

# PowerPanel<sup>®</sup> Business Edition Installation Guide

For

**UPS without Remote Management Card** 

Rev. 17

2015/12/2



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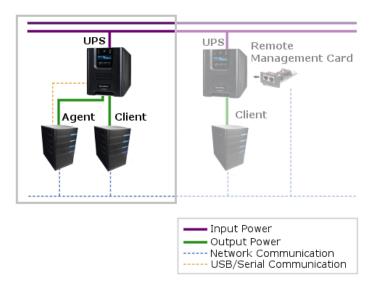
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## Introduction

**PowerPanel** Business Edition software provides for the power management and unattended/automatic shutdown of PCs and servers connected to the UPS. When one computer is supplied power by the UPS and communicates with the UPS through the USB or serial connection, installing PowerPanel Business Edition Agent on this single computer can initiate a shutdown in the event of the power outage to prevent the hosted computer from experiencing data loss.

Computers which are also supplied power by the UPS can be protected by installing Client. The Agent establishes communication with the Client via the network and relays the UPS state to the Client. Before the UPS stops supplying power to the Client computer, the Client will be ordered to perform an early, graceful shutdown by the Agent.



### **Hardware Installation**

## Connect Computer's Power with UPS Correctly

UPS outlets may have different functions: **Surge + Battery** protected outlets provide protection for the equipment connected to them and supply battery power once power outage occurs. **Surge** protected outlets provides protection for the equipment but does not provide battery power when a power outage occurs. The Agent computer should be connected to the UPS in one of the **Surge + Battery** protected outlets instead of a **Surge** outlet.

On specific modes, **NCL** (Non-critical load) outlets are designed to turn off early to save battery power in order to maximize the battery runtime for the remaining outlets. The Agent computer also should be not plugged into these NCL outlets. Determine which outlet should be used by the Agent computer according the following:

#### Smart App Online series.

Outlets numbered 1 or 2 are NCL. The Agent computer should be plugged into one of the other outlets instead of these numbered ones.

#### Smart App Sinewave series and Professional Rack Mount LCD series.

The Agent computer should be plugged into one of outlets labeled CRITICAL LOAD.



#### Smart App Intelligent LCD series.

The Agent computer should be plugged into one of outlets labeled **SURGE + BATTERY**.

**Note:** The Agent computer should also be plugged into one of outlets labeled **SURGE + BATTERY** in other series such as the **Smart App AVR** series, **PFC Sinewave** series, **Intelligent LCD** series, **AVR** series, **Standby** series, **BS** series, **DX** series, **BRICs** series, **BRICs** series, **Office Rack Mount** series and **Office Tower** series.

#### Value series, Value GP series, Value GP LCD series and Paragon Tower series.

The Agent computer can be plugged into any of the outlets.

#### Professional Rack Mount series.

· The Agent computer should be plugged into one of black outlets.

#### Professional Tower series.

The Agent computer should be plugged into one of outlets labeled CRITICAL LOAD OUTLET BANK.

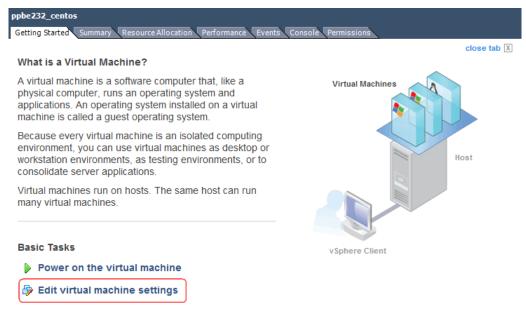
# Ensure USB or Serial Cable between Computer and UPS is Connected Properly

Make sure the connection between the Agent computer and the UPS is securely connected. The Agent will not monitor the UPS status if the communication is lost.

If Agent is installed on VMware vMA, or on any virtual machine in ESX and ESXi, USB device or serial cable which connects to the UPS should be assigned to vMA or any virtual machine manually.

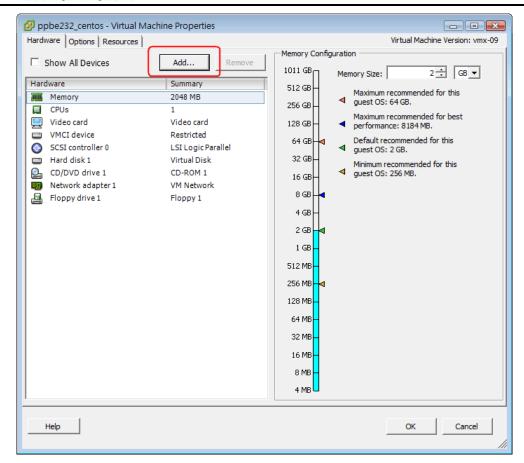
#### Follow the below steps:

 Click Edit virtual machine settings of the virtual machine. If the USB controller is available, go to step 6 to add a new USB device.

