QEMU-WEB-DESKTOP.PL

November 2026

NAME

qemu-web-desktop.pl - control qemu-web-desktop

SYNOPSIS

qwdctl [*help|download|refresh|status|start VM|stop|gpu|gpu-unlock|enable|disable|purge|edit*] ...

DESCRIPTION

controls the availability of virtual machines for the qemu-web-desktop service. In addition, the status of the running sessions can be displayed and it is possible to start virtual machines manually and display them in a browser.

OPTIONS:

--help|help|-h

show this help.

--disable|disable VM|gpu

deactivate a [VM] entry. 'qwdctl **--disable** gpu' disables the GPU support (same as **--gpu-unlock**).

--download|download|update

scan the */etc/qemu-web-desktop/machines.conf* file for [name.ext] and download them when URL are given. a 'qwdctl **--refresh**' is then performed. Virtual machine images are stored into */var/lib/qemu-web-desktop/machines*. Additional machine descriptions can be given in */etc/qemu-web-desktop/config*.d/*.ini files.

--edit|edit [machines|config|web|VM]

edit the machines list, the service configuration file or the service web page. In the case of the machines list, the 'qwdctl **--download**' command is triggered automatically after edit. When given a VM name, the file holding the [VM] entry is edited. Set the $EDITOR variable to select the text editor to use. It is recommended to use the **--enable** and **--disable** to manage the VM/machine list.

--enable|enable VM|FILE|URL|gpu {'DESCRIPTION'}

add or (re)activate a [VM] entry, file or URL. Optional description is given as a string. 'qwdctl **--enable** gpu' activates the GPU support (same as **--gpu**).

--gpu|gpu VENDOR:MODEL

configure GPU for pass-through. The GPU_ids are e.g. '10de:1d01'.

--gpu-unlock|gpu-unlock

unlock/re-attach all GPU's to server (uninstall pass-through).

--refresh|refresh

scan the */etc/qemu-web-desktop/machines.conf* file, and generate the HTML landing page (*/var/lib/qemu-web-desktop/html/index.html*) from the template (*/etc/qemu-web-desktop/index.html.tmpl*). Additional machine descriptions can be given in */etc/qemu-web-desktop/config*.d/*.ini files. Adapt the QWD configuration to customise service choices.

--status|status

list running sessions, as well as enabled and disabled machines.

--start|start VM ...

start the given VM or ISO file (full path, non localized) in a browser. Connect to it with the displayed URL. Further arguments are passed to the service (see config.pl) e.g. **--snapshot_alloc_mem**=*1* (in GB) and **--snapshot_alloc_cpu**=*2*. Changes are lost except when specifying option **--snapshot_use_master**=*1*, requiring write access. When running ISO's you may also specify **--snapshot_alloc_disk**=*40* (in GB). Use 'qwdctl **--start**' to get the full list of default VM settings.

--stop|stop TOKEN

stop sessions matching TOKEN. Some snapshot files may be left-over.

--purge|purge {VMNAME}

remove VM files which are inactive and not used. When VM argument is given, only files starting by 'VM' are checked.

--version|version|-v

show qwdctl version.

--yes|-y

assume yes to questions. Same as QWDCTL_YES=1 shell variable.

AUTHOR:

Written by Roland Mas and Emmanuel Farhi.

FILES:

The QWD service configuration is defined in:

- */etc/qemu-web-desktop/config.pl* - */etc/qemu-web-desktop/config.*d/*.pl

The QWD available VM's are defined in:

- */var/lib/qemu-web-desktop/machines* - */etc/qemu-web-desktop/machines.conf* - */etc/qemu-web-desktop/config.*d/*.ini

Entries should contain lines:

[name.ext or URL] description=<name of machine to appear in the form>

In addition, any line with:

url=<link>

will retrieve the given file with: qwdctl download When the description is missing, the VM file name is used. Supported virtual machine formats: ISO, QCOW2, VDI, VMDK, RAW, VHD/VHDX, QED

The QWD landing/login page is in:

- */var/lib/qemu-web-desktop/html/index.html* - */etc/qemu-web-desktop/index.html.tmpl* (template)

- https://gitlab.com/soleil-data-treatment/soleil-software-projects/qemu-web-desktop

ENVIRONMENT VARIABLES:

EDITOR set the text editor to use, e.g. nano. Default is to use 'nano' or $EDITOR.

QWDCTL_YES=1 is equivalent to setting **--yes** (skip confirm).

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SEE ALSO

The full documentation for **qemu-web-desktop.pl** is maintained as a Texinfo manual. If the **info** and **qemu-web-desktop.pl** programs are properly installed at your site, the command

info qemu-web-desktop.pl

should give you access to the complete manual.