



# Silk Performer 17.0

SOA Edition Release Notes

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# Silk Performer 17.0 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 websites. Micro Focus cannot be responsible for the contents of the website or for the contents of any site to which it might link. Websites by their nature can change 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	Intel Core 2 Duo or equivalent CPU
RAM	4 GB recommended minimum
Hard disk space	2.1 GB for controller software installation 1 GB 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 2008 or newer.
- Installing the network emulation driver is currently not supported for Windows 10.

## 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 10, 11 for browser-driven load testing
- PDF viewer to view documentation
- Citrix Receiver for Microsoft Windows 3.x, 4.x (except 4.4) to test Citrix applications. Citrix Receiver 4.4 does not work due to an issue in this Citrix version.
- Java Development Kit 7, 8 (32-bit) to test Java applications with Java Explorer
- Visual Studio 2013 or 2015 for Visual Studio Add-in. To use Visual Studio 2012, Visual Studio 2013 needs to be installed as well.

## 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 17.0

Silk Performer 17.0 introduces significant enhancements and changes.

## HTTP Live Streaming Support

HTTP Live Streaming (HLS) is an HTTP-based media streaming communications protocol, which has been adopted for video delivery across the industry all around the world. Regardless of whether embedded in a web page or consumed through a standalone video player, Silk Performer automatically detects HLS traffic during recording and simulates a video player consuming HLS data during playback.

## Performance Explorer Enhancements

### Chart export to Excel

You can now export your Silk Performer charts as Excel documents. Silk Performer exports the chart data and automatically generates a chart in Excel. This allows you to further process or present your chart data.

### User type comparison report

Performance Explorer introduces a new type of report: the *User Type Comparison Report*. Including the *Region Comparison Report* and the *Custom Comparison Report* (formerly named *Cross Load Test Report*), you have now three reports available that allow for extensive comparisons in Performance Explorer.

### Results filtering

You can now filter the tree in Performance Explorer. Just enter a keyword in the text field above the tree, and the tree nodes will be filtered. This filter is especially useful when you have lots of result files with deep hierarchies loaded in Performance Explorer.

### Comparing graphs

The comparing graphs feature of Performance Explorer now provides new options: You can let Performance Explorer compare your graphs with measures from all other user types, agents, or regions. You will find the new buttons on the **Results** tab, in the **Analyze** group, clicking the **Compare Graph** button. Besides the three new options, you can of course still compare your graphs with another .tsd file.

## Recording and Script Generation

### Advanced request filtering for script generation

The filtering capabilities for capture files have now been expanded by an advanced request filter. Besides the domain filter, you can now also exclude the requests for script generation that match the specified filter criteria.



### **Cleaner scripts through standard filters and domain blacklist**

Web browsers often communicate with services to ensure that websites are safe or to track usage statistics. This application-independent traffic can lead to overloaded and messy scripts. Silk Performer now automatically filters this traffic, so that you get clean and readable scripts.

## **Virtual Desktop Infrastructure Testing**

### **Citrix Desktop Viewer**

Silk Performer now supports recording of virtual desktop sessions published through Citrix Desktop Viewer.

### **VMWare Horizon View**

Silk Performer now supports load testing of the desktop virtualization product VMWare Horizon View. If you are interested in using VMWare Horizon View in conjunction with Silk Performer, please contact SupportLine.

## **CloudBurst Enhancements**

The CloudBurst Portal is being improved constantly, independently from Silk Performer release cycles. Here is a summary of enhancements that were implemented between Silk Performer 16.5 and 17.0:

### **Consolidated billing lines for passive fees**

Passive infrastructure fees used to be billed hourly, which could result in a confusing transactions report. The fees are now reported and billed after the agents are stopped or IP reservations are released.

### **Credits balance history**

The transaction sheet is now enhanced with a running balance column, so that you can see your credits balance with each billing line.

### **New CloudBurst region: South Korea**

CloudBurst now provides a new asia-pacific region: *AP - South Korea*

## **Responsive Web Design Testing**

Silk Performer now facilitates testing of responsive websites. Responsive web design is a design paradigm for web applications, which allows to dynamically adapt the user interface to the physical conditions of the end user device.

### **Simulation of mobile devices with viewport emulation**

The project type for mobile devices now facilitates recording of web applications on emulated mobile devices with different viewports. Once you have selected a particular mobile device, its orientation, and a browser, the Silk Performer Recorder emulates the device's browser, resolution, and viewport. This way, the web application behaves as it was running on the real mobile device.

