Mantle 2.0 Quick Start Guide

VMware Workstation Deployment

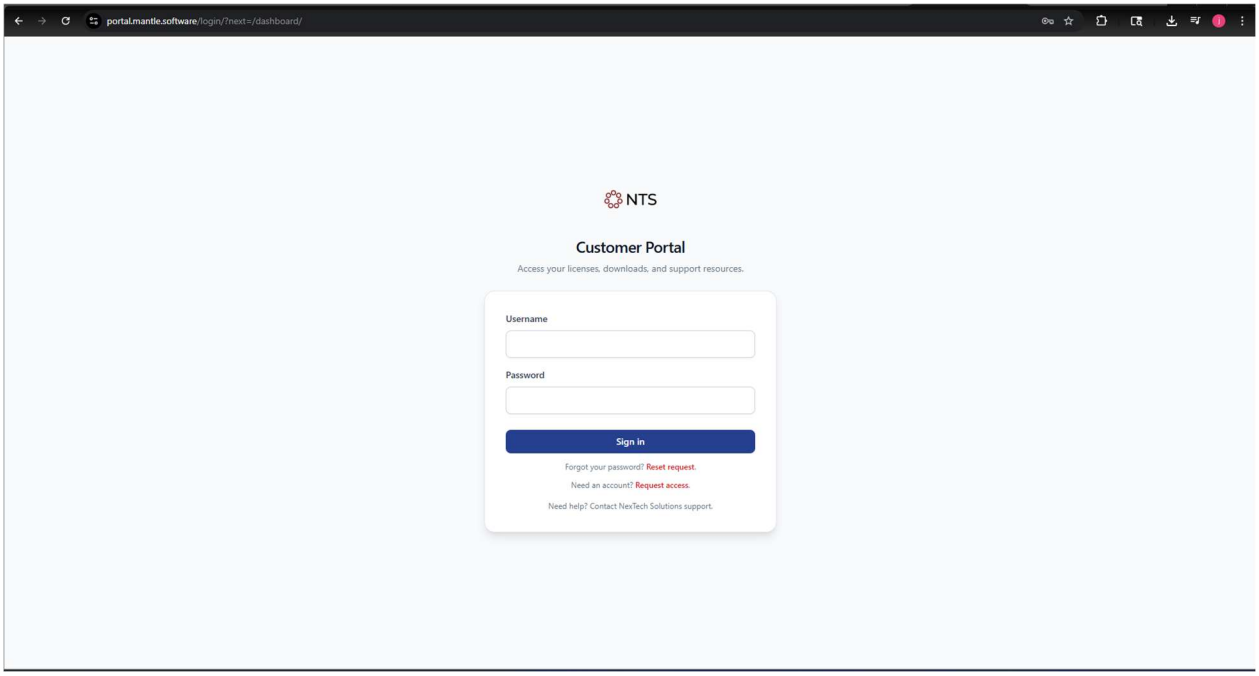
Use this guide to import the Mantle 2.0 OVA, configure VMware networking, access the web interface, apply licensing, and upload the assets required for automation.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN	DEFAULT CREDENTIALS
• Have the Mantle 2.0 OVA available locally. The OVA can be downloaded from: https://portal.mantle.software • Have the license file provided by your administrator ready. • Have the required automation assets ready for upload. • Know whether your deployment needs a Build (PXE) interface.	**Guest OS:** mantle / M@NtleUser123!@# **Web UI:** admin / admin Both default passwords are changed during first sign-in.

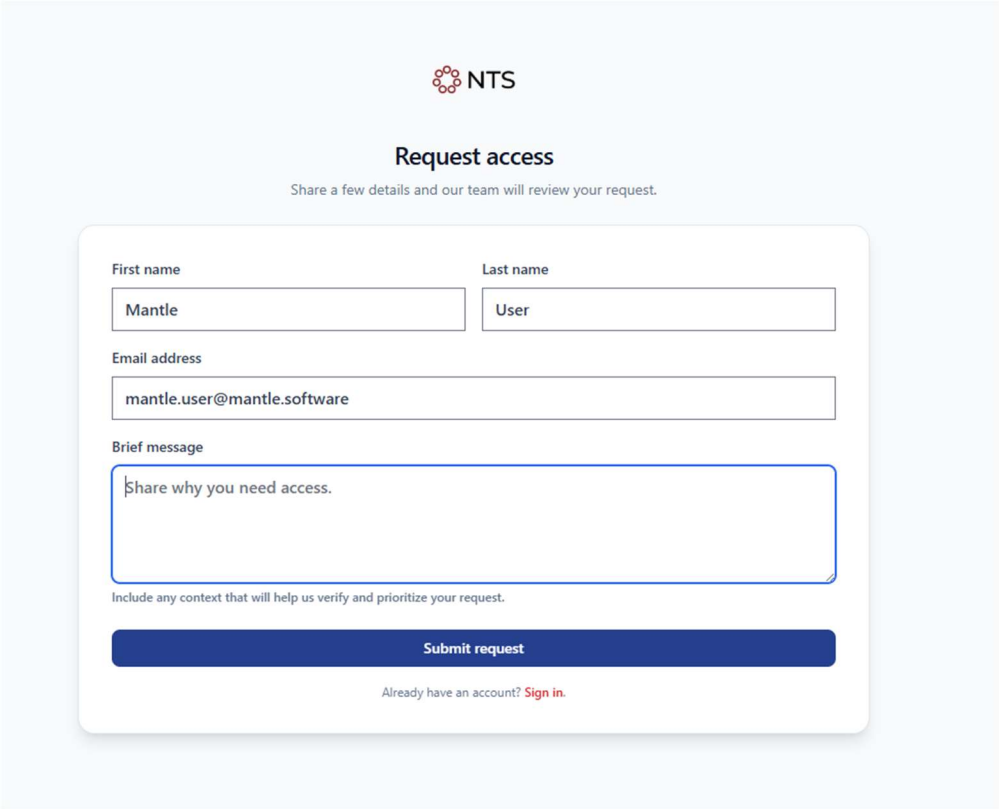
Downloading the Mantle 2.0 appliance

Accessing Nextech Solutions Customer Portal to download the software and licenses.

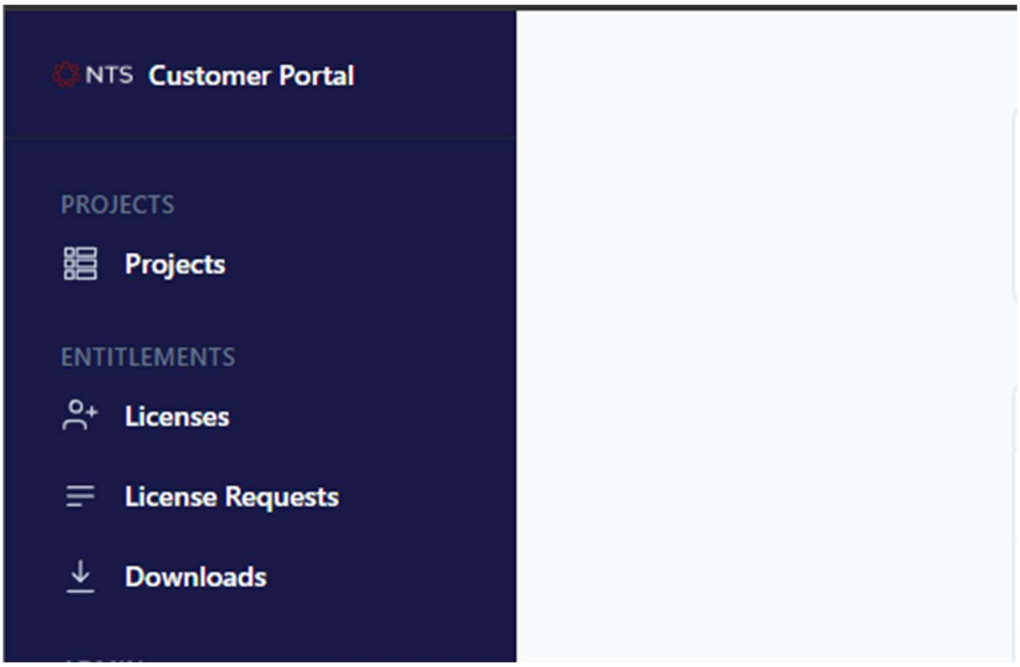
Step 01 — Navigate to https://portal.mantle.software/



Step 02 — If you do not have an account already, click on the “Request access” link. Fill out required details and the Mantle team will respond quickly.



Step 02 — Click on “Downloads” to view available downloads for your account.



Step 02 — Find the desired version of Mantle 2.0 and click on “Download”.

