

Tips from the Trenches

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Tech Support and Field Service

Proactive

- Protect From Viruses
- Windows Integrated Security

Proactive

- Protect From Viruses
- Windows Integrated Security

Disciplined

- Licensing
- PI Buffer Subsystem
- Logs

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- Protect From Viruses
- Windows Integrated Security

Disciplined

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- PI Buffer Subsystem
- Logs

Aware

- Architecture Diagrams
- Learning

Virus Infection at an Electric Utility

"A third-party technician used a USB-drive to upload software updates during a scheduled outage for equipment upgrades. Unknown to the technician, the USB-drive was infected with crimeware. The infection resulted in downtime for the impacted systems and delayed the plant restart by approximately three weeks."

(Continued on next slide)

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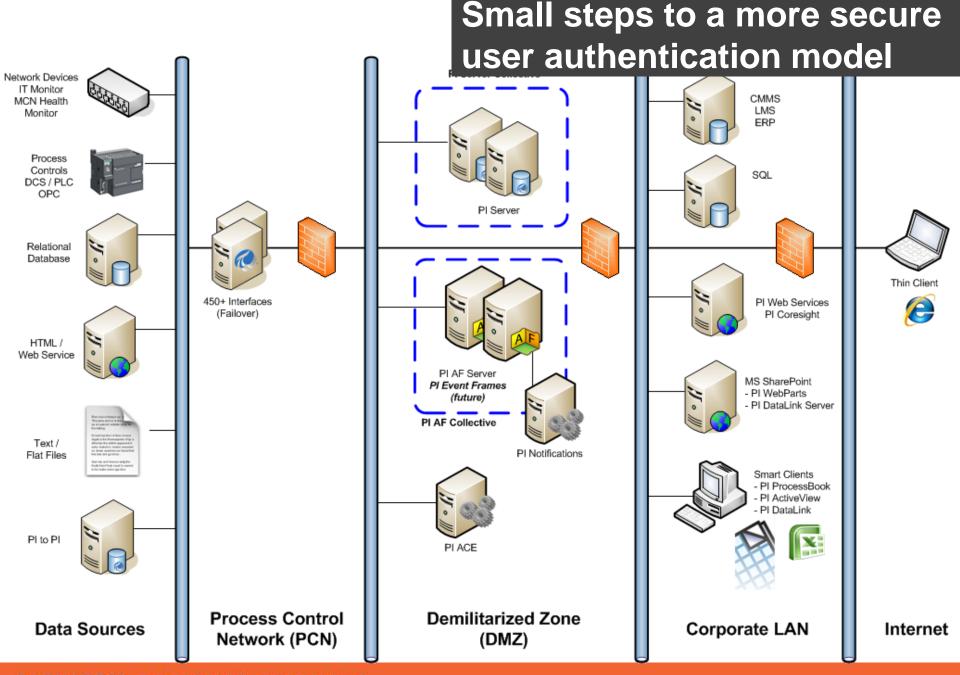
(Continued on next slide)

Scan USB Sticks Regularly

- OSIsoft uses endpoint protection
- 3rd parties always have the option to scan the device themselves
- Always scan thumb drives





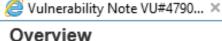


Explicit Login and Pladmin

- Do not use explicit login anymore
 - Especially for the piadmin user!
- Security Alert: PI Authentication Weakness
 - October 2009
 - Encryption Algorithm is no longer safe







OSIsoft PI Server provides an insecure authentication mechanism that could allow attackers to read or modify information in databases.

Description

PI Server is a core component of the OSIsoft PI System.

According to a report from C4 Security, OSISoft release notes (login required) for PI Server 3.4.380.36, and OSISoft KB article 5120OSI8, it appears that changes were made to PI Server to better resist brute force authentication attempts. PI Server 3.4.380.36 deprecates an older authentication mechanism in favor of Microsoft Windows authentication.

Windows authentication provides security features such as: logging failed login attempts, enforcing minimum password lengths, and enforcing password time-outs.

Impact

According to reports it appears that the old PI Sever integrated authentication security system method was susceptible to brute force authentication attempts. A successful attempt will allow an attacker to gain access to the PI Server databases.