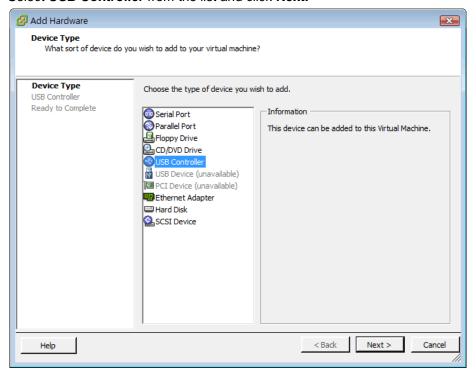


2. Click Add to add a new USB controller.



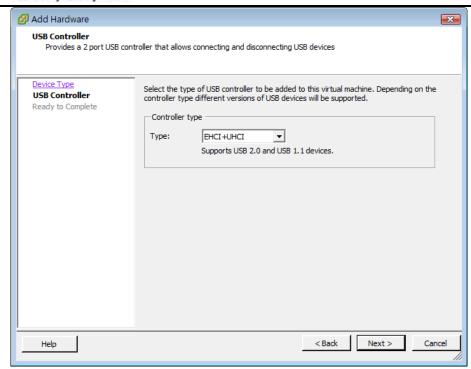


3. Select USB Controller from the list and click Next.

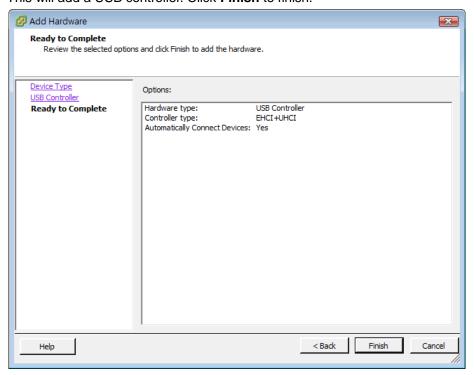


4. Select USB Controller Type.



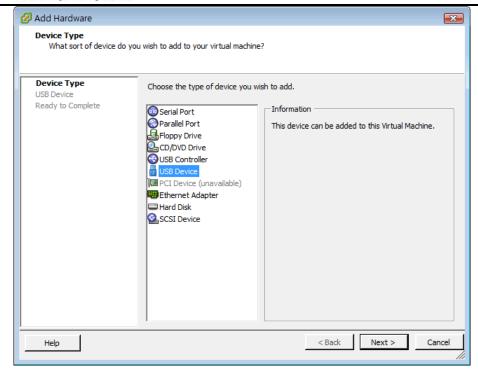


5. This will add a USB controller. Click Finish to finish.

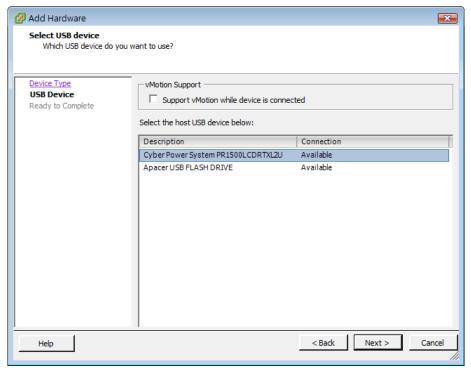


6. Select the **USB Device** and click **Next**.



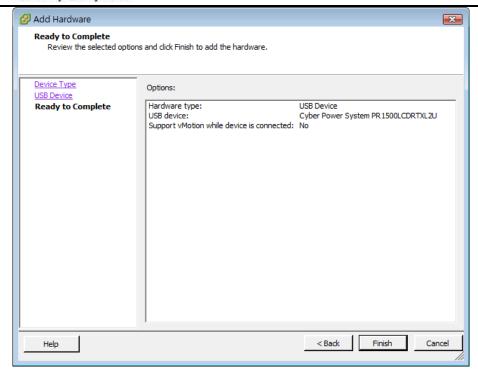


7. Select the **USB Device** which is connected with the PPBE virtual machine.



8. USB device detail will be displayed and click **Finish** to finish. This will add a new USB device.





Note: USB device passthrough from an ESX or ESXi host to the vMA is supported from ESX/ESXi 4.1.

Note: Citrix XenServer 5.0 and later versions support USB device.

# Installing PowerPanel® Business Edition Software

If a single computer has a USB or serial connection to UPS, the Agent should be installed on this computer. If multiple computers plugged into the UPS, the computers without the USB or serial connections should install the Client. The PowerPanel® Business Edition software is compatible with Windows, Linux, Citrix XenServer and VMware ESX/ESXi systems.

#### Installation on Windows

A popup window will be displayed automatically when inserting the PowerPanel<sup>®</sup> Business Edition installation CD. Users can click the **Install PowerPanel Business Edition software** shortcut on the popup page to initiate the installation procedure. If the popup window is not displayed when inserting the CD, browse to the CD drive and open the folder which locates at **/Software/Windows** then double click the file named **Setup.exe** to start the installation procedure.

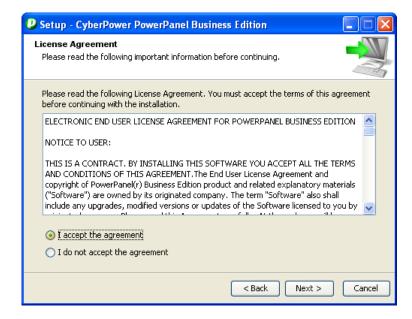
To install follow these steps:

Click the **Next** button to start an installation.





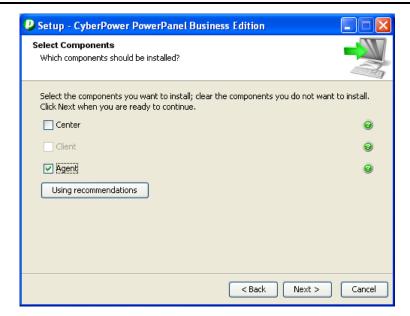
Accept the license agreement.