MANTLE 2.0 Beta 2 OVA	2.0.0b2	9.7 GB	1	Unreleased	Staff access	Download Edit Delete
MANTLE 2.0 Beta 3 OVA	2.0.0b3	9.9 GB	23	Unreleased	Staff access	Download Edit Delete
MANTLE 2.0 Beta 4 OVA	2.0.0b4	9.9 GB	21	Unreleased	Staff access	Download Edit Delete

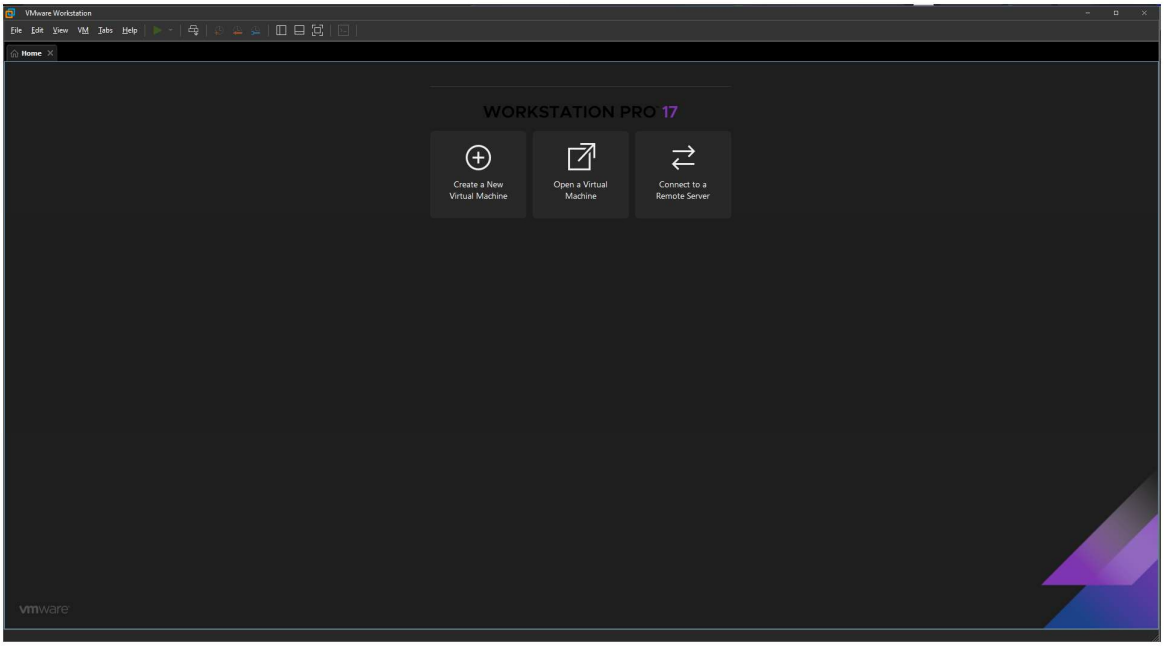
Import the Mantle 2.0 appliance

Begin by importing the OVA into VMware Workstation and creating the initial virtual machine.

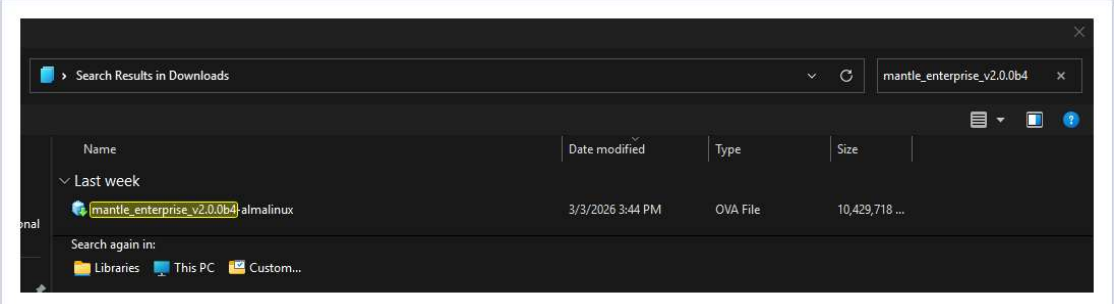
Step 01 — Open VMware Workstation Pro 17.

Step 02 — Open the Mantle 2.0 virtual appliance.

From the VMware Workstation home screen, select Open a Virtual Machine.

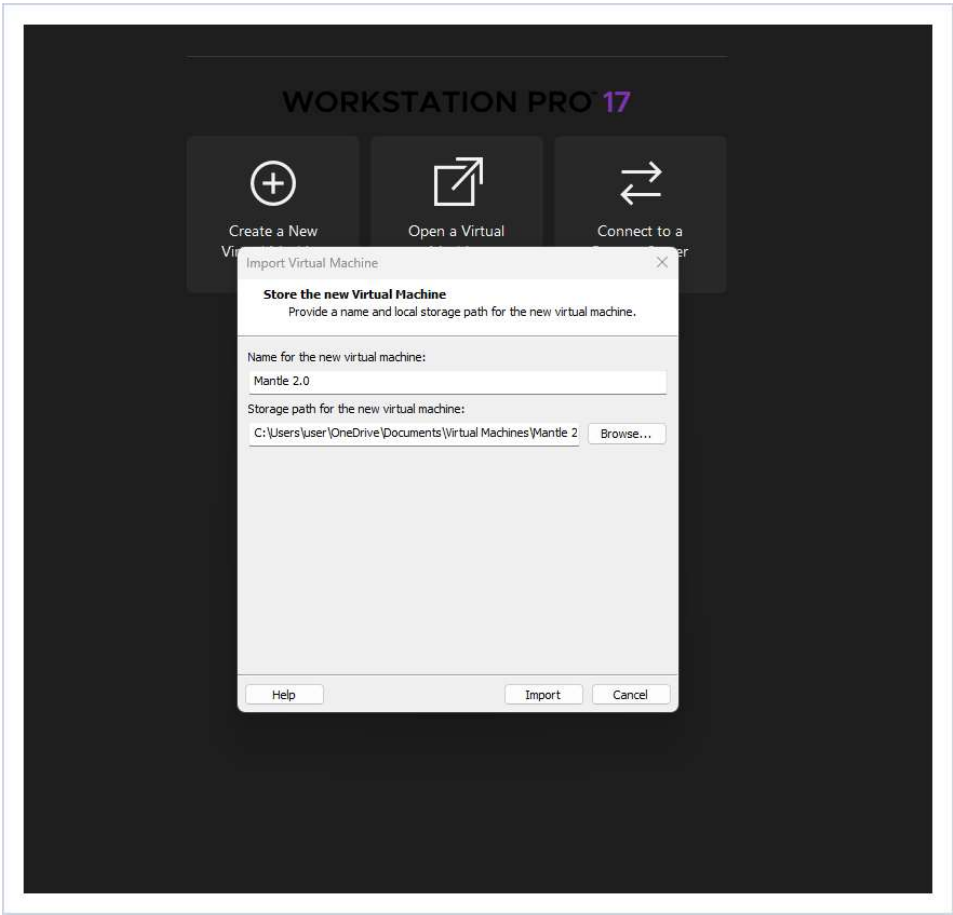


Step 03 — Select the Mantle 2.0 OVA file.



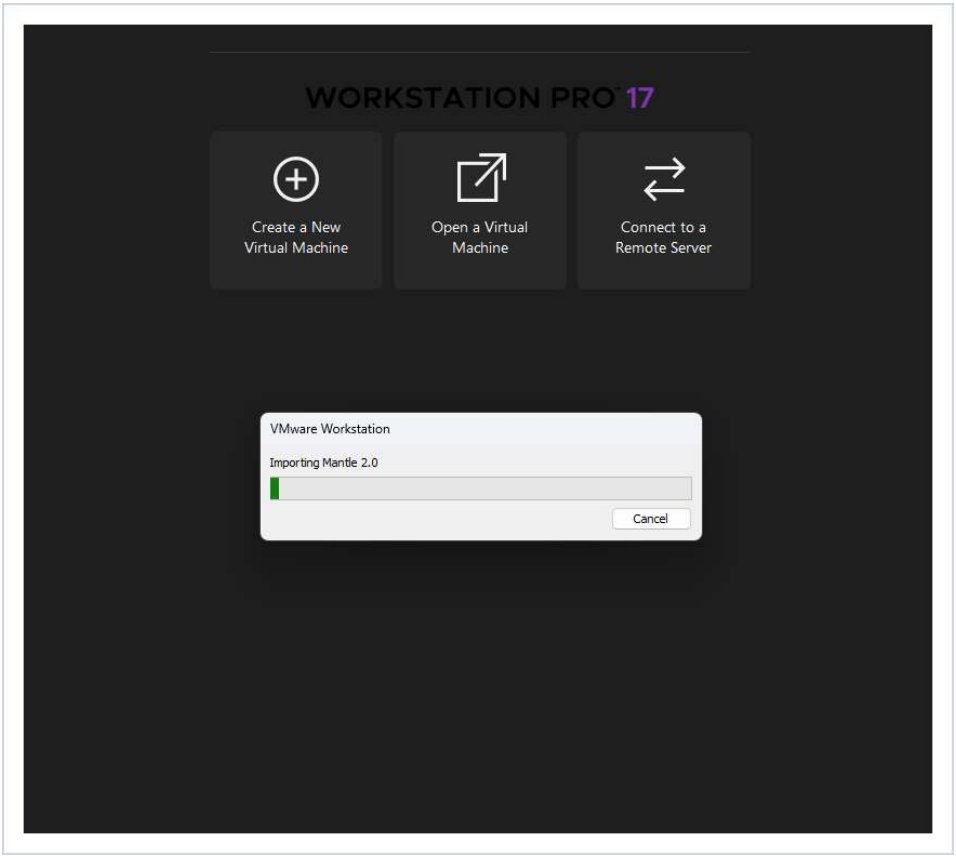
Step 04 — Name the VM and choose its storage location.

Enter the desired name for the Mantle 2.0 virtual machine and choose where the VM files will be stored.



Step 05 — Wait for the import to complete.

Importing the OVA can take several minutes depending on system performance and storage speed.

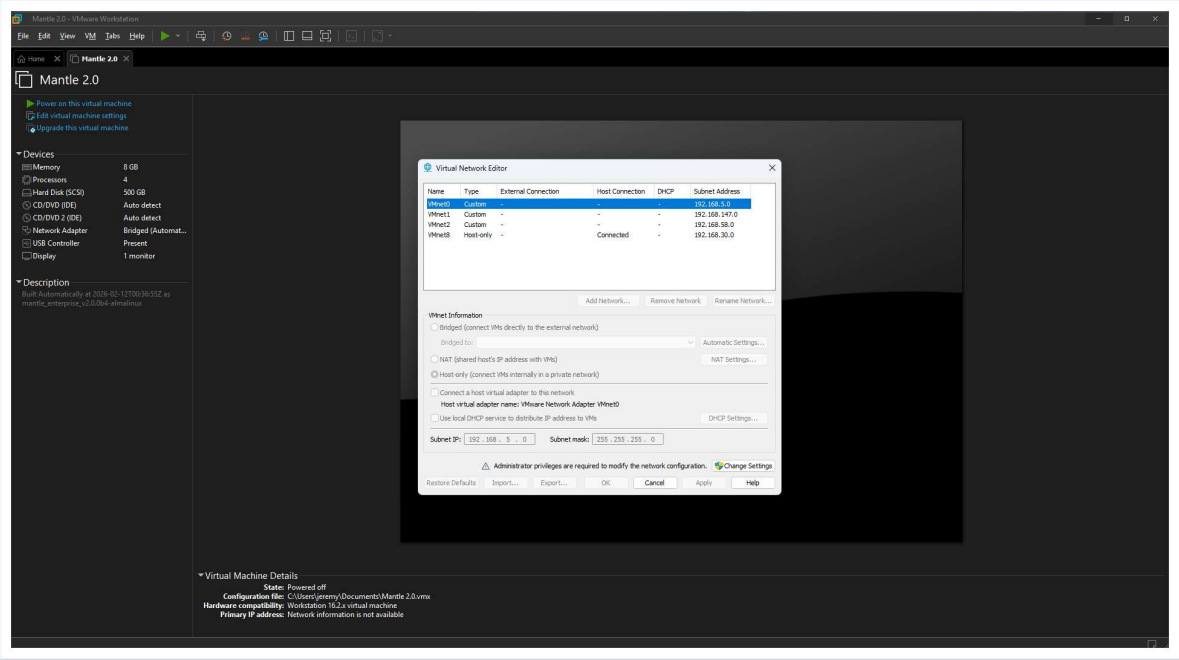


Configure VMware networking and VM hardware

Set the virtual network mappings required for management access and, if needed, the Build (PXE) interface.

