



Silk Central 17.0

Release Notes

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2016-05-11

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Silk Central 17.0 Release Notes

Version 17.0

May, 2016

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.

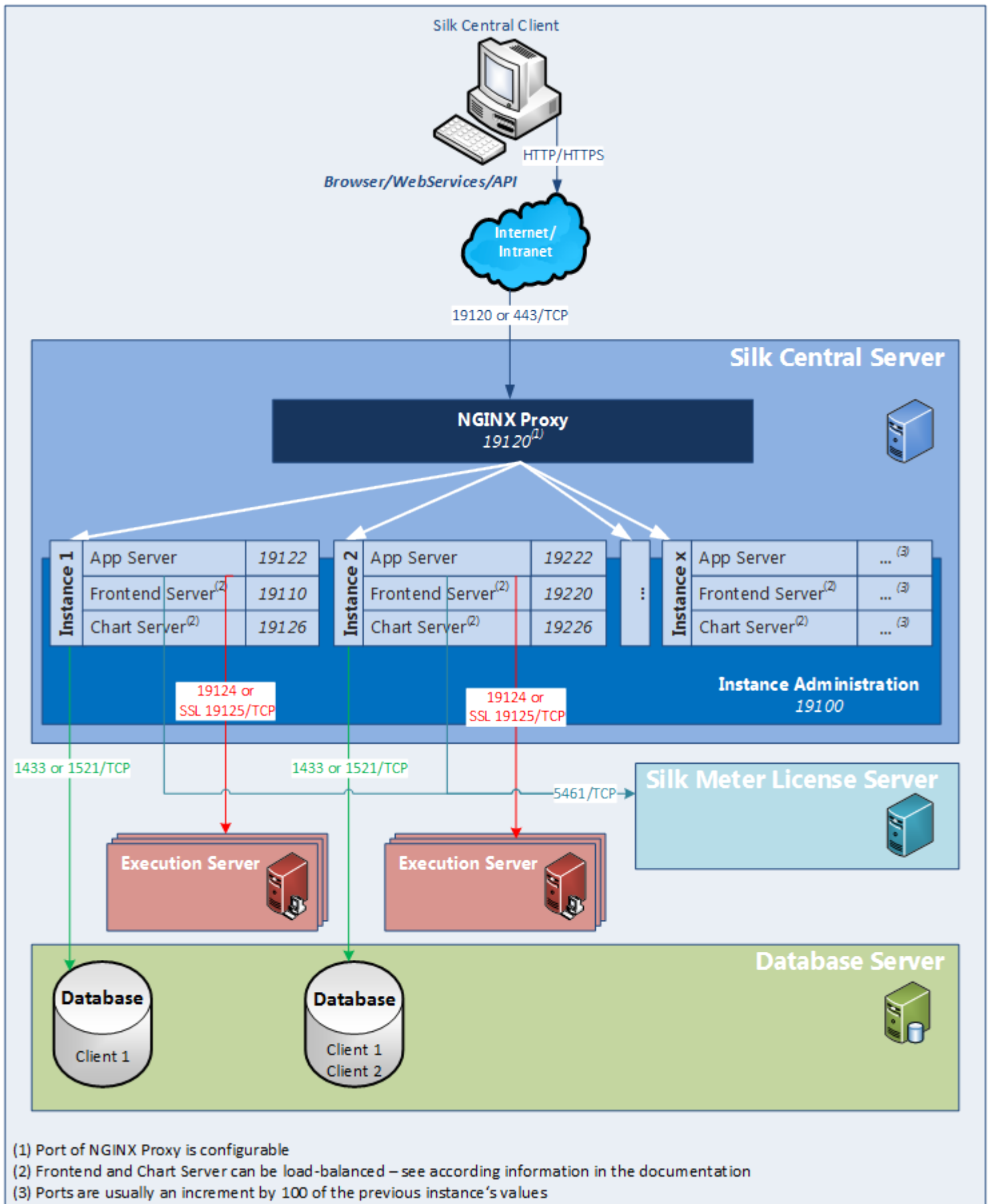
What's New in Silk Central 17.0

Silk Central 17.0 introduces significant enhancements and changes.