Solution

OSIsoft recommends upgrading to PI Server version 3.4.380.36.

Public security bulletin

According to the PI Server 3.4.380.36 release notes the following procedures to mitigate the vulnerability:

Enable the PI Server for Windows authentication and configure PI Trust records Use IPSec between the PI Server and the different client computers

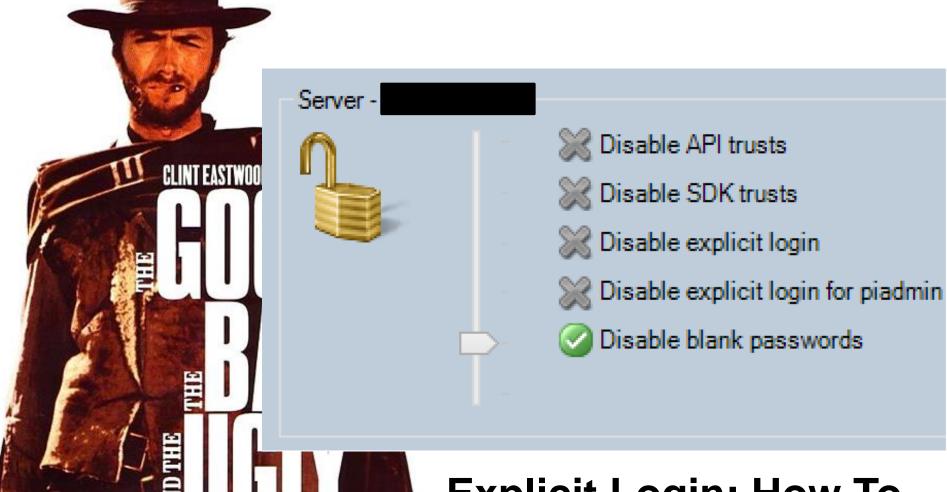
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Explicit Login: How To

Security Take Home Points

Using long and complex passwords for explicit login protects me?

False

Windows Integrated Security will have the same weakness?

False



A Case from the Tech Support Trenches

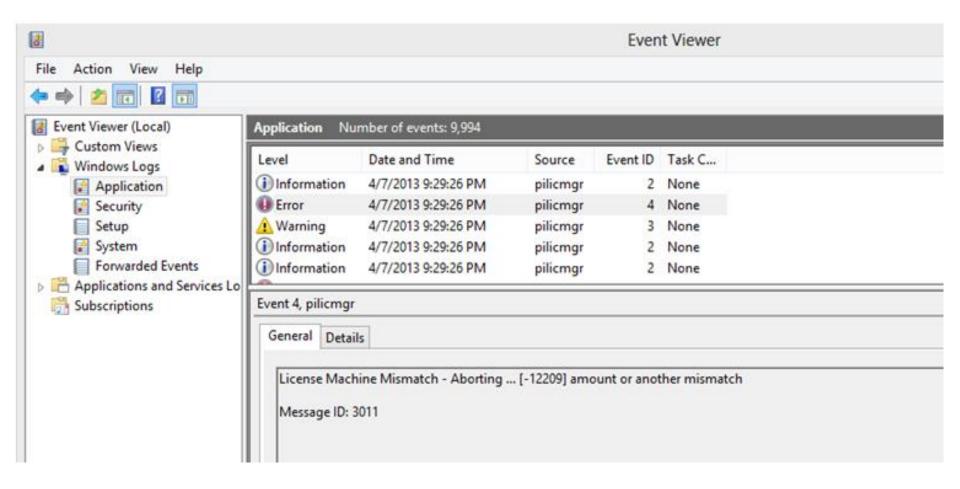
My PI Server will not Start!