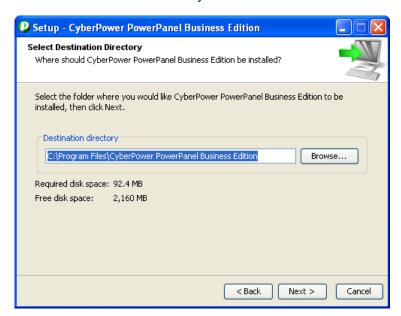
Choose the component. If the target computer is connected to the UPS directly via a USB or serial connection,
Agent should be installed. If the computer does not have a USB or serial connection to the UPS, or the computer is
powered by a UPS with a remote management card or a PDU, Client should be installed. If multiple UPS units
require monitoring, Center should be installed.

Note: Agent and Client cannot be installed on the same computer.



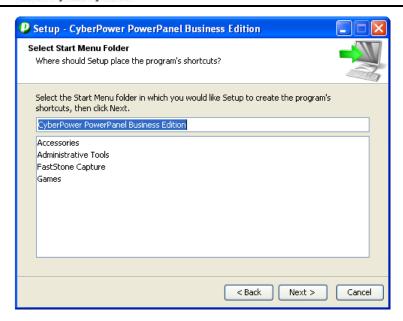


Choose the destination directory.



• Choose the start menu folder.





Click the Finish button to complete the installation.



### Installation on Linux

The installer is used to install the PowerPanel<sup>®</sup> Business Edition software and requires root permission. The installation wizard will guide users to complete the installation. Browse to the CD drive and find the installer in the /Software/Linux folder. Initiate an installation wizard by running ./ppbe-linux-x86.sh command or double clicking ppbe-linux-x86.sh from desktop on 32-bit systems. Initiate an installation wizard by running the ./ppbe-linux-x86\_64.sh command or double clicking ppbe-linux-x86\_64.sh from desktop on 64-bit systems.

**Note:** On Linux, users may mount the CD by using the mount command. Run **mount –t iso9660 /dev/cdrom** /**mnt/cdrom** as a root user. /dev/cdrom is the CD drive and /mnt/cdrom will be the mount point.

To install follow these steps:

• Click the **Next** button to start an installation.





Accept the license agreement.



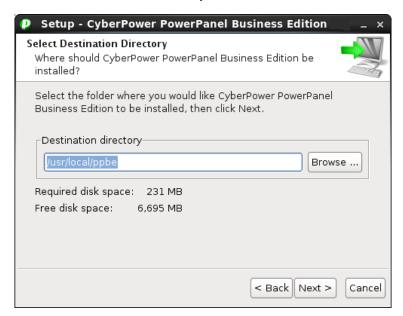
Choose the component. If the target computer can communicate with UPS directly via a USB or serial connection,
Agent should be installed. If the computer does not have a USB or serial connection to the UPS, or the computer
which is powered by the UPS with a remote management card or a PDU, Client should be installed. If multiple UPS
requires a synchronous monitoring, Center should be installed.



Note: Agent and Client cannot be installed on the same computer.



Choose the destination directory.



• Click the **Finish** button to complete the installation.





#### **Installation in Text Mode**

When the system does not support graphic mode, the Linux installation needs to be initiated in the terminal by using the ./ppbe-linux-x86.sh -c command on 32-bit systems or use ./ppbe-linux-x86\_64.sh -c command on 64-bit systems.

The installation procedure will be initiated as following steps:

Press Enter to start an installation.

```
Starting Installer ...
This will install CyberPower PowerPanel Business Edition on your computer.
OK [o, Enter], Cancel [c]
```

Accept the license agreement.

```
YOUR ACCEPTANCE OF THE FOREGOING AGREEMENT WAS INDICATED DURING INSTALLATION.

I accept the agreement Yes [1], No [2]
```

• Determine to use recommendation before selecting the components. Select **n** to ignore the recommendation.

```
Select the components you want to install; clear the components you do not want to install. Click Next when you are ready to continue.
Using recommendations
Yes [y, Enter], No [n]
```

• Choose the component. If one single computer is connected to the UPS directly via a USB or serial connection, Agent should be installed. If the computer is powered by a UPS already connected to an Agent, has a remote management card installed or is connected to a PDU, Client should be installed. If the administrator requires simultaneous monitoring and access to multiple UPS/PDUs, equipment and computers on a local network, Center should be installed.

**Note:** Agent, Client and Center cannot be installed on the same computer.



Which components should be installed?

Center [1], Client [2], Agent [3]

Please enter a comma-separated list of the selected values or [Enter] for the default selection:

Choose the destination location.

Where should CyberPower PowerPanel Business Edition be installed? [/usr/local/ppbe]

• Installation procedure starts to process until the installation is complete.

Please wait for CyberPower PowerPanel Business Edition configuring Default username and password is "admin". CyberPower PowerPanel Business Edition may not do hibernation. Finishing installation...

#### Installation on Mac

File folder will be displayed automatically when inserting the PowerPanel Business Edition installation CD. Find the installer in the **/Software/Mac** folder, and double click the file named **Setup.dmg**, then in the same way double click the file named **CyberPower PowerPanel Business Edition Installer** to initiate the wizard. The installation wizard will guide users in completing the installation.

