How to use PostMail feature to send an alarm email (with MTA « ssmtp »)
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1/ Introduction

In this guide we will study how to use the email sending feature on ProviewR v5.5 .

This feature is very usefull to send a email triggered for example by alarm event.

To do this we need to configure :

> on host computer, the MTA (mail transfer agent),

> on Proview, PostConfig, Asup or DSup objects.

In this guide, I use Linux Mint 18 64bit + ProviewR v5.5 (dev environment)

2/ Principe diagram
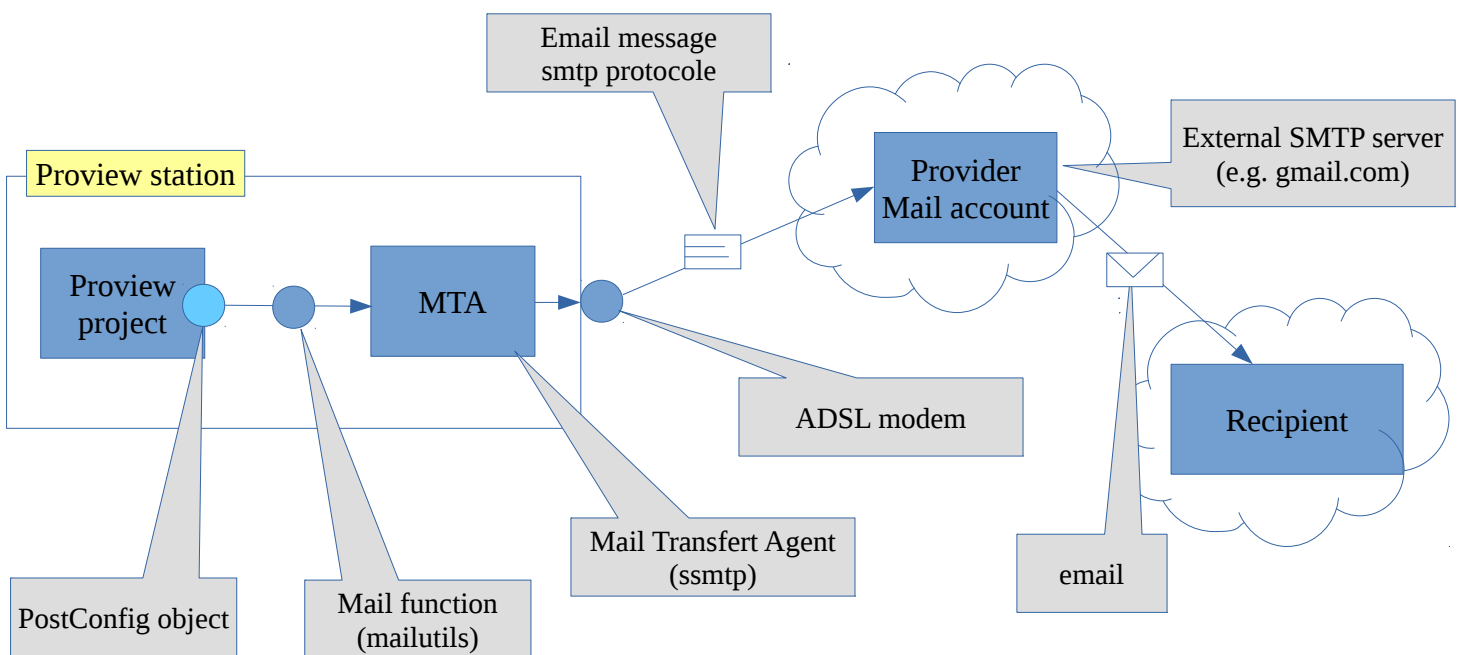
When an alarm event apper, the PostConfig object transmit a mail command (as can be use in terminal) to the MTA (thru a mail function for example provided by mailutils package). This mail command include the message core (alarm text).

Then the MTA transfert the email message to the external smtp server.

Finaly the email will be send to recipient by email server.

3/ Host computer configuration

First we need to install a MTA utility.

