Mandriva

Pulse 2

Evaluation Guide

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Mandriva Pulse 2 Evaluation Guide

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by Mandriva

Table of Contents

Introduction

Pulse 2 is an Open Source Software that helps organizations to simplify application deployments, inventory updates and life cycle management of your computers.

Pulse 2 is a secure yet easy to use and flexible solution that allows software deployment and updates, no matter the number of computers, no matter their location.

Pulse 2 also handles the software and hardware inventory, remote diagnostics and remote desktop connection for helpdesk purposes.

Prerequesites

In order to evaluate Pulse 2, please make sure you have the following :

- The VMware Player Software (Windows or Linux version) that can be freely downloaded at http://www.vmware.com/download/player/[1],
- The Pulse 2 evaluation Vmware image that you have to uncompress,
- The Pulse 2 Evaluation Guide your are currently reading,
- The Pulse 2 User Manual (Pulse2-Manual-1.2.4-EN.pdf) that can be found by opening your browser to http://localhost from within the Vmware image or from **http://VMWARE_IP** if accessed from elsewhere on the network (where **VMWARE_IP** should be replaced with the IP address of the VMware image, see 'Network configuration' page 6 for more information).

1 For any question related to the VMware Player installation or configuration, please check the documentation related to your operating system at http://www.vmware.com/fr/products/player/faqs.html

Starting The Pulse 2 VMware Image

The VMware image has been configured to work in most environments.

1. Network configuration

The VMware image network mode has been set to « Bridge ». The network interface gets its IP address from DHCP.

If no DHCP server is available on your network, please start the Mandriva Configuration Center and set the network configuration to suit your needs. Then, as the “root” user (use “su”, the password is “mandriva”), restart the needed services by typing :

```
service mmc-agent restart
service pulse2-launcher restart
service pulse2-package-server restart
```

2. Desktop Environment

The Desktop Environment is set to KDE.

3. Language

Default language is set to “french”. When first starting the VMware image, the configuration wizard is started to help you in setting the language of the environment. If you do not want to change the default setting, please click on “Passer l'assistant”.

4. Reset the VMware image to its initial state

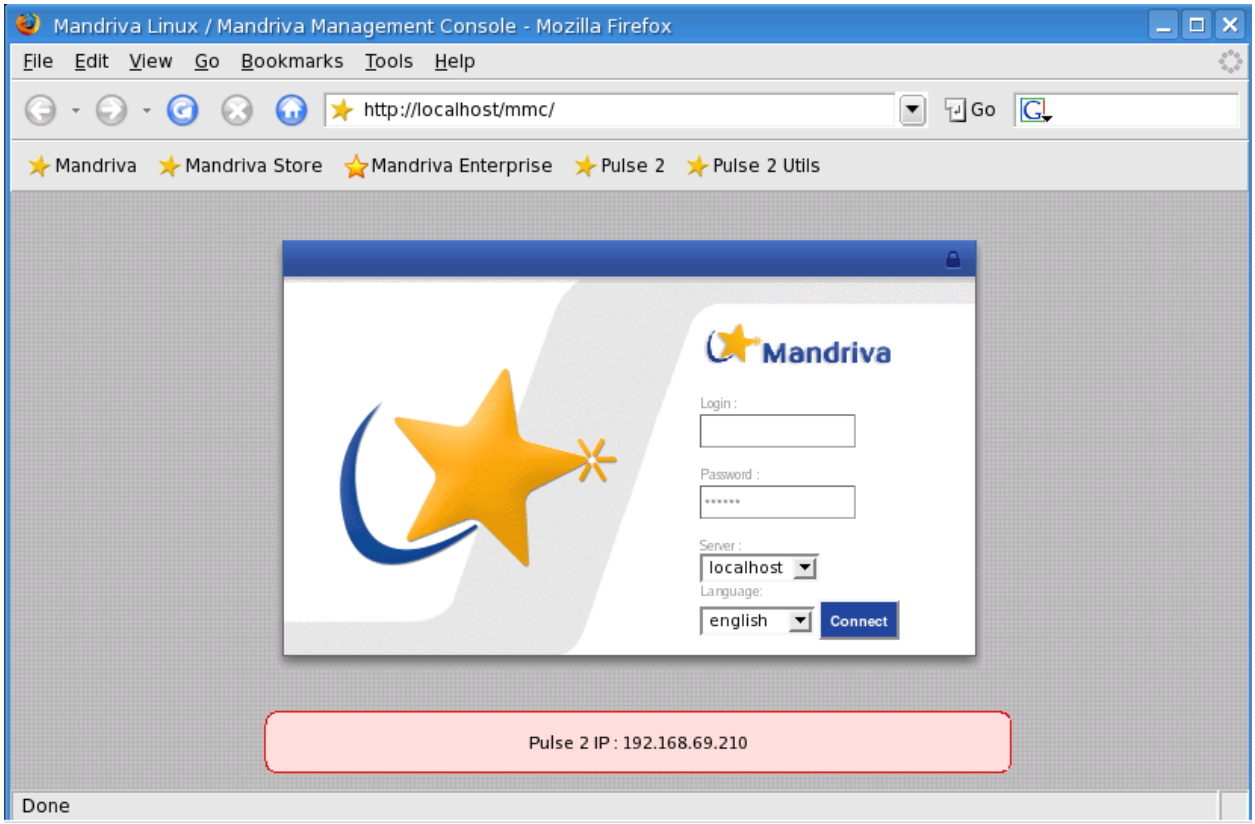
The VMware image can be resetted anytime to its initial state by using the “Revert” features of VMWare Player.

