PowerMAN New Features Guide v5.3

Release 5.3.0.5890 September 2014

Overview

PowerMAN v5.3 includes several new features. This document provides a brief explanation of these features and is intended for System Administrators already familiar with PowerMAN.

The majority of the new features present have followed feedback supplied by our customers. We remain very grateful to those sites for all the testing and feedback they have provided and hope they will find this release the most functional and reliable yet. In some cases previews of these features may have been present in the most recent builds of PowerMAN v5.2.x. This release represents the formal introduction of these features.

New features in PowerMAN v5.3

1. PowerMAN now supports **Live Reporting**. This shows the current workstation status across the selected reporting site and optionally all sub-sites. This feature requires minimal additional network bandwidth to provide an instant understanding of the current operational situation. It is ideal for display on departmental dashboards or similar:
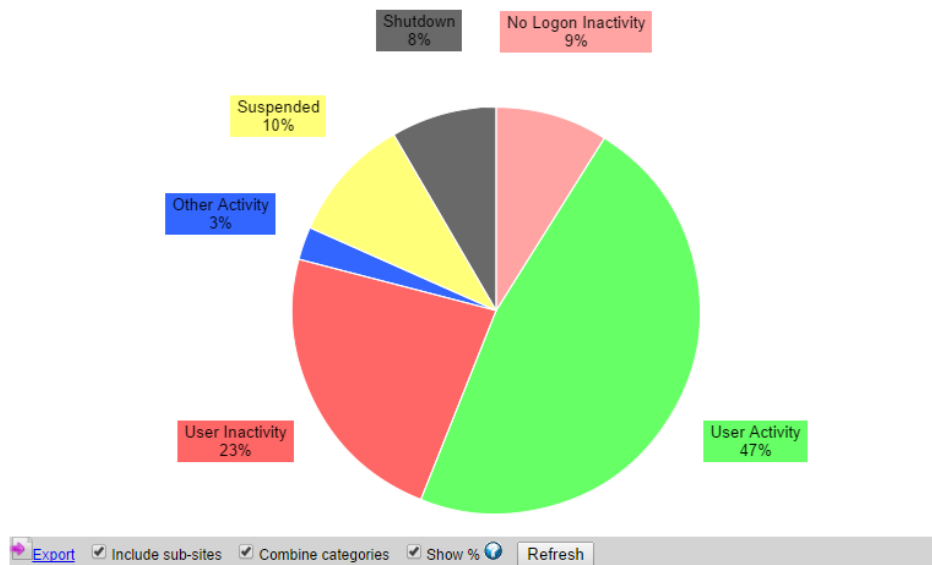
   Note: Live reporting requires a new client product key. This is available free-of-charge to PowerMAN customers with current software assurance agreements.

2. PowerMAN now incorporates **Availability Reporting**. This shows workstations that are available for use and those already in use broken down by reporting site. This feature is intended for use on operational dashboards and organisation intranets:

3. PowerMAN now provides a **Live Workstation** report. This shows the current live status of each workstation within the current reporting site:

4. The PowerMAN reporting engine has been updated to provide **more granular information**. In particular reports now distinguish between workstations that are idle because no user is logged on and workstations that are idle but logged on. This information can be extremely useful when designing a suitable remedial power policy:
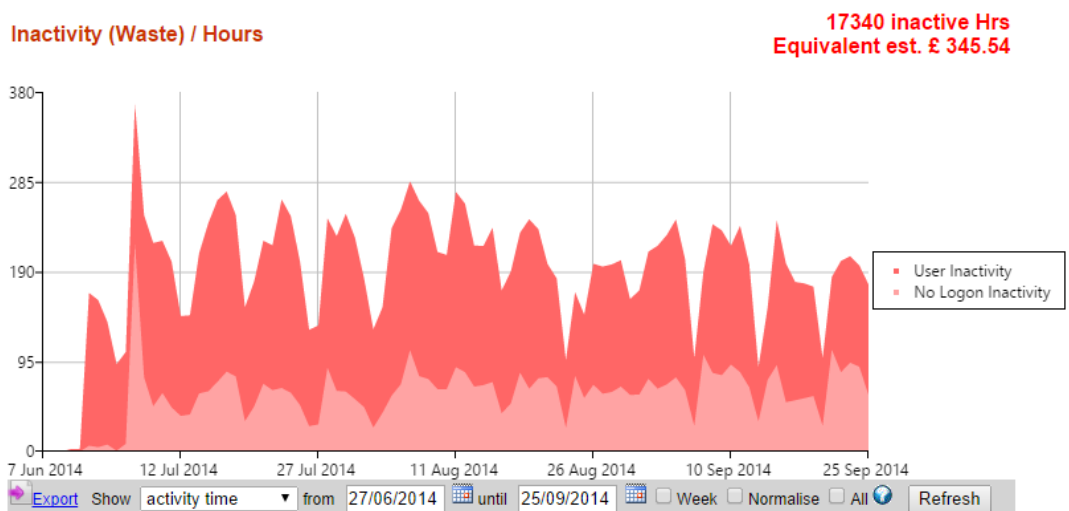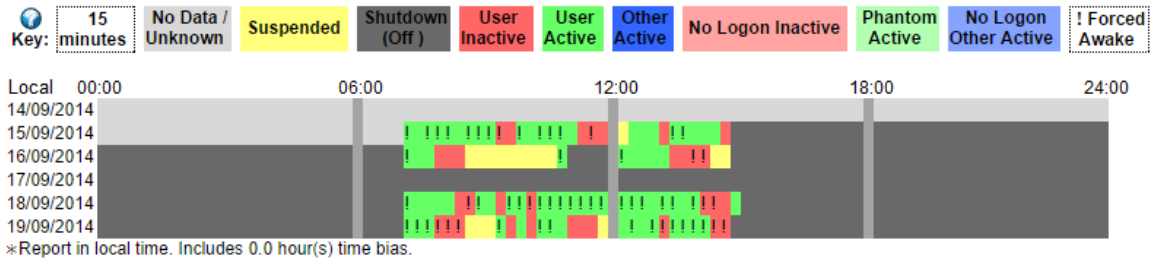

5. Similarly, the per-workstation report have been updated to show both current live status (including workstations shutdown or suspended) and summary by activity:

6. The workstation detail report has been redesigned to distinguish periods when the workstation was shutdown, suspended or forced awake by an application. This allows a detailed understanding of the workstation lifecycle to be formed and power management designed accordingly. In addition periods when the workstation is continually shutdown / suspended are now specifically distinguished in the report:

Detailed Activity Report

Key: 15 minutes | No Data / Unknown | Suspended | Shutdown (Off) | User Inactive | User Active | Other Active | No Logon Inactive | Phantom Active | No Logon Other Active | ! Forced Awake

Local 00:00 — 06:00 — 12:00 — 18:00 — 24:00

14/09/2014
15/09/2014
16/09/2014
17/09/2014
18/09/2014
19/09/2014

∗Report in local time. Includes 0.0 hour(s) time bias.

7. PowerMAN scheduled policies (sleep, shutdown, reboot and wake-up) may now optionally be configured to only apply on **specific days of the month**:

Scheduled Wake Properties

Setting | Explain

Scheduled Wake

○ Not Configured
● Enabled
○ Disabled

Day(s) Everyday ▼

Only Date(s)(Optional) 1, 8, 15, 29

Time (hh:mm) 23:00
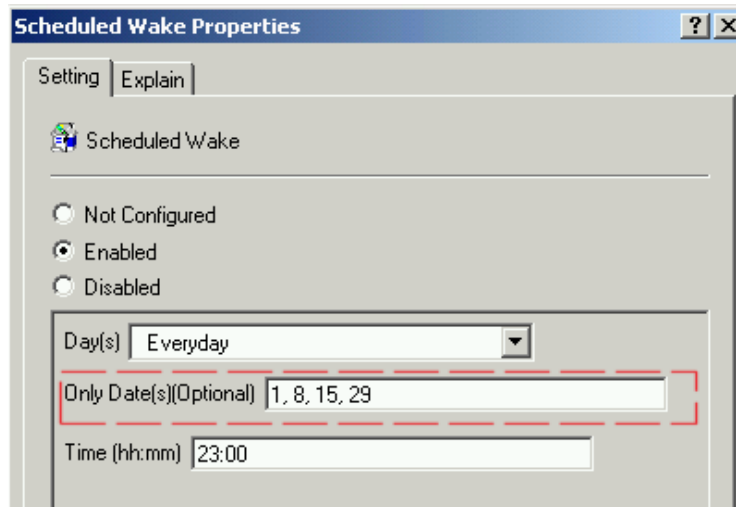
8. PowerMAN may now optionally collect workstation hardware information. This may be useful when auditing an existing estate of workstations. This feature requires PowerMAN Server v5.3 or later and is enabled by default unless the computer identity is hidden. Information reported includes:

a. Number of CPU sockets / cores / logical processors
b. Estimated CPU speed (MHz)
c. CPU make / model
d. Installed RAM
e. Motherboard make / model
f. BIOS make / version / release date
g. Number of hard / optical disks

Data Synergy UK / ENGAGE

Site	Data Synergy UK		
Computer	ENGAGE		
Created	04/06/2013	MAC Address	00-90-F5-A7-EF-EF
Last Status	05/05/2014	Client Version	5.2.8.5829
Supports States	S345	Windows® Version	6.1.7601 Service Pack 1
Supports Wake	S123	Timezone	1.0 hour(s) UTC
Disk Standby	Supported	Hardware buttons	Power Sleep Lid
System HDD Free	50,963 MB	Hibernation File (S4)	Present
Battery	Battery supported (Portable)	Platform	x64 (64-bit)
CPU Sockets/Cores/Logical	1 / 2 / 4 2261 MHz	CPU Model	Intel(R) Core(TM) i3 CPU M 350 @ 2.27GHz
System RAM	3892 MB	System Model / Vendor	W760 / CLEVO Co.
Fixed / Optical Drives	1 / 0	BIOS Vendor	Phoenix Technologies LTD

9. PowerMAN now supports a **Protected Users** feature. This allows exceptions to the power management policy to be centrally configured on a per-user basis. This complements the Protected Workstation feature that was introduced in release v5.2.8.

10. The PowerMAN client has been improved to support:

    a. Ignore phantom input (e.g. typically optical mice) when no user logged on
    b. Refresh user desktop upon resume

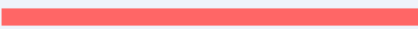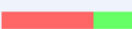11. The PowerMAN user interface has been extended with the following new optional features:

    • Opt-out and keep-awake selection may be discarded on logout or reboot
    • Notification of recent power events via the UI tray icon may now be disabled
    • Exit menu option may be disabled

    These changes are designed to increase power management compliance by avoiding unnecessary user distractions and discourage long-term abuse of the UI features.

12. The PowerMAN reporting interface has been redesigned to use a new tabbed interface. This feature results in a less cluttered UI:
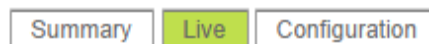
13. The PowerMAN reporting interface now provides improved integration with Data Synergy WakeMyPC. The UI can now be used to wake both individual workstations and entire groups of workstations:

14. The PowerMAN client now supports both Spanish and Italian language UI display.

About Data Synergy

Data Synergy is a British company based in Sheffield. We have over fifteen years' experience developing and supporting software solutions for enterprise PC deployment and management. We do not resell other vendors' products and do all of our development, sales and support from our UK base.

Our products have evolved through listening to customer ideas and applying our unrivalled knowledge of PC internals. If you have a suggestion for a new product or feature we would love to talk to you.