Increased Data Security, Enhanced Stability and Scalability Through Instances

Silk Central 17.0 introduces a completely new, centralized page for managing your Silk Central infrastructure, and also introduces instances.

An instance is an independent set of Silk Central services (application server (AS), front-end server (FE) and chart server (CS)), with their own database and execution server (ES) connections. By default, Silk Central creates a single instance called *silk* for you. The default URL is `http://<computer name>:19120/login` (no port information required if Silk Central runs on IIS). Create additional instances if you need to physically separate test data and processes of your various clients for increased data security and reduced influence of independent user groups on each other (for example departments). With the help of clients you can further logically separate the data of one instance within one database. Instances and their Silk Central services are managed through a common user interface called **Instance Administration**, which you can access only on the server where Silk Central is installed, using the URL `http://localhost:19100`. Additionally, all Silk Central services can now run in 64-bit mode.



Keyboard and Multi-Selection Support in Trees and Assignment via Drag and Drop

The Requirements, Tests and Execution Planning trees now feature keyboard and multi-selection support.

Basic navigation with the keyboard is also supported in the Reports and Code Coverage trees. Multi-selection is also supported in the assignment grids in the **Requirements**, **Tests** and **Execution Planning** units. Additionally, the assignment grids in the **Requirements**, **Tests** and **Execution Planning** units now feature drag & drop support.

This new enhancement now also allows you to select a project or multiple execution plans, folders, or configuration suites in the **Execution Plans** tree and manually run them using the context menu.

Following these functions, actions like cut, copy, or paste can be performed on the selected nodes.

Keys	Action
Up	Move selection up
Down	Move selection down
Right	Expand element
Left	Collapse element
F2	Edit element
Ctrl+C	Copy element
Ctrl+X	Cut element
Ctrl+V	Paste element
Del	Delete element
Ctrl+Up	Move element up
Ctrl+Down	Move element down
Click	Select an element and remember it as the current element.
Ctrl+Click	Toggle the selection status of the clicked element and add/remove additional elements with further clicks.
Shift+Click	Select the span from the currently-selected element to a newly selected element.
Shift+Up	Select element above.
Shift+Down	Select element below.
Enter	Assign element (only in assignment tree)

Integration Enhancements

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

IBM Rational DOORS Next Generation Integration

Silk Central 17.0 offers out-of-the-box support for IBM Rational DOORS Next Generation, without the need to customize anything in your DOORS installation.

Office Import Enhancements

The functionality for importing requirements and tests from Microsoft Office has been enhanced.

Permission to Modify Office Import Mapping Files

A new permission has been added for modifying Office import mapping files. Users with the role **Project Manager** and **Test Manager** own this permission per default. Users with other roles will no longer be able to edit or create mapping files.

Ability to Assign Requirements to Imported Tests

A new property has been added to the test mapping file: **Assigned Requirement IDs**. If requirements should be assigned to the test, specify the ID's of those requirements as comma-separated list. Make sure that this column is formatted as "Text" in Excel, otherwise the assignment may not work.

Atlassian JIRA 7 and JIRA Agile 7 Support

Silk Central now supports Atlassian JIRA 7 and JIRA Agile 7.

Pre-filtering Atlassian JIRA Agile Requirements


To limit the amount of requirements that are being synchronized, you can use the **Custom JQL** field to pre-filter requirements before they are being synchronized. Create a query using JIRA Query Language (JQL) within your JIRA Agile system, then copy and paste the string into the **Custom JQL** field. For more information on JQL, visit Atlassian's [Advanced Searching Documentation](#).

New Atlassian JIRA Issue Type and Custom Property Field Type Support

The Atlassian JIRA issue tracking integration now supports sub-task issue types and several new custom property field types.

