

Creating Scheduled Task for Windows OS Initialization and Modification

Summary

This article provide a summary on how to Create Scheduled Task for OS Initialization and Modification via Config.bat .

Applies To

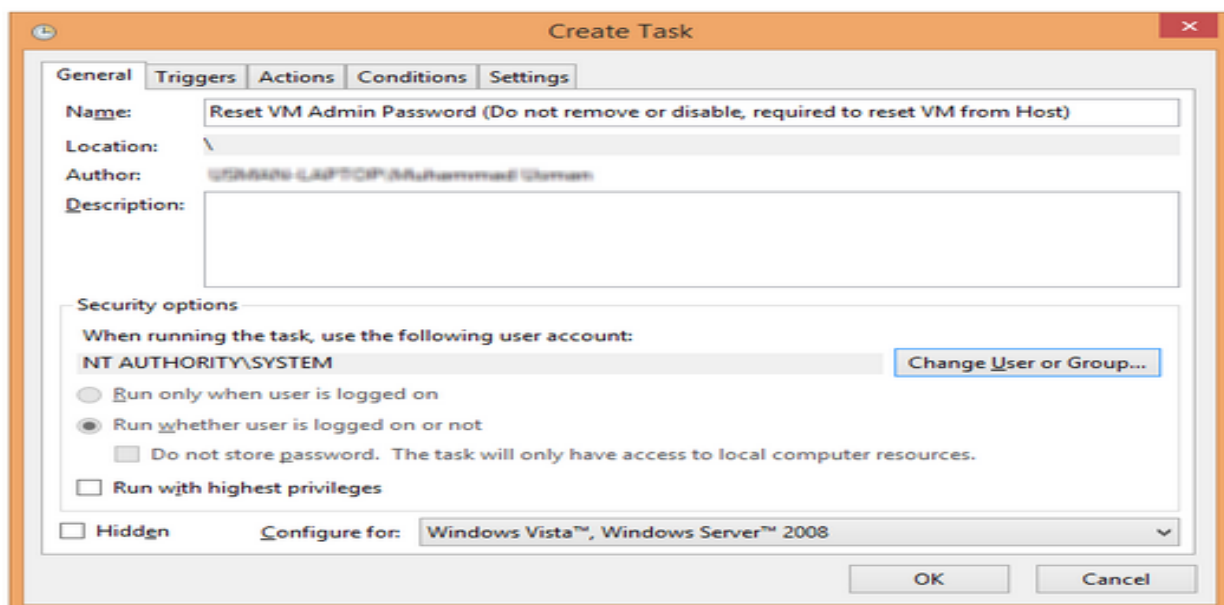
This article applies to MachPanel v6.5.25 and above

Steps to create a Scheduled Task

In order to set passwords of VM, we need to create a "Scheduled Task" in sealed image of guest OS:

1. Open **Task Scheduler**.
2. Click the "Task Scheduler Library"
3. Click "Create Task" by right clicking "Task Scheduler Library" or from "Actions" menu on the right.
 - **Name task as:** Reset VM Admin Password (Do not remove or disable, required to reset VM from Host)
 - Set task to be run under System user (NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM).
 - Choose "Run whether user is logged on or not."

1. Un-check "Do not store password"



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- Under **Triggers** add new trigger and set "**At Start up**" and **Enabled**.

The image shows a 'New Trigger' dialog box with the following configuration:

- Begin the task:** At startup
- Settings:** No additional settings required.
- Advanced settings:**
 - Delay task for: 15 minutes
 - Repeat task every: 1 hour for a duration of: 1 day
 - Stop all running tasks at end of repetition duration
 - Stop task if it runs longer than: 3 days
 - Activate: 1/29/2015 3:54:46 PM Synchronize across time zones
 - Expire: 1/29/2016 3:54:46 PM Synchronize across time zones
 - Enabled

- Click on "Actions" tab and hit new.

There is a difference between creation of scheduled task for **Gen1** and **Gen2** type virtual Machines as explained below:

- Scheduled Task for Gen1:** For **Gen1**, Set Action to run "Powershell.exe -executionpolicy bypass -command ". cd 'a:'; (Get-content 'A:\Config.bat') | Foreach-Object {\$_ -replace 'Administrator', '**Administrador**} | Set-Content 'A:\Config.bat'; A:\Config.bat;"".

