Enable Software Asset Management

Effective asset tracking based on up-to-date data helps reduce operational expenditures.

The Micro Focus® Configuration Management System (CMS) provides comprehensive hardware and software inventory capabilities and integrates with Micro Focus Asset Manager to enable the Software Asset Management (SAM) module, which in turn provides proactive methods for managing contracts, entitlements, licenses, and compliance.

The Software Asset Management Challenge

Software has continuously grown in terms of its percentage share of the IT budget, fueling the ever increasing complexity in IT environments. Besides the challenges of automated software asset inventory discovery and its accurate identification, 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 look for tools to help them:

- 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

Have the Configuration Management System (UD and UCMDB) Enables Software Asset Management

As a trusted discovery source for Universal CMDB (UCMDB), Micro Focus Universal Discovery (UD) provides several key benefits:

- Agent-less, 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, 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
- Oracle verified discovery solution for collecting and summarizing license information about oracle databases

Using the inventory data from CMS, the SAM module can:

- Identify potential compliance risks and opportunities to recapture unused or over-licensed software
- Provide out-of-the-box reports on software compliance, entitlements, deployments and utilization of 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)
- Leverage Oracle-verified discovery of databases in complex cluster deployments to calculate the cost of compliance
- Use Microsoft-verified discovery of licenses within the Microsoft Intelligent Asset Manager

Figure 1. Asset information found by Universal Discovery and pushed to Asset Manager
Smart Software Analytics uses machine learning for automated software license recognition and teaching.

- Machine learning is added to software license discovery, providing vastly improved software application index (SAI) maturity within an organization through automated software recognition and teaching.
- UD can now automatically "fill in the blanks" of missing software title information without manual insertion of information.
- This capability results in reduced user effort in evaluating new software and turnaround time for software to be recognized, as well as an automatically up-to-date SAI.

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