

UNATTENDED INSTALLATION OF INDUSTRIAL PCS

The process visualization team of a special machine builder used images to automatically perform the client installation on the installed industrial PCs in their machines. However, with the increasing number of variants and the shortened software lifecycles, the effort required to create, maintain and update the images was becoming ever greater. This was remedied by the use of ondeso SR.

After initial manual client installation of the industrial PCs, a special machine builder had successfully switched to using images, an exact copy of the system, during installation. However, the ever-increasing number of variants and the simultaneously shortened lifetime of the software products used presented the process visualization team with the challenge of the ever-increasing need for adaptation and maintenance for the many different image versions and characteristics. Furthermore, the transfer of image maintenance to new responsibilities had taken place internally, providing the opportunity for structural adjustments to the installation process. At an event held by one of ondeso's partner companies, employees from the process visualization department of the special machine builder met Sebastian Pfaller, head of product management at ondeso. After a discussion about alternatives to the use of images, the suitable solution could already be found with the Installation & Configuration Packages of ondeso SR, which enables an unattended installation and thus reliably solves the growing challenges of the special machine builder.

CLIENT INSTALLATION MADE EASY

The existing base image served as the starting point for the ondeso SR Installation & Configuration Packages, but was significantly streamlined. Two options were created for starting the automated and unattended installation: The offline variant, via boot stick and the online variant via the Preboot Execution Environment (PXE). In order to keep the requirements for the production environment as low as possible, the special machine manufacturer initially decided to use the offline variant.

The installation is simple: After booting, one of the configured variants can be selected via a freely definable ondeso SR Start Center. Subsequently, the necessary installation and configuration steps are carried out fully automatically and documented directly, which is another advantage over the use of images. This is particularly invaluable for use in regulated industries such as the pharmaceutical industry, as it allows the entire machine life cycle to be represented without gaps.

Thanks to the previously defined variants and the required software components, the latest versions of these components can be automatically obtained, installed and configured.

AT A GLANCE

SECTOR

Special mechanical engineering

REQUIREMENTS

Replacement of manual image creation and maintenance for different variants

SOLUTION

Minimal base image for basic installation and finalization in desired variant via Installation & Configuration Packages from ondeso SR for use both offline during machine setup and online for recovery



**COMPLETE
INSTALLATION IN
1.5 h**

**EASILY
EXPANDABLE
TO NEW VARIANTS
IN THE FUTURE**

**COMPLETE
DOCUMENTATION
– PRACTICAL
FOR AUDITS**

**UNATTENDED INSTALLATION INSTEAD OF
TEDIOUS IMAGE MAINTENANCE**

Christopher Durch, OT consultant at ondeso, who took the lead in implementing the project together with the special machine builder, says „The image creation previously took around 2 days. By using ondeso SR, our customer can now completely install the clients in 1.5 hours.“ From the customer’s side, the „relief of the team from dull activities as well as the higher quality due to uniformity and implicit documentation“ is emphasized. Thus, although there is an initial creation effort and test requirement even for the unattended installation via ondeso SR, the variant maintenance is much easier and time-saving due to the generic process description.



Christopher Durch
OT consultant at ondeso

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ondeso develops software products especially in the field of operational technology and Industry 4.0 and supports the automation of OT client management in production. For years, plant operators as well as machine and plant manufacturers have trusted in ondeso products, which are suited for all industries and can be used across the entire range of production systems and processes. Whether management systems, HMIs or controls – ondeso manages the lifecycle of industry PCs and offers custom fitted products on the highest technological and conceptual level – 100% made in Germany.

**Do you want to make the client management
of your industrial PCs more efficient?**

Contact us now and arrange a free software demo to get an idea of ondeso SR.

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