

Borland®

Silk Performer 16.5

SOA Edition
Release Notes

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Silk Performer 16.5 Release Notes

These release notes contain information that might not appear in the Help. Read them in their entirety before you install the product.



Note: This document contains a number of links to external web sites. Micro Focus cannot be responsible for the contents of the website or for the contents of any site to which it might link. Web sites by their nature can change very rapidly and although we try to keep our links up-to-date, we cannot guarantee that they will always work as expected.

System Requirements

The following tables identify the system requirements for installing and running Silk Performer. For details about Silk Performer performance and scalability, see the *Performance and Scalability Matrix*.

Hardware Requirements

To run the Silk Performer agent software, or both controller and agent software, and to use the full potential of Silk Performer to run large-scale load tests, your system must meet the following minimum requirements:

System Area	Requirement
Processor	Pentium IV or equivalent CPU
RAM	1 GB recommended minimum
Hard disk space	1 GB for controller software installation. 450 MB for agent-only installation. Depending on the size of your load tests, make sure you have enough space on your hard disk for result files.
Network	Network connectivity to the system under test and to all Silk Performer Agent computers.

Operating System Requirements

- A Silk Performer Controller installation requires Windows Vista or newer.
- A Silk Performer Agent installation requires Windows 2003 or newer.
- Installing the network emulation driver is not supported for Windows 2003 and Windows 2003 R2.
- Installing the network emulation driver is currently not supported for Windows 10.
- Windows XP is not supported.

Software Requirements

To install and run Silk Performer, your system requires a minimum set of software components:

The required components vary based on installation type. For example, to run Silk Performer Java Explorer, your system must be equipped with the appropriate Java Development Kit. Download components from the respective websites.

- Internet Explorer 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 for browser-driven load testing
- PDF viewer to view documentation
- Citrix XenApp Client 12.x or Citrix Receiver for Microsoft Windows 3.x, 4.x to test Citrix applications
- 32-bit Java Development Kit 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8 to test Java applications with Java Explorer

Working with Silk Performer on a multi-user system

Silk Performer can be installed on a machine with terminal services enabled for multi-user access. In general, it is not recommended to work in multiple sessions simultaneously. If you want to do so nevertheless, keep the following in mind:

- **Recording:** The Silk Performer Recorder uses a system-wide hooking mechanism. If one user starts the Recorder, the traffic of all other users might be recorded as well.
- **Workbench:** Multiple users can work on different projects simultaneously. Working on the same project is not recommended. The project will be opened in read-only mode for the second and all further users.

- **Executing tests:** Multiple users can execute tests simultaneously from one machine. However, multiple simultaneously running tests will influence each other as they share the same resources (CPU, memory, network bandwidth).
- **Monitoring tests:** Performance Explorer cannot differentiate between test metrics of multiple running tests. Therefore, real-time values of the wrong test might be displayed.

Installation

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

What's New in Silk Performer 16.5

Silk Performer 16.5 introduces significant enhancements and changes.

Web Protocol-level Enhancements

Domain filtering

Silk Performer now allows you to apply a domain filter before you generate a new script. This is especially useful if you want to remove unwanted third-party traffic from your script like data from social media or statistic plugins. Just open a capture file, adjust the domain filter to your needs and generate a new script.

Easy web table parsing and verification

The new BDL function `WebVerifyTableVLookup` allows you to parse HTML tables and to compare its cell content with the provided string. If the content and the string do not match, an error is raised.

Adjust Workload Enhancements

Easy and consistent workload definition per user type

In Silk Performer 16.5, you can easily define the workload for each of your user types. This makes it easy for you to switch between different workload definitions.

Pacing and VUser calculation in Workload Configuration dialog

The Pacing functionality and VUser calculation have moved to the **Workload Configuration** dialog and are conveniently accessible on the **Pacing** tab. The **Pacing** dialog has been further refined to make setting up pacing and think time adaptation straightforward. You can also easily copy your pacing settings and paste them onto other user types, which makes duplicating your settings simple.

Reporting and Monitoring with Performance Explorer

Workflow and Ribbon Improvements

The **Add Load Test Results** dialog has been redesigned for this version of Performance Explorer, which makes adding load test results to the Performance Explorer workspace even more intuitive.

Word reporting

Performance Explorer now allows you to view your load test results in a Microsoft Word document. This is especially useful if you want to further process your results for presentation and add custom formatting. Creating a Word Report could not be easier: Just open your load test results in Performance Explorer and click **Word Overview Report**.

