

---

# Reinitiate Auto-discovery

---

Lee Ballard

Sylvia Tien



**This document is for informational purposes only and may contain typographical errors and technical inaccuracies. The content is provided as is, without express or implied warranties of any kind.**

© 2011-12 Dell Inc. All rights reserved. Dell and its affiliates cannot be responsible for errors or omissions in typography or photography. Dell, the Dell logo, PowerConnect, and PowerVault are trademarks of Dell Inc. Symantec and the SYMANTEC logo are trademarks or registered trademarks of Symantec Corporation or its affiliates in the US and other countries. Microsoft, Windows, Windows Server, and Active Directory are either trademarks or registered trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and/or other countries. Other trademarks and trade names may be used in this document to refer to either the entities claiming the marks and names or their products. Dell disclaims proprietary interest in the marks and names of others.

## Contents

Introduction .....	4
Environment requirements.....	4
Auto-discovery reinitialize workflow.....	4
Setting, updating, or deleting custom auto-discovery certificates .....	6
Use custom certificates.....	6
Use default certificate.....	8
Specifying the provisioning server .....	8
Setting the provisioning server attribute .....	9
Reinitiating auto discovery.....	10
Getting the provisioning server .....	10
Clearing the provisioning server .....	11
Reinitializing now or when the system is plugged in .....	11
Summary .....	12

## Figures

Figure 1. Reinitialize auto-discovery network diagram .....	5
Figure 2. Reinitialize auto-discovery sequence diagram.....	6
Figure 3. Auto-discovery process flow .....	9

## Introduction

The auto-discovery feature of Lifecycle Controller allows newly installed servers to automatically discover the remote management console that hosts the provisioning server. This also has the effect of notifying the management console there is a new server in the network that needs to be provisioned. The easiest way to implement this feature is to request that auto-discovery be enabled when you order your servers from Dell. Then, provided your console supports Lifecycle Controller auto-discovery (plugins are available for vCenter, SCCM, and others), the discovered server will automatically be added to the management console when the server is powered on. However, what if a server was not ordered from the factory with auto-discovery enabled, or you need to repurpose a machine to a different network or put it under the control of a different management station? This paper shows you how to remotely return a server to factory auto-discovery default settings, and discusses in detail the options which are available to you when reinitializing auto-discovery:

- Setting, updating or deleting custom auto discovery certificates
- Reinitializing now or when the system is plugged in
- Specifying the provisioning server

## Environment requirements

For information on the requirements needed to support Auto-discovery, see *Lifecycle Controller Auto Discovery Network Setup Specification on the Dell Enterprise Technology Center* at [www.delltechcenter.com/page/Lifecycle+Controller](http://www.delltechcenter.com/page/Lifecycle+Controller)

## Auto-discovery reinitialize workflow

Reinitializing auto-discovery involves resetting the iDRAC configuration to factory default settings for auto-discovery. Once the server is in this mode it will perform the exact same auto-discovery operation as would a factory-ordered server that had been set up with auto-discovery enabled. Reinitializing auto-discovery is a two-step process. First the user must configure any custom certificates on the iDRAC or if the default certificate will be used, delete any custom certificates that might already be on the iDRAC. Then the user must send the reinitialize request, optionally specifying the new provisioning server and setting the run time either to “time now” or to the next boot of the iDRAC (remove and reapply power). The figure below shows the high level sequence.

