



Silk Central 15.5

Release Notes

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Silk Central 15.5 Release Notes

Version 15.5

May, 2014

These notes contain important information that might not appear in the Help. Read the notes in their entirety.

For information about installation, deployment, and licensing issues, refer to the [Silk Central Installation Help](#).

Visit [Customer Care](#) for further assistance.

What's New in Silk Central 15.5

Silk Central 15.5 introduces significant enhancements and changes.

Manual Testing Enhancements

Updating all Tests of an Execution Plan or Testing Cycle

The manual testing window has been updated so that the overview area now lists all tests of an execution plan or testing cycle. This allows you to update the status of several tests very efficiently, while still offering the update of individual test steps in the test steps area at the bottom of the manual testing window.

Re-running Testing Cycles with Failed/Not Executed Tests

When duplicating a testing cycle, you can now choose how you want to copy the test assignment. For example, you can choose not to copy **Passed** tests, enabling you to re-run the testing cycle only with **Failed** and **Not Executed** tests.

Moving Tests Between Testers While Preserving the Interim Results

Interim results are no longer discarded when a manual test is moved from one tester to another. Tests can be moved within the current or any other running testing cycle.

Synchronizing Tests of an Execution Plan

The **Assigned Tests** tab of the selected execution plan now offers the ability to synchronize the list of assigned tests with the most current test assignment.

Multiple Requirements Management Integrations per Project

You can now configure up to 5 requirements management tool integrations per Silk Central project.



Important: Before upgrading from Silk Central 15.0 or earlier to the current version, perform a **Synchronize All** to synchronize all your requirements with your integrated requirements management tools.

Git Source Control Profile Integration

Silk Central now supports Git with a new source control profile plugin.

Comparing Test Results of Multiple Test Runs

The **Test Results** view provides an optimized results overview with full drill-down capabilities. All information is included, like result files, thumbnail screenshots, messages, and stacktraces. This allows you to quickly analyze the root cause of failed test runs, especially because you can compare the results of multiple runs side-by-side.

Downloading Displayed Data into Excel

You can now download displayed tests into an Excel sheet.

This function is enabled in the **Document View** and **Grid View**. In the **Document View**, the action generates an Excel sheet that includes all currently visible rows. In the **Grid View**, the action generates an Excel sheet that includes all rows, not just the visible ones.

Storing Percentile Marker Data for Silk Performer Results

Silk Performer results contain a high amount of percentile marker data that would consume a lot of space in the database (table `TM_PerfReportPercentileMarker`). In previous releases, this information was always stored in the database, which could cause issues if you have many Silk Performer tests. With Silk Central 15.5, storing percentile marker data is disabled by default, but can be turned on if desired.

Running the Front-End Server in 64-bit Mode

Use this option to leverage memory above 2GB. Refer to "Memory Settings for Silk Central Servers" in the Online Help for detailed information.



Restriction: The following integrations are not supported when running the front-end server in 64-bit mode:

- IBM Rational ClearQuest
- IBM Rational RequisitePro

The following integrations have limitations when running the front-end server in 64-bit mode:

- Serena Version Manager (PVCS): The front-end server service needs to run as a user account, not as system account.
- UNC source control: Authentication is not possible.

What's New in Silk Central Connect

Silk Central Connect 15.5 introduces significant enhancements and changes.

Using Silk Central Connect in Silk Central Projects

Silk Central Connect's Silk4J projects can now be used within Silk Central projects.

Combine the powers of Silk Central Connect and Silk Central. This enables you to use all Silk Central features for your Silk Central Connect projects, for example requirements, issues, attributes, schedules, parameters, dependencies, notifications, and more.

Testing Internal Web Applications Using Cloud-Based Execution Servers

If you are testing an internal Web application on your intranet using cloud-based execution servers, you can configure the tunnel settings for local intranet website testing. With this setting, the Silk Central application server opens a tunnel to cloud-based execution servers and acts as a proxy to allow testing a


website in your local intranet. Note that this option is slower than a direct connection, so only select it if needed.

Usability Enhancements

This section lists the usability enhancements that have been made throughout Silk Central.

Project-Aware Dashboard Panels

You can now configure dashboard panels to always display the data of the currently active project, rather than having to add multiple panels for different projects.

