PGT Configuration Manager v2.0

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Tool documentation

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2   ABOUT

Configuration Manager v2.0 is a PGT plug-in application written as a Custom Menu Handler for Pretty Good Terminal v7.0.0.1 or later.

Its purpose is to manage multiple configurations of many cisco devices.
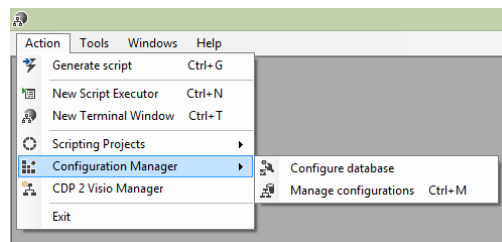
This plugin is available as a binary build and also as source code.
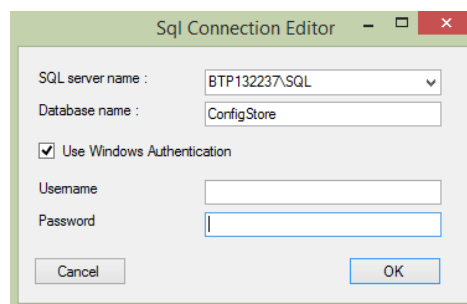
3   INSTALLATION

Beyond Pretty Good Terminal v7.0.0.1, this plugin also requires a running instance of Microsoft SQL Server 2014 Express edition or later.

To install the tool just extract the downloaded archive to PGT working directory. If different folder is used then it is required to register the plugin within PGT manually in PGT using the – Tools/Option – Custom Menu Handlers tab. See PGT documentation for more details.
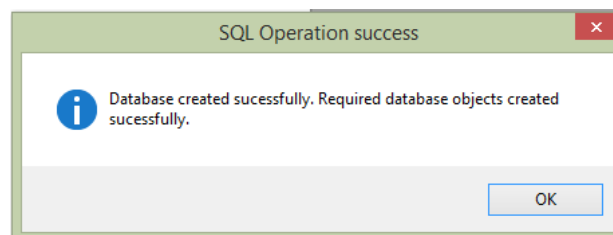
After successful registration PGT should display the menu structure under the Action main menu as :
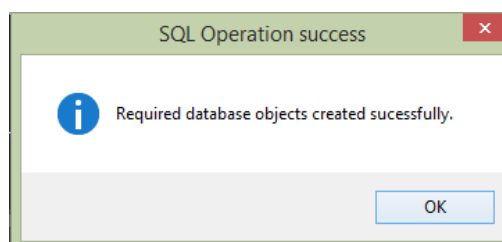

Select Configure database menu item to specify the database location :

If the destination database does not exist, Configuration Manager will create a new database:

