

# Let your servers chill out – and save money!

Many companies use their servers with the basic setting as delivered. With targeted use of energy-saving features, you can considerably reduce the electricity consumption of your servers.

## Action

Activate the energy-saving features or the energy management tool on your server – and save as much as 40% of the energy consumed.

## Requirement

You operate an in-house server room (a small data centre) or your own servers in your company.

## What to do

- Check whether your servers have energy-saving features or an energy management tool. If this is not the case, ask your supplier to install an application of this type.

How to start:

- Log on to the server as an administrator.
- In the backup programme, clarify the times when your backups are active.

How to activate the main energy-saving features on the server:

- Define the power schedule
- Select the ventilation mode
- Define the hard disk rest (sleep) mode
- Activate “Wake-on-LAN”
- Switch off unused services

See overleaf for details.



## Costs – outlay

- If energy-saving features or an energy management tool are installed, your “only” outlay is your own labour, of about 1 to 2 hours.
- If you have to retrofit the energy-saving feature, ask your supplier for information about the labour charges and any licence costs that may be incurred.

## Please note

- When making adjustments to the server system settings, it is worth calling in an IT specialist in case of doubt – because secure, reliable and trouble-free operation of the IT infrastructure is essential for all companies, and the costs of IT outages can mount up very quickly.

# Additional explanations

## Activate the power schedule

Small servers that are not active at night can be shut down using the power schedule. To do this, you should ideally arrange the backup times so they are usually completed about 1 hour before work begins (reserve). With a power schedule, you can then automatically shut down and restart the servers after work ends, until the backup begins.

Example:	End of working day	6:00 pm
	Switch server off	8:00 pm
	Switch server on	04:15 am
	Start backup –	04:45 am
	Backup duration (e.g. 45 minutes)	
	End of backup	05:30 am
	Reserve (1 hour)	06:30 am
	Start work	06:30 am

## Set ventilation mode

For the ventilation mode, select the operating mode where the fan (ventilation unit) speed adapts to the actual requirements of the server according to its system temperature.

## Hard disk rest mode

Ensure that rest (sleep) mode for the hard disks is already activated after a short time (e.g. 30 minutes).

## Switch off unused services

Active services that are not used by the server or any applications consume energy unnecessarily. Check the services in your system settings. Uninstall or disable the services you do not use. In case of doubt, if you are not sure whether a particular service is required by applications, you are best to allow it to run.

## Wake-on-LAN

Shut the server down manually or with the help of a scheduler. With Wake-on-LAN (WOL), you can “wake it up” from any workstation so that it starts up automatically. To do this, you must enable Wake-on-LAN in the system settings and define a schedule.

## Additional information

- [Less electricity and more efficiency in server rooms and data centres](#): Information platform for server rooms and data centres, SwissEnergy
- Promoting efficient data centres: the PUE+ funding programme
- Site analysis for your company: [The energy check for server rooms and data centres](#)
- Efficient data centres: [list of actions](#)