Automatic Updates in Dell PowerEdge 12th Generation Servers

This Dell Technical white paper provides detailed information about scheduling periodic Automatic Updates using various interfaces such as RACADM, WS–Man, and Lifecycle Controller

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Executive Summary

Using the feature, you can run appropriate WS–Man commands to queue up update jobs and run them at a predefined time. This white paper aims to provide detailed information about scheduling periodic Automatic Updates using various interfaces such as WS–Man, RACADM, and iDRAC Web graphical user interface (GUI).
1 Introduction
This Dell Technical white paper provides detailed information about the capabilities of integrated Dell Remote Access Controller (iDRAC) to perform automated firmware updates on 12th generation servers and later of Dell.

1.1 Existing Solution
Existing solution provides the ability to perform a one-time system update from a repository, but you cannot schedule updates. Extension of the current feature is automated updates.

1.2 Automatic Updates
This feature provides the ability to create a recurring schedule to perform multiple firmware updates by specifying a network repository that contains a catalog of available updates and the scheduling parameters. At the specified schedule, all applicable updates contained in the repository will be applied to the server.

1.3 Prerequisites
Make sure that the following prerequisites are met before performing automatic updates:

- A software license for 12th generation Dell PowerEdge and later servers. For more information about managing licenses using iDRAC Web interface, click Overview → Server → Licenses. In the upper-right corner, click Help to view the iDRAC Online Help.
- The server must have a valid service tag (seven characters).
- A network share (CIFS or NFS or FTP) to access the repository from.
2 Usecases

2.1 Using WS–Man

2.1.1 Enabling or Disabling Automatic Update

```plaintext
winrm i SetAttribute http://schemas.dmtf.org/wbem/wscim/1/cim-schema/2/root/dcim/DCIM_LCService?__cimnamespace=root/dcim+SystemCreationClassName=DCIM_ComputerSystem+SystemName=DCIM:ComputerSystem+CreationClassName=DCIM_LCService+Name=DCIM:LCService -u:"root" -p:"calvin" -r:https://<<ip>>/wsman -SkipCNcheck -SkipCAcheck -encoding:utf-8 -a:basic @ {AttributeName="Automatic Update Feature";AttributeValue="Enabled"}

```

Verify the value of "Automatic Update Feature" attribute by running the command `DCIM_iDRACCardEnumeration`. To set an automatic update schedule, enable the attribute.

```plaintext
```

2.1.2 Scheduling Automatic Update

```plaintext
winrm i SetUpdateSchedule


  <p:IPAddress>10.94.192.100</p:IPAddress>
  <p:ShareName>Common/Repo</p:ShareName>
  <p:ShareType>2</p:ShareType>
  <p:Username>drac</p:Username>
  <p>Password>tiger</p>Password>
```

```xml
  <p:IPAddress>10.94.192.100</p:IPAddress>
  <p:ShareName>Common/Repo</p:ShareName>
  <p:ShareType>2</p:ShareType>
  <p:Username>drac</p:Username>
  <p>Password>tiger</p>Password>
```
2.1.2.1 Examples

**Sharetype—CFS**: Scheduling automatic update for first day of every month at 7:00 a.m.

```bash
winrm i SetUpdateSchedule http://schemas.dmtf.org/wbem/wscim/1/cim-schema/2/root/dcim/DCIM_SoftwareInstallationService?__cimnamespace=root/dcim+SystemCreationClassName=DCIM_ComputerSystem+SystemName=IDRAC:ID+CreationClassName=DCIM_SoftwareInstallationService+Name=SoftwareUpdate -u:"root" -p:"calvin" -r:https://<<ip>>/wsman -SkipCNcheck -SkipCAcheck -encoding:utf-8 -a:basic @{IPAddress="ip";ShareName="CommonShare/catalog";CatalogName="Catalog.xml";ShareType="2";Username="drac";Password="tiger";Time="7:00";DayofMonth="1";WeekofMonth="*";DayofWeek="*";Repeat="1";ApplyReboot="1"}
```