If you specified an existing database without the required database objects, they will be created:
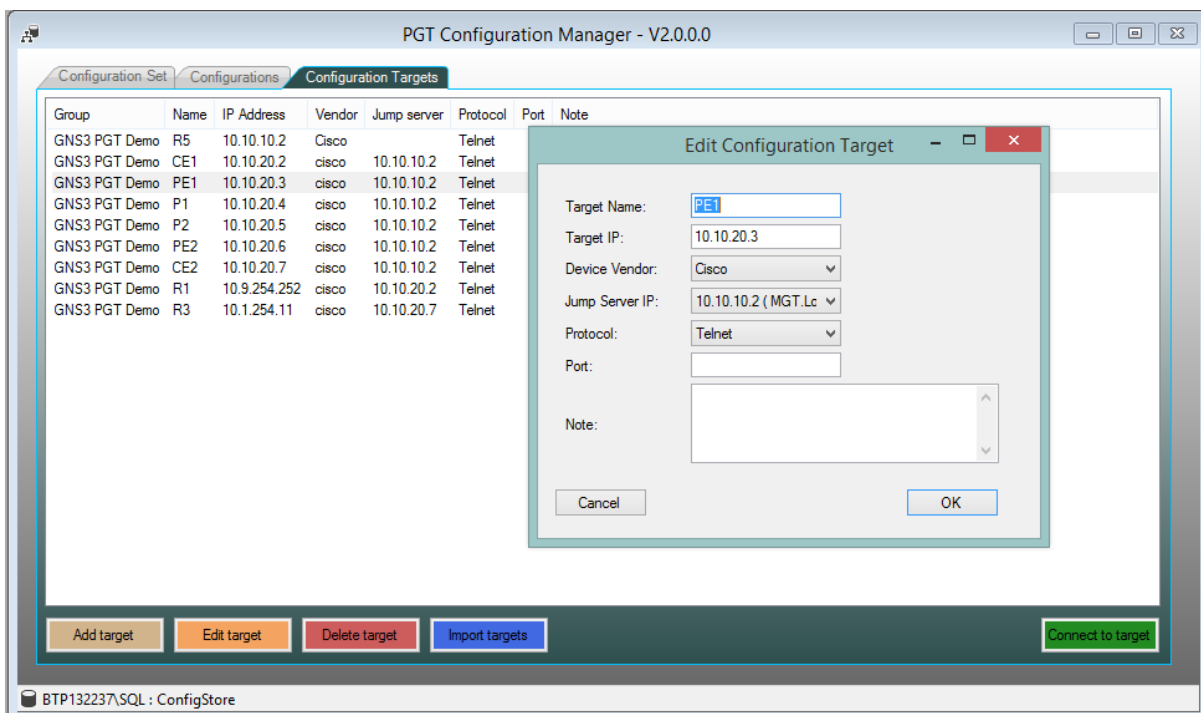
4   USING CONFIGURATION MANAGER

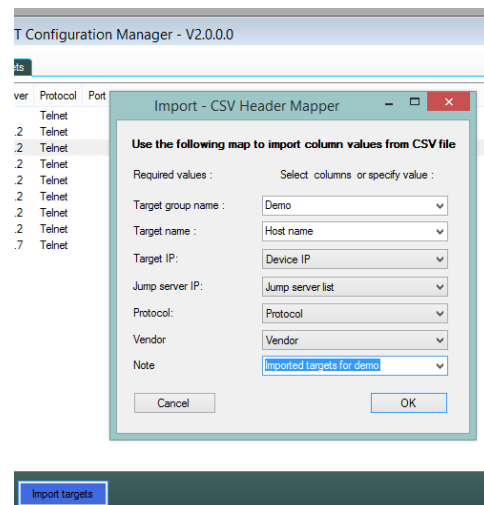## 4.1   WORKING WITH CONFIGURATION TARGETS AND SETS

Configuration manager needs to know about devices it will connect to. These are called the **configuration targets**. A collection of the targets form the **configuration set**. A configuration set is a logical collection of configuration targets and relevant configuration. To work with multiple configuration of the same devices, multiple sets need to be created referring to the same targets. Configuration deployment / pull operations are then performed against a given set applying the selected configuration revision.