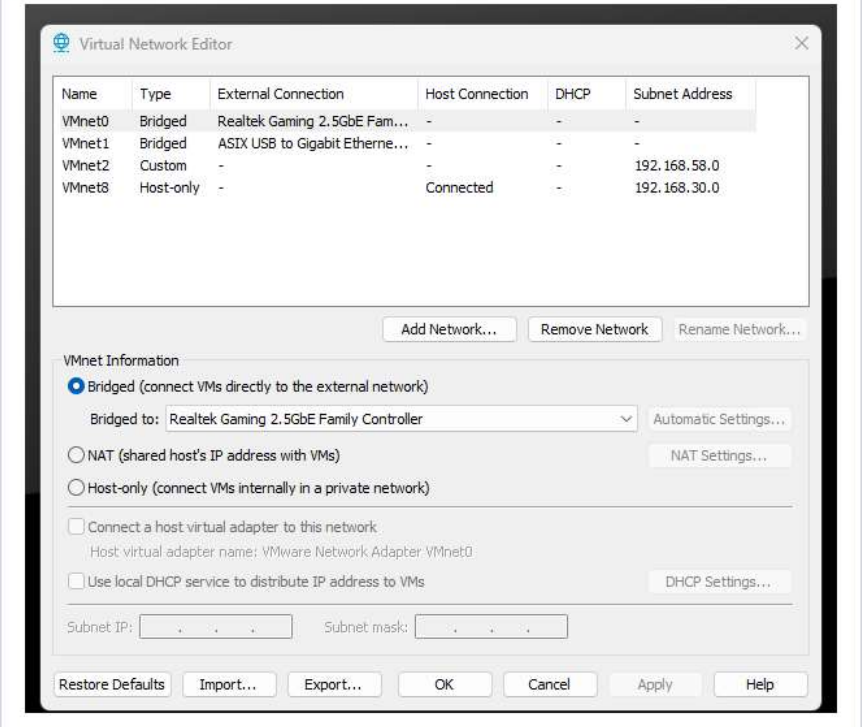
Step 06 — Open VMware Virtual Network Editor before powering on the VM.

In VMware Workstation, go to Edit > Virtual Network Editor to configure the required virtual networks.



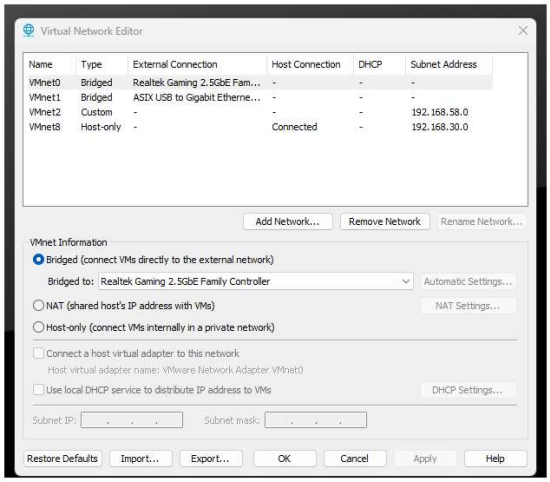
Step 07 — Enable editing in Virtual Network Editor.

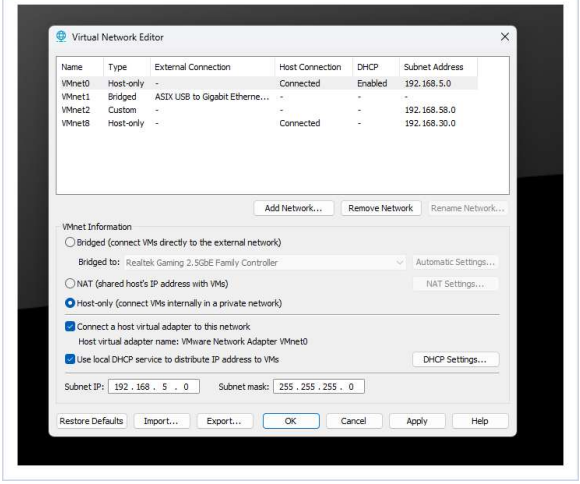
Select Change Settings so the networking fields can be modified.



Step 08 — Configure the management network mapping.

Map the management VMnet to the desired network adapter. For local-only access, you can instead use Host-only, enable a host virtual adapter, enable local DHCP if needed, and define the desired subnet.

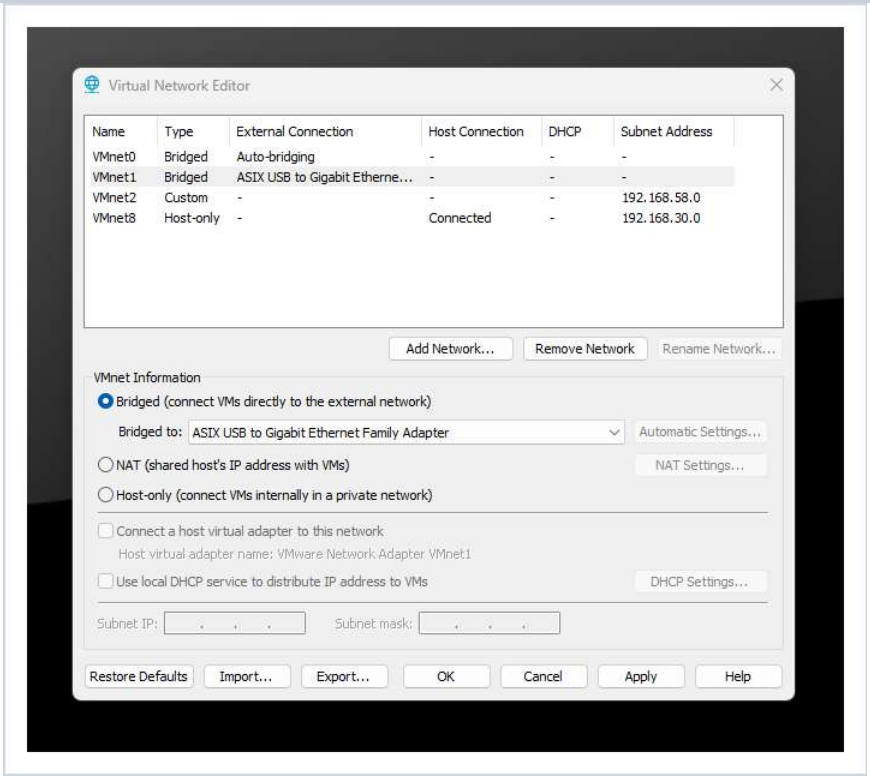




Step 09 — Configure a second interface for datacenter builds if required.

If your deployment uses a Build (PXE) network, assign a separate VMnet and map it to the appropriate network adapter.

Note: Optional — only required for deployments that need a dedicated Build (PXE) interface.

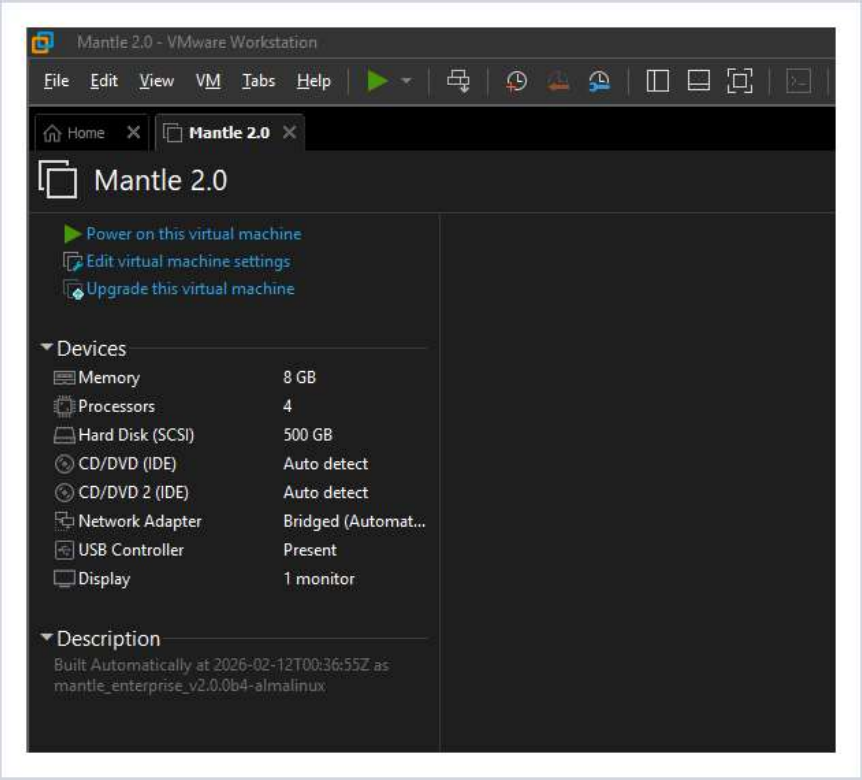


Step 10 — Apply the network changes.

