



## ScriptLogic Patch Authority Ultimate 7.8 New Features

### PREREQUISITES AND INSTALLATION

- Patch Authority Ultimate 7.8 requires .Net 4.0 on the console. The prerequisite installer will install .Net 4.0 if not present.
- The prerequisite installer will now install SQL Server 2008 R2 Express edition rather than SQL Server 2008 Express Edition.
- On start-up, the user is no longer prompted to import data into a new database. The import is much faster now and will take place in the background without prompting the user.

### NAVIGATOR

- The navigator pane has been reorganized. The nine choices at the bottom of the pane in Patch Authority Ultimate 7.6 have been reduced to six in 7.8. This was done by consolidating all the template choices (Patch Scan, Deployment, Asset Scan, and Power State) into one **Templates** choice.
- When you select **Templates**, you see eight groupings of templates in the upper panel – default and custom versions for each of the four template types. All of the **New...** template options are combined in a single drop-down at the top of this panel. This same pattern is used for all of the navigator choices.
- **Patch Groups** is now **Patch and SP Groups**. Service pack groups are a new feature used to support service pack deployment on agents.
- **Patch Scans and Deployments** has been renamed to **Patch Results**.

## MULTI-SELECT MACHINE PROPERTIES

In previous version, you could edit machine properties for only one machine at a time . This has been extended somewhat in 7.8, by allowing you to edit certain properties for all selected machines.

## DEFAULT GROUPING IN SCAN VIEW

For new installations, the default grouping in Scan View will be by **Original Patch Status**, rather than by **Current Patch Status**.

## TOOLS -> OPTIONS

The following changes were made in 7.8:

- The **Display** page is reorganized to reflect the navigator pane changes mentioned earlier.
- On the **Scans** page, the **Warn if using cached copy of detection data file** option is removed.
- On the **Scheduling** page, the **Alternate scheduling mechanism** choice is removed.
- The **Notifications & Warnings** page was added. On this page, the **Warn before scheduling deployments in the past or within 24 hours** check box is new. The other four check boxes were moved to this page from other pages.

## MACHINE GROUP EDITOR

The **Domain Credentials** column in the lower pane is renamed to **Browse Credentials**. For domains, it indicates if credentials were provided to browse the domain. For hosted VMs, it indicates that credentials were entered for the VM host.

## SERVICE PACK GROUP EDITOR (NEW)

Service Pack Groups are introduced in Patch Authority Ultimate 7.8 so that administrators can approve service packs to be deployed to agents.

## AGENT POLICY EDITOR

The **Agent Policy Editor/Patch Task** page now includes a section for allowing service packs to be installed on agents.

## AGENT UI

The agent UI now refers to service packs as well as patches.

## CHECKPOINT/RESTART - BACKGROUND PATCH DOWNLOADS (NEW)

Checkpoint/Restart refers to the ability to shut a system down or disconnect from the network during a file download and pick up where you left off when the network is available again. This is a useful feature for frequently-disconnected machines, and especially important when those machine are downloading large files, such as service packs. In Patch Authority Ultimate 7.8, for agents only, all patch and service pack downloads are handled by the Background Intelligent Transfer Service (BITS), which is part of the Windows operating system. It is used to implement checkpoint/restart as well as a form or bandwidth throttling.

## AUTOMATED DATABASE MAINTENANCE (NEW)

In Patch Authority Ultimate 7.8, the administrator can clean up the database with a few clicks and/or schedule a cleanup to occur automatically on a weekly basis. The maintenance tasks include:

- Delete old results
- Rebuild your SQL Server indexes
- Create backup copies of your database and transaction log

## ENHANCEMENTS FOR PATCHING VIRTUAL MACHINES

Probably the largest set of changes in Patch Authority Ultimate 7.8 is in the area of patching hosted virtual machines. New capabilities include:

- Deploy to a machine in a different state than was scanned (Roadmap of Tasks, Deploying Patches to Virtual Machines)
- Scheduled deployments to offline virtual machines (Deploying Patches to Virtual Machines)
- Disable networking while deploying to offline virtual machines (Deploying Patches to Virtual Machines)
- Optional pre-deployment and post-deployment snapshots (Roadmap of Tasks, Deploying Patches to Virtual Machines, Deployment Template: Hosted VMs/Templates tab, Monitoring the Deployment, Notes About VM Templates)
- Patching VMware templates (Roadmap of Tasks, Deploying Patches to Virtual Machines, Deployment Template: Hosted VMs/Templates tab, Monitoring the Deployment, Notes About VM Templates, Adding Virtual Machines Hosted by a Server, How to Add Virtual Machines to a Machine Group, Machine View Top Pan Summary, Scan View Scan Summary, Viewing Servers and Virtual Machines in a Machine Group, Virtual Machine Overview)

## DEPLOY PATCHES CONTAINED IN ARCHIVE FILES

There are several patches for third-party applications like iTunes that ordinarily cannot be executed in the background without user interaction. These patches are generally packaged as self-extracting archives, where the setup program inside the archive executes after it is extracted. PATCH AUTHORITY ULTIMATE 7.8 now has the capability to extract files from almost any type of archive (zip, tar, jar, cab, 7z, rar, xar, bzip, msi, gzip, etc.). It now extracts files from archive packages and performs the actions on the extracted files necessary to silently install the patches. This capability works for both agentless and agent deployments.

## PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENTS

- Initial database data import is much faster. On start-up, the user is no longer prompted to import data into a new database. The import will take place in the background without prompting the user.
- Bandwidth throttling
- Allow the user to uninstall multiple patches in one deployment

## CONTACTING SCRIPTLOGIC

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## SCRIPTLOGIC ON THE WEB

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- Download product updates, patches and/or evaluation products.
- Locate product information and technical details.
- Find out about Product Pricing.
- Search the Knowledge Base for Technical Notes containing an extensive collection of technical articles, troubleshooting tips and white papers.
- Search Frequently Asked Questions, for the answers to the most common non-technical issues.
- Participate in Discussion Forums to discuss problems or ideas with other users and ScriptLogic representatives.

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