WPKG in 20 Minutes

Third Party Updates for Sysadmins

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The Inspiration

What is WPKG?

A lightweight infrastructure to install profiles of packages on hosts.

Goals

- Keep third party software up to date without end user intervention.
- Make updates easy and quick.
- Stay legal.
- Be flexible: staff, labs, Computer Recycling.

What you need

- A (read-only) Windows share
- A repository of software ("warez")
- profiles.xml, hosts.xml
- Associated XML package files

Specifying Packages

You need to specify:

- The package ID
- A version string
- How to identify whether the package is installed
- How to silently install/upgrade/remove the package

WPKG: Powerful and Insecure

- No host checking!
- No package integrity checking!
- Windows share is visible to the world!

Other Thoughts

- Implement host checking with SSH.
- WPKG is a bad idea for one-off installs (eg Computer Recycling)

Resources

`http://wpkg.org` (lots of recipes!)

`http://nirsoft.net`

`http://ninite.com`

`https://www.autoitscript.com/site/autoit/`

The End

Comments?
Questions?

Not actually The End

Tips and Tricks

Calling WPKG

For lab machines: scheduled task once a week.

For installer: during install.

For staff machines: Run shutdown task via Group Policy (and adjust timeouts accordingly)

Troubleshooting

Install strings:

```
HKLM\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\
Windows\CurrentVersion\
Uninstall
```

More Troubleshooting

Install state:

```
c:\windows\system32\wpkg.xml
```

Verbose logs:

```
%TEMP%\wpkg-<hostname>.log
```

Delete Programs Easily

```
wmic product where "name like
'Java%%'" call uninstall
/nointeractive
```

Registry edits

```
regedit /s
"%SOFTWARE%\WSUSServer\
set-wsus-server.reg"
```

This turns WPKG into (some of) Group Policy!

Links and Icons

```
nircmd.exe shortcut
"%PROGDIR%\Microsoft Games\
Minesweeper\Minesweeper.exe"
"%destdir%" "Minesweeper"

nircmd.exe execmd del
"%PUBLIC%\Desktop\Sage 50.lnk"
```

No silent installer?

Write an AutoIT script.