



BMC Release Process Management

Gain real-time visibility into, and control over, existing processes with a trusted, collaborative environment for end-to-end application release execution.

Key Capabilities

- » Provide a single source of truth for everyone involved in application release processes
- » Gain immediate visibility into your entire application release process — without any process change requirements
- » Reduce errors, shorten unnecessary wait time, and speed troubleshooting with an executable checklist for faster, high-quality, less costly releases
- » Improve team collaboration and maximize investments in automation by easily sharing and executing consistent release processes across the organization
- » Implement the solution in just a few hours to realize an immediate return on your investment. Companies typically realize an immediate 25-30 percent improvement in efficiency and reduced release costs.

Business Challenge

Successful releases are the culmination of hundreds of test and pre-production deployments that must be carefully planned and flawlessly executed every time. The secret lies in the “release DNA” of your company (called the release checklist), which involves a combination of automated steps and domain expertise of your most talented people. Yet most of these release checklists often go “unchecked,” tracked only within spreadsheets. This lack of visibility into and control over the release process puts your organization at risk and often results in errors, delays, outages, and runaway costs that make it more difficult for you to compete.

The BMC Solution

BMC Release Process Management enables you to easily visualize current processes and maximize value from your automation investments by providing an intuitive view of the release checklist, so your development and deployment teams can plan and execute releases effectively, time after time. The solution removes IT bottlenecks and speeds release cycle times, enabling you to deliver applications to your customers more quickly.

BMC Release Process Management dynamically coordinates execution of change ticketing, approvals, manual tasks, user-defined scripts, and automation solutions to consistently and flawlessly deploy applications. It supports out-of-the-box integration with BMC Application Automation, BMC Middleware Automation, and BMC Database Automation. It also supports integration with popular IT service management and asset lifecycle management solutions, such as BMC Remedy, to manage deployments from development to production.

Lightweight Release Process Management Done Your Way

Through an easy-to-use, web-based front end, your team members can collaborate and execute your current release processes with the push of a button. Immediately, you can see the status of all releases across the enterprise and begin to monitor and measure formerly unmanaged activities. Automation experts can create templates, which developers and release teams can use — even without deep application or infrastructure knowledge. As a result, more people can collaborate on release activities and take advantage of the powerful automation features of BMC automation solutions, while also ensuring compliance with release policies and controls.

Executive dashboards show at a glance whether or not release processes are getting better. Performance metrics are captured per application, environment, and release process, giving you the means to measure performance improvements and identify areas where automation can provide the greatest return on investment. The release calendar allows you to avoid too many deployments at once, as well as the resulting resource conflicts. In addition, resource maps show you exactly which versions of applications and infrastructure are running in every pre-production environment. Release plans can then be defined using reusable templates that can be tweaked to accommodate the nuances of a particular application rollout.

Name	Application	Project	Release	Release Date	Release Manager	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 5	Stage 6
20.3	Sales and Service	20.3	Apr10	06/07/2010	work, work	DEV 1029	QA 1030	PROD 1031	PROD Mirror 1032		
20.7	Sales and Service	20.7	Sep10	unassigned	Administrator, John	DEV 1072	QA 1073	PROD 1074	PROD Mirror 1075		
40.1	Customer Service	40.1		unassigned		DEV 1083	QA 1084	SIT 1085	STAGE 1086	PROD 1087	
40.2	Customer Service	40.2		unassigned		DEV 1088	SIT 1089	STAGE 1090	PROD 1091		
40.3	Customer Service	40.3	Oct10	07/19/2010	Administrator, John	DEV 1082	QA 1093	SIT 1094	STAGE 1095	PROD 1096	
40.4	Customer Service	40.4	Jul10	unassigned	logue, clyde	DEV 1099	QA 1100	SIT 1101	STAGE 1102	PROD 1103	
22.1	Customer Service	22.1		unassigned		DEV 1144	QA 1145	SIT 1146	STAGE 1147	PROD 1148	
32.1	Customer Service	32.1		unassigned		DEV 1152	QA 1153	SIT 1154	STAGE 1155	PROD 1156	
32.2	Customer Service	32.2		unassigned		DEV 1157	QA 1158	SIT 1159	STAGE 1160	PROD 1161	

Figure 1. Capture complex release processes in an intuitive, web-based portal for DevOps collaboration.

Better Planning for Better Releases

Preparing releases for today's multi-tier enterprise applications is a complex, iterative process — and thorough planning is critical for success. BMC Release Process Management improves and streamlines the release planning process. With its ability to enable developer self-service, the solution queues up change requests in real time, so releases are more robust and better coordinated. Since developers participate in the process, they can easily incorporate changes as they come up, receiving immediate notification of errors for rapid problem detection and resolution. Since the process is captured in a user-friendly portal, even users with less technical experience can execute release processes, further improving team efficiency.

Environment Management for a Centralized, Logical View

Typically, few people know the “real” configurations of testing and pre-production systems. BMC Release Process Management provides enhanced application property management on top of the core property function that is built into BMC Application Automation.

With BMC Release Process Management, you can view and track the configurations of QA, pre-production, and production systems in one place. This makes it faster and easier to reproduce a problem or bring up a new system in the event of a hardware failure. The solution presents a logical view of your applications, components, and environments. This enables you to see and understand how different application pieces relate to one another — reducing errors and resulting in more reliable releases.

Operational Reporting Metrics

When the release checklist goes unmanaged, there is limited visibility into the big picture and no historical view of problems from previous releases. Is the team making progress or are you backsliding? BMC Release Process Management captures information from release to release to help teams identify trends in release failures to quickly identify root causes and prevent problems in the future.

Alignment with Best Practices

If you've adopted IT best practices, such as CMMI and ITIL®, BMC Release Process Management provides a powerful yet flexible platform, as well as built-in templates that are easily adapted to dynamic release processes. The solution consistently executes these processes time after time giving you greater efficiency and higher quality — and lowering your costs.

For More Information

To learn more on BMC Release Process Management, please visit www.bmc.com.

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