BMC FootPrints Deployment Manager

Constantly evolving technology introduces multiple updates for multiple applications deployed to any given number of machines in your IT environment. Keeping systems configured with the latest upgrades becomes a time-consuming and often expensive process. Most IT organizations are constantly searching for the most effective way to automate this task across their Windows, Mac, and Linux® environments.

Key benefits

» Deploy applications directly from the desktop with MyApps
» Perform multiple imaging configurations with multicasting from a single management console
» Reduce productivity loss resulting from upgrade errors with automated rollback
» Quickly re-image corrupted devices
» Leverage multiple images for different systems

Business challenge

Finding an automated solution that minimally impacts network performance, user productivity, and IT budget is a familiar challenge. IT administrators know that centralizing the process for software installation significantly reduces the time it takes to provision new applications. They also know that identifying and redistributing unutilized software licenses can save money during audits and renewals, and that automating Windows operating system (OS) deployment directly impacts staff time dedicated to this task. However, knowing this is not enough. Finding the most efficient solution for attack is where the real work begins.

The BMC solution

BMC FootPrints Deployment Manager gives you the reliable and comprehensive control you need to ensure successful software deployments in heterogeneous environments, as well as OS deployments for Windows environments, from a single, centralized console — without disruption to your end users.

Anywhere, anytime installation and upgrade

Corporate mergers and acquisitions, among other industry trends, often result in a very diverse IT environment. Many employees work remotely and utilize a variety of productivity platforms, such as Apple, Dell, or HP. When planning for software deployment, however, business needs drive the upgrade plan, not the platform. That’s why automating the software distribution process is a necessity in today’s diverse organizations. Automated software distribution simplifies the complex task of individually distributing applications and updates to desktops and servers across the entire network — without the hours of labor, inefficiencies, and errors involved in manual updates.

BMC FootPrints Deployment Manager enables IT to deploy applications across the Internet without the need for a VPN. It supports a variety of platforms, including Windows, MacOS, and Linux, while also providing users and groups with a simple and customized approach. With its scheduled deployment, bandwidth throttling, and multicast deployment, end-user productivity remains unaffected. In addition, the product includes an easy-to-use, menu-driven application kiosk that allows users to access a web-based catalog of approved software for self-service installation — without contacting the help desk.

OS deployment

Manually upgrading each computer to the latest and greatest OS can be a huge drain on time and resources, especially if you are supporting multiple locations and system types. Through intelligent and dynamic automation, BMC FootPrints Deployment Manager reduces the cost, risk, and labor typically associated with bulk distribution, bulk removal, and required configuration changes. Regardless of your preferred image format, including WIM and Ghost images, BMC can help to meet your needs.

For example, using BMC FootPrints Deployment Manager to roll out Windows 7 or Windows 8 allows you to streamline deployments with dynamic grouping based on specific criteria, such as business unit, department, location, user, system type, or system readiness. Deployment scheduling based on
user downtime and bandwidth throttling ensures unobstructed user productivity and network traffic flow during the migration. You can wake offline devices for rollout during off-peak hours when it is least disruptive to users. What’s more, you can automatically roll back the update in the case of error, eliminating productivity loss due to disabled devices.

» Save man hours, even days, by using the built-in library of predefined policies (operational rules) rather than manually configuring each individual profile

» Deploy updates without making site visits, working weekends, or pulling overnight shifts by controlling the migration from a central location during normal work hours

» Track the entire OS deployment process and measure progress in real time

» Receive immediate alerts about issues

» Eliminate time spent building reports and updates

Features

» Multi-casting and bandwidth management – Conserve network bandwidth by simultaneously sending data to multiple clients while minimizing interference

» Asset Core agent deployment and updates – Auto-deploy and update the BMC FootPrints agent to newly discovered machines

» MyApps – Deploy pre-approved software directly from the desktop without submitting a request or waiting for a technician to install the software – self-service for the end-user and reduced impact to IT resources

» Checkpoint restart – Ensure that portable devices, such as laptops, receive a complete installation regardless of the size of deployment or number of network disconnections

» Wake-on-LAN – Successfully update workstations regardless of power state

» Easy packaging – Deploy software and configuration changes for Microsoft, MacOS, UNIX®, and Linux systems, as well as custom applications

» Remote install – Remotely install Windows OS, including formatting/partitioning hard drives

» Customized planning – Streamline software distribution planning efforts by grouping software with similar characteristics

» Hardware compatibility – Maintain a comprehensive list of hardware assets to ensure that the software being rolled out is supported

» Application kiosk – Access a web-based catalog of approved software for self-service installs following migration

» Report now – Provide reports on application update details

» Service anywhere – Access a machine without the use of a VPN to perform desktop management tasks, such as inventory, patch management, and software deployment

About BMC FootPrints

BMC FootPrints Deployment Manager is part of a fully integrated line of IT service and asset management solutions. Each product automates and streamlines a specific IT challenge to help you reduce costs and improve service levels. Built from the ground up as a modular, yet integrated system, this family of technologies provides a single, unified solution to simplify a diverse set of complex client lifecycle and service management needs.

For More Information

To learn more on BMC FootPrints, please visit http://www.bmc.com/products/footprints/bmc-footprints.html.