**Sharetype—NFS**: Scheduling automatic update for every Wednesday at 7:00 a.m.

```bash
winrm i SetUpdateSchedule http://schemas.dmtf.org/wbem/wscim/1/cim-schema/2/root/dcim/DCIM_SoftwareInstallationService?__cimnamespace=root/dcim+SystemCreationClassName=DCIM_ComputerSystem+SystemName=IDRAC:ID+CreationClassName=DCIM_SoftwareInstallationService+Name=SoftwareUpdate -u:"root" -p:"calvin" -r:https://<<ip>>/wsman -SkipCNcheck -SkipCAcheck -encoding:utf-8 -a:basic @{IPAddress="ip";ShareName="\NFSShare";CatalogName="Catalog.xml";ShareType="0";Time="7:00";DayofMonth="*";WeekofMonth="*";DayOfWeek="Wed";Repeat="1";ApplyReboot="1"}
```

**Sharetype—FTP**: Scheduling automatic update on the last day of the month every two months

```bash
winrm i SetUpdateSchedule http://schemas.dmtf.org/wbem/wscim/1/cim-schema/2/root/dcim/DCIM_SoftwareInstallationService?__cimnamespace=root/dcim+SystemCreationClassName=DCIM_ComputerSystem+SystemName=IDRAC:ID+CreationClassName=DCIM_SoftwareInstallationService+Name=SoftwareUpdate -u:"root" -p:"calvin" -r:https://<<ip>>/wsman -SkipCNcheck -SkipCAcheck -encoding:utf-8 -a:basic @{IPAddress="ftp.dell.com";ShareName="Catalog";CatalogName="Catalog.xml.gz";ShareType="1";Time="7:00";DayofMonth="L";WeekofMonth="*";DayOfWeek="*";Repeat="2";ApplyReboot="1"}
```
2.1.3 Viewing Automatic Update Schedule

```bash
winrm i GetUpdateSchedule
cimv2/root/dcim/DCIM_SoftwareInstallationService?SystemCreationClassName=DCIM_SoftwareInstallationService+SystemName=IDRAC:ID+CreationClassName=DCIM_SoftwareInstallationService+Name=SoftwareUpdate -u:root -p:calvin -r:https://<<ip>>/wsman -SkipCNcheck -SkipCAcheck -encoding:utf-8 -a:basic
```

2.1.4 Clearing Automatic Update Schedule

```bash
winrm i ClearUpdateSchedule
```

2.2 Using RACADM

2.2.1 Enabling or Disabling Automatic Update

```bash
racadm set lifecyclecontroller.lcattributes.autoupdate 1
racadm set lifecyclecontroller.lcattributes.autoupdate 0
```

2.2.2 Scheduling Automatic Update

```bash
racadm autoupdatescheduler create -f <filename> <target> -time <time> -dom <DayOfMonth> -wom <WeekOfMonth> -dow <DayOfWeek> -rp <repeat> -a <applyreboot>
```

- `<target>` can be any of the following with listed options
  - `-l <location>`: Network share location that has the Catalog file.
  - `-u <user>`: Username of the remote share that stores the Catalog file. In case of CIFS, domain name must be entered as domain name or username.
  - `-p <password>`: Password of the remote share that stores the Catalog file.
  - `-ph <proxyHost>`: FTP/HTTP proxy hostname
  - `-pu <proxyUser>`: FTP/HTTP proxy user name
  - `-pp <proxyPassword>`: FTP/HTTP proxy password
  - `-po <proxyPort>`: FTP/HTTP proxy port
  - `-pt <proxyType>`: FTP/HTTP proxy type

Valid Options

- `-u`: Username of the remote share that stores the Catalog file. In case of CIFS, domain name must be entered as domain name or username.
- `-p`: Password of the remote share that stores the Catalog file.
- `-l`: Network share location that has the Catalog file.

