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Irisys People Counters

Technical Bulletin



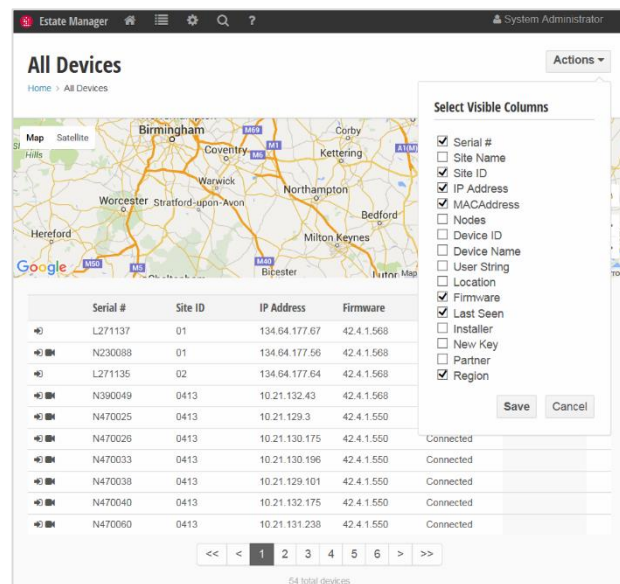
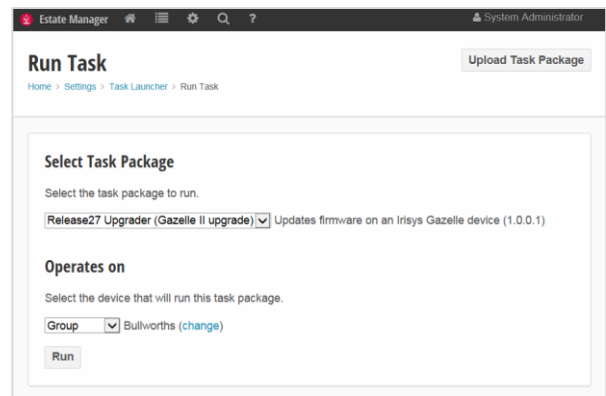
26th April 2016

Issue: **16**

Estate Manager Update now available

Big news this month in that there is a new version of Estate Manager now available for download from the Irisys partner portal. This version adds the following new features:

- **Built in Task Launcher**
Fully compatible with any and all existing "*.tpg" packages, the system admin can now schedule firmware updates (and other tasks) from within Estate Manager, and task files will be intelligently performed sequentially.
- **Firmware version summary page**
For use with the Task launcher above and to give a concise view of all connected devices and their firmware versions.

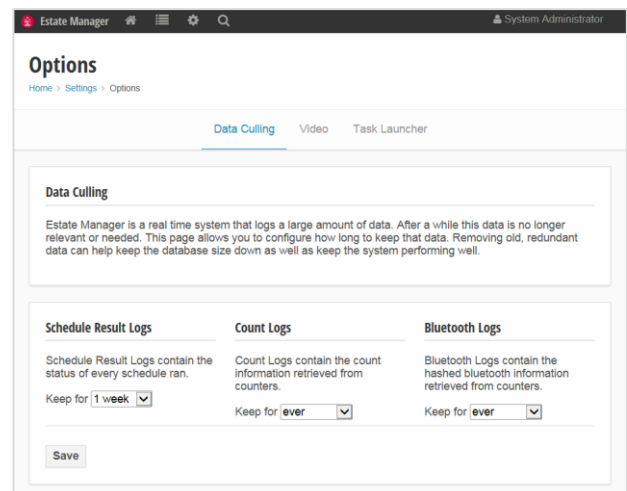


- **Added more column options for group page**
Allows you to display, and sort, by the information important to you and your processes. Choose to display/sort on IP Address, Serial Number, MAC Address, location, Firmware version, site name and many others, including your own 'Meta' data fields.
- **Added 'Actions' menu**
All context sensitive group and device options are now selectable from one location.
- **Scheduling of Validation Recordings**
You can now schedule validation recordings for use in Validation Tool on whole groups of devices in one go, from within Estate Manager.

- **Added data culling options**
Estate Manager can now be configured to automatically delete old count data/schedule result logs/Bluetooth MAC address records after a configurable time period. This can help you keep an eye on the size of your Estate Managers SQL database.

- **90 Degree Lens Support**
Ready for Gazelle 2 and other future 90 degree devices.

- **Bug Fixes**
Also fixes a few bugs, including a random service crash.



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Validation Tool Scheduled Recordings Download Speed Increase

The latest Gazelle firmware update, when used in conjunction with the latest version of Validation Tool, increases the download speed of Validation Recordings significantly (see TB 14 from last November). It does this by increasing the size of each data packet sent from the Gazelle so that there are less packets required which in turn reduces the comms overhead significantly.

Now that Estate Manager also includes the ability to schedule firmware updates on all connected counters in one go (see above), I thought now would be a good time to compare the download speeds of the different firmware versions to see what difference it actually makes.

To do this, I installed a Gazelle unit in our building running the previous version 42.4.1.558 firmware. I made sure I had the latest version of Validation Tool installed on my laptop (4.1.630.1) before scheduling a validation session.

Once the recording was complete, I simply downloaded it, and once that was done I upgraded the firmware to version 42.4.1.568 and downloaded the same recording again – importantly, timing how long each one took. Results are in the table below:

Saved & Validated Videos



FW Vers.	1.5hr Recording Downloaded in...
42.4.1.558	9 mins & 05 secs
42.4.1.568	2 mins & 54 secs

As you can see, in this particular example, the new firmware showed a greater than three times speed increase in download speed. But, because the Gazelle was on the same local network as the PC running Validation Tool, I thought I should do some 'real-life' tests too...

For the real world test, I configured the Gazelle in our office to connect into a cloud based installation of Estate Manager. I then ran Validation Tool from a remote location (my house) and downloaded the recordings via the Estate Manager connection. I did a couple of 1 hour recordings as before but also added an even older version of firmware too – so three different versions in total – and tried it through a VPN connection as well:

Recording	File One		File Two	
	1hr - 12fps - 121Mb - 41 Total Counts		1hr - 12fps - 122Mb - 42 Total Counts	
Network *	Stable - Pings of ~20ms*	Stable VPN - UK to Eindhoven ~175ms*	Stable - Pings of ~20ms*	Stable VPN - UK to Eindhoven ~175ms*
42.4.1.538	25 mins & 06 secs	38 mins & 13 secs	25 mins & 30 secs	38 mins & 13 secs
42.4.1.558	32 mins & 45 secs	37 mins & 47 secs	25 mins & 40 secs	39 mins & 33 secs
42.4.1.568	6 mins & 40 secs	8 mins & 10 secs	6 mins & 12 secs	8 mins & 06 secs

The recording file size is related to how well the scene can be compressed and more complicated recordings with more traffic will yield larger files, but my own tests make it clear that the new download mechanism realised by the latest firmware and Validation Tool software really does improve download times with a 4 to 6 times download speed boost! Both the latest Validation Tool and latest Firmware update are available from the partner portal as usual: <http://partnerportal.irisys.co.uk>

* Pings were measured from PC running Validation Tool to the internet (results of 'ping google.com' from a cmd window)

Did You Know?

Because of the way the flash within an Irisys Gazelle unit is partitioned, combined with the clever way we do a firmware update – Gazelles will actually continue counting people through the majority of a firmware update procedure. They only stop counting during the 30-45 second reboot/warmup following the update.

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