

Power Protection Manager (PPM) Manual NEXT UPS Systems Power Protection Manager (PPM) for VMware vSphere - v1.1.1 (build vmw.20251024)

BELGIUM

NEXT UPS Systems BV

Relegem Business Park
Poverstraat 138
1731 Relegem
Belgium

+32 2 540 89 14
info@nextups.eu
www.nextups.eu

THE NETHERLANDS

NEXT UPS Systems BV

Winthontlaan 200
3526KV Utrecht
The Netherlands

+31 492 54 18 17
info@nextups.eu
www.nextups.eu

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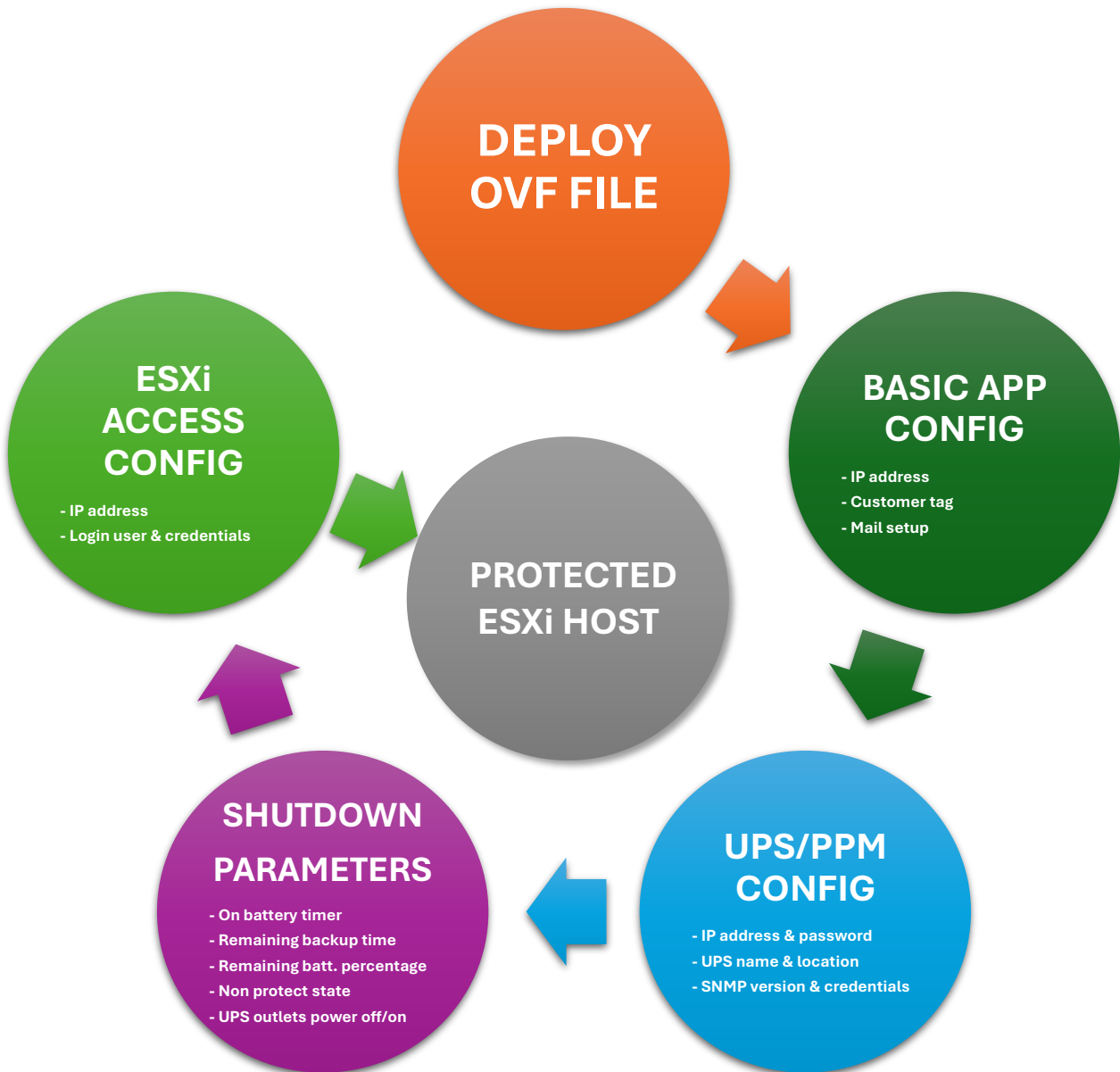
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1. Overview of the software and its features

NEXT UPS Systems Power Protection Manager (PPM) is a virtual appliance which communicates with SNMP/WEB Interface II (Network Monitoring Card) for UPSs. PPM provides event logs, user notification and protects operation systems to shutdown gracefully. With PPM, applications can save data and documents before the operating system shuts down.

Installation & configuration overview:



2. Requirements for pre-installation (system requirements)

- The PPM virtual appliance can be installed on VMware vSphere 7.0 and up.
- 2 vCPU
- 2GB vMemory
- 25GB free space on datastore

3. Steps and instructions for installation

For deploying a virtual appliance in VMware vSphere to install Power Protection Manager (PPM), you need to:

STEP 1.

Download the PPM zip file on <https://www.nextups.eu/software/ppm-vmware/#downloads>

Extract the files from the downloaded file NEXTUPS-PPM-VMWARE_v1.1.1.zip to an accessible location.

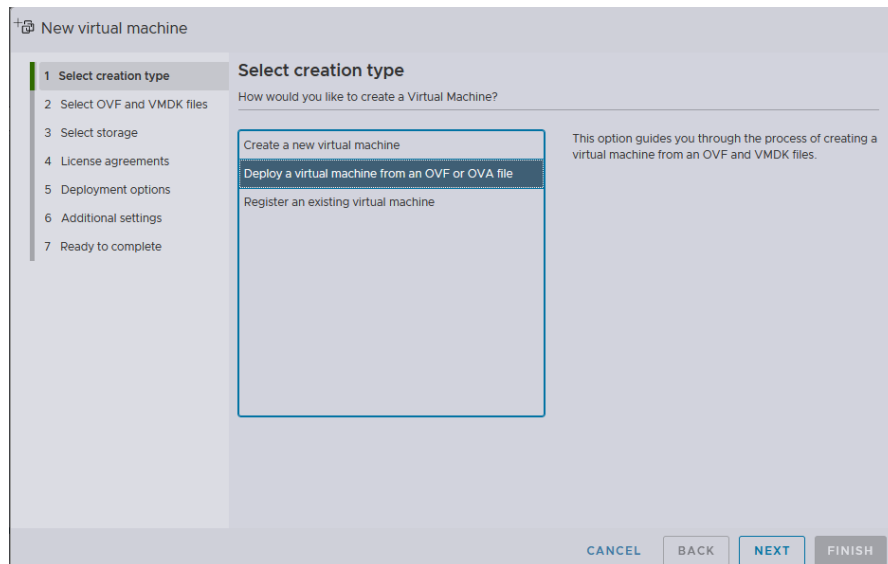
- NEXTUPS-PPM.ovf
- NEXTUPS-PPM-0.vmdk

STEP 2.

Connect to VMware vSphere from your client computer using a web browser and log in as a user that has permission to create, start, and stop virtual machines.

STEP 3.

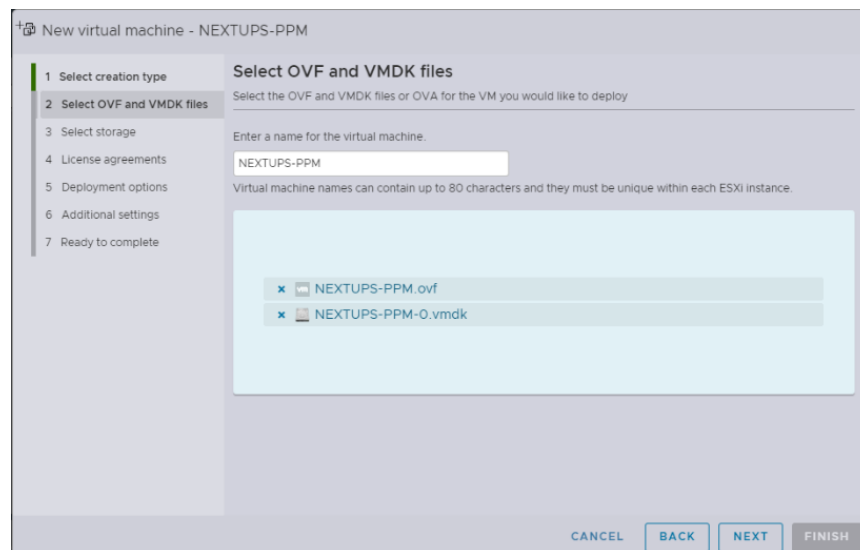
Choose 'Create / Register VM' -> 'Deploy a virtual machine from an OVF or OVA file' and click NEXT



Click NEXT to proceed

STEP 4.

