Data Synergy

# PowerMAN New Features Guide v5.4

Release 5.4.0.5932 December 2015. Revised May 2016

## Overview

PowerMAN v5.4 adds support for Windows 10.0. It also enables the live reporting feature first introduced in v5.3 by default and adds several new protected object features.

This document provides a brief explanation of recent new features and is intended for System Administrators already familiar with PowerMAN. This document describes release v5.4.0.

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 v5.3.x. This release represents the formal introduction of these features.

## New features in PowerMAN v5.4

1. PowerMAN now supports **Windows 10.0**. The features available are identical to PowerMAN running on Windows 7/8.x

2. PowerMAN now supports optional **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:



**University of New Town Live Statistics**

Live Activity Breakdown
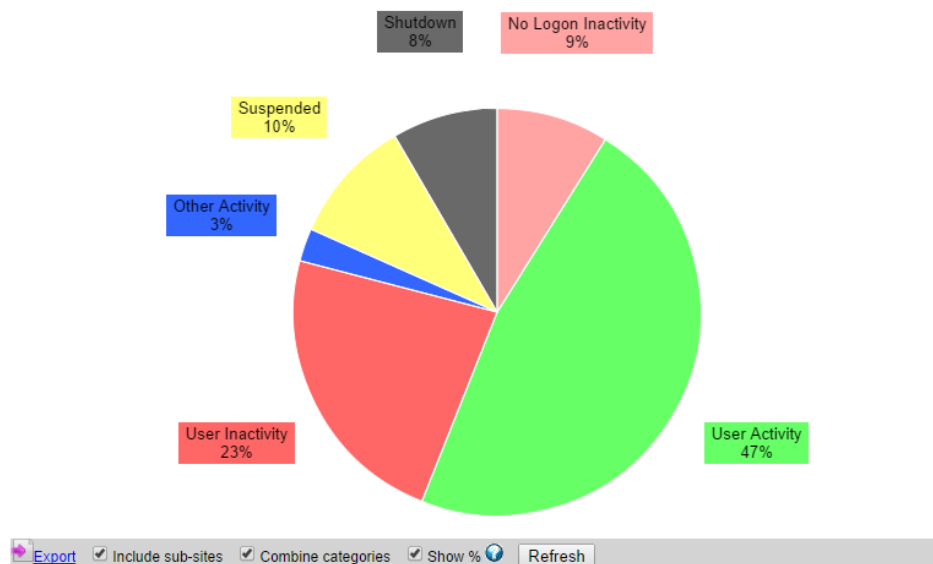
   **Note: Live reporting requires a new client product key. This is available free-of-charge to PowerMAN customers with current software assurance agreements.**

3. 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:

**Sub-Site Computer Availability**

| Site | Available | | |
|------|-----------|---|---|
| 24/8 Computer Lab | 12/60 | | |
| Daytime Computer Lab | 12/49 | | |
| East Campus Library | 13/25 | | |
| Kiosk Terminals | 0/1 | | |
| West Campus Library | 16/56 | | |

Export

4.  PowerMAN now provides a **Live Workstation** report. This shows the current live status of each workstation within the current reporting site and links through to the detailed workstation report:



5.  The PowerMAN reporting interface has been redesigned to use a new tabbed interface and make better use of larger screen sites (minimum 1024x768). This feature results in a less cluttered UI:



6.  PowerMAN now provides a **Devices** report. This can be used to quickly locate devices that meet specific hardware search criteria. This feature requires client version 5.2.8 or later:



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

7.  PowerMAN now includes an **on-demand (pull) reporting API**. This can be used to automate reporting and integration.

8. The PowerMAN reporting interface has been refreshed with a **new chart design** and **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:
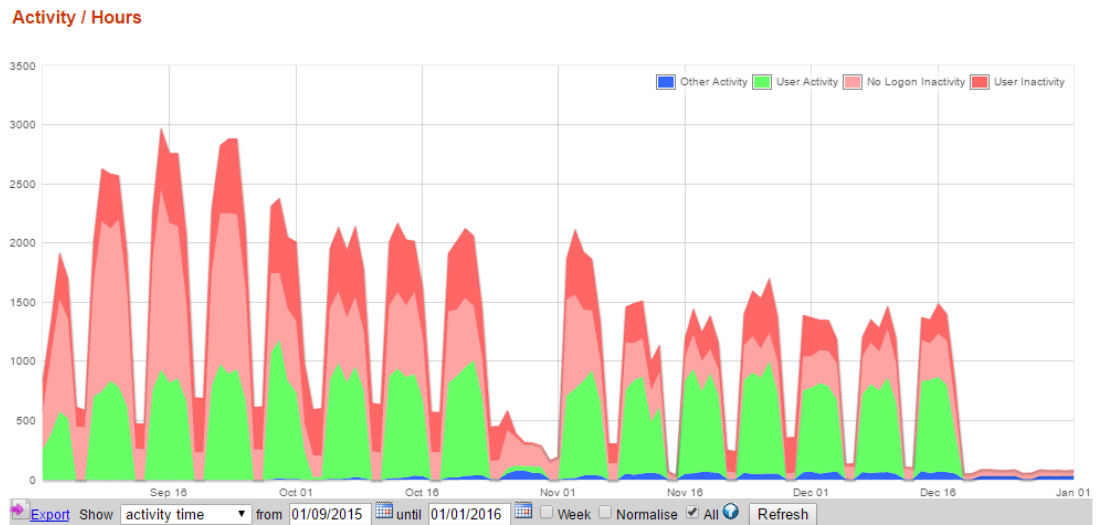