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- o **Action:** Start a program
- o **Program/Script:** Powershell.exe
- o **Add arguments (Optional):** -executionpolicy bypass -command ". cd 'a:;' (Get-content 'A:\Config.bat') | Foreach-Object {\$_ -replace 'Administrator', '**Administrador**'} | Set-Content 'A:\Config.bat'; A:\Config.bat;"
- **Scheduled Task for Gen2:** For **Gen2, Set Action to run** "Powershell.exe -executionpolicy bypass -command ". cd 'c:;' (Get-content 'C:\Config.bat') | Foreach-Object {\$_ -replace 'Administrator', '**Administrador**'} | Set-Content 'C:\Config.bat'; C:\Config.bat;"".
 - o **Action:** Start a program
 - o **Program/Script:** Powershell.exe
 - o **Add arguments (Optional):** -executionpolicy bypass -command ". cd 'c:;' (Get-content 'C:\Config.bat') | Foreach-Object {\$_ -replace 'Administrator', '**Administrador**'} | Set-Content 'C:\Config.bat'; C:\Config.bat;"

The screenshot shows a 'New Action' dialog box with the following configuration:

- Action:** Start a program
- Program/script:** Powershell.exe
- Add arguments (optional):** -ExecutionPolicy Bypass;
- Start in (optional):** (Empty)

Buttons: OK, Cancel

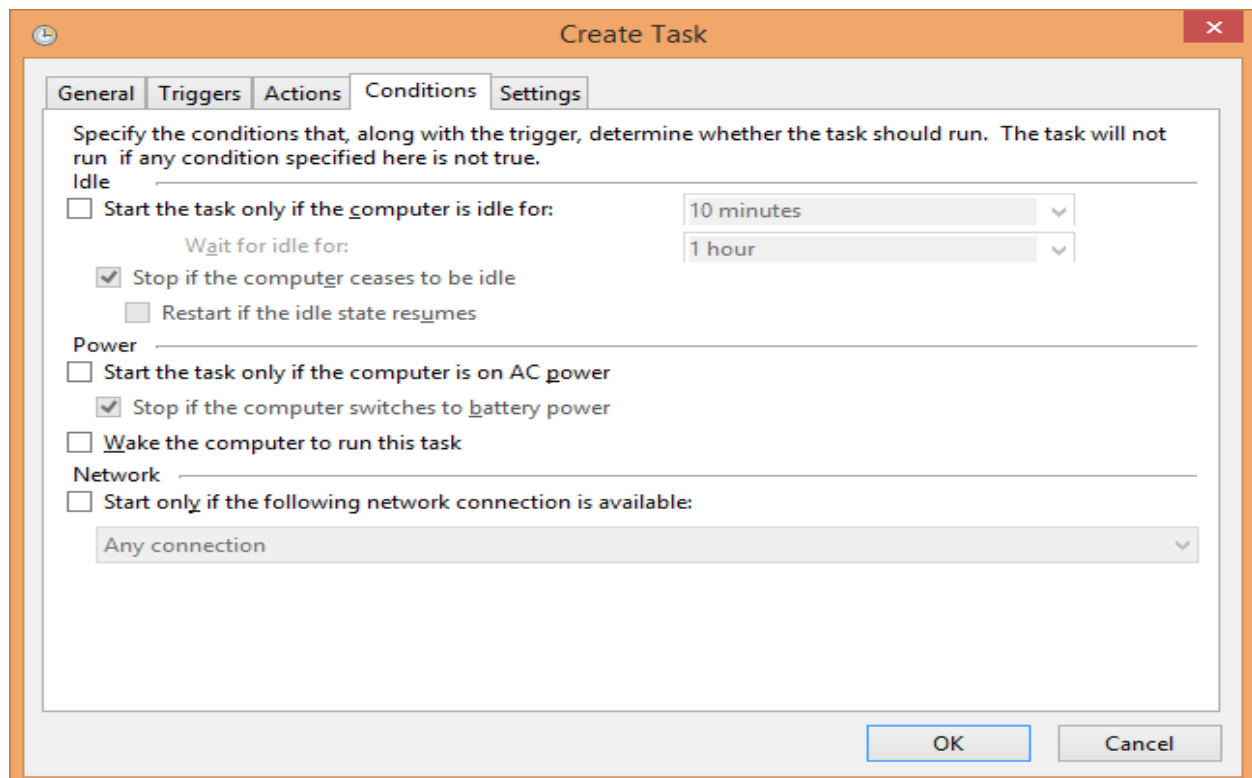
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It is noted that some languages have different Default User name, like for Spanish VMs it is not "Administrator" and it is "Administrador".

For this, the action we have added in our sealed image schedule task contains argument where you need to replace "Administrador" to your default "UserName".