**Note:** If PPBE service stopped in unexpected conditions and the OS X version is 10.6 or earlier. Please update Java to the latest version via **Software Update**, then execute **restartService.sh** to restart PPBE service, the default file path is /**Applications/ppbe/bin/restartService.sh**.





**Note: Cyberpower PowerPanel® Business Edition** software is a third-party application. At the first time to launch the PPBE installer on the Mac OS X 10.8(or later version), you should do following:

- 1. Right-click the Installer and choose "Open".
- 2. Choose "Open" again at the dialog to open it.

To install follow these steps:

Click the Next button to start an installation.



Accept the license agreement.



• Choose the component. If one single computer is connected to the UPS directly via a USB or serial connection, Agent should be installed. If the computer is powered by a UPS already connected to an Agent, has a remote management card installed or is connected to a PDU, Client should be installed. If the administrator requires simultaneous monitoring and access to multiple UPS/PDU/ATSs, equipment and computers on a local network, Center should be installed.





Choose the destination directory.



Click the Finish button to complete the installation.





## Installation on VMware ESXi and ESX

## **Installation on ESXi**

Installation must be launched in the **vMA** (**vSphere Management Assistant**) which is also a virtual machine on the ESXi host; Agent should be installed on the vMA of ESXi 4.1 or later versions. In order to deploy vMA on the ESXi host and install PPBE in the vMA, users must install the **vSphere Client** tool on another remote computer first. To download the vSphere Client installer, users can enter the ESXi host IP address to access the web page. Users can visit **VMware** website for **vSphere Management Assistant Guide document** about vMA deployment on VMware ESXi.

The installer will guide users in completing the installation. Refer to <u>Installation on Text Mode</u> section to follow the same steps to complete installation. The installer requires root permission to initiate the installation procedure. Mount CD by running **mount -t iso9660 /dev/cdrom /mnt/cdrom** as a root user.(/dev/cdrom is the CD drive and /mnt/cdrom will be the mount point.). Browse the CD drive and find the installer in the /Software/Linux folder. Initiate an installation procedure by running the ./ppbe-linux-x86\_64.sh command.

Before installing Agent with the USB or serial connection, make sure that the platform running the Agent supports USB or serial connection. VMware ESXi 4.1 and later versions support a USB device to be passed through from an ESXi host to vMA.

**Note:** In order to make sure that Agent on vMA of the ESXi host can establish communication with UPS through USB connection, you should upgrade virtual hardware to the latest version. Refer to <u>How do I upgrade virtual hardware</u> <u>version of vMA</u> of FAQ chapter from **PowerPanel Business Edition User Manual** to know how to upgrade.

**Note:** In order to allow the interactions between physical and virtual machines, VMware tools have to be installed on each virtual machine. Refer to VMware ESX/ESXi Server documentation for further information about VMware Tools.

#### **Installation on ESX**

Installation must be launched in the **Service Console** (aka **Console Operation System**). To initiate the installation procedure on VMware ESX also requires root permission. Use the same command to mount CD and initiate the installation procedure.

Before installing Agent with the USB connection, make sure the host supports USB connection. ESX 4.1 does support USB devices. Refer to <u>Installation on Text Mode</u> section to complete the installation.

## Virtual Appliance Deployment on ESXi

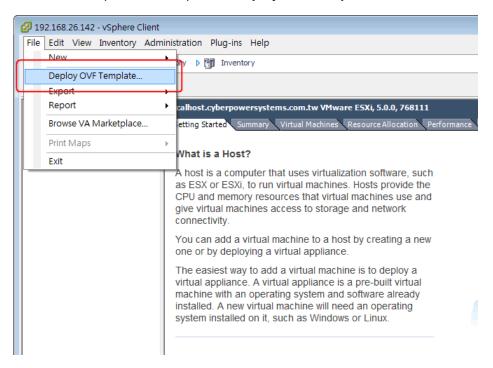
A virtual appliance (VA) is a prebuilt software solution, comprised of one or more virtual machines that is packaged, maintained, updated and managed as a unit. It is fundamentally changing how software is developed, distributed, deployed and managed.

Download the PPBE virtual appliance which is pre-installed Agent from <u>CyberPower</u>. In order to deploy the PPBE virtual appliance on VMware ESXi host, users must install vSphere Client tool first on the remote computer. To download the **vSphere Client** installer, users can enter the ESXi host IP address to access web page of ESXi host.

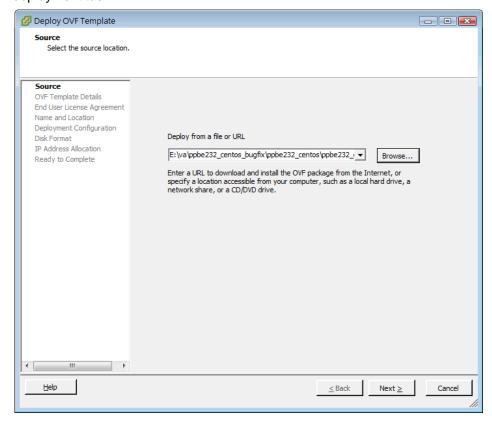


The deployment procedure will be initiated as below steps:

• Launch the vShpere Client. Open the **Deploy OVF Template** window from **File > Deploy OVF Template...** item.