Enter a name for the virtual machine, e.g. NEXTUPS-PPM, and drag the two extracted files in the drop box:



Click NEXT to proceed

STEP 5.

Select an appropriate storage type and datastore depending on the customer configuration:

Name	Capacity	Free	Type	Thin provision	Access
datastore1	1.69 TB	1.52 TB	VMFS6	Supported	Single

1 items

Click NEXT to proceed

STEP 6.

Select a network mapping depending on the customer configuration and make sure the 'Power on automatically' box is checked:

Network mappings: VM Network

Disk provisioning: ☒ Thin ☐ Thick

Power on automatically: ☒

Click NEXT to proceed

STEP 7.

Review your settings selection before finishing the wizard:

New virtual machine - NEXTUPS-PPM

Ready to complete
Review your settings selection before finishing the wizard

Product	NEXTUPS-PPM
VM Name	NEXTUPS-PPM
Files	NEXTUPS-PPM-0.vmdk
Datastore	datastore1
Provisioning type	Thin
Network mappings	VM Network: VM Network
Guest OS Name	Unknown

Do not refresh your browser while this VM is being deployed.

CANCEL BACK NEXT **FINISH**

Click FINISH to proceed

STEP 8.

Wait for the VM to be created and proceed to **4.2 CONFIGURATION** for configuration of PPM, UPS(s), ESXi host(s) and shutdown parameters.

4. Configuration and instructions for setup

4.1 PPM COMMMANDS INDEX

-h, --help	Show this help information
--release-notes	Display release notes
--set-appliance-ip-dhcp	Set appliance DHCP IP configuration
--set-appliance-ip-static	Set appliance STATIC IP configuration
--set-ppm-password	Set ppm user password
--mail-setup	Set mail configuration
--mail-test	Test mail configuration
-S, --start	Start PPM monitoring
-R, --restart	Restart PPM monitoring
-K, --stop	Stop PPM monitoring
-s, --status	Display UPS system information
-l, --logs	Display all logs
-c, --clear	Clear all logs
-e, --export	Export log file
-c, --config	Display configuration file
-u, --update	Update (edit) configuration file
customer_tag	Customer tag (name) for use with mail communication
timezone	SNTP time zone
ups1_ip	UPS1 IPv4 address
ups1_pass	UPS1 root password
ups2_ip	UPS2 IPv4 address
ups2_pass	UPS2 root password
upssnmp_version	UPS SNMP version
upssnmpv2c_community	UPS SNMP v2c private configured community string
upssnmpv3_user	UPS SNMP v3 user
upssnmpv3_userauth	UPS SNMP v3 user authentication password
upssnmpv3_userauthprotocol	UPS SNMP v3 user authentication protocol: MD5
upssnmpv3_userpriv	UPS SNMP v3 user private password
upssnmpv3_seclevel	UPS SNMP v3 security level
upsnonprotectstate_action	Action to take when UPS state is 'Unknown', 'Off/Standby' or 'On Bypass'
upsonbattery_timer	Timer to elapse before executing shutdown procedure
upsremaining_minutes	UPS minimum remaining backup time in minutes before executing shutdown procedure
upsremaining_percentage	UPS minimum remaining backup percentage before executing shutdown procedure
upsoutlets_timeroff	Timer in minutes (m) to elapse before UPS power outlets are powered off
upsoutlets_timeron	Timer in minutes (m) to elapse before UPS power outlets are powered on
esxi_user	ESXi root user
esxi1_ip	ESXi1 IPv4 address
esxi1_pass	ESXi1 root password
esxi2_ip	ESXi2 IPv4 address
esxi2_pass	ESXi2 root password
esxi3_ip	ESXi3 IPv4 address
esxi3_pass	ESXi3 root password
mail_recipient1	Alert mail recipient1
mail_recipient2	Alert mail recipient2
-i, --import	Import configuration from given file
-e, --export	Export configuration file

4.2 CONFIGURATION

4.2.1 BASIC APPLIANCE CONFIGURATION

This section covers all commands for configuring the PPM appliance and email notification.

Enter the appliance through a SSH connection:

- Set Function keys and keypad to Linux or VT100+ (applies when using PuTTY as SSH client)
- Log in on the virtual appliance using its IP address and port 22

Log in using 'ppm' as user and 'ppm' as default password.

```

  PPM

Welcome to NEXT UPS Systems - Power Protection Manager (PPM) for VMware vSphere

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you entirely agree to the terms and conditions as
accepted before downloading and installing, and also
shown during the logon process.

If you do not agree or agreed by mistake, you should
immediately stop using Power Protection Manager (PPM).
```

- **Set the PPM password**

After the first log in, it is recommended to change the default password by use of the command:

Command: `sudo PPM --set-ppm-password`
Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM --set-ppm-password
Set ppm user password
New password:
Retype new password:
passwd: password updated successfully
```

- **Set the appliance DHCP or STATIC IP address**

It is strongly advised that the IP address of the appliance is set to a static configuration, however a DHCP setting is also possible:

Command: `sudo PPM --set-appliance-ip-dhcp`
Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM --set-appliance-ip-dhcp
Applying DHCP IP configuration. You might want to reconnect using the new IP.
```

Check your DHCP server to retrieve the assigned IP address.

To set the IP settings manually, use the following command:

Command: `sudo PPM --set-appliance-ip-static`

Change the IP address/subnet mask/DNS/routes(gateway) according to your network settings in the pop-up editor window by changing the corresponding values and save with Ctrl-O, exit with Ctrl-X.

Return Output:

```
192.168.241.248 - PuTTY
GNU nano 7.2 /opt/ppm/netplan/ppm appliance ip_static.yaml
# This is the configuration template for setting static IP address on the available network interface on your system.
# Please make the necessary changes and save them with CTRL+O. Then exit this template with CTRL+X.
#
network:
  version: 2
  ethernet:
    ens192:
      dhcp4: no
      optional: true
      addresses:
        # Change the below to the appropriate IP address, including subnet prefix [CIDR notation]. Don't change the indentation style.
        - 192.168.1.248/24
      nameservers:
        # Change the below to the appropriate IP address(es). Don't change the indentation style.
        addresses: [192.168.1.1, 1.1.1.1, 8.8.8.8]
      routes:
        - to: default
          # Change the below to the appropriate IP address. Don't change the indentation style.
          via: 192.168.1.1
```

- **Set customer tag**

The customer tag (name) is a variable to identify your configuration. It will be used in the configuration files and in the subject field for mail communication:

Command: `sudo PPM -c -u customer_tag '<value>'`

[IMPORTANT] Only alphanumeric and `_` characters are allowed.

Return Output:

```
sudo PPM -c -u customer_tag 'NUS-EMEA'

PPM: customer_tag option has been updated.
PPM: Restarting service to apply new value...
```

- **Set the SNTP time zone**

Default setting is 'Europe/Brussels'. Change if desired according to your current time zone:

Command: `sudo PPM -c -u timezone 'Europe/Brussels'`

[IMPORTANT] Possible values are only the official TZ identifier names, see:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_tz_database_time_zones for the full list.

Example values are: Europe/Brussels | Europe/Amsterdam | Europe/Paris | GB | UTC | Etc/GMT+3 | CET | CEST

Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -c -u timezone 'Europe/Brussels'

PPM: timezone option has been updated.
```

- **Set mail notification**

For configuring the mail notifications, an SMTP server, TLS encryption port, sender account, password and at least 1 recipient must be configured:

Command: `sudo PPM --mail-setup`

Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM --mail-setup

Enter the SMTP server: smtp.office365.com
Enter the SMTP port (TLS): 587
Enter the sender account address: service@nextups.eu
Enter the sender account password:

Enter the mail recipient1 address: service@nextups.eu
Enter the mail recipient2 address or press [ENTER] to leave blank:

Sending test mail From: service@nextups.eu, To: service@nextups.eu, SMTP:
smtp.office365.com, Port: 587
Please check your inbox.
```

A test mail will be sent, check the inbox of the provided recipient.