9. Similarly, the per-workstation report have been updated to show both current live status (including workstations shutdown or suspended) and summary by activity:



10. 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:
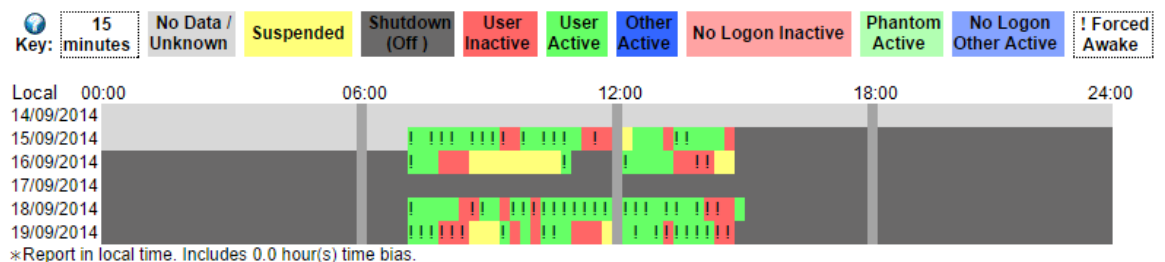


11. PowerMAN scheduled policies (sleep, shutdown, reboot and wake-up) may now optionally be configured to only apply on **specific days of the month**:
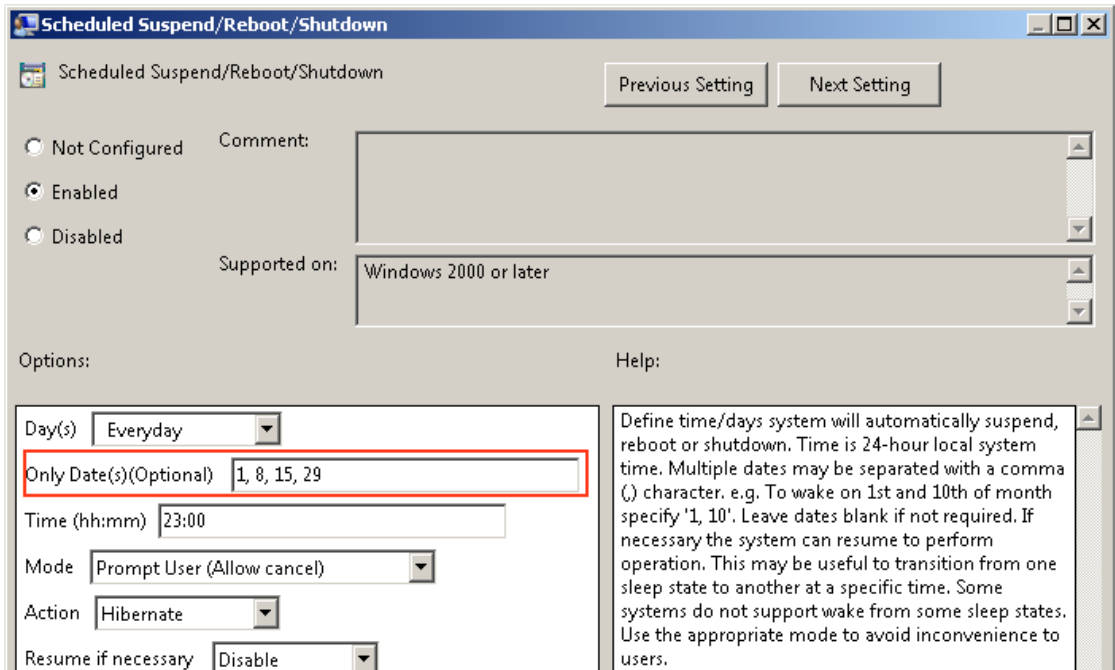
12. PowerMAN now supports a **Protected Users** feature. This allows exceptions to the power management policy to be centrally configured on a per-user basis. This complements the Protected Workstation feature that was introduced in release v5.2.8.

13. 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

14. 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.

15. 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:



16. PowerMAN now includes a separate **PowerINFO tool** for power management debugging. This tool is also available as a free download on the Data Synergy website. The INFO command-line tool now reports additional wake timer information for Windows Vista and later.

17. **Protected programs** may now optionally include a minimum CPU activity threshold of 10-100%. Programs running below the threshold are treated as unprotected. This more granular configuration is intended to reduce cases where power management is unnecessarily disabled due to an idle protected program. This feature is backwards compatible with existing policies.

18. The "Protected Server Service" feature has been expanded to permit granular **protection of just file and/or printer shares**. This is intended to reduce cases where power management is unnecessarily disabled on systems that share resources. This feature is backwards compatible with existing policies.

19. The PowerMAN client now supports both **Spanish** and **Italian language UI**.

## 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.

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