

Dell Command | Power Manager Version 2.0

User Guide



Notes, cautions, and warnings

 **NOTE:** A NOTE indicates important information that helps you make better use of your product.

 **CAUTION:** A CAUTION indicates either potential damage to hardware or loss of data and tells you how to avoid the problem.

 **WARNING:** A WARNING indicates a potential for property damage, personal injury, or death.

Chapter 1: Introduction.....	4
Key Features.....	4
Accessing the Software.....	4
Chapter 2: Battery Information.....	5
Battery Health.....	5
Battery Settings.....	6
Selecting A Battery Setting.....	6
Creating A Custom Battery Setting.....	6
Battery Charge Status.....	7
Chapter 3: Advanced Charge.....	8
Enabling Advanced Charge.....	8
Chapter 4: Peak Shift.....	9
Enabling Peak Shift.....	9
Chapter 5: Thermal Management	11
Changing Thermal Management Settings.....	11
Chapter 6: Power Alerts.....	12
Chapter 7: Administration.....	13
Installing, Uninstalling, And Upgrading The Software.....	13
Installing, Uninstalling, And Upgrading Using the DUP File.....	14
Installing, Uninstalling, And Upgrading From The CLI.....	14
Group Policy Templates.....	15
Installing The Group Policy Management Console.....	16
Installing Group Policy Templates.....	16
Customizing A Group Policy	16
Applying A Group Policy	16
Immediately Applying Group Policy Template Changes To Client Systems.....	17
Customizing Group Policy Settings.....	17
Advanced Charge Group Policies.....	17
Battery Information Group Policies.....	18
Peak Shift Group Policy Templates.....	18
Alerts Management Group Policies.....	19
Chapter 8: Troubleshooting.....	20
Viewing the Event Log.....	20

Introduction

Dell Command | Power Manager software provides simplified and efficient power management capabilities for Dell notebooks and tablets running Windows 7, Windows 8, and Windows 10 operating systems.

Topics:

- [Key Features](#)
- [Accessing the Software](#)

Key Features

- Battery Information – Display health information for up to six installed batteries, depending on system capabilities, and edit battery settings or create a custom battery setting.
- Advanced Charge Mode – Control battery charging to prolong battery life.
- Peak Shift – Reduce power consumption by automatically switching the system to battery power during certain times of the day, even when the system is plugged into a direct power source.
- Thermal Management – Control processor and cooling fan settings to manage performance, system surface temperature, and fan noise.
- Battery Extender – Conserve battery charge by affecting CPU power level, screen brightness and keyboard illumination levels, and by muting audio.
- Alerts Management – Enable or disable adapter, battery, docking station, thermal, and other types of alerts.
- Group Policies – Easily apply default settings and/or prevent users from changing power alerts system events, power management, thermal management, battery extender, and battery settings.
- Product Feedback – Provide feedback on the software.

Accessing the Software

To open the Dell Command | Power Manager user interface, click the Windows Start button, and then do one of the following:

- Click **Control Panel > Dell Command | Power Manager**.
- Click **Control Panel > Power Options**, and then click Dell Command | Power Manager in the left pane.
- Enter *Dell Command | Power Manager* in the **Search programs and files** field.

Battery Information

⚠ WARNING: Using an incompatible or non-Dell battery may increase the risk of fire or explosion. Only use authentic Dell batteries in Dell systems.

i NOTE: If a non-Dell battery is attached to your system, the battery graphic will be orange.

Dell Command | Power Manager provides detailed information about your system's batteries, including:

- Whether your system is plugged in or using battery power
- Percentage of your system's total power remaining
- Peak Shift and Battery Extender status, if applicable
- [Battery health](#)
- [Battery charge status](#)
- [Battery setting](#)
- Battery type (Standard, Extended Warranty, or Enhanced)
- Connection (Primary, Battery Slice, or Modular Bay)
- Manufacturer
- Dell battery (Yes or No)
- Serial number

i NOTE: PPID may not always display.

