

Automated PDU Provisioning and Configuration



APPLICATION NOTE PR02-005

June 2017

Challenge

Today network switches and devices like PDUs are still often configured one at a time through the command line interface. In data centers, which might have hundreds or thousands of devices to be provisioned and configured, this is a very time consuming process.

Each time a process like this can be automated it saves not only time but also ensures that critical personnel like a networking engineer need not be present when new devices are being setup.

Implementation

Server Technology is a world leader in power monitoring, management, distribution and control. We have integrated our ZTP solution with Opengear who provides industry leading smart OOB management and years of experience providing zero-touch provisioning solutions. Typical installation drawing shown on following page.



Implementation Barriers

- Access to DHCP/TFTP server
- Finding an easy to adopt ZTP solution with field proven design

Results

- Easy to deploy automation as Opengear provides the DHCP and TFTP server
- Editable STIC ini file is stored on Opengear device PDU boots and advertises itself on DHCP request, learns location of config file, and applies settings – all automatically

Our Solution

One way to automate the provisioning and configuration of devices like cabinet PDUs is using Zero Touch Provisioning (ZTP). ZTP is a feature available only on Server Technology PROx (PRO1 and PRO2) PDUs. It is implemented via specific DHCP server options and Server Technology's Configuration (STIC) protocol in conjunction with a simple TFTP server configuration pull. This process allows PDUs to be provisioned and configured during the initial boot up, or whenever needed, to automate network setup, user permission updates, or other changes to the PDU as needed.

Joint Solution Advantages

- Reduces cost and time for deployments
- Minimizes configuration errors
- Leverage existing HW for OOB deployment
- Scalable
- Increases Efficiency
- Eliminate the need for extra equipment
- Text based config file for easy editing

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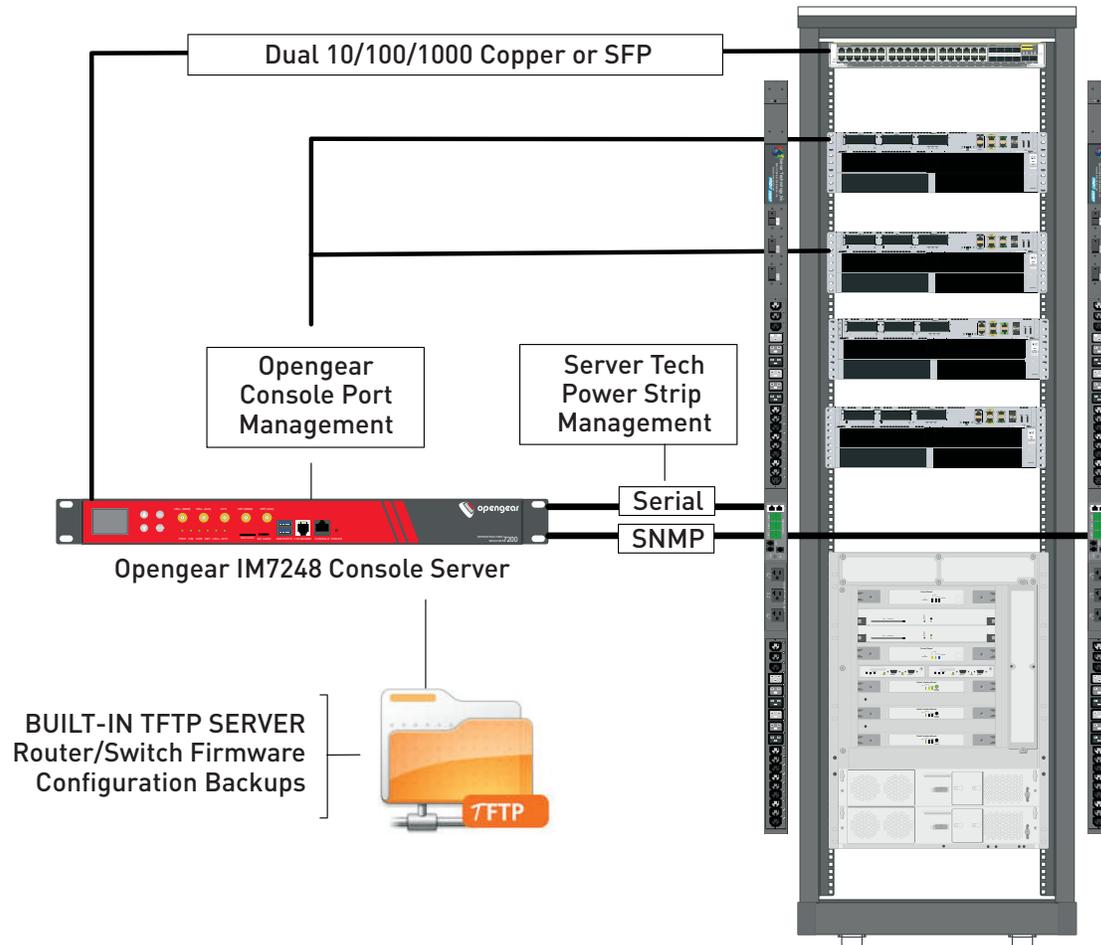
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Conclusion

Fast, simple, and easy deployment is key to getting your networked PDUs up and running quickly so they can provide critical power and control information, as well as environmental monitoring within your data center. ZTP can be adapted to many device deployment scenarios, and reducing the risk of human error is a significant benefit.

About Server Technology®

Server Technology, a brand of Legrand, is leading the engineering and manufacturing of customer-driven, innovative and exceptionally reliable power, access and control solutions for monitoring and managing critical IT assets for continual availability.

Server Technology's power strategy experts are trusted to provide Rack PDU solutions for data centers worldwide ranging from small technology startups to Fortune 100 powerhouses. Because power is all we do, Server Technology can be found in the best cloud and colocation providers, forward thinking labs, and telecommunications operations.

Server Technology customers consistently rank us as providing the highest quality PDUs, the best customer support, and most valuable innovation. We have over 12,000 PDU configurations to fit every data center need and most of our PDUs are shipped within 10 days.



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