As a result, the first thing to do is to define configuration targets by specifying accessibility parameters. To do this, go to Configuration Sets tab and click "Add target" :
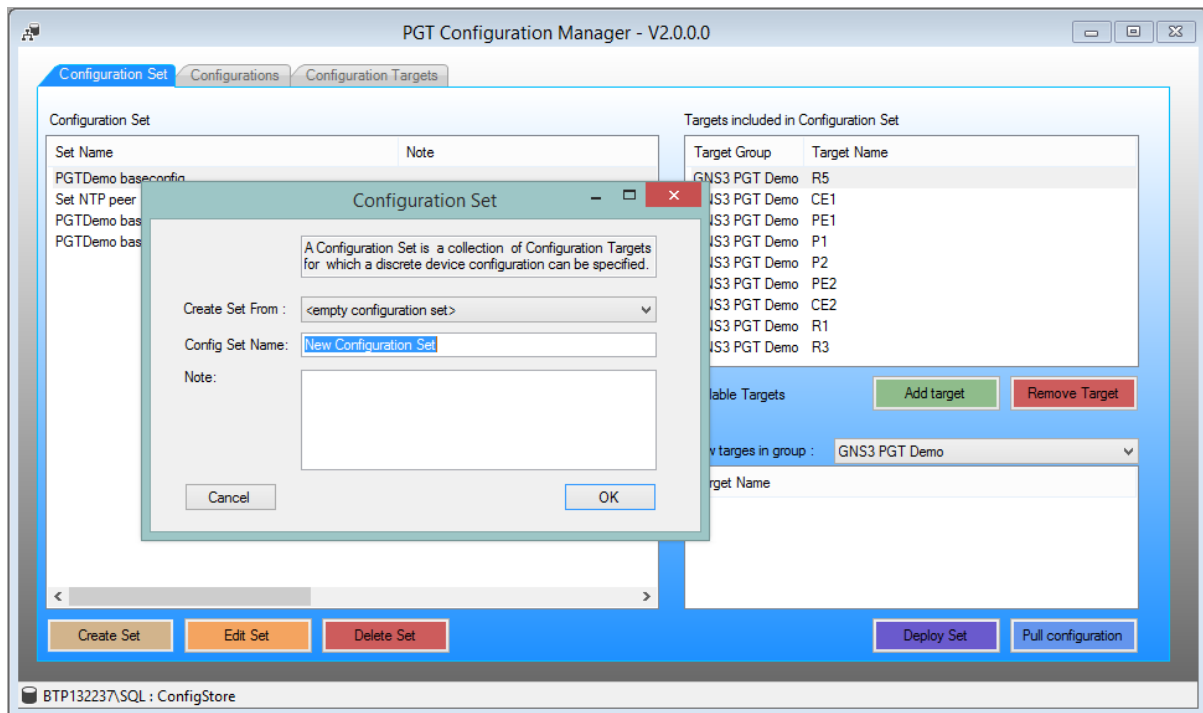

Alternatively, you can bulk import targets from CSV text files by clicking the import target button and specifying import headers.

To specify special connection port, the ip address imported should be formatted like 192.168.1.1:2011.

Once required targets are defined, multiple, named sets can be created and targets assigned:
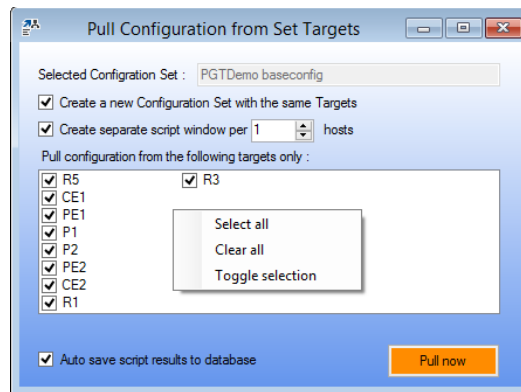

When a new set is created, it is possible to clone an existing set to retain associated targets. Doing so, the note field cannot be modified only later can be edited.

When Targets are assigned to the set, the view can be filtered by Target Group name to easily select the appropriate one from many.

Please note that if you delete a set, the related configurations are also deleted.