Check the PI Server Message Logs

```
C:\Program Files\PI\adm>pigetmsg -st * -et *-15m
> No messages
```

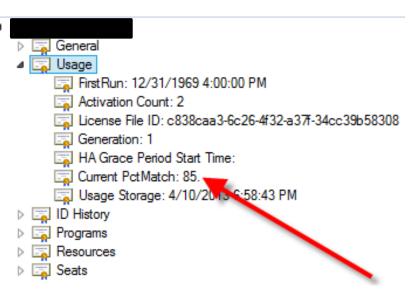
Check the Event Viewer Logs

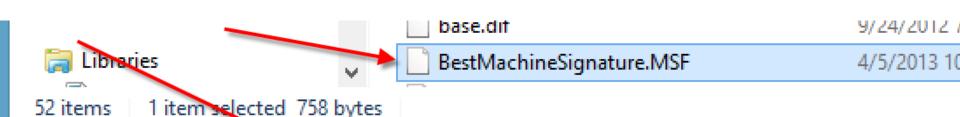
My PI Server will not Start!



Licensing

Need highest percent match Field Service Standards





C:\Program Files\PI\adm/pidiag -host -file BestMachineSignature.MSF C:\Program Files\PI\adm>

PI Buffer Subsystem Example

- Windows Integrated Security
- Everyone group has read access
- Machines map to the Everyone group

```
7082)

D 05-Apr-13 10:30:26 pinetmgr

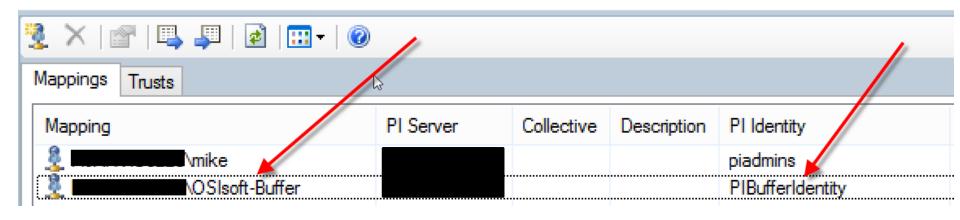
>> Successful login ID: 63. Address: . Name: pibufss. Identity List: PIEngine
ers | PIWorld. Environment Username : NT AUTHORITY\SYSTEM. Method: Windows Login
(SSPI,NTLM)
```

 PI Buffer Subsystem may connect as a readonly user

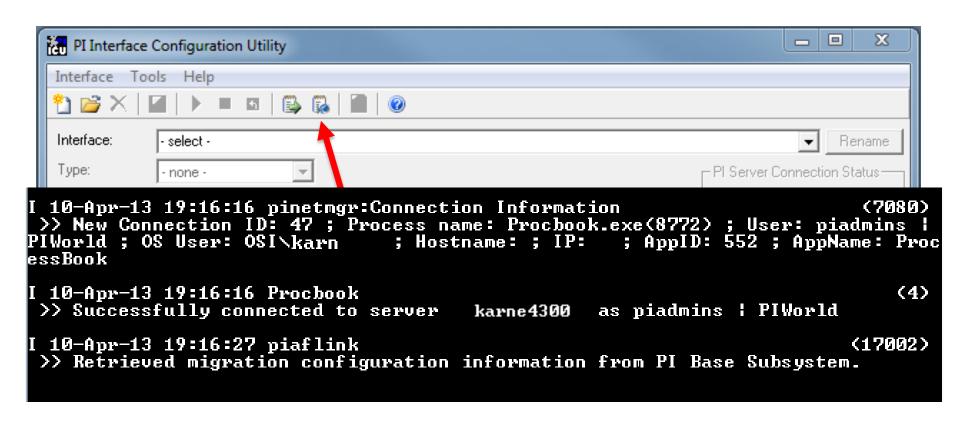
PI Buffer Subsystem Example

- Use Windows Integrated Security
- Allow the buffer to connect as a PI Identity with write access to the Points which it owns