You can find a lot of MTA softwares (Postfix, Exim,...), but for this guide I choose to use a very simple one called « **ssmtp** ».

This MTA is very simple to configure and to use, and it's suffisent for basic use.

For Debian based OS (ubuntu, mint), you can install it thru the official repositories.

Second, to use a mail command (like mail, sendmail) we need to install « mailutils » package. You find it in the official repositories.

Thirdy, you need to create an email account.

In my case I use a free french email account provide by www.laposte.net (french mail service). Of course you can use an other one like gmail.com.

3-1/ SSMTP configuration

To configure SSMTP we use 2 configuration files (with sudo rights):

> /etc/ssmtp/ssmtp.conf

> /etc/ssmtp/revaliases

3-1-1/ [/etc/ssmtp/ssmtp.conf]

open a terminal and enter…

$ sudo nano /etc/ssmtp/ssmtp.conf

$ password for pwrp : *****

nano open the file….

```
#
# Config file for sSMTP sendmail
#
# The person who gets all mail for userids < 1000
# Make this empty to disable rewriting.
root=ben@laposte.net

# Username/Password
AuthUser=ben@laposte.net
AuthPass=*********
#AuthMethod=LOGIN

# The place where the mail goes. The actual machine name is required no
```

Email address for the external smtp server … your email account

Note : it's not the recipient !

Password used to connect your email account

# MX records are consulted. Commonly mailhosts are named mail.domain.com
mailhub=smtp.laposte.net:465

# Use SSL/TLS before starting negotiation
UseTLS=Yes
#UseSTARTTLS=Yes
TLS_CA_File=/etc/ssl/certs/ca-certificates.crt

# Where will the mail seem to come from?
rewriteDomain=laposte.net

# The full hostname
hostname=pc-bur1

# Are users allowed to set their own From: address?
# YES - Allow the user to specify their own From: address
# NO - Use the system generated From: address
FromLineOverride=Yes

External smtp server address,
with dedicated IP port

Note : for IP port, see your server specifications

Proview station name (node name)

This is my own basic configuration, maybe you have to not-comment certain options depending to your smtp server.
Don't forget to correctly configure your firewall (and your adsl modem) to permit IP ports in/out connections.

3-1-2/ [/etc/ssmtp/revaliases]

open a terminal and enter…

$ sudo nano /etc/ssmtp/revaliases

$ password for pwrp : *****

nano open the file….

