. The software provides an intuitive way to make the connection without the need to create a shortcut (can be quite tricky) as described in the original guide.

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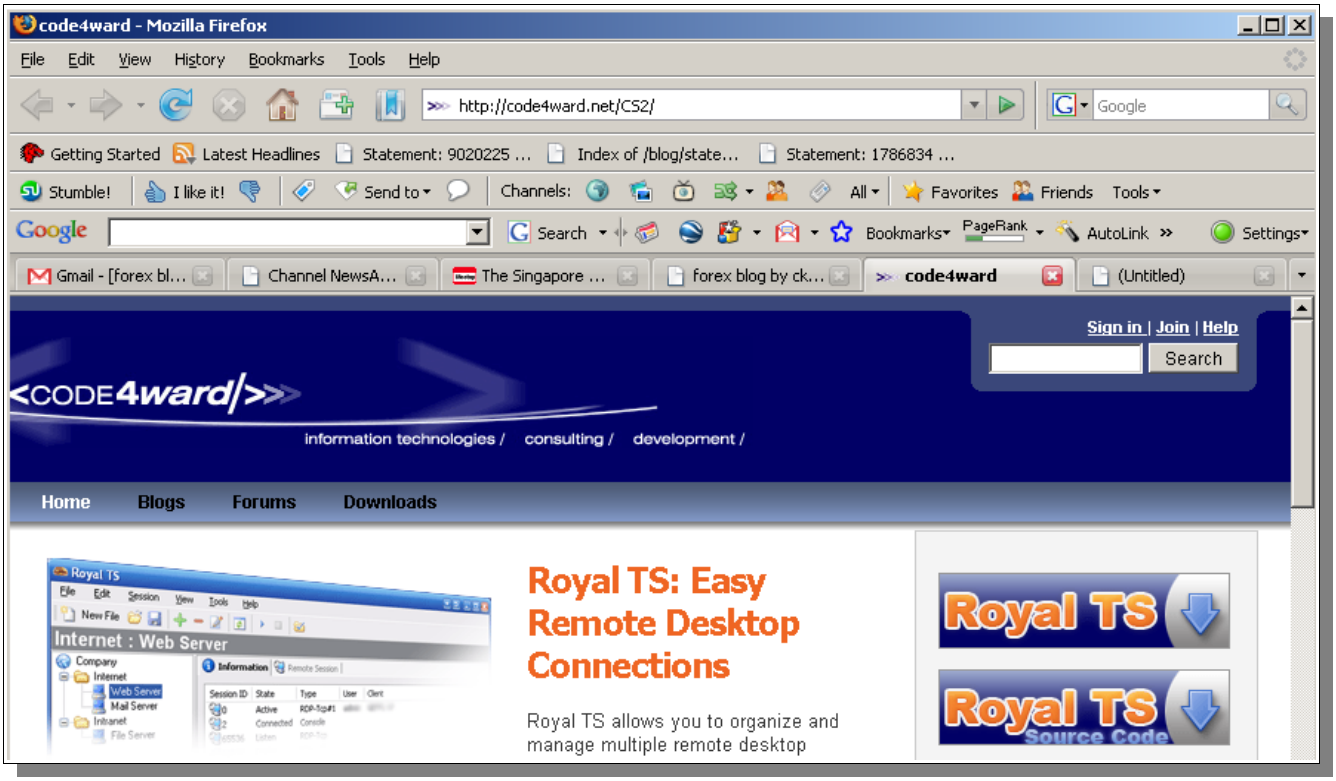
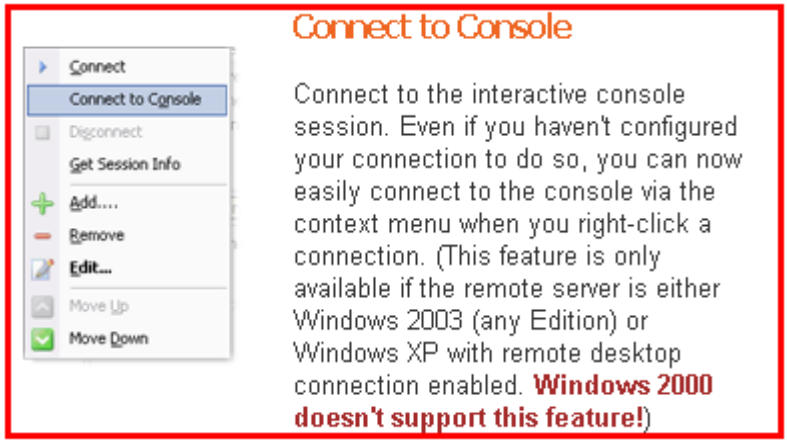
1. Download and install the free Royal TS application