### **Viewport awareness in TrueLog Explorer**

TrueLogs can now store the viewport setting, which was used during the recording or replay sessions. TrueLog Explorer automatically displays the content of these TrueLogs with the stored viewport.

## Other Enhancements

### Busy times for custom timers

When you add custom timers to your load test script, besides the already existing custom timer value, Silk Performer now also provides you with the corresponding `busy time` in the **Output** window as well as in all kinds of test reports.

### Jenkins plugin

You can now start your Silk Performer load tests through the CI application Jenkins, using the brand new Silk Performer plugin. Installing and configuring the plugin is completed in a few simple steps within Jenkins.

### Rule-based rendering

TrueLog Explorer now allows you to configure multiple custom display filters. You can select the display filters in the user interface. For more information, refer to the following blog article: [Rule-based Rendering](#)

### Improved agent capacity evaluation

Silk Performer allows you to evaluate the virtual user capacity of your agents by using the **Evaluate Agent Capacity** feature. In Silk Performer 17.0 this feature has been considerably improved by showing more detailed information, more meaningful charts, and by producing even more reliable results.

### Rebranding

With version 17.0 all Silk products now fit together under the umbrella of the consolidated Micro Focus brand. With this move, the brands Attachmate, Borland, NetIQ, and Novell will disappear, while all the products of their respective brands become Micro Focus branded products.

Following the new branding pattern, *Borland Credits* are now named *Micro Focus Credits*. Furthermore, Borland URLs are automatically forwarded to their new Micro Focus counterparts, for example: <https://cloud.microfocus.com>

## Technology Updates

### New TrueLog format

TrueLogs are now stored as compressed packages following the open document format specification. With the new format, all embedded content such as images, videos, screenshots, and so on, is stored in a separate subfolder within the package. This makes it easier for advanced users to access the data and process it with proprietary tools.

### Apache CXF in Java Explorer

Java Explorer now supports Apache CXF.

### Axis 1.6.4x

Java Explorer now supports Axis 1.6.4x.

### Java 8 in Java Explorer

Java Explorer now supports Java 8.

### **Updated monitors for SQL server**

The predefined monitors for SQL server in Performance Explorer have been updated.

### **OpenSSL**

OpenSSL has been upgraded to version 1.0.2g.

Due to serious security flaws in the Secure Sockets Layer version 2 (SSLv2), the protocol is considered not secure and should not be used any longer. Therefore, support for this protocol has been removed from Silk Performer along with the BDL constant `SSL_VERSION_SSL2`. Scripts that use this constant no longer compile.

# Resolved Issues

The following issues have been resolved in Silk Performer 17.0:

Issue #	Description
RPI 614871	When starting an animated Try Script run of a browser-driven script from the context menu, the Browser Application does not display. Instead the Try Script is performed in the background. When starting the animated Try Script run not from the context menu, the run is performed as expected.
RPI 616247	Error groups used to get highlighted in Performance Explorer 10.0. This is no longer the case in Performance Explorer 16.0 and 16.5.
RPI 616559	Loading a WSDL file in .NET Explorer does not work properly.
RPI 1088382	Editing the endpoint IP address after a WSDL is loaded in .NET Explorer is not possible.
RPI 1089628	TrueLog Explorer does not automatically identify embedded objects during the parsing process and thus does not automatically include the parameter <code>WEB_FLAG_INCLUDE_EMBEDDED</code> in the BDL function <code>WebParseDataBoundEx</code> .
RPI 1100380	Opening big .pew files in Performance Explorer takes a long time.
RPI 1101086	When recording an application in Silk Performer 16.0 on a Windows 7 operating system, the application hangs.
RPI 1101373	.NET Explorer verifications are not exported to a web project.
RPI 1101663	When generating an .mht file in Performance Explorer 16.0 from results that are located on a network share, the .mht file does not display any graphs.
RPI 1101751	The SAM license does not display in the Silk Performer <b>About</b> window but is available in Performance Explorer.
RPI 1101985	In Silk Performer 16.x, the BDL function <code>BrowserFindAll</code> reports an informational message, though it is supposed to return <code>true</code> or <code>false</code> .
RPI 1102033	When performing JMX monitoring of a WebSphere AS 8.5 server, the following issue occurs: <code>javax.management.JMRuntimeException: ADMN0022E: Access is denied for the getStats operation on JVM MBean because of insufficient or empty credentials</code>
RPI 1102068	When running a load test in Silk Performer 15.5 it was possible to increment the folder number from any desired number. This is no longer possible in Silk Performer 16.0 and 16.5.
RPI 1102216	When authenticating through a proxy due to SNI support, the following error message displays: <code>WebPageUrl(HTTP: 400 - invalid syntax)</code>
RPI 1102234	The user profile memory space is limited and temporary files exceed the allowed size.
RPI 1102367	Setting the number of virtual users to 1 and the workload model to <b>Increasing</b> in the <b>Adjust Workload</b> dialog is not possible.
RPI 1102411	A page in a new tab continually reloads in the browser application.
RPI 1102412	When using the BDL function <code>BrowserFind</code> with the last parameter set to <code>true</code> (suppresses the error if the object is not found) and the severity of this error is set to

