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DEPLOYMENT GUIDE



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Additional Notes

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Deploying Software with Prism

Prism Deploy deploys software and administrative tasks to multiple computers simultaneously, no matter where they are in the world, no matter the task. Whether you need to roll out a software suite, or complete a mundane and otherwise manual change (for example, sending out system updates corporate-wide), Deploy automates it. You can also delete unapproved software from computers; even update security permissions on a registry key or file – all without ever visiting a workstation or server. The best part is, when Deploy installs software it does so more reliably than any other tool on the market. Post-rollout visits to fix problems are a thing of the past.

With Deploy, you can ensure computers have the software and patches they need. Instead of running a time-consuming inventory scan to determine which computers need an application, just build the package and give Deploy the profile of the computers that need it. Deploy takes care of the rest. If a computer's setup changes so it meets the profile, or if a new computer joins the network fitting the description, it automatically receives the software it needs, all without further intervention from you.

Overview of Channel Tasks

Tasks are the Prism files, scripts, and commands you want to install or execute on target computers. After setting up a Task in the Channel, drag that Task onto a computer, or a group of computers. For Task installation, the users do not have to be logged on or be aware of the changes.

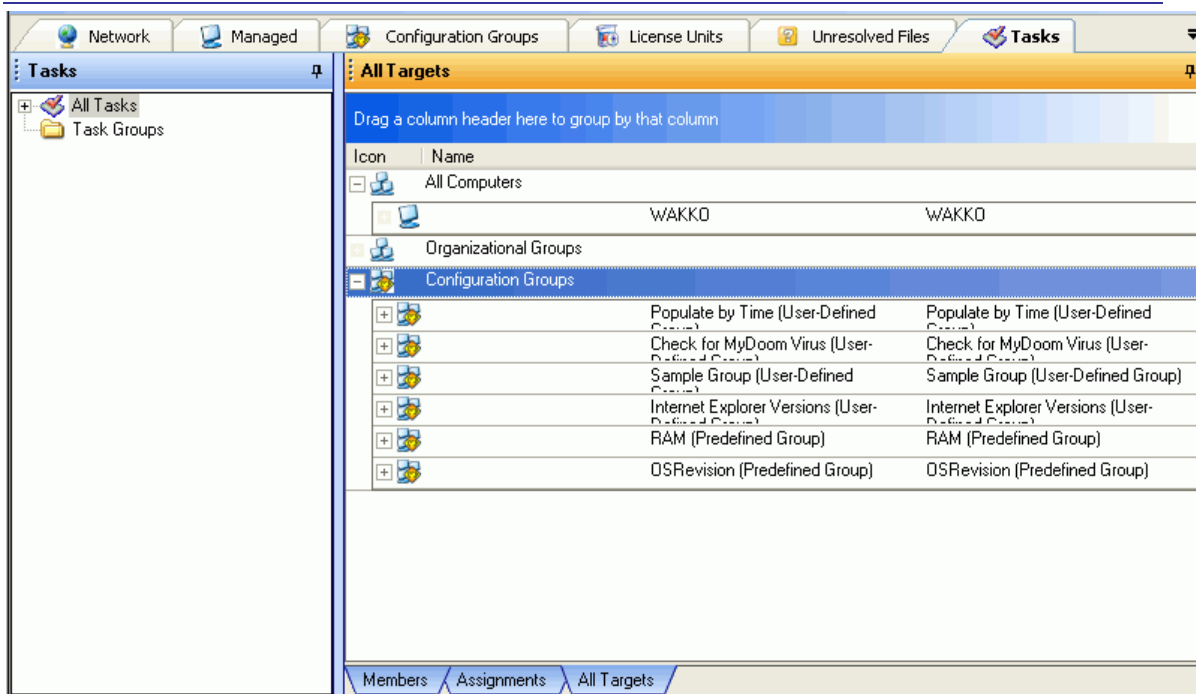
There are three main types of Tasks:

- **Package:** The Task installs Prism files containing software, updates, deletions, or other system changes.
- **Command:** The Task runs a command or command file. This type of Task is very versatile, letting you run any type of third-party command that runs on the target computer—a command, an Internet address, or the name of a script file.

To use a Prism command, put it in a Prism script and chose Script for the Task type.

- **Script:** The Task plays a Prism script (.PTS). A script is useful for installing several Prism files that need to be installed in sequence.

Tasks tab



The Tasks tab lists all of the Tasks available in the Channel, which are available for deploying changes to managed computers. From the tree view, you can quickly deploy Tasks by dragging and dropping or create new Tasks based on Prism file, scripts, or commands.

To help you maintain and quickly locate key Tasks, you can create groups of Tasks with similar or related purposes. After creating a group, simply drag Tasks into the group to populate it. Tasks are always listed in the Tasks branch, but now are also listed within one or more groups.

This tab is available in the tree view on the left side of the Console main window.

Right Click Options — All Tasks branch

- **Create Task:** Add a Task to the Channel and specify the file or command to run when the Task is installed.

Right Click Options — Task

These options are available when you right click on a Task:

- **Assign Task:** Select the targets that should receive this Task. Deploy lists all of the managed computers and groups in the Channel.
- **Delete Task:** Remove this Task from the Channel. This option does not uninstall changes that have already been made with this Task.
- **Schedule:** Change the schedule for the Task deployment.
- **Package Editor:** This option is available for a Package type of Task. Opens the Package file in the Editor, if the Editor is installed on the same machine as the Console.
- **Reports:** Select from a list of deployment reports.
- **Task Properties:** View the properties for the Task. (See *Task General Properties*.)

Note: These options are available any time you right click on a Task. For example, you can select from the same options by right-clicking on a Task on the Managed | All Tasks tab.

Right Click Options — Task that was previously scheduled

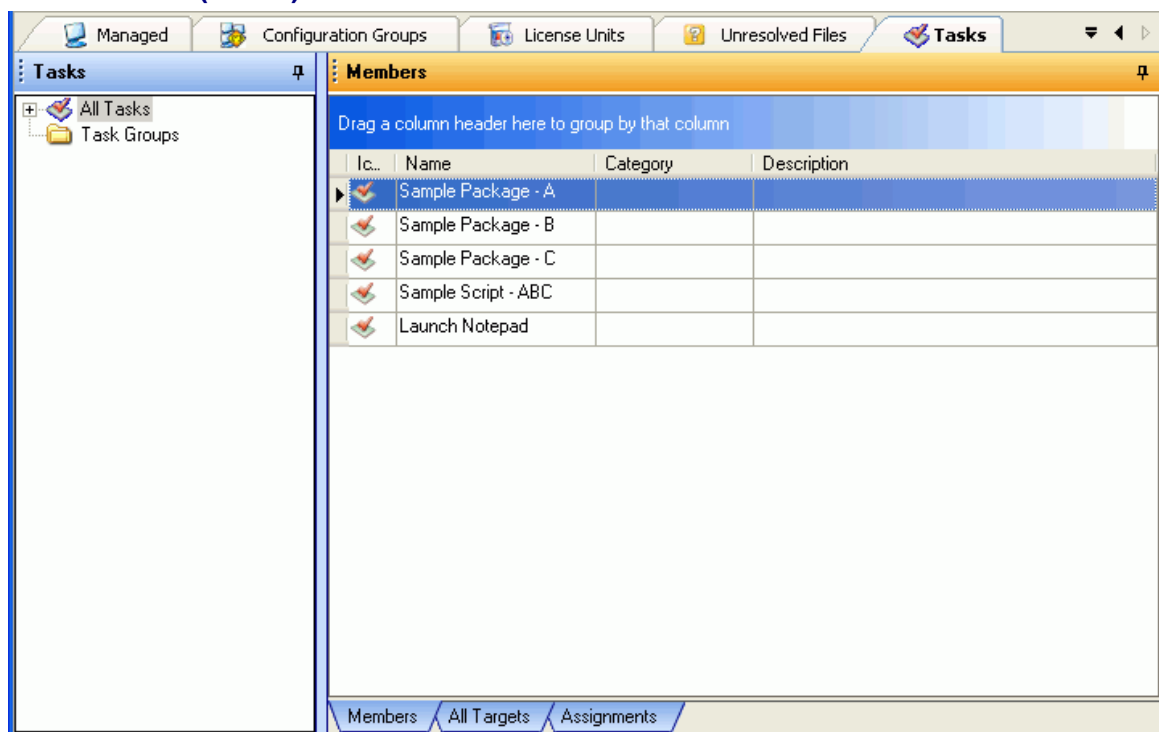
These options are available when you right click on a Task that has already been scheduled for deployment.

- **Schedule:** Change the schedule for the Task deployment.
- **Reinstall:** Reinstall the Task on the computers where it has already been installed. See *Reinstalling or Repairing a Task*.

Right Click Options — Task Groups branch

- **Create Group:** Create a new organizational group on the Tasks tab. After creating the group, populate it by dragging and dropping Tasks from the details pane onto the name of the group in the tree view. Use this feature to group Tasks with similar or related functions.

Members tab (Tasks)



The **Members** tab shows detailed information about the Tasks in the branch or group highlighted in the tree view.

This tab is available in the details pane when you have the *Tasks tab* selected in the tree view.

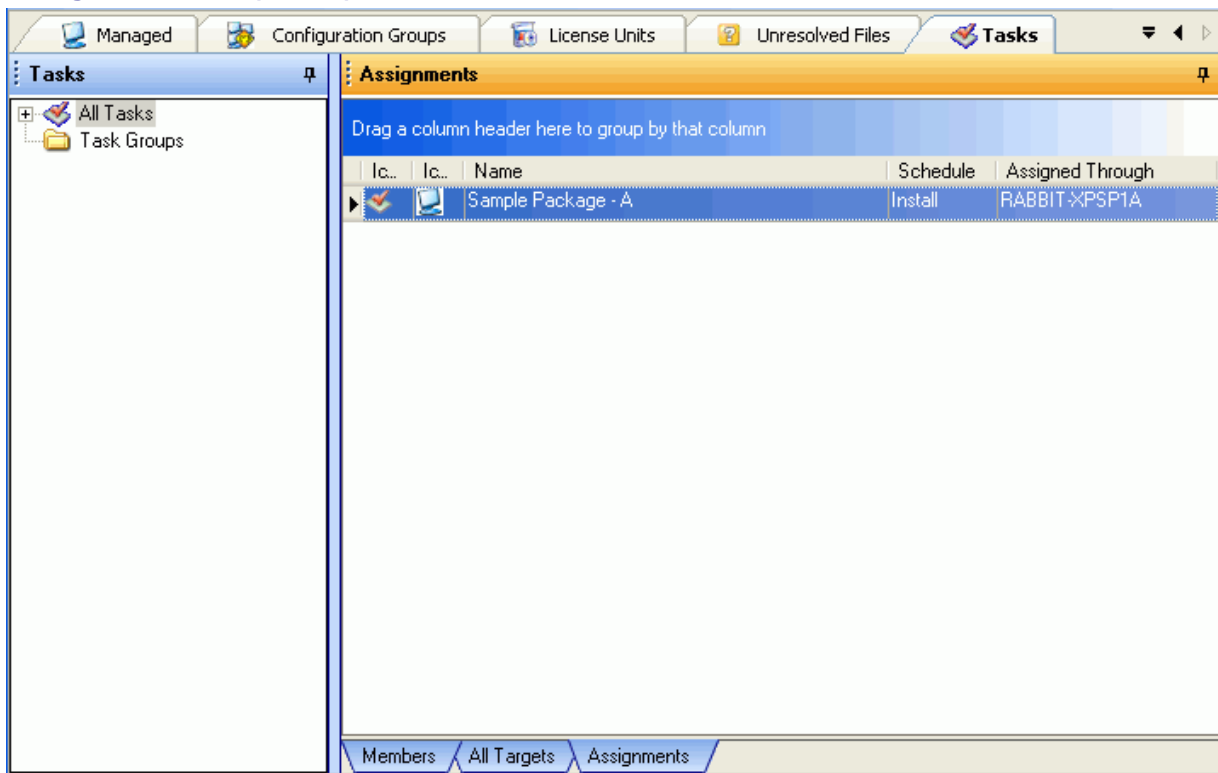
Right Click Options — Task

These options are available when you right click on a Task in the details pane:

- **Assign Task:** Select the targets that should receive this Task. Deploy lists all of the managed computers and groups in the Channel.
- **Delete Task:** Remove this Task from the Channel. This option does not uninstall changes that have already been made with this Task.
- **Schedule:** Change the schedule for the Task deployment.
- **Reinstall:** Reinstall the Task on the computers where it has already been installed. See *Reinstalling or Repairing a Task*.

- **Properties:** View the properties for the Task. (See *Viewing the Task General Properties.*)

Assignments tab (Tasks)



The **Assignments** tab shows detailed information about assignments for the highlighted Task. This information includes the installation schedule, status, and the target the Task was assigned to originally.