Figure 1. Reinitialize auto-discovery network diagram

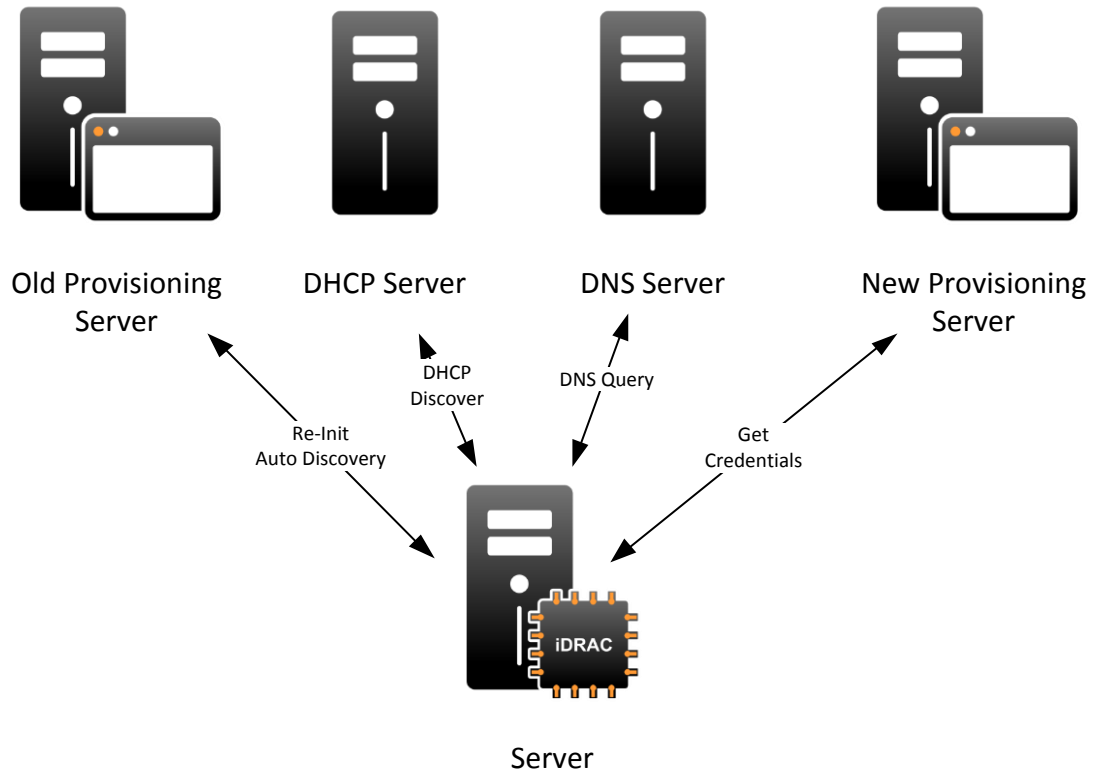
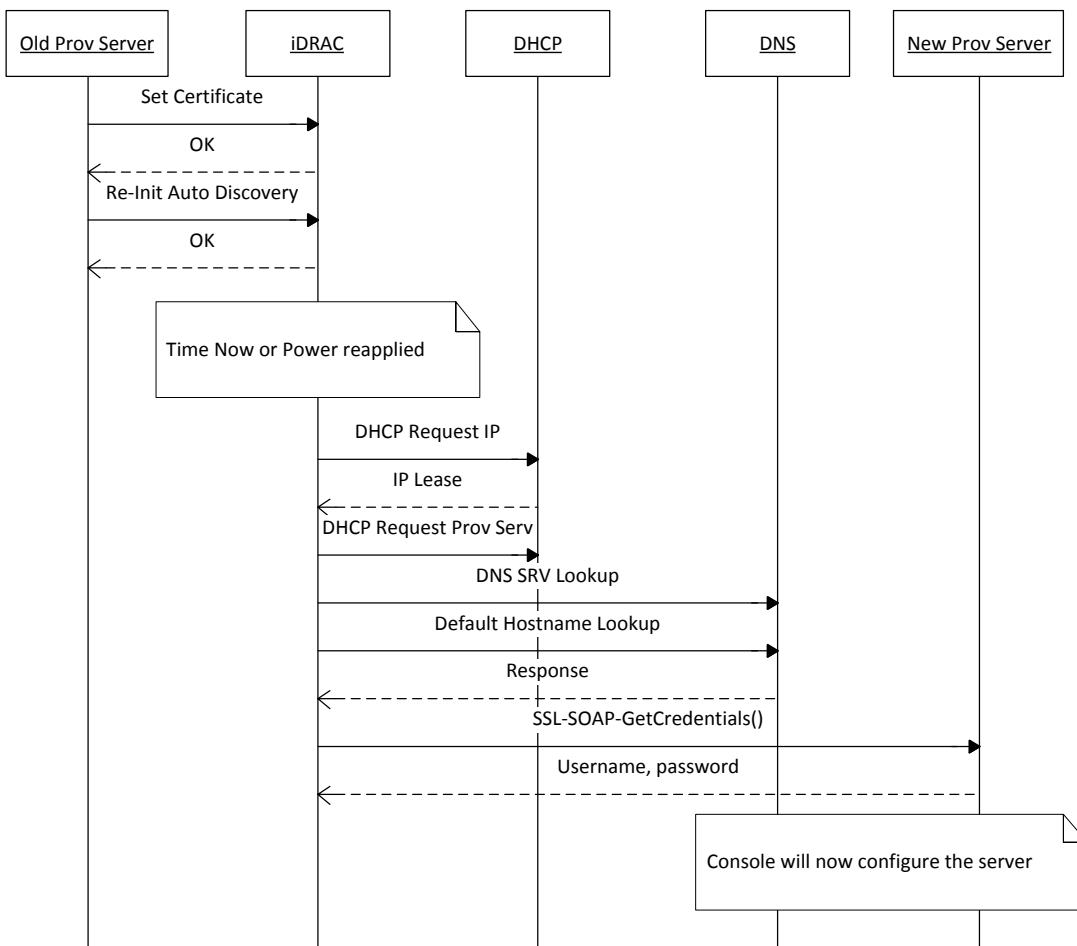


