What is Jenkins Remote?

Jenkins Remote is a system tray application that provides a detailed view of your Jenkins Continuous Integration server. It is design to sit in your operating system's System Tray and query the Jenkins server for information about each job. It provides notification pop-ups when a build begins and completes. It also provides a detailed look into each job including information about the build, the health reports, test data and artifacts. Finally it can also trigger commands on the server such as starting builds and restarting the server.

Features

- System tray icon for constant access
- Notification on Builds starting and completing
- Individual Job reporting
 - Weather report
 - Build status, date/time and number
 - Test Reports data
 - o Duration of build
 - Health report details
 - Archive download link
 - Trigger builds
- Jenkins remote command support (i.e. Reboot server)
- Highly configurable

Installing

System Requirements

- Java Runtime Environment 1.6
- Jenkins Server
- Windows/Linux/MacOSX

Installing and Launching

To install Jenkins Remote, begin by downloading the latest version. Jenkins Remote is packaged in zip file format. After download, unzip into any folder.

To run Jenkins Remote, begin by going into the base folder (i.e. jenkinsremote_win32.1.0.0.102). Once in that directory you can type the following command:

cmd> java -jar lib/com.spextreme.jenkins.remote.jar

It may also be beneficial to make this a startup process. To do this depends on your operating system so you may want to search Google for the different methods on doing this.

Uninstalling

If you choose to remove Jenkins Remote, all that is needed, is to exit the application and then delete the Jenkins Remote directory. This will remove it from your system.

General Warning

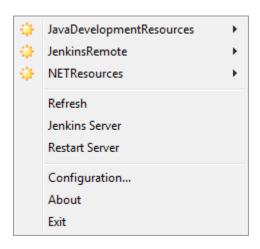
The design of Jenkins Remote is not fully consistent with other menu systems on modern User Interfaces. This design is somewhat intentional due to limitations of the Operating Systems' style. The primary item is that some menus when selected will not do anything. Typically this type of menu would be disabled. However in Jenkins Remote this is not the case because disabling the menu grays it out making it hard to interpret the icons and other information. Therefore all items will be enabled with only certain ones performing actions. The following items perform actions.

- Build # Opens the system's default web browser with the link to that build.
- Archives Opens the system's default web browser and begins downloading the selected archive.
- Build Now Links the build now link for the given Job.
- Restart Server Sends a command to the Jenkins server triggering a restart.
- Refresh Forces a query of the Jenkins server to update the menu system.
- Configuration... Opens the configuration dialog to edit the preferences of Jenkins Remote.
- About Displays a popup with the about information.
- Exit Shuts down the Jenkins Remote tray service.

Using the Tray

The tray is laid out much like the Jenkins interface but in menu form. The first menu is called the Root menu which holds much of the same information as the main page of Jenkins. The information contained on this page shows the jobs that are configured and the top level weather. The weather icon that is displayed matches the weather icon on the main web page.

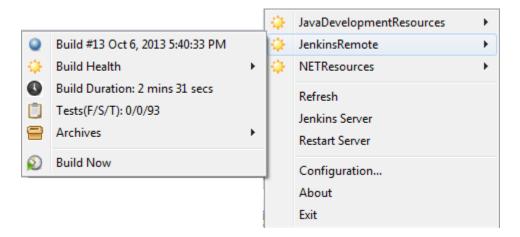
To get started, right click on the Jenkins icon 🚨 which will cause the Root menu to appear.



In the top half of the menu will be the jobs available. The middle contains the Jenkins Server administrative items. Finally the last half contains Jenkins Remote items.

Jobs Menu Items

The job menu item provides a sub menu to access specific job information and control.



The job sub menu contains details about the last build. The first row describes the build number, the date and time it was performed and the status of the build. The status icon can be one of the following:

- Failure The build failed to complete.
- Disable The build has never occurred or has been disabled.
- Unstable The build completed successfully but was unstable.

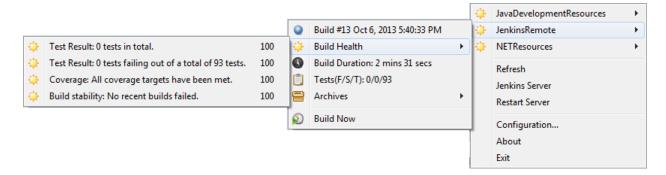
Below the build information is the build health. The build health is a sub menu that contains the different health reports. The menu itself contains an icon representing the job's collective weather report. The weather is based on percentages and is structured as follows:

- Sunny 🌣 Everything is healthy and the percentage is between 80 and 100 percent.
- Partly Cloudy 🏯 Something is a little bit off with the percentage between 60 and 79 percent.
- Cloudy ^(a) Things are not looking great with a percentage between 40 and 59 percent.
- Rainy 👼 Things are pretty bad with a percentage between 20 and 39 percent.
- Stormy Things are really bad with a percentage between 0 and 19 percent.