Both mail recipients can be reconfigured separately:

Command: `sudo PPM -c -u mail_recipient1 '<value>'`
`sudo PPM -c -u mail_recipient2 '<value>'`

Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -c -u mail_recipient2 'service@nextups.eu'

PPM: mail_recipient2 option has been updated.
PPM: Restarting service to apply new value...
```

After configuration of the mail recipients, the settings can be checked by sending a test mail:

Command: `sudo PPM --mail-test`

Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM --mail-test

Sending test mail From: service@nextups.eu, To: service@nextups.eu
Please check your inbox.
```

Check the configuration file

After modifying the values, the settings can be checked by displaying the configuration file:

Command: `sudo PPM -c`

Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -c

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Configuration file:

CUSTOMER TAG                               : NUS-EMEA
SNTP TIMEZONE                               : Europe/Brussels

UPS1 IP ADDRESS                             :
UPS1 PASSWORD                              :
UPS2 IP ADDRESS                             :
UPS2 PASSWORD                              :
UPS SNMP VERSION                           : 3
UPS SNMP V2C COMMUNITY                      : private
UPS SNMP V3 USER NAME                      :
UPS SNMP V3 USER AUTHENTICATION PASSWORD   :
UPS SNMP V3 USER AUTHENTICATION PROTOCOL   : MD5
UPS SNMP V3 USER PRIVATE PASSWORD          :
UPS SNMP V3 USER SECURITY LEVEL             : noAuthNoPriv

UPS NON PROTECT STATE ACTION                : donothing
UPS ON BATTERY TIMER (seconds | minutes)    : disabled
UPS MINIMUM REMAINING BACKUP TIME THRESHOLD (minutes) : disabled
UPS MINIMUM REMAINING BACKUP PERCENTAGE THRESHOLD (%) : 30

UPS OUTLETS POWER-OFF TIMER (minutes)      :
UPS OUTLETS POWER-ON TIMER (minutes)       :

ESXI USER                                  : root
ESXI1 IP ADDRESS                          :
ESXI1 PASSWORD                            :
ESXI2 IP ADDRESS                          :
ESXI2 PASSWORD                            :
ESXI3 IP ADDRESS                          :
ESXI3 PASSWORD                            :

MAIL SENDER                                : service@nextups.eu
MAIL RECIPIENT1                            : service@nextups.eu
MAIL RECIPIENT2                            :
```

4.2.2 UPS/PPM CONFIGURATION

This section covers the configuration for communications with one or two UPSs. See chapter 4.2.3 SHUTDOWN CONFIGURATION for more info on how to configure the timings for the shutdown.

- **Set up the UPS IP address/password and UPS name/location**

First configure the SNMP settings in the **UPS network interface – NMC System page**. It is strongly recommended to configure both UPS and PPM with a static IP address in your network. Set the IP address, subnet mask, gateway and DNS and click the save button.

The screenshot shows the 'Settings » NMC System' page. On the left is a sidebar with navigation links: UPS Monitoring, UPS Status, UPS Alarm, UPS Parameters, UPS Powered Devices, UPS Identification, UPS Management, UPS Battery Test, UPS Battery Test Schedule, SNMP TRAP Receivers, UPS Configuration, UPS Control, UPS Shutdown, Shutdown Schedule, Settings, NMC System, Reboot System, and Access Control. The main content area is titled 'NETWORK MANAGEMENT CARD FOR UPS' and shows configuration fields for System Configuration, UPS Configuration, and UPS Control. The 'System Configuration' section includes fields for IP Address (192.168.1.251), Subnet Mask (255.255.255.0), Gateway Address (192.168.1.1), Primary DNS (1.1.1.1), Secondary DNS (8.8.8.8), IPv6 (Enable), IPv6 Auto Configuration (Enable), IPv6 Address 1 (::), Prefix length (0), IPv6 Gateway Tunnel (0.0.0.0), IPv6 Local Address (FE80::220:83FF:FE03:71D5), and IPv6 Address 2 (::). A 'Save' button is at the bottom right.

In addition to the IP address, a UPS description (name) and UPS location can be set in the **UPS network interface – NMC System** page. Fill in an appropriate name and location for the UPS and click the below save button.

[IMPORTANT] any blank characters (space) in these settings will be converted to _ (underscore) in the PPM.

The screenshot shows the 'Settings » NMC System' page. The left sidebar contains a navigation menu with options like 'UPS Monitoring', 'UPS Management', 'Settings', and 'Logs'. The main content area is titled 'System Configuration' and includes fields for IP Address (192.168.1.251), Subnet Mask (255.255.255.0), Gateway Address (192.168.1.1), Primary DNS (1.1.1.1), and Secondary DNS (8.8.8.8). There are also sections for SNMP Support, HTTP, SSH, ModbusTCP, and SMTP settings. The 'UPS Description' is set to 'Demo VMWare Li-Ion' and the 'UPS Location' is 'Server Rack LAB0'. A 'Save' button is visible at the bottom right of the configuration section.

After configuring the UPS IP address, up to 2 UPSs can be monitored in the PPM, if two UPSs are configured both will be monitored simultaneously for executing the shutdown settings. See chapter 4.2.3 SHUTDOWN CONFIGURATION for more information on the shutdown configuration.

Set the UPS(s) IP address(es) in PPM

To set the IP address(es) of the monitored UPS(s) in PPM:

Command: `sudo PPM -c -u ups1_ip '<value>'`
`sudo PPM -c -u ups2_ip '<value>'`

Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -c -u ups1_ip '192.168.1.251'

PPM: ups1_ip option has been updated.
PPM: Restarting service to apply new value...
```

Set the UPS(s) password(s) in PPM (optional)

In order to use the UPS power outlets off/on control after the shutdown command, it is mandatory to configure the SNMP interface password for the root user, as used in the web interface login.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying 'http://192.168.1.251'. The page title is 'NETWORK MANAGEMENT CARD FOR UPS'. It features a login form with a 'Log In' button. The form has two input fields: 'User Name' with the value 'root' and 'Password' with masked characters. Below the password field is a 'Log In' button.

To set the UPS root password(s) of the monitored UPS(s) in PPM:

Command: `sudo PPM -c -u ups1_pass '<value>'`
`sudo PPM -c -u ups2_pass '<value>'`

[IMPORTANT] Only alphanumeric and !*#\$%&:_- characters are allowed

Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -c -u ups1_pass 'password'

PPM: ups1_pass option has been updated.
PPM: Restarting service to apply new value...
```

- **Set up the UPS SNMP version**

For secure communication with the UPS either SNMP v2c or SNMP v3 can be used.

Default setting on the network card of the UPS is version SNMP v3 but it can be changed to SNMP v2c. However, for security reasons it is recommended to use SNMP v3.

Set accordingly to the settings in the **UPS network interface – NMC System page**, parameter *SNMP Support*: (default setting SNMP v3). For both communication methods additional settings are mandatory, first configure those on the SNMP interface of the UPS before proceeding the config of the PPM.

Set the selected SNMP version in PPM

Default setting is SNMP v3 but can be changed to SNMP v2c. However, for security reasons it is recommended to use SNMP v3:

Command: `sudo PPM -c -u upssnmp_version '<value>'`

[IMPORTANT] Valid values are: 2c | 3

Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -c -u upssnmp_version '3'

PPM: upssnmp_version option has been updated.
PPM: Restarting service to apply new value...
```

- **Set up the SNMP v2c parameters**

By selecting the SNMP v2c communication the Private Community String is mandatory.

Set accordingly to the settings in the **UPS network interface – SNMPv1/2 Configuration page**. Only the Private Community String in the network interface is accepted. This community string can be changed in the **UPS network interface – SNMPv1/2 Configuration page**, parameter *Private Community String*. The default setting in the interface is 'private'.

Set the community string in PPM

Set the community string in PPM accordingly to the **private** community string in the UPS network interface.