The appication can be downloaded here : http://code4ward.net/CS2



The KEY benefit of using this software is that it provides an intuitive way to connect to your VPS in Console mode.



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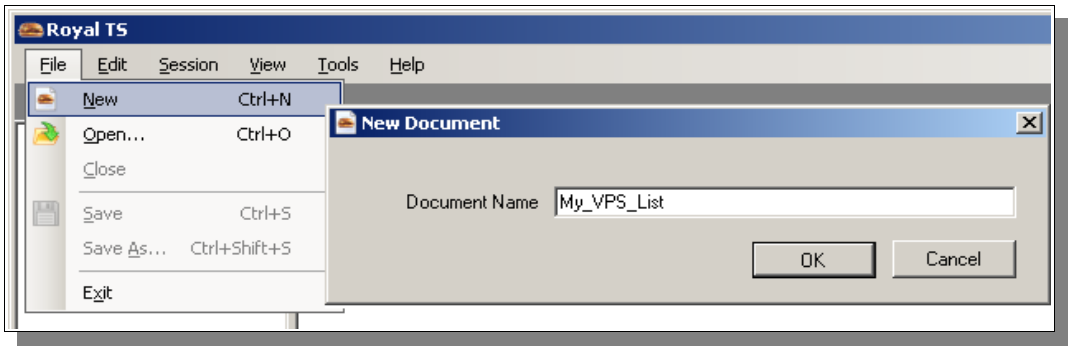
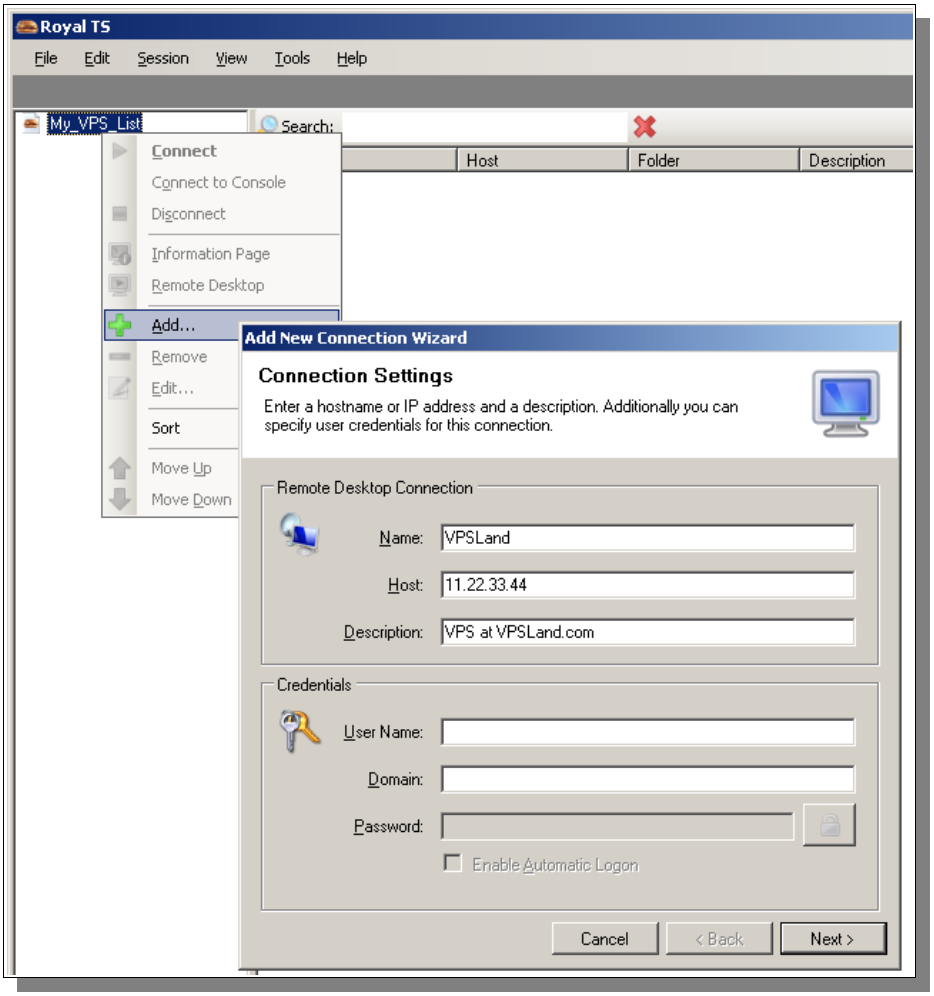
2. Setup your VPS connection in Royal TS