For most panels, you need to configure a project, as the panel will only show data for a certain project. You can add several panels to show appropriate data for other projects side-by-side, or configure **<Use current project>** for the panel to always display the data of the currently active project. Click  (**Configure**) in the header of a panel to configure a different project. You need certain permissions to view or edit the content of the different panels.

Uploading and Inserting Images in Descriptions

Additionally to inserting linked images, you can now upload and insert images in descriptions of requirements, tests, and test steps.

Permission to Delete Test Runs and Execution Plan Runs

A new permission has been added for deleting test runs and execution plan runs. Users with the role **Test Manager** and **Tester** own this permission per default.

Conversion of Single-Select Lists to Multi-Select

You can update an existing single-select list to be a multi-select list.

Sending Report Subscriptions as Excel Template Attachment

You can now configure your report subscriptions to send a report per email as attached Excel template.

Improved Assignment of Tests and Requirements

Assigning tests to execution plans and requirements to tests has been made even easier by adding the options of filtering by name and by adding a context menu to expand and collapse requirement nodes.

Global Search for ID

The global search functionality in Silk Central now also supports searching for IDs across all supported assets.

The **Search** field allows you to perform a search across several assets in Silk Central. The following assets are considered when submitting a global search:

- Requirements and their properties
- Tests, folders, test containers and their attribute values, properties, and parameters
- Test steps and their properties

- Execution plans, configuration suites, testing cycles, folders and their parameters and keywords
- Library folders, steps, and shared steps
- Issues (only issues that are assigned to a test)



Note: The search index is updated in the background on a regular basis. The search results may occasionally be slightly outdated.

Linking Issues at Creation in Issue Manager

When creating an issue in Issue Manager, you now have the option to immediately create a link between this issue and another issue.

Integration Enhancements

This section lists the enhancements that have been made to the integrations in Silk Central.

Team Foundation Server 2013 Support

Silk Central 15.5 now supports Team Foundation Server 2013.

Microsoft Visual Studio/Visual Studio Test Agent 2012 and 2013 Support

Silk Central 15.5 now supports Microsoft Visual Studio/Visual Studio Test Agent 2012 and 2013.

IBM Rational DOORS 9.5 Support

Silk Central 15.5 now supports IBM Rational DOORS 9.5.

Bugzilla 4.4.2 Support

Silk Central 15.5 now supports Bugzilla 4.4.2.

Mandatory Field Support for Bugzilla Integration

Silk Central now supports mandatory fields in its Bugzilla issue tracking profile integration.

Technology Updates

Oracle 12c (version 12.1.0.1.0) Support

Silk Central 15.5 now supports Oracle 12c (version 12.1.0.1.0).

Features that are No Longer Supported

This topic lists the features that are no longer supported in Silk Central 15.5.

Microsoft Visual SourceSafe (MSVSS)

Microsoft Visual SourceSafe (MSVSS) is no longer supported with Silk Central 15.5.

Concurrent Versions System (CVS)

Concurrent Versions System (CVS) is no longer supported with Silk Central 15.5.

Old Requirement Web Service

The Old Requirement Web Service is no longer be supported. The `Requirements` Web Service has the same range of functionality and is maintained on a regular basis.

Announcement of Features that will No Longer be Supported in Future Releases

This section lists the features that will no longer be supported in a future release of Silk Central.

Microsoft Windows XP, Microsoft Windows Server 2003 and IIS 6

In a future release, support for Microsoft Windows XP, Microsoft Windows Server 2003 and IIS 6 will be discontinued.

Oracle 10g

In a future release, support for Oracle 10g will be discontinued.

Data-Driven Option

In a future release, the ability to execute a test with different input data will be simplified. The different data rows will no longer be visible in the **Tests** area but in the results only. Re-running single failed data rows will be possible.

Linked Test Containers

In a future release, linked test containers will be removed. Their main purpose in Silk Central was to support the import of Silk Test Classic plan files, but this is much better supported with the Silk Test Classic Plan File test type which is based on the test package feature that reduces maintenance efforts by updating your test structure in Silk Central with each execution.

Mixed Execution Plans

In a future release, mixing automated and manual tests in one execution plan will no longer be supported in automated execution plans. More sophisticated manual and automated test combinations will still be achievable with dependencies.