Command: `sudo PPM -c -u upssnmpv2c_community '<value>'`
Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -c -u upssnmpv2c_community 'private'

PPM: upssnmpv2c_community option has been updated.
PPM: Restarting service to apply new value...
```

- **Set up the SNMP v3 parameters**

By selecting the SNMP v3 communication a username, authentication method and password(s) needs to be set. First configure the credentials and security level in the **UPS network interface – SNMPv3 USM Table page**.

[IMPORTANT] Only minor alphanumeric characters are allowed for the SNMPv3 user name.

Set the SNMP v3 parameters of the PPM accordingly to the settings in the UPS network interface.

Set SNMP v3 user name

Set accordingly to the settings in the **UPS network interface – SNMPv3 USM Table** page:

Command: `sudo PPM -c -u upssnmpv3_user '<value>'`

[IMPORTANT] Only minor alphanumeric characters are allowed for the SNMPv3 user name.

Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -c -u upssnmpv3_user 'root'
PPM: upssnmpv3_user option has been updated.
PPM: Restarting service to apply new value...
```

Set SNMP v3 user authentication password

Set accordingly to the settings in the **UPS network interface – SNMPv3 USM Table** page:

Command: `sudo PPM -c -u upssnmpv3_userauth '<value>'`

[IMPORTANT] Only alphanumeric and _- characters are allowed and needs to have a minimum of 8 characters.

Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -c -u upssnmpv3_userauth 'password'
PPM: upssnmpv3_userauth option has been updated.
PPM: Restarting service to apply new value...
```

Set SNMP v3 authentication protocol

Only valid value is 'MD5', set accordingly to the settings in the **UPS network interface – SNMPv3 USM Table** page:

Command: `sudo PPM -c -u upssnmpv3_userauthprotocol '<value>'`

Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -c -u upssnmpv3_userauthprotocol 'MD5'
PPM: upssnmpv3_userauthprotocol option has been updated.
PPM: Restarting service to apply new value...
```

Set SNMP v3 user private password

Set accordingly to the settings in the **UPS network interface – SNMPv3 USM Table** page:

Command: `sudo PPM -c -u upssnmpv3_userpriv '<value>'`

[IMPORTANT] Only alphanumeric and _- characters are allowed and needs to have a minimum of 8 characters.

Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -c -u upssnmpv3_userpriv 'Password'
PPM: upssnmpv3_userpriv option has been updated.
PPM: Restarting service to apply new value...
```

Set SNMP v3 security level

Default value is 'noAuthNoPriv'. Set accordingly to the settings in the **UPS network interface – SNMPv3 USM Table** page:

Command: `sudo PPM -c -u upssnmpv3_seclevel '<value>'`

[IMPORTANT] Valid values are: noAuthNoPriv | authNoPriv | authPriv'

Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -c -u upssnmpv3_seclevel 'authPriv'

PPM: upssnmpv3_seclevel option has been updated.
PPM: Restarting service to apply new value...
```

Check the configuration file

All settings can be checked in the configuration file or with below command:

Command: sudo PPM -c

Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -c

NEXT UPS Systems - Power Protection Manager (PPM) for VMware vSphere - 1.1.1 (build vmw.20251024)

Configuration file:

CUSTOMER TAG                               : NUS-EMEA
SNTP TIMEZONE                              : Europe/Brussels

UPS1 IP ADDRESS                           : 192.168.1.251
UPS1 PASSWORD                             : *****
UPS2 IP ADDRESS                           : 192.168.1.252
UPS2 PASSWORD                             : *****
UPS SNMP VERSION                          : 3
UPS SNMP V2C COMMUNITY                    : private
UPS SNMP V3 USER NAME                    : root
UPS SNMP V3 USER AUTHENTICATION PASSWORD : password
UPS SNMP V3 USER AUTHENTICATION PROTOCOL : MD5
UPS SNMP V3 USER PRIVATE PASSWORD        : Password
UPS SNMP V3 USER SECURITY LEVEL           : authPriv

UPS NON PROTECT STATE ACTION              : donothing
UPS ON BATTERY TIMER (seconds | minutes)  : disabled
UPS MINIMUM REMAINING BACKUP TIME THRESHOLD (minutes) : disabled
UPS MINIMUM REMAINING BACKUP PERCENTAGE THRESHOLD (%) : 30

UPS POWER OUTLETS POWER-OFF TIMER (minutes) : disabled
UPS POWER OUTLETS POWER-ON TIMER (minutes) : disabled

ESXI USER                                : root
ESXI1 IP ADDRESS                        :
ESXI1 PASSWORD                         :
ESXI2 IP ADDRESS                        :
ESXI2 PASSWORD                         :
ESXI3 IP ADDRESS                        :
ESXI3 PASSWORD                         :

MAIL SENDER                             : service@nextups.eu
MAIL RECIPIENT1                         : service@nextups.eu
MAIL RECIPIENT2                         :
```

Check the UPS Status and Communication

After configuring the SNMP settings, the UPS status can be checked by using the status command. It will show the status of the PPM service and configured UPS. Also, the last 10 log entries will be shown.

Command: sudo PPM -s

Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -s

NEXT UPS Systems - Power Protection Manager (PPM) for VMware vSphere

Service status      : Running
Service version     : 1.1.1 (build vmw.20251024)
Mail agent status    : Running

Customer tag        : NUS-EMEA

UPS1
----
UPS IP address      : 192.168.1.251
UPS status          : On Line
UPS time on battery  : 00:00:00 (hh:mm:ss)
UPS battery status   : Normal
UPS battery voltage  : 84.4V
UPS battery capacity : 100%
UPS battery remaining backup time : 86 minutes
UPS battery temperature : 25 degrees Celsius
UPS output load      : 23%
UPS name            : Demo_VMware_Li-Ion
UPS location         : Server_Rack_LAB0
UPS technology       : ON-LINE
UPS SNMP card firmware : 3.7.0.3
UPS serial number    : CP10P3312980004

Last 10 logs:
-----
29-05-2024 12:16:01 - The status of UPS "Demo_VMware_Li-Ion" with IP "192.168.1.251" is Not Detected
29-05-2024 12:16:07 - The status of UPS "Demo_VMware_Li-Ion" with IP "192.168.1.251" is On Line -- no
timer activated (anymore)
29-05-2024 12:16:19 - The status of UPS "Demo_VMware_Li-Ion" with IP "192.168.1.251" is Not Detected
29-05-2024 12:16:25 - The status of UPS "Demo_VMware_Li-Ion" with IP "192.168.1.251" is On Line -- no
timer activated (anymore)
29-05-2024 12:19:39 - The status of UPS "Demo_VMware_Li-Ion" with IP "192.168.1.251" is On Line -- no
timer activated (anymore)
29-05-2024 12:43:05 - The status of UPS "Demo_VMware_Li-Ion" with IP "192.168.1.251" is On Line -- no
timer activated (anymore)
29-05-2024 13:03:07 - The status of UPS "Demo_VMware_Li-Ion" with IP "192.168.1.251" is On Line -- no
timer activated (anymore)
29-05-2024 13:03:51 - The status of UPS "Demo_VMware_Li-Ion" with IP "192.168.1.251" is On Line -- no
timer activated (anymore)
```

4.2.3 SHUTDOWN CONFIGURATION

This section covers the configuration of the parameters that will trigger a shutdown procedure for the ESXi host(s).