Client-side measures for large load tests

Displaying measures collected by Silk Performer during load test execution is now available for tests with a large number of virtual users. The performance of data collection has been improved tremendously.

Transaction rate chart with auto-population

A new auto-populating chart type has been added to Performance Explorer. It displays the transaction rate of all transactions executed during a load test.

Certificate authentication for SSH-based monitors

Performance Explorer now offers a new SSH monitor that allows you to specify a Putty session instead of a user name and password. The Putty session may well be configured to use a client certificate for authentication.

CloudBurst Enhancements

New CloudBurst region Frankfurt (Germany)

Silk Performer offers a new CloudBurst region. You can now use the cloud agents that are located in Frankfurt (Germany) for your CloudBurst load tests.

Shutdown timer starts with ready state

The shutdown timer for your cloud agents now starts when the agents are in ready state and therefore available to be used.

Agent reconnection mechanism

If the controller loses connection to an agent, Silk Performer now tries to reconnect and continue test execution.

BDLT Enhancements

Separate, named windows for each virtual user

Named windows are usually shared between browser sessions. Silk Performer 16.5 now allows to create separate, named windows for each virtual user, which ensures that they do not interfere with each other.

Usability Enhancements

Add logging information with the TrueLogInfo function

With the `TrueLogInfo` BDL function, you can now add an informational string to a synthetic TrueLog node of the virtual users TrueLog file. This logging function is especially useful for debugging and visualization purposes.

Add screenshots to your TrueLog sections

The possibility to structure your TrueLog file with sections, which was introduced in Silk Performer 16.0, is now further enhanced: You can now capture a screenshot during recording when you add a TrueLog section. These screenshots also display in replay TrueLogs, which helps considerably when analyzing virtual user runs.

Move TrueLogs to other pane through the context-menu

In the TrueLog Explorer **Compare Mode**, you can now easily move a TrueLog from one pane to the other through the context-menu. Right-click a TrueLog and click **Move to lower pane** or **Move to upper pane**.

New BDL functions for removing and accessing data rows

The BDL function `FileGetNexUniqueRow` is now available in .Net and Java Frameworks. To allow manual removal of file rows, the function `FileRemoveRow` has been added. Now you have full control over what happens after a data row has been used.

Redefine the severity of a whole error group

While `ErrorAdd` redefines the severity for a single error, the new BDL function `SetErrorsSeverity` can be used to redefine the severity of a whole error group (facility). To reset the severity to its default state, you can use the function `ResetErrorsSeverity`.

Exporting passwords with your projects

When exporting projects, you can now decide whether or not the passwords stored in the project are supposed to be exported as well.

Silk Performer remembers your specified locations

Many save and open dialogs throughout Silk Performer now remember the locations you specify. This makes working with Silk Performer easier and faster, as the locations you work with become your default values in these dialogs.

Silk folder as root installation folder

Silk Performer now uses the Silk folder as root installation folder. Shared Files, the Silk Performer home folder, and TrueLog Explorer are installed in this folder.

Technology Updates

Windows 10

Silk Performer now supports Windows 10.

RemedyARS 9.0

Silk Performer now supports RemedyARS 9.0.

Resolved Issues

The following issues have been resolved in Silk Performer 16.5:

Issue #	Description
RPI 1083658	The duration for fully cached images is occasionally longer than 0 seconds, when using the <code>WebUrl</code> function.
RPI 1083896	If the <code>Window.open()</code> function specifies an anchor for a new window and a window with that anchor already exists, the existing window is reused. This results in all virtual users sharing this window and performing different actions on it.
RPI 1084769	<code>BrowserVerifyProperty</code> does not accept wildcards nor does it allow a <code>contains</code> parameter.
RPI 1085234	Copy and paste does not work as expected in TrueLog Explorer.
RPI 1087849	Posting XML to a web service using SOAP causes an issue during replay because the XML data contains not utf-8 compatible characters.
RPI 1089861	Calculating the agent capability produces an issue if not enough licenses are available.
RPI 1097542	The Pacing column is too narrow and the width cannot be changed.
RPI 1097596	The number of virtual users is overwritten in the Adjust Workload wizard.
RPI 1097598	After setting the number of virtual users, the value Max VUsers in the first screen is overwritten with the value for the last active script in the second screen.
RPI 1097654	The Adjust Workload wizard cannot be disabled.
RPI 1098049	Performance Explorer crashes after JMX issues occur when working with big <code>.pew</code> files.
RPI 1098052	Loading a web service into .NET Explorer and selecting the two available methods and test cases causes an issue.
RPI 1098154	The measurement time is not maintained in the Adjust Workload wizard.
RPI 1098242	The workload settings are not updated in the Adjust Workload dialog.
RPI 1098392	While recording a secure application through Safari on a mobile device, an issue occurs.
RPI 1098495	When installing Silk Performer on a non-default drive, Silk Performer is installed in the desired location but TrueLog Explorer is still installed to the default drive (C).
RPI 1098514	The BDL function <code>CitrixWaitForTextFuzzy</code> does not work correctly.
RPI 1098532	When searching the Silk Performer Help for the <code>GetLastError</code> function through the Index tab, the <code>WebRemoveFromHNC</code> function displays.
RPI 1098627	When the JavaScript engine of TrueLog Explorer crashes, the source does not get rendered.
RPI 1098710	JBoss 7 Web three step authentication process does not work correctly.
RPI 1098712	Exporting projects to a different location, not to the default location, is requested.
RPI 1098865	Recording an application causes various browsers to crash.
RPI 1099088	Performing a Try Script run with a certain script does not work in Silk Performer 16.

Issue #	Description
RPI 1099314	API calls do not appear in the TrueLog when TrueLog Explorer is left open because of a previous Try Script run.
RPI 1099369	Silk Test GUI-level tests, which run longer than 60 seconds, cause the following issue: Process Exit Silk4XExecuteTestcase GUI-Level Testing Replay: 12 - Virtual user connection client reported, Request failed.
RPI 1099410	When exporting a project, user account information and credentials are exported as well.
RPI 1099470	Silk Performer is not able to receive the full response from a server in an Async project.
RPI 1099494	A System 2 error message does not describe details of the actual issue.
RPI 1099623	The enabled scaling functionality in Performance Explorer does not apply to measures that are added to a chart.
RPI 1099642	When changing the URL in the web proxy address settings wizard, an issue occurs.
RPI 1099673	Clicking a button during recording an application using BDLT does not work.
RPI 1099713	When trying to generate an overview report in Performance Explorer, the following message appears: This program cannot display the webpage.
RPI 1099759	Data in XLG files gets lost when a load test is complete.
RPI 1099762	When a proxy is specified in Internet Explorer, the port number is recorded in addition to the server addresses. These port numbers cause HTTP 504 errors during replay in Silk Performer.
RPI 1099891	Disabling pretty printing is not possible, which results in large scripts and TrueLogs.
RPI 1099935	Java over HTTP serialization takes too long with large objects.
RPI 1099974	The web page https://businessinsurance-st.stateauto.com/cl/salgin.aspx is not fully rendered in the Browser Application.
RPI 1100030	Customizing dclForm data using Customize Selected String is not possible.
RPI 1100090	When recording SoapUI through an NTLM authenticated proxy, the issue Bad chunk header displays.
RPI 1100118	BrowserReset sample code does not work.
RPI 1100125	Memory usage of perfRun.exe constantly increases during test execution.
RPI 1100181	Cache directories are not cleared when starting the Browser Application, which leads to problems with BDLT record and replay.
RPI 1100196	Vietnamese text is changed to unexpected characters, because characters above ASCII value 255 are raw encoded.
RPI 1100226	Performance Explorer crashes when it runs out of memory due to missing measures and exceptions.
RPI 1100305	When deserialization is enabled, the page statistics for Java over HTTP scripts displayed in TrueLog Explorer are not correct.
RPI 1100312	When executing a load test in Silk Performer 16, the following issue occurs: LoadtestController: 3223 - Agent connection lost.
RPI 1100666	Values of 4294967.29 are recorded for the parameter fWait.

Issue #	Description
RPI 1100758	When trying to upload a Sharepoint file during recording, the error message Precondition failed displays.
RPI 1100863	Trying to replay against foxsports.nl causes the following issue: BrowserEngine : 32 - Internet Explorer request failed.
RPI 1100877	The Customize Session Handling dialog does not appear in Silk Performer 16.
RPI 608633	A load test does not stop after the simulation time has elapsed. Clicking the Stop button does not stop the load test either.
RPI 609055	It is not possible to compile a new management information basis (MIB) when UAC is turned on.
RPI 610468	The Installation Guide of the Silk Performer Help does not mention explicitly that Silk Performer is not designed to be used with multiple user accounts on a single terminal services machine.
RPI 610928	The release notes do not clarify that Windows 2003 is only supported for Silk Performer agents, but not for Silk Performer controllers.
RPI 610943	When installing Silk Performer on Windows 2012 R2 machines, the following issue occurs: Installer UI mode error: installer user interface mode not supported.
RPI 612011	BrowserNativeClick does not accept number variables for x and y parameters.