Select Apply, then OK, to save the VMware virtual network configuration.

Step 11 — Open the VM hardware settings.

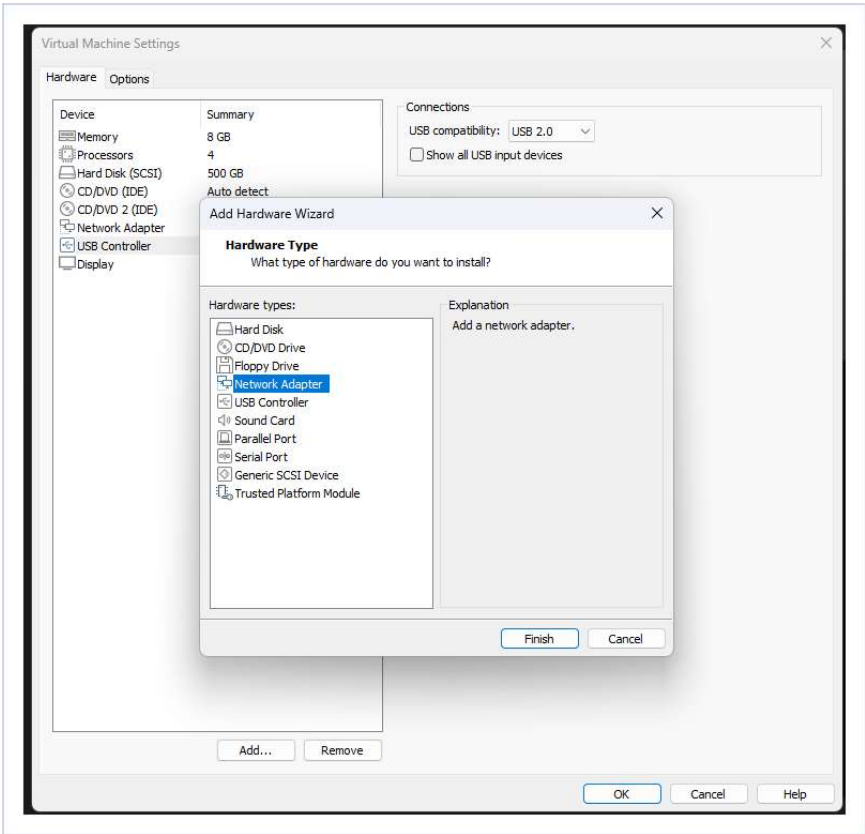
Back in the main VMware Workstation window, select Edit virtual machine settings for the Mantle 2.0 VM.



Step 12 — Add a second network adapter if the build interface is required.

Select Add, choose Network Adapter, and then select Finish.

> **Note:** Optional — only needed when a separate Build (PXE) interface will be used.

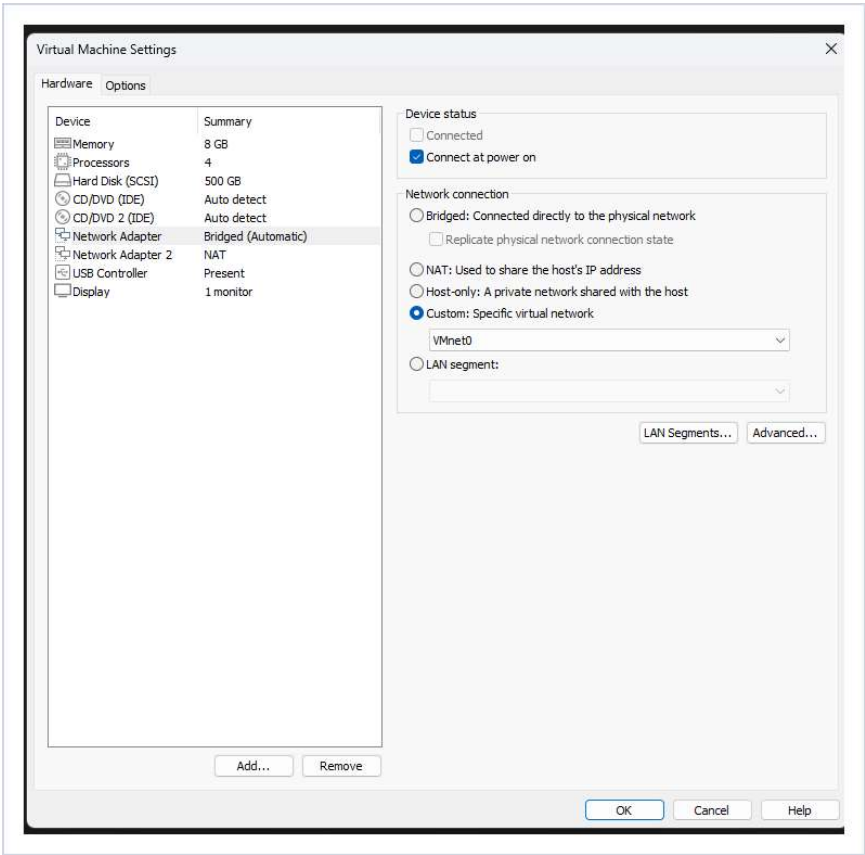

Virtual Machine Settings
Hardware
Options
Device
Summary
Memory
8 GB
Processors
4
Hard Disk (SCSI)
500 GB
CD/DVD (IDE)
Auto detect
CD/DVD 2 (IDE)
Network Adapter
USB Controller
Display
Connections
USB compatibility:
USB 2.0
Show all USB input devices
Add Hardware Wizard
Hardware Type
What type of hardware do you want to install?
Hardware types:
Hard Disk
CD/DVD Drive
Floppy Drive
Network Adapter
USB Controller
Sound Card
Parallel Port
Serial Port
Generic SCSI Device
Trusted Platform Module
Explanation
Add a network adapter.
Finish
Cancel
Add...
Remove
OK
Cancel
Help

Step 13 — Confirm interface roles.

Network Adapter is used for Mantle 2.0 management access. Network Adapter 2 is used for the Build (PXE) network.

Step 14 — Map the management adapter to the correct VMnet.

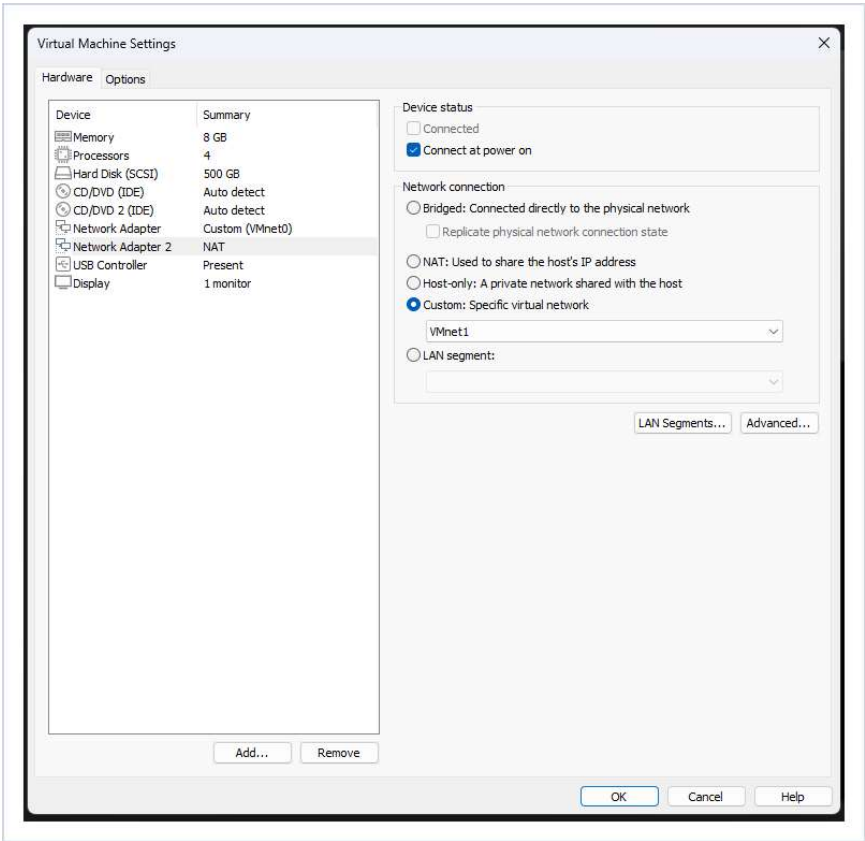
Under Custom: Specific virtual network, assign Network Adapter to the management VMnet for your environment.



Step 15 — Map the build adapter to the correct VMnet.

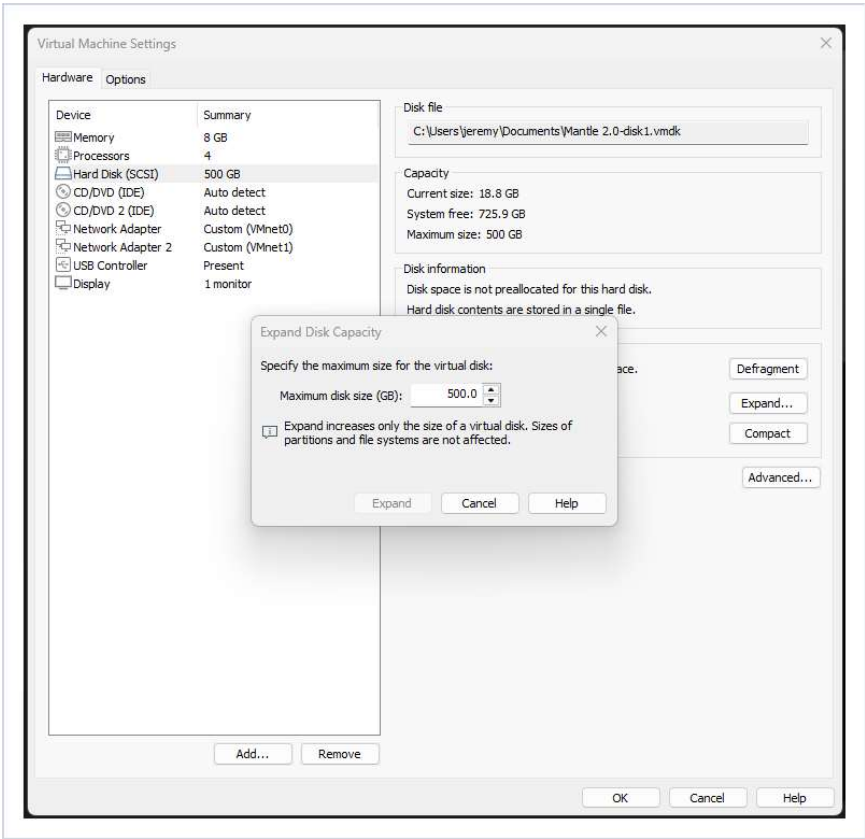
If a build interface is being used, assign Network Adapter 2 to the VMnet designated for the Build (PXE) network.