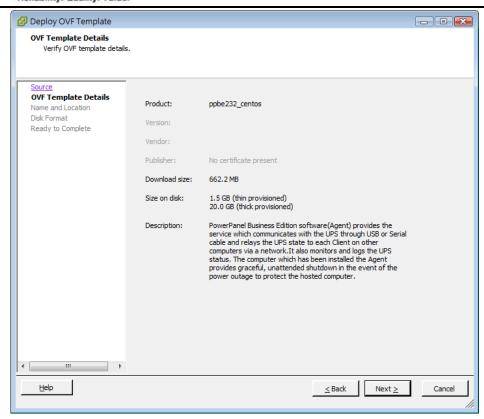


Click Browse to import the ppbeXXX\_centos.ovf extracted from the download zip file. Click Next to start a
deployment task.

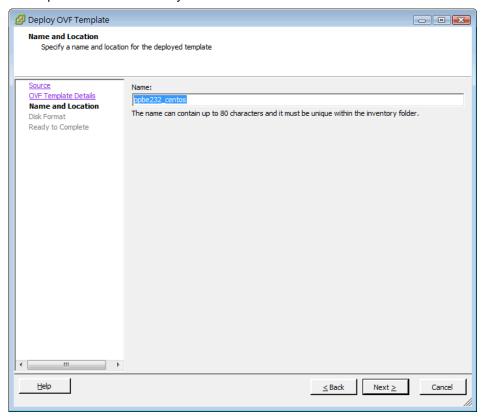


• The OVF template detail is displayed. Click **Next** to continue.



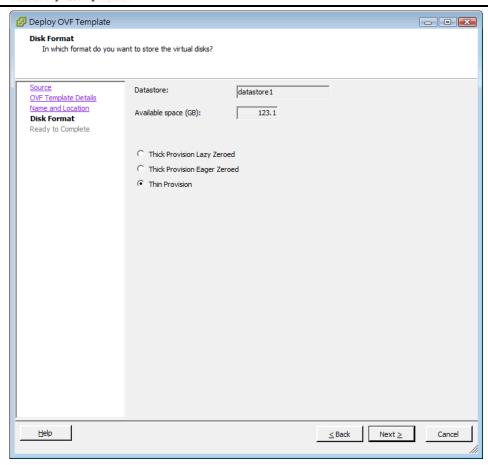


• Enter the name for the deployed PPBE virtual appliance. The default option is **Thin Provision**. This name should be unique within the inventory.

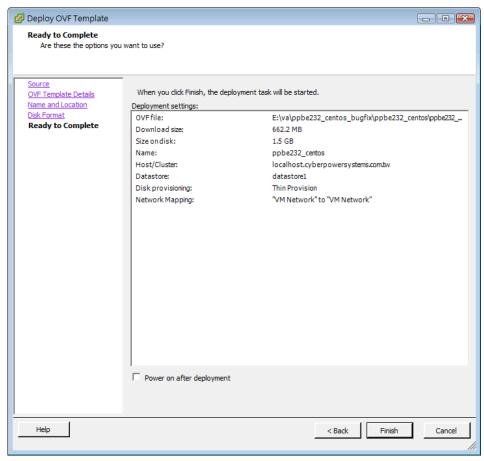


 Select the virtual disk format for the PPBE virtual appliance. Refer to <u>About Virtual Disk Provision Disk Policies</u> for further information about how to select virtual disk format.





• A deployment detail is displayed. Click **Finish** to start the deployment task.

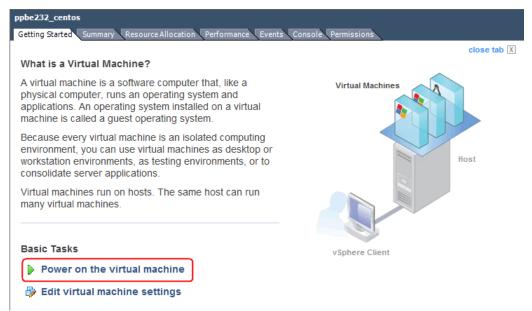




After the deployment task is complete, the PPRF virtual appliance will be added into the inventory.



Click Power on the virtual machine to power on the virtual machine and ready to access the PPBE.



• Login the virtual appliance. The default username and password are **admin.** In order to perform shutdown accurately, you must change the time zone settings of the virtual appliance.

This can be a direct copy of the time zone file from the /usr/share/zoneinfo folder. We assume that the host is located under the Chicago CST zone in Chicago, and the time zone can be changed by running the command cp /usr/share/zoneinfo/America/Chicago /etc/localtime.

#### Installation on XenServer

The installer requires root permission to install the PowerPanel<sup>®</sup> Business Edition. Mount CD by running **mount -t iso9660 /dev/cdrom /mnt/cdrom** as a root user (**/dev/cdrom** is the CD drive and **/mnt/cdrom** will be the mount point.). Browse the CD drive and run **./ppbe-linux-x86.sh** command to initiate an installation procedure.