Known Issues

To find a list of known issues including resolutions, click this link: <http://documentation.microfocus.com/known-issues>

Updates and SupportLine

Our Web site gives up-to-date details of contact numbers and addresses.

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.

Silk Performer Licensing

This section describes how to obtain a license policy file for Silk Performer and how to install Silk Meter. Silk Meter is the license server for all your Silk products, which allows license sharing among users (floating or concurrent licenses). You must have administrator privileges to install Silk Meter. For node-locked usage of Silk products no license server is required.



Note: Silk Performer requires Silk Meter version 2008 or later as well as a Silk Performer license policy.

If you have multiple license servers, you need multiple license policy files, each one tied to a particular license server. A single Silk Meter license server can administer license policy files for multiple products.

If you have received a Silk Performer license policy file, install the license policy file on your license server. If you have not received a license policy file, generate a license policy file with the online license generator.

Licensing Information

Silk Performer 16.5 needs a new 16.5 license. If you want to run a previous version of Silk Performer during the upgrade process to version 16.5, you may keep your old licenses for a period of 90 days.

Tested Software

This section lists the software with which Silk Performer has been tested.

The listed software is complete in terms of supported technologies, but not in terms of supported versions and products.

System Area	Tested With
Operating systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microsoft Windows Server 2003 32bit with Service Pack 2 (on agents only) • Microsoft Windows Server 2003 64bit with Service Pack 2 (on agents only) • Microsoft Windows Server 2003 R2 32bit with Service Pack 2 (on agents only) • Microsoft Windows Server 2003 R2 64bit with Service Pack 2 (on agents only) • Microsoft Windows Server 2008 32bit • Microsoft Windows Server 2008 64bit • Microsoft Windows Server 2008 R2 • Microsoft Windows Server 2012 • Microsoft Windows Server 2012 R2 • Microsoft Windows Vista 32bit • Microsoft Windows Vista 64bit • Microsoft Windows 7 32bit • Microsoft Windows 7 64bit • Microsoft Windows 8 32bit • Microsoft Windows 8 64bit • Microsoft Windows 8.1 32bit • Microsoft Windows 8.1 64bit • Microsoft Windows 10 32bit • Microsoft Windows 10 64bit
Web browsers	<p>For protocol-based load testing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet Explorer • Mozilla Firefox • Google Chrome • Apple Safari <p>For browser-driven load testing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet Explorer 7, 8, 9, 10, 11
SOAP stacks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microsoft SOAP Toolkit 2.0 Service Pack 2 (SP2), Internet Information Server 5 • Apache-SOAP Version 2.1, TOMCAT Version 3.1
WebService frameworks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Axis 1.x • Axis2 1.4, 1.5 • GlassFish Metro 1.5
Java support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Java Development Kit 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8 • IBM Java Development Kit • Eclipse 3.6, 3.7, 3.8, 4.2, 4.3

System Area	Tested With
.Net-based technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microsoft .NET Framework 2.0, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5 • Microsoft Visual Studio 2012, 2013, 2015 • WCF Web Services
Rich Internet applications (Web 2.0)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microsoft Silverlight 4, 5 • Apache Flex 2, 3, 4 • GraniteDS 2.3.2 • BlazeDS 3.2.0 • Google Web Toolkit • ExtJS • Eclipse RAP • script.aculo.us
SNMP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SNMPv2-MIB • RFC1213-MIB • RDBMS-MIB • ORADB-MIB • httpServer-MIB • ftpServer-MIB • SUN-MIB • BEA-WEBLOGIC-MIB • APPSRV_MIB (NetDynamics) • SQUID-MIB <p> Note: To find RFCs and vendor MIBs on the Web, visit The Internet Engineering Task Force.</p>
Proxy servers for firewall tunneling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WinGate • Squid • Dante • Microsoft ISA Server

Planned End of Support

Please note that Windows 2003 and Windows 2003 R2 will no longer be supported in future versions of Silk Performer.