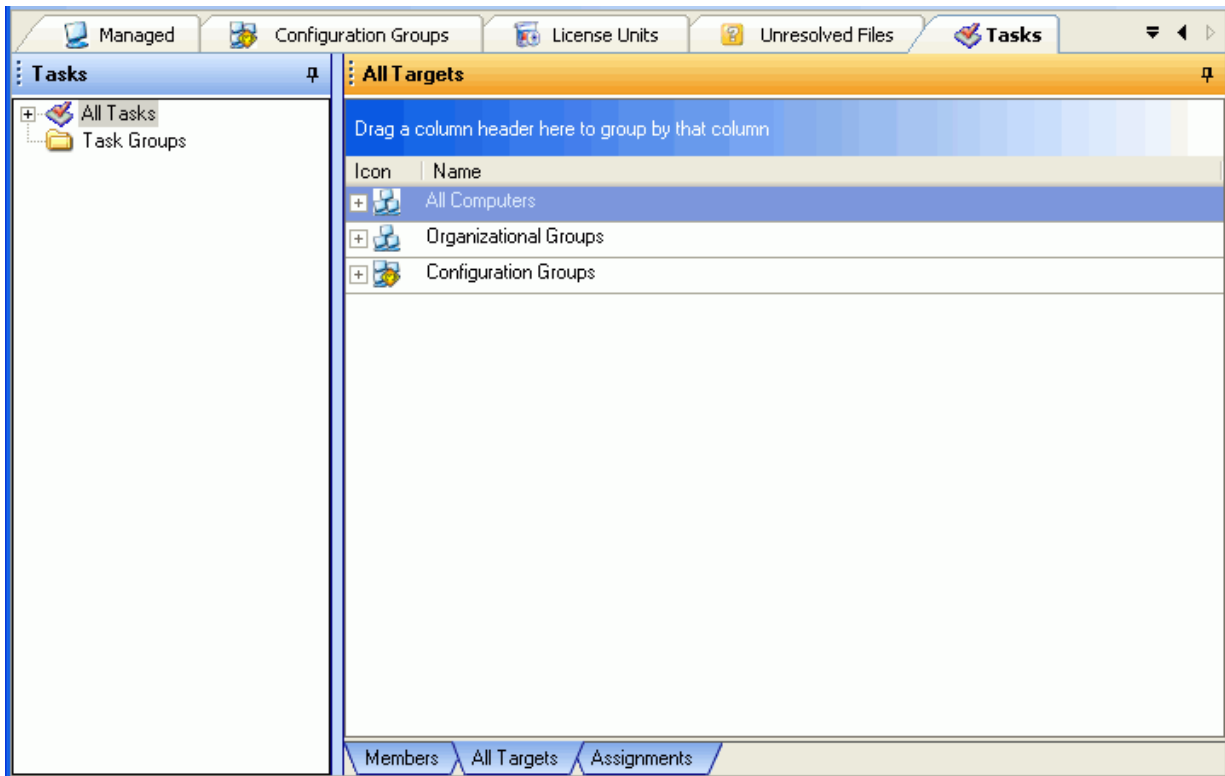
This tab is available in the details pane when you have the *Tasks tab* or **Managed** tab selected in the tree view.

Right Click Options — Task

These options are available when you right click on a Task in the details pane:

- **Schedule:** Change the schedule for the Task deployment.
- **Reinstall:** Reinstall the Task on the computers where it has already been installed. See *Reinstalling or Repairing a Task.*
- **Delete Task Assignment:** Unassign this Task from the current target. This option does not remove changes that have already been installed. It does stop this Task from being installed on selected targets in the future.

All Targets tab (Tasks)



This tab lists all of the managed computers and groups in the Channel. Use this list to quickly deploy a Task by dragging and dropping it from the tree view onto a target listed on this tab.

This tab is available in the details pane when you have the *Tasks* tab selected in the tree view.

Right Click Options — Computer or Group


These options are available when you right click on a computer in the details pane:

- **Assign Task:** Assign the highlighted Task to this computer or group, and schedule installation.
- **Inventory Now:** If Asset Manager is installed, scan the highlighted computer or group to generate an inventory its hardware characteristics and the applications installed.
- **Reports:** Select from the computer reports in order to generate a report.

Adding Tasks

To add or set up a new Task in a Channel:

1. On the *Tasks* tab, right-click on the **All Tasks** branch and select **Create Task** from the pop-up menu.
2. In the New Task dialog box, choose the appropriate type for the Task you are creating. Then, click **Next**:
3. The next dialog box depends on the type of Task you are setting up. On this dialog box, enter the name and location for the file to be used for the Task or type the command. Detailed information for each type of Task follows:
 - **Package:** In the New Task Package dialog box identify the file.
 - **Script:** In the New Task Script dialog box identify the script file.

- **Command:** In the New Task Command dialog box, do one of the following:
 - Type the command directly in the text box.
 - Type the URL for a Web page that the Task will open.
 - Type the location of a command file or click  to browse to the file location.

Note: The files required for installing the Task do not need to be on the same computer as the Channel Server; they can be stored any place that is available to the target computers at all times. However, the location must reflect the location of the file from the target computer's point of view. Enter the location on this dialog box in any of the following formats:

- drive mapping (for example, F:\tasks\mycommand.exe)
- UNC path (for example, \\server1\tasks\mycommand.exe)
- internet address (for example, http://www.yourcompany.com/mycommand.exe)

Deploy also supports use of environment variables in the location. For example, if you are providing a Task to users at different locations and each location has a server, use a variable for the home server— \\%server%.

4. If you specified a location for the Task file on the previous dialog box that may not be appropriate for all target computers, Deploy displays a dialog box asking if you want to specify a different location.

Note: The files required for installing the Task do not need to be on the same computer as the Channel Server; they can be stored any place that is available to the target computers at all times. However, the location must reflect the location of the file from the target computer's point of view.

5. In the New Task — Enter the name of the new task dialog box, type a descriptive name for the Task. Click **Finish**.

The Task is added to the Channel and can now be assigned to target computers or groups.

Grouping Tasks

Task groups help you keep Tasks organized based on their function or other similarity. Task groups are created and populated by you, so they can reflect any grouping that you find useful.

To create a Task group:

1. Right-click on the **Task Groups** branch on the *Tasks tab* in the tree view.
2. Choose **Create Group** from the pop-up menu.
3. On the **Group Name** dialog, enter a name for the group. Click **OK**.
4. With the new group displayed on the Tasks tab, populate the group by clicking and dragging Tasks from the list of Tasks in the details pane onto the group.

Assigning and Scheduling Tasks

Assigning and Scheduling Tasks for Installation

Deploy Tasks let you quickly and easily install software, run commands, and play scripts on target computers. After setting up a Task that contains the software, files, or changes you want to distribute, assign the Task to a computer or group, select the type of installation (once, repeating, reinstall, or uninstall), then schedule a time for the installation.

For example, drag a Task onto a target (computer or group) in the Channel and Deploy displays the *Schedule Task* dialog box to lead you through the options for installation. For immediate installation, you only need to drag the Task onto a target and accept the default value on each dialog box of the Scheduling Expert. When you want to schedule a future installation, Deploy lets you set a time, date, and reference point for the schedule. You can also select an option to "wake up a computer" to install a Task.

Assign a Task to a computer or group

Assigning a Task to a target is the first step in using Deploy to install Prism files on target computers—directly or through a group. Deploy offers several methods for assigning Tasks. Use any of the following:

- Highlight the Task and drag it onto a computer or group in the details pane.
- Right-click on the name of a Task and choose **Assign Task** from the pop-up menu.
- Highlight the name of a Task or target and choose **Deployment | Assign Task**.

Schedule Task installation

After you assign a Task to a computer or group, Deploy displays the *Schedule Task* dialog box and steps you through the process of setting the schedule and other options. (See *Scheduling the Time and Date for Installing a Task*.)

Scheduling the Time and Date for Installing a Task

When you assign a Task to a computer or group, Deploy steps you through the process of scheduling the installation and selecting other options. The schedule options cover a variety of situations, including scheduling recurring tasks and reinstalling a Task after an unsuccessful installation. You can simply accept the default settings to install the Task as soon as possible. Or, for Tasks that may interfere with the work day, you can set the installation for a more convenient time.

Set the time and date to install a Task once

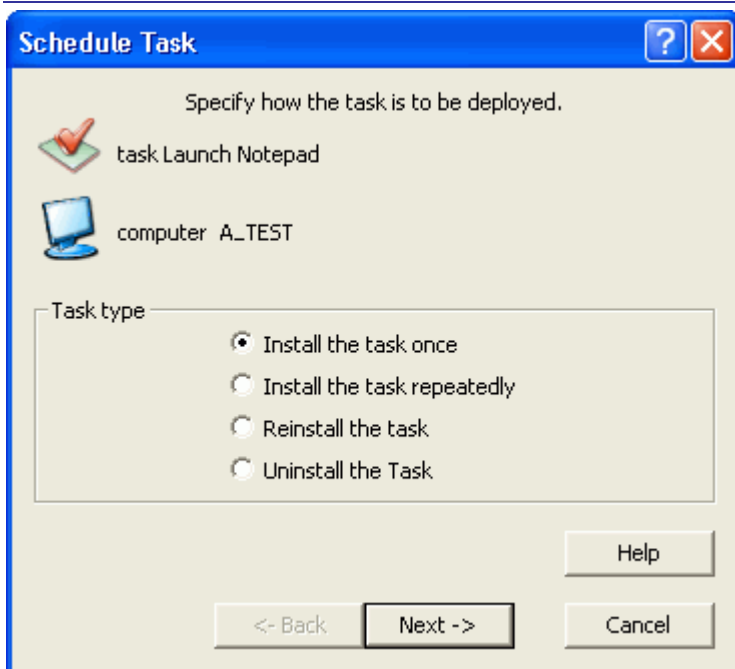
1. Assign the Task to a computer or group.
(See *Assigning and Scheduling Tasks for Installation*.)
2. In the *Schedule Task* dialog box, select **Install the task once** from the list of Task types: Click **Next**.
3. In the *Schedule Task: Start Deployment* dialog box, set the schedule for installation.
4. If you chose **Schedule the processing to start at**, set the date, time, and reference point for the installation. Otherwise, go on to the next step.

Note: For the installation to take place at the scheduled time, the target computer must be connected to the Channel Server. For example, if you schedule a Task for installation on a laptop computer that is only connected to the network occasionally, the Task is installed after the scheduled time, the next time the laptop connects to the network.

5. If you are scheduling a Task to install after hours when computers may be powered off, select the check box for Wake on LAN.
6. Click **Finish** to deploy the Task.

The Channel installs the Task on the targets at the time you set. The results of the installation are displayed in the Deployment Reports.

Schedule Task dialog



Use the **Schedule Task** dialog box to specify whether to install the Task once, install it repeatedly, reinstall the Task, or uninstall the Task. The **Schedule Task** dialog box opens when you assign a Task to a computer, group, or multiple targets.

Choose an installation option

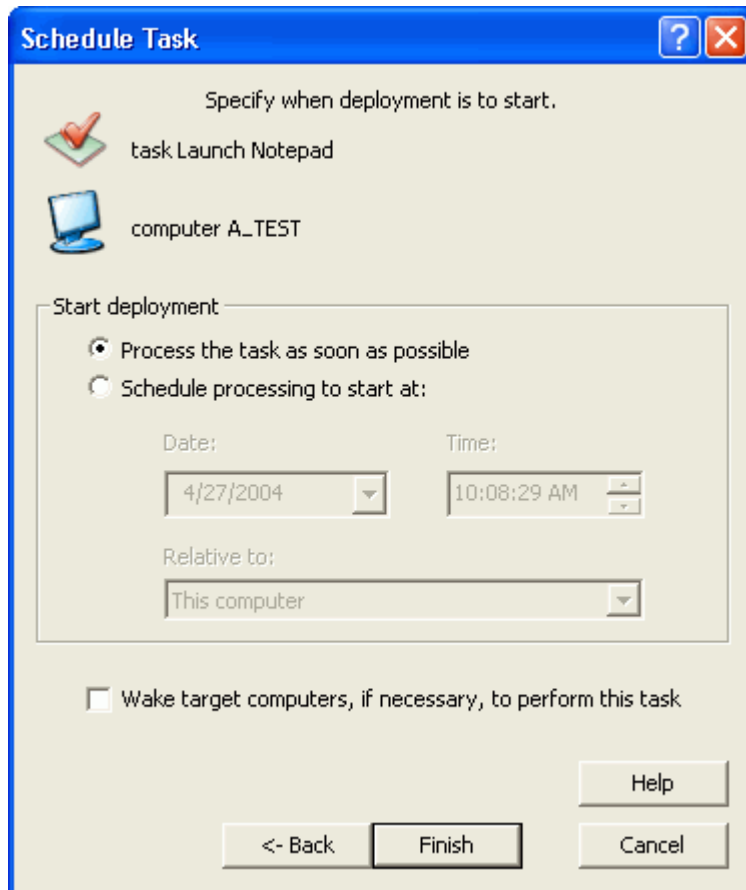
Use the **Task Type** options to install a new Task, schedule a recurring task, reinstall a Task that has already been installed, or uninstall a Task:

- **Install the task once:** Install or execute the Task on the identified target(s) one time.
- **Install the task repeatedly:** Set up a recurring task that is installed once then reinstalled repeatedly at a specified interval or whenever a specified event occurs.
- **Reinstall the task:** Repeat the installation of the Task on the identified target(s). Use this option to install an updated version of the Task or if the Task was not successfully installed or executed when you installed it earlier.
- **Uninstall the task:** Uninstall all of the changes made with the Task on the target computer(s). If the Task was installed multiple times, changes from each installation are removed.

This option removes all changes made with a Prism file installed by this Task, even if the Prism file was installed more than once. To reverse a script or command, you must create a file that reverses the command(s).

Note: To uninstall or reverse a script or command, you must create a file that reverses the command(s).

Start Deployment dialog



Use the **Schedule Task: Start Deployment** dialog box to indicate when to install or reinstall the Task—immediately or at a specific time. When you start the installation at a specific time, you also have the option of choosing a reference point for the start time. This schedule can be changed at any time before the Task is installed.

The **Start Deployment** dialog box opens after you choose a schedule type on the *Schedule Task* dialog box while assigning a Task.

Start deployment

Choose from these deployment options:

- **Process the task as soon as possible:** The Console begins installing the Task as soon as you click **Finish**.

The installation happens almost immediately on target computers that are available and have the Client Polling option set to one minute (one minute is the default value). If you are in a live or production environment, we strongly recommend that you create a test

group and test the Task distribution with this group before you distribute it to a large number of computers.

- **Scheduling the processing to start at:** Install the Task at a specific date and time. After selecting this option, enter the date and time for the installation.

For the installation to take place at the scheduled time, the target computer must be running. For example, if you schedule a Task for installation on a laptop computer that is only connected to the network occasionally, the Task is installed after the scheduled time, the next time the laptop connects to the network.

Choose a Reference Point

When you schedule the installation to start at a specific time, use the **Relative to** fields to choose a reference point for the installation date and time.

- **This Computer:** The Task is installed at the scheduled time, using your computer as the reference point.

For example, set the time to 11:00 p.m. in Denver. The Task is installed at 11:00 p.m. at headquarters in Denver and at 10:00 p.m. at the sales office in Los Angeles.

- **Target Computer:** The Task is installed at the scheduled time, using the target computer as the reference point.

For example, you are in Seattle and you are installing software for the division in Atlanta. Select this option and set the schedule for 10:00 a.m. The Task is installed at 10:00 a.m. in Atlanta (7:00 a.m. your time).

