Tech Note

Using Shared Transaction Scripts

This document explains how to provision multiple transaction measurements (slots) by creating and deploying a single shared transaction script with appropriate parameterized variables. This process allows you to create a single script with multiple profiles in KITE, then deploy that script using KSC so that separate measurements will be created for each script profile, and finally create and manage alarm settings using select and mass create and edit features in the MyKeynote portal. This process can be used for both Transaction Perspective and Application Perspective measurements and is ideal for monitoring individual web servers in a farm or replicated web/app clusters in any Internet application environment.

Process Overview

1. Using Microsoft Excel create a CSV (comma separated value) file containing a list of profile values starting with a unique profile value in the first column (for example web server names, usernames and passwords).

2. Using KITE (Keynote Internet Testing Environment) create a transaction script, import the CSV file with profile values, and assign the appropriate column names to the variables defined in the script..

3. Using KSC (Keynote Service Center) create a new measurement with appropriate settings and select measurement type as “Shared Script.” Upload the script created in Step 2. Multiple transaction measurements will be created and deployed, with each script profile incorporated into a separate Keynote measurement.

After deployment, the measurements based on the shared script can be viewed and analyzed using the MyKeynote Web portal.

In this document we will work through an example of a shared script with profiles that define login and password values.

Step 1. Create CSV File of Login Profiles

Create a CSV file containing a list of profile names, usernames, and passwords. Typically, this list is created in Microsoft Excel and saved as a .csv file.

	A	B	C
1	WebServer1	username1	password1
2	WebServer2	username2	password2
3	WebServer3	username3	password3
4	WebServer4	username4	password4
5	WebServer5	username5	password5
6	WebServer6	username6	password6
7	WebServer7	username7	password7
8	WebServer8	username8	password8
9	WebServer9	username9	password9
10	WebServer10	username10	password10
11	WebServer11	username11	password11

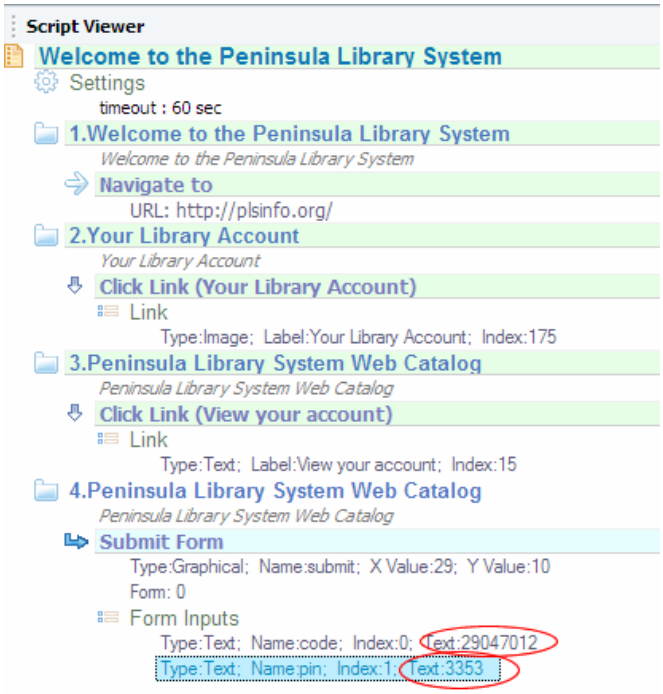
In this example a file has been created that contains three columns: profilename, username, and password. The profile names in the first column will be used in the alias names of the separate Keynote measurements that will be created in Step 3, and those measurements will use the associated usernames and passwords.