- PPID (Piece Part ID)

The software supports a maximum of six batteries. To see the details of a particular battery, click the battery number (for example, Battery #1, Battery #2). Scroll down to see any additional batteries your system may contain.

If the option is made available by your system administrator, you can order a replacement battery from the link on the left pane.

Topics:

- [Battery Health](#)
- [Battery Settings](#)
- [Battery Charge Status](#)

Battery Health

Battery health indicates the amount of charge that is available to a system. In general, a battery's health decreases over time at a rate that depends on how often the battery is used and the conditions under which it is used.

To indicate battery health, Dell Command | Power Manager uses a set of four circular icons. The number of circular icons that are filled indicates the battery health.

Table 1. Battery health indicator codes

Code	Description
	Excellent — Battery is operating at maximum capacity.
	Good — Battery can charge normally; however, you may notice reduced operating time because long-term battery life is decreasing.

Table 1. Battery health indicator codes (continued)

	Fair — Battery can charge normally; however, it is near the end of its usable life. It is recommended that you purchase a new battery soon.
	Poor — Battery no longer provides sufficient power. It is recommended that you replace this battery.
	Battery no longer operates, or battery status cannot be determined. It is recommended that you replace the battery.

 **NOTE:** Health information is available only if Dell batteries are attached to your system.

Battery Settings

Dell Command | Power Manager enables users to [select a battery setting](#) that is optimized for specific system usage patterns. For example, some settings focus on extending battery life, while others provide fast charge times.

 **NOTE:** Battery settings can be modified only if Dell batteries are attached to your system.

Available settings may be limited depending on the battery. Possible battery settings include:

- **Standard** — Fully charges the battery at a moderate rate. This setting provides a balanced approach to extending battery life while still providing a reasonably fast charging time. Recommended for users who frequently switch between battery and external power sources.
- **ExpressCharge™** — Quickly charges the battery using Dell fast-charge technology. Recommended for users who need the battery to charge quickly. If the system is powered off, then the battery typically charges to 80 percent within one hour and 100 percent in two hours. Charge time may be longer if the system is powered on.

 **NOTE:** The ExpressCharge setting may cause battery health to diminish more quickly than other settings.

- **Primarily AC** — Extends battery life by lowering the charge threshold, so that the battery never charges to 100 percent capacity. Recommended for users who primarily operate the system while plugged into an external power source.
- **Adaptive** — Automatically optimizes battery settings based on the user's typical patterns. Recommended for users who want to "set it and forget it."
- **Custom** — User selects when the battery starts and stops charging. Recommended for advanced users.

Selecting A Battery Setting

1. On the **Battery Information** page, click the battery that you want to change (such as Battery #1 or Battery #2).

 **NOTE:** If Advanced Charge is enabled, you can only affect battery settings through the Advanced Charge screen.

2. Click **Settings**.
3. Select a pre-configured [battery setting](#), or select **Custom** to [define your own settings](#).

 **NOTE:** Available settings may be limited depending on the battery.

4. Click **OK** to save your changes, or click **CANCEL** to discard them.

Creating A Custom Battery Setting

The **Custom** battery setting enables users to define when a battery starts and stops charging. This setting is recommended for advanced users who are familiar with battery charging cycles.

 **NOTE:** A minimum difference, specified in your systems BIOS, is required between the **Start Charging** and **Stop Charging** values.

1. Go to the [Battery Setting](#) page, and then click **Custom**.

2. Under **Start Charging**, move the slider to the percentage threshold at which the battery begins charging, or enter a number in the text box.
For example, entering **60** causes the battery to start charging when it depletes to 60 percent of the total available charge.
3. Under **Stop Charging**, move the slider to the percentage threshold at which the battery stops charging, or enter a number in the text box.
For example, entering **90** causes the battery to stop charging when it reaches 90 percent of the total available charge.
4. Click **OK** to apply your settings, or click **CANCEL** to discard your changes and return to the **Battery Information** page.