Figure 2. Reinitialize auto-discovery sequence diagram



## Setting, updating, or deleting custom auto-discovery certificates

Reinitializing auto-discovery will undo all iDRAC custom configuration settings, and set the iDRAC back to auto-discovery factory defaults with the exception of auto-discovery certificates used for handshake and provisioning server. If the new network/provisioning server uses custom certificates, those must be set on the server before auto-discovery is reinitialized. If the new network/provisioning server uses default certificates, any custom certificates should be deleted.

### Use custom certificates

#### Install provisioning server's CA certificate

The following WSMAN method sets the CA certificate on the iDRAC that it uses to validate the provisioning server. This must be the same CA that signed the provisioning server's certificate.

EXAMPLE :

## Reinitiate Auto-discovery

```
winrm i DownloadServerPublicKey http://schemas.dmtf.org/wbem/wscim/1/cim-  
schema/2/root/dcim/DCIM_LCService  
?CreationClassName=DCIM_LCService  
+Name=DCIM:LCService  
+SystemCreationClassName=DCIM_ComputerSystem  
+SystemName=DCIM:ComputerSystem  
-u:[USER] -p:[PASSWORD]  
-r:https://[IPADDRESS]/wsman:443  
-SkipCNCheck -SkipCACheck -encoding:utf-8  
-a:basic -file:DownloadServerPublicKey.xml
```

The input file **DownloadServerPublicKey.xml** is shown below:

```
<p:DownloadServerPublicKey_INPUT  
xmlns:p="http://schemas.dmtf.org/wbem/wscim/1/cim-  
schema/2/root/dcim/DCIM_LCService">  
  <p:KeyContent>  
-----BEGIN CERTIFICATE-----  
MIIEQjCCA6ugAwIBAgIBADANBgkqhkiG9w0BAQQFADCBzTELMakGA1UEBhMVCVVMx  
CzAJBgNVBAGTAlRYMRQwEgYDVQHEwtNYWluIFN0cmVldDEVMBMGA1UEChMMSm91  
.  
.  
.  
qvoMCKtoqLnGBByj/H2vyN7Fe/zMKXD5pO6XwYddGfA66w3HGUA0+fIKD40NDi9  
bKFEMxbRxZysUUzuKZ9c+RAlZUiLrqzemfX3fn1Yp7k05KU9vHY=  
-----END CERTIFICATE-----</p:KeyContent>  
</p:DownloadServerPublicKey_INPUT>
```

## Installing client CA certificate and CA private key

The following WSMAN method will generate a new key pair on the iDRAC and then sign it using the provided CA certificate and CA private key.