sSMTP aliases
#
Format: local_account:outgoing_address:mailhub
#
Example: root:your_login@your.domain:mailhub.your.domain[:port]
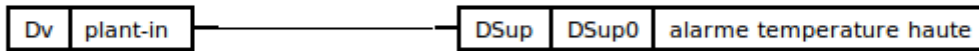# where [:port] is an optional port number that defaults to 25.
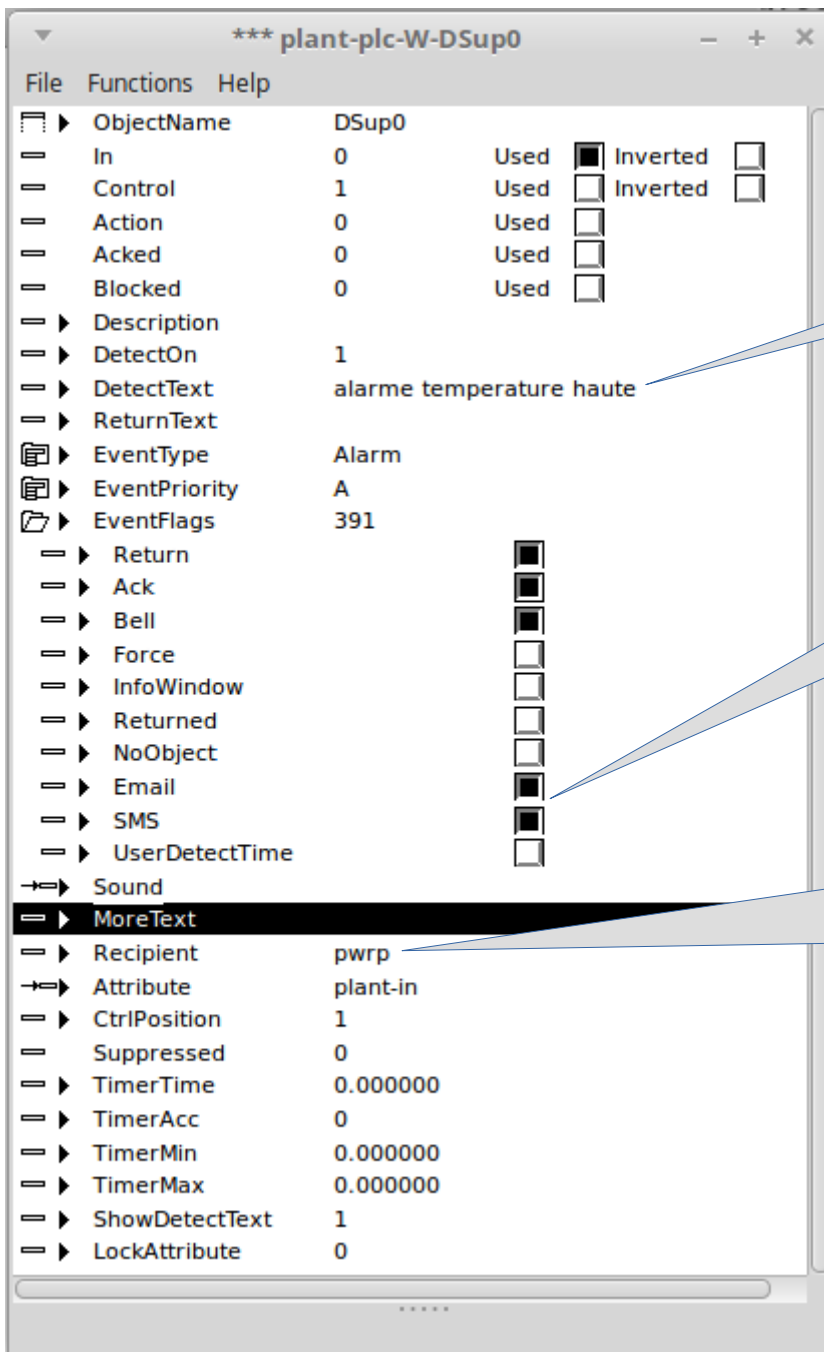root:ben@laposte.net:smtp.laposte.net:465

pwrp:ben@laposte.net:smtp.laposte.net:465

4/ Proview project configuration

To test the mail sending feature, we will create a simple project with a plcpgm with the following program :

| Dv | plant-in |———————————————| DSup | DSup0 | alarme temperature haute |

Dsup attributes….

```
***  plant-plc-W-DSup0          —  +  ✕

File   Functions   Help

▾  ObjectName       DSup0
═    In              0        Used  ■ Inverted  ☐
═    Control         1        Used  ☐ Inverted  ☐
═    Action          0        Used  ☐
═    Acked           0        Used  ☐
═    Blocked         0        Used  ☐
═ ▶  Description
═ ▶  DetectOn        1
═ ▶  DetectText      alarme temperature haute
═ ▶  ReturnText
▤ ▶  EventType       Alarm
▤ ▶  EventPriority   A
▱ ▶  EventFlags      391
  ═ ▶  Return                   ■
  ═ ▶  Ack                      ■
  ═ ▶  Bell                     ■
  ═ ▶  Force                    ☐
  ═ ▶  InfoWindow               ☐
  ═ ▶  Returned                 ☐
  ═ ▶  NoObject                 ☐
  ═ ▶  Email                    ■
  ═ ▶  SMS                      ■
  ═ ▶  UserDetectTime           ☐
→═▶  Sound
═ ▶  MoreText
═ ▶  Recipient       pwrp
→═▶  Attribute       plant-in
═ ▶  CtrlPosition    1
═    Suppressed      0
═ ▶  TimerTime       0.000000
═ ▶  TimerAcc        0
═ ▶  TimerMin        0.000000
═ ▶  TimerMax        0.000000
═ ▶  ShowDetectText  1
═ ▶  LockAttribute   0

                      • • • • •
```