Step 2. Create Script in KITE and Set Up Virtual Profile

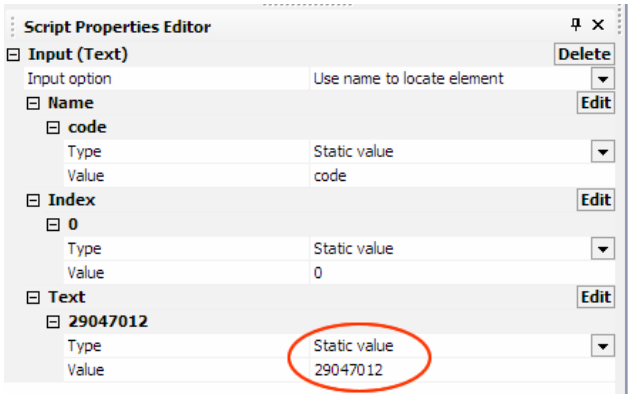
The next step is to use KITE to record a transaction script and then add a Virtual Profile to the script that will use the CSV data to provide the username and password values.

First, create a transaction script in KITE representing the transaction steps that you want to use for the monitoring scenario. For our example you will be recording a simple transaction script representing the login process. Record the script using a valid username and password. Save the script.

(Instructions for recording a transaction script in KITE are located at: *http://www.keynote.com/support/kite/kh_recording.html*)

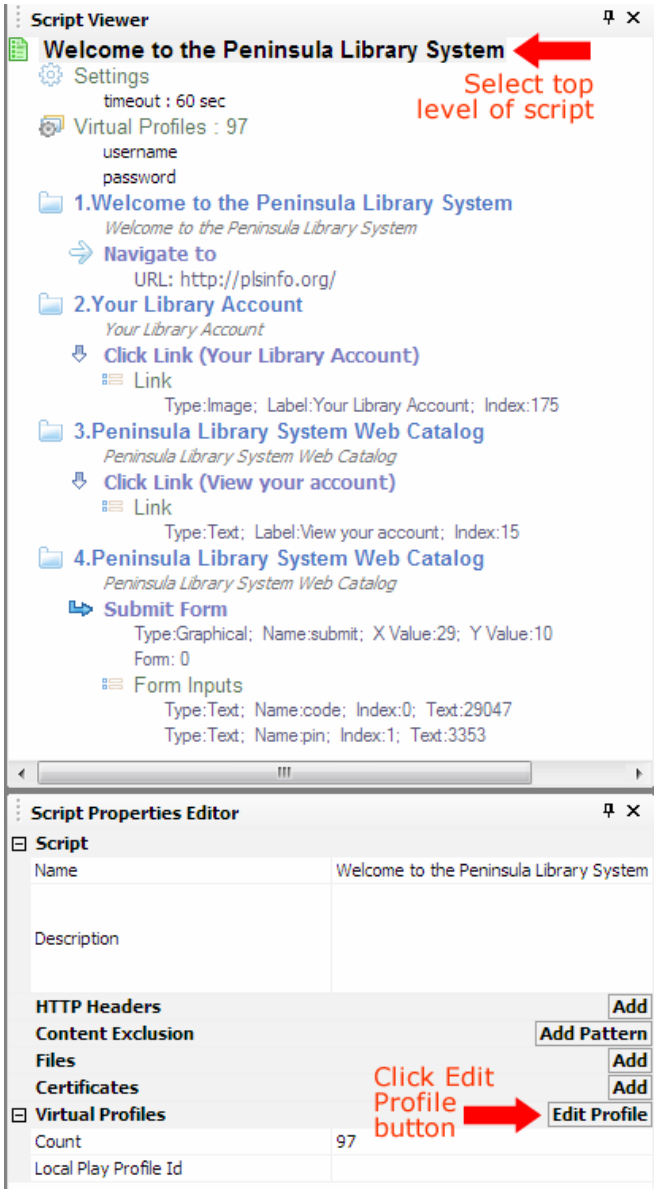


The screenshot above from the KITE Script Viewer shows a simple login script for a public library Web site. In the script recorded above, username and password are captured in the Form Inputs at the end of the script.