### EXAMPLE:

```
winrm i DownloadClientCerts http://schemas.dmtf.org/wbem/wscim/1/cim-  
schema/2/root/dcim/DCIM_LCService  
?CreationClassName=DCIM_LCService  
+Name=DCIM:LCService  
+SystemCreationClassName=DCIM_ComputerSystem  
+SystemName=DCIM:ComputerSystem  
-u:[USER] -p:[PASSWORD]  
-r:https://[IPADDRESS]/wsman:443 -SkipCNCheck -SkipCACheck  
-encoding:utf-8 -a:basic -file:DownloadClientCerts.xml
```

The input file **DownloadClientCerts.xml** is shown below:

```
<p:DownloadClientCerts_INPUT  
xmlns:p="http://schemas.dmtf.org/wbem/wscim/1/cim-  
schema/2/root/dcim/DCIM_LCService">  
  <p:KeyContent>-----BEGIN RSA PRIVATE KEY-----  
Proc-Type: 4, ENCRYPTED  
DEK-Info: DES-EDE3-CBC, 5FD6D6131DFA5A86  
ulG9hRgOIkoJJKMBk95Zi8H5KnZkNUnPnqPHQlNco9WzKyINR1FbcIIAU9ToUJOM  
SnSSlA8fRbtJXZZVBA+KAt+34lvO/FEAijSozKMW1nA+CUuzCFM7t3P+3kmD+o6a  
.  
.
```

## Reinitiate Auto-discovery

```
.
.
DfcwL1vaburBpaOmj5HIBvGLzcWEz5iTuzclAiU09dact8/UyrO8KAVp5zu0b8bP
BGUQbNBUqKsCPTKnNSNaDb+j0sQYB66B+9yZtaLPfdWkvob93oUUwj+CxTlxLGqe
-----END RSA PRIVATE KEY-----
</p:KeyContent>
<p:Password>[PASSWORD HERE]</p:Password>
  <p:CAContent>-----BEGIN CERTIFICATE-----
MIIE2zCCA8OgAwIBAgIBADANBgkqhkiG9w0BAQQFADCBqTELMAkGA1UEBhMVCVVMx
CzAJBgNVBAGTA1RYMRQwEgYDVQQHEwtNYWluIFN0cmVldDEVMBMGA1UEChMMSm9l
.
.
.
8o5kZK8xCaSQ9UQKdH5z6sUasj8DYk6pXndgWIV5Wc9JfsN3+dratX3lrpoPJPhk
N1hTdxHYiDjLwSg79yIkIJPlqZ5gdaeJ1jUYJBehRDQ+X7HxWN2VNk+ZlNvYyZc=
-----END CERTIFICATE-----
</p:CAContent>
</p:DownloadClientCerts_INPUT>
```

## Use default certificate

### Deleting custom auto-discovery keys

The following WSMAN methods will delete any custom auto-discovery keys that may exist on the iDRAC. Once the custom keys are deleted, the iDRAC will return to using factory signed keys.

#### EXAMPLES:

```
winrm i DeleteAutoDiscoveryServerPublicKey
http://schemas.dmtf.org/wbem/wscim/1/cim-
schema/2/root/dcim/DCIM_LCService
?SystemCreationClassName=DCIM_ComputerSystem
+CreationClassName=DCIM_LCService
+SystemName=DCIM:ComputerSystem
+Name=DCIM:LCService
-u:%USERNAME% -p:%PASSWORD%
-r:https://%IPADDRESS%/wsman
-encoding:utf-8 -a:basic -SkipCACheck -SkipCNCheck -skiprevocationcheck
```

```
winrm i DeleteAutoDiscoveryClientCerts
http://schemas.dmtf.org/wbem/wscim/1/cim-
schema/2/root/dcim/DCIM_LCService
?SystemCreationClassName=DCIM_ComputerSystem
+CreationClassName=DCIM_LCService
+SystemName=DCIM:ComputerSystem
+Name=DCIM:LCService
-u:%USERNAME% -p:%PASSWORD%
-r:https://%IPADDRESS%/wsman
-encoding:utf-8 -a:basic -SkipCACheck -SkipCNCheck -skiprevocationcheck
```

