

# Manually running the autoenrollment process


Uwe Gradenegger / April 2020 / Active Directory, Certificate usage / Autoenrollment, certutil

By default, all domain members automatically replicate the Public Key Services object he Active Directory forest through the autoenrollment process. The triggers for this are:

- When the user logs in (for computers, when the computer account logs in, i.e. at system startup).
- By timer every 8 hours.
- When updating group policies, assuming there has been a change.

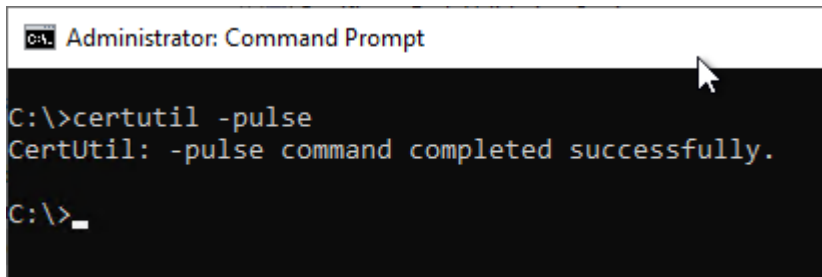
If you do not want to wait for the autoenrollment to be triggered automatically, you can start it manually. The different ways to run the autoenrollment process are described below.

## Implementation

Do you know **TameMyCerts**? TameMyCerts is an add-on for the Microsoft certification authority (Active Directory Certificate Services). It extends the function of the certification authority and enables the [Application of regulations](#) to realize the secure automation of certificate issuance. TameMyCerts is unique in the Microsoft ecosystem, has already proven itself in countless companies around the world and is available under a free license. It can [downloaded via GitHub](#)  and can be used free of charge. Professional maintenance is also offered.

The autoenrollment process can be started with the following command line command. It starts the process for the computer context and therefore requires elevated privileges (Run as Administrator).

```
certutil -pulse
```



```
Administrator: Command Prompt
C:\>certutil -pulse
CertUtil: -pulse command completed successfully.
C:\>_
```

For the user context, the autoenrollment process can be started with the `-user` argument.

```
certutil -pulse -user
```

C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe

```
C:\>certutil -pulse -user  
CertUtil: -pulse command completed successfully.  
C:\>_
```

Updating the group policy also triggers the autoenrollment process - but only if a change has occurred in the group policy. Running the gpupdate command with the /force switch causes all group policies to be reread, which is considered a change by the system.

```
gpupdate /force
```

Administrator: Command Prompt

```
C:\>gpupdate /force  
Updating policy...  
  
Computer Policy update has completed successfully.  
User Policy update has completed successfully.  
  
C:\>_
```

Accordingly, an event is generated which confirms this.

Event Properties - Event 1502, GroupPolicy (Microsoft-Windows-GroupPolicy)

General Details

The Group Policy settings for the computer were processed successfully. New settings from 3 Group Policy objects were detected and applied.

Log Name:	System	Logged:	08/04/2020 11:05:09
Source:	GroupPolicy (Microsoft-Win	Task Category:	None
Event ID:	1502	Keywords:	
Level:	Information	Computer:	CLIENT2.intra.adcslabor.de
User:	SYSTEM	OpCode:	(1)
More Information:	<a href="#">Event Log Online Help</a>		

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**Related links:**

- [Basics of manual and automatic Certificate Enrollment via Lightweight Directory Access Protocol \(LDAP\) and Remote Procedure Call / Distributed Common Object Model \(RPC/DCOM\)](#)
- [Programmatically trigger the autoenrollment process for the logged-in user](#)
- [Certificate request basics via Certificate Enrollment Web Services \(CEP, CES\)](#)

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