RequirementsDocumentsService Web Service

In a future release, the `RequirementsDocumentsService` Web Service (`/services/tmrequirementsdocuments`) will no longer be supported. Use the `Requirements` Web Service instead, which is maintained on a regular basis.

Tested and Supported Software

This section lists the software with which Silk Central 15.5 has been tested as well as the software that Silk Central supports.

Operating System Support

- Windows Server 2003 R2 Service Pack 2
- Windows Server 2008 R2 Service Pack 1 64 bit
- Windows Server 2012
- Windows Server 2012 R2
- Windows Vista Ultimate 32 bit (execution server)
- Windows 7 32 bit/64 bit Service Pack 1 (execution server)
- Windows 8 32 bit/64 bit (execution server)

Linux Operating System Support

Silk Central supports Linux operating systems only for the execution server.

- Debian
- Redhat Enterprise Linux
- Suse Linux
- Ubuntu

Web Browser Support

- Google Chrome
- Internet Explorer 10, 11 (no compatibility mode)
- Mozilla Firefox

Web Server Support

- IIS 6 32 bit/64 bit
- IIS 7 32 bit/64 bit
- IIS 8 32 bit/64 bit
- Tomcat

Database Management System Support

- Microsoft SQL Server 2008 R2 Service Pack 2
- Microsoft SQL Server 2012 Service Pack 1
- Oracle 10g (version 10.2.0.5)
- Oracle 11g (version 11.2.0.4)
- Oracle 12c (version 12.1.0.1.0)

Integrated Micro Focus Software Support

- CaliberRM 10.1, 10.2
- Caliber 11.0 (hotfix 1 required), 11.1, 11.2
- Silk Performer 10.0, 15.0, 15.5
- Silk Test 14.0, 15.0, 15.5

- StarTeam 13.1, 14.1
- Silk TestPartner 6.3

Integrated Third-Party Software Support

- Bugzilla 4.0, 4.4.2
- Compuware Quality Manager (Changepoint 2010 SP1, Changepoint 2009 or Changepoint 2009 SP2)
- IBM Rational ClearQuest 8.0
- IBM Rational DOORS Version 9.4, 9.5
- IBM Rational Requisite Pro 7.1.3, 7.1.4
- Atlassian JIRA 5, 6
- Atlassian JIRA Agile 6.1.4.2 based on JIRA 5.2.8
- JUnit 4.11 or later
- Microsoft Office Excel (.xlsx) for importing tests and requirements
- Microsoft Visual Studio/Visual Studio Test Agent 2010, 2012, 2013
- Microsoft Office Word (.doc, .docx) for importing requirements
- Serena Version Manager (PVCS) 8.1.4 (Version Manager 8.1.4)
- Rally
- SAP Solution Manager 7.1
- Subversion 1.8.5
- Team Foundation Server 2010, 2012, 2013
- VersionOne Enterprise Edition
- VMware vCloud Director 5.1

Java Support

- Java Development Kit (JDK) 7 or later
- Java Runtime Environment (JRE) 7 or later

System Requirements and Prerequisites

For optimal performance of Silk Central, we recommend the configuration outlined in this section.

Server System Requirements

System Area	Requirement
CPU	Intel Core i5, or equivalent CPU
Memory	4 GB minimum
Free disc space	30 GB minimum, except for the database server
Network	100 Mbit
Operating system, database management system, Web server	See Tested and Supported Software .
Power Supply	Uninterruptible power supply (UPS) for all environments to reduce risks of power outages



Note: To install Silk Central as an enterprise system, install the Silk Central servers on separate machines. These servers include the application server, front-end server, chart server, execution server, and database system. This procedure is outlined in the *Custom Installation* section of the *Silk Central 15.5 Installation Help*. You can also install any combination of these components on separate machines.

For more information on the optimal configuration of Silk Central contact technical support or your technical account team.

Execution Server Requirements

The actual requirements and prerequisites for execution servers depend on the application under test (AUT) and the type of testing.

For load testing, refer to the environment requirements of Silk Performer. Running load tests with the minimal configuration can result in inaccurate results.

For functional testing, refer to the environment requirements of Silk Test. We recommend a minimum of 1024 MB main memory for intensive testing, such as Web browser replay.

Virtualization

Silk Central is tested to run on a virtual infrastructure environment, for example VMware ESX server. For optimal performance we recommend using physical hardware.