



What:

Version:

Author:

Last update:

Photon Configuration (PhotonSocketServer.xml)

2.6.x

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Section	Setting	Value	Default	ENET	Description
<Instance ...>	Multiple instances are supported. Each instance has its own node in the config file. PhotonControl will currently only start "Instance1" but the .cmd files could be modified to start other instances.				
	EnablePerformanceCounters	TRUE	FALSE		Determines whether the server will enable its performance counters or not. The performance counter implementation creates a shared memory segment to allow the counter DLL to communicate with the server. To be able to create this shared memory segment requires that the user running the server has suitable privileges. If you wish to run the server without those privileges (and without publishing performance data) then you can set this value to "false".
	[ENET]				
	DatagramSocketAllocatorPoolSize		1000	x	The number of datagram sockets that are kept in the pool for later reuse. This is a classic trade of speed vs resources. The pooled sockets are faster to allocate but take up memory all the time.
	PingIntervalMilliseconds		1000	x	The Ping interval is how often a ping is sent from server to client when no data is flowing. Sending pings adds load to the server and so this can be tuned; a larger value leads to less load on the server. The ENet protocol usually uses a fixed value for this parameter. Defaults to the ENet standard value of 500ms.
	DataSendingDelayMilliseconds	50	150	x	The data sending delay is how long the server will wait to accumulate more data to send to the client in the same datagram. A larger value can lead to fewer datagrams being sent as more data can be put into a single datagram, however this also increases latency as the server waits longer before sending responses. If using the 'standard' ENet code then data is accumulated until a call to enet_host_flush() or enet_host_service().
	AckSendingDelayMilliseconds	50	250	x	The data sending delay is how long the server will wait before sending an ACK to the client. This allows it to potentially piggyback the ACK onto a data packet if a response packet is generated within the delay period. A larger value can lead to fewer datagrams being sent as an ACK can be put into the same datagram as a reply. This doesn't increase latency. If using the 'standard' ENet code then data is accumulated until a call to enet_host_flush() or enet_host_service().
	MinimumRetransmitTimeout		200	x	Enet retransmission times are calculated based on the accumulated RTT of the peer. This setting sets a minimum retransmission time. Peers with very low latency could want to retransmit before the value that this setting allows and will be delayed. This value allows you to reduce the speed at which data is retransmitted and reduce the load on the server. If you are sending reliable data and have low latency peers and require minimum latency then setting this value to anything but zero will likely increase latency and reduce the number of peers that you can support with given CPU resources.
	ENETBufferAllocatorPoolSize		5000	x	The number of buffers that are kept in the pool for later reuse. This is a classic trade of speed vs resources. The pooled buffers are faster to allocate but take up memory all the time.
	ENETPreallocateBuffers		FALSE	x	If true then the buffer allocator's buffer pool is preallocated on start up. That is ENETBufferAllocatorPoolSize buffers are added to the pool during process start up rather than allowing them to accumulate as the server allocates and released buffers. This is useful when the low contention allocator is being used as the low contention allocator is only more performant when working from pooled buffers.
	[Throtteling]				
	PerPeerMaxReliableDataInTransit	16384	16384		The maximum amount of reliable data that a peer can send and which the peer has not as yet received an ACK for. In bytes. Once this amount of data has been sent all future reliable data will be queued.
	PerPeerTransmitRateLimitKBSec	12	12		The maximum amount of data (reliable AND unreliable) that can be sent in a second (in KB). This can be used to limit the amount of data that a peer can send. When the limit is reached further reliable data is queued and unreliable data is dropped. The default, 12, is a purely arbitrary value that has no meaning and has NOT been carefully calculated to be in any way special.