Note: Optional — only needed when a separate Build (PXE) interface will be used.



Step 16 — Expand the virtual disk if more storage is needed.

Select Hard Disk (SCSI), choose Expand, enter the new disk size, and confirm. Disk expansion can take several minutes.



Step 17 — Finish the initial VMware configuration.

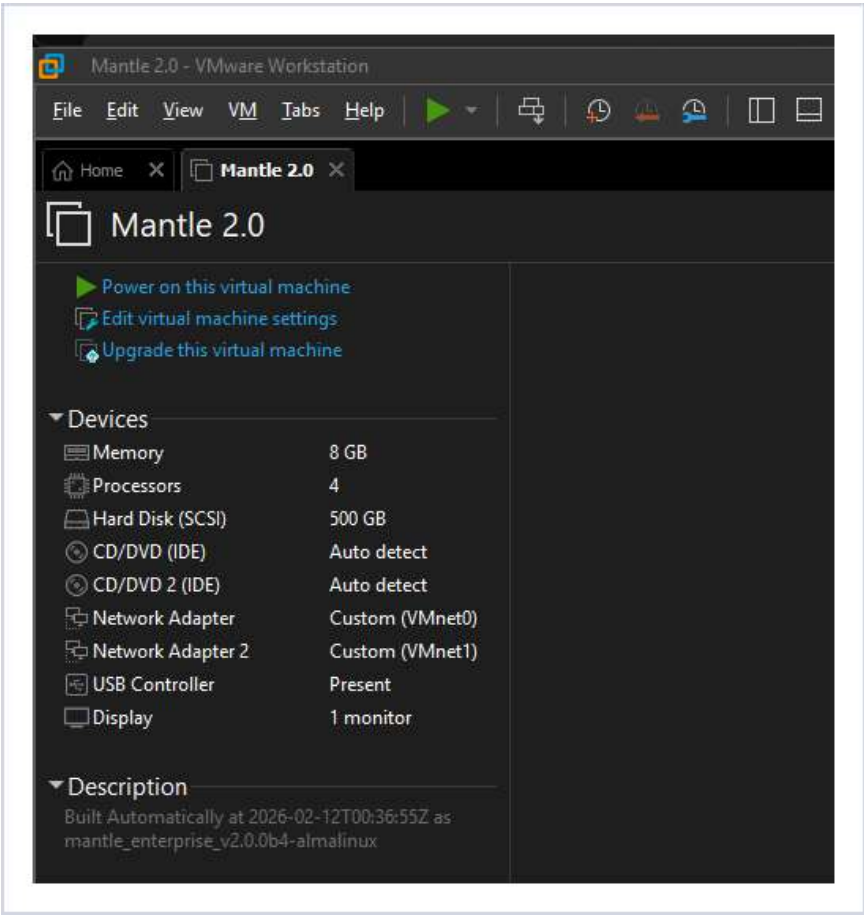
When disk expansion is complete, select OK to close the VM settings window.

Start the VM and set the management IP address

Power on the appliance, sign in to the guest OS, and configure a static IP address on eth0.

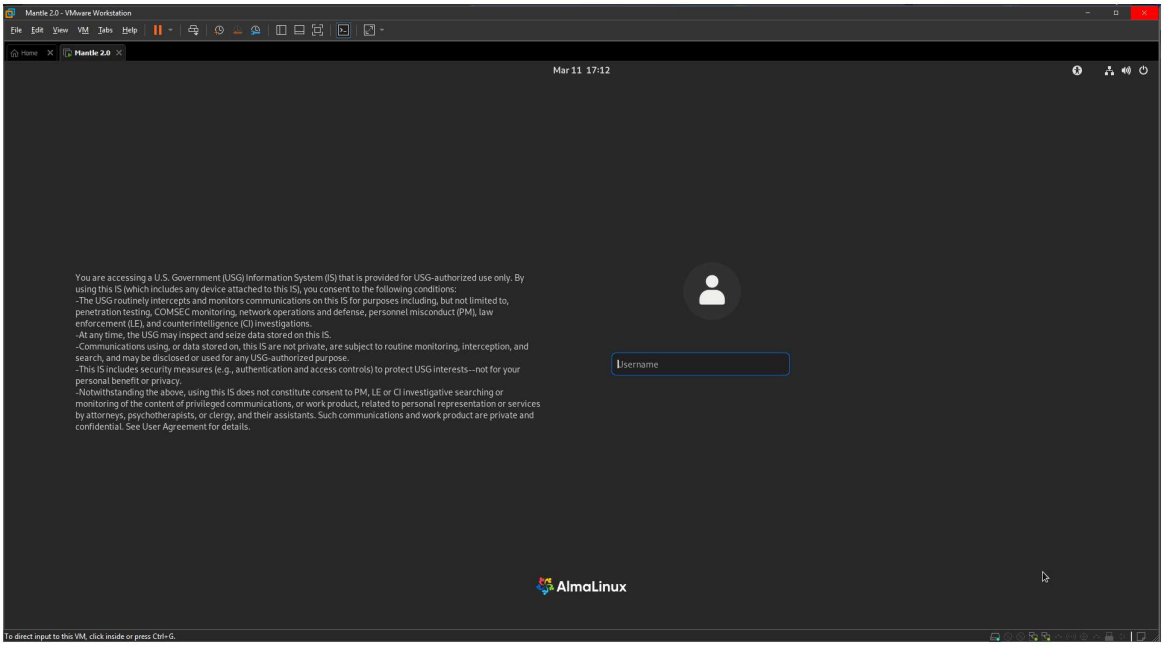
Step 18 — Power on the Mantle 2.0 virtual machine.

Select Power on this virtual machine to start the appliance.



Step 19 — Wait for the operating system desktop to appear.

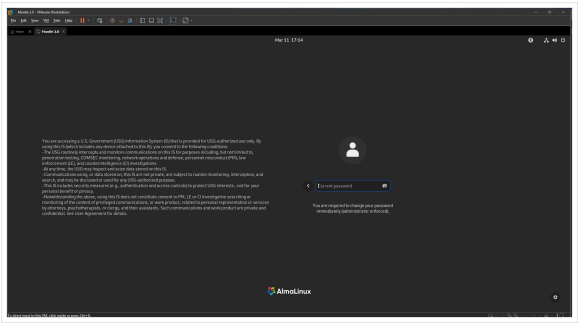
Initial startup can take several minutes, especially if the virtual disk was expanded. Once AlmaLinux or RHEL loads, continue with network configuration.

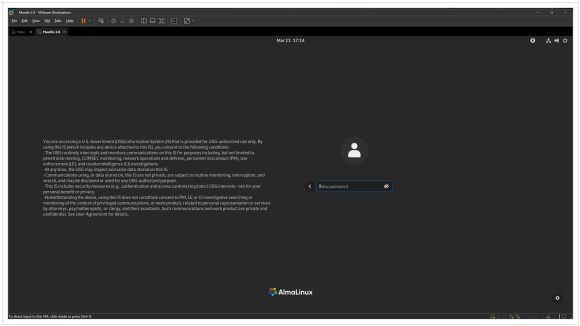


Step 20 — Sign in to the guest OS to set a static IP address.

Use the default mantle account shown below. You will be prompted to change this password during first login.

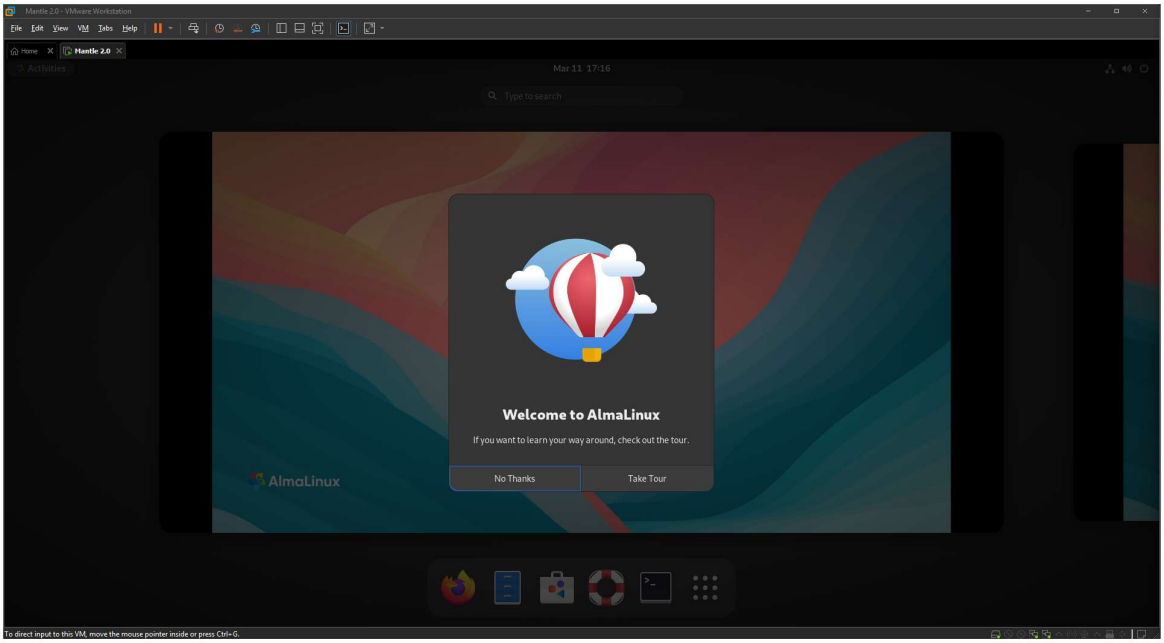
Default guest OS credentials	
Username	`mantle`
Password	`M@NtleUser123!@#`





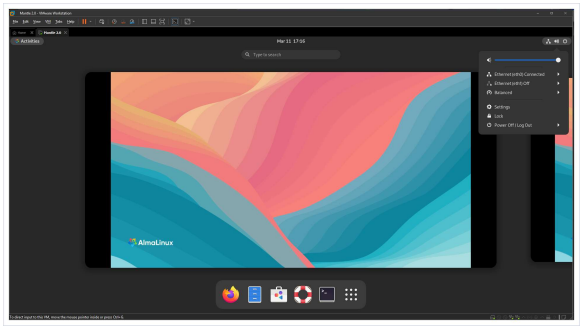
Step 21 — Dismiss the AlmaLinux or RHEL welcome prompt.

