Faronics Power Save and ADT
Fire & Security Energy Management
Software Helps Security Company
Lower IT Energy Costs

—

CASE STUDY

Background

ADT is the world's largest electronic security and alarm monitoring company, providing solutions that protect buildings and businesses; from the smallest shop to the largest retail centre; from workshops to car plants; from underground car parks to the tallest office blocks. Supporting ADT's operations in the United Kingdom and Ireland are 3,000 desktops and laptops spread across thirty different locations.

Problem

ADT recognized that the IT infrastructure was drawing a significant amount of power to run their office equipment, and that often many computers sat idle as employees were working on other projects, in meetings, or on conference calls. The company realized that if they could power the computers down during these periods of inactivity, ADT would stand to save a significant amount of money, and more importantly, energy. A new environmental campaign called Project Greenfoot had recently been launched to help ADT employees reduce their carbon footprint and save energy. Finding a solution to eliminate energy waste created by inactive computers and laptops would fully support this new campaign and further demonstrate ADT's commitment to protecting the environment.

Initially the company rolled out a user-dependent power management plan that relied on employees manually powering of their workstations each evening and powering them on again in the morning. There were some obvious challenges with this practice that became apparent rather quickly. Some users simply ignored the request to turn their computer off at the end of the day and would leave it running all night.

Others tried it initially but found the lengthy system start-up times in the morning to be disruptive to their workday They quickly returned to leaving computers on overnight.

Roger Bunting, Computer Services Manager for ADT UK, had heard that energy management software existed that could provide centralized control of a workstation's power management settings. Using such a tool could eliminate the dependence on the user to turn off their computer by managing the power state of all ADT workstations from one central computer.

Problems with Existing Solutions

- Existing solutions are disruptive
- Computers are turned of when user is away for a meeting or brief time
- Lengthy start up time
- Data can be lost
- Patches and updates are not delivered
- Background jobs are terminated
- IT and users resist savings initiatives

Solution

"Power Save's centralized control capabilities along with its enterprise-wide savings reporting gave it the winning edge over the other solutions reviewed."

After a thorough investigation, Roger came across a number of power management software solutions that met his criteria; among them was Faronics Power Save. To be selected for consideration, the software solution needed to provide central control of a workstation's power settings - especially the ability to override a user's settings and prevent the user from deactivating the power management software.

After reviewing a shortlist of contenders, ADT selected Faronics Power Save for a pilot deployment. Power Save's centralized control capabilities along with its enterprise-wide savings reporting gave it the winning edge over the other solutions reviewed. During the initial deployment of Faronics Power Save, energy savings and cost benefits were recognized early on in the test programme. This proved to ADT that Power Save had a rapid and quantifiable return-on-investment.

Evaluation

ADT UK currently has Power Save installed on 2,700 desktop and laptop computers. One of the key differentiations about Power Save for ADT is its low administration overhead; in fact, ADT has benefited from the time and activity based rules that Power Save uses before taking any energy-management actions.