The Atlassian JIRA issue tracking integration now supports sub-task issue types by enabling you to set the issue's **Parent Issue ID**. Additionally, several new custom property field types are now supported:


- **Date Picker / Date Time Picker**

 **Note:** These types are provided as text fields and need to be formatted like in JIRA: **Date Picker:** dd/MMM/yy (for example 24/Mar/16), **Date Time Picker:** dd/MMM/yy h:mm a (for example 24/Mar/16 4:11 AM)

- **Group Picker (single group) / Group Picker (multiple groups)**

- **Project Picker (single project)**

- **User Picker (single user) / User Picker (multiple users)**

 **Note:** For JIRA version 5 and lower, users which are only part of the default **jira-users** group are not displayed.

- **Version Picker (single version) / Version Picker (multiple versions)**

Synchronization of Priority and Synopsis

When synchronizing the information about issues between Silk Central and your issue tracking system, the priority and synopsis of issues are now also updated automatically.

If Team Foundation Server is your issue tracking system: If you are upgrading Silk Central from version 16.5 or earlier, you need to re-deploy the TFS proxy service.

Usability Enhancements

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

Synchronizing Current Runs with all Updates

You can now synchronize all the information of current runs with a single click.

If you have changed the test assignment of an execution plan, or if you have updated tests in the **Tests** area, and you want to reflect these changes in the current runs, click **Synchronize Current Runs**. This will update all assigned tests of the current runs. The **Synchronize Current Runs** button has moved from the **Assigned Tests** page to the **Current Runs** page.


XLSX Report Templates

Report templates in Silk Central are no longer limited to the outdated Excel XLS file type, but now also support the newer XLSX file type.

Locating a Testing Cycle in the Execution Planning Tree and Vice Versa

You can now locate a testing cycle in the **Execution Planning** tree and vice versa with a single click on  next to the testing cycle's name.

Assigning Manual Tests to All Testers of a Testing Cycle

In the **Manual Execution Planning** unit, you can now assign your selected tests to all manual testers of a testing cycle by simply dropping your selection onto the  icon.

Dashboard Settings are Considered for Automatic User Account Creation

When letting Silk Central automatically create Silk Central user accounts after validating new users against an LDAP server, the dashboard settings of the selected template user are now copied for the new user.

Configurable List Size on Dependencies Page

A splitter has been added between the **Master Execution Plans** and **Dependent Execution Plans** lists on the **Dependencies** page, allowing you to change the size of the lists to your liking.

Linked Custom Requirement Properties

If the only value of a property is a URL, Silk Central automatically displays it as a link, which enables direct access to other web applications from within Silk Central.

Web Service Updates

This section lists the changes that have been made to the Silk Central Web services.

New API for Managing Execution Server Keywords

Two new web service methods have been added for managing execution server keywords.

The web services `getExecServerKeywords` and `updateExecServerKeywords` can be found in the `scentities (MainEntities)` instance.

Syntax:

```
String[] getExecServerKeywords(long sessionId, int execServerId) throws  
InvalidIdException, InternalException;  
void updateExecServerKeywords(long sessionId, int execServerId, String[]  
keywords) throws InvalidIdException, InternalException;
```

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 better
Memory	6 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

For each additional instance that you add, at least 10 GB of additional disk space are required, and the following minimal memory:

- Front-end server: 500 MB
- Application server: 300 MB
- Chart server: 200 MB

Depending on your workload, these values may need to be higher.

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 2048 MB main memory for intensive testing, such as Web browser replay.

The Linux execution server requires Java Runtime Environment (JRE) 8.

Proxy Server Requirements

If you plan to use Microsoft IIS for Silk Central, install the following IIS extensions before you install Silk Central:

- Application Request Routing (ARR)
- URL Rewrite

You can download the latest versions of these extensions on the [IIS Downloads](#) page.

Virtualization

Silk Central is tested to run on the virtual infrastructure environment VMware vSphere server.

Client-Side System Requirements

System Area	Requirement
Processor	Intel Core i3 or better
Memory	2 GB
Web browser	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Google Chrome• Internet Explorer 10 or later (no compatibility mode)• Mozilla Firefox• Microsoft Edge

The manual testing UI requires Java Runtime Environment (JRE) 7 Update 51 or later.

Contacting Micro Focus

Micro Focus is committed to providing world-class technical support and consulting services. Micro Focus provides worldwide support, delivering timely, reliable service to ensure every customer's business success.

