

# RELEASE NOTES

PACE Suite 6.1



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# 1 About This Release

This release of PACE Suite includes:

- Editor for PSAppDeployToolkit For details, see section 1.1
- Repackage in Windows Sandbox For details, see section 1.2
- Repackage in Docker For details, see section 1.3
- PowerShell in Custom Actions For details, see section 1.4
- Boost Performance of Remote Capturing For details, see section 1.5
- Improvements and Fixes For details, see section 1.6



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Release Notes PACE Suite 6.1 1.1 Editor for PSAppDeployToolkit

😢 Package Wrapper	- D X
E General Package D	signer Configuration
<ul> <li>Files</li> <li>Installation</li> <li>Support files</li> <li>Actions</li> <li>Install</li> <li>Pre-install</li> <li>Install</li> <li>Post-install</li> <li>Pre-repair</li> <li>Repair</li> <li>Post-repair</li> <li>Post-repair</li> <li>Volinistall</li> <li>Pre-uninstall</li> <li>Uninstall</li> <li>Post-uninstall</li> <li>Repair</li> <li>Repair</li> <li>Repair</li> <li>Repair</li> <li>Repair</li> <li>Repair</li> <li>Repair</li> <li>Repair</li> <li>Post-repair</li> <li>Kaw deployment script</li> </ul>	Pre-Installation Actions Define actions (e.g.closing apps, cleaning-up the previous version) to be executed before installing the package. Zoom (2) (2) Appearance (2) (2) (2) (2) (2) (2) (2) (2) (2) (2)
	Add ^ Recent ^ ? Help

The **PowerShell App Deployment Toolkit** (PSAppDeployToolkit) is becoming increasingly popular as it allows you to deploy applications in a corporate environment without any additional effort.

To simplify the wrapping of your installations with the help of the PSAppDeployToolkit framework, we have developed **Package Wrapper** – a new tool in the PACE Suite family.

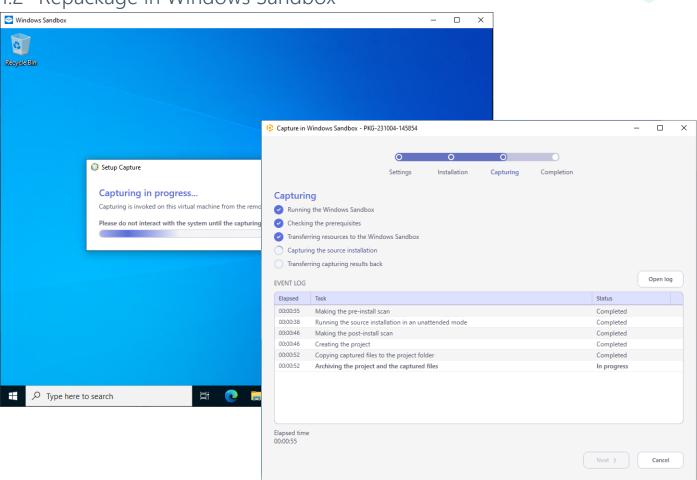
Highlights of Package Wrapper:

- Support of personal/team PSADT templates;
- Easy package creation of required PSADT version;
- Advanced script editor with syntax highlighting and row numbering;
- Validation of logical structure;
- Help with finding and adding actions and variables;
- UI for managing package appearance settings.



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## 1.2 Repackage in Windows Sandbox