"We have had Power Save installed on all of our PCs and laptops for five months now," says Mr. Bunting. "During this time from March 2009 to July 2009, ADT UK has saved 181,037 kWh of electricity. If we add in the savings we generated during the pilot phase, this number jumps up to 227,088 kWh." Presently, ADT UK is enjoying a savings of 36,200 kWh per month or better.
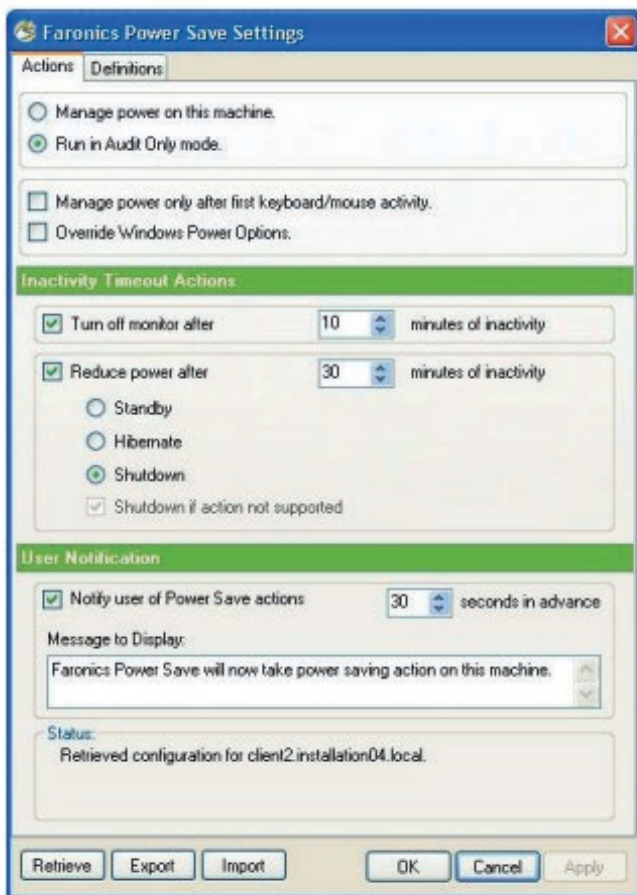
What is Faronics Power Save?

Faronics Power Save delivers desktop computer energy management that can be managed enterprise-wide and is non-disruptive to user or IT processes.

Key Benefits

- Intelligent computer energy management
- Non-disruptive to user or IT processes
- Power consumption and savings reports
- Audit Mode enables measurement & verifcation
- Override operating system power management
- Deployed & managed through Central Console
- Windows & Mac OS X support
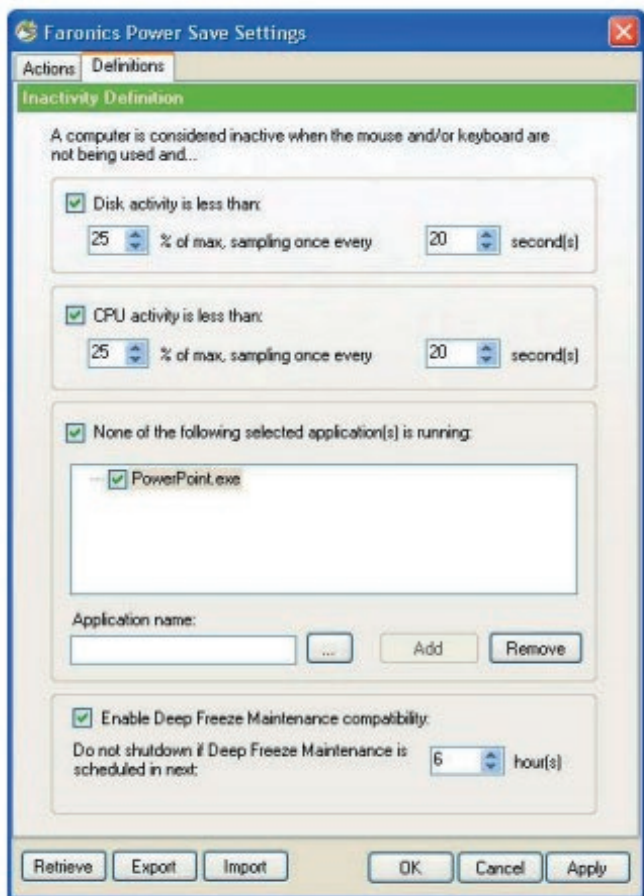
Power Save has enabled ADT to support one of its key strategic objectives for this year and beyond, which is to reduce its carbon footprint, save energy and become a much greener company. As a result of its success in the UK, the software will now be rolled out in a phased approach to all fire and security operations in the entire EMEA region.

Faronics Power Save provides numerous energy policy options including overriding the Windows Power settings, notifying users before actions are taken, and detecting whether a selected application is running before taking action.

Faronics