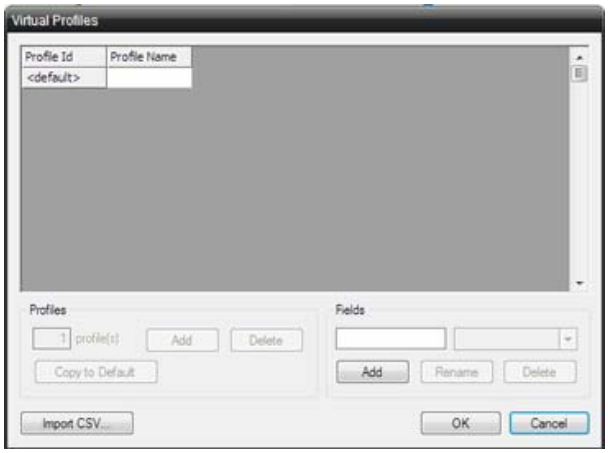


Viewing these fields in the KITE Script Properties Editor shows that their field type is Static Value.

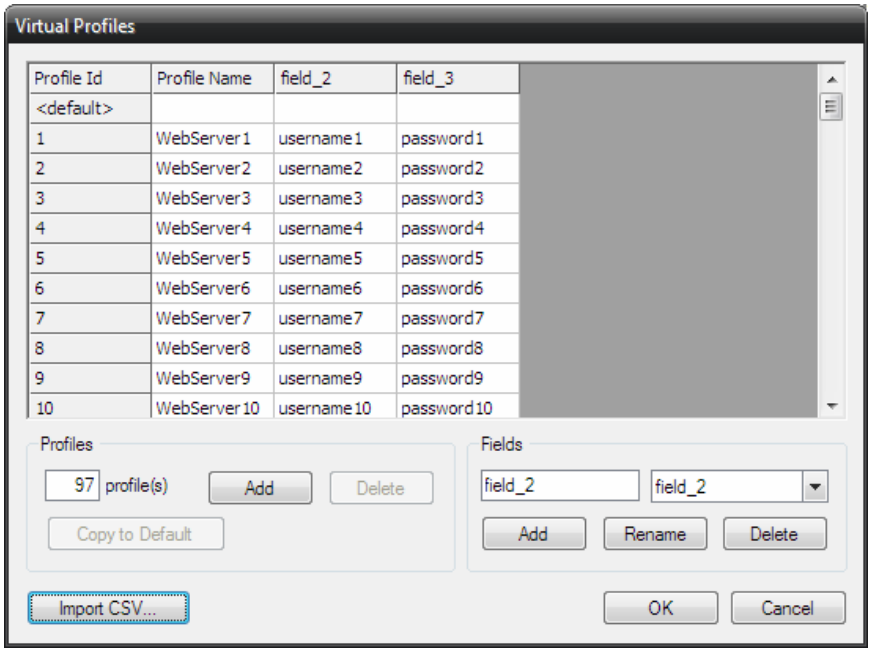
Next, we'll use the KITE Virtual Profile feature to replace these static values with the contents of the CSV file created in Step 1.