	PerPeerTransmitRatePeriodMilliseconds		250		How often we check the transmit rate limit. By default we check every 250ms (i.e. 4 times per second) and we scale the PerPeerTransmitRateLimitKBSec by 4 for each check. A smaller value makes the data flow more consistent, a larger value makes the flow more jerky but uses less server resources.
	MaxQueuedDataPerPeer	65536	65536		The maximum amount of reliable data that a peer can queue. Reliable data is queued when either the PerPeerMaxReliableDataInTransit or the PerPeerTransmitRateLimitKBSec limits are exceeded. Once this limit is exceeded all future reliable sends will return an error code.
	MinimumTimeout	5000	5000	x	The minimum amount of time before an Enet peer's lack of response causes a timeout disconnect. Note that the actual time is determined dynamically per peer based on the RTT history.
	MaximumTimeout	30000	30000	x	The maximum amount of time before an Enet peer's lack of response causes a timeout disconnect. Note that the actual time is determined dynamically per peer based on the RTT history.
	[TCP]				
	TCPBufferSize		4096		The size of buffer used during TCP data transfer. Note that this does not in any way restrict the message size. It's ideal to have the buffer size be slightly more than the average message size.
	TCPBufferAllocatorPoolSize		500		The number of buffers used for TCP data transfer that are kept in the pool for later reuse. This is a classic trade of speed vs resources. The pooled buffers are faster to allocate but take up memory all the time.
	StreamSocketAllocatorPoolSize		250		The number of TCP sockets that are kept in the pool for later reuse. This is a classic trade of speed vs resources. The pooled sockets are faster to allocate but take up memory all the time.
	[DEBUGGING]				
	ProduceDumps	TRUE	FALSE		Switch to enable or disable creation of "dump files" in case of a crash. Dump files are essential to find issues in the Photon Core.
	DumpType		Full		Defines the type of crash dumps to write. The types are "Full", "Maxi" and "Mini" and they include less information from first to last but also require less space on the harddisk.
	MaxDumpsToProduce		10		Configures how many dump files are written maximum. If the files are moved or deleted, new ones can be written.
<IOPool ...>	This thread pool handles all I/O operations such as datagram sending and reception, tcp read completions, etc. This pool can also handle Enet protocol operations if ENetThreadPool\OnlyDispatchTimers is set to "true". Once inbound data has been deblocked into commands it is sent to the "Business Logic" thread pool for passing into the CLR and managed code.				
	NumThreads		2		This value determines the number of threads used for socket I/O. A value of 4-8 tends to be good but you should profile your server to see what works best. Use the I/O thread performance counters to see when all I/O threads are busy when the server is under load. If set to 0 then the I/O Pool uses 2 x the number of CPU cores as the number of threads; whilst this works well for up to a dual core it isn't especially useful if the resulting number of threads is more than 8.
	Priority		Normal		Thread priority of the IO threads. Valid values are "Lowest", "Below Normal", "Normal", "Above Normal" and "Highest".
<ThreadPool ...>	This is the "Business Logic" thread pool. It's used for all CLR operations.				
	InitialThreads	4	5		This setting determines the number of threads that the thread pool starts with.
	MinThreads	4	5		This setting determines the minimum number of threads that the thread pool will contain.
	MaxThreads	4	10		This setting determines the maximum number of threads that the thread pool will contain. Note that if Initial, min and max are all the same then the pool is a static pool rather than a dynamic pool. Static pools are more efficient than dynamic pools as the work item dispatch process is optimised. Dynamic pools can grow and shrink as demand changes. If your work items are generally short lived and the pool rarely expands in general use then you can get a performance boost by setting the pool up as a static pool.
	MaxDormantThreads		4		This setting determines the maximum number of threads that can be 'dormant', i.e. not currently performing work. Once the number of dormant threads exceeds this amount some threads will be shut down.
	PoolMaintPeriod		5000		This setting determines how often the pool is maintained. The value is in milliseconds. A maintenance thread will wake up every X ms to check on and possibly shut down dormant threads.