Battery Charge Status

View a battery’s charge status quickly by referring to the battery charge status indicator codes displayed beside the battery number on the **Battery Information** screen. For precise information on the percentage charged as well as the battery’s charging and AC connection status, see the **Charge Status** information displayed below the battery number and directly below the battery graphic.

Table 2. Battery charge status indicator codes

Code	Power Remaining
	80–100 percent
	60–79 percent
	40–59 percent
	20–39 percent
	0–19 percent

To purchase a new battery, click  at the bottom of the left panel.

 **NOTE:** Charge Status is available only if Dell batteries are attached to your system.

Advanced Charge

Advanced Charge is an optional feature that prolongs the usable life of a system's batteries by charging them to full capacity only once per day, prior to the **Start of day** you establish when you [enable Advanced Charge](#). For the remainder of the day, Advanced Charge keeps batteries in a lower charge state that is better for storage, even when the system is plugged into a direct power source.

 **NOTE:** If the hours assigned to Peak Shift and Advanced Charge overlap, then Peak Shift takes priority. Batteries will not charge during Peak Shift hours.

Topics:

- [Enabling Advanced Charge](#)

Enabling Advanced Charge

Advanced Charge is not enabled by default. When Advanced Charge is enabled, the feature applies to all batteries in the system, and individual battery configuration is disabled.

1. Click the **Advanced Charge** tab in the left pane.

 **NOTE:** Hover your cursor over the  icon if you later want to see further information on Advanced Charge.

2. To enable Advanced Charge, click the toggle at the top of the page to the **On** position.
3. Click the toggle for each day of the week to enable or disable Advanced Charge for each day.
If you enable the Advanced Charge feature, you must configure the feature for at least one day.
4. To set the times of day when Advanced Charge is active and inactive, click **Settings**.

 **NOTE:** If you have not enabled Advanced Charge for a particular day, that day will not display on the **Time Settings** page, and you will not be able to set the Advanced Charge schedule for that day. Go back to the main **Advanced Charge** page and enable Advanced Charge for that particular day.

5. In the **Time Settings** screen, click a day of the week. In the main portion of the page, you can use either the circular slider or the drop-down menus to set the time.

 **NOTE:** You can select times in 15-minute increments—for example, you can enter **11:15 AM** or **9:30 PM**.

The circular slider represents a 24-hour period. To use the circular slider:

- a. Slide the **Start of day** thumb control to the start time of a typical workday.
- b. Slide the **End of day** thumb control to the end time of a typical workday.

 **NOTE:** The segment of time displayed in blue represents the work period, or when the system is active.

Alternatively, you can use the drop-down menus to set the times:

- a. Select a time for **Start of day**.
- b. Select a time for **End of day**.

6. Select the **Copy the same settings to multiple days** check box. In the left pane, select the days to which these settings apply.
7. Click **OK** to save your settings, or click **CANCEL** to discard them.

Peak Shift

Peak Shift is an optional feature that reduces power consumption by automatically switching the system to battery power during certain times of the day, even if the system is plugged into a direct power source. After Peak Shift begins, the system will run on battery power until the combined charge level of all batteries reaches a minimum threshold. See [Enabling Peak Shift](#) for instructions on how to change these settings. At that time, if the system is plugged in, it will be powered by the direct power source; however, the battery will not charge until Peak Shift ends.

Users can program the start and end times at which the Peak Shift feature is active and inactive each day.

 **NOTE:** If the hours assigned to Peak Shift and Advanced Charge overlap, then Peak Shift takes priority. Batteries will not charge during Peak Shift hours.

Topics:

- [Enabling Peak Shift](#)

Enabling Peak Shift

1. Click the **Peak Shift** tab in the left pane.

 **NOTE:** Hover your cursor over the  icon if you want to see further information on Peak Shift.

2. To enable Peak Shift, click the toggle at the top of the page to the **On** position.

 **NOTE:** Your system BIOS already has a minimum threshold setting below which the system always draws AC power if it is available; this BIOS setting always takes precedence over any setting you enter here.