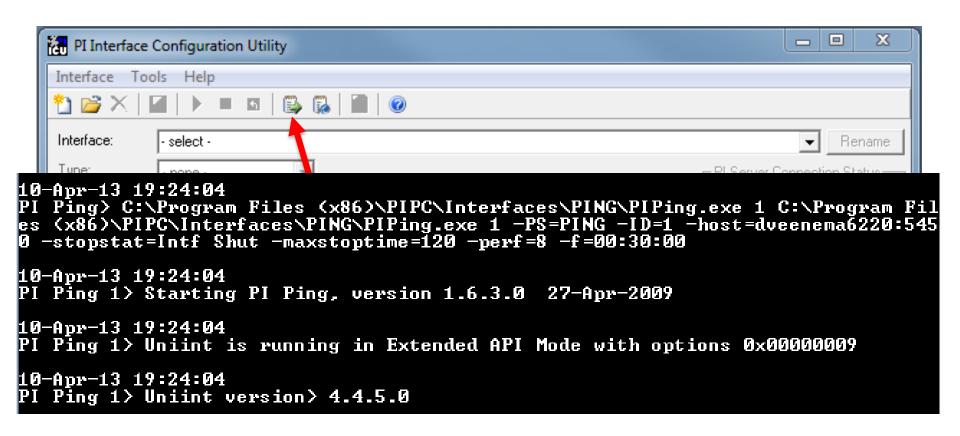
PI Buffer Subsystem: How To



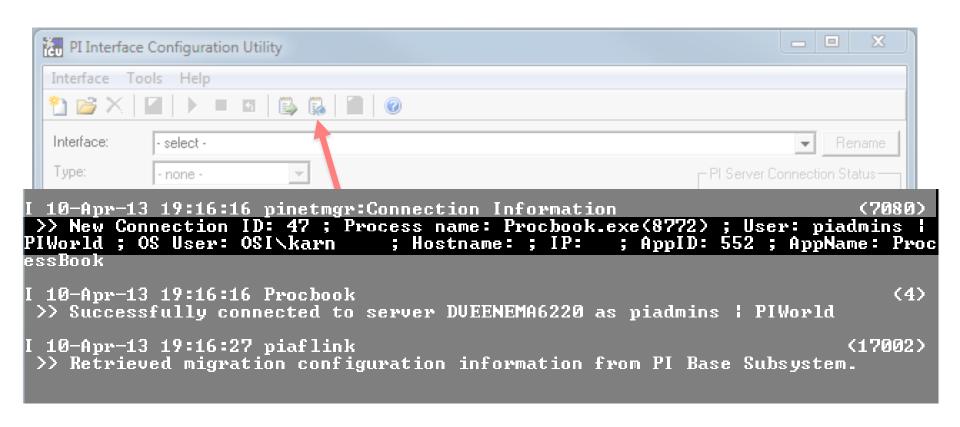
Listen to your system: PI Message log



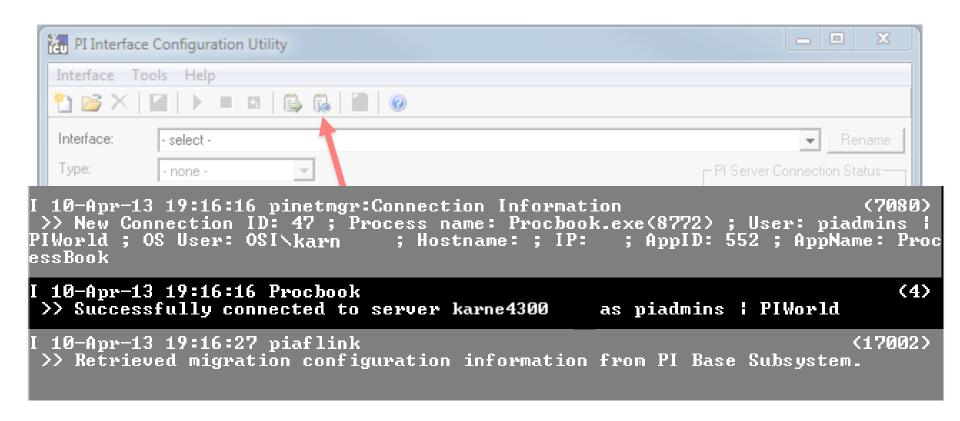
Listen to your system: PIPC log



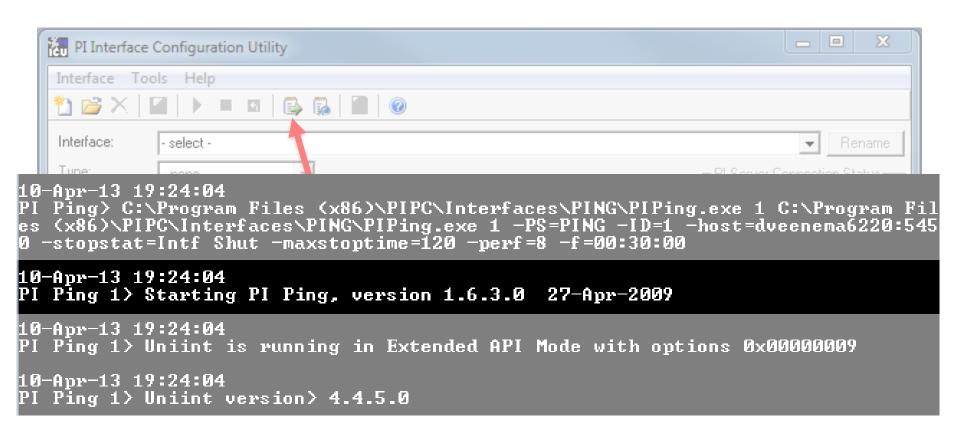
Listen to your system: PI Message log



