



**Windows to the World** - build [your dream](#) app with **aMiSTACX**.

## Congratulations!

And welcome to your Premium **Windows 2016 Server for RDS** deployment by **aMiSTACX**.

As this stack was designed to be as automated as possible, with the least number of steps required to get you up and running quickly, please follow the directions closely to ensure success.

It is best advised to get the product you purchased running per this documentation first! Then you have the option to customize your solution to your requirements.

These instructions for our stack assume the following:

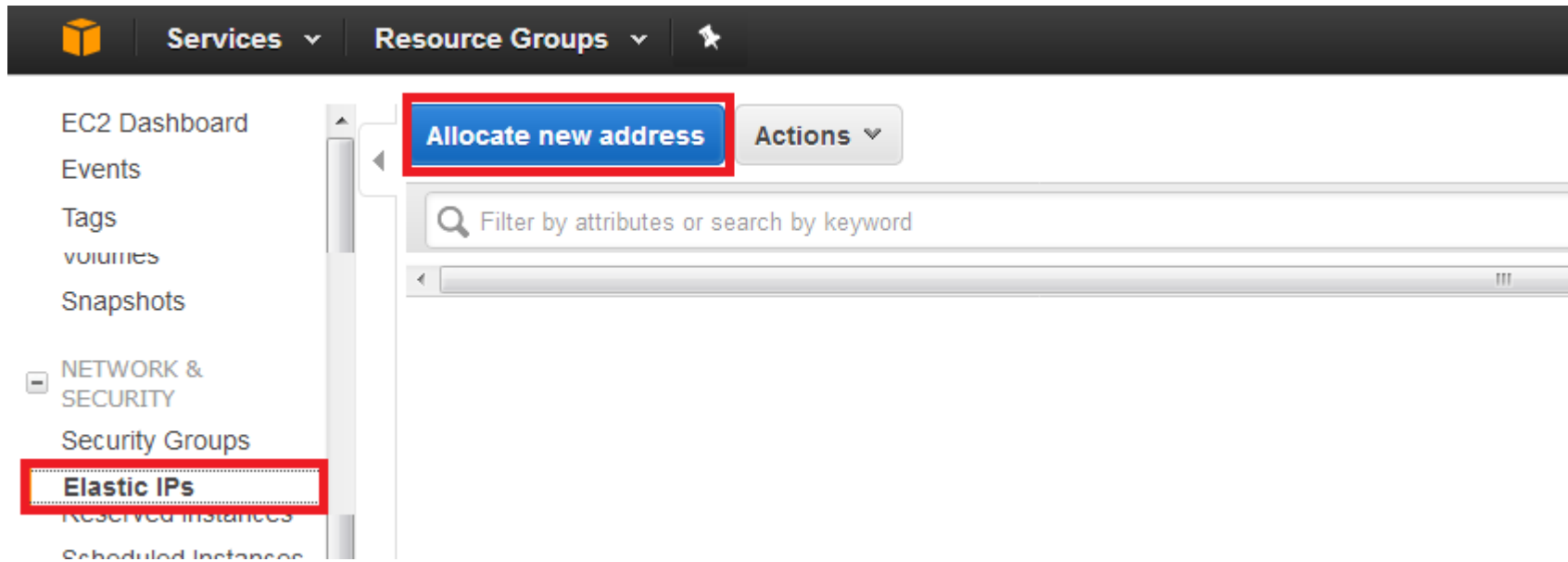
- You have a **Basic** understanding of the AWS console
- You have an **Intermediate** skill level with Windows Server.

You have a remote access via RDP and you understand how to extract your Windows Admin password from your PEM file.

## What's new in version V3.9

- OS Updates

I. If you had not done so already, it is recommended that you create an AWS elastic IP address associated to this new EC2 build instance. This will allow you to start, stop, and reboot without having to update IP address connection information.



## AWS Public IP Address - Setting

The screenshot shows the AWS Management Console interface for an EC2 instance. At the top, there are buttons for 'Launch Instance', 'Connect', and 'Actions'. Below this is a search bar and a table of instances. The table has columns for Name, Instance ID, Instance Type, Availability Zone, Instance State, Status Checks, Alarm Status, Public DNS (IPv4), IPv4 Public IP, and IPv6 IPs. One instance is listed with the name 'PIWIK-AMI-3...', Instance ID 'i-062b62af', Instance Type 't2.micro', Availability Zone 'us-east-1a', Instance State 'running', Status Checks '2/2 checks ...', Alarm Status 'None', Public DNS (IPv4) '-', IPv4 Public IP '125.525.52', and IPv6 IPs '-'. The IPv4 Public IP address '125.525.52' is highlighted with a red box.

