

Centurion Technologies

Scheduling and Windows Updates

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Monday to Friday hours: 8:30AM until 5:30PM CST/CDT

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Introduction

Scheduling using the SmartControl Resource Manager makes day to day maintenance of your hardware seamless. One of the most common uses of scheduling is Windows Updates. Smart Shield protection prevents changes from being applied to your computer. This means that even the changes you want to occur like Windows Updates. It would not make sense to make a special trip to each computer to unprotect each machine once they are unprotected to run your updates.

Sometimes doing windows updates can be time consuming for the machine and a technician who is monitoring the process. For example, if you have one hundred machines to run Windows Updates on and one person to do it. Also there is only a small time window for which to complete this task during normal business hours. With the presented scenario, how would you approach getting your computers updated? Automatic updates will require a reboot sometimes and that isn't always an option. Also automatic updates won't run if the machine is off.

With Smart Control and scheduling, this is a simple process. The scheduling feature will allow you to run Windows updates at any time you choose. If the computers will be off at the time you want to run the schedule, the Wake On Lan feature will wake the computers up. Here is an example schedule to do Windows updates.



•Wake On Lan •(This action assumes the machine is in the off state) **First Action** Disable Protection •(SmartShield must be disabled to allow the updates to persist) Second Action Reboot •(To change protection states the machine must be restarted) **Third Action** •Delay of two or three minutes •(This will allow the machine to fully boot) Fourth •Windows updates recommended (min imum time allowed 40 minutes maximum 400) •This action will:Display a warning message that windows updates are about to occur,Reboot,Run Updates, Reboot, Delay (1 min), Restore Login Background, Unblock Keyboard and Mouse Enable Protection •(This will protect the machine on the next boot) •Shutdown or Reboot

If you have any questions about the scheduling process, please call your sales person or technical support. We are always happy to hear from and help our customer!