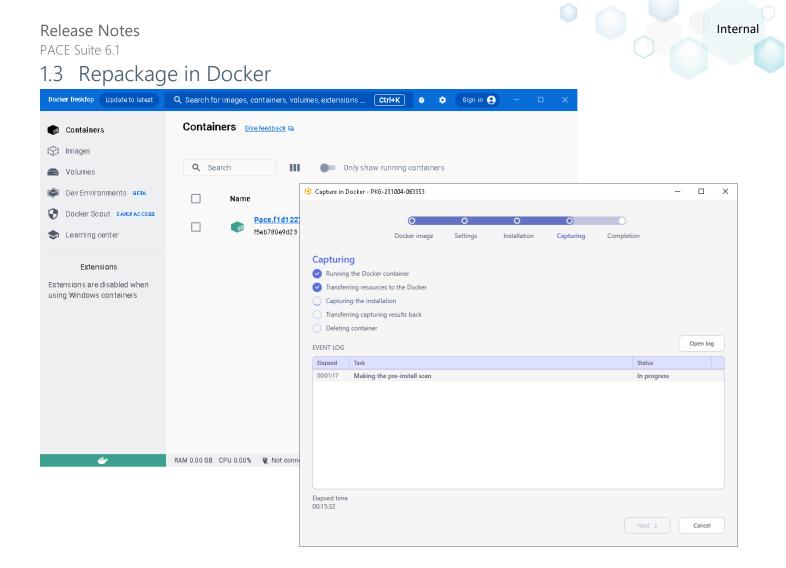


Windows Sandbox is a built-in Windows OS feature that provides a temporary desktop environment to safely run applications in isolation. Software installed inside the Windows Sandbox environment remains "sandboxed" and runs separately from the host machine.

We found this to be an ideal environment for capturing installations and therefore develop support for **Windows Sandbox** in our **Setup Capture**.

#### Advantages:

- Built-in Windows OS feature no need to install and configure;
- Instant start and close of Windows Sandbox;
- No need to copy source and output files, as they are directly mapped;
- Support of manual and fully unattended capturing mode;
- In comparison to a regular VM, the sandbox is optimized for host resource consumption;
- The desktop environment in Sandbox does not require an additional Windows license;
- Provides a command-line interface (CLI) for automation.



We have added support for capturing in **Docker** to our **Setup Capture**. The approach of **Repackaging in Docker** is identical to **Repackage in Windows Sandbox**, except that Docker Desktop must be installed and configured manually.

Docker provides an isolated Windows environment for repackaging that can be recreated for each capture from a single Windows OS image. Docker allows running multiple parallel instances of identical capturing containers.

In contrast to the benefits of repackaging in Docker, there are limitations, such as the lack of a UI session in Windows images. This means that you cannot interact with installer dialogs. Repackaging in Docker makes sense if you want to convert, for instance, MSI into MSIX or your installer supports silent mode.

With PACE Suite, you can repackage applications in Docker in a fully unattended mode and the command-line interface (CLI) provides automation abilities.



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# 1.4 PowerShell in Custom Actions

MSI Editor - PACE_Suite_v6.0.1.msi					- 0
Package Summary Pack	kage Designer	custom action			- 🗆 X
<ul> <li>Package resources</li> <li>Files and folders</li> <li>INI entries</li> <li>Shortcuts</li> <li>Fonts</li> <li>Registry</li> <li>Custom actions</li> <li>Services</li> <li>Environment variables</li> <li>Drivers</li> <li>ODBC</li> <li>Package configuration</li> <li>Features and components</li> <li>ARP appearance</li> <li>System search</li> <li>Close applications</li> <li>Upgrades</li> <li>Properties</li> <li>Summary information</li> <li>Permissions</li> <li>Media settings</li> <li>Digital signature</li> </ul>	V Sequer     V Sequer	Type PowerShell script ed by this package along with other file of which is specified in the property of which is specified directly in the custor code 4-Type -AssemblyName System.Window 4-Type -AssemblyName System.Window 5-Type -AssemblyName System.Windows.For mr.Text = Data Entry Forn <sup>1</sup> mr.Size = New-Object System.Drawing. mr.StartPosition = "CenterScreen" Button = New-Object System.Windows. Button = New-Object System.Vindows. Button = New-Object System.Vindows. Button = New-Object System.Windows. Button = New-Object System.Windows. Button = New-Object System.Vindows. Button = New-Object System. Button =	om action vs.Forms g ms.Form Size(300,200) s.Forms.Button	Sequencing	Cancel

In this release, we have added support for PowerShell custom actions. Previously, such a task required several manual actions and had certain constraints.