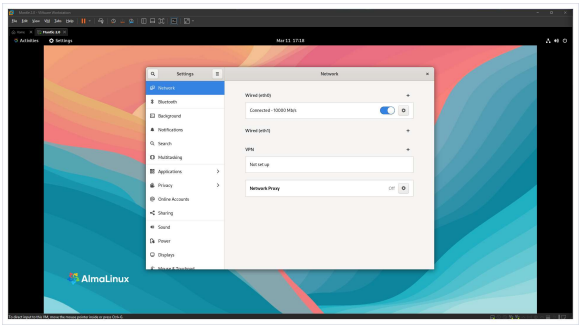
Select No Thanks to continue to the desktop.

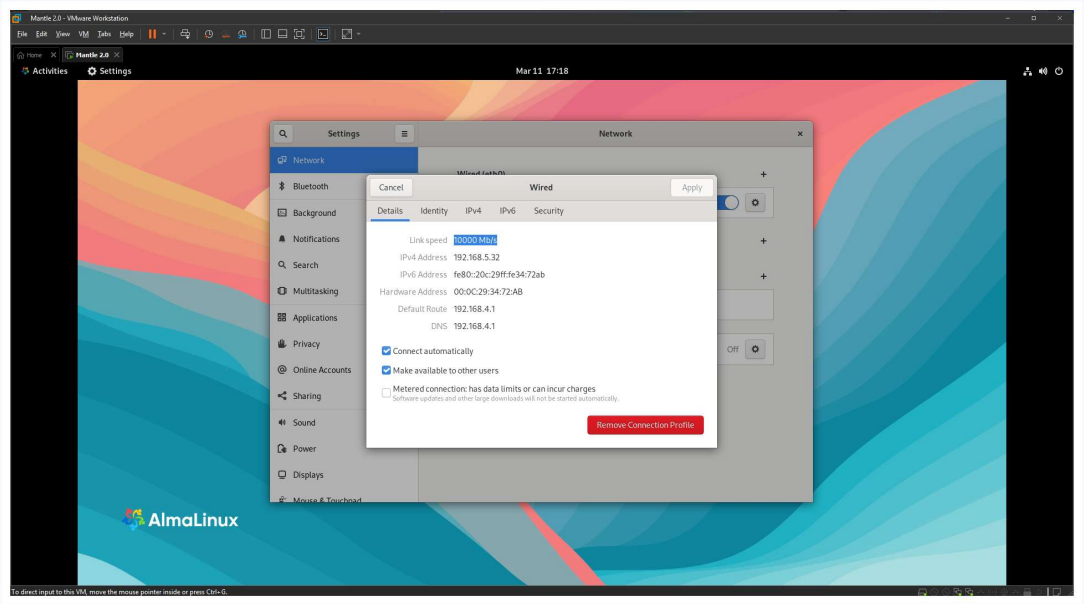


Step 22 — Open the wired network settings for eth0.

From the top-right system menu, select Ethernet (eth0) Connected, open Wired Settings, and then select the gear icon for Wired (eth0).

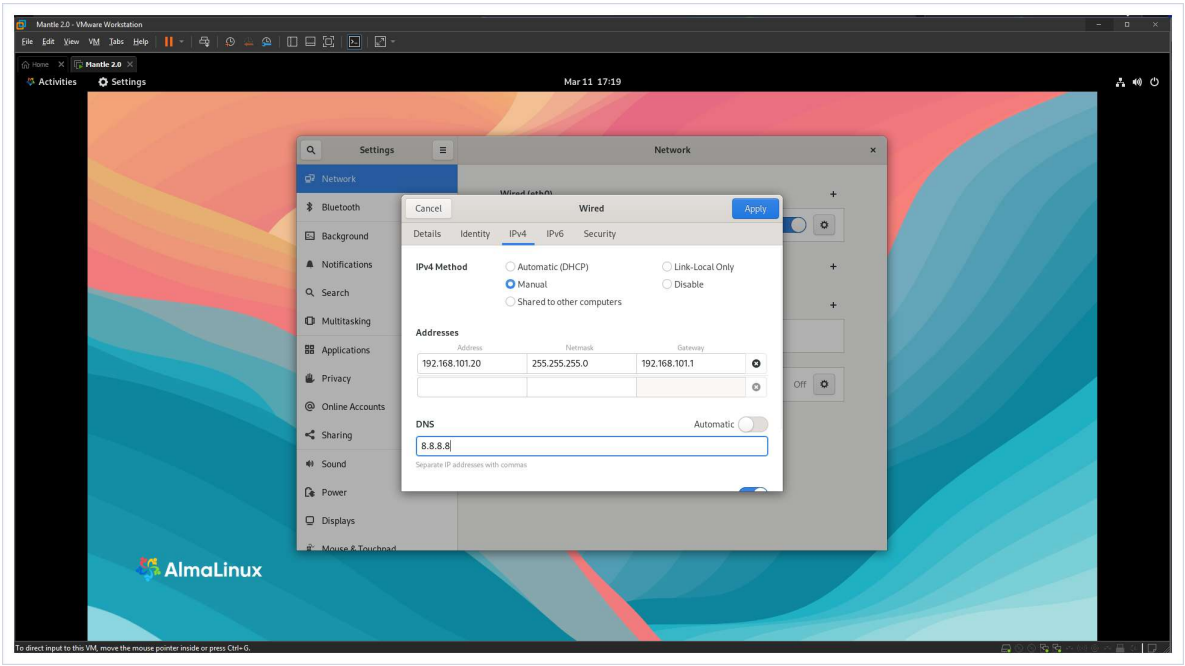






Step 23 — Set IPv4 to Manual and enter the network details.

Enter the desired IP address, subnet mask, gateway, and DNS server values, then select Apply.



Step 24 — Restart the wired connection.

Toggle Wired (eth0) off and back on so the new IP configuration takes effect.

Step 25 — Close the guest OS desktop.

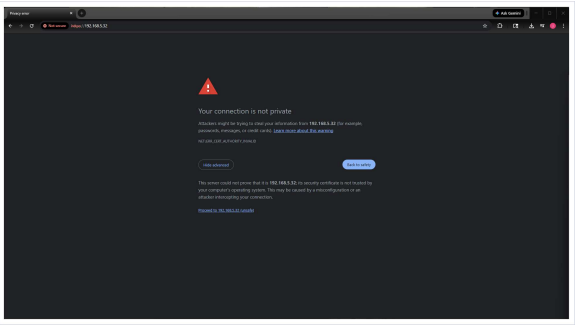
After the network settings have been applied, you can exit the AlmaLinux or RHEL GUI.

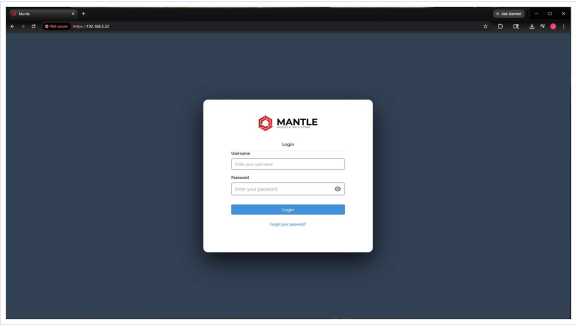
Access Mantle 2.0 and apply licensing

Use the Mantle web interface to reset the default admin password and upload the required license file.

Step 26 — Open Mantle 2.0 in a web browser.

Browse to https://<mantle-ip-address>. Because the appliance uses a self-signed certificate by default, your browser may display a security warning. Select Advanced and proceed to the IP address.

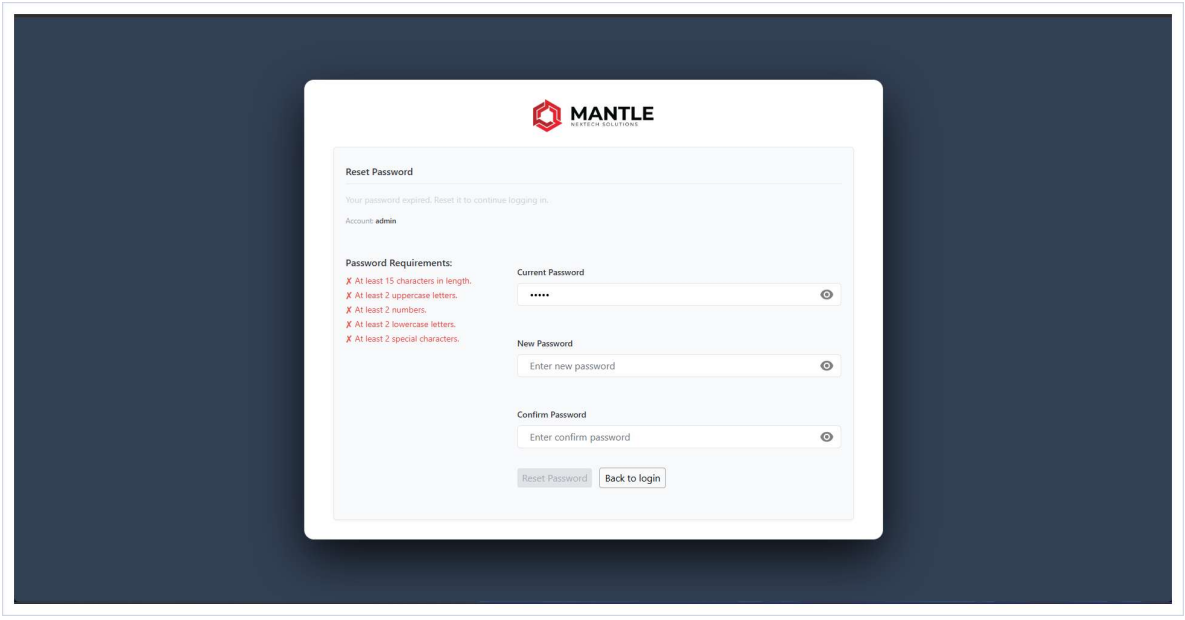




Step 27 — Sign in to the Mantle 2.0 web interface.

