PulseWorx Gateway
Determining and Exporting Device State

In UPStart version 8 an operation was added that you might have missed and it can be used to your advantage when exporting to the Gateway.

In the ribbon "Network" category, in the "Network Operations" panel, a "Status All" button has been added. When you start this operation UPStart requests the status of every UPB device – switch, module, keypad, etc. Is the device off or on? And if the device is on, at what level is it set? Are keypad LEDs on or off? It then displays the status of each of your devices. Most importantly for the Gateway, UPStart saves the status of each device in its internal state. Since this requires communicating with each device, it takes a while if you have a large installation.

In addition to the "Status All" operation, you can also multi-select devices and then use the right-click popup menu and perform the status operation on those selected devices. UPStart saves the status for those devices in its internal state as described above.

How does this status operation impact the Gateway? As you know the Gateway keeps track of the status of all devices. For example, if a schedule entry happens and controls a device to 50%, the Gateway records that. If a button on a keypad is pressed and the LED for that button comes on, the Gateway records that. Because of this when you connect to the Gateway the mobile applications can show the correct status for all devices.

A potential problem with this is: until the Gateway "sees" messages to or from each device it initially doesn't know what their status is. When you export to the Gateway you are given several options for how to set the state for each device.

The first option, "Clear State" is the default and probably the one you have been using and sets the state of each device to "unknown". The last option "Don't update", tells the export to leave the state table alone and not to update it as part of the export.
The second option is the one that works well with this new "Network State" operation described above. Here is what you can do when you are ready to export your UPB network to the Gateway. First, use the "Network – Status All" operation. Second, export using the "Update state from UPStart state" operation. When the export completes, the Gateway has the actual state of each of your devices and that state will be shown by the mobile applications.

You can always use this new method but getting the state of all devices can take a while so you may not want to do it each time. If you are not changing your UPB network in any major way – not adding or removing devices or changing the type or unit id of any device – then when you export using the "Don't update" option could work and the Gateway doesn't lose the current state of any device. However, if you are making any major changes and you don't want to take the time to do the "Network - Status All" operation, then it is best to clear the Gateway's state.