VERTIV™
Geist rPDU DSView™ Plug-In
Release Notes

VERSION 1.0.0.4, MARCH 28, 2019

Release Notes Section Outline

1 General Information

Vertiv™ acquired Geist in February 2018 to serve as the company's global center of excellence for rack PDUs (rPDUs). In replacing legacy Vertiv™ rPDU families like the MPH2, Vertiv™ Geist models should have the same software compatibility as their predecessors. This plug-in is the first to allow integration of Geist models into Vertiv™'s DSView™ IT Management platform.

2 Devices Supported

The plug-in will support Vertiv™ Geist Upgradeable 2 (GU2) and R-Series (RCM, RCU) rPDUs running firmware 5.3.0 or later. Firmware updates are available for download at https://www.Vertiv.com/en-us/support/software-downloads/

Vertiv™ Geist Upgradeable (GU1) rPDUs, though DSView™ compatible, do not offer any outlet controls (on/off/reboot) and, thus, are not likely candidates for DSView™ inclusion.

3 DSView™ Version

The plug-in was coded in DSView™ version 4.5.0.502 (SP10), and integration will be supported in all future DSView™ Service Pack releases/enhancements.

See the Avocent® DSView™ Installer/User Guide for detailed instructions on how to add the plug-in to your DSView system.

4 Known Issues

This release contains the following known issues:

- This plug-in is not compatible with the Vertiv™ Intelligence Director functionality available in Vertiv™ Geist rPDU firmware 5.3.0. Vertiv™ Intelligence Director™ allows up to (50) rPDUs to be monitored via one (1) IPv4 address while occupying only one (1) connection on a network switch.

- To use this plug-in, all rPDUs are required to have a unique IPv4 address on the local network. Daisy-chained installations of up to (40) rPDUs, however, are still supported via embedded RSTP functionality. Thus, network switch ports can still be minimized with this approach.

- Today's Vertiv™ Geist rPDUs do not include serial ports as part of their communication cards. Thus, the use-case where rPDUs are connected serially to Vertiv™ console servers for out-of-band management is not supported.

5 Exclusions

Vertiv's™ Rack Power Manager (RPM) software—a former module of DSView™--has recently reached end-of-sale status. Therefore, this plug-in is only intended for use in DSView and will not be compatible with existing RPM installations.

6 Development Priorities

We intend to address the known issues in section 4 as part of our 2019 development roadmap.

Vertiv™ Geist rPDUs will soon support serial RS232 access via new communication cards. When released, all newly-ordered rPDUs will ship with this functionality. And, because of Vertiv's unique "upgradeable" feature, existing rPDUs can be updated in the field by hot-swapping communication cards.

A new SNMP Management Information Base (MIB) is planned for 2019. Its design will allow DSView™ to leverage Vertiv™ Intelligence Director's™ IP address reduction capability. DSView™ users can then achieve the tandem benefit of fewer internal IP addresses for rPDUs and fewer network ports used.