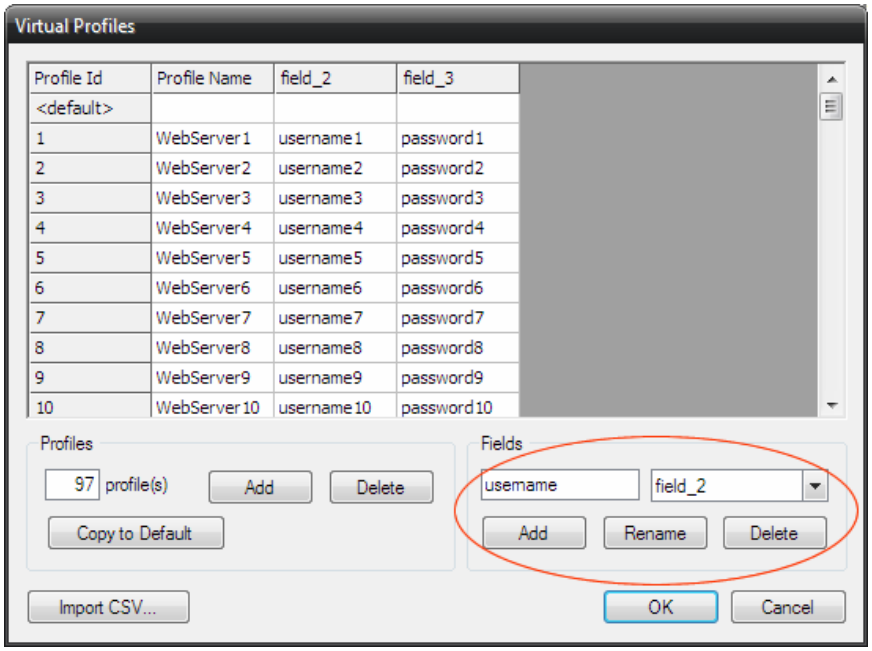
To create a Virtual Profile for the script select the top element of the script and then click the Edit Profile button next to Virtual Profiles in the Script Properties Editor.



Within the Virtual Profiles dialog, click the Import CSV button and browse to the location of the CSV file you created in Step 1.

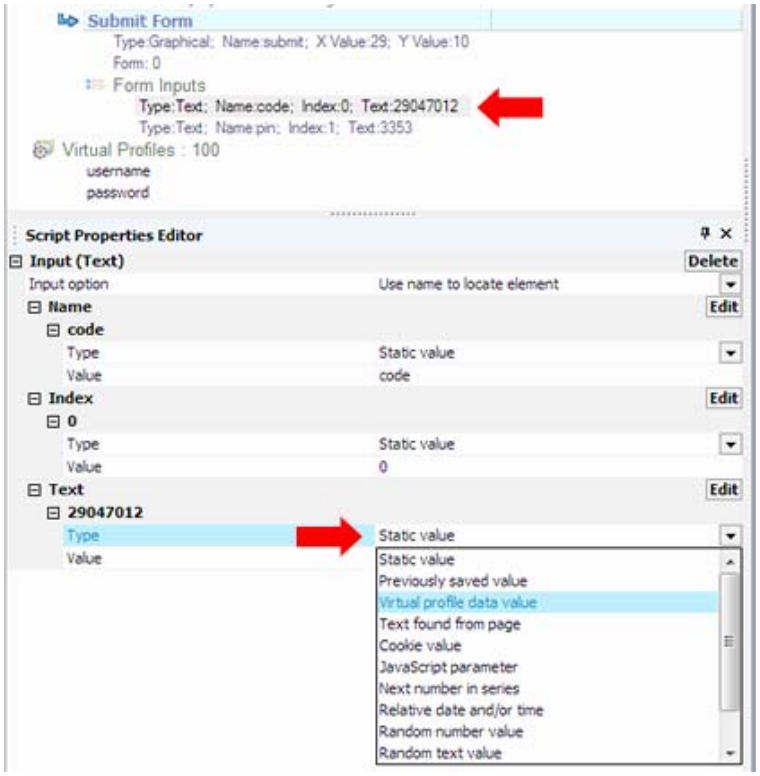


The contents of the CSV file are imported into the Virtual Profile. Next, we'll rename the column labels for field 2 and field 3 so that it will be easy to remember what they contain. Use the Fields area in the lower right to select field_2 and rename it to 'username' and rename field_3 to 'password.'

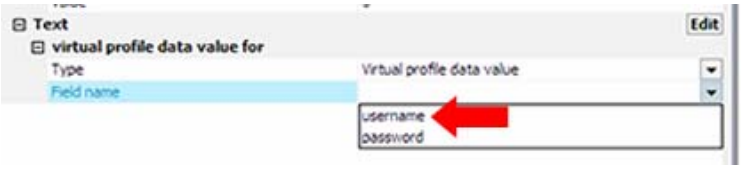


Next select the first Profile in the list and click the Copy to Default button to make the first row of the CSV file the default set of values. This is used only for quick playback and validation purpose.