4.2   PULLING CONFIGURATION FROM SET TARGETS

The running configuration of set targets can be collected and stored into database. To do this first select the set, then click on Pull Configuration. The following dialog box will be presented :
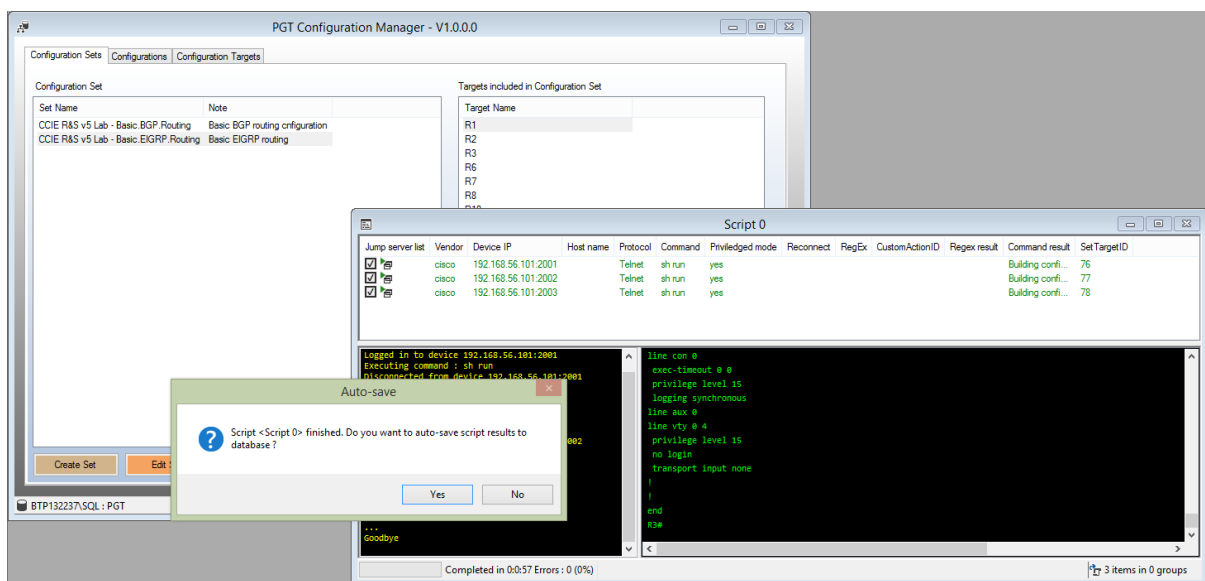

The targets to be pulled can be limited by checking or unchecking them as required.

Normally, when a specific set is selected for the pull operation, the configurations stored in the set will be overwritten for the selected targets. However, if the "Create a new Configuration Set" option is checked, a new set will be created based on the currently selected set and its name is going to be appended the current date/time and the pulled configuration will be associated with this new set, preserving the original configuration stored in the originally selected set.

In case the set contains many targets, it is possible to limit the number of targets scripted in one Scripting Form. This way pull operation can be speed up by creating multiple Scripting Forms and therefore running the queries in parallel.
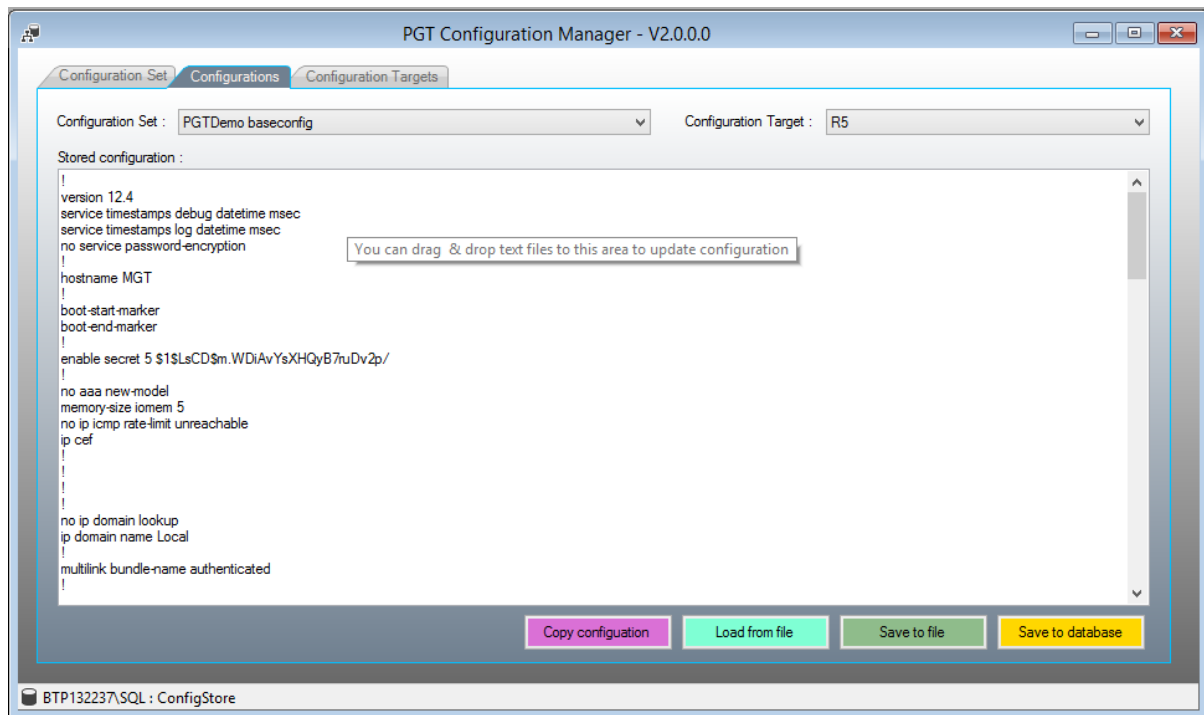
If the "Auto save script result to database" is not set, it must be manually confirmed or cancelled at the end of the pull operation.

