

Asset Manager as a Service

Reduce cost, facilitate license compliance, and make more informed asset decisions.

Executive summary

Every IT department is under pressure to deliver more and better value at a time when their budget growth is minimal or even flat. This means that IT needs to scrutinize and optimize its expenditures. For example, most IT organizations can save money by not overspending on unused software assets. In some cases, it is even a requirement mandated by law, such as The Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act (FITARA).

However, many IT organizations often lack visibility into how much software they own and are actually using. At a time when software licensing is becoming increasingly complex, this requires specialized asset management tools to ensure compliance and optimize costs.

In parallel, license audits are becoming increasingly common, and can be costly and embarrassing to companies if they are found to be out of compliance.

Micro Focus Asset Manager as a Service[®] allows customers to reduce the total cost of their software assets and mitigate the risk of non-compliance by delivering the industry-leading Micro Focus Asset Manager[®] using an as-a-service consumption model.

The business challenge

IT organizations are constantly challenged to reduce the cost of IT operations, increase service levels, and improve visibility into financial and operational decisions. Companies are working with too many manual processes while business pressures continuously demand more at a faster pace with the same budget. This results in high cost of running IT, without being able to deliver the business needs within the required timeline.

Software has continuously grown in terms of its percentage share of the IT budget and the ever-changing terms and conditions in software vendor licensing models have become increasingly complex to track. Audits by software vendors and regulatory compliance agencies have created an unpredictable exposure to risk—organizations that are found to be out of compliance can face multimillion-dollar penalties and considerable negative publicity.

Organizations today are looking for solutions to help them to:

- Reduce the over-provisioning of licensed software on desktops and servers
- Find out when software is deployed in excess of what is permitted by license contract

- Consistently populate the Asset management system with up-to-date inventory data
- Understand the impact of virtualized software deployments on asset management
- Measure which software is underutilized where
- Eliminate old software versions that contain security vulnerabilities

Asset Manager

Asset Manager is one of the leading enterprise-ready solutions for IT Asset Management (ITAM) and Software Asset Management (SAM). It helps organizations manage software licensing across nearly all IT platforms. It provides an end-to-end solution for discovering and inventorying an organization's hardware, software, and virtualization technologies, and enables SAM counters for license compliance valuation with respective vendor contracts.

Features

- Agentless, agent-based, or hybrid inventory discovery approach
- Comprehensive scanner-based discovery that provides accurate and complete software inventory information, based on file system scans

- Software Application Library consisting of over 35,000 application versions for vendors such as Oracle, Microsoft and IBM, leading to superior data quality through normalization
- Software utilization metrics enabling software license optimization, chargeback, and compliance
- Discovery of software assets in virtualized and clustered environments
- Out-of-the-box reports on software compliance, entitlements, deployments, and utilization of software

Capabilities

- Identify potential compliance risks and opportunities to recapture unused or over-licensed software
- Track license counts and detailed software installation information and provide a complete breakdown of costs by software title
- Reconcile licenses against actual installations, user and system entitlements, and actual usage, virtually removing non-compliance risks while targeting cost reductions
- Report on software compliance by taking into account software installed on virtualized systems (soft/hard partitioning)

Benefits

Reduce total cost of software portfolio

Oftentimes, IT has limited or no visibility into the real usage of software assets. This naturally causes decisions—particularly when compliance is at stake—to err on the side of caution,

resulting in unnecessary and over-expenditure. Asset Manager as a Service allows you to gain this insight and helps you optimize your financial decisions to your needs. Avoiding situations such as overpaying for a support contract or purchasing superfluous licenses reduces the overall cost of the software portfolio and frees up funds to fuel innovation and support strategic initiatives.

Mitigate non-compliance risk

In these days of increased governance pressures, no IT organization can afford to remain exposed to non-compliance. Audits are on the rise and the consequences of non-compliance are severe—from unexpected costs (that can run into the millions) and damage to reputation, all the way to legal implications. No IT organization chooses to be non-compliant; it is a direct result of lack of asset management practices. The only way to protect the enterprise from exposure to non-compliance risks is by knowing what you are entitled to and what you are actually using.

Service features

Asset Manager is delivered as a service by Micro Focus Professional Services. We deploy and manage the software, so you do not need to spend valuable resources in infrastructure buildup, installation, configuration, and maintenance—providing you with a faster service, better value and at a lower cost.

Deployment options

You can select from a number of deployment options:

- On-premise
- Micro Focus partner data center locations
- Your preferred hosting provider

Subscription-based pricing

We offer a subscription model per named or concurrent user.

Fully managed

- Deployed, operated, supported, and maintained by our experts
- Dedicated deployment instances offering similar flexibility of an on-premise installation
- Development, test, and production environments
- Fully managed by our experts at both the application and functional levels
- Regular health checks to ensure availability and performance
- Backup and Restore services arranged with the infrastructure provider

Upgrades

Your ITAM solution will remain up-to-date with regular platform updates, enabling the latest features and protecting your investment.

Account management

We assess and help you prepare for regular solution updates, from patches to major new releases. We also evaluate solution adoption by assessing actual usage patterns to identify areas for improvement, including new functional enhancements, process changes, and end-user training.

Single point of contact

A single point of contact for incidents and problems, as well as to provide break/fix support for custom-tailored or third-party elements of the solution.

Service overview

Over and above the pre-implementation deployment and the post-implementation management, we will

work with you to implement an ITAM solution that meets your needs, including but not limited to use cases such as:

- Audit prevention/assurance
- Audit defense strategy for top vendors like Microsoft, IBM, Oracle
- Determination of license positioning for top software vendors
- Identification of true-up costs and enablement of software optimization recommended practices
- Automated discovery of software assets
- Import of contract and license data
- Data validation and verification (for completeness and accuracy)
- Reconciliation of license entitlements vs. usage
- Generation of deployment, consumption and compliance reports
- SAM process enablement
- End-of-life planning
- Cloud expense management and chargeback

The Micro Focus Professional Services difference

Micro Focus provides unmatched capabilities with a comprehensive set of consulting and implementation services and unique intellectual property that help you drive innovation through streamlined and efficient software delivery.

- Proven Micro Focus software solution implementation expertise
- More than 20 years of experience helping large, complex, global organizations realize value from their Micro Focus software investments
- Rich intellectual property and unparalleled reach into product engineering
- Technology-agnostic implementation approach with no vendor lock-in, no rip-and-replace
- Education and support services to ensure adoption

Learn more at

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