- **Greenwich mean time:** The Task is installed at the scheduled time with an off-set, using GMT as the reference point. This option lets you set an absolute time.

For example, set the schedule for 5:00 p.m. on April 1 Greenwich mean time. The Task is installed at:

5:00 p.m. on April 1 in London
12:00 noon on April 1 in New York
9:00 a.m. on April 1 in Los Angeles
1:00 a.m. on April 2 in Tokyo

Wake on LAN

- **Wake target computers to perform this task:** With this option selected, if the target computer is turned off or shut down when the Task is scheduled for installation, the Channel attempts to wake up the computer and install the Task.

For this option to work, the target computer must have the appropriate hardware and be correctly configured to support Wake on LAN via Magic Packets™.

- **Wake target computers to perform this task:** With this option turned off, if the target computer is turned off or shut down when the Channel attempts to install the Task, it is not installed at that time. The Task will be installed the next time the target computer is turned on and its Client contacts the Channel.

Scheduling a Repeating Task

A repeating Task is deployed repeatedly at a set interval. When setting up a repeating Task, you have the option of basing the timing of the installations on a time interval (hours, days, weeks, and so on) or on system events (system start up, log on, log off, and so on).

To schedule a repeating Task:

1. Assign the Task to a computer or group.
(See *Assigning and Scheduling Tasks for Installation*.)
2. In the *Schedule Task* dialog box, select **Install the Task Repeatedly** from the list of Task types: Click **Next**.
3. In the *Schedule Task: Install Repeatedly* dialog box, select an option to trigger the Task by a time interval or an event.
4. In the next dialog box, set the time interval or event that will trigger the Task.
5. In the *Schedule Task: Start Deployment* dialog box, set the time and date for installing the Task the first time.

The Task deploys at the time you set. After this initial installation, the Task is deployed repeatedly.

Changing the Schedule for a Task

You can reschedule or change the time and date for installing a Task at any time. The procedure for changing the schedule depends on the number of targets affected.

- Rescheduling the installation for all of the targets receiving the Task is similar to scheduling a new Task. For details, see *Changing the Schedule Before a Task is Installed*.
- Changing the schedule for only one target or a subset of the original recipients requires reassigning the Task to the selected target(s) and setting the appropriate time. For details, see *Changing the Schedule for a Subset of the Assigned Targets*.

Changing the Schedule Before a Task is Installed

The schedule for an assigned Task can be changed at any time. If you set a specific day and time for the installation, return to the *Schedule Task* dialog box to change the time or date. This procedure is outlined below.

To change the schedule for a Task:

1. Highlight the name of the Task on the *Tasks tab* in the tree view or the All Tasks tab in the details pane.
2. Open the *Schedule Task* dialog box by doing one of the following:
 - Right-click on the Task name and choose **Schedule** from the pop-up menu.
 - With Task name highlighted, choose **Deployment | Schedule**.
3. Complete the scheduling through the wizard, starting with the *Schedule Task* dialog box.
1. The Task is installed for all of the targets it is assigned to, according to the new schedule.

Changing the Schedule for a Subset of the Assigned Targets

After scheduling a Task for a group, you can install the Task ahead of time for only part of the original group. To schedule the installation at an earlier time for only some of the targets scheduled to receive it:

1. Re-assign the Task to the selected target(s) by doing one of the following:
 - Drag the Task onto the target(s).
 - Right-click on the target and select **Schedule** from the pop-up menu.

Even though each target is already scheduled to receive the Task, you are

assigning the Task as if it were a new Task. (See *Assigning and Scheduling Tasks for Installation*.)

2. Complete the scheduling through the wizard, starting with the *Schedule Task* dialog box.

When you look at the target in the Console main window, the Assignments tab shows both the original schedule for the Task, and another instance of the same Task with the new schedule. Even though the Task is scheduled twice, it is installed on the target only once, at the earliest scheduled time.

Reinstalling or Repairing a Task

Any number of circumstances can result in the need to reinstall a Task—for example, the installation failed or you decided to change the original Prism file. When a change is needed or an error interferes with the Task installation, you can reinstall the Task in just a few simple steps.

In most cases, the installation status for an individual target and the Deployment reports provide information about why the installation was unsuccessful.

Here are some sample situations and how to resolve them:

- A user deleted a critical file after the installation and it needs to be reinstalled. Reinstall the Task for this application as described in *Reinstalling a Task Immediately*.
- The Prism file installed with the Task asks the user to respond to a variable prompt. Originally, the installation was scheduled for midnight, when most users were logged off. Reinstall the Task during work hours as described in *Reinstalling a Task*.
- A power-outage in one building interfered with installation for a portion of the targets scheduled to receive the Task. When power returns, you want to reinstall the Task, but you do not have the computers identified by location. Reinstall the Task for this application as described in *Reinstalling a Task for Computers that Did Not Receive It*.
- After the Task was installed on the first 10 computers, you discovered an error in the Task itself. Repair and reinstall an updated Task as described in *Reinstalling a Repaired Task*.

Reinstalling a Task

A Task can be reinstalled for targets that received the Task earlier, but need the Task installed again. For example, if the installed software becomes corrupted, reinstall the Task to restore the software.

Reinstall Immediately

To reinstall a Task immediately for one or more targets:

1. In the *Tasks* tab, highlight the Task name.
2. Reinstall the Task immediately by doing one of the following:
 - Right-click on the name of the Task and choose **Reinstall** from the pop-up menu.
 - With the name of the Task highlighted, choose **Deployment | Reinstall**.

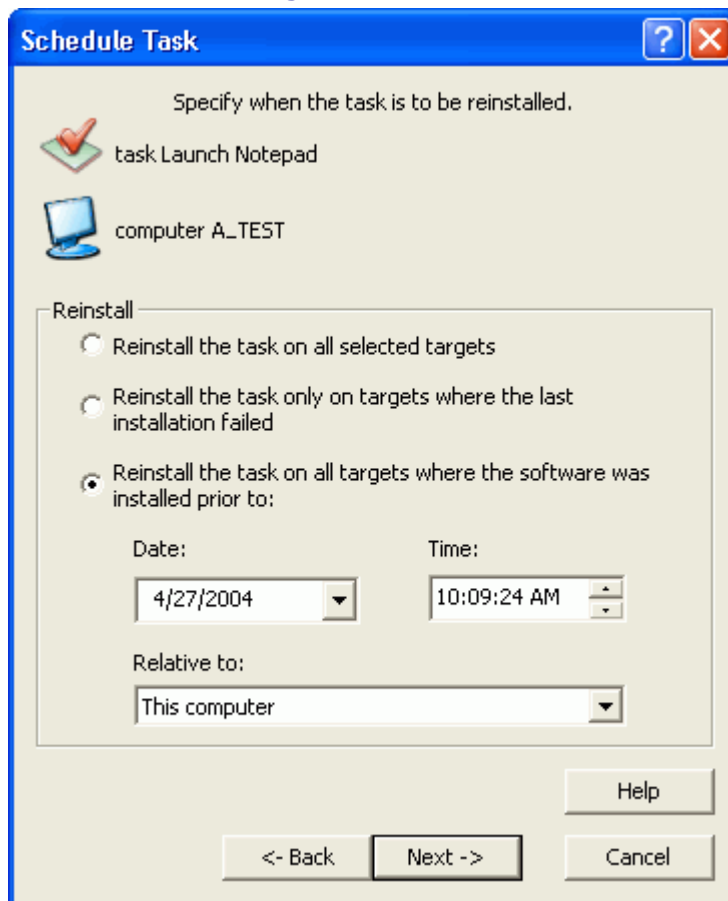
Reinstall at a Specific Time

To reinstall the Task at a specific time:

1. Assign the Task to the original target. (See *Assigning and Scheduling Tasks for Installation*.)
2. In the *Schedule Task* dialog box, choose **Reinstall the Task**.

3. In the *Reinstall Task* dialog box, choose from these options:
 - Reinstall the task on all selected targets
 - Reinstall the task only on targets where the last installation failed
 - Reinstall the task that have not received the software since
4. In the *Schedule Task: Start Deployment* dialog box, select **Schedule the processing to start at**.
5. Set the date, time, and reference point for the installation.
6. Click **Finish** to reinstall the Task.

Reinstall Task dialog



Use the **Schedule Task: Reinstall** dialog box to choose the type of reinstall to perform. The best choice depends on the number of targets receiving the task and on the situation requiring a reinstallation.

Choose from these options:

- **Reinstall the task on all selected targets:** Reinstall the Task on all of the targets highlighted in the Console main window. If a group is selected as the target, all targets in that group receive the Task.
- **Reinstall the task only on targets where the last installation failed:** Before reinstalling the Task, the Console identifies the targets where the same Task failed to install during the previous installation. If a group is selected as the target, the Task is reinstalled only for those members that failed to receive it the last time.

- **Reinstall the task were the software was installed prior to:** Before reinstalling the Task, Deploy identifies only the targets that received the same Task before the specified time.

If a group is selected as the target, the Task is installed only for members of the group that received this Task before the time and date you enter. Targets that received the Task after the specified time do not receive the reinstall.

After selecting this option, specify the reference time and date in the lower part of the dialog box. See *Reinstalling a Repaired Task* for an example.

Reinstalling a Task for Computers that Did Not Receive It

If only part of a group successfully received a Task, you can reinstall the Task for the entire group without identifying the individual computers that did not receive it originally. To reinstall the Task:

1. Assign the Task to all of the targets originally scheduled to receive the Task.

For example, the Task was originally assigned to a group and only some of the group members received the Task. Assign the Task to the entire group, as you did originally. (See *Assigning and Scheduling Tasks for Installation*.)

2. In the *Schedule Task* dialog box, choose **Reinstall the Task**.
3. In the *Schedule Task: Reinstall* dialog box, choose **Reinstall the task only on targets where the last installation failed**.
4. In the *Start Deployment* dialog box, set a schedule for installing the Task.
5. If applicable, set the date, time, and reference point for the installation.
6. Click **Finish** to reinstall the Task.

Reinstalling a Repaired Task

Use the reinstallation option if you need to reinstall an updated or repaired Task based on the time the Task was repaired. For example, you scheduled a software update for all of the targets in the Channel. At 3:00 P.M., after half of the targets received the Task, you discovered an error and repaired it immediately. The targets that received the Task after 3:00 P.M. are fine. The targets that received the Task before 3:00 P.M. need the updated Task.

To reinstall the Task for the first group of targets:

1. As soon as you discover the problem, disable the Task.

(See *Temporarily Disabling Tasks*.)

2. After repairing the Task, resume the installation by clearing the **Disable** check box for the Task on the *Task Properties | General tab*.

The Channel resumes the installation, installing the repaired Task on the remaining targets.

3. Reassign the Task to all of the targets originally scheduled to receive it. You can reassign it to all of the original targets, including those that later received the repaired Task.
4. In the *Schedule Task* dialog box, choose **Reinstall the Task**.
5. In the *Reinstall* dialog box, choose the **Reinstall the task on all targets that have not received the software since** option.

6. In the lower part of the dialog box, set the date, time, and reference point for the original installation. Click **Next**.

In our example, set the time for 3:00 p.m.

7. In the *Start Deployment* dialog box, set a schedule for installing the Task.
8. If applicable, set the date, time, and reference point for the installation:
9. Click **Finish** to reinstall the Task.

The Task is reinstalled on all targets that originally received the Task before the set time, 3:00 P.M. in our example.

Task Properties

Changing a Task Location or Name

The name or location of the file installed by a Task can be changed at any time. This information is displayed on the *Task Properties | Command* tab.

For example:


- If you move a Prism file that is associated with a Task to a different computer for better performance, change the location for the file on this tab.
- If the Task becomes more complex and you need a Deploy script rather than a single Prism file, write the script, then change the name on this tab. The name of the Task can remain unchanged.

Change the Task File Name or Location

To change the name of the file used for a Task or its location:

1. Right-click on the Task name in the tree view.
2. Select **Properties** from the pop-up menu.
3. On the Task Properties dialog, go to the *Command* tab.

The text box near the top of the tab displays the location and name of the Prism file, Prism script file, or command file.

4. Type a new location or file name in the text box or click  to browse for the file.

The location or file name is updated when you click **OK**.

Editing the Task File

When you click the **Edit** button on the *Task Properties | Command* tab, Deploy opens the Task file for editing. This option is not available for command Tasks.

- **Package:** If the Task is a Package, Deploy opens the Prism file in the Editor.
- **Script:** If the Task is a Script, Deploy opens the script file in a text editor such as Notepad.

General tab (Task Properties)

The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Task Properties - Sample Package - A". It has five tabs: "General", "Command", "Execution", "Uninstall", and "Assignments". The "General" tab is selected. Inside the dialog, there is a red checkmark icon next to a text box containing "Sample Package - A". Below this is a "Description:" label followed by an empty text area. Underneath is a "Category:" label followed by a dropdown menu. The "Task Type" section contains three radio button options: "Package" (which is selected), "Command", and "Script". Each option has a brief description: "The task will install a Prism Package.", "The task will execute the command you specify.", and "The task will play the Prism script you specify." respectively. At the bottom left of the task type section is a "Disabled" checkbox. At the bottom of the dialog are three buttons: "OK", "Cancel", and "Help".

The **Task Properties | General** tab displays information about the Task currently highlighted in the main window.

This dialog box is displayed when you right-click on the name of a Task and choose **Properties** from the pop-up menu.

The information includes:

- Descriptive name of the Task
- **Description:** Enter a description of the Task or the changes that it installs..
- **Category:** Lists the type of Task.

Task Type

- **Package:** The Task installs a Prism file.
- **Command:** The Task is an Internet address or it runs a third-party command or script. The command can be any command that will run on the target computer or a script that is not a Prism script.
- **Script:** The Task plays a Prism script (.PTS). The script can install one or more Prism files and run Prism commands. (For information on Prism scripts and commands, see *Scripting Prism Tasks*.)

Disable

Indicates whether the Task is active or inactive. A disabled Task cannot be installed on target computers, even if it has been scheduled.

- Disable:** With this option turned off, the Task is active and can be installed on targets.
- Disable:** With this option selected, the Task is disabled and will not be installed on targets even if it has been scheduled, but it remains part of the Channel. Use this option to temporarily suspend deployment of the Task without having to change the existing schedule.