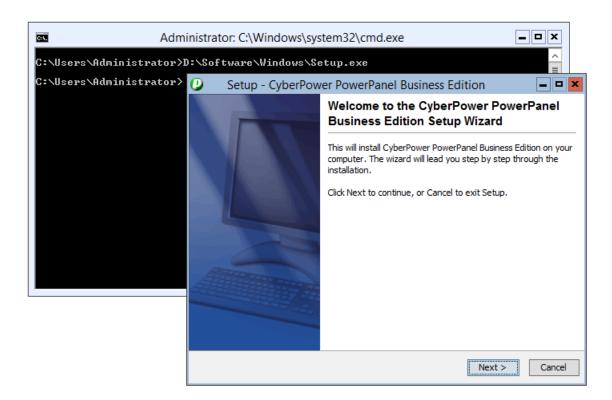
Installation must be launched on the **Dom0**; Agent should be installed on the Dom 0 of XenServer 5 or later versions. Refer to <u>Installation on Text Mode</u> section to complete the installation. Before installing Agent with the USB or serial connection, make sure that the platform running the Agent supports USB or serial connection. Citrix XenServer 5.0 and later versions support USB device.

## Installation on Hyper-V Server

Use the PowerPanel<sup>®</sup> Business Edition installation CD to complete the installation on the target computer. Run the **CD\_Drive>\Software\Windows\setup.exe** of the command prompt such as below illustration to start the installation



procedure (*CD\_Drive* is a *CD* drive formatted as *D*: or *E*:). A popup window will be displayed when the installation is launched. Refer to <u>Installation on Windows</u> section to follow the same steps to complete installation.



## Access PowerPanel® Business Edition Software Interface

To access the Agent web interface in Windows, go to **Start > All Programs > CyberPower PowerPanel Business Edition > PowerPanel Business Edition Agent** or **PowerPanel Business Edition Client** or **PowerPanel Business Edition Center**), which will take you to the login page.



On Linux, user can enter the URL as http://localhost:3052/ in the address of the web browser to access to the interface. Users can also enter the URL, http://localhost:3052/ in the local computer or

http://hosted\_computer\_ip\_address:3052/ in the remote computer, to the address field of the web browser to access the PowerPanel<sup>®</sup> Business Edition software web interface. hosted\_computer\_ip\_address is the IP address of the computer which has the PowerPanel<sup>®</sup> Business Edition software installed. For the virtual machine such as vMA or VA on the ESX or ESXi, hosted\_computer\_ip\_address is the IP address of the virtual machine (Note: hosted\_computer\_ip\_address is the IP address of the host computer on ESX.).

The default username is **admin** and default password is **admin**. For security consideration, it is recommended to change the login username and password after the initial login.



PowerPanel<sup>®</sup> Business Edition supports multiple-language function and allows users to change language. It will choose the suitable language as the default one to display at the initial access. Users can change the language from the banner. After the language is changed, the page will refresh automatically and choose the assigned language as the default one to display.



## **Quick Configuration**

A **Welcome** screen will display at the first time to use Agent. The welcome screen will lead you to complete the quick configuration. You can decide whether to continue or ignore it. It is strongly recommended to complete the quick configuration. Inability to complete the quick configuration may put your computer in the extreme risk when power events occur. If you decide to ignore the quick configuration, click the **Exit** button. A popup confirm dialog will display and click the **Yes** button to ignore the quick configuration. Refer to **Import Profile** section for further details about completing the quick configuration.

## **Import Profile**

The **Profile Import** screen provides a shortcut to import your own profile to complete the quick configuration. If you would like to import a profile, click the **Yes** option and click the **Next** button to import the profile. A popup dialog will ask you to assign the profile. After the profile import is complete, Agent will show the result on the **Finish** screen.

If you would like complete the quick configuration without profile, click the No option and click Next button to continue.

## **Ensure Agent Establishes Communication with UPS**

When Agent has establishes communication with UPS, Agent can monitor the status and control UPS. The **UPS Information** screen will display an overview of UPS Information.

When Agent cannot establish or lose communication with UPS, a warning will inform you of communication loss. Make sure that the USB or serial connection between Agent computer and UPS is properly connected first. You must also ensure that the UPS is functioning. Click **Retry** button to ask Agent to detect UPS.

## **Configure Shutdown Settings**

The **Shutdown Settings** screen allows you to specify the manner in which Agent computer is shut down before the UPS stops supplying power, set the duration which Client will take to shut down and determine whether to turn off the



UPS. Even if Client requires shutting down the VMware ESXi host, you can specify the root permission and the ESXi host address.

## **Setup Necessary Shutdown Time**

The computer running the Agent requires a sufficient time to be shut down completely before the UPS stops supplying power. Therefore users should set up this sufficient time at the *Necessary shutdown time* option on the **Shutdown Settings** screen in the Agent.

## **Determine Whether to Turn off UPS**

You can determine whether to turn off UPS after the Agent computer is shut down completely, If Yes option is selected, the UPS will turned off after the Agent computer is shut down completely. Configure Shutdown Action for ESXi

In order to assure the ESX/ESXi host and all virtual machines can be shut down correctly in case of power events, users have to configure the ESXi host address, account and password of root user for the host shutdown from the virtual machine running Agent. Fill in the *Host Address, Account* and *Password* fields with actual username and password for ESXi host.

Due to PowerPanel<sup>®</sup> Business Edition software is installed on the Service Console of ESX instead of vMA, the **Shutdown Settings** screen does not provide these settings for users to configure.

**Note:** Host Address is the IP address of the ESXi host computer on which vMA is operating but not the IP address of vMA.