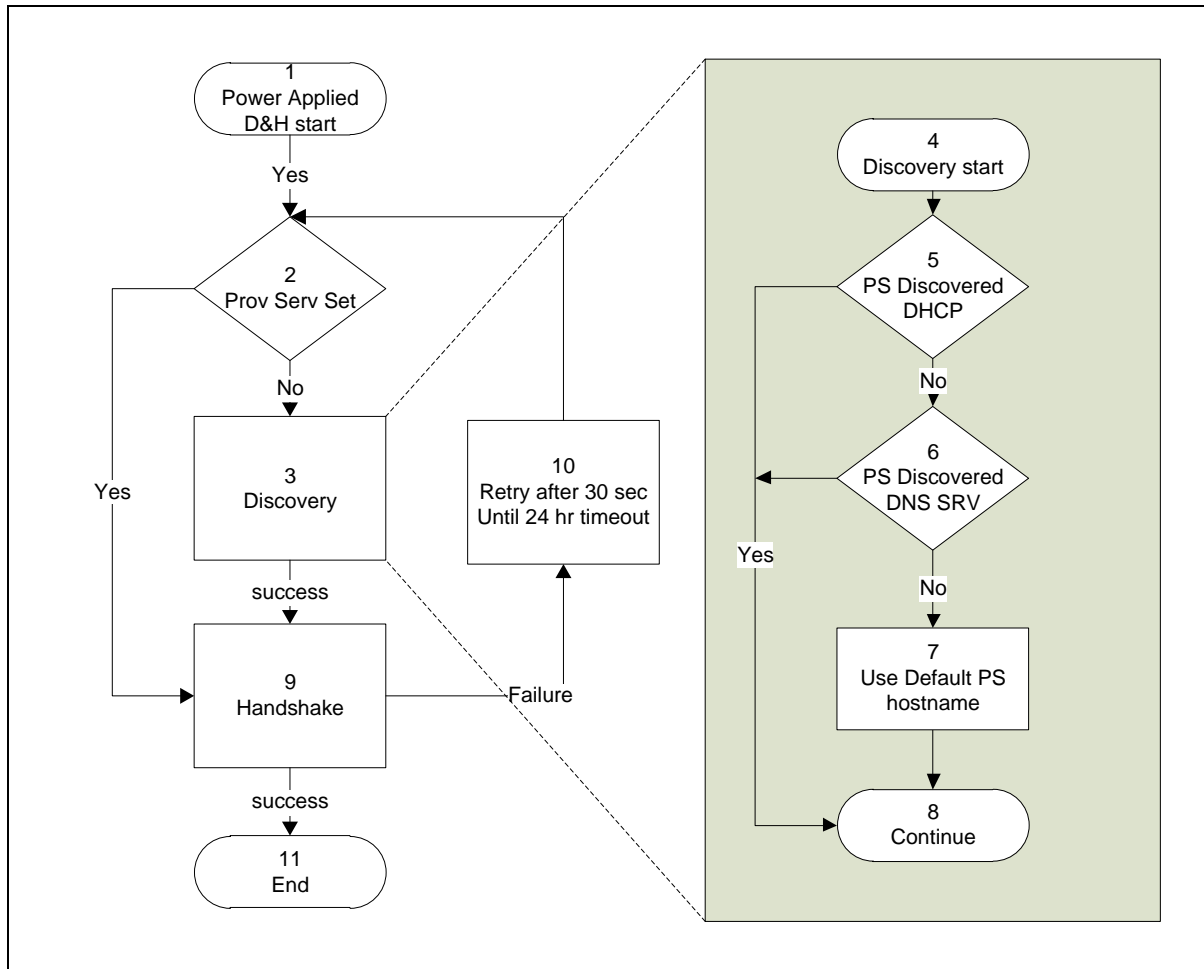
## Specifying the provisioning server

There are two steps in auto-discovery (see Figure 2). In the first step the iDRAC discovers the provisioning server. In the second step the provisioning server learns there is a new server that needs to be configured, the iDRAC receives its initial credentials, and the secure SSL handshake takes place.