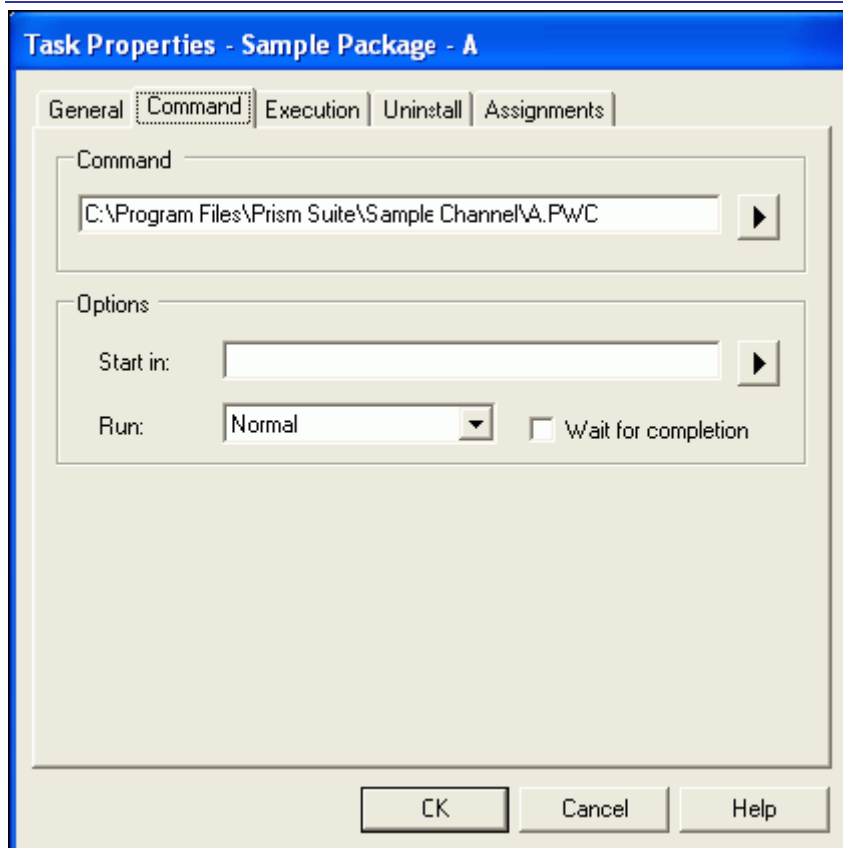
When a Task is disabled, its icon is grayed in the Console main window.

Changing the Task Type

You can change the file name or the *Task Type* at any time. If you originally set up the Task as a Package and later need the complexity of a script, change the option on this tab to Script. Then go to the Command tab (in this dialog box) to change the file used to install the Task.

If you also want the change installed on computers where the Task was installed before the change, you must reinstall the Task.

Command tab (Task Properties)



Use the options on this tab to fine-tune how the command is run on a managed computer. This tab is displayed when you open the *Task Properties* and click on the Command tab.

Command

The text box displays the location and name of a file (Prism file, script file, or command file) or the text of a command. The location of the file(s) used for the Task is relative to the target computer, not the Console or Channel Server.

If the name or location contains spaces, enclose the entire path in quotation marks. If the Task is a command, type the command with any arguments.

Options

- **Start in:** The working folder for the program launched by a command. This field can be left blank if the command does not require a working folder.
- **Run:** Choose an option from this drop-down list for controlling the appearance of the program's interface when a command is run:
 - **Normal:** The application window is displayed at the default size.
 - **Maximized:** The application window is maximized.
 - **Minimized:** The application window is minimized.
 - **Hidden:** The application window and any error messages are hidden from view. Use this option with caution. If the installation encounters an error, the application may need to be visible if it requires user input.
- **Wait for Completion:**
 - Wait for Completion:** With this option selected, the Client waits until the current Command has finished running before beginning any other operation.
 - Wait for Completion:** With this check box cleared, the Client may begin another operation before the current Command has finished running.

Edit

The Command tab for a Package Task or Script Task includes an **Edit** button. Click this button to edit the file that is the basis for the Task. (See *Editing the Task File*.)

Execution tab (Task Properties)

Use this tab to specify the users and account the Task is run under on the target computer. This tab is displayed when you open the *Task Properties* and click on the Execution tab.

Execution

Note: The options available for Execution vary with the different types of Tasks. For example, **Allow unattended installation** is the only setting available for a Package, because Deploy automatically controls deployment in that case.

- **Run once for each user who logs on:** When each user logs on to the target computer, the Task is run. Use this option for a command or script that includes settings that may be unique to each user.

This option is available only for Commands and Scripts.

- **Run once for the entire computer:** The Task is run once, installing changes that apply to all users on the computer.

This option is available only for Commands and Scripts.

- **Allow unattended installation:** This option lets you install a Task at a time when no one is logged on to the target computer. With this check box selected and **Run as the current user** specified under **Run As** (on this dialog box), the Task is installed under the Local System account on the target computer, if no one is logged on to the computer.

If the Prism file is set up to prompt the user and no user is logged on, the file is installed without displaying the prompts. For example, if the Prism file chosen for the Task has a before prompt set up through the **File Properties | Messages** tab, this prompt will be

ignored when the file is installed.

With this option selected, use extreme care in defining other Task properties, including those that are part of the original Prism file or script. If there is not a user present when the Task is installed and user input is required, an error may occur.

Run As

In the **Run As** area of the tab, select the account on the target computer under which the Task is installed.

- **Run as the Local System account:** The Task is run under the Local System account, so that a user does not need to be logged on at the time of installation.

This option is available only for Commands. For Packages and Scripts, Prism's service runs as the local system account when appropriate.

Important: The Local System account does not usually have access to network resources.

- **Run as the current user:** The Task is installed under one of the following:
 - the account of the user logged on at the time of installation
 - the system account, if the **Allow unattended installation** option on this dialog box is selected.

If the Task does not require special privileges, this option can be used.

- **Run as this account:** Specify the account under which the Task will be installed on the target computer. Enter the account user name and password in the text boxes. The account name can be listed in any of the following formats:

UPN (User Principal Name): [sue@YOURCOMPANY.COM](#)

NT4 domain name\account name: YourCompany\Sue

Local user name: Administrator

For your security, the account information and password you specify is always encrypted.

Note: For installing most Prism files, you do not need to worry about whether the user has permissions to install software on the target computer. However, you may need to specify an account with sufficient permissions in the following cases:

- installing a Prism file from a network volume to which the current user does not have access
- playing a Prism script from a network volume to which the current user does not have access
- running a command that requires a greater level of permission than that of the current user

How the Task types respond to the Run As options

- **Package:** The account you specify is used to read the Prism file being installed.
- **Script:** The account you specify is the one under which the script file is opened. Any UNC-based files used by the script are accessed under this account, and any commands

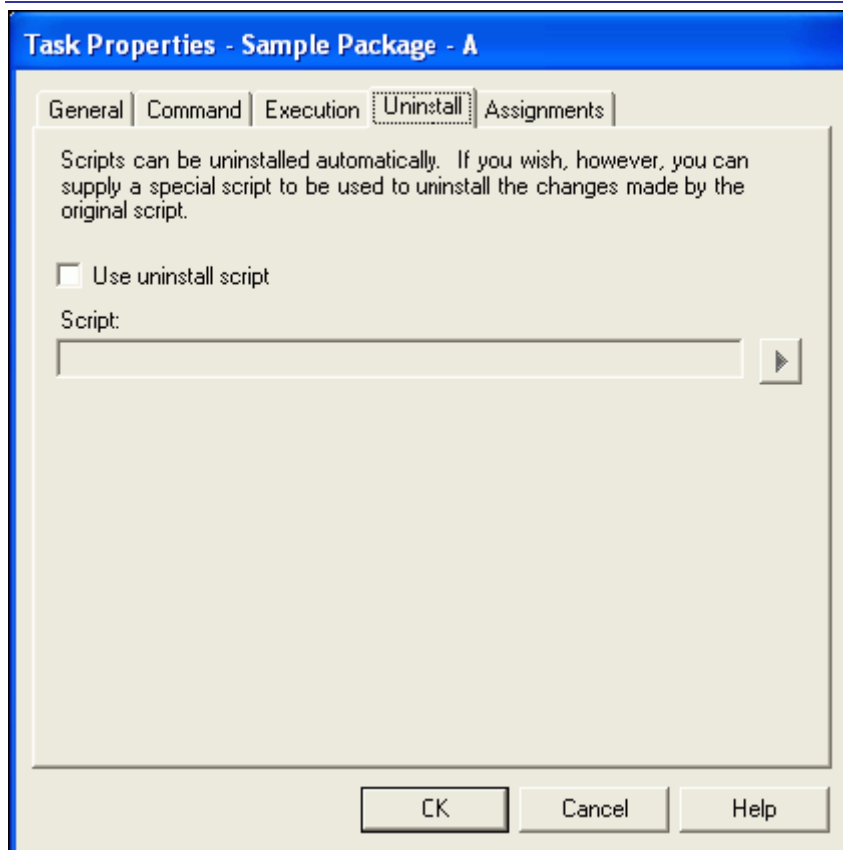
run by the script are run under this account.

For example, you want to deploy the script \\server\volume\scriptfile.pts, but users on the target computers do not have access to this location. In this case, specify an account that does have access to this location.

- **Command:** The command run by the Task operates under the user account you specify.

For example, if you specify **Run as current user** and the command opens Notepad, you may not have access to network folders or drives from within Notepad. However, running the same command under an administrator's account will give you access to network resources that are unavailable to the current user.

Uninstall tab (Task Properties)



On this tab, specify a command or script that will uninstall or reverse the changes made when the Task was installed. This tab is displayed when you open the *Task Properties* and click on the Uninstall tab.

Note: This tab is available only for command Tasks and script Tasks. Package Tasks are uninstalled automatically by Deploy when you select the Uninstall option on the *Schedule Task* dialog. You do not need to specify uninstall information for the Prism file.

Use Uninstall Script

- ☑ **Use uninstall script:** Select this option if you want to specify an uninstall command or script for uninstalling the Task. With this box selected, the Command or Script text box is active.

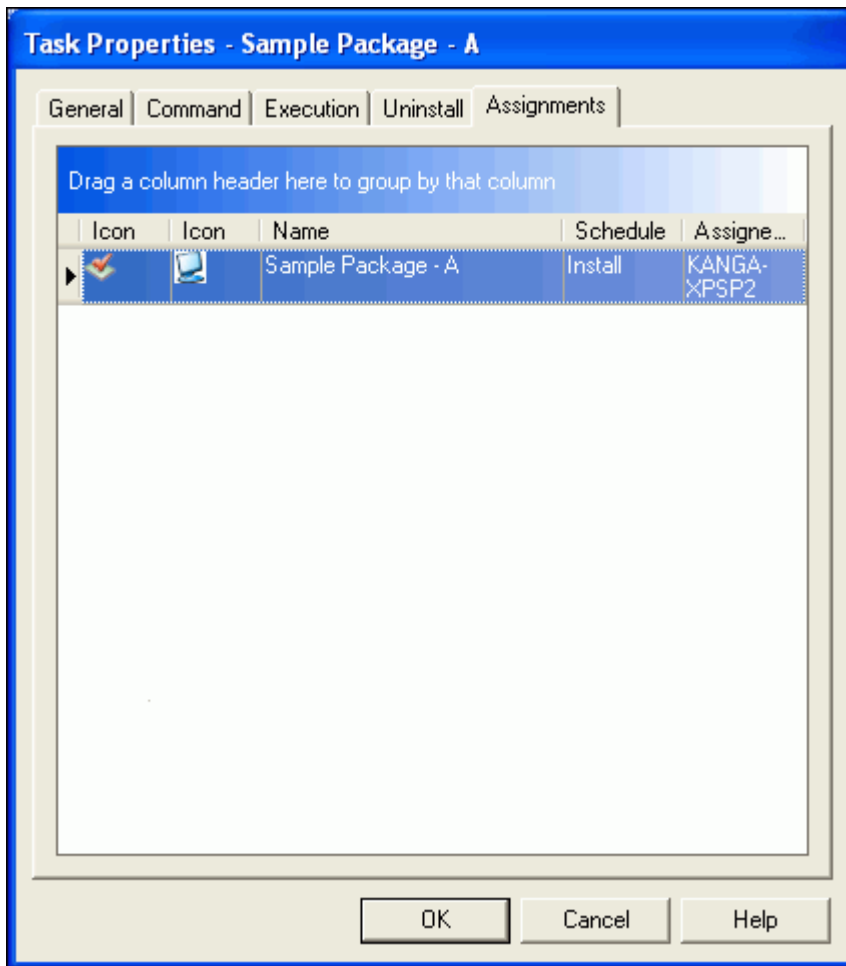
- Use uninstall script:** Clear this check box if the Task does not require an uninstall command or script.

Script

The location and name of the script file to be used for uninstalling the Task. The file name and location are relative to the target computer, not to the Console or Channel Server.

Note: The Uninstall script runs under the account and start in folder that were selected originally for the Task. If these settings are not appropriate for uninstalling the Task, create a separate Task for uninstalling. Then, within the uninstall Task, specify the settings required for uninstalling

Assignments tab (Task Properties)



The **Task Properties | Assignments** tab shows the targets that are scheduled to receive the current Task. On this tab, you can also assign or unassign the Task and change the Task schedule. This tab is displayed when you open the *Task Properties* and click on the Assignments tab.

The information displayed on this tab includes:

- **Name:** Name of the computer or group the Task is assigned to.
- **Schedule:** The date and time when the Task will be installed.

Update the Task schedule

1. Highlight the name of one or more targets to which the Task is assigned.
2. Click the **Schedule** button to change the time or date for the installation or to change one of the other scheduling options.
3. In the *Schedule Task* dialog box, change the settings or time and date, then click **OK**.

You can choose to install, reinstall, or uninstall the Task.

The schedule for the Task is updated for the selected targets highlighted in the list on this tab.

Assign the Task to a target

1. Click the **Add** button to assign the Task to more targets and schedule its installation.
2. In the Assign Task dialog box, highlight the name of one or more targets. Click **OK**.
3. In the *Schedule Task* dialog box, set a time and date for installing the Task on the new target(s). Click **OK**.