The sub menu for Build Health will give the details for the overall weather. It lists each item that is configured to report health. Typical items include, build stability and test results. There may be optional items included based on the plug-in install in the Jenkins server (i.e. Code Coverage).

The next couple of lines contain the build duration, the test results and the artifacts of the build. The duration is the total time the build took to complete. Next is the test report which lists the details of the tests including the total failed tests (F), total skipped tests (S) and the total number of tests (T). The last item is the artifacts that were built. This menu will only appear if the job is configured to publish

artifacts. If a single artifact is published then the menu will display the artifact name. If multiple artifacts are published then a sub menu will be displayed with each artifact under it. Selecting the artifact name will trigger the item to be downloaded using the systems configured web browser.



The next section in the job menu contains items that can be triggered on the server. This includes an item to start a new build. In the future this may include items to keep the current build, enable/disable jobs, etc...

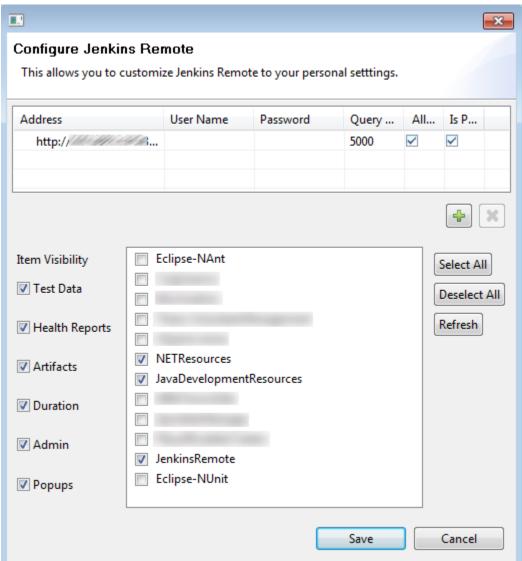
Administrative Menu Items

Administrative items on the Root menu allow some interaction with the Jenkins server. For this release the primary capability in this menu is the Restart Server command. This command will initiate a Restart of the Jenkins server.

Jenkins Remote Menu Items

The last section of the Root menu contains items for the Jenkins Remote application. This includes the configuration menu item, about and exit.

Configuration



The configuration dialog allows you to customize Jenkins Remote. The configuration screen is broken into three sections.

Jenkins Server

This section provides items that configure how Jenkins Remote interacts with the Jenkins server. The most important item is the Jenkins URL. This tells Jenkins Remote the full URL of the base Jenkins address. The address is typically in the format, protocol (i.e. http://), host address and the path to Jenkins. Note: Jenkins Remote requires the ending slash on the address and it will be added if it is missing.

The Query Periodic sets the rate at which the Jenkins server will be polled for information. The value is the total number of milliseconds between queries. The default value is 1000 ms (1 second) and it is not recommended to go below 500 ms.

The last configuration option of this section will allow Jenkins Remote to perform admin type of commands. These commands are things like restarting the server. If these commands shouldn't be performed, they can be remove from the menu using this configuration item (uncheck it).

Authentication (Not functional in version 1.0.0)

The authentication section is used to setup a username and password for logging into the Jenkins server. If the Jenkins server is configured to require users to log in, Jenkins Remote will need to have this setup.

It is recommended that the Jenkins Server create a new user account specifically for Jenkins Remote. Note: The password is not stored in an encrypted manor.

Hide/Show

The hide/show section of the configuration dialog allows the user to customize what information will be displayed in the tray menu. The following options are available

- Test Data Test data shows the pass and fail information of the test run during the build. You may want to hide this information if your build doesn't contain any test information.
- Health Reports The health reports can be hidden from display if this is information you're not concerned with.
- Artifacts You may want to hide artifacts if your build doesn't publish any.
- Duration The duration shows the length of the build. If this is information you're not interested in, then this menu item may be hidden.
- Jobs Each job may be hidden to help minimize the size of the menu or remove jobs that you're not concerned with.

About



The about menu item will cause a notification to appear with details about Jenkins Remote. These details include:

- The version
- Copyright information
- License Information
- Web address of the copyright owner

To close the notification, click the little x in the upper right corner.

Exit

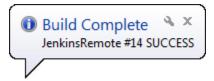
The exit menu will shutdown Jenkins Remote. When shutdown the tray icon will disappear and all processing performed by Jenkins Remote will stop.

Tray Notifications

Jenkins Remote will display notifications (pop-up bubbles above the tray icon) when a build begins and completes. When a build starts it will display information about the build including the name of the job and the build identifier.



When the build completes, a completion notification is displayed with the success or failure notice of the build. If a build failed, the tray icon will also change the background of Mr. Jenkins to red.



Support/Bug Report

Submit all support and bug reports through Source Forge (https://sourceforge.net/projects/hudsonremote/).

Contributing

Contributions are welcome. Contact SP extreme (support at spextreme.com) for information on ways to contribute.

Legal

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