Text apper in the email boby

For Proview 5.5…
Maybe a bug (?), but you have to select both options
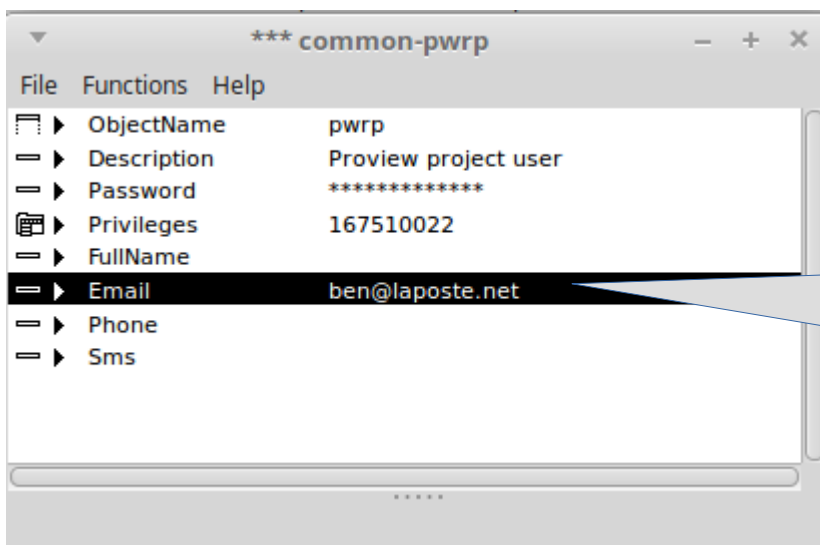(Email and SMS)

The recipient :
pwrp user
Profile define in the UserDataBase
As :
> email address