For more information about NFS, CIFS, HTTP, FTP, or TFTP share, see usage examples.

- `-f`: Catalog filename. If not specified, catalog.xml is the default.
  - `-ph`: FTP/HTTP proxy hostname
-pu: FTP/HTTP proxy username
-pp: FTP/HTTP proxy password
-po: FTP/HTTP proxy port
-pt: FTP/HTTP proxy type

- time: Time to schedule an autoupdate in HH:MM format. This option has to be specified.
- dom: Day of Month to schedule an autoupdate.
  Valid values are 1-28, L(Last day) or '*' (default - any day).
- wom: Week of Month to schedule an autoupdate.
  Valid values are 1-4, L(Last week) or '*' (default - any week).
- dow: Day of Week to schedule an autoupdate.
  Valid values are sun-sat or mon,tue or '*' (default - any day).
- rp: Repeat option has to be specified.
  If -dom is specified, then valid values for -rp are 1-12.
  If -wom is specified, then valid values for -rp are 1-52.
  If -dow is specified, then valid values for -rp are 1-366.
- a: Apply Reboot(1-Yes, 0-No). This option has to be specified.

2.2.2.1 Usage Examples

To create AutoUpdateScheduler Job

In case of CIFS, run the command:

```
racadm autoupdatescheduler create -u Americas/admin -p pwd -l //1.2.3.4/share -f cat.xml -time 14:30 -wom 1 -dow sun -rp 1 -a 1
```

In case of NFS, run the command:

```
racadm autoupdatescheduler create -u nfsadmin -p nfspwd -l 1.2.3.4:/share -f cat.xml -time 14:30 -dom 1 -rp 5 -a 1
```

In case of FTP, run the command:

```
```
In case of HTTP, run the command:

```
```

In case of TFTP, run the command:

```
racadm autoupdatescheduler create -l tftp://1.2.3.4 -f cat.xml.gz -time 14:30 -dom 1 -rp 5 -a 1
```

### 2.2.3 Viewing Automatic Update Schedule

```
racadm autoupdatescheduler view
```

### 2.2.4 Clearing Automatic Update Schedule

```
racadm autoupdatescheduler clear
```
Schedule Configuration Details

If share type is CIFS, you must enter the following:

- UserName
- Password
- SharePath
- Time
- Repeat
- IPAddress

If share type is FTP or NFS, you must enter the following:

- SharePath
- Time
- Repeat
- IPAddress

**Time**: Mandatory. Time to schedule an autoupdate in the HH:MM format.

**DayofMonth**: Day of Month to schedule an autoupdate.
---
Valid values are 1–28, L(Last day), or *(default - any day).

**WeekofMonth**: Week of Month to schedule an autoupdate.
---
Valid values are 1–4, L(Last week), or *(default - any week).

**DayofWeek**: Day of Week to schedule an autoupdate.
---
Valid values are sun-sat or mon,tue, or *(default–any day).

**Note**: One of the above three recurrent parameters has to be specified.
---
If DayofMonth is specified, - WeekofMonth and – DayofWeek are not required.
If WeekofMonth is specified, DayofWeek is required and DayofMonth is not required.

**Repeat**: Repeat parameter. This parameter has to be specified.
---
if DayofMonth is specified, valid values are 1–12.
if WeekofMonth is specified, valid values are 1–52.
if DayofWeek is specified, valid values are 1–366.
Examples of Schedule Parameters

- 1st day of every month
  
  time "hh:mm"
  dayofmonth "1"
  weekofmonth "*"
  dayofweek "*"
  repeat "1"

- 1st day of every second month
  
  time "hh:mm"
  dayofmonth "1"
  weekofmonth "*"
  dayofweek "*"
  repeat "2"

