Faronics Power Save and
Thrane & Thrane

Background

Thrane & Thrane is one of the world's leading developers and manufacturers of global mobile satellite and radio communications for use at sea, on land, and in air. The company is headquartered in Lyngby, north of Copenhagen, and has offices in Denmark, Norway, Sweden, USA, China, and Singapore. The company was established in 1981 and currently employs approximately 600 employees worldwide, operating on over 800 workstations and 100 servers in an all-Windows environment.

Problem

Because of the central role computers play in both development and production at Thrane & Thrane, it is often required that computers remain powered on during evenings and over weekends. Thrane & Thrane did not have an existing centralised PC power management plan, so any shut-down settings were left to the users to decide. There were also many employees that worked from home which was problematic because home users required the office PC to be powered on in order to access it from home.

Thrane & Thrane knew that if they could find a flexible strategy to power down computers during periods of inactivity, they could potentially save a significant amount of money, and more importantly, energy.

Green IT initiatives have been gaining continual interest in Europe over the last few years, with particular focus on 'greening' data centers. However, industry analysts, such as Gartner and Forrester, estimate that over 40% of IT costs come from the power consumption of PCs, and that most companies use at least as much energy powering their PC fleets as they do running data centers.

Problems with Existing Solutions:

- Existing solutions are disruptive to IT and users
- Computers are turned of when user is away for a meeting or brief time
- Data can be lost due to unexpected workstation shutdowns
- Patches and updates are not delivered
- Background workstation processes are terminated

Solution

Thrane & Thrane began searching for possible PC power management solutions and came across Faronics Power Save from a website that discussed rebate funding from an American utility provider. Because of the amount of energy saved with Faronics Power Save, power companies often offer significant rebates to organisations and individuals that utilise recognised methods to reduce power consumption.

Thrane & Thrane purchased Faronics Power Save through preferred channel partner CompleteWare, and were immediately impressed.

"It was essential for us to choose a solution that interacted well with our business," said Morten Lyckegaard, IT Operations Manager at Thrane & Thrane. "This is why we chose Faronics Power Save; it was the only solution we looked at that contained intelligent management tools at both central and the employee level."

Faronics Power Save dramatically reduces an organisation's operating costs by eliminating unnecessary computer energy consumption. Faronics Power Save keeps computers running when users need them, powers them down when they are inactive, and can prove its rapid return-on-investment through energy savings reports. Power Save is also non-disruptive—it analyses CPU, disk, network, keyboard, mouse, and application status before taking power management actions.

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Evaluation

Thanks to the implementation of Faronics Power Save, the Danish satellite specialist is now saving 250,000 Danish Kroner a year (45,000 U$). With the help of a grant from Danish Oil and Gas (DONG), the investment in Power Save will pay for itself within the year.

"Although it is common sense to invest in power savings, it is always a challenge to spend money to save money. Therefore grants were a key driver in our decision to purchase Faronics Power Save," said Lyckegaard. "In the U.S. there is widespread use of subsidies, so we were happy that CompleteWare followed in the U.S. footsteps and collaborated with DONG."

Thrane & Thrane initially began the deployment of Power Save on the server side, but have now turned their focus towards PCs, which account for a significantly larger share of power than the server room.

With the help of Power Save's Power Plans, Thrane & Thrane can further customise different levels of energy management for specific days of the week, and at different times of the day. Many organisations using Power Save utilise a daytime Power Policy that employs moderate energy saving actions, and an aggressive Power Policy for the weekend. Thrane & Thrane have opted for the Power Save default usage, which powers down monitors after 20 minutes, and computers after 120 minutes. They have also implemented a program that allows users to exempt their computers from power management if necessary.

Lyckegaard's favourite option has been the ability to wake-up a machine from a webpage. "Power Save is, to my knowledge, the only solution that offers our users to wake-up their computer using a webpage. Since none of the competitors offered webpage for wake-up, I didn't test other solutions."

Any hesitation Thrane &Thrane initially experienced from spending money to save money was quickly dismissed when they discovered the ease of the deployment. "Faronics Power Save is an intelligent user oriented solution that is easy to install, flexible, and contains features that are needed," said Lyckegaard.

Faronics' solutions help organisations increase the productivity of existing IT investments and lower IT operating costs. In today's economic climate of increasingly tightened budgets, continuous market pressure, and more work to do than time available, this is critical.

With a well-established record of helping organisations manage, simplify, and secure their IT infrastructure, Faronics makes it possible to do more with less by maximising the value of existing technology.

Incorporated in 1996, Faronics has offices in the USA, Canada, and the UK, as well as a global network of channel partners. Our solutions are deployed in over 150 countries worldwide, and are helping more than 30,000 customers.

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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 & verification

- Schedule various levels of energy management with Power Plans and Policies

- Deployed and managed through Faronics Core

- Windows & Mac OS X support