Clicking on "Pull now", will start a script like below to collect the running configuration :
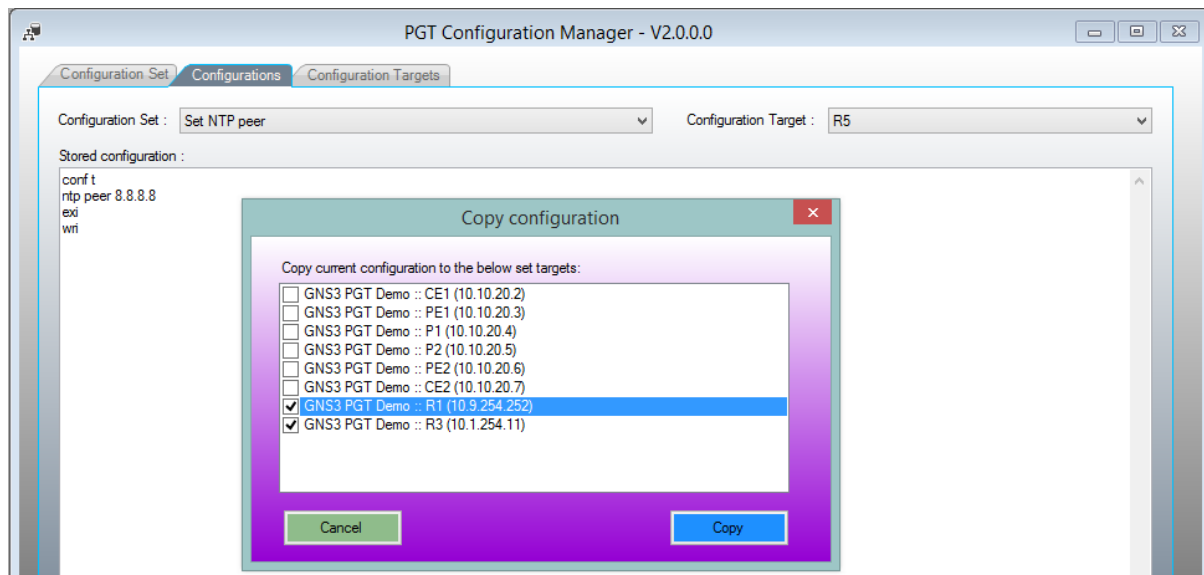
When the script is finished, click yes to store the collected configuration.

