

How to use UMDS (Update Manager ...



GambleDW 12 posts since

Sep 25, 2007

I'm in the situation where I need to use UMDS to download the updates, and then export them for another Update Manager instance behind a closed firewall.

Problem: I can't find the first thing regarding documentation on this feature, except for the meager output of **vmware-umds.exe --help** (see below)...

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Basic Commands:

- H **--help** Help on running (this description)
- D **--download** Download Updates based on the current configuration
- E **--export** Export Updates
- R **--re-download** Re-download the Updates
- S **--set-config** Setup Initial Configuration
- i **--info-level** arg The level of information shown on the console:
verbose, info.

Optional arguments for Export and Re-download:

- dest** arg The destination directory for export operation
(Overrides setting from initial configuration)
- s **--start-time** arg For export and re-download, restrict selection to include updates downloaded after this time. Format is ISO-8601 YYYY-MM-DDThh:mm:ss[Z]. Use 'Z' at the end to indicate UTC
- t **--end-time** arg For export and re-download, restrict selection to include updates downloaded before this time. Format is ISO-8601 YYYY-MM-DDThh:mm:ss[Z]. Use 'Z' at the end to indicate UTC

Arguments for setting up initial configuration:

- store** arg The directory to store all the downloaded updates
- proxy** arg Proxy Server settings in host:port format. To disable proxy, use **--proxy ""**
- h **--enable-host** arg Enable ESX Host update downloads
- w **--enable-win** arg Enable Windows VM update downloads
- l **--enable-lin** arg Enable Linux VM update downloads
- e **--exp-dir** arg The default directory for exporting updates

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```
--dsn arg The System DSN for the database connection
-u --username arg Username to be used with the DSN
-p --password arg Password to be used with the DSN
```

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I only want UMDS to download ESX host patches. When I do the "vmware-udms -D", it proceeds to download EVERYTHING, including the un-needed Microsoft and Linux patches. I don't want to waste space for a truck load of MS patches that I'll never use (this environment uses other methods for MS patching). The output above indicates that I should put a "-h" (Enable ESX Host updates download) with an argument, *but I can't figure out what that argument is!* I've tried "esx", "ESX", and various sundry other things, and all I get is an error that says "the --enable-host argument is invalid". And yes, I've tried it with no argument, and still no luck. Funny part is, you'd think the "-h" would be sufficient to tell it that I just want ESX Host updates, since there are other switches for windows (-w) and linux (-l).

Any help out there? Tags: umds, update, manager, download, service



[dmadden](#) 65 posts since

May 9, 2007 1. **Re: How to use UMDS (Update Manager Download Service) for ESX patches only?** Mar 11, 2008 11:22 AM

One of the users on the forums made this document which answers your question:

<http://communities.vmware.com/docs/DOC-2505>

So basically if you do

```
vmware-udms -S -h true
```

```
vmware-udms -S -w false
```

```
vmware-udms -S -l false
```

```
vmware-udms --download
```

that should work.



[harkamal](#) 221 posts since

Mar 19, 2009 2. **Re: How to use UMDS (Update Manager Download Service) for ESX patches only?** Apr 14, 2009 8:57 PM

 in response to: [dmadden](#) is there a way to download patches for esx 3.5 only and not for older versions ?



[hollandwl](#) 6 posts since

Sep 25, 2006 3. **Re: How to use UMDS (Update Manager Download Service) for ESX patches only?** Oct 9, 2009 3:27 AM

UMDS needs a major overhaul to:

1. Let the customer choose which versions to download patches for. I don't have, never have had, and never will have ESX 3.0, so why should I download those patches? There should be a config file setting to set the versions you want something akin to: Versions=35,40

2. Rather than downloading everything or specifying a date range to re-download:

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Download a listing of available patches for the versions I have specified

Compare that listing to what is in my local repository

Download only the differences

3. Provide a way to cleanup a repository to remove patches that are no longer needed.

It cannot be good for VMware to have everyone repeatedly downloading multiple gigabytes of patches from them all the time.