The iDRAC discovers the provisioning server in one of three ways: DHCP vendor options, DNS SRV lookup, or default DNS entry. There is also a fourth option—manually configuring the provisioning server. Configuring the provisioning server address in the reinitialize request will bypass the discovery step, and the iDRAC will proceed directly to handshake. Setting the provisioning server is very useful if there are multiple provisioning servers in the network and the user wants to move a server from the control of one provisioning server to another. It can also be used in situation where the user does not have control of the DHCP or DNS services.

Figure 3. Auto-discovery process flow



There are two ways to set the provisioning server: setting the provisioning server attribute, or reinitiating auto-discovery. You may choose either one to set the value of the provisioning server.

### Setting the provisioning server attribute

The following WSMAN command will set the IP address or host name of the provisioning server on the iDRAC.

EXAMPLE :

```
winrm i SetAttribute cimv2/root/dcim/DCIM_LCService
```

## Reinitiate Auto-discovery

```
?SystemCreationClassName=DCIM_ComputerSystem
+CreationClassName=DCIM_LCService
+SystemName=DCIM:ComputerSystem+Name=DCIM:LCService
-u:[USERNAME] -p:[PASSWORD] -r:https://[IPADDRESS]/wsman
  -encoding:utf-8 -a:basic -file:SetAttribute.xml
```

The input file `SetAttribute.xml` containing the parameters for the `SetAttribute` method is shown below:

```
<p:SetAttribute_INPUT
xmlns:p="http://schemas.dmtf.org/wbem/wscim/1/cim-
schema/2/root/dcim/DCIM_LCService">
  <p:AttributeName>Provisioning Server</p:AttributeName>
  <p:AttributeValue>[PS_IP_ADDRESS]</p:AttributeValue>
</ p:SetAttribute_INPUT>
```

## Reinitiating auto discovery

You may choose to set the provisioning server during reinitiating auto-discovery. Use the following WSMAN command to reinitialize auto-discovery.

### EXAMPLE:

```
winrm i ReInitiateDHS cimv2/root/dcim/DCIM_LCService
?SystemCreationClassName=DCIM_ComputerSystem
+CreationClassName=DCIM_LCService
+SystemName=DCIM:ComputerSystem+Name=DCIM:LCService
-u:[USERNAME] -p:[PASSWORD] -r:https://[IPADDRESS]/wsman
-encoding:utf-8 -a:basic -file:ReInitiatedDHS.xml
```

The input file `ReInitiatedDHS.xml` containing the parameters for the `ReInitiateDHS` method is shown below:

```
<p:ReInitiatedDHS_INPUT xmlns:p="http://schemas.dmtf.org/wbem/wscim/1/cim-
schema/2/root/dcim/DCIM_LCService">
  <p:ProvisioningServer>[PS_IP_ADDRESS]</p:ProvisioningServer>
  <p:ResetToFactoryDefaults>TRUE</p:ResetToFactoryDefaults>
  <p:PerformAutoDiscovery>3</p:PerformAutoDiscovery>
</p:ReInitiatedDHS_INPUT>
```

The `PerformAutoDiscovery` attribute can have the following values:

- 1 = off (disables auto discovery)
- 2 = Now (enables and initiates auto discovery immediately )
- 3 = NextBoot (delay reconfiguration & auto discovery until next power cycle)

## Getting the provisioning server

The following WSMAN command will display the provisioning server on the iDRAC.