3. To select the percentage at which the system will **Restore AC power if available system charge falls below**, move the slider.

For example, selecting 15 percent causes the system to switch from battery to AC power during Peak Shift if the power remaining falls below 15 percent.

While the system runs as normal on AC (direct) power, the battery does not charge until Peak Shift ends.

4. To enable or disable Peak Shift for a specific day, click the toggle next to each day of the week.

 **NOTE:** If you have not enabled Advanced Charge for a particular day, that day will not display on the Time Settings page, and you will not be able to set an Advanced Charge schedule for that day. Go back to the main Advanced Charge page and enable Advanced Charge for that particular day.

5. To set the time of day when Peak Shift is active, click **Settings**.

6. On the **Time Settings** screen, click a day of the week. Using either the circular slider or the drop-down menus:

 **NOTE:** You can select times in 15-minute increments—for example, you can enter **11:15 AM** or **9:30 PM**.

 **NOTE:** The circular slider represents a 24-hour period.

- **Activate Peak Shift:** Select the time you want Peak Shift to begin.

 **NOTE:** If you enable **Operate only on AC**, then the time between starting Peak Shift and operating on AC power is indicated in blue, and the time between starting to operate on AC power and ending Peak Shift is indicated in yellow. Green indicates the period of operation on AC power without charging the battery.

- **Set a time at which the system begins to operate only on AC power without charging the battery:** Select the **Operate on AC power without charging battery** check box, then select the time that you want the system to start operating on AC power without charging the battery.
- **End Peak Shift:** Select the time you want Peak Shift to end.

 **NOTE:** The **Copy the same settings to multiple days** check box is automatically cleared once you leave the page.

7. Select **Copy the same settings to multiple days**. Then, in the left pane, select the days to which these settings apply.
8. To save your changes, click **OK**, or to discard them, click **CANCEL**.

Thermal Management

 **NOTE:** If your system does not support thermal settings, then the Thermal Management feature is not available.

Dell Command | Power Manager allows you to manage your system's processor and cooling fan settings so that you can manage performance, system surface temperature, and fan noise. Each option represents a different balance of these three elements. Choose the configuration that best suits the way you use your system.

 **CAUTION:** If a fan has failed, the Thermal Management feature is disabled.

Setting	Description
Optimized	Balances performance, noise, and temperature.
Cool	Cooling fan speed is raised to maintain a cooler system surface temperature. Your system may produce more noise and experience reduced performance.
Quiet	Cooling fan and processor speeds are lowered to reduce fan noise. This configuration may also reduce system performance and raise system surface temperature.
Ultra performance	Both processor and cooling fan speeds are increased to produce higher system performance. This configuration may also produce more noise and higher system surface temperature.

Additional thermal setting options may be available through your operating system. Click **Control Panel** in the **Operating System Power Plan** box in the upper right of the **Thermal Management** page.

See [Changing Thermal Management Settings](#) for instructions on changing the thermal settings on your system using Dell Command | Power Manager.

Topics:

- [Changing Thermal Management Settings](#)

Changing Thermal Management Settings

To change the Thermal Management setting, do the following:

1. Click the **Thermal Management** tab.
2. Click the radio button beside the thermal management setting you want to select.

Power Alerts

Dell Command | Power Manager displays an alert for the following docking station, battery, and power adapter conditions:

Table 3. Power alerts and remedies

Alert	What Should I Do?
The battery currently attached to your system cannot supply enough power to your docking station for it to operate normally.	Attach a supported power adapter to the docking station.
Your notebook does not recognize the attached battery.	Attach a supported battery.
Your notebook does not support the attached battery slice.	Attach a supported battery.
Your notebook does not support the attached batteries.	Attach supported batteries.
Your battery is able to charge normally. However, you may begin to notice a reduced operating time because your long-term battery life is decreasing.	N/A
Your battery is able to charge normally. However, it is reaching the end of its usable life. You can experience a longer operating time with a new battery.	Consider purchasing a replacement battery now.
Your battery can no longer provide sufficient power to your system and needs to be replaced.	Purchase a replacement battery now, and install it into your system.
Your battery no longer operates and needs to be replaced.	Purchase a replacement battery now, and install it into your system.
The power adapter wattage for your system does not meet minimum system requirements for normal operation, and it is also too low to support ExpressCharge™ technology for your battery.	Attach a supported power adapter with the wattage displayed in the alert.
The power adapter wattage for your system is too low to support ExpressCharge™ technology for your battery.	Attach a supported power adapter with the wattage displayed in the alert.
The power adapter attached to your system is not recognized.	Attach a supported power adapter with the wattage displayed in the alert.
The power adapter wattage for your system does not meet minimum system requirements for normal operation.	Attach a supported power adapter with the wattage displayed in the alert.
You have attached an undersized adapter to your system. To continue operating normally, your system may draw power from the battery. The battery charges only when the power provided by the adapter is greater than the needs of your system.	Attach a supported power adapter with the wattage displayed in the alert.

Administration

This chapter provides details about Dell Command | Power Manager administrative features, including installing, uninstalling, and upgrading the software, and enabling and customizing Group Policies.

 **CAUTION:** The tasks in this chapter should be performed only by a System Administrator.

Topics:

- [Installing, Uninstalling, And Upgrading The Software](#)
- [Group Policy Templates](#)
- [Customizing Group Policy Settings](#)

Installing, Uninstalling, And Upgrading The Software

Dell Command | Power Manager is factory-installed on supported systems and also released as a Dell Update Package (DUP, available at dell.com/support). The installer is OS-specific, and a different DUP is required for 32-bit and 64-bit systems. System administrators can install, uninstall, and upgrade the software using the DUP installation wizard.

 **CAUTION:** Dell Command | Power Manager and Dell Feature Enhancement Pack (DFEP) cannot exist on the same system. To prevent conflicts, before installing Dell Command | Power Manager, you must first uninstall DFEP.

To download and extract the DUP:

System administrators can install, uninstall, and upgrade Dell Command | Power Manager using the Dell Update Package (DUP) available at dell.com/support.

 **NOTE:** “DUP.exe” is a representation of the DUP file you will download.

1. Download the DUP.exe file from dell.com/support.
2. Double-click the *.exe file to start the installation wizard.
3. Follow the steps in the wizard until you complete installation, unistallation, or upgrade.

To install Dell Command | Power Manager using the DUP:

- Silent install

```
DUP.exe /s
```

- Extract the DUP

```
DUP.exe /s /e=C:\extractedDir
```

- Change the default log file location to a user-specified path

```
DUP.exe /l="<C:\log_path\log.txt>"
```

To install Dell Command | Power Manager using the *setup.exe* file, use one of the following options:

 **NOTE:** You will need first to extract the DUP, and then navigate to the setup.exe file before proceeding with the following procedures.

 **NOTE:** Variables are italicized and enclosed in angle brackets. For example, for *<os arch>* enter 32 or 64 to indicate whether you are installing on a 32-bit or 64-bit operating system.

- Standard install with verbose logging

```
DCPM_Setup<os_arch>_2_0_0.exe /v"/l*v<log_file_path>"
```

For example:

```
DCPM_Setup64_2_0_0.exe /v"/l*vx C:\Users\Administrator\Desktop\installlog.txt"
```

- Silent install

```
DCPM_Setup<os_arch>_2_0_0.exe /s /v"/qn"
```

For example:

```
DCPM_Setup64_2_0_0.exe /s /v"/qn"
```

- Silent install with verbose logging

```
DCPM_Setup<os_arch>_2_0_0.exe /s /v"/l*vx <log_file_path> /qn"
```

For example:

```
DCPM_Setup64_2_0_0.exe /s /v"/l*vx C:\Users\Administrator\Desktop\installlog.txt /qn"
```

- Uninstall

```
DCPM_Setup<os_arch>_2_0_0.exe /x
```

For example:

```
DCPM_Setup64_2_0_0.exe /x
```

 **NOTE:** Dell recommends uninstalling the application using the Windows **Program and Features** screen available from the Control Panel.