Issue #	Description
	Transaction <code>Exit</code> in the profile settings, Silk Performer ignores the last parameter and exits anyway, reporting an error.
RPI 1102430	Performing a browser-driven load test with Silk Performer results in more detected issues than performing a test manually or with another testing tool.
RPI 1102434	The <b>Statistics</b> tab in TrueLog Explorer shows inaccurate information.
RPI 1102435	Recording rules are not applied in <code>.bdf</code> scripts in Silk Performer 16.0.
RPI 1102579	The Silk Performer Workbench stops working intermittently after a test is completed but before the results are collected.
RPI 1102599	The Silk Launcher Service is not installed in Silk Performer 16.5 on some non-English operating systems.
RPI 1102680	The line styles (for example dotted or dashed) that are used in a chart, are not used in the legend (measure list) below the chart.
RPI 1102723	Added the ability to save Citrix functionality through the Silk Performer Recorder.
RPI 1102745	Analyzing a capture file never ends, the script is not generated.
RPI 1102813	When setting the ramp-up time and steady time in the <b>Adjust Workload</b> dialog in Silk Performer 16.0, then saving and closing the project, then re-opening the project, the values are not persisted.
RPI 1102814	When using the <b>Analyze Errors</b> feature in Performance Explorer and then right-clicking on an error in the <b>Measure List</b> , the option <b>Open TrueLog</b> is missing.
RPI 1102848	When using agents in a Java over Http project in Silk Performer 16.5 the following issue occurs: <code>JavaLoadObject Native: 1002 - Java Exception, Native Error 4: java.lang.NoClassDefFoundError: CRMHash, CRMHash, &lt;init&gt;((Lsilk/performer/SilkPerformer;)V)</code>
RPI 1102894	When recording an application on protocol-level in Silk Performer 16.5 and configuring the project settings to page-level based, a low-level test is recorded anyway.
RPI 1102961	When attempting to create an HTML Overview Report from a template, Performance Explorer stops working.
RPI 1102993	Using the BDL functions <code>RaiseError</code> or <code>RepMessage</code> only works if the severity is set to <code>Warning</code> or higher. If the severity is set to <code>Informational</code> , the messages do not display in Silk Central.
RPI 1103041	In the Virtual User report, response times in the section <b>Page and Action Timers</b> differ from the response times in the individual statistics.
RPI 1103053	The button <b>Stop Timer</b> on the Recorder remains active even when there are no active timers.
RPI 1103119	When starting a load test from the command line, the results directory is not named correctly if the name contains an underscore.
RPI 1103123	When using a customized template for Word Overview Reports, information that is not supposed to display in the generated report shows anyway.
RPI 1103189	The BDL function <code>FExists</code> checks if a file exists in a directory and not in a specific path.
RPI 1103191	Network emulation does not work for IIOP scripts.