4-1/ define email address for pwrp user

From ProjectList windows (first windows when you open dev environment), open the menu : file/open/userdatabase
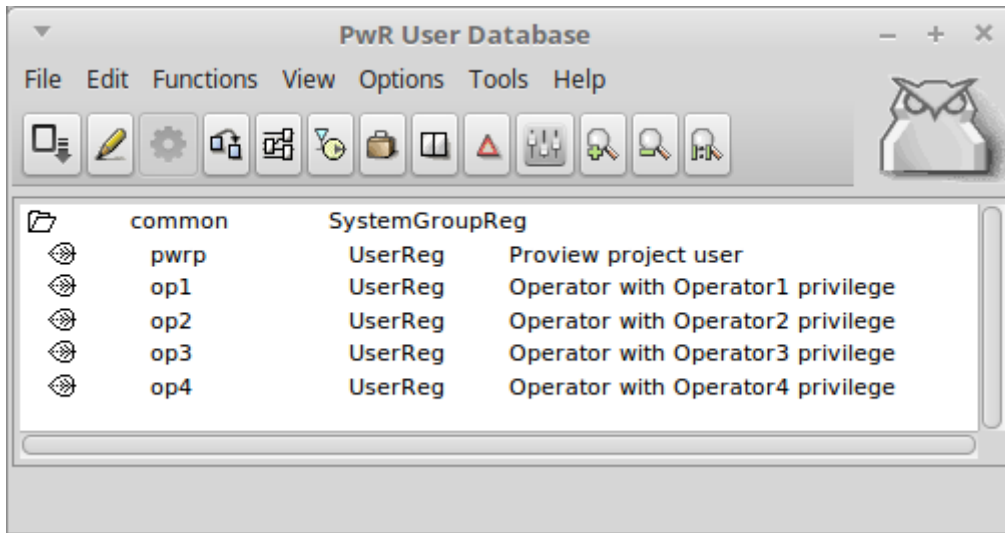
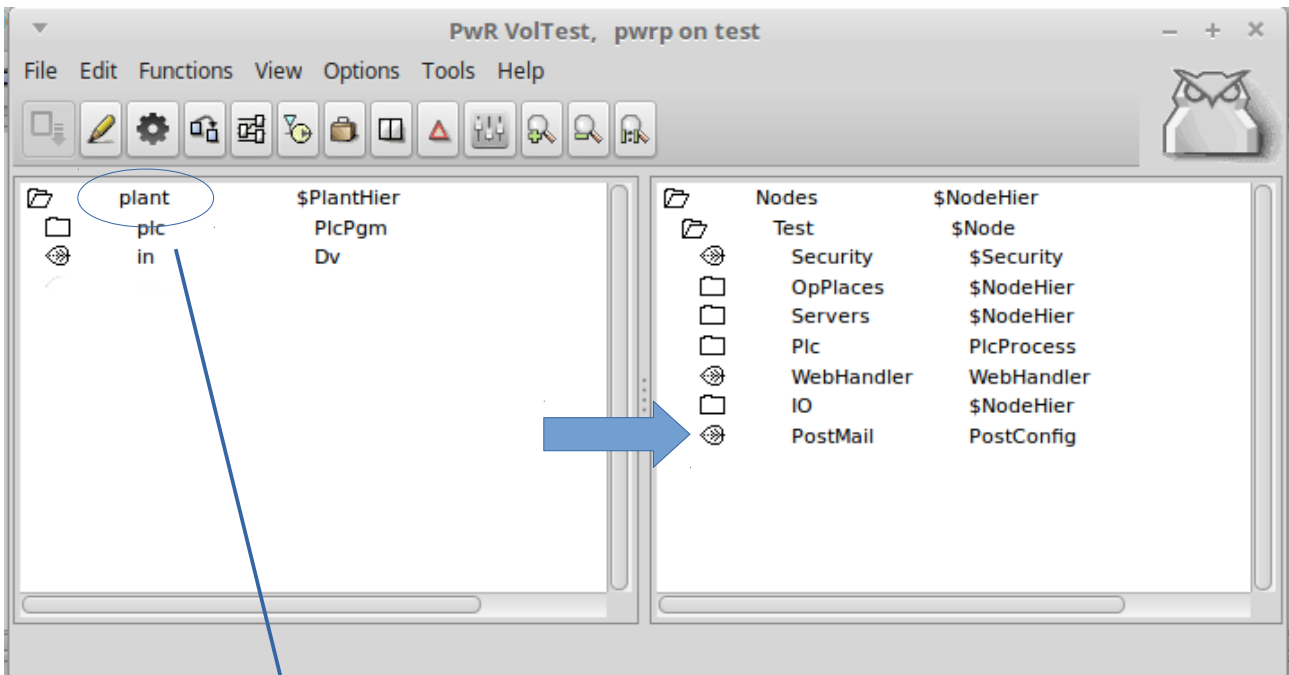turn on the edit mode and configure the pwrp user profile (right click in pwrp)…