5. Connect to the Pulse 2 Console

The Pulse 2 administration console can be access from within the VMware image with Firefox pointing to http://localhost/mmc . It can also be accessed from another computer with a Web Browser using http://VMWARE_IP/mmc (where VMWARE_IP should be replaced with the IP address of the VMware image, see 'Network configuration' page 6 for more information).

To log in the Console, please use Pulse 2 main user, named “root”. Its password is “secret”.

The IP address obtained by the Pulse 2 server is shown in a pink square on the page http://localhost/mmc visible from the local web browser of the image.



6. Passwords

Access kind	Login	password
System access (ssh)	root	mandriva
Web access	root	secret

7. Initial state

After the first start of the VMware image :

- No client computer has been declared,
- An application has been registered, Firefox 2.0.0.9 for Windows,
- Two applications have been uploaded in the temporary directory /tmp/package_tmp/put . Those applications can be registered in Pulse 2 (please see the User Manual),
- Only one administrative account has been created (user “root”),
- No computer group has been declared.

8. Where to find the Pulse 2 agents and the documentation

The documentation and Pulse 2 agents can be found by opening your browser to http://localhost from within the Vmware image or from http://VMWARE_IP if accessed from elsewhere on the network (for example the target computer).

Register a Windows Client

From the client, please go through the following steps :

- Open a Web browser to **http://VMWARE_IP** (replace **VMWARE_IP** by the Pulse 2 server IP address),
- Download the “pulse2-win32-agents-pack-1.2.0.exe" archive and save it. This is an auto-extractible archive holding all elements which able the client target to be used from Pulse 2 :
  - **Pulse 2 Secure Agent**, to deploy applications over the target,
  - **Pulse 2 Inventory Agent**, to perform the client inventory,
  - **Pulse 2 Remote Desktop** Agent, to take remote control of the client.
- Click on the downloaded archive : it will then be uncompressed and automaticaly start the installation wizard,
- On the first wizard page, it is possible to (un-)select the agents to install; excepted the **Pulse 2 Remote Desktop** Agent all of them are mandatory (**Inventory Agent** to declare the client in Pulse 2, **Secure Agent** to make some deployments),
- On the second page, fill the Pulse 2 server IP address,
- Start the installation,

Your computer is now know from Pulse 2, you will be able to see it in a few seconds by clicking on the “Computers” tab.

Register a Unix/Linux client

1. Install the Pulse 2 Secure Agent

If no Pulse 2 Secure Agent is available for your specific platform, please use the SSH server packaged for your operating system.

In order to allow Pulse 2 to connect to your client, you will need to copy the only line from the “public key” file at the end of the “/root/.ssh/authorized_keys” file from the client.

2. Install the inventory agent

Depending on your Linux flavor, please use the related method :

2.1. installing the inventory agent on Mandriva

```
urpmi ocsinventory-agent
```

2.2. installing the inventory agent on Debian

```
aptitude install ocsinventory-agent
```

2.3. installing the inventory agent on Fedora / CentOS / RedHat

Note : seule la distribution Fedora distribue le paquet par ses propres miroirs.

```
yum install ocsinventory-agent
```

2.4. installing the inventory agent on Ubuntu

```
aptitude install ocsinventory-agent
```

3. Run the inventory agent

If the OCS Unified Agent is installed, run the following command under the root account (replace VMWARE_IP by the Pulse 2 server IP address) :

```
ocsinventory-agent –server=http://VMWARE_IP:9999/ocsinventory
```

Your computer is now recorded into Pulse 2, you will be able to see it in a few seconds by clicking on the “Computers” tab.

Connect to an existing GLPI system (optional)

Pulse 2 can use its own inventory database or an existing GLPI system[2].

In order to configure Pulse 2 to use an existing GLPI system, you will need to edit a few files. You can use your favorite editor (“kedit” and “vi” are available).

Theses changes have to be done under the **root** user account.

1. Deactivate the Pulse 2 inventory in /etc/mmc/plugins/inventory.ini

Line 2, change :

```
disable = 0
```

for

```
disable = 1
```

2. Activate the GLPI plugin in /etc/mmc/plugins/glpi.ini

Line 2, change

```
disable = 1
```

for

```
disable = 0
```

Then configure “dbhost”, “dbname”, “dbuser” and “dbpasswd” to the values used for your GLPI database.

3. Configure /etc/mmc/plugins/base.ini

Line 108, replace :

```
method = inventory
```

by

```
method = glpi
```

4. Restart the service

Restart the mmc-agent service for Pulse 2 to consider those new settings.

```
service mmc-agent restart
```

2 When using GLPI, inventories and client registration are not handled by Pulse 2.