Installing, Uninstalling, And Upgrading Using the DUP File

System administrators can install, uninstall, and upgrade Dell Command | Power Manager using the Dell Update Package (DUP) available at dell.com/support.

 **NOTE:** "DUP.exe" is a representation of the DUP file you will download from dell.com/support; the filename may be different.

1. Download the DUP.exe file from dell.com/support.
2. Double-click the *.exe file to start the installation wizard.
3. Follow the steps in the wizard until you complete installation, unistallation, or upgrade.

Installing, Uninstalling, And Upgrading From The CLI

 **NOTE:** "DUP.exe" is a representation of the DUP file you will download from dell.com/support.

To install Dell Command | Power Manager using the DUP, use the following commands:

- Silent install

```
DUP.exe /s
```

- Extract the DUP

```
DUP.exe /s /e=C:\extractedDir
```

- Change the default log file location to a user-specified path

```
DUP.exe /l="<C:\log_path\log.txt>"
```

To install Dell Command | Power Manager using the setup.exe file, use one of the following options:

NOTE: You will need first to extract the DUP, and then navigate to the setup.exe file before proceeding with the following procedures.

NOTE: Variables are italicized and enclosed in angle brackets. For example, for *<os arch>* enter 32 or 64 to indicate whether you are installing on a 32-bit or 64-bit operating system.

- Standard install with verbose logging

```
DCPM_Setup<os_arch>_2_0_0.exe /v"/l*v<log_file_path>"
```

For example:

```
DCPM_Setup64_2_0_0.exe /v"/l*v C:\Users\Administrator\Desktop\installlog.txt"
```

- Silent install

```
DCPM_Setup<os_arch>_2_0_0.exe /s /v"/qn"
```

For example:

```
DCPM_Setup64_2_0_0.exe /s /v"/qn"
```

- Silent install with verbose logging

```
DCPM_Setup<os_arch>_2_0_0.exe /s /v"/l*v<log_file_path> /qn"
```

For example:

```
DCPM_Setup64_2_0_0.exe /s /v"/l*v C:\Users\Administrator\Desktop\installlog.txt /qn"
```

- Uninstall

```
DCPM_Setup<os_arch>_2_0_0.exe /x
```

For example:

```
DCPM_Setup64_2_0_0.exe /x
```

NOTE: Dell recommends uninstalling the application using the Windows **Program and Features** screen available from the Control Panel.

Group Policy Templates

Administrators can quickly and easily apply the same Dell Command | Power Manager settings across multiple systems using the Group Policy feature in Windows Server. For more information on Windows Group Policies, see the TechNet article at <http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/windowsserver/bb310732.aspx>.

After applying a Group Policy Template to a system, end users cannot change the settings associated with that template.

To use Group Policy Templates:

1. **Install** the Group Policy Management Console.
2. **Install** the Group Policy Templates.
3. Optionally, **customize** one or more policies.
4. **Apply** policies to specific systems, groups, or users.

NOTE:

If all of the available settings are restricted by the administrator, the user will not be able to change any configuration components. However, if the administrator stipulates only some of the settings, the remaining settings will be available for the user to configure.

Installing The Group Policy Management Console

Dell Command | Power Manager uses the Group Policy Management Console (GPMC) in Windows Server to administer Group Policies. The GPMC feature is included in Windows Server 2008 and newer; however, it does not automatically install with the operating system. An administrator must install the GPMC on the domain server using Server Manager or Windows PowerShell. For detailed instructions on installing the GPMC, see the TechNet article at <http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/cc725932.aspx>.

