Computer Network Power Management Software Initiative

Introduction

The **Computer Network Power Management Software Initiative** is designed to assist South Bay public agencies to achieve energy and cost savings in their computer networks. SBESC recently completed a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) and selected K. J. Kammerer & Associates, Inc. and Faronics Technologies. SBESC/SBCCOG is recommending that each city and school district consider implementation of this project with the team we have selected.

Background

Research shows that despite the fact that most personal computers (PCs) have the capability to shift to a low power state when not in use; the vast majority do not do so. More than 40% of the monitors never utilize low power states, and that 90% of CPUs are continually left in an 'always on' mode. Additionally, most machines are not shut down at night, often at the request of the IT department that is responsible for managing them.

Using this software presents an opportunity to save tens of thousands of dollars in energy costs each year, simply by better management of the power settings of PCs. Solving this problem and harvesting the energy and cost savings is now possible through the use of ***Faronics PowerSave*** software.

Power Save provides centralized control over the power management features of each PC within a computer network. This centralized control feature allows organizations to set standards that insure that when PCs are not in use that they are either using low power states appropriately or that they are completely shut down. PowerSave is completely configurable and customizable, and allows every organization to set policies that will insure that the maximum amount of energy savings are achieved without negative impact to either the PC network itself or to the productivity of individual users.

To insure the maximum amount of energy is saved, PowerSave is engineered to allow different sets of policies to be established for different groups or types of users. This 'grouping' feature insures that each individual PC is being managed appropriately from an energy perspective. Further, PowerSave allows multiple policy periods to be established throughout the day, allowing an organization to be less aggressive about energy savings during the active work day, and much more aggressive after hours and on weekends. PowerSave also provides an automated shutdown feature that allows PCs to be powered off on a pre-established schedule.

Computer Network Energy Savings software can help public agencies in the South Bay save over 2.5 million kilowatt-hours (kWh) of energy and over $325,000 in energy costs per year.

On average, Power Save saves about 200 kWh per PC per year, and does so in a way that is transparent to the end users. For every 1,000 PCs, an agency would save about $24,000 per year in energy costs. SCE provides a rebate of up to $15 per PC, which covers the entire cost of installing the project.

The **Computer Network Power Management Software Initiative** is designed to reduce energy use of the estimated 23,000 PCs in public agencies throughout South Bay. K. J. Kammerer & Associates, Inc. (KJK&A) has partnered with Faronics Technologies to bring this opportunity to our member agencies and schools districts. Through this initiative, we will be conducting training on the software, as well as providing technical assistance to agencies to assist them in installing the software and applying for utility rebates.

Participation Process

1. Interested cities, school districts or businesses should contact the SBESC by calling (310) 371-7222, extension 204 or emailing marilyn@sbesc.com. SBESC Staff or KJK&A will request contact information and an estimate of the number of PCs on your network.
2. The contractor (KJK&A) will follow-up with a call and will prepare an energy and cost savings estimate (Attachment 1) and send additional information on the software.
3. If there are any questions on the project, a meeting will be arranged between the agency staff, KJK&A and if necessary, Faronics staff. Alternatively, the agency/business staff may choose to participate in a regularly scheduled Faronics webinar (Tuesdays, 10 a.m. PST). Registration for this webinar is available at the following address: https://faronics.webex.com/
4. IT staff will be encouraged to download a trial copy of the software and install on a portion of their network to evaluate it compatibility and to resolve any technical questions regarding deployment. The trial copy is available at the following web site: http://www.faronics.com/.
5. If additional questions or issues are identified after evaluating the trial software that cannot be immediately addressed, a follow-up meeting, phone conference or webinar may be arranged.
6. If ready to proceed, sign the Energy and Cost Savings Estimate/Work Order and the SCE Express Efficiency application (See Attachment 2), then deploy the software on the entire network.

   Note: The customer will sign the SCE Form to identify KJK&A as the "Project Sponsor." As such, KJK&A will finance the project and collect the SCE rebate on behalf of the customer. This means that there is no "out of pocket" costs for the customer. This assumes that software deployment is completed in 30 days or less. If the software is not deployed in 30 days, the cost of the software becomes due to KJK&A and the customer is reimbursed the rebate when the project is complete and the rebate is received from SCE.
7. Once deployment complete, prior to turning on power setting policies, run the software in the "audit mode" to establish a baseline, then generate a Power Save Report from the Control Console (See page 24 of Users Manual).
8. After 2-3 weeks of establishing a baseline, implement power setting policies. After a week, generate another Power Save Report from the Control Console to determine actual energy savings.
9. Continue to optimize energy policy settings as is warranted to maximize energy savings.

SBESC is funded by California utility customers and administered by Southern California Gas Company and Southern California Edison, in collaboration with South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG), under the auspices of the California Public Utilities Commission through a contract awarded to SBCCOG. California customers who choose to participate in this program are not obligated to purchase any additional services offered by the contractor. Additional funding provided by West Basin Municipal Water District, the City of Torrance and the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County.