From the main menu, select **FILE -> NEW.** Specify a **Document Name** when promted. You can enter anything you wish.



Right-Click on the Document Name that you have created earlier and select **ADD**. Fill in the form as you see above to create a **New Connection**, replacing the **HOST** field with the **IP**

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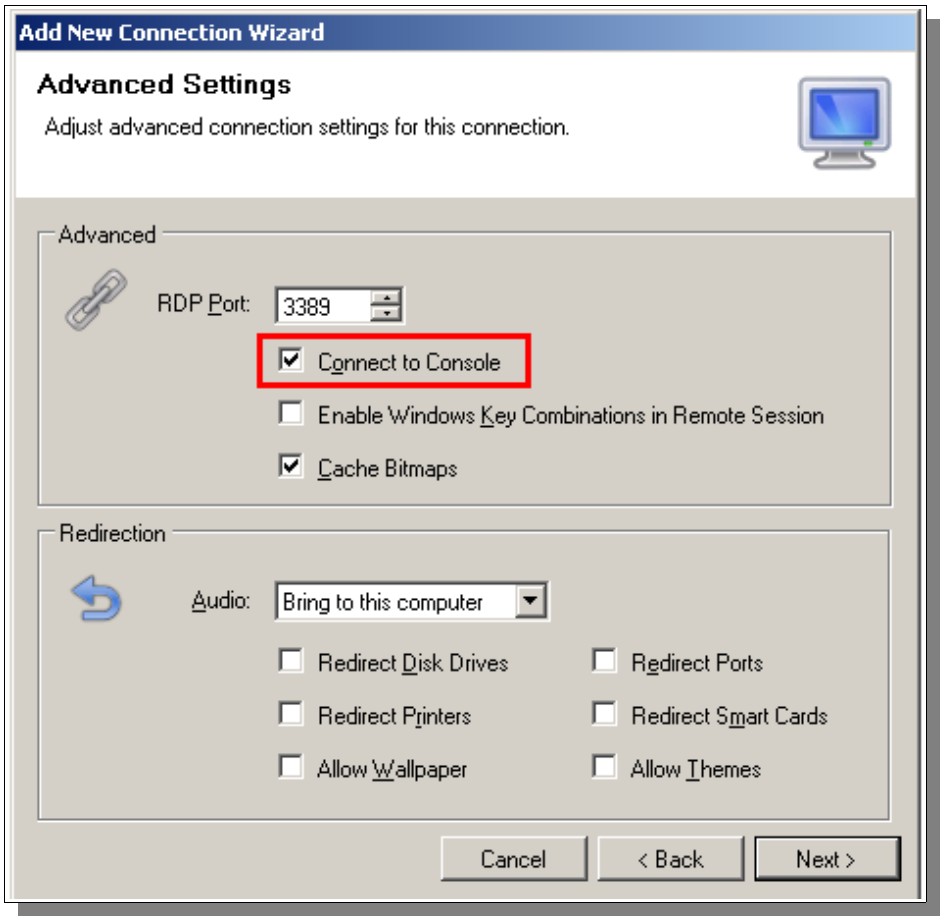
Address of your own VPS. Click on **Next**.



IMPORTANT : The above screen is the MOST IMPORTANT of all!. Make sure that you put a TICK in the box for **Connect to CONSOLE**. This setting will ensure that all your connections to your VPS will be in **CONSOLE** mode. Click **Next**.