Below the table, the details for the selected instance are shown. The instance name is 'i-062b62af3a2da5712 (PIWIK-AMI-3.04-FINAL-V3)' and the Elastic IP is '125.525.52\*'. The details are organized into tabs: Description, Status Checks, Monitoring, Tags, and Usage Instructions. The Description tab is active, showing the following details:

Instance ID	i-062b6	Public DNS (IPv4)	-
Instance state	running	IPv4 Public IP	125.525.52
Instance type	t2.micro	IPv6 IPs	-
Elastic IPs	125.525.52*	Private DNS	ip-172-30-0-237.ec2.internal
Availability zone	us-east-1a	Private IPs	172.30.0.237

**IB.** After your image is built, first confirm you can access your windows instance via RDP. Your IP address is the elastic public IP address. You use this for DNS and for RDP.

<continued>

## II. Overview

The purpose of the **Windows 2016** utility RDS deployment is to provide a known framework that will save you time accessing remote EC2s via SFTP and SSH, and provides access to RDS via phpMyAdmin.

The AMI comes configured with a working version of phpMyAdmin console reachable from the phpMyAdmin bookmark via the Firefox browser. Also installed are WinSCP and Putty that can be used to connect to Linux EC2 servers.

For RDS, it is best to use the phpMyAdmin as it preconfigured to work on instance creation. [It is currently pointing to local host, but these instructions will show you how to connect to RDS.

### III. Windows Server 2016 Essentials

#### Core Software Versions

- IIS 10.00
- PHP 8.2.x
- phpMyAdmin 5.2.1.x
- Notepad2
- WinSCP - 6.1.x
- Putty .79

## IV. AWS EC2 and RDS Architecture [Optional: WIP Configuration]

For simplicity, and to reduce complication of potential errors, make sure your Windows server is in the same region and availability zone as your RDS instance. Additionally, make sure inbound security group for the RDS instance on port **3306** is open to all traffic **0.0.0.0/0** You can and should restrict security later after the RDS instance is configured.

### Getting Started for RDS Connect

**Step 1.** RDP to the EC2 Windows WIMP server as administrator:

- Host file shortcut on desktop
- config.inc.php shortcut on desktop

**Note:** You do **NOT** have to make your RDS public to connect to it.

**Step 2.** Copy your RDS address and paste into the phpMyAdmin config.inc.php file

```
5 /* Authentication type */
6 */
7 $i++;
8 /* Authentication type */
9 $cfg['servers'][$i]['auth_type'] = 'cookie';
10 /* Server parameters */
11 $cfg['servers'][$i]['host'] = 'ami-stacx-rds.cnwdckpzoddf.us-east-1.rds.amazonaws.com';
12 $cfg['servers'][$i]['connect_type'] = 'tcp';
13 $cfg['servers'][$i]['compress'] = false;
14 /* select mysql if your server does not have mysqli */
15 $cfg['servers'][$i]['extension'] = 'mysql';
16 /*$cfg['servers'][$i]['AllowNoPassword'] = false; */
17 /*$cfg['servers'][$i]['auth_type'] = 'config'; // keep it as config
18 $cfg['servers'][$i]['user'] = ''; //user name for your remote server
19 $cfg['servers'][$i]['password'] = ''; //password */
20
21 /**
22 * phpMyAdmin configuration storage settings.
```

Save.

**Step 3.** Open Firefox and you will automatically see the phpMyAdmin login screen

**Step 4.** Log into your RDS address using the RDS credentials you set upon creation of the RDS instance. Assuming all steps have been followed, this works correctly; however, we are human and make mistakes. ;-)

## Troubleshooting Tips

Should you not be able to log into your RDS instance - the following will help:

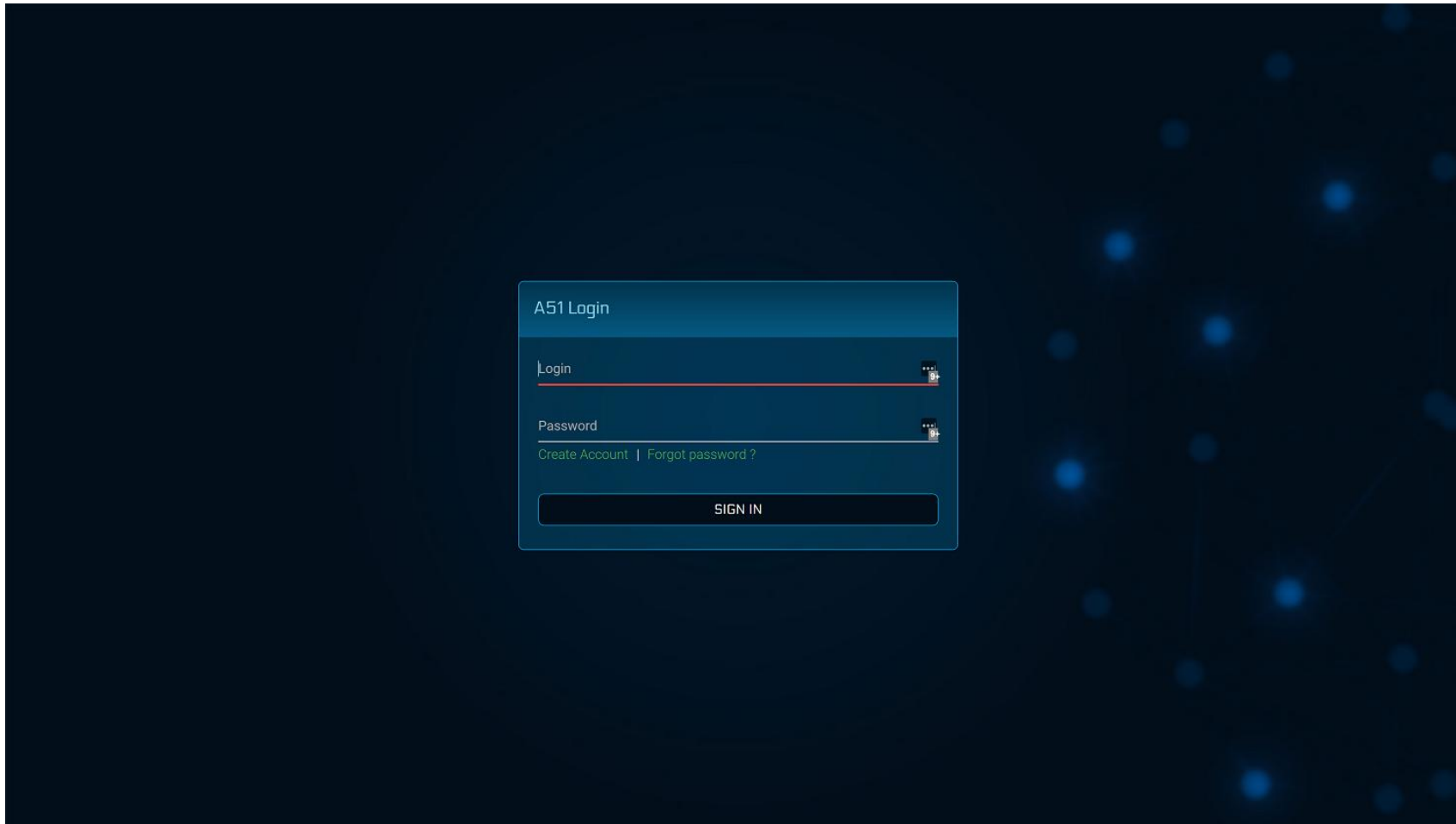
- Make sure Security Group for the RDS port 3306 is open to 0.0.0.0/0 [Restrict it after you ack that you can connect.]
- Check credentials for typos.

## Setting up a Development Environment

A high-level overview of a development server framework on AWS:

<https://amistacx.io/set-up-a-development-environment-on-aws-w-amistacx>

## V. A51 Dashboards [Registration]



A51 dashboards will allow a centralized external management of aMiSTACX resources on AWS. You must have aMiSTACX EC2 servers in order to make use of the A51 dashboard product.

Simply click “Create Account” from the login screen and follow the onscreen prompts.

More details and updates can be found at <https://amistacx.io/a51-management-console-for-aws>

A51 Guide: [https://s3.ca-central-1.amazonaws.com/mp/stacx\\_a51/A51-dashboards-documentation.pdf](https://s3.ca-central-1.amazonaws.com/mp/stacx_a51/A51-dashboards-documentation.pdf)

## VI. A51 Advanced Monitoring

For Windows, you need to download and install the AWS CloudWatch Agent. There are also advanced features included that interface with the A51 Dashboard.

<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/AmazonCloudWatch/latest/monitoring/install-CloudWatch-Agent-commandline-fleet.html>

More info:

<https://amistacx.io/aws-ec2-and-rds-alerting-and-monitoring>

<https://amistacx.io/enable-cloudwatch-agent-for-a51-dashboard>

## VII. Support

Should you need help or have questions, please reach out to support. We will do our best to respond within 24hrs, and if you can't wait you can try our AI [MaceyBot](#). She's available 24/7/365 and she's good :)

Home & KB: <https://amistacx.io>

YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@Turnkey-Ecommerce/videos>

Thanks for selecting **aMiSTACX** as your Premium AWS EC2 stack provider. **Better - Stronger - Faster!**