- Last Thursday of every second month
  
  time "hh:mm"
  dayofmonth "*"
  weekofmonth "L"
  dayofweek "Thu"
  repeat "2"

- Weekly, after every one week on Sunday
  
  time "hh:mm"
  dayofmonth "*"
  weekofmonth "*"
  dayofweek "Sun"
  repeat "1"
• Weekly, after every three weeks on Sunday
  
  time "hh:mm"
  dayofmonth "*"
  weekofmonth "*"
  dayofweek "Sun"
  repeat "3"

• Every 90 days
  
  time "hh:mm"
  dayofmonth "*"
  weekofmonth "*"
  dayofweek "*"
  repeat "90"

• Mon, Wed, Fri every third week
  
  time "hh:mm"
  dayofmonth "*"
  weekofmonth "*"
  dayofweek "Mon,Wed,Fri"
  repeat "3"
Autoupdate Error Codes for Racadm

RAC1042: Unable to configure the Automatic Update (autoupdate) feature settings. The required options are either invalid or not provided.

For more information, view the help details by running the RACADM command "racadm help autoupdatescheduler".

To avoid this error, check the following:

1. If you have entered -dom (with a non ‘*’ value), do not enter -wom and -dow options.
2. If you have entered -wom (with a non ‘*’ value), do not enter -dom or -dow option.
3. If you have entered -dow (with a non ‘*’ value), do not enter -dom option.
4. If you have entered a TFTP location, do not enter the username and password.
5. If you have entered a CIFS/NFS location, do not enter any proxy parameters.
6. If you have entered a FTP/TFTP location and any of the proxy parameters, all proxy parameters are mandatory.
7. If you have entered a Non CIFS location, do not enter a domain name after username. (eg: -u Americas/Daniel is not valid for non CIFS location).

RAC1043: Unable to configure the Automatic Update (autoupdate) feature settings. The option -u (username) is either invalid or not provided.

Retry with a correct value for the option identified in the message.

For more information, view the help details by running the RACADM command "racadm help autoupdatescheduler".

To avoid this error, check:

1. Whether -u option is valid or not entered as an input.
2. If you have specified a CIFS location, then username is mandatory.

RAC1043: Unable to configure the Automatic Update (autoupdate) feature settings. The option -p (password) is either invalid or not entered.

Retry with a correct value for the option identified in the message.

For more information, view the help details by running the RACADM command "racadm help autoupdatescheduler".

To avoid this error, check:

1. Whether -p option is either invalid or not entered as an input.
RAC1043: Unable to configure the Automatic Update (autoupdate) feature settings.
The option -u (domainname) is either invalid or not provided.
Retry with a correct value for the option identified in the message.
For more information, view the help details by running the RACADM command "racadm help autoupdatescheduler".

To avoid this error, check:

1. If you have entered a CIFS location and –u option has an invalid domain name.

RAC1043: Unable to configure the Automatic Update (autoupdate) feature settings.
The option -l (location) is either invalid or not provided.
Retry with a correct value for the option identified in the message.
For more information, view the help details by running the RACADM command "racadm help autoupdatescheduler".

To avoid this error, check:

1. Whether –l option is either invalid or not entered as an input.

RAC1043: Unable to configure the Automatic Update (autoupdate) feature settings.
The option -l (hostname) is either invalid or not provided.
Retry with a correct value for the option identified in the message.
For more information, view the help details by running the RACADM command "racadm help autoupdatescheduler".

To avoid this error, check:

1. Whether -l option is either invalid or not entered as an input.
2. If invalid hostname is entered in –l option.

RAC1043: Unable to configure the Automatic Update (autoupdate) feature settings.
The option -l (sharename) is either invalid or not provided.
Retry with a correct value for the option identified in the message.
For more information, view the help details by running the RACADM command "racadm help autoupdatescheduler".
To avoid this error, check:

1. Whether -l option is either invalid or not entered as an input.
2. If invalid sharename is entered in -l option.

RAC1043: Unable to configure the Automatic Update (autoupdate) feature settings.
The option -l (sharetype) is either invalid or not provided.
Retry with a correct value for the option identified in the message.