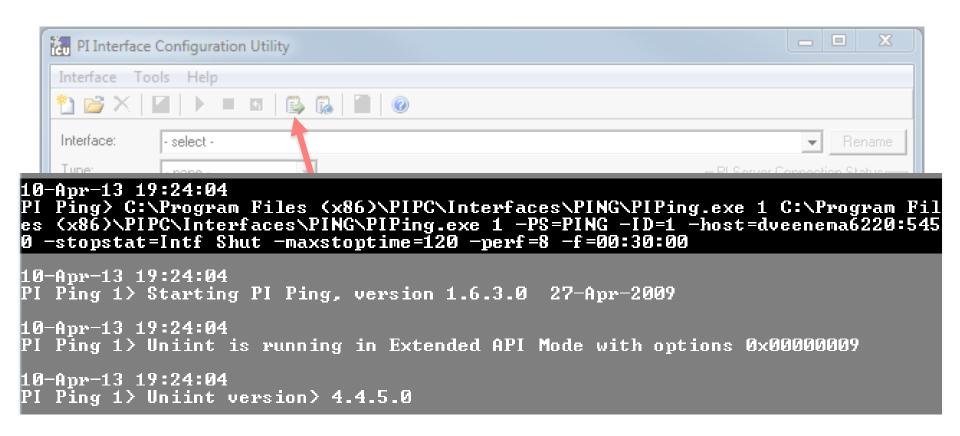
Listen to your system: PI Message log



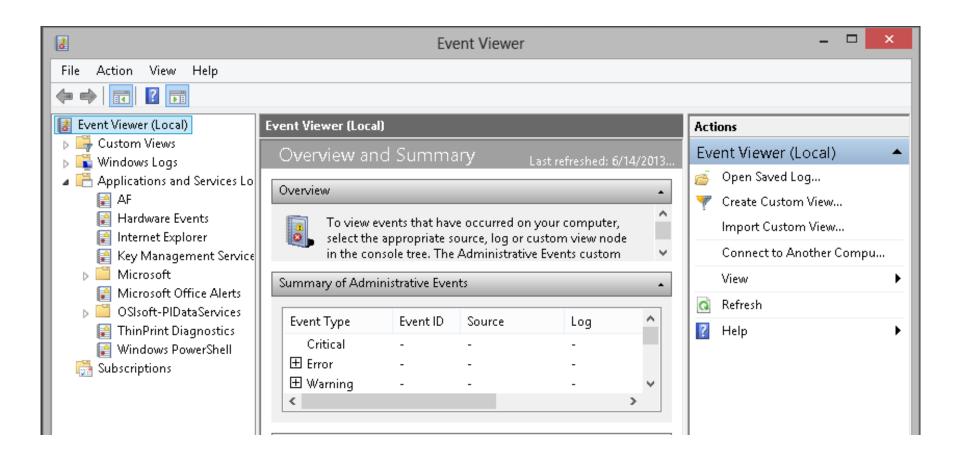
Listen to your system: PIPC log



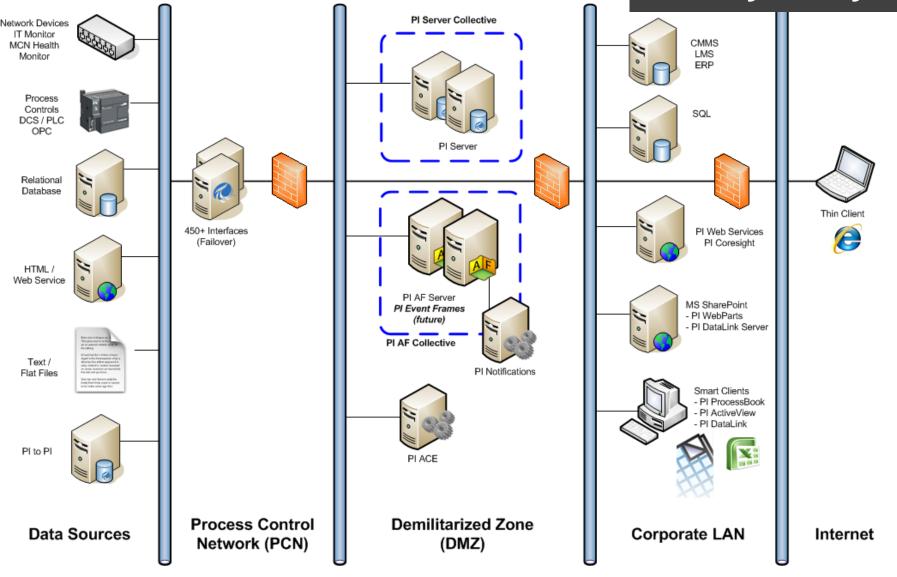
Listen to your system: PIPC log



Listen to your system: eventvwr