In case of a power failure and UPS working on battery power, 3 events can trigger the shutdown procedure for the configured ESXi host(s):

- **UPS ON BATTERY TIMER** (seconds/minutes) reaching a specified value
- **UPS MINIMUM REMAINING BACKUP TIME THRESHOLD** (minutes) drops below a specific value
- **UPS MINIMUM REMAINING BACKUP PERCENTAGE THRESHOLD** (%) drops below a specific value

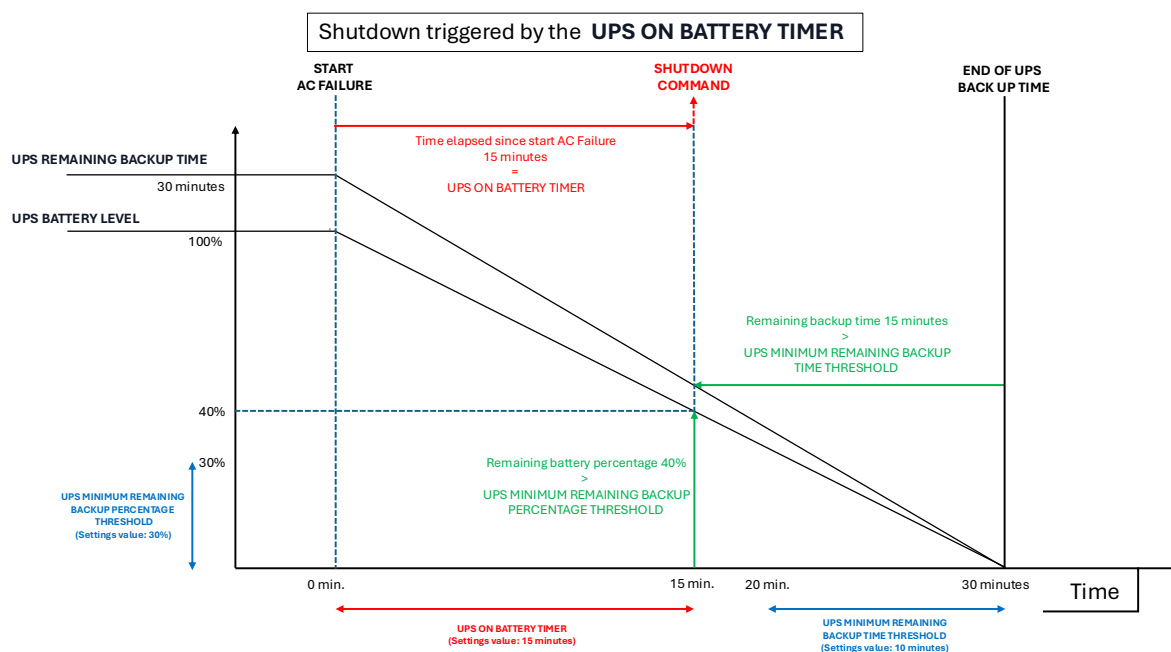
These 3 events that can trigger the shutdown procedure can be set individually in PPM; any event that occurs first will trigger the shutdown procedure to be sent to the ESXi host(s).

Default settings are that only a UPS MINIMUM REMAINING BACKUP PERCENTAGE THRESHOLD of 30% will trigger the shutdown action. The default settings for the UPS ON BATTERY TIMER and UPS MINIMUM REMAINING BACKUP TIME THRESHOLD are blank and will not be considered.

The settings can be changed by configuring the values for these 3 parameters:

- **UPS ON BATTERY TIMER**

In case of a power failure and the UPS is working on battery power, PPM will launch a timer before sending the shutdown procedure to the ESXi host(s). The UPS ON BATTERY TIMER setting is a value in seconds (s) or minutes (m) to elapse before executing the shutdown procedure.



The timer can be set in seconds or minutes using unit 's' or 'm' in the parameter value:

Command: `sudo PPM -c -u upsonbattery_timer '<value>'`
Example: `sudo PPM -c -u upsonbattery_timer '600s'`
`sudo PPM -c -u upsonbattery_timer '10m'`

[IMPORTANT] Default setting is blank. Valid settings are numeric values with additions 's' or 'm' and blank. If set to blank (sudo PPM -c -u upsonbattery_timer "") the UPS ON BATTERY TIMER will not be considered to trigger the shutdown of the ESXi host(s).

Return Output:

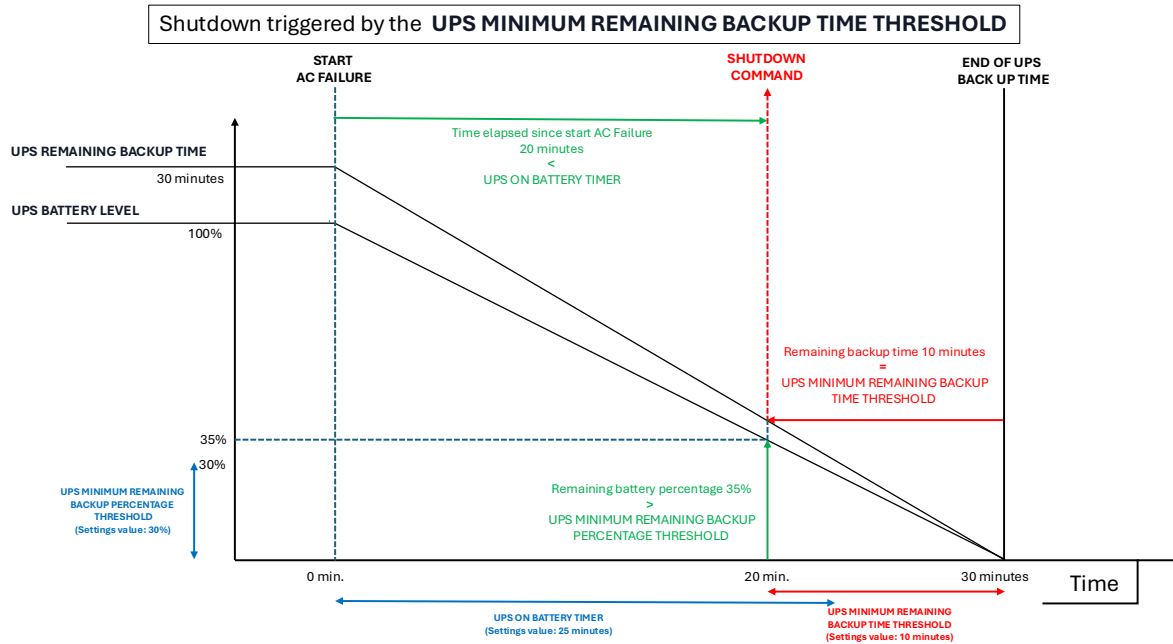
```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -c -u upsonbattery_timer '15m'
PPM: upsonbattery_timer option has been updated.
PPM: Restarting service to apply new value...
```

- **UPS MINIMUM REMAINING BACKUP TIME THRESHOLD**

Depending on the actual load and battery level, the UPS will calculate an estimated remaining *Backup Time*. This time can be checked in the status command (sudo PPM -s) and on the **UPS network interface – UPS STATUS page**.

- If two UPSs are configured, the remaining *Backup Times* for both UPSs will be add up to compare with the configured value of the UPS MINIMUM REMAINING BACKUP TIME THRESHOLD.

The UPS MINIMUM REMAINING BACKUP TIME THRESHOLD, as set in PPM, is the minimum value for the remaining backup time before executing the shutdown procedure.



This threshold is being set in minutes (m) in the parameter value:

Command: `sudo PPM -c -u upsremaining_minutes '<value>'`

[IMPORTANT] Default setting is blank. Valid settings are numeric values and blank. If set to blank (sudo PPM -c -u upsremaining_minutes "") the UPS MINIMUM REMAINING BACKUP TIME THRESHOLD will not be considered to trigger the shutdown of the ESXi host(s).

Return Output:

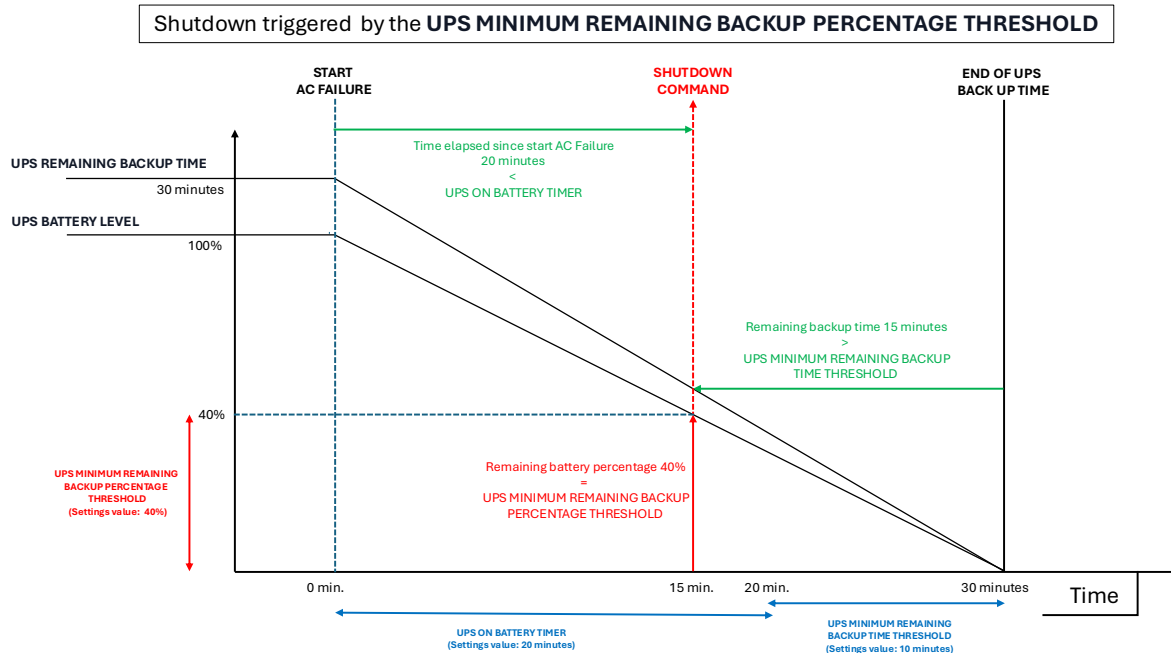
```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -c -u upsremaining_minutes '25'
PPM: upsremaining_minutes option has been updated.
PPM: Restarting service to apply new value...
```

