

Automated Workstation Setup

Pearl Echo supports automating the Pearl Echo Workstation installation using the Windows Installer Service. When you assign an application to a computer, the application installation is performed when it is safe to do so. Typically this happens when the computer starts up so that there are no competing processes on the computer.

Preparation

Remote Software Installation is performed in conjunction with your settings in the configuration file, *servset.ini*, and the Windows Installer package supplied with Pearl Echo.

The first step is creating a network share, called a software distribution point, that contains the packages, any transforms, and the program and configuration files. Next you need to make sure that Domain Computers can read from the software distribution point and write to the target of the installation. Finally, you need to modify the configuration file, *servset.ini*, with settings that you entered during the Pearl Echo Server software installation.

1. Create a shared directory that contains the Pearl Echo Workstation installation files. Share the directory as *echows*
2. Assign the 'Read' NTFS permission for 'Domain Computers' on *echows* (Winlogon is the privileged agent that applies software installation policy when each computer starts. Winlogon requires read permissions to the source files to complete the installation).
3. Edit the file *servset.ini* in the new directory and specify the server IP and Port that you entered during the Pearl Echo Server Software installation. In addition you will need to specify your configuration preference - open or closed.

Software Installation through Group Policy is available on Windows 2000 and later Operating Systems.

Example:
[Echo 5.0 settings]
IP=111.1.1.1
Port=57345
Configuration=open

Setting Group Policy

Software Installation works in conjunction with Group Policy and Active Directory. It is important that the Pearl Echo Server and Workstation components not be installed on the same machine. To ensure against this, the Group Policy Object that is created should have the appropriate security filters set.

1. Open Active Directory Users and Computers from Administrative Tools.

2. In the console tree, right-click the domain or organizational unit for which you want to set Group Policy.
3. Click **Properties**, and then click the **Group Policy** tab.
4. Click **New** to create a new Group Policy object and rename the object *echows_gpo*.
5. Click **Properties** of *echows_gpo*.
6. Click **Security**
7. Remove '**Authenticated Users**' from the ACL
8. Add '**Domain Computers**' to the ACL and assign '**Read**' and '**Apply Group Policy**' permissions.
9. Verify that '**Domain Controllers**' is not part of the ACL.
10. Click OK

To set the Software Installation Group Policy in the *echows* Group Policy object:

1. Click **Edit** *echows_gpo*.
2. Double-click Computer Configuration.
3. Double-click Software Settings.
4. In the console tree, right-click Software Installation and select **New Package**.
5. Enter the UNC name of the Pearl Echo Workstation installer file(e.g. \\servername\echows\Pearl Echo 5.0 Workstation.msi)
6. Select Assigned.

If you prefer to mask the software title from appearing during installation on Domain Computers, you can edit the properties of the new Software Installation entry. The next time a workstation in the domain starts, it will automatically install the Pearl Echo 5.0 Workstation software and configure the installation to access the Pearl Echo Server specified in *serverset.ini*.