Know your system

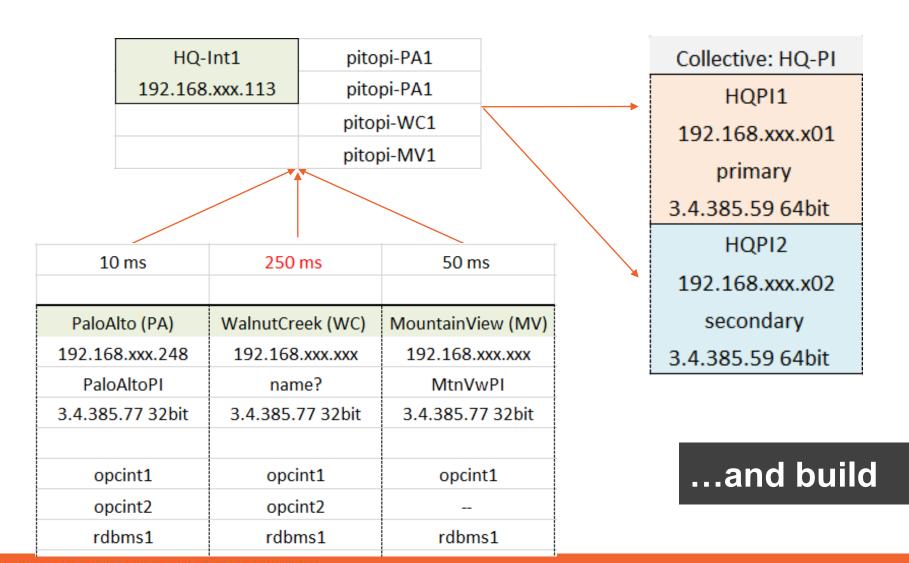


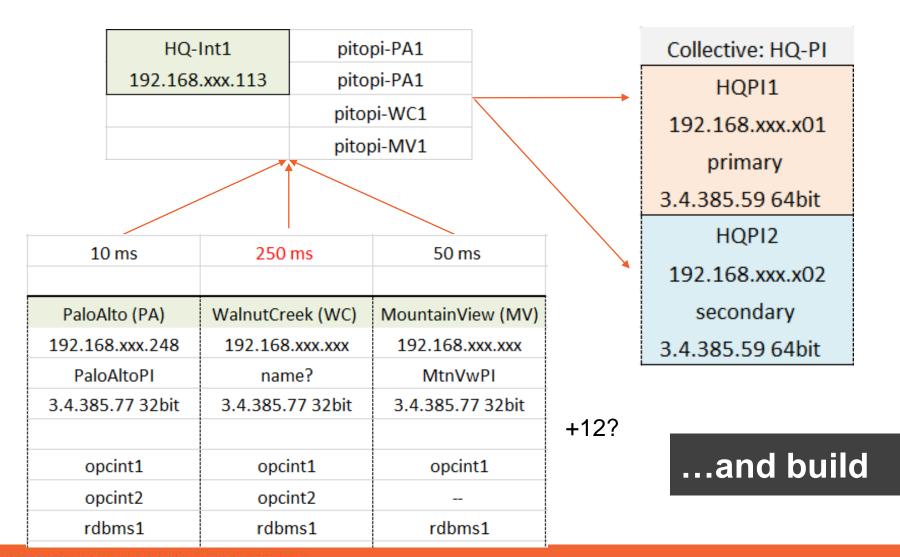
```
HQ server HQPI1
PI to PI - on it's own machine
site server
name Mountain View MtnViewPI
data not matching
```

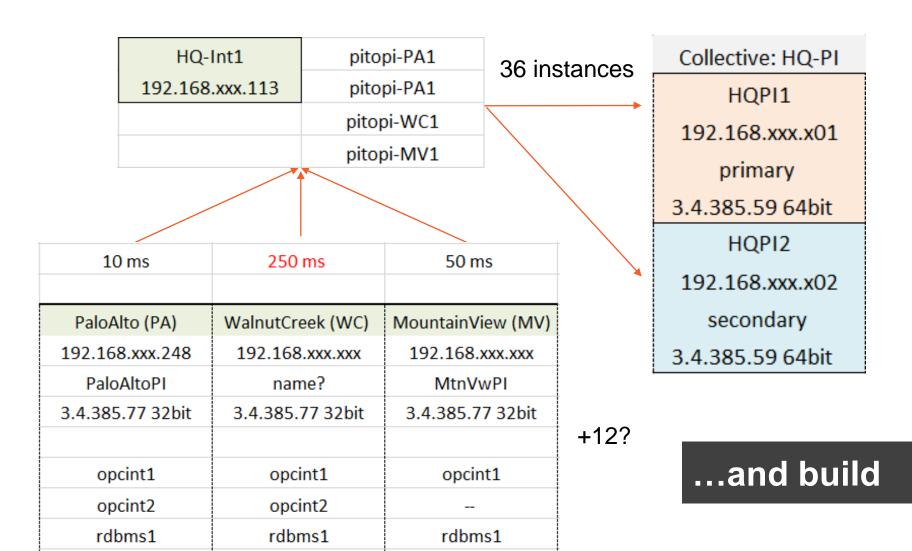
We start simple ...