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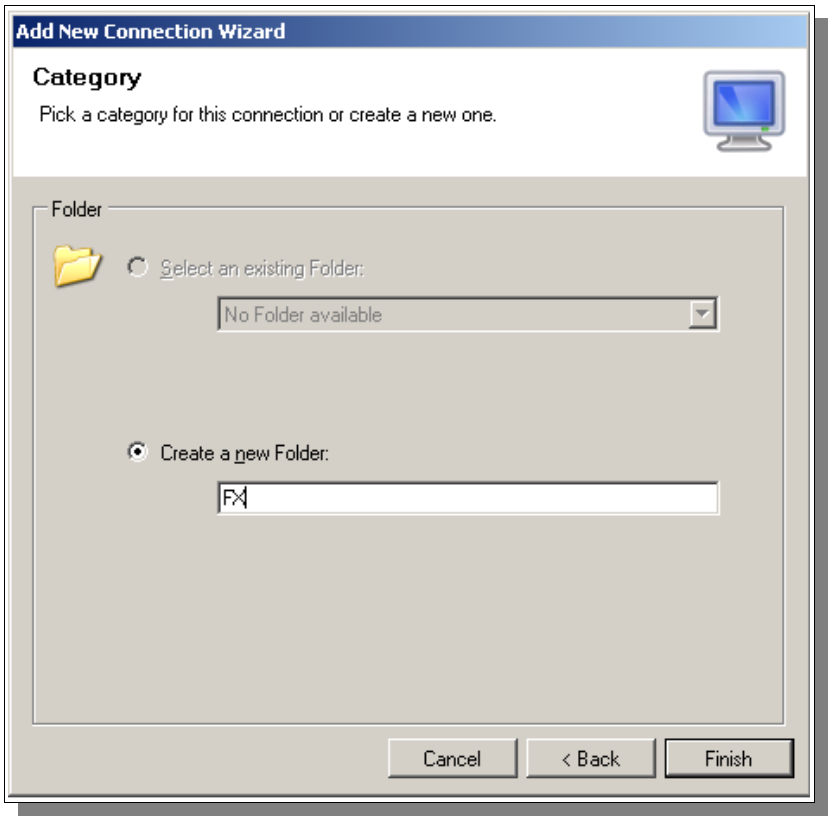
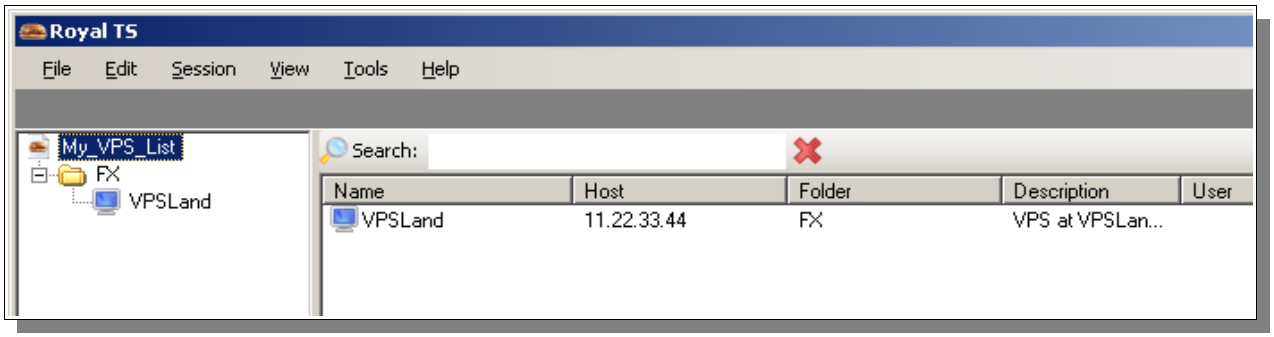


When prompted with the above screen, just enter any name to create a Folder. Once done, you will see something like this :



To connect to your VPS in CONSOLE mode, simply Double-Click on the VPSLand icon (or whatever you have named your **New Connection** earlier. Alternatively, you could also Right-Click on the Connection icon and select Connect to Console as you can see in the screen below :