The Task is installed for new targets at the time and date you specify.

Remove a target

1. Highlight the target name in the list of targets.
2. Click **Remove**.

The target remains part of the Channel, but this target will not receive the current Task. If the Task is already installed, it remains installed on the target but it is no longer assigned to the target(s) within the Channel.

Disabling or Deleting Tasks

Temporarily Disabling Tasks

Tasks can be temporarily taken off line while you diagnose a problem. This feature lets you disengage the Task from the Channel without extensive editing. For example, if you have discovered a problem with one of the Prism files, disable the Task while you diagnose the problem. When the problem has been fixed, activate the Task once more without having to re-assign it or duplicate complex scheduling options.

You can disable single or multiple Tasks. In each case, highlight the name of one or more Tasks, then set the options on the **Properties** dialog box. Disable the selected objects with the **Disable** check box:

- Disable:** With this option turned off, the Task is active. For example, the Task can be scheduled and installed. This option is the default.
- Disable:** With this option selected on the *Task Properties | General* tab, the Task will not be installed. If the scheduled installation time passes while the Task is disabled, the installation begins when you clear this check box.

Temporarily Stopping the Installation of a Task

If you want to prevent the installation of a Task without dismantling your Task assignments and schedule, you can temporarily disable it. To disable a Task:

1. Highlight the Task name in the tree view or details pane.
2. Open the **Task Properties** dialog box by doing one of the following:
 - Select **Edit | Properties**.
 - Right-click on the Task name and choose **Properties** from the pop-up menu.
3. In the *Task Properties | General* tab, select the **Disable** check box.
2. The Task icon is grayed to indicate that it is disabled.

The Task cannot be installed while the **Disable** option is selected. You can reactivate the Task at any time by clearing the **Disable** check box on the *Task Properties | General* tab.

Temporarily Preventing Installation on a Computer

If there is a problem with an individual computer account or a group of computers, you can temporarily take these computers offline while you diagnose and solve the problem. While a computer is disabled, it will not receive any Tasks. When the problem is fixed, you can quickly enable the computer(s) and continue with scheduled Task installations. To disable an individual computer or a group of computers:

1. Highlight the computer name in the details pane.
2. Open the **Properties** dialog box by doing one of the following:
 - Select **Edit | Properties**.
 - Right-click on the computer name and choose **Properties** from the pop-up menu.
3. In the **Computer Properties | General Tab**, select the **Disable** check box.
3. The computer icon is grayed to indicate that it is disabled.

Tasks will not be installed for the selected computer(s) while the **Disable** option is selected. You can reactivate the computer at any time by clearing the **Disable** check box on the Computer Properties | General tab.

Unscheduling a Task

A scheduled Task can be removed from the schedule at any time. When a Task is unscheduled, the Task itself and all of its settings remain part of the Channel, but it is removed from the schedule and the record of this assignment is removed (for targets where it has already been installed).

To unschedule a Task or remove it from the schedule:

1. With the *Assignments tab* open in the details pane, highlight the name of the target originally scheduled to receive the Task.
2. Right-click and select **Delete Task Assignment** from the pop-up menu.
3. Deploy asks if you want to remove the Task from the target. Click **Yes**.
4. The Task is removed from the selected target and will not be installed for that target.

Note: Removing or deleting a Task from the schedule or from the Channel is not the same as uninstalling or removing the changes made on a target computer. To uninstall a Task or reverse the changes made on a computer, see *Uninstalling Changes with Deploy*.

Permanently Removing a Task from a Channel

Deploy lets you temporarily disable (or temporarily halt) or permanently remove a computer or Task. For example, you have a Task for installing an application that your company no longer supports. Delete it permanently from the Channel.

Delete a Task

5. To remove a Task that you no longer plan to use, do one of the following:
 - Right-click on the Task name in the tree view and select **Delete** from the pop-up menu.
 - Highlight the name of the Task in the tree view and select **Edit | Delete**.

The Task is permanently removed from the Channel. The original Prism file or script file remains unchanged.

Important: Deleting a Task is **not** the same as uninstalling or rolling back the changes on target computers. Deleting a Task from the Channel only removes the Task name and any other settings applied to the Task within the Channel. It does not change the original Prism file, the software installed on a computer, or other changes that were installed on computers by the Task.

See *Uninstalling Changes with Deploy* for information on uninstalling a Task.

Note: If you delete a scheduled Task from the Channel before it is installed, it will not be installed. To keep the Task intact, but stop its installation, disable or unschedule it instead.

Uninstalling Changes

Uninstalling Changes with Deploy

Deploy lets you remove Tasks and reverse or roll back the changes made by a Task that has been executed. When you roll back a Task, all of the changes made to the target computer by the Task are removed. The simplest Tasks to roll back are those Tasks that use Prism files. If the Task uses a command, write a command to reverse the changes before rolling back the Task.

Uninstalling a Prism File

Uninstalling a Prism file from the Console is very similar to scheduling a Task. The difference is that you choose the Uninstall option rather than the Install option on the **Schedule Task** dialog box:

1. In the Console main window, assign the Task to the target(s) where the Task was installed.

See *Assigning and Scheduling Tasks for Installation*.

2. In the *Schedule Task* dialog box, select the **Uninstall the Task** option.
3. In the *Start Deployment* dialog box, set a time for uninstalling the Task.

The Prism file previously installed with the Task is uninstalled at the specified time.

For more detailed information on how Prism files are uninstalled, see the *Packaging Guide* or Packaging section of the online help.

Uninstalling a Script or Command

Uninstalling a Script or Command requires setting up uninstall information for the Task before it is uninstalled.

First Step: Set Up Uninstall Information

To set up the Command or Script that can be used to later uninstall or reverse the changes made with a Task:

1. With the *Tasks tab* selected in the tree view, highlight the name of the Task
2. Open the Properties dialog box for that Task by doing one of the following.
 - Choose **Edit | Properties**.
 - Right-click on the Task name and choose **Properties** from the pop-up menu.
3. Go to the *Task Properties | Uninstall tab*.
4. Select the **Use uninstall script** option.
5. Type the uninstall command or file name in the text box or click . to browse to the file.

The path or location must reflect the location of the file from the target computer's point of view.

6. Click **OK**. The Task can be uninstalled by following the steps below.

Second Step: Uninstall the Script or Command Task

1. In the Console main window, assign the Task to the target(s) where the Task was installed.

For information on assigning the Task, see *Assigning and Scheduling Tasks for Installation*.

2. In the *Schedule Task* dialog box, select the **Uninstall the Task** option.
3. In the *Start Deployment* dialog box, set a time for uninstalling the Task.

The uninstall script or command set up in the Task properties is run at the specified time.

Scripting Prism Tasks

Prism has its own scripting language for executing commands from the command line or through scripts. Commands let you automate tasks and uncover some of the hidden power contained within Prism. Commands can be Prism related, such as using the Client to take a "picture" of the user's important documents for backup purposes. Or, it can be unrelated to Prism, such as silently running a Windows XP Service Pack installation. Prism commands can also be grouped in sequence within a Prism script. (A Prism Script always has a .PTS extension). These scripts can be deployed as a script Task from the Console.

Example – Prism Command

Use the `/TakePicture` command as a command Task in the Console to backup your CEO's important documents each day. Tasks can be set to recur at intervals you define, for instance at 10:00 P.M. each day or every Monday morning. (See *Scheduling a Repeating Task*.)

Create a Picture definition file (.PWI) to capture specific items on the target computer—in this example set it up to capture specific file extensions. Then, specify this PWI file with the `/TakePicture` file command.

```
"C:\Program Files\Prism Suite\ClientInstallFiles\ptclient.exe" /TakePicture H:\backups\%PT_DAY%.PWF \\APPS1\prism\CEO.PWI
```

(See `/TakePicture` in this document and "Saving Picture Definitions" in the *Packaging Guide* or Editor online Help for more information.)

What Happens When You Use the Command Line?

When you use the command line to complete tasks, a log file is generated by default. This log file is called `ClientLog.XML`. It records the date and time of all Prism commands and records any errors that occur. (See `/DefineLogFile`.)

Using the Command Line Options

The command line options can be launched:

- As a single command Task

For example, run a single-line command to install the latest Microsoft patch. In this example, the patch is stored on your server APPS1.

```
\\APPS1\patches\windowskb888763-x86-enu /quiet /passive /norestart
```

Prism commands can be launched as any user you specify, so it is important to specify a user account with enough permissions to run the command. (For more information specifying the user account for a Task, see *Task Properties | Execution tab*.)

- By grouping multiple commands in a Prism script

If you want to complete multiple commands within one Task, create a Prism script. Any text editor (like Notepad) can be used to author the script. Simply save the script with a .PTS extension. For example, save the following lines to a file named `BACKUP.PTS`. This script enables diagnostic logging, then performs a customized backup, and finally installs a Prism Package.

```
/DefineLogFile /Diagnostic /Size -1
```

```
/TakePicture H:\backups\%PT_DAY%.pwf \\APPS1\backups\registry.pwf
```

```
/InstallPackage \\APPS1\packages\spreadsheet.pwc
```

Save the `BACKUP.PTS` file to a network location and assign it to the target computers via a Prism script Task within the Console.

Notes on Command Syntax

There are many ways to run commands. For example, you can run a command as Prism Task, launch it from a batch file, in a login script, by creating a shortcut, and so on. No matter how the command is launched, you must use the appropriate syntax:

- Each command must be preceded by Prism's executable file, either `PTCLIENT.EXE` or `PICTAKER.EXE`. If the folder where `PTCLIENT.EXE` or `PICTAKER.EXE` is located is not included in the path statement, include the full path name with the command such as `C:\PRISM\PTCLIENT.EXE`.

There are two exceptions:

- Commands within a script must not be preceded by the executable. (See the example above.)
- Prism Self-Installing files are executables and do not require one of the Prism executables. (See *Prism Self-Installing File Command Line Options*.)
- When you specify a path, file name, or option that has an embedded space, you must put double quotes around it for Prism to recognize it. For example, a path may be `"C:\PROGRAM FILES\PRISM\CLIENTINSTALLFILES\PTCLIENT.EXE"`, a file name `"OFFICE UPGRADE.PWC"`, or an option `"5:00 P.M."`
- Commands are not case sensitive. They can be typed in all capital letters, lower case letters, or a combination of the two.
- Each command option must start with a forward slash, for example `/TakePicture` or `/InstallPackage`.
- The abbreviated form of the command can be used in place of the full command. For example, you can use `/IP` for `/InstallPackage`. The command `/IP test.pwc` is the same as `/InstallPackage test.pwc`.
- Commands are usually followed by additional information, such as where to store a Prism file or which file to install. In this document:

— File names and values that are required are enclosed by `< >`.
For example: `<filename>`.

— A list of options that you can choose from are shown with a vertical bar `|` to separate them. For example: `[/Priority Low | Normal | High | Preempt]`

— Optional information and switches are enclosed by `[]`. For example: `[/All]`

Do not type the bracket symbols (`< >` or `[]`) when using Prism commands. Each command option is described below the command in this document.

- Each command line task and all options for that task must exist on one line within a script file. This document may show commands that have wrapped to two lines because of formatting limitations or for readability. Examples follow each definition of the command line option.

Command Line Variables

Command lines and scripts can contain any of the following variables. The variables must be enclosed by the percent (`%`) sign. Prism interprets the text between the `%` symbols in the following order

WINSYSDIR	the SYSTEM folder
WINDIR	the WINDOWS folder
Application Data	user specific taskbar information
Desktop	the DESKTOP folder (the Windows background)
Favorites	the FAVORITES folder
Fonts	the FONTS folder
NetHood	the NETWORK NEIGHBORHOOD folder
Personal	the default folder for the own documents
Programs	the PROGRAMS folder in the Start menu
Recent	the DOCUMENTS folder in the Start menu
SendTo	the contents of SendTo drop down menus
Start Menu	the Start menu
Startup	the STARTUP folder in Start Programs
Templates	the default folder for document templates
LASTERROR	the result of the previous command (See <i>Command Line Errors</i> .)
PT_YEAR	the current year in four characters (2004, 2005, ...)
PT_YEAR4	the current year in four characters (2004, 2005, ...)
PT_YEAR2	the current year using two characters (04, 05, ...)
PT_MONTH	the number of the current month (01 12)
PT_DATE	the day of the current month (01 31)
PT_DAY	the number of the day of the week (Sunday = 01)
PT_HOUR	the current hour in military time (00 23)
PT_HOUR12	the current hour (01 12) followed by either AM or PM
PT_MINUTE	the current number of minutes past the hour (01 59)
PT_SECOND	the current seconds (01 59)
PT_CD	the first drive letter of your CD-ROM drive (D:, E:, and so on)
PT_OS	the operating system family of your computer (winNT)
PT_MAJOROS	the operating system family of your computer (winNT)
PT_MINOROS	the operating system of your computer (win2k, ...)

If the text does not match any of the names listed above, environment variables are examined for possible matches. If no matching environment variables are found, the percent signs and text between them is simply removed.

Command Line Errors

Errors that can occur during command execution are given below.

- 0 No error occurred.
 - 1 The file was already installed.
 - 2 The user declined to have a file installed.
 - 3 There was not enough disk space to install a file.
 - 4 The computer did not have the correct operating system to install the file.
 - 5 An attempt was made to overwrite a file that already exists.
 - 6 There is no uninstall information for the file.
 - 7 An error occurred attempting to install a Prism file.
 - 8 Access to a file was denied.
 - 9 A corrupted file was encountered.
 - 10 A required file did not exist.
 - 11 A single file was used twice in the same command.
 - 12 An error occurred attempting to define an environment variable.
 - 13 An attempt was made to play a script that was already playing.
 - 14 An illegal command was encountered.
- The "LASTERROR" variable is used to store the value of the result of the last operation.

Command Lines and Options

/DefineLogFile

/DefineLogFile

This command tells Prism how to store information on the status of the commands and scripts it executes.

There is one log file per computer session. The location of this log file is fixed, and depends on the operating system:

- Windows Vista:

C:\ProgramData\Prism Deploy\PrismXL\ClientLog.XML

- All others:

C:\Documents and Settings\All Users\Application Data\Prism Deploy\PrismXL\ClientLog.XML

The log file for previous computer sessions is retained in a separate file that whose name includes the original session's timestamp. For example:

ClientLog2007-05-29 09h05m13s.XML.