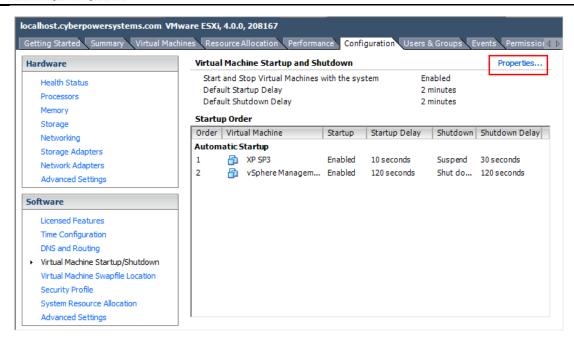
**Note:** In order to allow the interactions between physical and virtual machines, VMware tools have to be installed on each virtual machine. Refer to VMware ESX/ESXi Server documentation for further information about VMware Tools.

## Configure Startup and Shutdown of Virtual Machines on ESX/ESXi

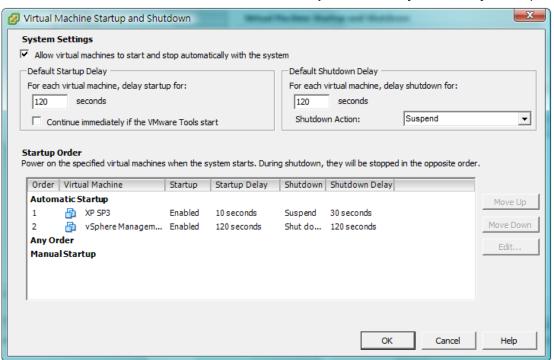
In order to assure that all virtual machines could be shut down and restart gracefully:

Select the topmost ESX/ESXi server host from the tree hierarchy on the right side. Go to Configuration > Virtual
 Machine Startup/Shutdown menu > Properties of the vSphere Client.





Enable the Allow virtual machines to start and stop automatically with the system option.



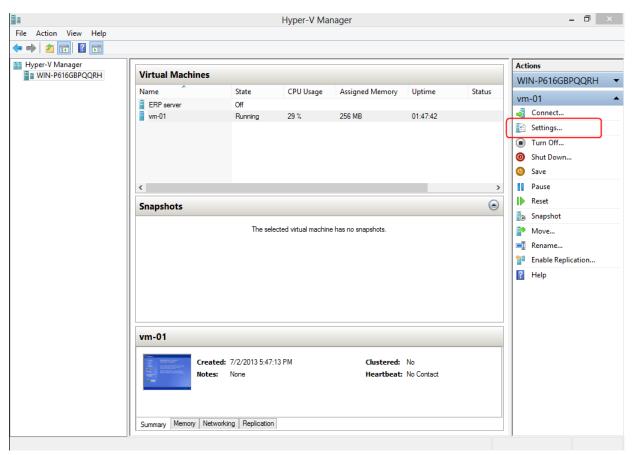
## Configure Shutdown of Virtual Machines on Hyper-V Server

In order for the virtual machines to be shut down correctly when the Hyper-V host shuts down, users should configure a guest operating system shutdown on each virtual machine.

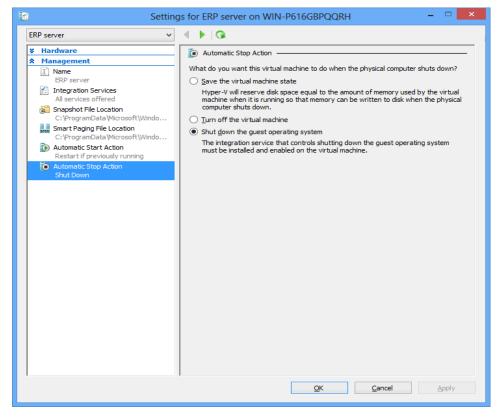
Follow below steps to configure the guest virtual machine to shut down with the host:



Using the Hyper-V Manager to choose a VM and the click Settings.



• Choose the **Automatic Stop Action** and choose **Shut down the guest operating system**.



Hyper-V server will shut itself down only after the running virtual machines shut down. Ensure that the *Necessary* shutdown time must be sufficient to support the virtual machines to shut down and the Hyper-V server to shut down.



**Note**: In order to allow the interactions between physical and virtual machines, Hyper-V Integration Service (HIS) have to be installed on each virtual machine by accessing **Insert Integration Services setup disk** item from the **Action** menu of each virtual machine's console.

If the virtual machine is running a Linux distribution, refer to the <u>Linux Integration Services for Hyper-V</u> page to download and re install the Linux integration service for Hyper-V.

## **Configure Actions for Essential Events**

The **Event Action** screen lists the following critical events and action settings for each event according to actual power connection. Agent will generate actions in response to events when UPS encounter the power conditions.

- Battery capacity is critically low. Battery capacity is critically low; power could be lost immediately.
- Output overload. Power consumption exceeds the power rating of UPS. If the overload is sustained, the
  UPS will shut off
- Network communication lost with UPS in a power event. Communication with the UPS has been lost after
  a power event occurred. When the utility power becomes abnormal and the UPS is using the battery to supply
  power, loss of network communication between the Client and UPS causes the Client to generate a critical priority
  event because it cannot respond to changes in the status of utility and battery power.
- The output power is going to stop soon. Output power will stop due to power event or user commands. The Client will shut down the hosted computer.
- Utility power failure. Utility power failure, battery power will be supplied.

Note: Refer to PPBE user's manual for more details about more events which are not available in this screen.

