



HP Thin Clients

May 2003



Customizing
Software

Building and Deploying RapidInstall Packages (RIPs) for the HP Compaq Thin Client t5700

Table of Contents

- Table of Contents 1
- Abstract..... 2
- Introduction 2
- Disable the Write Filter..... 2
- Building RIPs Using the RIP Creation Wizard 2
 - Setting a Baseline 2
 - Building a RIP 3
- Deploying a RIP Using Deployment Server 3

Abstract

This paper provides instructions to create and deploy RIPs using Altiris Deployment Solution for HP Compaq Thin Clients t5700.

Introduction

A RapidInstall Package (RIP) is a single executable file, which installs software, files, or registry changes. A RIP allows the administrator to install software without the end user seeing any prompts or experiencing any disruption. A RIP is normally created using the following steps:

1. Take a virtual snapshot of the system as a baseline.
2. Make changes to the system.
3. Take another virtual snapshot after changes are made.
4. Apply the difference into the RIP executable.

A RIP is created using either the RIP Creation Wizard or the editor. The steps for creating and deploying RIPs on the HP Compaq Thin Clients t5700 are essentially the same as for a PC, except that additional steps are required to disable and enable the write filter.

Disable the Write Filter

Prior to creating or deploying a RIP, make sure the write filter is disabled on the HP Compaq Thin Clients t5700. If the write filter is not disabled then all changes made to the system will be discarded at the next reboot. This could cause problems during deployment as well. Some of the changes to the system may be discarded during the installation.

To disable the write filter, run the **ewfmgr c: -disable** command locally, then reboot.

Building RIPs Using the RIP Creation Wizard

The easiest way to set a baseline and build a RIP is using the RIP Creation Wizard. The Wizard guides you through the following tasks:

- Setting a baseline
- Selecting and using an existing baseline
- Making desired changes to the baseline computer
- Building the RIP

Setting a Baseline

To set a baseline on the client's unit, complete the following steps:

1. Ensure that the HP Compaq Thin Clients t5700 is a baseline system. A baseline system is a system in which configuration changes or software programs you want to distribute are not already present on the thin client. To disable the write filter on the t5700, run the disable command: **ewfmgr c: -disable**, then reboot.
2. Start the RIP Creation Wizard by doing the following: **Click Start > Run**. Type: **\\%DSconsole%\express\rinstall\RapidInstall.exe** (%DSconsole% is the name assigned to the Altiris server for DSConsole).
3. Click **Create RIP**.
4. Click **Set baseline before creating RIP** and click **Next**.
5. Enter a directory, name, and description for the baseline. By default, RIP files are saved to C:\Program files\altiris\express\deployment server\rinstall.
6. Click **Next**.

RapidInstall scans the PC and creates a baseline file. Think of this file as a "before" snapshot of the thin client's hard drive and registry configuration. Make desired changes to the computer. Once you have a baseline file, you can make any software changes to

the t5700. A baseline can be used repeatedly but any changes to the baseline will go into the RIP.

You can close the RIP Creation Wizard while you make your changes. When you restart the Wizard, it will pick up where it left off.

Building a RIP

To build a RIP, complete the following steps:

1. After you have made changes to the HP Compaq Thin Clients t5700, restart the RIP Creation Wizard (if not already running). If a baseline has not been saved previously, the following options appear:
 - Create RIP
 - Proceed to Editor
 - Browse for a RapidInstall Package (RIP)
 - Edit a recent RapidInstall Package (RIP)
2. Enter a directory, name, and description for the RIP.
3. To customize file replacement behavior, run options, passwords, or install visuals, click **RIP Options**. Select desired options. When complete, go on to next step.
4. Click **Next** to build the RIP.

RapidInstall builds the RIP by comparing the changes you made to the Thin Client against the baseline you set earlier.

5. If you would like to make more changes to the RIP, select **Edit RIP** and click **Finish**. If you are satisfied with the RIP, clear the **Edit RIP** check box and click **Finish**.

Depending on how you have configured them, RIPs can make extensive changes to a machine. Before distributing them to end users, you should test the RIP on a different, non-critical t5700. Test the RIP to verify that it performs as expected and that the applications distributed by the RIP run normally. To install the RIP on a target thin client, copy it to a network share or to the target thin client itself and then double-click the RIP. You can also deploy the RIP using Altiris Deployment Server.

Deploying a RIP Using Deployment Server

Distribute software packages to managed computers using the New Job Wizard or by adding the **Distribute Software** task when Building New Jobs. These steps show how to create an event that will handle the write filter correctly during a RIP installation.

1. Right click in the Job window of Deployment console and choose **New Job**.
2. Enter a name for the Job, usually the name of the RIP being deployed.
3. Select **Add > Run Script** in the upper right corner of the job window.
4. Type **ewfmgr c: -disable** in the Run this Script window and check the radial button indicating the script must be run in Windows. Click **Finish**.
5. Select **Add > Power Control** in the upper right corner of the job window.
6. Check the radial buttons for **Restart** and **Force Applications to close without a message**. Click **Finish**.
7. Select **Add > Distribute Software** in the upper right corner of the job window.
8. Enter the name and location of the package to distribute in the **Name** field.

If you set the password option when you created the RIP, you must enter the password for the package to run.

9. Select **Add > Power Control** in the upper right corner of the Job window.
10. Check the boxes for **Restart** and **Force Applications closed**. Click **OK**.

11. Select **Add > Run Script** in the upper right corner of the job window.
12. Type **ewfmgr c: -enable** in the script window and check the box indicating the script must be run in Windows. Click **Finish**.
13. Select **Add > Power Control** in the upper right corner of the Job window.
14. Check the boxes for **Restart** and **Force Applications closed without a message**. Click **Finish**. The Job can then be scheduled at a later time or run immediately.

Microsoft, MS-DOS, Windows, and Windows NT are trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the U.S. and other countries.

The information in this document is subject to change without notice.

© 2003 Hewlett-Packard Development Company , L.P.

05/2003

P/N 340393-001