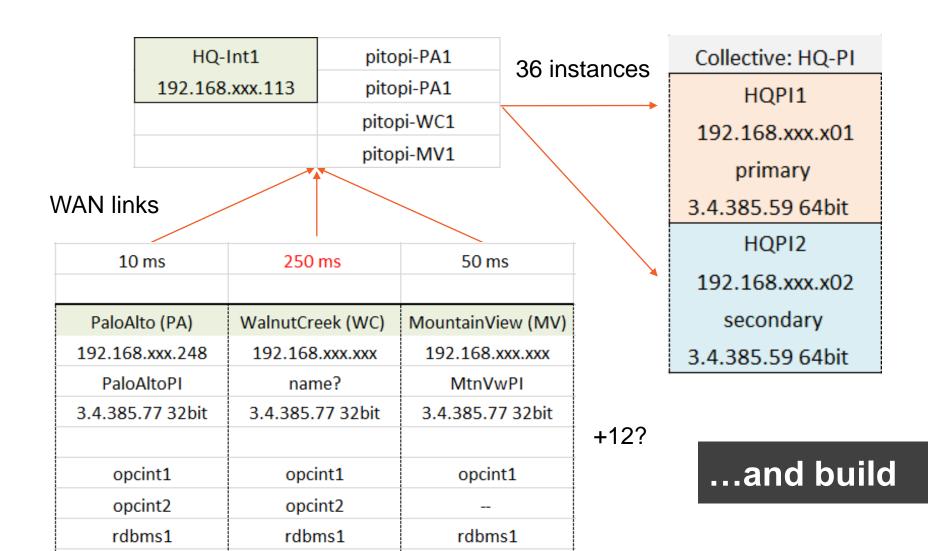
```
HQ server
       HQPI1
     PI server 2010
     3.4.385.59 64bit
     PItoPI - get version.
       HQ-Int1 local to HQPI1
     site server
       MtnViewPI
10
11
       3.4.385.77 32bit
12
13
14
     data not matching
     looks ok on the source PI server
15
```