	DispatchTimeout	100	This setting determines when a new thread may be started. If a work item is dispatched and this number of milliseconds passes before a worker thread picks up the item and begins processing it then a new thread may be started.
	Priority	Normal	Thread priority of the business logic threads. Valid values are "Lowest", "Below Normal", "Normal", "Above Normal" and "Highest".

<ENetThreadPool ...>	The Enet Thread Pool is one of three thread pools in the server. This is used for all Enet protocol operations (i.e. deblocking inbound datagrams, acking on and sending ACKs, dealing with periodic protocol events for peers; e.g. retransmission and ping generation).			
	InitialThreads	2	5	See ThreadPool.
	MinThreads	2	5	See ThreadPool.
	MaxThreads	2	10	See ThreadPool.
	OnlyDispatchTimers	FALSE		If set to true the only Enet timer operations use this pool. If set to false then all Enet operations (i.e. protocol level operations such as deblocking inbound data and processing ACKs etc) are dispatched to this pool.
	MaxDormantThreads	4		See ThreadPool.
	PoolMaintPeriod	5000		See ThreadPool.
	DispatchTimeout	100		See ThreadPool.
	Priority	Normal		Thread priority of the enet threads. Valid values are "Lowest", "Below Normal", "Normal", "Above Normal" and "Highest".

<TCPListeners ...>				
	<TCPListener ...>			
	IPAddress	0.0.0.0		The IP Address to listen on, e.g. 192.168.0.1 or 0.0.0.0 to listen on ALL interfaces.
	Port	4530	5051	The port to listen on.
	ListenBacklog	150		The size of the listen backlog queue. This affects the number of connections that can be established simultaneously; so, for example, if 151 clients attempt to connect at exactly the same time then the last one could be rejected. Note that each connection establishment attempt takes very little time and once the connection IS established the connection is not affected by the limit. So you can set the value to 10 and still have 10,000 concurrent active connections as long as no more than 10 attempt to connect at exactly the same time.
	RecvBufferSize	0		The size of the TCP recv buffer used by the TCP stack. This is also used to determine the TCP window size (which is used by the TCP stack for flow control). Defaults to zero which means "don't change" which causes the operating system's default value to be used.
	SendBufferSize	0		The size of the TCP send buffer used by the TCP stack. Defaults to zero which means "don't change" which causes the operating system's default value to be used.
	DisableNagle	TRUE	FALSE	Determines if Nagle's algorithm is in use on the connection. If set to true then Nagle is disabled and outbound TCP data will be sent as soon as it reaches the TCP stack. If set to false then Nagle is in operation and the TCP stack will attempt to colasce outbound data into fewer datagrams. Setting this setting to true might improve the latency of your TCP connections a little, at the expense of there being more datagrams sent.
	InactivityTimeout	5000	1000	A time, in ms, which is allowed between receiving data on a connection. If this time is exceeded then the connection is deemed to be inactive and is aborted. To ensure that this timer doesn't fire inappropriately you should make sure that there is an inbound TCP message on each connection more frequently than the value set here. Set to zero to disable the inactivity timer.
	OverrideApplication	Can be used to override the application used for this connector. The application selection sent by clients will be ignored. The value can be the name of any setup application.		
	DefaultApplication	Defines a default application for a Listener. This DefaultApplication is used, when a client tries to connect to a application that is not loaded. For this Listener, the DefaultApplication overrides the "Default" application set in the Applications node. The value can be the name of any setup application.		

<UDPListeners ...>				
	<UDPListener ...>			
	IPAddress	0.0.0.0		The IP Address to listen on, e.g. 192.168.0.1 or 0.0.0.0 to listen on ALL interfaces.
	Port	5055	5055	The port to listen on.
	ListenBacklog	500		The size of the listen backlog queue. This affects the number of connections that can be established simultaneously; so, for example, if 151 clients attempt to connect at exactly the same time then the last one could be rejected. Note that each connection establishment attempt takes very little time and once the connection IS established the connection is not affected by the limit. So you can set the value to 10 and still have 10,000 concurrent active connections as long as no more than 10 attempt to connect at exactly the same time.
	RecvBufferSize	0		The size of the UDP recv buffer used by the UDP stack. Defaults to zero which means "don't change" which causes the operating system's default value to be used. Larger values lead to fewer UDP datagrams being discarded if more datagrams arrive in a burst faster than the server can process them.
	SendBufferSize	0		The size of the TCP send buffer used by the TCP stack. Defaults to zero which means "don't change" which causes the operating system's default value to be used.
	OverrideApplication	Can be used to override the application used for this connector. The application selection sent by clients will be ignored. The value can be the name of any setup application.		
	DefaultApplication	Defines a default application for a Listener. This DefaultApplication is used, when a client tries to connect to a application that is not loaded. For this Listener, the DefaultApplication overrides the "Default" application set in the Applications node. The value can be the name of any setup application.		

