

Impact of 2016 leap second on Amulet Hotkey products

Support update: 141016

Amulet Hotkey customers may be aware of the leap second event that will occur on **December 31 2016**.

We have reviewed the possible impact on Amulet Hotkey products and conclude there are no adverse consequences arising from the 2016 leap second event. Our recommendations for products that use timestamps are given on [page 2](#).

For background information, see [page 2](#).

Amulet Hotkey products that use timestamps

The following products use timestamps when generating log entries or (for the K4u⁺) to verify firmware updates.

Blade workstations and associated PCoIP mezzanine cards

- DXM630, DXM620, DXM520, DXM420, DXM710, DXM610

PCoIP hosts

- DXP4, DXH4, DXL4, DXT-iP, DXPC, DXHK, DXiP rack cards

PCoIP zero clients (all model variants of the following)

- DXZ4, DXZC, DXR-Z4, DXR2, DXR4

KVM switches

- K4u⁺

Amulet Hotkey products that do not use timestamps

The following products do not use timestamps and are not 'time-aware'.

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|--|---|
| ▪ KVM switches
K4u
K4vu
SK4u | ▪ Offload cards
DXM-A PCoIP hardware accelerator
DXM-G GPU add-in card |
| ▪ KVM extenders
DX rack
DXR2 | ▪ Other products
AHK3000D keyboard
KMD3 breakout box
Smart looms |

NTP recommendation for products that use timestamps

Amulet Hotkey strongly recommends that these products—PCoIP host cards, zero clients and DXM blade workstations—are synchronised to a time service such as Network Time Protocol (NTP) server.

This ensures that any adjustments to UTC (Coordinated Universal Time) are automatically pushed to these products. This is essential for maintaining accurate and consistent timestamps in system log entries across products. For example, this allows administrators to track and compare event sequences in a paired host card-zero client setup.

Do I need to configure PCoIP equipment for NTP?

While Amulet Hotkey strongly recommends using NTP, PCoIP host cards and zero clients that are not synchronized to a time service have no record of absolute (or UTC) time. Instead, log entry timestamps are based on relative time since boot. Therefore, the leap second adjustment to UTC is irrelevant to these devices and can be ignored.

If an individual blade workstation is not synchronized to a time service, the leap second will potentially result in a 1 second discrepancy in OS time compared to UTC. Amulet Hotkey recommends that this discrepancy is manually corrected to ensure accurate timestamps in log entries.

Background information

For background information, see the Wikipedia entry:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Leap_second