- **UPS MINIMUM REMAINING BACKUP PERCENTAGE THRESHOLD**

The battery level of the UPS depends on the actual state of the battery. This battery level can be checked in the status command (sudo PPM -s) and on the **UPS network interface – UPS STATUS page**.

- If two UPSs are configured, the percentages for both will be add up to compare with the configured value of the UPS MINIMUM REMAINING BACKUP PERCENTAGE THRESHOLD.

The UPS MINIMUM REMAINING BACKUP PERCENTAGE THRESHOLD, as set in PPM, is the minimum value for the UPS battery level in percentage (%) before executing the shutdown procedure.



This threshold is being set in percentage (%) in the parameter value:

Command: `sudo PPM -c -u upsremaining_percentage '<value>'`

[IMPORTANT] Default setting is 30. Valid settings are numeric values from 0 to 100. This value cannot be left blank. If desired not to be used this value can be set to 0.

Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -c -u upsremaining_percentage '50'
PPM: upsremaining_percentage option has been updated.
PPM: Restarting service to apply new value...
```

• UPS NON PROTECT STATE ACTION

[IMPORTANT]

In addition to the configuration of the shutdown procedure in case of a power failure, it is also possible to trigger the shutdown when the UPS is in a 'non protective' state. This will be the case if the UPS is in one of these states:

'Unknown', 'Off/Standby' or 'On Bypass', even if the mains supply (UPS input) is still present.

In these states the UPS will not switch to battery power in case of a power failure and therefore the attached devices are not protected.

This setting can be configured through the 'upsnonprotectstate_action' parameter and can be set to:

- donothing:** PPM will not consider the non-protective state of the UPS. Only in case of a power failure and the UPS is on battery power, it launches the UPS ON BATTERY TIMER and/or checks both values for:
- UPS MINIMUM REMAINING BACKUP TIME THRESHOLD (minutes)
 - UPS MINIMUM REMAINING BACKUP PERCENTAGE THRESHOLD (%)
- shutdown:** In case the UPS is in a 'non protective' state, PPM will act as if the UPS is working on battery power and starts the shutdown procedure for the ESXi host(s) by launching the UPS ON BATTERY TIMER and/or checking both values for:
- UPS MINIMUM REMAINING BACKUP TIME THRESHOLD (minutes)
 - UPS MINIMUM REMAINING BACKUP PERCENTAGE THRESHOLD (%)

Command: `sudo PPM -c -u upsnonprotectstate_action '<value>'`

[IMPORTANT] Default setting is donothing. Valid settings are: donothing | shutdown

Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -c -u upsnonprotectstate_action 'donothing'

PPM: upsnonprotectstate_action option has been updated.
PPM: Restarting service to apply new value...
```

• UPS OUTLETS POWER OFF/ON TIMER

After triggering the shutdown procedure, PPM can also control the UPS power outlets. This can be done to preserve the remaining battery capacity and/or auto power-on of the server(s) when AC power returns.

The UPS outlets can be controlled by configuring two timers:

- **UPS OUTLETS POWER-OFF TIMER** in minutes
- **UPS OUTLETS POWER-ON TIMER** in minutes

[IMPORTANT] Great care should be taken by setting these timers because of the risk of cutting off the power to the host prior to the complete shutdown of the VMs and the host itself.

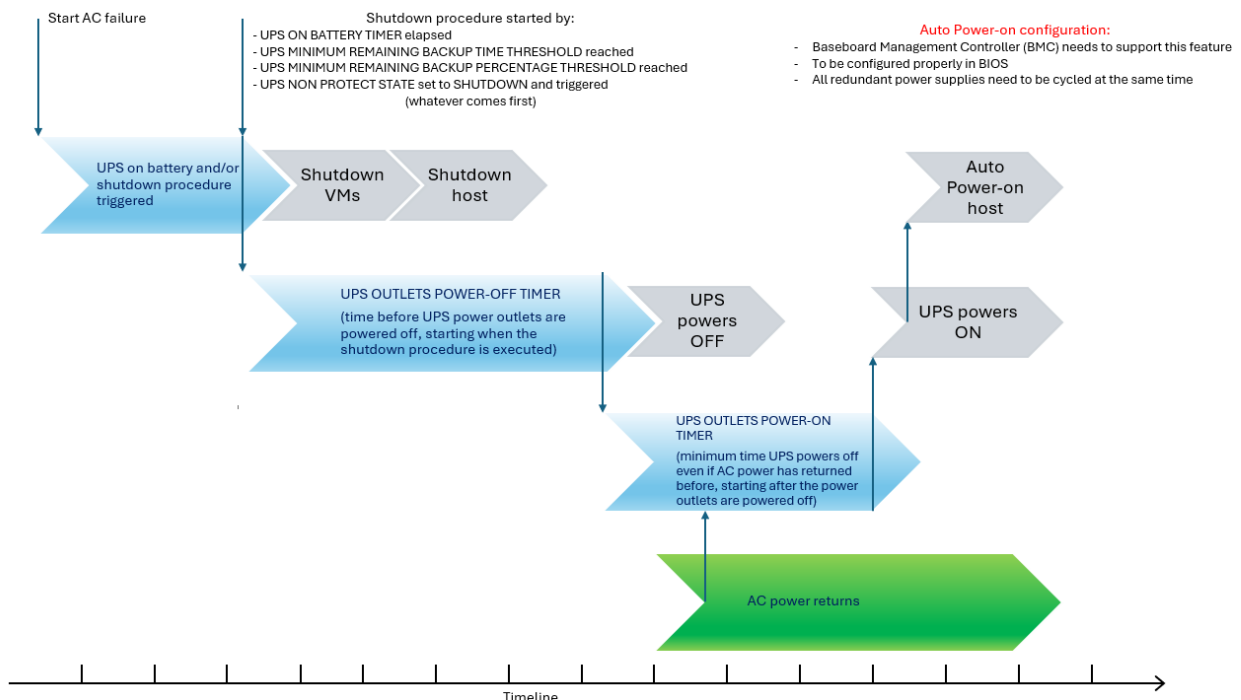
To configure these timers, the UPS root password and correct SNMP V2C/V3 settings need to be set in PPM. Otherwise, the configuration overview will show 'unavailable' at these settings.

The **UPS OUTLETS POWER-OFF TIMER** is the time in minutes to elapse before the UPS power outlets are powered off, starting when the shutdown procedure is started.

[IMPORTANT] Consider the maximum time needed for shutting down all VMs and the host itself before setting this timer, as this function will cut off the power to the host when the timer expired.

The **UPS OUTLETS POWER-ON TIMER** is the minimum time in minutes to elapse before the UPS power outlets are powered back on, starting after the power outlets are being powered off. Even if the AC power returns before this timer has elapsed, the UPS will wait the configured amount of time before power on the outlets.

The configuration of the auto power-on function must be set separately in the server BIOS and needs a Baseboard Management Controller (BMC) that supports the auto power-on. In case of multiple power supplies in the host's chassis, all power supplies need to be cycled at the same time for the auto power-on to be effective.



Set the UPS OUTLET POWER-OFF TIMER by this command:

Command: `sudo PPM -c -u upsoutlets_timeroff '<value>'`

[IMPORTANT] Default setting is disabled. Valid settings are depending on UPS technology. On-line UPSs supports values from 5 to 60, in increments of 5. Line-interactive UPSs supports values from 5 to 10, in increments of 5.

Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -c -u upsoutlets_timeroff '15'
PPM: upsoutlets_timeroff option has been updated.
PPM: Restarting service to apply new value...
```

Set the UPS OUTLET POWER-ON TIMER by this command:

Command: `sudo PPM -c -u upsoutlets_timeron '<value>'`

[IMPORTANT] Default setting is disabled. Valid settings are depending on UPS technology. On-line UPSs supports values from 5 to 60, in increments of 5. Line-interactive UPSs supports values from 5 to 10, in increments of 5.

Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -c -u upsoutlets_timeron '5'
PPM: upsoutlets_timeron option has been updated.
PPM: Restarting service to apply new value...
```


Check the configuration file

All settings can be checked in the configuration file or with below command:

Command: sudo PPM -c

Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -c
NEXT UPS Systems - Power Protection Manager (PPM) for VMware vSphere - 1.1.1 (build vmw.20251024)

Configuration file:
CUSTOMER TAG                               : NUS-EMEA
SNTP TIMEZONE                              : Europe/Brussels

UPS1 IP ADDRESS                           : 192.168.1.251
UPS1 PASSWORD                             : *****
UPS2 IP ADDRESS                           : 192.168.1.252
UPS2 PASSWORD                             : *****
UPS SNMP VERSION                          : 3
UPS SNMP V2C COMMUNITY                    : private
UPS SNMP V3 USER NAME                    : root
UPS SNMP V3 USER AUTHENTICATION PASSWORD : password
UPS SNMP V3 USER AUTHENTICATION PROTOCOL : MD5
UPS SNMP V3 USER PRIVATE PASSWORD        : Password
UPS SNMP V3 USER SECURITY LEVEL           : authPriv

UPS NON PROTECT STATE ACTION              : donothing
UPS ON BATTERY TIMER (seconds | minutes)  : 15
UPS MINIMUM REMAINING BACKUP TIME THRESHOLD (minutes) : 25
UPS MINIMUM REMAINING BACKUP PERCENTAGE THRESHOLD (%) : 50

UPS POWER OUTLETS POWER-OFF TIMER (minutes) : 15
UPS POWER OUTLETS POWER-ON TIMER (minutes) : 5

ESXI USER                                : root
ESXI1 IP ADDRESS                        :
ESXI1 PASSWORD                         :
ESXI2 IP ADDRESS                       :
ESXI2 PASSWORD                        :
ESXI3 IP ADDRESS                      :
ESXI3 PASSWORD                       :

MAIL SENDER                             : service@nextups.eu
MAIL RECIPIENT1                         : service@nextups.eu
MAIL RECIPIENT2                        :
```

4.2.4 ESXi CONFIGURATION

This section covers the configuration for the SSH access to the ESXi host(s) to be shut down in case of a power failure. See chapter 4.2.3 SHUTDOWN CONFIGURATION for more info on how to configure the triggers for the shutdown.

- **Set ESXi IP address(es)**

Set the IPv4 address(es) of the ESXi host(s) that will be powered by the monitored UPS. Up to 3 ESXi servers can be configured.

Command: `sudo PPM -c -u esxi1_ip '<value>'`
 `sudo PPM -c -u esxi2_ip '<value>'`
 `sudo PPM -c -u esxi3_ip '<value>'`

Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -c -u esxi1_ip '192.168.1.101'
PPM: esxi1_ip option has been updated.
PPM: Restarting service to apply new value...
```

- **Set ESXi login user**

Set the username to login on the ESXi host(s):

Command: `sudo PPM -c -u esxi_user '<value>'`

[IMPORTANT] Only 1 user can be defined for all ESXi hosts.

Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -c -u esxi_user 'root'
PPM: esxi_user option has been updated.
PPM: Restarting service to apply new value...
```

- **Set ESXi passwords**

Set the password(s) to login on the ESXi host(s):

Command: `sudo PPM -c -u esxi1_pass '<value>'`
 `sudo PPM -c -u esxi2_pass '<value>'`
 `sudo PPM -c -u esxi3_pass '<value>'`

[IMPORTANT] Only alphanumeric and !*#\$%&_ - characters are allowed

Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -c -u esxi1_pass 'N3xt3M3A*-'
PPM: esxi1_pass option has been updated.
PPM: Restarting service to apply new value...
```

Check the configuration file

All settings can be checked in the configuration file or with below command:

Command: sudo PPM -c

Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -c
NEXT UPS Systems - Power Protection Manager (PPM) for VMware vSphere - 1.1.1 (build vmw.20251024)

Configuration file:

CUSTOMER TAG                               : NUS-EMEA
SNTP TIMEZONE                             : Europe/Brussels

UPS1 IP ADDRESS                           : 192.168.1.251
UPS1 PASSWORD                             : *****
UPS2 IP ADDRESS                           : 192.168.1.252
UPS2 PASSWORD                             : *****
UPS SNMP VERSION                           : 3
UPS SNMP V2C COMMUNITY                     : private
UPS SNMP V3 USER NAME                     : root
UPS SNMP V3 USER AUTHENTICATION PASSWORD   : password
UPS SNMP V3 USER AUTHENTICATION PROTOCOL   : MD5
UPS SNMP V3 USER PRIVATE PASSWORD         : Password
UPS SNMP V3 USER SECURITY LEVEL            : authPriv

UPS NON PROTECT STATE ACTION               : donothing
UPS ON BATTERY TIMER (seconds | minutes)   : 15
UPS MINIMUM REMAINING BACKUP TIME THRESHOLD (minutes) : 25
UPS MINIMUM REMAINING BACKUP PERCENTAGE THRESHOLD (%) : 50

UPS POWER OUTLETS POWER-OFF TIMER (minutes) : 15
UPS POWER OUTLETS POWER-ON TIMER (minutes) : 5

ESXI USER                                 : root
ESXI1 IP ADDRESS                         : 192.168.1.101
ESXI1 PASSWORD                         : *****
ESXI2 IP ADDRESS                         : 192.168.1.102
ESXI2 PASSWORD                         : *****
ESXI3 IP ADDRESS                         : 192.168.1.103
ESXI3 PASSWORD                         : *****

MAIL SENDER                             : service@nextups.eu
MAIL RECIPIENT1                         : service@nextups.eu
MAIL RECIPIENT2                         :
```

4.3 STATUS

After configuring the PPM and SNMP settings, the service and UPS status can be checked by using the status command. It will show the status of the PPM service, and actual values for the monitored parameters of the configured UPSs. Also, the last 10 log entries will be shown.

Command: sudo PPM -s

Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -s

NEXT UPS Systems - Power Protection Manager (PPM) for VMware vSphere

Service status      : Running
Service version     : 1.1.1 (build vmw.20251024)
Mail agent status    : Running
Customer tag        : NUS-EMEA

UPS1
----
UPS IP address      : 192.168.1.251
UPS status          : On Line
UPS time on battery : 00:00:00 (hh:mm:ss)
UPS battery status   : Normal
UPS battery voltage  : 84.4V
UPS battery capacity : 100%
UPS battery remaining backup time : 86 minutes
UPS battery temperature : 25 degrees Celsius
UPS output load      : 23%
UPS name            : Demo_VMware_Li-Ion
UPS location        : Server_Rack_LAB0
UPS technology       : ON-LINE
UPS SNMP card firmware : 3.7.0.3
UPS serial number    : CP10P331298004

UPS2
----
UPS IP address      : 192.168.1.252
UPS status          : On Line
UPS time on battery : 00:00:00 (hh:mm:ss)
UPS battery status   : Normal
UPS battery voltage  : 84.4V
UPS battery capacity : 100%
UPS battery remaining backup time : 82 minutes
UPS battery temperature : 25 degrees Celsius
UPS output load      : 25%
UPS name            : Demo_VMware_Li-Ion
UPS location        : Server_Rack_LAB0
UPS technology       : ON-LINE
UPS SNMP card firmware : 3.7.0.3
UPS serial number    : CP10P331298005

Last 10 logs:
-----
29-05-2024 12:16:01 - The status of UPS "Demo_VMware_Li-Ion" with IP "192.168.1.251" is Not Detected
29-05-2024 12:16:07 - The status of UPS "Demo_VMware_Li-Ion" with IP "192.168.1.251" is On Line -- no
timer activated (anymore)
29-05-2024 12:16:19 - The status of UPS "Demo_VMware_Li-Ion" with IP "192.168.1.251" is Not Detected
29-05-2024 12:16:25 - The status of UPS "Demo_VMware_Li-Ion" with IP "192.168.1.251" is On Line -- no
timer activated (anymore)
29-05-2024 12:17:04 - The status of UPS with IP "192.168.1.251" is Not Detected
29-05-2024 12:19:39 - The status of UPS "Demo_VMware_Li-Ion" with IP "192.168.1.251" is On Line -- no
timer activated (anymore)
29-05-2024 12:22:57 - The status of UPS with IP "192.168.1.251" is Not Detected
```