The next step is to replace the static values for username and password in the script with the values from the Virtual Profile. To do this, select the field in the script containing the username and then change its Type from Static value to Virtual Profile data value in the Script Properties Editor.



Then change the Field name to username.



Repeat this process to change the password value from Static text to Virtual profile data value and change the Field name to password.

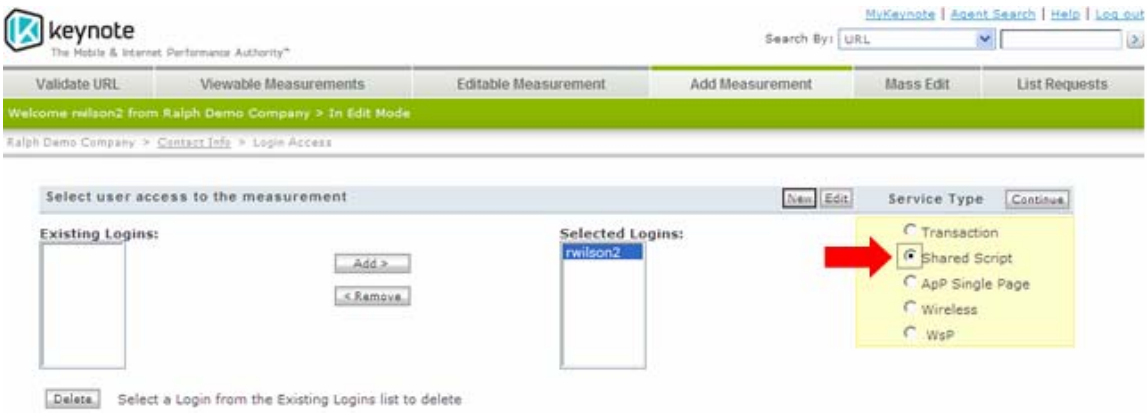
Save the script and play it in KITE. It will use the username and password values that have been selected as default for playback.

Step 3. Deploy the Shared Script in KSC

The next step is to deploy the multi-profile script to your Keynote measurement agent group (or private agent/group) using KSC (Keynote Service Center). To do so, log in to KSC and select Add Measurement.

(Instructions for creating a new measurement are found at:
http://www.keynote.com/support/ksc_customer3/add_new_meas.shtml)

Enter your agreement number and select (or add) a contact. Select or add a Login. Select Shared Script as the service type, then click Continue.



Add required detail for the New Shared Script Request, then browse to the location where you stored the transaction script file you created in Step 2. Click the Upload Script button.

The script will be uploaded, and you can preview the details of the measurement slots by clicking the Slot Details button.

Summary
100 New Slot(s)

STATUS	SLOT ALIAS	PROFILE NAME
NEW	WebServer1 - Library Login Scrip	WebServer1
NEW	WebServer2 - Library Login Scrip	WebServer2
NEW	WebServer3 - Library Login Scrip	WebServer3
NEW	WebServer4 - Library Login Scrip	WebServer4
NEW	WebServer5 - Library Login Scrip	WebServer5
NEW	WebServer6 - Library Login Scrip	WebServer6
NEW	WebServer7 - Library Login Scrip	WebServer7
NEW	WebServer8 - Library Login Scrip	WebServer8
NEW	WebServer9 - Library Login Scrip	WebServer9
NEW	WebServer10 - Library Login Scri	WebServer10
NEW	WebServer11 - Library Login Scri	WebServer11
NEW	WebServer12 - Library Login Scri	WebServer12
NEW	WebServer13 - Library Login Scri	WebServer13
NEW	WebServer14 - Library Login Scri	WebServer14

To deploy the multi-profile measurements click the Create button. The script will be automatically validated, using the default profile. When the script has been validated, it will be deployed to your Keynote measurement agent group (or private agent group). You can verify that the right number of measurements/slots have been created by simply clicking on the Slot Details button after selecting the new measurement in KSC.