In addition to installing the GPMC, an administrator must set Active Directory as a server role. In Server Manager, right-click **Roles**, and then click **Add Roles**. On the **Server Roles** screen, select **Active Directory Domain Services**, and complete the wizard.

Installing Group Policy Templates

Before creating, applying, or changing Group Policy Templates, an administrator must first make the templates available in the Group Policy Management Console (GPMC).

1. Obtain and extract the Dell Command | Power Manager DUP.
 - You can download the Dell Command | Power Manager DUP for your system from dell.com/support.
 - Once you have downloaded the package, run it and choose the **Extract** option to extract the files.
2. On the domain server, go to the directory where you have extracted Dell Command | Power Manager in previous step.
3. Open the `PolicyDefinitions` folder.
4. Copy the `.admx` files in the `PolicyDefinitions` folder to the default Windows `PolicyDefinitions` folder—typically, the default path is `C:\Windows\PolicyDefinitions\`.
5. Copy the `.adml` files in the `PolicyDefinitions\<language>\` folder (for example, `PolicyDefinitions\En\`) to `C:\Windows\PolicyDefinitions\<language>\`.

The Group Policies will now be available in the GPMC under **Administrative Templates**.

Customizing A Group Policy

Dell Command | Power Manager includes a number of Group Policy settings that administrators can customize based on their domain and environment requirements. To configure Dell Command | Power Manager Group Policy settings:

1. Open the Group Policy Management Editor.
 - a. Click **Server Manager > Features > Group Policy Management > Forest:<DomainName> > Domains > <DomainName>**
 - b. Right-click the **Default Domain Policy** and select **Edit**.
2. In the left pane, expand **Computer Configuration > Policies > Administrative Templates > System > Dell > Command Power Manager**.
3. In the left pane, select one of the categories to configure the settings you want to apply to the domain.

For a complete list of available group policy settings and their values, see the Group Policy Management Editor on your domain server.

Applying A Group Policy

Administrators can apply a Group Policy to specific systems, groups, or users by associating the Group Policy Object (GPO) with an Active Directory Organizational Unit (OU) in the Group Policy Management Editor.

1. Create a new Group Policy Object (GPO).
 - a. In Group Policy Management for your domain, expand the tree to **Group Policy Objects**.
 - b. Right-click the **Group Policy Objects** group and create a new GPO.
 - c. Enter a **Name** for the GPO, and then click **OK**.
2. Add a policy to the new GPO.
 - a. In Group Policy Management for your domain, right-click on the new GPO you created in previous step and select **Edit**.

- b. In the left-hand pane, select **Computer Configuration > Policies > Administrative Templates > System > Dell Command | Power Manager**.
 - c. Set the desired policy.
3. Create an Active Directory OU, if one does not already exist.
 - a. In Active Directory, right-click the domain, and then select **New > Organizational Unit**.
 - b. Enter a **Name** for the organizational unit, and then click **OK**.
 - c. In the right pane, right-click the new OU, select **New**, and then select the system, group, or users to which this policy will apply.
4. Link the GPO to the OU.
 - a. Close Active Directory and the Group Policy Management Editor, if they are open.

 **NOTE:** You must restart the Group Policy Management Editor to see new OUs.

 - b. Reopen the Group Policy Management Editor.
 - c. Select **Group Policy Management > Domains > <DomainName>**
 - d. Right-click the OU, and select **Link an existing GPO**.
 - e. Select the GPO created in a previous step, and then click **OK**.

Immediately Applying Group Policy Template Changes To Client Systems

Changes to Group Policy Templates don't immediately apply to systems, because they must first replicate to the domain controller. Also, client systems can take up to 90 minutes to refresh Group Policy Objects. For detailed information, see the TechNet article at [http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/cc782584\(v=ws.10\).aspx](http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/cc782584(v=ws.10).aspx).