Use the default local administrator account shown below. You will be prompted to change this password after login.

Default Mantle 2.0 web credentials	
Username	`admin`
Password	`admin`

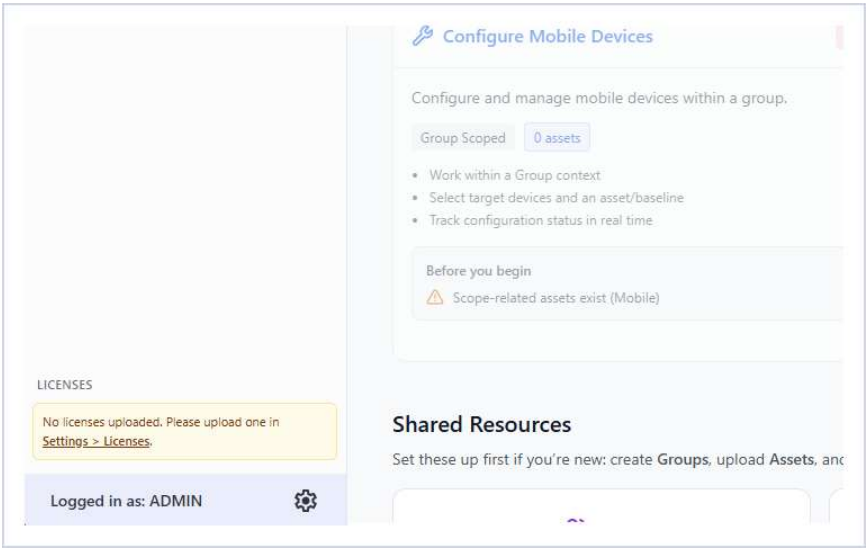


Step 28 — Set a new local admin password.

Enter the new password, confirm it, select Reset Password, and then sign in again with the updated credentials.

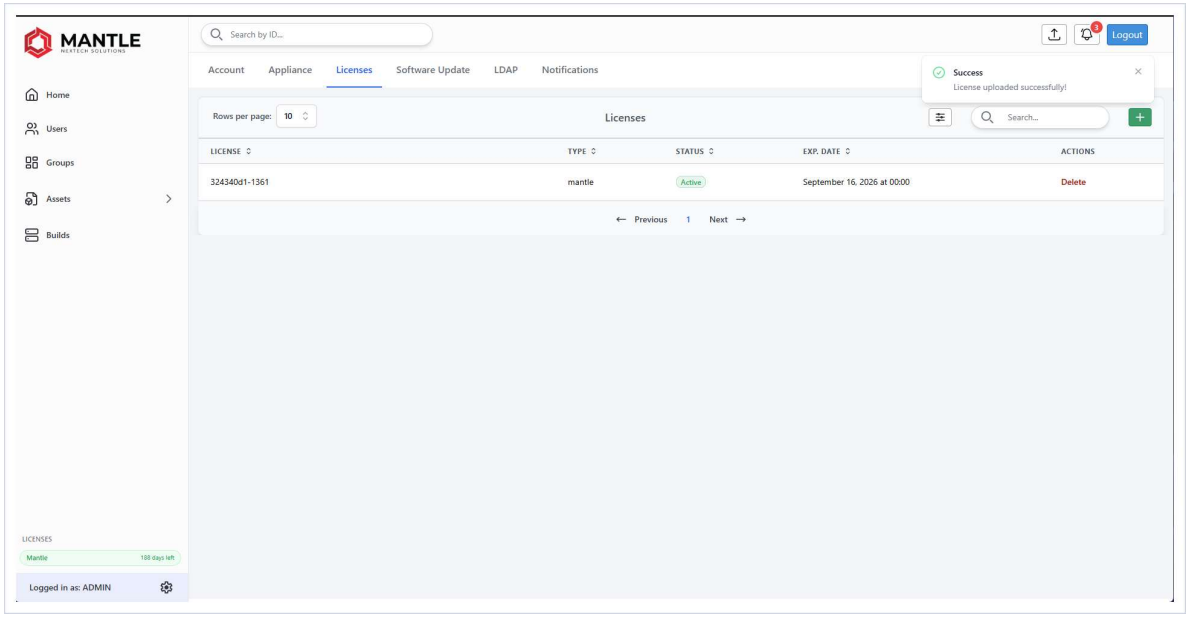
Step 29 — Open the license page from the dashboard.

From the lower-left prompt on the main dashboard, open Settings > Licenses.



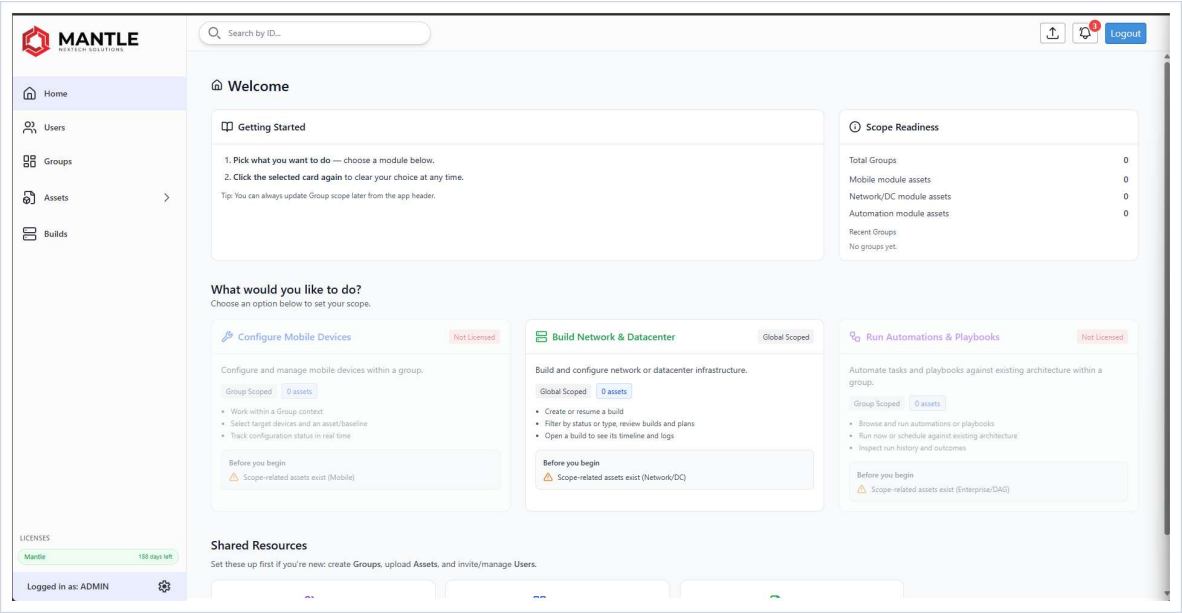
Step 30 — Upload the Mantle 2.0 license file.

Select the green + button in the upper-right corner and upload the license provided by your administrator. Upload any additional feature licenses at the same time if needed.



Step 31 — Return to Home and confirm the licensed features.

After the license is applied, go back to the Home view to verify that the expected features are now available.



Upload assets and finalize appliance settings

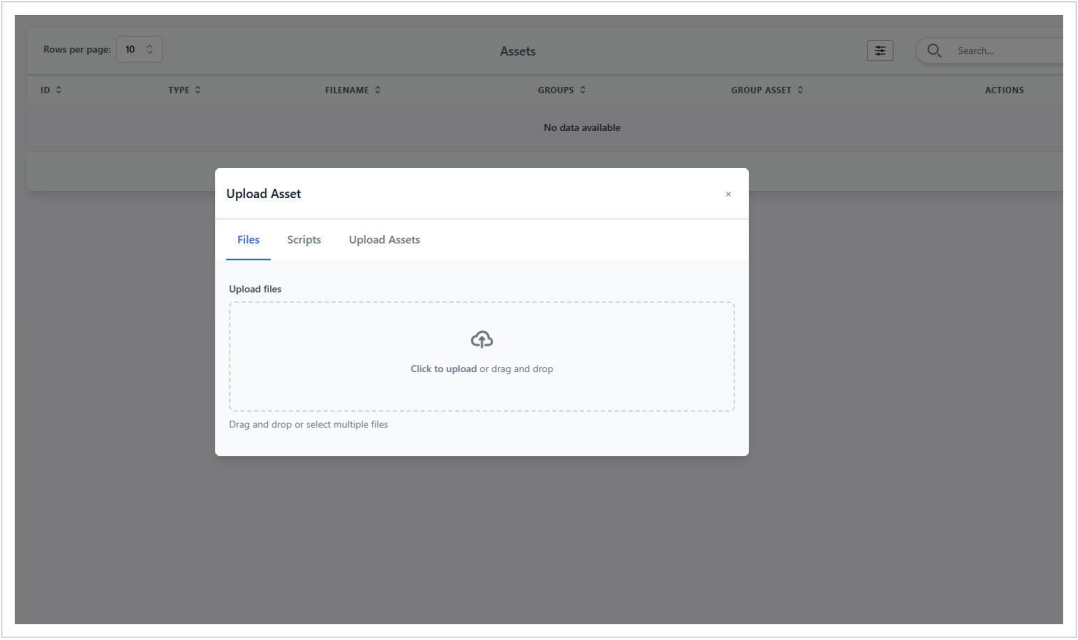
Load the required automation assets and confirm the build interface and serial port configuration.