Alternate Form

/DLF

Syntax

```
/DefineLogFile [<filename>] [/Size <maximum size>] [/Diagnostic]
```

<filename>

This argument is deprecated, as the log file location is in a fixed location. If present, it is simply ignored. It is permitted for backwards compatibility, so that older scripts will remain functional.

<filename> is optional.

/Diagnostic

Includes more detail in the log file.

When /Diagnostic is used, each command or script is recorded in the log file. A diagnostic log file also provides greater detail about Prism files that have been installed with the /InstallPackage command.

Prism always writes information to the log file when an error occurs, even without /Diagnostic.

/Size <maximum size>

Defines the maximum size in kilobytes of the log files in the log file folder. The size specified can be up to 60,000,000 KB.

When the maximum is reached, log files are deleted starting with the oldest.

<maximum size> must not be zero. If you specify -1 for <maximum size>, the log file has no maximum size.

/DefineLogFile Example

This command tells Prism to create a diagnostic log file whose maximum size is 2 MB.

```
/DLF /size 2000 /diagnostic
```

/DefineRulesFile**/DefineRulesFile**

This command tells Prism where to look for the text file that defines the rules for registry and INI file management.

Notes

- This command is only valid within a script.
- You can change the location of the rules file as many times as you want during execution by using this command repeatedly.
- If no rules file is specified and the rules file cannot be found, a default set of rules is used.
- Prism does not display an error message if the file you specified is not found or if Prism finds the file named but its format is incorrect.

Alternate Form**/DRF****Syntax**

```
/DefineRulesFile [<filename>]
```

<filename>

The name of the file to use for the rules. The default file is called `RULES.INI` and is installed in the Prism folder. If you specify a file other than `RULES.INI`, the file must follow the same formatting as the default rules file. (See *Overview of the Rules.INI File* in the Editor online Help or *Packaging Guide*.)

If no path is provided, Prism looks for the file in the current directory. The file name must have the correct extension.

<filename> is optional. If you do not supply <filename>, Prism looks for the rules file created when Prism was installed (RULES.INI). It searches in this order:

1. in its own directory
2. the path
3. the current directory.

Caution: Prism does not display an error message if the file you specified is not found or Prism finds the file named but its format is incorrect.

/DefineRulesFile Example

The following command tells Prism to reference a RULES.INI file centrally located on a server, in the P:\PRISM directory.

```
/DefineRulesFile "P:\Prism\Rules.ini"
```

/EditFile

/EditFile

This command loads one or more Prism files into the Editor.

Notes

- If the editor is already open and is currently displaying a dialog box, the files are not loaded and the editor produces a message beep.
- This command is not available in the Client version of Prism. Only the Editor file, PICTAKER.EXE, supports this command line option.
- The editor never loads two copies of the same file. If a file is already being edited the appropriate Editor window is brought to the foreground.
- You must have write permissions to a file in order to edit it.

Alternate Form

/EF

Syntax

```
/EditFile <filename1> [<filename2> <filename3> ...]
```

<filename1>

A Prism file to edit.

If no path is provided, Prism looks for the file in the current directory. If no extension is given, Prism looks first for a Package that matches the given name. If a Package is not found, Prism then looks for a Picture file. If Prism finds neither a Package nor Picture, it looks for an executable Prism Self-Installing file.

<filename2> <filename3>

Optional additional Prism files to edit, separated by spaces.

These files follow the same rules as <filename1>. When a file in the list cannot be opened for editing, an error message is displayed and the rest of the files are not loaded.

/EditFile Example

The following command opens the baseline Picture C:\PRISM\BEFORE INSTALL.PWF and the Package C:\PRISM\APP.PWC in the Editor.

```
F:\Prism\Pictaker.exe /EditFile "C:\Prism\before install.pwf" C:\Prism\app.pwc
```

/ExitError**/ExitError**

This command causes script execution to halt when an error number occurs that is equal to or greater than the number given by <error number>.

Notes

- This command is only valid within a script.
- If the error number is set to 14 or higher, Prism keeps trying to play a script even after it has encountered an error while trying to interpret the script.

Alternate Form**/EE****Syntax**

```
/ExitError <error number> [/All]
```

<error number>

The smallest error number that causes the script to terminate.

The script errors that can occur are listed in *Command Line Errors*. You must supply a number greater than zero. The default value is 13.

/All

If /All is specified and the currently executing script was launched from within another script, execution of all scripts ceases. Otherwise, the current script stops.

/ExitError Example

The following command tells Prism to exit the script if an error occurs:

```
/ExitError 1
```

/ExitScript**/ExitScript**

This command causes script execution to halt immediately.

Notes

- This command is only valid within a script.

Alternate Form**/ES****Syntax**

```
/ExitScript [/All]
```

For more information on the arguments and examples, click one of the following:

/All

/All

If */All* is specified and the currently executing script was launched from within another script, execution of all scripts ceases. Otherwise, the current script stops.

/ExitScript Example

You may want to use this command when using a script to determine if a condition has been met. (See *Script Statements*.)

```
if exists <filename>
  /ExitScript /All
endif
```

/FindChanges

/FindChanges

This command finds the changes between a Prism file and the current state of the computer or between two Prism files. Changes that are found are placed in the file *<Package name>*.

Note: If the *<before filename>* file is a Package, the *<after filename>* file must be a Package as well.

Alternate Form

/FC

Syntax

```
/FindChanges <before filename> <Package name> [<after filename>] [/Additions] [/Deletions]
[/Switch]
```

<after filename>

The Prism file representing the "after" in a before/after comparison.

If *<after filename>* is not provided, the "after" is the current state of the computer.

If no path is provided, Prism looks for the file in the current directory. If no extension is given, Prism looks first for a Picture file that matches the given name. If a Picture is not found, Prism looks for a Package. If Prism finds neither a Package nor Picture, it looks for a Prism Self-Installing file.

<before filename>

The Prism file representing the "before" in a before/after comparison. Settings and files that exist in the *<after filename>* file but not in the *<before filename>* file are stored in the *<Package name>* file. Files and settings that have changed since the *<before filename>* file was created are also stored in the *<Package name>* file.

If no path is provided, Prism looks for the file in the current directory. If no extension is given, Prism looks first for a Picture file that matches the given name. If none is found, Prism then looks for a Package. If Prism finds neither a Package nor Picture, it looks for an executable Prism Self-Installing file.

<Package name>

The name of the Prism file to be created to store the changes found during the comparison. This file must be a Package.

If no path is provided, Prism creates the file in the current directory. The extension of a Package is always .PWC.

/Additions

If /Additions is specified, the comparison between the Prism file and the current state of the computer or between two Prism files, finds any additions or modifications to files, folders, shortcuts or registry entries. /Additions is the default.

/Deletions

If /Deletions is specified, the comparison between the Prism file and the current state of the computer or between two Prism files, finds deletions that have occurred to files, folders, shortcuts or registry entries. /FindChanges does not find deletions by default. If you want to find both additions and deletions, you must include the /Additions switch as well as this switch.

/Switch

If /Switch is specified, you can switch the <before filename> and the <after filename>. This argument is useful if you want the current environment as the before picture.

/FindChanges Examples

The following command finds changes made since the Picture C:\PD\REGBACKUP.PWF was taken and store the Package as REG[current date].PWC (for example, REG0501.PWC). (See *Command Line Variables*.)

```
/FC "C:\PD\reg backup.pwf" reg%PT_MONTH%%PT_DATE %.pwc
```

The following command uses the current environment as the before state, uses C:\PD\REGBACKUP.PWF as the after state, and stores the changes in C:\PD\REGINFO.PWC.

```
/FC C:\PD\regbackup.pwf C:\PD\reginfo /switch
```

/InstallPackage**/InstallPackage**

This command installs the Prism file identified by <filename> on a computer.

Alternate Form**/IP****Syntax**

```
/InstallPackage <filename> [<uninstall filename>] [/Once] [/Update] [/Always] [/Identification
<name>] [/NoRollback] [/NoRollbackInfo] [/Schedule <date> <time>] [/CommonInfo] [/UserInfo]
[/CurrentUser] [/AllUsers] [/Prompt] [/BeforePrompt] [/NoBeforePrompt] [/DuringPrompt]
[/NoDuringPrompt] [/AfterPrompt] [/NoAfterPrompt] [/ShowErrors] [/NoShowErrors]
[/Priority Low | Normal | High | Preempt] [/NoCheckpointRestart]
```

<filename>

The Prism file to install.

If no path is provided, Prism looks for the file in the current directory. If no extension is given, Prism looks first for a Package file that matches the given name. If a Package is not found, Prism looks for a Picture file. If Prism finds neither a Package nor Picture, it looks for an executable Prism Self-Installing file.

The command `/InstallPackage` is optional. One or more file names without a preceding command implies the `/InstallPackage` command.

Note: The `/InstallPackage` command can be used with a Prism Self-Installing file, if the Client is invoked. In this case, the Prism Self-Installing file is installed as a Prism Package rather than being executed as a Prism Self-Installing file. (See */InstallPackage Examples* for an example. See *Prism Self-Installing File Command Line Options* for options that can be used with a Prism Self-Installing file installed as an executable.)

<machine rollback filename> <user rollback filename>

This option gives Prism the names of the Uninstall files to create. The Uninstall files contain the information needed to undo the changes made when the Prism file was installed. The `<machine rollback filename>` holds all of the machine settings that need to be rolled back to restore the machine to its previous state. The `<user rollback filename>` holds all of the user settings that need to be rolled back to restore the machine to its previous state. (See "Understanding Uninstall Files" in the *Packaging Guide* or Editor online Help.)

If no file names are provided, Prism gives the Uninstall files the same name as the Prism file, with the extension `.PWR`. If Uninstall files for the Prism file already exist, Prism creates new `.PWR` files incremented by one for each time a new Uninstall file is created. For example, [`<FILENAME 1.PWR>` `<FILENAME 2.PWR>`], [`<FILENAME 3.PWR>` `<FILENAME 4.PWR>`], and so on.

By default, Prism creates the files in the `%TEMP%\unapply` folder.

Note: The folder in which Prism creates the Uninstall file by default can be modified.

- On the computer where the Editor is installed, you can specify a location for the Uninstall files in the Editor's **Options | Uninstall** tab.
- On computers where only the Client is installed and you are installing Prism files via the command line or executing a Prism Self-Installing file, you can modify the "Unapply Folder" registry value. This value is changed in the `HKCU\Software\Lanovation\PictureTaker\Settings\Directories\Unapply Folder` key. The easiest way to distribute this change to the target computers is with a Prism file.

/AfterPrompt

This option forces a prompt to be displayed after installation. If an "after prompt" has been set up through the Editor's **File Properties | Messages** tab for the Prism file, it is used as is. If an "after prompt" was not set up through the Editor, the default message is displayed. The default message tells the user that the file was successfully installed.

/AllUsers

This option overrides the selection under **Installation Method** in the Editor's **File Properties | Requirements** tab for the Prism file and distributes settings and files to all the computer's users. The files and settings installed include both those that are common to all of the users, as well as those targeted for a specific user in the original Prism file.

(For more information, see the Editor's **File Properties | Requirements** tab.)

/Always

If `/Always` is specified, the file is installed regardless of whether it has been successfully installed previously. `/Always` is the default.

/BeforePrompt

This option forces a prompt to be displayed before the file is installed. If a "before prompt" has been set up through the Editor's **File Properties | Messages** tab for the Prism file, it is used as is. If a "before prompt" was not set up through the Editor, the default message is displayed. The default message asks users to confirm that they want to install the file.

/CommonInfo

Install the files and settings that are common to all users of the same computer. Unless specific per user options (such as /UserInfo or /CurrentUser) are used in the command line, no individual user settings or files are installed.

/CurrentUser

This option overrides selection under **Installation Method** in the Editor's **File Properties | Requirements** tab for the Prism file and distributes the settings and files just to the current user.

If you later use the /UninstallPackage command to uninstall this Prism file, it will remove all users' changes (by default) on the target computer. Like the /InstallPackage command, the /UninstallPackage command does allow user specific switches.

/DuringPrompt

This option forces a prompt to be displayed during installation. If a "during prompt" has been set up through the Editor's **File Properties | Messages** tab for the Prism file, it is used as is. If a "during prompt" was not set up through the Editor, the default message is displayed. The default message tells the user that the file is being installed.

/Update

If /Update is specified, the Prism file is only to be installed if it has never been previously installed or if it has been modified since the last time it was installed for the currently logged in user.

This option cannot be used with Prism Self-Installing files.

/Identification <name>

This option lets you define the name that Prism records in the registry when installing a file. When using the /Once, /Update, or /Schedule option, Prism looks under this name for the last time the Prism file was installed. The default value for this name is the current Windows user. By explicitly supplying one identifier for a computer, you can prevent the same Prism file from being installed multiple times, for each user of that computer.

Note: If the Prism file being installed contains user specific information, such as Registry (Current User) or desktop shortcuts, the user who is logged in at the time of distribution is the only user who will get these changes. This applies unless the Editor's **Properties | Requirements** tab for the Prism file is set to be installed for "Unattended/All Users."

/NoAfterPrompt

This option ensures that no prompt is displayed after installation. When this command is used, the settings for the "after prompt" set up through the Editor's **File Properties | Messages** tab for the Prism file are ignored.

/NoBeforePrompt

This option ensures that no prompt is displayed before the file is installed. When this command is used, the settings for the "before prompt" set up through the Editor's **File Properties | Messages** tab for the Prism file are ignored.

/NoCheckpointRestart

If the installation of the Prism file fails before it is complete, this option prevents the creation of a checkpoint file (.PKGCHKPT) on the target computer. It also prevents use of an existing checkpoint file during reinstallation of the Prism file.

Use of this option overrides settings on the Editor's **Options | Checkpoint/Restart** tab in the Prism file.

/NoDuringPrompt

This option ensures that no prompt is displayed during installation. When this command is used, the settings for the "during prompt" set up through the Editor's **File Properties | Messages** tab for the Prism file are ignored.