Administrators can take manual steps to force updates to take effect immediately:

1. On the client system, open the command window.
2. Enter the following command.

```
GPOUpdate /force
```

3. Press Enter.

In Windows Server 2012, administrators can also force client updates from the Group Policy Management Console (GPMC). For detailed information, see the TechNet article at <http://technet.microsoft.com/en-us/library/jj134201.aspx>.

Customizing Group Policy Settings

This section provides additional information regarding group policies and any special notes you may need to consider as you customize their settings.

Each policy contains settings and values for options which are honored by the application GUI. If the value for a setting is **User Controlled**, then the administrator has given the end user full access to that setting in the GUI. This has the same effect as having no policy for that specific setting.

The following group policies are available in Dell Command | Power Manager:

- Battery Information
- Peak Shift
- Advanced Charge
- Battery Extender
- Alerts Management
- Thermal Management
- Product Feedback Link

Advanced Charge Group Policies

Two group policies are available for this group:

- **Feature Enablement**

The system administrator can further choose from the following options, available in the left pane:

- On—Turn on the feature, and apply the individual day and time settings to the system (default)
- Off—Turn off the feature
- Hide Feature—Remove the feature tab from the GUI

- **Day of the week** (Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday)

To disable a specific day, set all the hour and minute fields in that template to 0 (zero).

To configure **Start Time** for the day:

- Set Hours: 0-23
- Set Minutes: 0, 15, 30, 45

To configure **End Time** for the day:

- Set Hours: 0-23
- Set Minutes: 0, 15, 30, 45

Battery Information Group Policies

Two policies are available within this group:

- Battery Settings
- Order Battery Link

Peak Shift Group Policy Templates

In addition to the Feature Enablement template, the following group policy templates are available for Peak Shift:

- **Day of the week** (Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday)

To disable a specific day, set all the hour and minute fields in that template to 0 (zero). To configure **Start Time** for the day:

- Set Hours: 0-23
- Set Minutes: 0, 15, 30, 45

To configure **End Time** for the day:

- Set Hours: 0-23
- Set Minutes: 0, 15, 30, 45

- **Restore AC Power Threshold**

Typical uses for these settings are:

- Set the minimum and maximum threshold limits and leave the **Threshold value** field blank. This sets a limit for the range, but allows the threshold value to be modified in the user interface.

OR:

- Set **Threshold value** and leave the **Minimum threshold limit** and **Maximum threshold limit** blank. This value will be locked and cannot be modified in the user interface.

To set a range for the threshold limits, enter the **Minimum** (1 - 100) and **Maximum** (Minimum - 100) values. If a minimum or maximum limit is not within the client system's minimum or maximum capabilities, the client system's minimum or maximum limit will be used.

 **NOTE:** The system will use default values if invalid values are set.

Alerts Management Group Policies

A group policy is available for each of the following alert categories:

- Adapter Alerts
- Battery Alerts
- Docking Station Alerts
- Other Alerts
- Thermal Alerts

Setting options available for each specific alert included in the alert policy category are:

- Off—This alert must be suppressed if its condition is detected
- On—This alert must be displayed if its condition is detected
- User Controlled—Allow the system user to select whether this alert is displayed or suppressed (default)

 **NOTE:** Adapter alerts apply to both single and dual adapter messages. A single adapter is an adapter plugged into either the notebook or docking station, while a dual adapter is an adapter plugged directly into the notebook together with an adapter plugged into the docking station while the notebook is docked.

Troubleshooting

Topics:

- [Viewing the Event Log](#)

Viewing the Event Log

Dell Command | Power Manager logs errors and events in the Windows Event log.

1. Click the Windows start button.
2. Click **Control Panel > Administrative Tools**.
3. Double-click the **Event Viewer** to open the application in a new window.
4. In the left pane, expand **Windows Logs**, and then click **Application**.
5. In the right pane, click **Filter Current Log...**
The **Filter Current Log** window displays.
6. In the **Event sources** drop-down menu, select **Dell Command | Power Manager**.
7. Optionally, select one or more **Event level** options.
8. Click **OK** to display Dell Command | Power Manager errors and events of the specified levels.