4.3.1 PPM Service status values

Service status	: shows the status of the PPM Service: 'Running' or 'Not running'
Service version	: version of the PPM service
Mail agent status	: shows the status of the mail agent
Customer tag	: the customer tag (PPM name) as set in the PPM configuration. This is a variable to identify (name) your configuration. It will be used in the configuration files and in the subject field for mail communication

4.3.2 UPS status values

UPS IP address	: IP address of the monitored UPS. Can be set in the UPS configuration
UPS status	: shows the status/output of the monitored UPS. Depending on the UPS technology this can be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On Line - On Bypass - Boosting - Reducing - Off/Standby - On battery - Unknown
UPS time on battery	: time the UPS is working on battery power
UPS battery status	: status of the UPS battery
UPS battery voltage	: actual battery voltage of the UPS battery
UPS battery capacity	: actual battery percentage of the UPS battery
UPS battery remaining backup time	: remaining backup time, calculated by the UPS depending on load and battery level
UPS battery temperature	: actual UPS temperature
UPS output load	: actual load of the UPS in percentage of its maximum
UPS name	: UPS description as defined in the UPS network card
UPS location	: UPS location as defined in the UPS network card
UPS technology	: type of UPS, ON-LINE or LINE-INTERACTIVE
UPS SNMP card firmware	: shows the FW version of the network card in the UPS
UPS serial number	: shows the Serial no of the monitored UPS

4.3.3 PPM Service commands

The PPM service can be started (-S), restarted (-R) or stopped (-K):

Commands: sudo PPM -S
 sudo PPM -R
 sudo PPM -K

Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -R
PPM has restarted.
```

4.4 LOGS

PPM will log all events (status changes) from the UPSs and events from the PPM service into a log file. This log can be checked in the console or exported into a text file.

4.4.1 Display all logs

To view all log entries the `sudo PPM -l` command can be used:

Command: `sudo PPM -l`
Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -l
There are no available logs.
```

If no logs are available it will state 'There are no available logs', otherwise it will list all log entries stored in the log file.

4.4.2 Clear logs

To clear all log entries the `sudo PPM -l -c` command can be used:

Command: `sudo PPM -l -c`
Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -l -c
Logs have been cleared.
```

4.4.3 Export log file

For backup or evaluation purposes the log entries are saved in a log file. This log file can be exported as a text file. The file 'ppm_log_export' will be placed in the '/home/ppm/' directory and with the use of an SCP client (e.g. WinSCP), it can be transferred to your local device for reviewing.

Command: `sudo PPM -l -e`
Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -l -e
PPM: Logs have been exported. A file called 'ppm_log_export' is placed in
'/home/ppm/' directory.
```

4.5 EXPORT/IMPORT CONFIG FILE

All configuration settings for PPM, UPS, ESXi and shutdown parameters can be exported to a configuration file.

4.5.1 EXPORT

For backup or editing purposes it is possible to export the configuration settings as a text file. The file 'ppm_config_export' will be placed in '/home/ppm/' directory and with the use of an SCP client (e.g. WinSCP), it can be transferred to your local device.

Command: sudo PPM -c -e

Return Output:

Example of a
ppm_config_export file:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -c -e

PPM: Configuration has been exported. A file called 'ppm_config_export' is
placed in '/home/ppm/' directory.
```

```
# Customer tag (name)
CUSTTAG="NUS-EMEA"

# SNTP timezone
TIMEZONE="Europe/Brussels"

# Path to script
UPSONBATTERYTIMERSSCRIPT="/opt/ppm/scripts/upsonbatterytimershutdownESXi.sh"
UPSBATTCRITMINREMAINSRIPT="/opt/ppm/scripts/upsbatcritminremainshutdownESXi.sh"
UPSBATTCRITPCNTSCRIPT="/opt/ppm/scripts/upsbatcritpcntshutdownESXi.sh"

# Value in seconds (s)
POLLINGINTERVAL="5s"

# UPS1 IP address (IPv4)
UPS1IP="192.168.1.251"

# UPS2 IP address (IPv4)
UPS2IP="192.168.1.252"

# UPS SNMP version
UPSSNMPVERSION="3"

# UPS SNMP v2c community
UPSSNMPV2CCOMMUNITY="private"

# UPS SNMP v3 authentication
UPSSNMPV3USER="root"
UPSSNMPV3USERAUTHPASS="password"
UPSSNMPV3USERAUTHPROTOCOL="MD5"
UPSSNMPV3USERPRIVPASS="Password"
UPSSNMPV3USERPRIVPROTOCOL=""
UPSSNMPV3USERSECLEVEL="authPriv"

# Action when UPS state Unknown, Off/Standby or On Bypass
UPSONNONPROTECTSTATEACTION="do nothing"

# Value in seconds (s) or minutes (m)
UPSONBATTERYTIMER="15m"

# Value in minutes (m)
UPSBATTCRITMINREMAIN="25"
UPSONLINEPOWEROUTLETSCONTROLLOFFTIMER="15"
UPSONLINEPOWEROUTLETSCONTROLONTIMER="5"
UPSLINEINTPOWEROUTLETSCONTROLLOFFTIMER=""
UPSLINEINTPOWEROUTLETSCONTROLONTIMER=""

# Value in percentage
UPSBATTCRITPCNT="50"

# ESXi root user
ESXIUSER="root"

# ESXi IP addresses (IPv4)
ESXI1IP="192.168.1.101"
ESXI2IP="192.168.1.102"
ESXI3IP="192.168.1.103"

# Alert mail sender
MAILSENDER="service@nextups.eu"

# Alert mail recipients
MAILRECIPIENT1="service@nextups.eu"
MAILRECIPIENT2=""
```

4.5.2 IMPORT

With the use of an SCP client (e.g. WinSCP) a saved configuration file can be transferred from your local device to the '/home/ppm/' directory and reloaded to the PPM service.

[IMPORTANT] Great care in the syntax and layout of the config file must be taken to ensure a good function of the PPM service

Command: `sudo PPM -c -i '/home/ppm/new_ppm_config_file'`

Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM -c -i '/home/ppm/new_ppm_config_file'
PPM: Restarting service to apply new value...
```


5. Release notes

Release notes for the Power Protection Manager (PPM) for VMware vSphere - Software:

Date	Changes	Version No	Build version
26/06/2024	Initial release	1.0	build 20240530
03/10/2024	Added option to display release notes	1.0.1	build 20240930
28/02/2025	Cosmetic enhancement to configuration overview	1.0.2	build vmw.20250226
01/07/2025	Add UPS power outlets control option	1.1	build vmw.20250625
27/10/2025	Cosmetic enhancements	1.1.1	build vmw.20251024

The software release notes and changes can be checked with the following command.

Command: `sudo PPM --release-notes`
Return Output:

```
ppm@nextups-ppm:~$ sudo PPM --release-notes

Release notes:
-----
v1.0 - build 20240530 - Initial release
v1.0.1 - build 20240930 - Added option to display release notes (Usage: sudo PPM --release-notes)
v1.0.2 - build vmw.20250226 - Cosmetic enhancement to configuration overview
v1.1 - build vmw.20250625 - Add power outlets control option
v1.1.1 - build vmw.20251024 - Cosmetic enhancements
```

Release notes for the Power Protection Manager (PPM) for VMware vSphere - Manual:

Date	Changes	Version No
26/06/2024	First draft PPM manual	1.01
03/10/2024	Add version history and release notes command	1.02
27/01/2025	Change download link and correct typos	1.03
28/02/2025	Cosmetic enhancement to configuration overview	1.04
16/05/2025	Layout enhancement and corrected typos	1.05
01/07/2025	Add power outlets control option	1.06
27/10/2025	Cosmetic enhancements	1.07