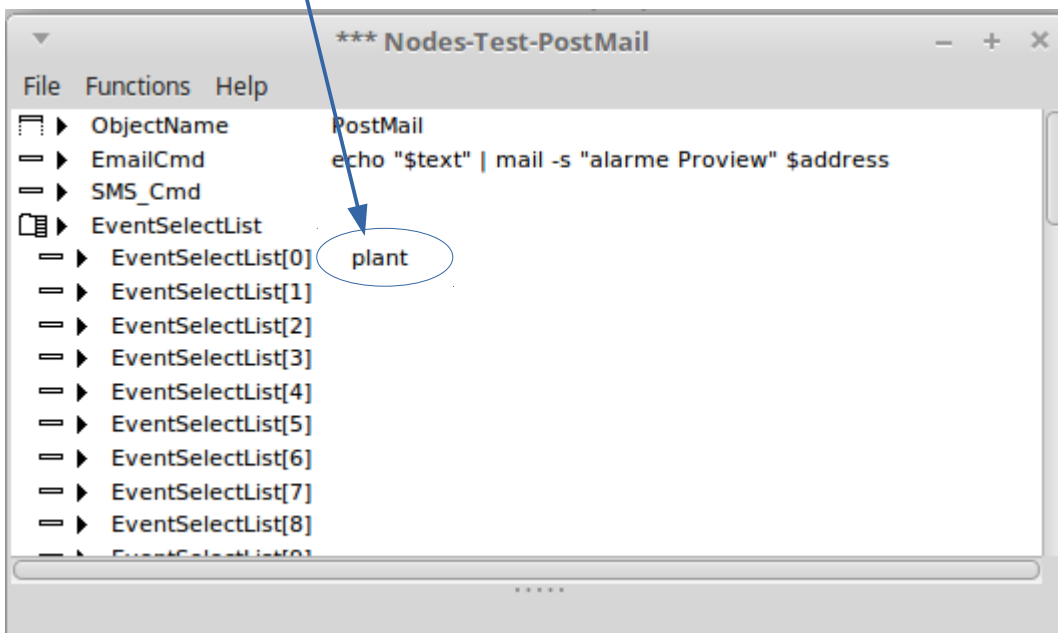Email address for the recipient

Note : you can use any addresses including the one used for external smtp server

4-2/ PostConfig object configuration

Put a PostConfig object under the $node as following…

PostMail object attributes…

Email command:

echo « $text » | mail -s «*text for subject* » $address

Note : this email command can be different depending the mail functions utility you used.

4-3/ OpPlaces-Op configuration

Don't forget to add the $planhier name in the EventSelectList attribute….

5/ check email sending during the test program

During the test, open the services monitor and click to « rt_post » bouton…
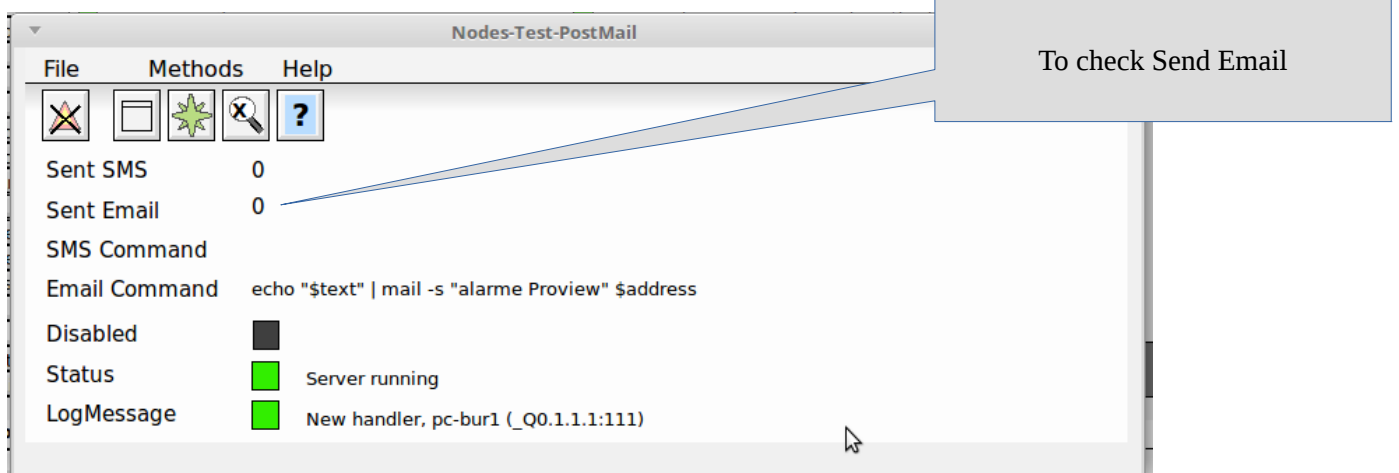
6/ Conclusion

Note SSMTP is not the best secure MTA so use it in your responsibility.

Due of this, I advice to not use your personnal email address account as external smtp server to avoid for example spam attacks.

Use preferently a free email account like gmail.

I hope this guide will be useful for yours projects.

Thanks.

/Ben