Now, custom actions for running PowerShell scripts support three options for the location where the PS script will be saved. The storage location also affects the sequence position of the script run. We currently support running the script in the early stages of installer launch – right after the 'InstallInitialize' action.



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Scrip	ot editor —	
Po	werShell V History 🖑 🕜 Zoom 🗨 🝳 Appearance 🚍	
	Add-Type -AssemblyName System.Windows.Forms	^
	Add-Type -AssemblyName System.Drawing	
	<pre>\$form = New-Object System.Windows.Forms.Form</pre>	
	\$form.Text = 'Data Entry Form'	
	Sform.Size = New-Object System.Drawing.Size(300,200) Sform.StartPosition = 'CenterScreen'	
	SokButton = New-Object System.Windows.Forms.Button	
	SokButton.Location = New-Object System.Drawing.Point(75,120)	
	<pre>\$okButton.Size = New-Object System.Drawing.Size(75,23) \$okButton.Text = 'OK'</pre>	Ξ
	SokButton. Text = OK \$okButton.DialogResult = [System.Windows.Forms.DialogResult]::OK	
	Socoution.Dialogresuit = [System.windows.rorms.Dialogresuit)::OK	
	\$form.Controls.Add(\$okButton)	
	<pre>\$cancelButton = New-Object System.Windows.Forms.Button</pre>	
	<pre>\$cancelButton.Size = New-Object System.Drawing.Size(75,23)</pre>	
	ScancelButton.Text = 'Cancel'	
18	<pre>\$cancelButton.DialogResult = [System.Windows.Forms.DialogResult]::Cancel</pre>	
	\$form.CancelButton = \$cancelButton	
20	\$form.Controls.Add(\$cancelButton)	
21	Slabel = New-Object System.Windows.Forms.Label	
22	<pre>\$label.Location = New-Object System.Drawing.Point(10,20)</pre>	
23	<pre>\$label.Size = New-Object System.Drawing.Size(280,20)</pre>	
24	\$label.Text = 'Please enter the information in the space below:'	
	\$form.Controls.Add(\$label)	1

If you need to view/modify the script, you can do that right in the Custom Actions Wizard with the help of the Script editor. This editor provides syntax highlighting, row numbing, and zoom options.



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## 1.5 Boost Performance of Remote Capturing

Capture remotely				1	<u> </u>		_		×
	۲								
	VM	Settings	Installation	Capturing	Completi	on			
Virtual machine									
elect a virtual machine to run the remote capturing. If the list is empty, click 'Add' to configure a new VM.									
Virtual machine		Virtualization sol	lution			Comment			
Windows 11		Local Microsoft	t Hyper-V (Host: 1	27.0.0.1)					
Add	dit R	emove						Items: 1	
						Next 🕽		Cancel	

We've redesigned the approach of archiving resources that are transferred to and from a remote virtual machine during the repackaging process. According to our tests, the new algorithm and multi-threading increased performance by 4 times.

We hope this improvement will allow you to do more in less time.

## 1.6 Improvements and Fixes

This release includes numerous fixes to the quality of created packages, data handling, data display, highlighting of changes, and more. Most of the reported bugs and stability issues were fixed.

# 2 Release History

- PACE Suite 6.0
- PACE Suite 5.8
- PACE Suite 5.7
- PACE Suite 5.6

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- PACE Suite 5.5
- PACE Suite 5.4
- PACE Suite 5.3
- PACE Suite 5.2
- PACE Suite 5.1
- PACE Suite 5.0
- PACE Suite 4.7
- PACE Suite 4.6
- PACE Suite 4.5
- PACE Suite 4.4
- PACE Suite 4.3
- PACE Suite 4.2
- PACE Suite 4.1
- PACE Suite 4.0
- PACE Suite 3.5.5
- PACE Suite 3.5
- PACE Suite 3.4.2
- PACE Suite 3.4.1
- PACE Suite 3.4
- <u>PACE Suite 3.3 3.3.1</u>



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