Shared Script Measurements in MyKeynote

After deployment in KSC all the measurements based on the shared script will be visible in the MyKeynote portal for analysis, reporting and alerting.

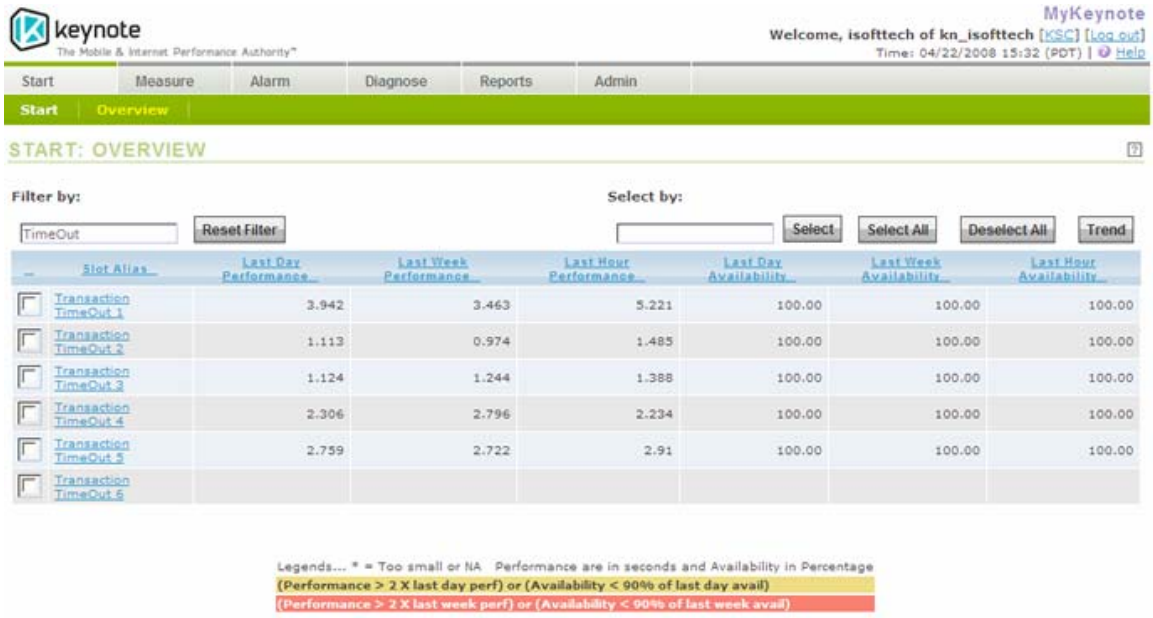
(Information about using MyKeynote can be found at:
http://classic.keynote.com/mykeynote/help/intro_em.asp)

Transaction measurements created from shared scripts are be treated like any other measurements in the MyKeynote portal, but there are special features to simplify working with them.

- The Overview feature of the Start page enables you to quickly see performance and availability data for multiple measurements based on hourly and weekly aggregated data.
- The Mass Create and Mass Edit features for Alarms make it easy to manage the alerting process for multiple measurements.

Start Page Overview

The new Overview feature within MyKeynote's Start page enables you to quickly see at a glance performance and availability data for multiple measurements. You can see aggregated performance and availability data for the last day, last week, or last hour. By selecting one or more measurements and clicking the Trend button you can generate a time history graph (showing performance and availability data) for the last 24 hours.



Mass Create Alarms

MyKeynote Alarms enable you to set up alerts to notify key personnel if performance or availability problems reach pre-determined thresholds.

(Information about MyKeynote Alarms is located at: http://classic.keynote.com/MyKeynote/help/alarms.asp)

You can use the Alarms - Mass Create feature to quickly set up Alarms for multiple measurements by simply selecting them and then specifying the alarm settings you want to be used for all the selected measurements.