For more information, view the help details by running the RACADM command "racadm help autoupdatescheduler".

To avoid this error, check:

1. Whether -l option is either invalid or not entered as an input.
2. If invalid sharetype is entered in -l option (that is the system could not identify if it is a CIFS or NFS or HTTP or TFTP or FTP)

RAC1043: Unable to configure the Automatic Update (autoupdate) feature settings.
The option -ph (proxyhost) is either invalid or not provided.
Retry with a correct value for the option identified in the message.

For more information, view the help details by running the RACADM command "racadm help autoupdatescheduler".

To avoid this error, check:

1. Whether -ph option is either invalid or not entered as an input.

RAC1043: Unable to configure the Automatic Update (autoupdate) feature settings.
The option -pu (proxyuser) is either invalid or not provided.
Retry with a correct value for the option identified in the message.

For more information, view the help details by running the RACADM command "racadm help autoupdatescheduler".

To avoid this error, check:

1. Whether -pu option is either invalid or not entered as an input.

RAC1043: Unable to configure the Automatic Update (autoupdate) feature settings.
The option -pp (proxypassword) is either invalid or not provided.
Retry with a correct value for the option identified in the message.
For more information, view the help details by running the RACADM command "racadm help autoupdatescheduler”.

To avoid this error, check:

1. Whether –pp option is either invalid or not entered as an input.

RAC1043: Unable to configure the Automatic Update (autoupdate) feature settings.
The option -po (proxyport) is either invalid or not provided.
Retry with a correct value for the option identified in the message.
For more information, view the help details by running the RACADM command "racadm help autoupdatescheduler”.

To avoid this error, check:

1. Whether –po option is either invalid or not entered as an input.

RAC1043: Unable to configure the Automatic Update (autoupdate) feature settings.
The option -pt (proxytype) is either invalid or not provided.
Retry with a correct value for the option identified in the message.
For more information, view the help details by running the RACADM command "racadm help autoupdatescheduler”.

To avoid this error, check:

1. Whether –pt option is either invalid or not entered as an input.

RAC1043: Unable to configure the Automatic Update (autoupdate) feature settings.
The option -f (filename) is either invalid or not provided.
Retry with a correct value for the option identified in the message.
For more information, view the help details by running the RACADM command "racadm help autoupdatescheduler”.

To avoid this error, check:

1. Whether –f option is either invalid or not entered as an input.

RAC1043: Unable to configure the Automatic Update (autoupdate) feature settings.
The option -time is either invalid or not provided.
Retry with a correct value for the option identified in the message.
For more information, view the help details by running the RACADM command "racadm help autoupdatescheduler".

To avoid this error, check:

1. Whether –time option is either invalid or not entered as an input. Valid value is in HH:MM - 24 hour format.

RAC1043: Unable to configure the Automatic Update (autoupdate) feature settings. The option –dom (dayofmonth) is either invalid or not provided.
Retry with a correct value for the option identified in the message.

For more information, view the help details by running the RACADM command "racadm help autoupdatescheduler".

To avoid this error, check:

1. Whether –dom option is either invalid or not entered as an input. Valid values are 1-28, L(Last day) or ‘*’ (default - any day).

RAC1043: Unable to configure the Automatic Update (autoupdate) feature settings. The option –wom (weekofmonth) is either invalid or not provided.
Retry with a correct value for the option identified in the message.

For more information, view the help details by running the RACADM command "racadm help autoupdatescheduler".

To avoid this error, check:

1. Whether –wom option is either invalid or not entered as an input. Valid values are 1-4, L(Last week) or ‘*’ (default – any week).

RAC1043: Unable to configure the Automatic Update (autoupdate) feature settings. The option –dow (dayofweek) is either invalid or not provided.
Retry with a correct value for the option identified in the message.

