VM Scheduled Stop and Start

Last updated by | Paul Kelleher | 17 Jun 2020 at 07:46 GMT

TL/DR;

- ☑ Create 2 New Calanders for Schedule Entries
- ☑ Install Automation & Runbooks
- ☑ Control AutoStart and AutoStopvia Calander

Contents

Preparation

The solution comprises the following Elements

The solution here has been chosen and configured so that the Automation Scripts and Microsoft Flows tasks are simple and should need no updating.

The only maintenance for the solution is the shared Outlook Calanders where we place the start stop entries.

This solution was deemed preferable to tags due to

- Adding, Removing or Amending Schedules can be done with a non-priv account
- The Calanders can be shared enabling all usersto verify schedules
- Admin can be shared by expanding write access to the Calanders and not Azure

Outlook AutoStart/top Calanders

- recommend a shared calander with a service account to access from Flows
- entries only require the time and the vmname,resourcegroup in the Subject
- recurrence and bank holidays etc can be planned in and thus maximise savings

Automation and RunAs Accounts

- MS Docs ⧉
- Creating and Automation Account ⧉

RunBooks

- Import AutoStop-NamedVM RunBook
- Import AutoStart-NamedVM

Scheduled Shutdown

The scheduled actions are triggered by either the Start or Stop Automation Runbooks

- Check the Calander for Entries happening in next 5 mins
- Read the subject line comprising of VM Name and Resource Group
- Split the Subject line into first part = VMName for AutoStart/Stop Paramater 1
- Split the Subject line into second part = Resource-Group for AutoStart/Stop Paramater 2

Adding a new instance

Removing an instance

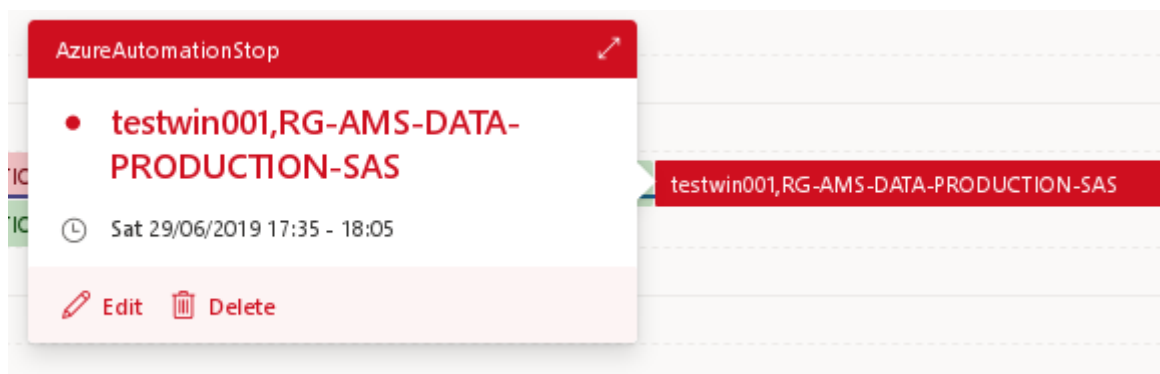## Scheduled Startup

Adding a new instance

- See the notes above foradding a new entry to your AzureAutoStart Calander

Removing and instance

- See the notes above for removing antries from your AzureAutoStart Calander

Manual OOH Startup

Schedules

Action	Schedule	Detail
Shutdown	Daily 19:00/19:30	This should apply to all instances not required 24x7
Shutdown	Weekends 13:00/18:00	To catch any instances that may have been started over the weekend
Startup	Daily 07:00/08:00	Only Production instances should always be started every working day
Startup	OnDemand	Dev and Non-Production instances should be primarily on-demand start and not automatically started unless confirmed they will be used all day when started

Additional Considerations

☑ Dev and Non Production Instances should be controleled on-demand by the developers and shutdown each day unless requested otherwise

☑ Additional Stop triggers should be identified and validated

☑ Notifications Channels or other feeds to inform people

☑ Start and Stop Calanders should be shared to read

☑ Separate calaners can be used to give more granular control for projects

AutoStart-NamedVM
AutoStop-NamedVM

FlowsAutoMationStart
FlowsVMAutomStopCalanderIntegration