

Pulse 2

Evaluation Guide

Mandriva Pulse 2 Evaluation Guide

Version 1.2 rev A

by Mandriva

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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.

Prerequisites

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

- The VMware Player Software (Windows or Linux version) that can be 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 you are currently reading,
- The Pulse 2 User Manual (Pulse2-Manual-1.2.0-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,
- A DHCP Server if you would like to connect to the Console from a workstation connected to your network.

¹For 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”.

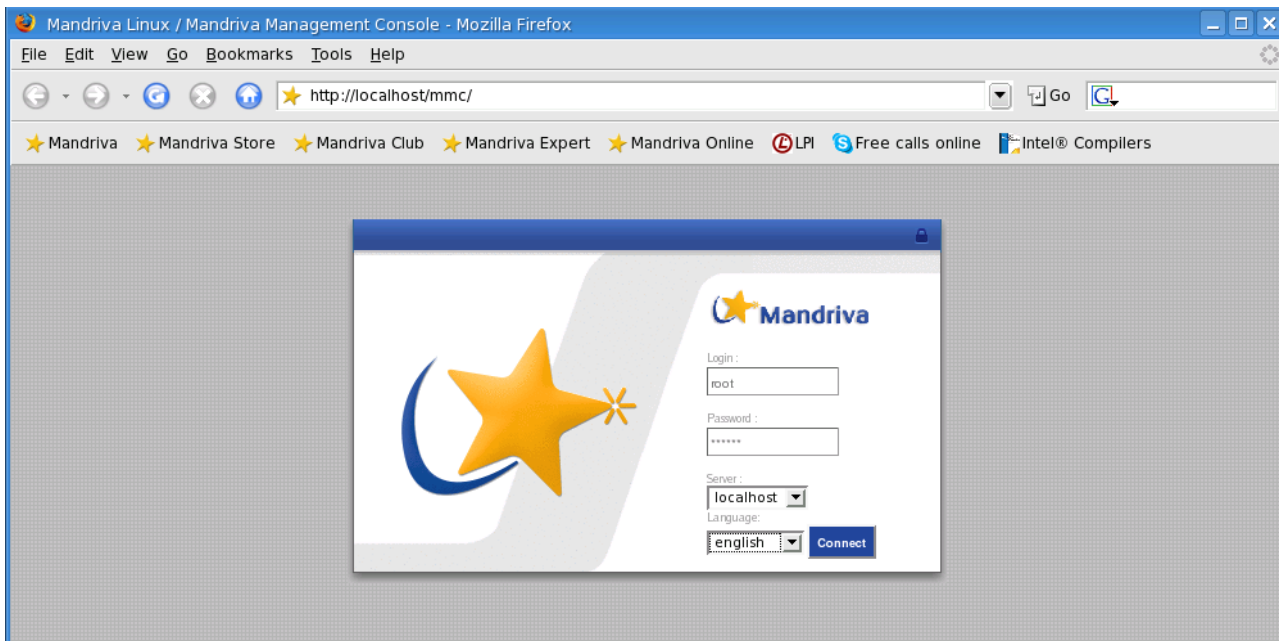
4. Reset the VMware image to its initial state

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. de l'image.

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



6. 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.

1. 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.

Register a Windows Client

From the client, please go through the following steps :

- Open a Web browser to http://VMWARE_IP
- Download the inventory agent and install it. This is used to upload the information Pulse 2 needs in order to be able to deploy software. (IP address, MAC address, hostname, ...).
- Download the public key and save it in [C:\](#) . Once saved, please make sure that its name is « id_dsa.pub » without any other extension.
- Download the “ Pulse 2 Secure Agent “ and install it

From within the VMware image :

- Open a terminal window;
- Connect as user “root” by using the “su” command. The “root” password is “mandriva”,
- Connect to the client you want to declare using

```
ssh CLIENT_IP_ADDRESS
```

If you are not able to connect with SSH, try to download and save the key file again and run the Secure Agent installation wizard again.

- Run the following command to end the registration process :

```
/cygdrive/c/Program\ Files/OCS\ Inventory\ Agent/OCSInventory.exe  
/SERVER:##VMWARE_IP## /PNUM:9999
```

where ##VMWARE_IP## should be replace by the Pulse 2 IP address.

- Quit the SSH session :

```
exit
```

You can now close the terminal window and your client is now declared in Pulse 2. You will be able to see it by clicking on the “Computers” tab.

Register a 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
```

Connect to an existing GLPI system (optional)

Pulse 2 can use its own inventory database or an existing GLPI system².

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).

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
```

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