Step 32 — Open the appropriate asset category before starting automation.

From the left navigation, select Assets and then choose the category that matches the asset type you want to upload.

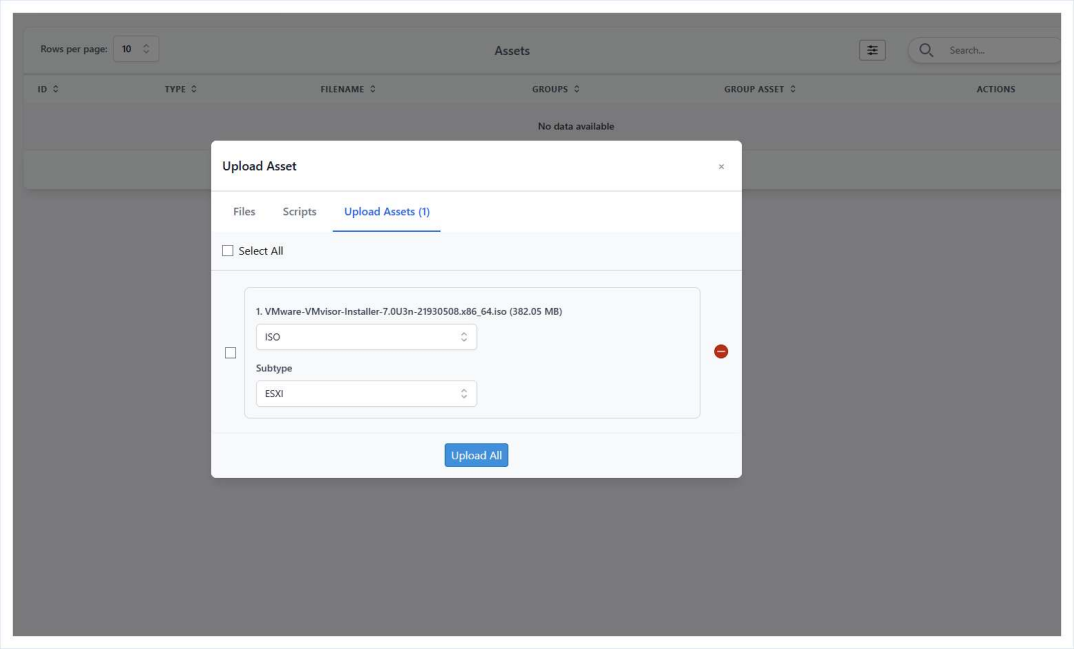
Step 33 — Start an asset upload.

Select the green + button in the upper-right corner. You can drag and drop files into the upload window or use the upload icon to browse to them manually.



Step 34 — Assign each asset type and subtype, then upload.

On the Upload Assets tab, select the correct type and subtype for each file and then choose Upload All.

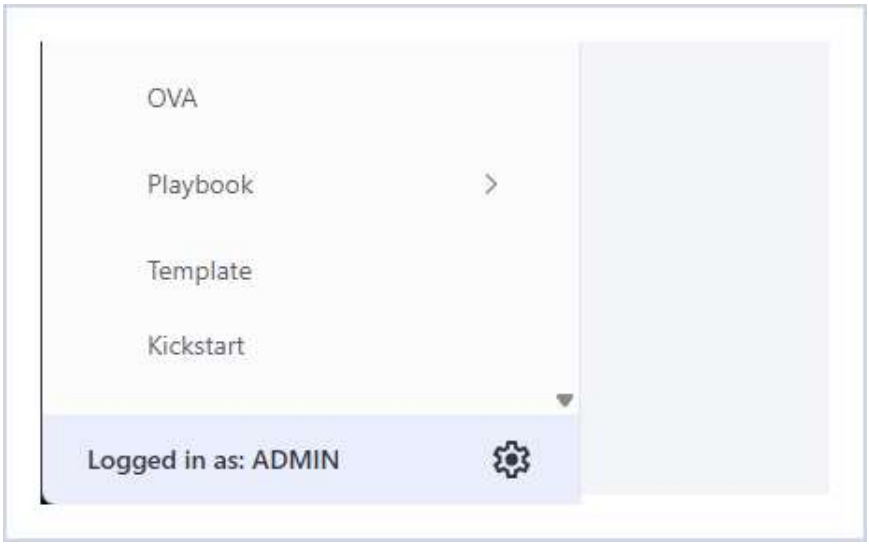


Step 35 — Close the upload window.

Select the x in the upload pop-up after the files have been added.

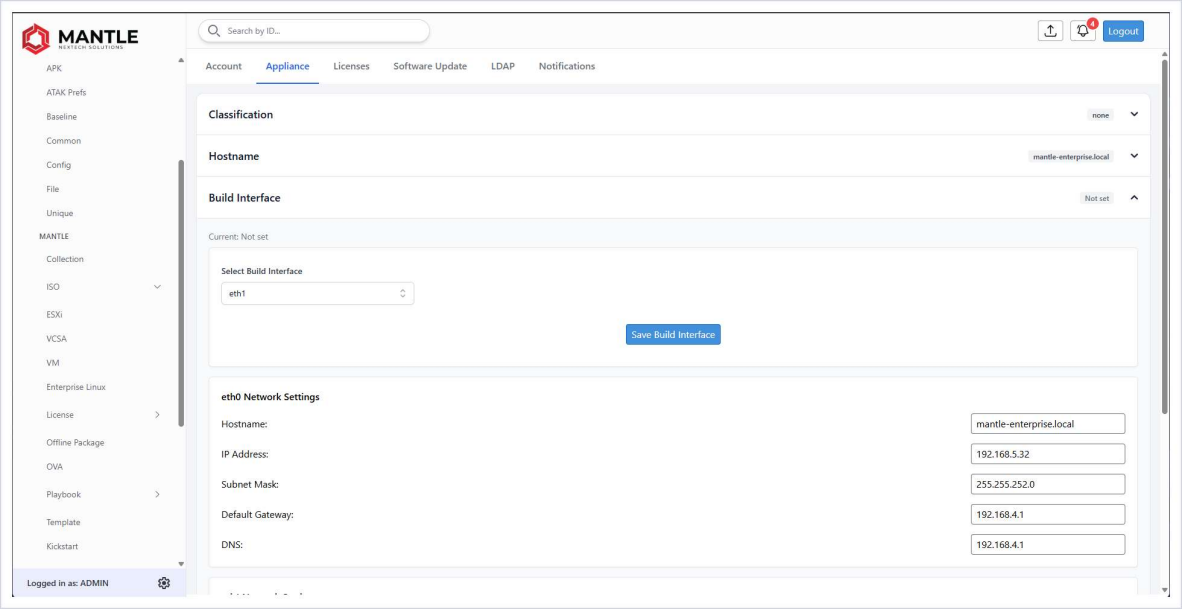
Step 36 — Open appliance settings.

Select the Settings gear in the lower-left corner to open the settings page.



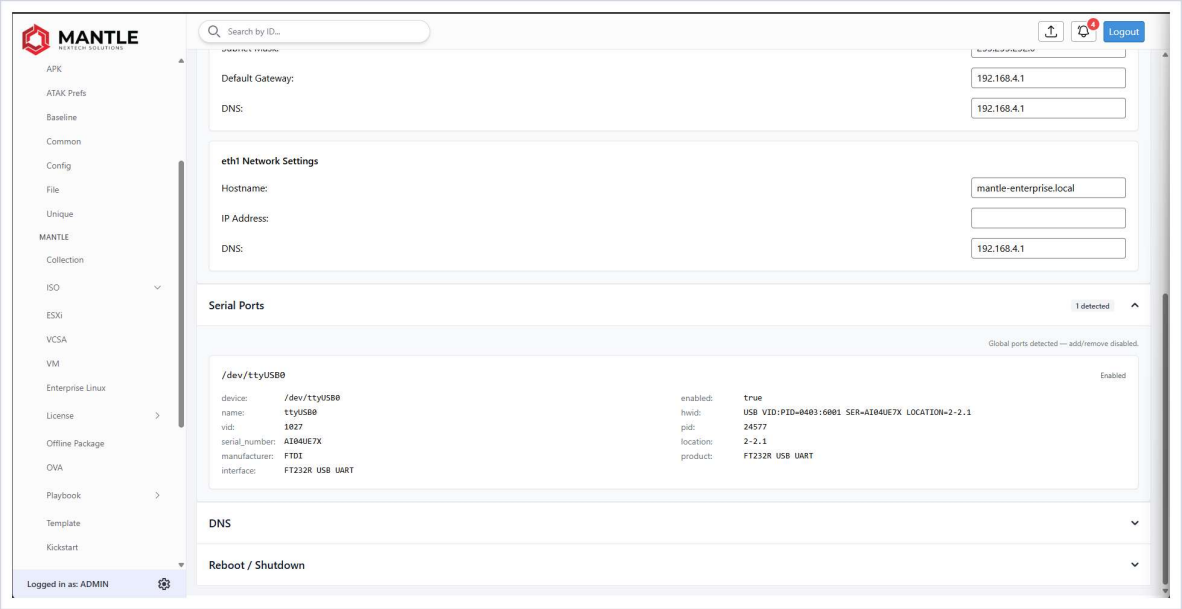
Step 37 — Assign the build interface.

On the Appliance tab, expand Build Interface, select the unused network adapter intended for builds, and then select Save Build Interface.



Step 38 — Verify available serial ports.

Expand Serial Ports to confirm that any connected serial or USB-to-serial devices are visible to Mantle 2.0. If none appear, refer to the troubleshooting section.



Step 39 — Begin using Mantle 2.0.

At this point, Mantle 2.0 is ready to start build operations.

Setup complete. Mantle 2.0 is ready for license-backed configuration, asset upload, and build operations in your VMware Workstation environment.