...and we build











Available Resources Online

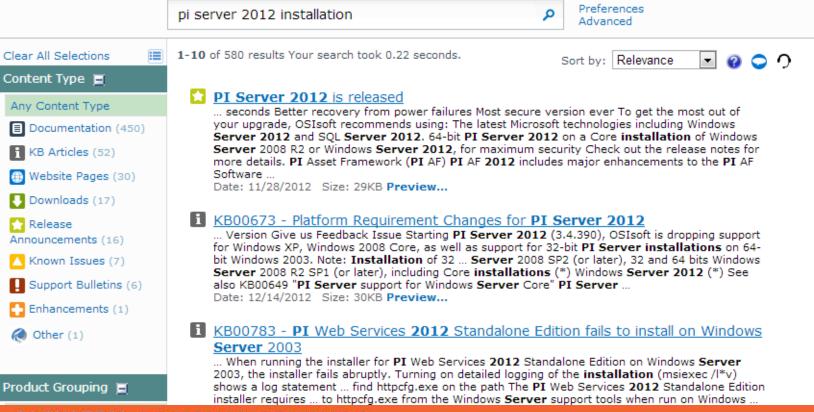


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		Points : Collective Management
		Asset Management
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KB Article # KB00772

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Quickstart Series - PI OPC Interface: Advise Tag Example

Product: PI OPC DA Interface

Version(s): 2.3.x

Platform: Windows All

Ouestion

How do you set up an Advise Tag on the PI Interface for OPC DA?

The Quickstart Series is meant as a tool for those who are familiar with the basics of PI interfaces (configuring trusts, creating services) and wish to see a specific tag configuration example. Those who are newer to interface configuration should consult the complete interface manual for full instructions.

This example steps through how to configure the PI OPC Interface to write values from an OPC Server to a PI Server.

For purposes of this example, the following configuration is assumed:

- The PI OPC Interface is installed on the same computer as the OPC Server.
- The PI point that we are writing data to is an Advise tag. The value of the tag will be updated on the PI Server when the OPC Server notifies the PI Server of a change in the corresponding OPC item.

Edit Profile

品 Site Map



Print Friendly Version



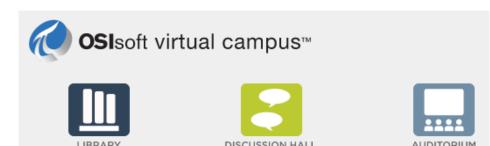
Give us Feedback

Quickstart Series

Answer

Step 1. Configure the Interface



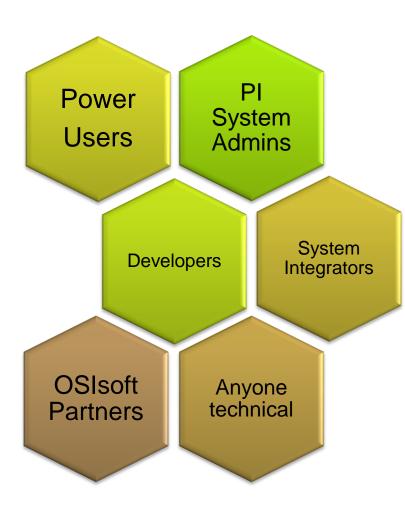


community.osisoft.com vcampus.osisoft.com

Get hands on knowledge of how to use and get value from the PI System



SAVE THE DATE



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