For more information, view the help details by running the RACADM command "racadm help autoupdatescheduler".

To avoid this error, check:

1. Whether –dow option is either invalid or not entered as an input. Valid values are sun-sat or mon,tue or ‘*’ (default - any day).
RAC1043: Unable to configure the Automatic Update (autoupdate) feature settings.
The option --dom,-wom or -dow is either invalid or not provided.
Retry with a correct value for the option identified in the message.
For more information, view the help details by running the RACADM command "racadm help autoupdatescheduler".

To avoid this error, check:

1. If atleast one of the recurrent parameter (-dom or –wom or –dow) is entered

   Note: if -dom option is included in the command, then -wom and -dow options should not be included.
   if -wom option is included in the command, then only -dow option should be included.
   if -dom or -wom option is non-"*", then the autoupdate is scheduled for every month.
   if -dom and -wom options are "*"and -dow option is non-"*", then the autoupdate is scheduled for every week.
   if -dom, -wom, and -dow options are "*", then the autoupdate is scheduled to repeat each day.

RAC1043: Unable to configure the Automatic Update (autoupdate) feature settings.
The option -rp(repeat) is either invalid or not provided.
Retry with a correct value for the option identified in the message.
For more information, view the help details by running the RACADM command "racadm help autoupdatescheduler".

To avoid this error, check:

1. Whether –rp option is either invalid or not entered as an input.

   Note: if -dom is specified, then valid values for -rp are 1-12.
   if -wom is specified, then valid values for -rp are 1-52.
   if -dow is specified, then valid values for -rp are 1-366.

RAC1043: Unable to configure the Automatic Update (autoupdate) feature settings.
The option -a (applyreboot) is either invalid or not provided.
Retry with a correct value for the option identified in the message.
For more information, view the help details by running the RACADM command "racadm help autoupdatescheduler".
To avoid this error, check:

1. Whether –a option is either invalid or not entered as an input.

RAC1044: The Automatic Update (autoupdate) feature is not enabled.

To enable, run the RACADM command "racadm set lifecyclecontroller.lcatributes.autoupdate 1".

To avoid this error:

1. Run the RACADM command "racadm set lifecyclecontroller.lcatributes.autoupdate 1".

RAC1045: Specifying ftp.dell.com as the catalog source for the Automatic Update feature may result in frequent system firmware updates because the catalog on ftp.dell.com changes often. Creating a custom repository using the Repository Manager tool allows control of the frequency of component firmware updates.

To avoid this warning message:

1. Change the –l location to some other ftp instead of ftp.dell.com

RAC1046: Unable to view the Automatic Update (autoupdate) feature settings because the feature has not been configured.

Configure the Automatic Update feature by running the RACADM command "racadm autoupdatescheduler create" with the desired option settings.

To avoid this error:

1. Configure the Automatic Update feature by running the RACADM command "racadm autoupdatescheduler create" with the desired option settings.
4 Autoupdate Error Codes for WS-Man

- RED072: Unable to delete the Automatic Backup schedule. Configure the Automatic Backup schedule.
- RED077: Unable to get the Automatic Update schedule information. Configure the Automatic Update schedule.
- RED078: Unable to delete the Automatic Update schedule. Configure the Automatic Update schedule.
- RED079: The input value entered for the parameter <parameter> is invalid. Verify whether or not the parameter value identified in the message is correct, and then retry the operation.
- RED080: The required parameter <parameter> is not present. Verify that all required parameters for the method are present and retry the operation.
- RED081: The Automatic Update schedule already exists. Delete the existing Automatic Update schedule operation before retrying the operation.
- RED082: The requested job cannot be scheduled, Lifecycle Controller attribute AutoUpdate is not enabled. Enable the correct job schedule type, and then retry the operation. For example, to enable the Automatic Update feature, select the Enable Automatic Update option.