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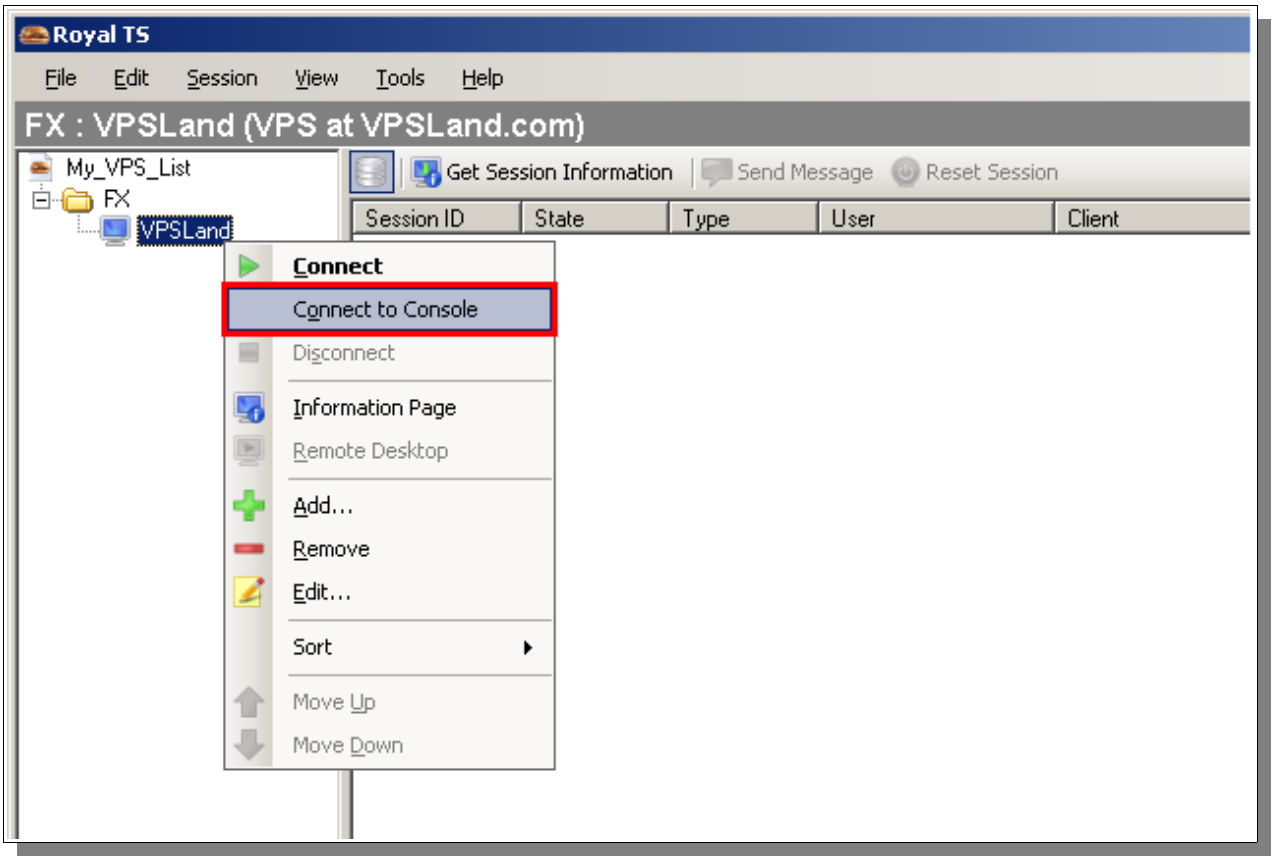

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Conclusion

I hope this Appendum will help prevent some of the issues that have been reported.

VPS reliability has been a concern lately. However, I feel that a number of cases reported could be due to the common cause of not logging into the VPS in CONSOLE mode.

Currently, all VPS services are not designed to run MT4 for traders. I hope the VPS Guide for MT4 and this Appendum A can assist you in successfully configuring a VPS to use as your 24 x 7 trading machine for running your MT4 platforms and Expert Advisors.

As mentioned earlier in this document, please post all your questions regarding the **VPS Guide for MT4** and this **Appendum A here : http://www.ckowyong.com/blog/vps**

Wishing you success in your trading!

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