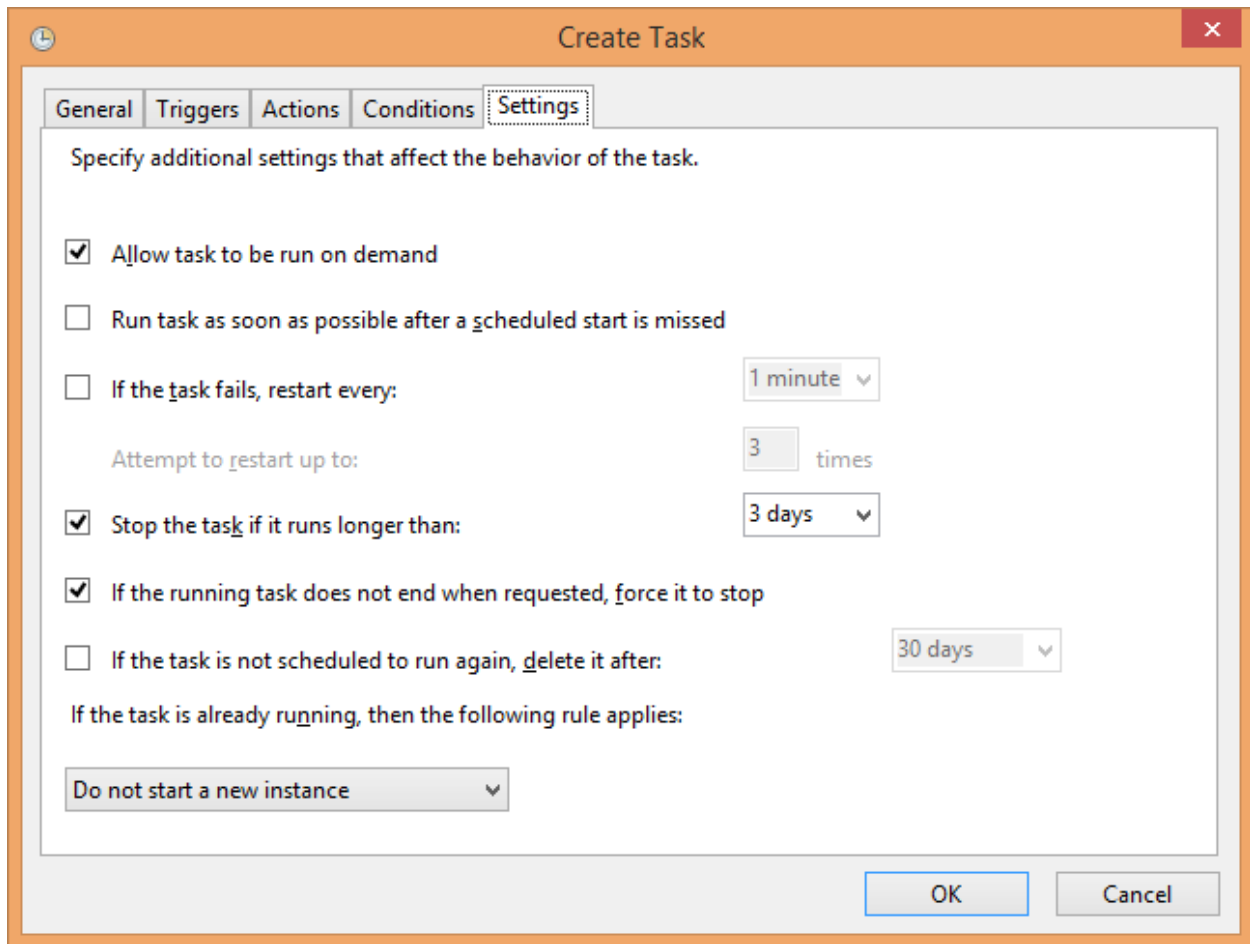
- **Critical Note:** In above command you have to replace '**Administrador**' with username in your environment:
 - o Example: if it is '**Administrator**' for your environment, replace '**Administrador**' with '**Administrator**'
 - o If it is '**SuperAdmin**', replace '**Administrador**' with '**SuperAdmin**'.
- **Note 2:** You do not need to have a Config.bat file on C:\ or A:\ drive, just refer to **A:\Config.bat** or **C:\Config.bat** for Gen1 and Gen2 respectively while scheduling a task as shown in above image. Control Panel will automatically create this file in its respective location during VM Provisioning Process.

5. Set **Conditions** as indicated below:



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6. Set **Settings** as indicated below:



The screenshot shows the 'Create Task' dialog box with the 'Settings' tab selected. The dialog box has a title bar with a clock icon, the text 'Create Task', and a close button. Below the title bar are five tabs: 'General', 'Triggers', 'Actions', 'Conditions', and 'Settings'. The 'Settings' tab is active and contains the following options:

- Allow task to be run on demand
- Run task as soon as possible after a scheduled start is missed
- If the task fails, restart every: 1 minute
- Attempt to restart up to: 3 times
- Stop the task if it runs longer than: 3 days
- If the running task does not end when requested, force it to stop
- If the task is not scheduled to run again, delete it after: 30 days

If the task is already running, then the following rule applies:

Do not start a new instance

At the bottom right of the dialog box are 'OK' and 'Cancel' buttons.

More Information

Please review KB **SOP for preparation of Sealed Images for Hyper-V** before adding sealed images.

<http://kb.machsol.com/Downloads/Download/50314>

MachPanel Knowledgebase

<https://kb.machsol.com/Knowledgebase/53471/Creating-Scheduled-Task-for-Wind...>