### EXAMPLES:

## Reinitiate Auto-discovery

```
winrm g "http://schemas.dell.com/wbem/wscim/1/cim-  
schema/2/DCIM_LCString?InstanceID=LifecycleController.Embedded.1#LCAttr  
IBUTES.1#ProvisioningServer+__cimnamespace=root/dcim"  
-u:[USERNAME] -p:[PASSWORD] -r:https://[IPADDRESS]/wsman  
-encoding:utf-8 -a:basic -SkipCNcheck -SkipCAcheck
```

## Clearing the provisioning server

The following WSMAN command will clear the provisioning server on the iDRAC.

```
winrm i ClearProvisioningServer cimv2/root/dcim/DCIM_LCService  
?SystemCreationClassName=DCIM_ComputerSystem  
+CreationClassName=DCIM_LCService  
+SystemName=DCIM:ComputerSystem+Name=DCIM:LCService  
-u:[USERNAME] -p:[PASSWORD] -r:https://[IPADDRESS]/wsman  
-encoding:utf-8 -a:basic
```

## Reinitializing now or when the system is plugged in

The last thing to consider when reinitializing auto-discovery is when will the operation occur? If the system is being reallocated to a different provisioning server on the same network, *time now* would be appropriate. If the system will be unplugged, moved and powered on in a different location, selecting *next boot* (meaning next iDRAC boot, not server boot) would be the best option. Be aware that if you select *time now* the reinitialize process will begin immediately. This means all login credentials on the iDRAC will be disabled until auto discovery completes, so no remote access (ssh, web, wsman, or remote RACADM) will be possible until auto-discovery is complete. If you are moving a server from one provisioning server to another and you use *time now*, you should either specify the new provisioning server to the iDRAC, or tell the old provisioning server to ignore credential requests from the service tag associated with the server to prevent it from discovering the old provisioning server and then disabling auto discovery. If auto discovery is not working, the reason for the failure can be determined on the server LCD menu under **View->iDRAC IP->Auto Discovery**. If the 24-hour timeout has occurred, removing and reapplying power will restart the auto-discovery process. If you want to abort the auto-discovery process and regain remote access to the iDRAC, reboot the server and press <Ctrl-E> (or Press F2 on a 12G server) after the BIOS splash screen to configure the iDRAC and set the admin user name and password.

You may choose to set the provisioning server when reinitiating auto-discovery. Use the following WSMAN command to reinitiate auto-discovery.

### EXAMPLE:

```
winrm i ReInitiateDHS cimv2/root/dcim/DCIM_LCService  
?SystemCreationClassName=DCIM_ComputerSystem  
+CreationClassName=DCIM_LCService  
+SystemName=DCIM:ComputerSystem+Name=DCIM:LCService  
-u:[USERNAME] -p:[PASSWORD] -r:https://[IPADDRESS]/wsman  
-encoding:utf-8 -a:basic -file:ReInitiateDHS.xml
```

## Reinitiate Auto-discovery

The input file **ReInitiateDHS.xml** containing the parameters for the *ReInitiateDHS* method is shown below:

```
<p:ReInitiateDHS_INPUT xmlns:p="http://schemas.dmtf.org/wbem/wscim/1/cim-  
schema/2/root/dcim/DCIM_LCService">  
  <p:ProvisioningServer>[PS_IP_ADDRESS]</p:ProvisioningServer>  
  <p:ResetToFactoryDefaults>TRUE</p:ResetToFactoryDefaults>  
  <p:PerformAutoDiscovery>3</p:PerformAutoDiscovery>  
</p:ReInitiateDHS_INPUT>
```

The PerformAutoDiscovery attribute can have the following values:

- 1 = off (disables auto discovery)
- 2 = Now (enables and initiates auto discovery immediately )
- 3 = NextBoot (delay reconfiguration & auto discovery until next power cycle)

## Summary

This whitepaper has provided an overview of the auto-discovery reinitialize process and demonstrated how it can be used to reinitiate or repurpose a Dell Power Edge Server. For more information please refer to the following documents on the Dell Tech Center website and other Dell websites:

[Lifecycle Controller 1.5 Web Services Interface Guide for Windows](#)

[Lifecycle Controller 1.5 Web Services Interface Guide for Linux](#)

[Dell Auto-Discovery Network Setup Specification](#)

[What is a White Paper?](#)