In order to protect your computer when power events occur, you have to arrange the shutdown action for events. After the actions are configured properly, click **Next** to the next step.

## **Make Sure Power Configuration is Correct**

The **Finish** screen lists all power configurations through entire quick configuration. In order to make sure that your computer can be protected when power events occur, you must review the power configuration. Click **Finish** button to complete the quick configuration if the power configuration is correct.

After the installation is complete, you should complete the quick configuration to protect the Client computers. You can refer to **PPBE Installation Guide for UPS with RMCARD** for further details to complete the quick configuration in Client.

## **Mass Deployment**

In order to install Agent on more computers and apply the same settings, users can follow below steps to complete the automatic deployment:

• Export Profile. Choose one target Client to export its power configuration and system settings to the profile on the



#### Preferences/Profile page.

Copy below example code to the text editor and save as new file named setup.varfile.

installModule=agent
programGroupName=CyberPower PowerPanel Business Edition
installationDir=ppbe\_installation\_directory
profilePath=exported\_zip\_location

Edit the setup.varfile to replace installationDir and profilePath parameters. installationDir indicates the absolute path of installation directory for Client (e.g. C:/Programs/CyberPower PowerPanel Business Edition/PowerPanel Business Edition or /opt/ppbe). profilePath indicates the absolute path of profile (e.g. C:/import/profile.zip or /import/profile.zip).

**Note.** If the installation module is **Center** and **Agent**, this should be **agent&center**; if the installation module is **Center** and **Client**, this should be **client&center**.

- Place the setup.varfile and installer in the same directory. Make sure that the filename must be the same (e.g. setup.exe and setup.varfile).
- For Windows users, running the below command in the command prompt to complete the installation.

setup.exe -q -console -Dinstall4j.detailStdout=true

For Linux users, running the below command in terminal to complete the installation.

sudo setup.sh -q -console -Dinstall4j.detailStdout=true

**Note**. When you would like to upgrade the pre-installed Agent or Client during the unattended installation, set the installationDir parameter blank. The installer will automatically detect where preinstallation PPBE directory locates and attempt to complete the upgrade installation.

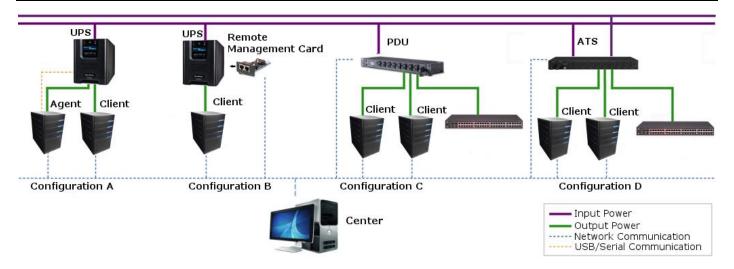
Computers which never installed Agent or Client can be installed the PPBE by assigning a valid path. Assigning a blank path to the **installationDir** parameter during the unattended installation will allow the installer to use the default path as the installation directory. **C:/Program Files/CyberPower PowerPanel Business Edition/** will be the default installation directory in Windows systems. **/opt/ppbe** or **/usr/local/ppbe** will be the default installation directory in most Linux distributions.

## **Manage UPS Units in Center**

If the administrator requires monitoring multiple UPS units on the local network at one time, PowerPanel<sup>®</sup> Business Edition Center should be installed. The Center will track the state and events from the monitored UPS units and monitored UPS units can accept commands from the Center for shutting off or restarting. Refer to <a href="Install PowerPanel">Install PowerPanel</a> Business Edition Software chapter for further details about Center installation.

The Center can also establish communication with the multiple PDUs and UPS units with Remote Management Card. Monitored PDUs and UPS units will relay the state to the Center and notify Center what power event occurs.

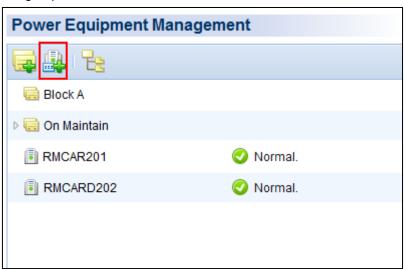




## Add UPS Units

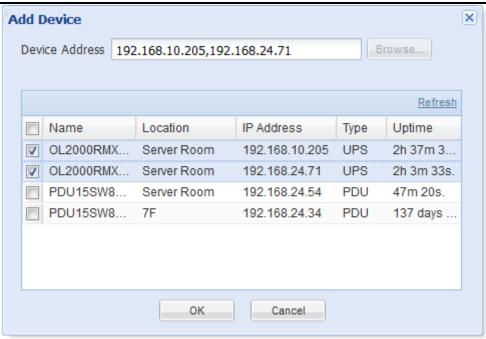
Users can monitor and control multiple UPS on the **Management/Power Equipment** page by accessing the *Add Device* window to add UPS units to Center as below:

The *Add Device* window can be accessed by clicking the *Add Device* button of the toolbar or selecting *Add Device* of the context menu of any one group node.



Either enter the IP address of UPS RMCARD on the *Device Address* field or click the **Browse** button to display the device list and select the IP address from the list. Click OK to proceed to add the selected UPS.





Note: If users need to add more UPS units to Center, please repeat steps the aforementioned steps

Note: Please refer to PPBE User's Manual about further details of more functions about Center.