<Runtime ...>	Defines the Photon Runtime Assembly to use.		
	Assembly	PhotonHostRuntime,	The details of the Photon Runtime assembly to use. Normal .Net assembly loading rules are used to locate the
	CLRVersion		By default, the latest DotNet runtime is used to host Photon Applications. Per instance, this setting allows to load a select version. Values are "v4.0" or "v2.0" or complete versions with build numbers. Example: CLRVersion = "2.0"
	EnableMDA	FALSE	Enables the managed debugging assistants. Configure these with a PhotonSocketServer.exe.mda.config file in the same directory as the exe.
	Type	PhotonHostRuntime. PhotonDomainManager	The name of the type that is used as the Photon Runtime's domain manager. This type MUST be located in the assembly detailed by the Runtime value. MUST derive from PhotonHostRuntimeInterfaces.IPhotonDomainManager.

<Applications ...>			
	Default		A default application to use if no application is specified.
	PassUnknownAppsToDefaultApp	TRUE	If true then if an unknown application name is supplied the the default application is used. If false then this is a fatal error which will terminate a connection.

<Application ...>			
	Name		Arbitrary name for the application, used for dispatch.
	SharedDirectory	"Shared"	Used to contain 'shared' assemblies. WILL BE located under the Base Directory.
	BaseDirectory		This folder should contain a "bin" folder with all the application assemblies and config files, etc.
	Assembly		Details of the assembly to use. Normal .Net assembly loading rules are used to locate this assembly and it can contain a complete assembly specification string (including PublicKeyToken if required).
	Type		The name of the type that will be loaded as the application. MUST derive from PhotonHostRuntimeInterfaces.IPhotonApplication.
	EnableShadowCopy	FALSE	If enabled then the CLR will create copies of the assembly files in a private directory when they are loaded. This allows you to overwrite the originals, for update, say. The copies are used until the application domain that's using them is shut down.
	EnableAutoRestart	FALSE	If enabled the app will restart automatically if files changes occur. A new copy of the application is started; existing connections to the old copy are allowed to continue until all connections disconnect at which point the app domain is unloaded. The IPhotonApplicationControl.OnStopRequested() method is called when the unmanaged code wishes to 'kindly' unload an app domain, the app could inform the clients at this point.
	ForceAutoRestart	FALSE	ForceAutoRestart, if set to "true", implies "EnableAutoRestart" but aborts all existing connections rather than waiting for them to disconnect.
	RestartDelayMillis	10000	Restarts due to file changes can be delayed with this setting.
	WatchFiles	""	By default no "WatchFiles" entry means watch everything. Example: WatchFiles="dll;config;Lite.XML"

ExcludeFiles		""	By default no "ExcludeFiles" entry means exclude nothing. Example: ExcludeFiles="log4net.config"
<TCPFlashListeners ...>			
<TCPFlashListener ...>	{see TCPLListener}		
<TCPPolicyListeners ...>			
<TCPPolicyListener ...>	{see TCPLListener}		
<TCPChunkListeners ...> {for internal use}			
<TCPChunkListener ...>	{for internal use}		
	IPAddress		
	Port	666	
	Application		
	ListenBacklog	150	
	RecvBufferSize	0	
	SendBufferSize	0	
	DisableNagle	FALSE	
	PacketHeader		
	Separator	0A	
	Min	0	
	Max	1024	
InactivityTimeout	1000		
<UDPChunkListeners ...> {for internal use}			
<UDPChunkListener ...>	{for internal use}		
	IPAddress		
	Port	6000	
	Application		
	ListenBacklog	150	
	RecvBufferSize	0	
	SendBufferSize	0	
	PacketHeader		
	Min	0	
	Max	1024	
<ConfigServer ...>			
	If a <ConfigServer> node is present then you can configure a listener which presents a text menu based interface to telnet clients. The menu lets you stop, start and restart apps and also allows you to		
	IPAddress		
	Port	943	
	ListenBacklog	5	