/NoRollback

This option tells Prism not to create an Uninstall file when the Prism file is installed. If something goes wrong during a distribution, the changes that were made up to the point of failure are rolled back, but a PWR file is not created. Once the operation has been completed successfully, the rollback information is discarded.

/NoRollbackInfo

No uninstall information is maintained, not even during the Prism file installation. So, if the operation is interrupted, the computer is left in a state of mid install.

/NoRollbackInfo is designed for situations where performance is paramount. In some cases, it can increase the speed of the operation by as much as 10–15 percent. However, it should not be used except in special situations.

This option automatically includes the */NoCheckpointRestart* option.

/Once

If */Once* is specified, the Prism file is only to be installed if it has never been previously installed to the currently logged in user of the computer. If you want to install the Prism file only once for each computer, use the */Identification* switch along with the */Once* switch.

This option cannot be used with Prism Self-Installing files.

/Priority Low | Normal | High | Preempt

The */Priority* switch controls how many time slices Prism gets in relationship to other processes running. It must be followed by one of the keywords Low, Normal, High, or Preempt. When no other applications are running, */Priority Preempt* only boosts performance by about 4 percent. When a lot of other applications are running, the gain can be as high as 30–40 percent.

/Prompt

Use this option to Prism display a prompt when it installs the Prism file. Through the Editor's **File Properties | Messages** tab for the Prism file, you can specify the message you want displayed. When */Prompt* is used in the command line, the option selected for Display message before installing file is ignored. You are always asked first.

If no message is specified in the file's properties, the default message "Are you sure you want to install the file [filename] on your computer?" is displayed.

When */Prompt* is used along with */Once*, */Update*, */Always*, or */Schedule*, Prism checks to see if one of these switches would cause the file to be installed. If so, Prism prompts the user.

/Prompt offers the same functionality as using the three options */ShowErrors /BeforePrompt /AfterPrompt*.

/Schedule <date> <time>

When this option is specified, Prism checks the current date and time. If it is later than the date and time specified by /Schedule, the Prism file is installed if it has never been successfully installed before or if the last time it was installed was before the specified date and time.

The date must be in the format MM/DD/YY. The time must be in the format HH:MM. It can either be in military time or followed by AM or PM. If either the date or time contain spaces, they must be enclosed by quotes.

<time> is optional. If it is not specified, midnight is assumed.

/ShowErrors

If an error occurs, the user should be notified using a message box.

The commands /Prompt, /BeforePrompt, and /AfterPrompt imply /ShowErrors. Using /ShowErrors with these commands is permitted but not necessary.

/Update

If /Update is specified, the Prism file is only to be installed if it has never been previously installed or if it has been modified since the last time it was installed for the currently logged in user.

This option cannot be used with Prism Self-Installing files.

/UserInfo

Install files and settings that need to be repeated for each user of the computer. These items include the Start menu, desktop, application data folders, and the HKEY_CURRENT_USER area of the registry.

Unless the /CommonInfo option is also used in the command line, no settings or files are be installed that are common to all of the users on the target computer.

The selection under **Installation Method** in the Editor's **File Properties | Requirements** tab for the Prism file is used to determine if these settings should be installed for just the current user or for all users. An exception would be if this setting in the file's properties is overridden by either the /CurrentUser or /AllUsers option.

/InstallPackage Examples

The following command installs the Package P:\PRISM\APP.PWC if the date is 5/1/04 12:00 A.M. or later and the file has not been installed since then. It also creates an uninstall file in the %TEMP%\Uninstall folder. In the registry, Prism records the time and date when the Package was installed, using the environment variable %computername% for the current computer's name. This Package is installed once on each computer.

```
/IP "P:\Prism\app.pwc" /schedule 05/01/04 /Identification "%computername%"
```

The following command updates the computer's "common" settings if the Package has been edited since the last time they were installed. It does not change the individual user settings. If the common settings are to be updated, a window is displayed during the installation. The **/Update** option prohibits using this command for a Prism Self-Installing file.

```
/InstallPackage Package.pwc /CommonInfo /Update /DuringPrompt
```

The following command updates the settings for the current user only. It leaves everything else on the computer alone. With this command, a prompt is displayed before the installation.

```
/InstallPackage Package.pwc /UserInfo /CurrentUser /BeforePrompt
```

The following command installs a Prism Self-Installing file as a Package and updates the settings for all of the users on the target computer. It adds switches to make sure that no prompts are

displayed during the operation. Since the Prism Self-Installing file is being installed as a Package, an entry is not added to the Windows Control Panel's *Add/Remove Programs*.

```
/InstallPackage SIF.exe /UserInfo /AllUsers /NoBeforePrompt /NoDuringPrompt /NoAfterPrompt
```

The following command makes sure that all the computer's users have the settings they need from this Package. It also updates the common settings.

```
PTClient /InstallPackage Package.pwc /AllUsers
```

The following command installs the Package for all of the computer's users who have not previously gotten it. It tells the current user when the operation is finished. Obviously, nothing can be said to the users who are not logged in yet. Because of the **/Once** switch this command cannot be used with a Prism Self-Installing file.

```
/InstallPackage Package.pwc /UserInfo /AllUsers /Once /AfterPrompt
```

The following command reinstalls all the "common" information from the Package. It also makes sure that no messages are displayed during the operation.

```
/InstallPackage Package.pwc /CommonInfo /NoBeforePrompt /NoDuringPrompt /NoAfterPrompt
```

/MessageError

/MessageError

This command defines which errors cause a message to be displayed to the user. A message is displayed when an error number occurs that is greater than or equal to the number given by `<error number>`.

Notes

- This command is only valid within a script.
- Set this number to a small value to help diagnose script problems.
- Set this number to zero to generate an error message after every command.

Alternate Form

/ME

Syntax

```
/MessageError <error number>
```

<error number>

The smallest error number that causes an error message to be displayed. (See *Command Line Errors* for a list of error messages.) You must supply a number greater than zero. The default value is 13.

/MessageError Example

The following command may be added to a script to make sure the script is working properly. You are notified if Prism encounters any errors.

```
/MessageError 1
```

/OverwriteFiles

/OverwriteFiles

This command defines whether existing Prism files should be overwritten. For instance, if the command `/TakePicture PICTURE1.PWF` is executed and the `PICTURE.PWF` file already exists, it is replaced with a newly created Picture.

Alternate Form

/OF

Syntax

```
/OverwriteFiles True | False
```

Notes

- Alternative forms for True are 1 and Yes.
- Alternative forms for False are 0 and No.
- This command is only valid within a script.

True | False

True indicates that existing files should be overwritten by the `/TakePicture` or `/FindChanges` commands.

False indicates that existing files should not be overwritten. When a command would replace a file that already exists, the command is not executed and error number 5 is generated. (See *Command Line Errors* for a list of error messages.)

The default value is **True**.

/OverwriteFiles Example

The following command can be added to a script to make sure that the backup Picture `REGBACKUP.PWF` is never overwritten. Once the file is created, Prism will not overwrite `REGBACKUP.PWF` the next time the script runs.

```
/OverwriteFiles False
/TP H:\backups\regbackup.pwf "P:\Prism\regbackup.pwi"
```

/PlayScript

/PlayScript

This command causes the text file identified by **<filename>** to be opened. Each line of the script is executed in turn. (See *Script Statements* for information on controlling the execution of scripts.)

Notes:

- Prism commands within the script are not preceded by the Client executable (`PTCLIENT.EXE`), since the Client is already running when it plays the script.
- You can play scripts from within other scripts.

Alternate Form

/PS

Syntax

```
/PlayScript <filename>
```

<filename>

A text file to execute.

If no path is provided, Prism looks for the file in the current directory. The extension of the file must be specified if .PTS, the default extension, is not used.

PlayScript Example

The following command launches the script P:\PRISM\SCRIPTS\ROLLOUT.PTS which installs several Prism files for various applications.

```
"P:\Prism\PTClient.exe" /PlayScript
```

```
"P:\Prism\scripts\rollout.pts"
```

/PrintFile

/PrintFile

This command prints one or more Prism files.

Notes

- When neither /Files nor /Registry is specified, both types of information are printed.
- The computer must have a default printer defined.

Alternate Form

/PF

Syntax

```
/PrintFile <filename1> [<filename2> <filename3> ...] [/All] [/Files] [/Registry] [/Prompt]
```

<filename1>

The name of a Prism file to print.

If no path is provided, Prism looks for the file in the current directory. If no extension is given, Prism looks first for a Package that matches the given name. If a Package is not found, Prism then looks for a Picture file. If Prism finds neither a Package nor Picture, it looks for an executable Prism Self-Installing file.

<filename2> <filename3>

The names of additional Prism files to print, separated by spaces. These additional names are optional.

These files follow the same rules as <filename1>. When a file in the list cannot be opened, an error message is displayed but the rest of the files are printed.

/All

When this option is used, both file and registry information is printed. This option is the default.

/Files

When this option is used, only the file information (name, date, time, and size) stored in the Prism file is printed.

/Prompt

This option displays the **Print** dialog box before the file is printed.

/Registry

When this option is used, only the registry information stored in the Prism file is printed.

/PrintFile Example

The following command prints all the registry information stored in the Picture
H:\BACKUP\BACKUP.PWF.

```
/PrintFile H:\backup\backup.pwf /registry
```

/Run**/Run**

Prism supports a /Run command for use within scripts. The /Run command lets you launch external DOS or Windows programs from a Prism script.

Syntax

```
/Run [/Wait] [/Continue] <external command>
```

/Continue

Script execution should resume immediately after the specified program is launched.

/Wait

Causes script execution to pause until the external program is completed.

/Wait is the default when neither of the options is provided.

<external command>

The DOS or Windows program to be launched. You do not need to place quote marks (") around the program and its arguments. But, you must place quote marks around single arguments or file names that contain spaces.

The entire command-line can contain environment variables or Prism variables.

/ScriptVer**/ScriptVer**

Use this command to add installation requirement rules to a Prism Script. While you are learning the rule syntax, create rules through the **File Properties | Requirements** tab for the Prism file or the Console user-defined groups, then copy and paste the rule into a script.

The ScriptVer command determines how the lines following it are evaluated. Any logic statements (using IF and ELSEIF) preceding a /ScriptVer command are evaluated according to the rules followed by the other commands. Any logic statements following a /ScriptVer command are evaluated using the rules syntax described in Rule Variables and Operators for User-Defined Configuration Groups or "Rule Variables and Operators for Installation Rules" in the *Packaging Guide* or Editor online Help.

Syntax

```
/ScriptVer <version number>
```

<version number>

The version of Prism used to evaluate the script. Use the major revision number of Prism, for example 5 for version 5.x.

Note: This command is compatible only with Prism version 5 or later.

/ScriptVer Example

The following script contrasts the use of a Package to check the computer before installing a Prism file with use of the /ScriptVer command and an installation rule.

```
rem
rem Sample Script using /ScriptVer command
rem
rem This part of the script uses a Package to check the target computer before installing Testing.pwc

/InstallPackage %pddir%\checksomething.pwc
If %lasterror% >= "43"
  /InstallPackage %pddir%\subdir\testing.pwc
Endif

rem This part of the script uses the /ScriptVer command and installation rule before installing
Testing.pwc

/ScriptVer 5
If ("%userdomain%" = "yourcompanydomain") AND (EXISTS <Registry Key>
"HKLM\Software\FooCo\Installed")
  /InstallPackage %pddir%\subdir\testing.pwc
Endif
```

/Set <variable>

/Set <variable>

Sets an environment variable for Prism to use. The variable can be used anywhere in the current script or within a Prism file that is being created or installed.

Note

- This command is only valid within a script.
- The variables you define using **/Set** are only valid with the currently running script environment. Other programs are not able to use these variables.

Syntax

```
/Set <variable> [<value>]
```

<variable>

The environment variable to change or add.

<value>

The new value for the variable. If this value is missing or blank, the variable is removed.

/Set <variable> Example

The following example sets the variable PDDIR for the location of Prism directory where all the Prism files are located. The variable is used in place of the Prism path throughout the script.

```

/Set PDDIR "P:\apps\Prism\changefiles"
/IP %PDDIR%\app1.pwc
/IP %PDDIR%\app2.pwc

```

/TakePicture

/TakePicture

This command takes a Picture of the computer and places it in <filename>.

Alternate Form

/TP

Syntax

```
/TakePicture <filename> [/Before | /Hardware | /NoHardware | <Picture Definition file>]
```

<filename>

The file for the new Picture.

If no path is provided, Prism creates the file in the current directory. The extension of the file must be .PWF. If no extension is given, .PWF is appended to the file name.

/Before | /Hardware | /NoHardware | <Picture definition file>

The following options tell Prism what information to place in the Picture. You may only provide one of these options.

- **/Before** stores the standard information needed later to find newly installed software or to diagnose problems. The Picture option **Baseline Picture** is used. **/Before** is the default.
- **/Hardware** stores a complete Picture of the computer's current Windows settings. The Picture option **Windows Settings** is used.
- **/NoHardware** stores a complete Picture of the computer's Windows settings, but leaves out information that might depend on the exact adapters, display, keyboard, and so on in use by the computer. That is, the Picture option **Windows Settings Without Hardware** is used.
- **<Picture definition file>** is the definition file you created using the **Save** option in the **Custom Picture Options** dialog box. Only the options you specifically included in the definition file are used when taking the Picture. If no path is provided, Prism looks for the file in the current directory. The extension of the file must be .PWI.

/TakePicture Example

The following example takes a Picture of the user's registry, as defined by the PWI file on the server. The Picture file REG[currentdate].PWF is stored in the user's home directory on the server.

```
/TP H:\backups\reg%PT_MONTH%%PT_DATE%.pwf "P:\Prism\reg.pwi"
```

/UninstallPackage

/UninstallPackage

This command reverses the changes made to a computer when <filename> was installed.

Alternate Form

/UP

Syntax

```
/UninstallPackage <unique identifier> | <filename> [/All]  
[/Identification <name>] [/CommonInfo] [/UserInfo] [/CurrentUser]  
[/AllUsers] [/Prompt] [/ShowErrors]
```

<filename>

The Prism file to uninstall. If no path is provided, the current directory is searched for the file. If no extension is given, .PWC is assumed.