All customers who are under a maintenance and support contract, as well as prospective customers who are evaluating products, are eligible for customer support. Our highly trained staff respond to your requests as quickly and professionally as possible.

Visit <http://supportline.microfocus.com/assistedservices.asp> to communicate directly with Micro Focus SupportLine to resolve your issues, or email supportline@microfocus.com.

Visit Micro Focus SupportLine at <http://supportline.microfocus.com> for up-to-date support news and access to other support information. First time users may be required to register to the site.

Information Needed by Micro Focus SupportLine

When contacting Micro Focus SupportLine, please include the following information if possible. The more information you can give, the better Micro Focus SupportLine can help you.

- The name and version number of all products that you think might be causing an issue.
- Your computer make and model.
- System information such as operating system name and version, processors, and memory details.
- Any detailed description of the issue, including steps to reproduce the issue.
- Exact wording of any error messages involved.
- Your serial number.

To find out these numbers, look in the subject line and body of your Electronic Product Delivery Notice email that you received from Micro Focus.

Tested and Supported Software

This section lists the software with which Silk Central 17.0 has been tested as well as the software that Silk Central supports.

Operating System Support

- Microsoft Windows Server 2008 R2 Service Pack 1 64-bit
- Microsoft Windows Server 2012
- Microsoft Windows Server 2012 R2
- Microsoft Windows 7 32-bit/64-bit Service Pack 1 (execution server)
- Microsoft Windows 8 32-bit/64-bit (execution server)
- Microsoft Windows 8.1 32-bit/64-bit (execution server)
- Microsoft Windows 10 (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 or later (no compatibility mode)
- Mozilla Firefox
- Microsoft Edge

Web Server Support

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

Database Management System Support

- Microsoft SQL Server 2008 R2 Service Pack 3
- Microsoft SQL Server 2012 Service Pack 2
- Microsoft SQL Server 2014 Service Pack 1
- Oracle 11g (version 11.2.0.4)
- Oracle 12c (version 12.1.0.2)

Integrated Micro Focus Software Support

- AccuRev 6.2
- Caliber 11.3, 11.4
- Silk Performer 16.5, 17.0
- Silk Test 16.5, 17.0
- StarTeam 14.3, 14.4, 15.0, 15.1

- Silk TestPartner 6.3

Integrated Third-Party Software Support

- Apache Commons Virtual File System (VFS)
- Atlassian JIRA 5, 6, 7
- Atlassian JIRA Agile 6, 7
- Bugzilla 4.4.11, 5.0.2
- CA Agile Central
- Git 2.8.1
- IBM Rational ClearQuest 8.0
- IBM Rational DOORS 9.5, 9.6
- IBM Rational DOORS Next Generation 6.0
- IBM Rational RequisitePro 7.1.3, 7.1.4
- JUnit 4.11 or later
- Microsoft Office Excel (.xlsx) for importing tests and requirements
- Microsoft Office Word (.doc, .docx) for importing requirements
- Microsoft Visual Studio/Visual Studio Test Agent 2010, 2012, 2013, 2015
- SAP Solution Manager 7.1
- Subversion 1.9
- Team Foundation Server 2010, 2012, 2013, 2015
- VersionOne Enterprise Edition
- VMware vCloud Director 5.5

End of Support

This topic lists the features that are no longer supported in Silk Central 17.0.

Serena Version Manager (PVCS)

Serena Version Manager (PVCS) is no longer supported with Silk Central 17.0.

Compuware Quality Manager (Changepoint)

Compuware Quality Manager (Changepoint) is no longer supported with Silk Central 17.0.

Bugzilla 3

Bugzilla 3 is no longer supported with Silk Central 17.0.

Planned End of Support

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

IBM Rational RequisitePro

In a future release, support for IBM Rational RequisitePro will be discontinued.

IBM Rational DOORS

In a future release, support for IBM Rational DOORS will be discontinued. Instead, Silk Central now supports IBM Rational DOORS Next Generation.

VMware vCloud

In a future release, support for VMware vCloud 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.