When switching to the Configurations tab afterwards, selecting the Configuration Set the stored configuration can be seen for the selected targets:
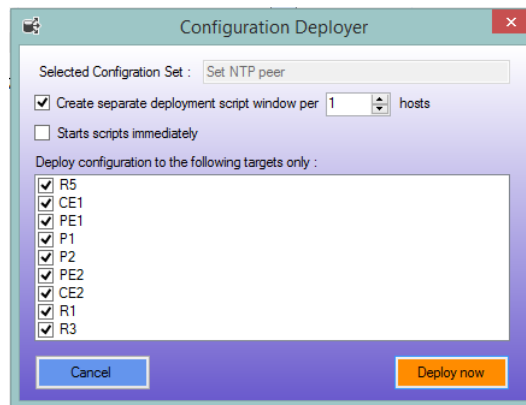

When the goal is to deploy the same configuration for many other targets in the set, it is possible to copy the configuration entered for a specific target to other, selected targets. To do this go to the source target configuration and click the Copy configuration button:

In the example above, the configuration of R5 would be copied over to R1 and R3.
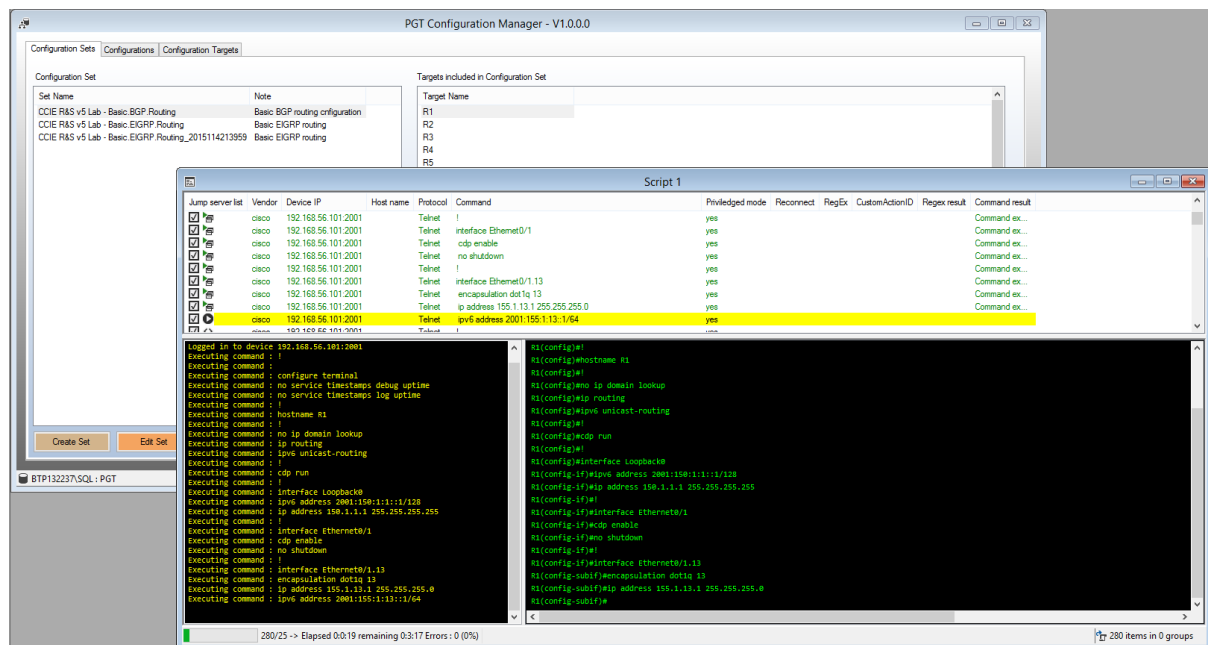
4.3   DEPLOYING STORED CONFIGURATIONS

Select the configuration set to be deployed, and click "Deploy Set" :

Select required targets, then click "Deploy now" to start deployment.

During deployment a script is generated based on the stored configuration for the selected targets and script execution starts. If "Start scripts immediately" option is left unchecked, the generated scripts can be started manually at any time :

In case of an error in the script, execution is paused and user can select how to continue based on the script output :