Note: The /UninstallPackage command can be used to roll back a Prism Self-Installing file if the Client was invoked when the file was installed and it was installed as a Prism Package, rather than being executed as an .EXE. (See "Understanding Uninstall Files" in the Packaging Guide or Editor online Help for information on uninstalling or rolling back Prism Self-Installing files.)

<unique identifier>

This option specifies the unique identifier that Prism assigns to each Prism file when it is created (for example, C3A5D830 190D 11D3 A76C 00105A179930). The Prism file associated with this identifier is uninstalled. The identifier can be found by viewing the **File Properties | Information** tab for the Prism file.

(For more information, see the Editor's **File Properties | Information** tab.)

/All

If the Prism file was installed more than once, use this option to uninstall all changes made with this Prism file. Without the /All switch, only the changes made with the most recent installation of the Prism file are rolled back.

/AllUsers

By default the /UninstallPackage command removes all users' changes from the computer, as well as all settings and files that are common to all of the users. So, this option is unnecessary, but it may be useful as a reminder of the default behavior of the command.

/CommonInfo

Uninstall the files and settings that are common to all users of the same computer. Unless specific per user options (such as /UserInfo or /CurrentUser) are used in the command line, no individual user settings or files are uninstalled.

/CurrentUser

This option overrides the default behavior of removing all users' changes on the target computer. It also overrides any user specific settings used when the Prism file was installed originally. With this option added to the /UninstallPackage command, only the changes for the current user are rolled back.

/Identification <name>

If the /Identification option was used when the Prism file was installed, it must be used to uninstall the file as well.

/Prompt

Use this option Prism to display a prompt before uninstalling the Prism file so the operation can be canceled. If the file has been installed multiple times, using the /Prompt option gives the user the choice of uninstalling all instances of the file or just the last instance. If the file has been

installed multiple times but the /Prompt option is not used, only the changes made by the last installation of the file are removed.

Both /Prompt and /ShowErrors cause the user to be asked first. If the file has been installed more than once, these prompts also cause a dialog box to be displayed, asking the user whether all installations or only the latest installations are to be removed.

/ShowErrors

If an error occurs, the user should be notified using a message box.

The /Prompt command implies /ShowErrors. Using /ShowErrors with this command is permitted but not necessary.

/UserInfo

Uninstall files and settings that need to be repeated for each user of the computer. These items include the Start menu, desktop, application data folders, and the HKEY_CURRENT_USER area of the registry.

Unless the /CommonInfo option is also used in the command line, no settings or files are uninstalled that are common to all of the users on the target computer.

/UninstallPackage Examples

The following command uninstalls the Package, APP.PWC, which is no longer needed. The user will be prompted before Prism uninstalls the file.

```
/UP P:\Prism\app.pwc /prompt
```

The following command removes the settings and files in the Prism file from the current user. It leaves everything else alone. It asks the user before doing this. If the settings have been installed more than once, it also asks whether to uninstall all changes or the most recent changes.

```
/UninstallPackage Package.pwc /UserInfo /CurrentUser /Prompt
```

Self-Installing File Command Line Options

A Prism Self-Installing file can be installed from the command line or by placing the file name in a script. To install the Prism Self-Installing file, typing the name alone is sufficient. You can also add the following Prism options, just as you would with a command.

Note: A Prism Self-Installing file can be installed as a Prism Package by invoking the Client and using the /InstallPackage command. (See */InstallPackage* for an example.)

Syntax

```
<filename> [/NoRollback] [/NoRollbackInfo] [/CommonInfo] [/UserInfo] [/CurrentUser] [/AllUsers]
[/Prompt] [/BeforePrompt] [/NoBeforePrompt] [/DuringPrompt] [/NoDuringPrompt] [/AfterPrompt]
[/NoAfterPrompt] [/NoShowErrors] [/Priority Low | Normal | High | Preempt]
```

<filename>:

The name of the Prism Self-Installing file to install. The file name without a preceding command executes the file.

/AfterPrompt

Force a prompt to be displayed after installation. If an "after prompt" has been set up through the **File Properties | Messages** tab, it is used as is. If an "after prompt" was not set up through the

Editor, the default message is displayed. The default message tells the user that the file was successfully installed.

(For more information, see the Editor's **File Properties | Messages** tab.)

/AllUsers

This option overrides the selection for **Installation Method** in the **File Properties | Requirements** tab for the Prism file and distributes settings and files to all the computer's users. The files and settings installed include both those that are common to all of the users, as well as those targeted for a specific user in the original Prism Self-Installing file.

(For more information, see the Editor's **File Properties | Requirements** tab.)

/BeforePrompt

This option forces a prompt to be displayed before the file is installed. If a "before prompt" has been set up through the **File Properties | Messages** tab, it is used as is. If a "before prompt" was not set up through the Editor, the default message is displayed. The default message asks users to confirm that they want to install the file.

(For more information, see the Editor's **File Properties | Messages** tab.)

/CommonInfo

Install the files and settings that are common to all users of the same computer. Unless specific per-user options (such as `/UserInfo` or `/CurrentUser`) are used in the command line, no individual user settings or files are installed.

/CurrentUser

This option overrides the selection for **Installation Method** in the **File Properties | Requirements** tab for the Prism file and distributes the settings and files to just the current user.

(For more information, see the Editor's **File Properties | Requirements** tab.)

/DuringPrompt

This option forces a prompt to be displayed during installation. If a "during prompt" has been set up through the **File Properties | Messages** tab, it is used as is. If a "during prompt" was not set up through the Editor, the default message is displayed. The default message tells the user that the file is being installed.

(For more information, see the Editor's **File Properties | Messages** tab.)

/NoAfterPrompt

This option ensures that no prompt is displayed after installation. When this command is used the settings for the "after prompt" set up through the **File Properties | Messages** tab are ignored.

(For more information, see the Editor's **File Properties | Messages** tab.)

/NoBeforePrompt

This option ensures that no prompt is displayed before the file is installed. When this command is used, the settings for the "before prompt" set up through the **File Properties | Messages** tab are ignored.

(For more information, see the Editor's **File Properties | Messages** tab.)

/NoDuringPrompt

This option ensures that no prompt is displayed during installation. When this command is used, the settings for the "during prompt" set up through the **File Properties | Messages** tab are ignored.

(For more information, see the Editor's **File Properties | Messages** tab.)

/NoShowErrors

No error messages are displayed to the user during the Prism Self-Installing file installation. Use this option in situations where a user is not available to respond to the error message or an error may interfere with the file installation. By default, errors are displayed without this option.

/NoRollback

This option tells Prism not to create a Uninstall file when the Prism Self-Installing file is installed. If something goes wrong during a distribution, the changes that were made up to the point of failure are rolled back. Once the operation has been completed successfully, the rollback information is discarded.

Note: See "Understanding Uninstall Files" in the *Packaging Guide* or Editor online Help for information on Prism Self-Installing files and Uninstall files.

/NoRollbackInfo

With this option, uninstall information is not maintained, not even during the Prism file installation. With this option, if the operation is interrupted, the target computer is left in a state of mid-install.

/NoRollbackInfo is designed for situations where performance is paramount. In some cases, it can increase the speed of the operation by as much as 10-15 percent. However, it should not be used except in special situations.

/NoShowErrors

No error messages are displayed to the user during the Prism Self-Installing file installation. Use this option in situations where a user is not available to respond to the error message or an error may interfere with the file installation. By default, errors are displayed without this option.

/Priority Low | Normal | High | Preempt

The new **/Priority** switch controls how many time-slices Prism gets in relationship to other processes running. It must be followed by one of the keywords Low, Normal, High, or Preempt. When no other applications are running, **/Priority Preempt** only boosts performance by about 4 percent. When many other applications are running, however, the gain can be as high as 30-40 percent.

/Prompt

Use this option to display a prompt when the Prism Self-Installing file is installed. You can specify the message you want displayed in the File Properties **Before Message** dialog box. When **/Prompt** is used in the command line, the option selected for **Display message before installing file** is ignored. You are always asked first.

If no message is specified in the file's properties, the default message "Are you sure you want to install the file [filename] on your computer?" is displayed.

(For more information, see the Editor's **File Properties | Messages** tab.)

/UserInfo

Install files and settings that need to be repeated for each user of the computer. These items include the Start menu, desktop, application data folders, and the HKEY_CURRENT_USER area of the registry.

Unless the **/CommonInfo** option is also used in the command line, no settings or files that are common to all of the users on the target computer are installed.

The option selected under **Installation Method** in the **File Properties | Requirements** tab for the Prism file is used to determine if these settings should be installed for just the current user or for all users. An exception would be if this setting in the file's properties is overridden by either the /CurrentUser or /AllUsers option with this command.

(For more information, see the Editor's **File Properties | Requirements** tab.)

Prism Self-Installing File Example

The following command makes sure that all the computer's users have the settings they need from this Prism Self-Installing file. It also updates the common settings.

```
MY_SIF.exe /AllUsers
```

Script Statements

In addition to the commands covered in *Using the Command Line Options*, scripts can contain blank lines and any of the statements described in this section. These statements help you control how a script is executed by running commands only when certain conditions are met.

elseif [not] [exists] <name1> [<operator> <name2>]

This statement has the same syntax as an if statement. The elseif statement is evaluated as true when the following conditions are met

- The if statement to which it corresponds had a false evaluation.
- None of the elseif statements, following the if statement and up to this point, had a true evaluation.
- The if statement to which it corresponds has not been followed by an else statement.
- The statement itself has a true evaluation.

When these conditions are met, any commands following this statement up to the next else, elseif, or endif statement are executed.

Notes

- Every if command can optionally be followed by as many elseif statements as desired.
- An elseif statement cannot follow an else statement.

Alternate Form

else if

Syntax

```
elseif [not] [exists] <name1> [<operator> <name2>]
```

not

You can reverse the logic in the statement following the **if** command by following it with **not**. For example if not filename = filename2. You can also use the symbol **!** for this option.

<name1>

The first item to be evaluated. If there is nothing following <name1>, the command is evaluated immediately.

- If <name1> is preceded by exists, <name1> is considered a file name. The statement is true if the file exists. If no path is provided, the current directory is searched for the file. The file name must have the correct extension.

- If <name1> is a number, the statement is true if the number is not zero. If <name1> is not a number, the statement is true if <name1> is not blank.

<operator>

One or two characters which define the way <name1> and <name2> are compared.

If <operator> is supplied, <name2> must be supplied as well. If <name1> and <name2> are both numbers, they are compared numerically. If either one is not a number, they are compared alphabetically, with the one that is first alphabetically considered less than the one that is last alphabetically.

The following operators are available

For the operator	The statement is true if
== (or =)	<name1> is exactly the same as <name2>
!= (or <>)	<name1> is not exactly the same as <name2>
>=	<name1> is greater than or equal to <name2>
>	<name1> is greater than <name2>
<=	<name1> is less than or equal to <name2>
<	<name1> is less than <name2>

<name2>

The item to be compared with <name1> to evaluate the statement.

else

This statement follows an if statement and one or more optional elseif statements. If an evaluation of true has not resulted from the if statement itself or any of the elseif statements, all the statements following this one are executed, up to the endif statement.

Notes

- Once an else statement has followed an if statement, no more elseif statements may follow.
- An if statement can only be followed by a single else statement.

endif

This statement follows an if statement. In between the if and endif statement there can be elseif statements, an else statement, and other commands.

Note: Every if statement in a script must be followed eventually by a corresponding endif statement.

Alternate Form

end if

if [not] [exists] <name1> [<operator> <name2>]

This command evaluates the entire statement to see if the commands following this one should be processed. An evaluation of true causes the statements between this command and the next else, elseif, or endif command to be executed.

Notes

- Every if command can be followed by one or more elseif commands and/or a single else statement.
- Every if command must eventually be followed by a matching endif command.
- If statements can be nested as deeply as desired.

Syntax

```
if [not] [exists] <name1> [<operator> <name2>]
```

exists

If exists is specified, <name1> is treated as a file name and <operator> and <name2> must not be present in the script statement.

rem

This statement indicates a comment. It is always ignored.

Sample Script

The following shows a sample script, using Prism commands. The script file extension is always .PTS.

```
rem *****
rem Prism Script for Company XYZ
rem Created by: Administrator
rem Creation Date: January 5, 2004
rem Latest Revision: February 14,2005
rem
rem Description: This script checks the OS of the system and applies
rem Packages based on that OS (98 or W2K). The script also takes a
rem backup picture of the local "My Documents" folder.
rem
rem *****

rem Set variable for Prism directory, define log file, define rules file

/Set PDDIR \\server1\PD\Packages
/DefineLogFile H:\logs\PD.log /size 2000
/DefineRulesFile %pddir%\rules.ini

rem Check the OS of the current system and apply OS-specific Packages
rem CheckOS.PWC will apply to 2000 systems only. If it errors out (lasterror = 4)
rem then the script will apply 98-specific Packages.
rem Else it applies 2000-specific Packages.
rem
/InstallPackage %pddir%\checkos.pwc
If %lasterror% == "4"
/InstallPackage %pddir%\98\set_computername_var.pwc /always
/InstallPackage %pddir%\98\virus_software.pwc /once
/InstallPackage %pddir%\98\suite.pwc /once
/InstallPackage %pddir%\98\faxclient.pwc /once
else
/InstallPackage %pddir%\w2k\virus_software.pwc /once
```

```
/InstallPackage %pddir%\w2k\suite.pwc /once  
/InstallPackage %pddir%\w2k\faxclient.pwc /once  
endif
```

rem Apply Packages that are the same for 98 and W2K.

```
/InstallPackage %pddir%\prephomedir.pwc /once  
/InstallPackage %pddir%\createlocaldirs.pwc /once /identification %computername%  
/InstallPackage %pddir%\mandatoryXYZshortcuts.pwc /always  
/InstallPackage %pddir%\timecardapp.pwc /once  
/InstallPackage %pddir%\latest_DATS.pwc /update
```

rem Take a Picture of the "My Documents" folder to use as backup.

rem The Picture occurs on Mondays and is named the current month and date.

rem If the file already exists for that day, the script exits.

```
If %pt_day% == "02"
```

```
If not exists H:\backups\%pt_month%%pt_date%.pwf
```

```
/TakePicture H:\backups\%pt_month%%pt_date%.pwf %pddir%\mydocs.pwi
```

```
endif
```

```
endif
```


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