Issue #	Description
RPI 1103203	When recording a browser-driven load test with Silk Performer 16.5 and Internet Explorer 11, a window opens as a new tab in the Browser Application. However, it is not possible to control this tab.
RPI 1103221	Sending the keyboard command <b>Shift+Enter</b> using the BDL function <code>BrowserTypeKeys</code> is not recognized by the application.
RPI 1103300	JAVA_V17 is not declared in the <code>javabase.bdh</code> file, which causes a compile issue to occur.
RPI 1103408	When using the BDL function <code>WebSetUserAuthNTLM</code> in Silk Performer 16.5, the authentication is no longer accepted and the following message displays: <code>HTTP: 401 - access denied, RespHdrAuthNTLM</code>
RPI 1103421	Chart pictures become broken links when saved as <code>.mht</code> files and when the files contain Japanese characters.
RPI 1103427	Script URL mitigation is disabled for <code>WebBrowser</code> controls, which leads to issues during recording and replay.
RPI 1103537	When calling the <code>WebSocket</code> BDL functions, no response or timeout is returned.
RPI 1103538	When executing a <code>Try Script</code> run of a browser-driven script, a section of the URL call made within <code>BrowserNavigate</code> is excluded when a standard host has been included within the profile settings.
RPI 1103574	Custom charts and tables that are stored in a <code>Word Overview Report</code> template are not used in the report.
RPI 1103581	When performing a standard Silk Performer 16.0 installation, <code>TrueLog Explorer</code> becomes unusable.
RPI 1103637	While recording a secure website with Firefox and Silk Performer 16.5, the following issue occurs: <code>sec_error_reused_issuer_and_serial</code> .
RPI 1103674	Resampling results creates incorrect percentiles in <code>HTML Overview Reports</code> .
RPI 1103684	When starting a test with an <code>All Day</code> workload, the <code>All Day</code> workload dialog remains open once the test is completed and subsequent command line tests cannot be started.
RPI 1103711	When attempting to record or replay an application with Silk Performer 16.5, the following message displays: <code>Your browser compatibility mode is not supported</code> .
RPI 1103756	<code>Performance Explorer</code> might get unresponsive during <code>JMX</code> data source filtering.
RPI 1103791	The dynamic adaptation of the user agent string affects a browser-driven recording.
RPI 1103800	When attempting to record a secure URL, an <code>HTTP 400</code> issue occurs.
RPI 1103813	<code>Performance Explorer</code> reports <code>Unable to subscribe measure</code> after a test is restarted.
RPI 1103822	The replay of a script stops at the BDL function <code>FileCSVLoadGlobal</code> , when the referenced file has a Japanese name.
RPI 1103916	A <code>Silk4Net</code> GUI-level test starts only after the <code>Execution Timeout</code> time passes.
RPI 1103950	Percentile data in <code>HTML Overview Reports</code> is not accurate enough.
RPI 1103957	The <code>Browser Application</code> in Silk Performer 16.5 runs in compatibility mode.

Issue #	Description
RPI 1104030	When opening the <b>Adjust Workload</b> dialog and changing the settings of a workload that had been created in a previous version of Silk Performer, the changes are not being saved.
RPI 1104062	Real-time measures cause a poor responsiveness of the monitor pane.
RPI 1104134	When attempting to upload a project to BMC TrueSight, the Silk Performer Workbench crashes.
RPI 1104140	Silk Performer 16.5 hangs when clicking <b>OK</b> on the <b>Upload Project to BMC TrueSight</b> dialog.
RPI 1104250	The <b>OutBody</b> is not in the correct format and does not contain an enctype.

# Known Issues

You can find a list of known issues including resolutions in the Online Help: <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](mailto: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 17.0 needs a new 17.0 license. If you want to run a previous version of Silk Performer during the upgrade process to version 17.0, 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"> <li>• Microsoft Windows Server 2008 32bit</li> <li>• Microsoft Windows Server 2008 64bit</li> <li>• Microsoft Windows Server 2008 R2</li> <li>• Microsoft Windows Server 2012</li> <li>• Microsoft Windows Server 2012 R2</li> <li>• Microsoft Windows Vista 32bit</li> <li>• Microsoft Windows Vista 64bit</li> <li>• Microsoft Windows 7 32bit</li> <li>• Microsoft Windows 7 64bit</li> <li>• Microsoft Windows 8 32bit</li> <li>• Microsoft Windows 8 64bit</li> <li>• Microsoft Windows 8.1 32bit</li> <li>• Microsoft Windows 8.1 64bit</li> <li>• Microsoft Windows 10 32bit</li> <li>• Microsoft Windows 10 64bit</li> </ul>
Web browsers	<p>For protocol-based load testing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Internet Explorer</li> <li>• Mozilla Firefox</li> <li>• Google Chrome</li> <li>• Apple Safari</li> </ul> <p>For browser-driven load testing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Internet Explorer 10, 11</li> </ul>
SOAP stacks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Microsoft SOAP Toolkit 2.0 Service Pack 2 (SP2), Internet Information Server 5</li> <li>• Apache-SOAP Version 2.1, TOMCAT Version 3.1</li> </ul>
WebService frameworks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Axis 1.x</li> <li>• Axis2 1.4, 1.5, 1.6</li> <li>• GlassFish Metro 1.5</li> <li>• Apache CXF 3.1.4</li> </ul>
Java support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Java Development Kit 7, 8</li> <li>• IBM Java Development Kit</li> <li>• Eclipse 3.6, 3.7, 3.8, 4.2, 4.3</li> </ul>
.Net-based technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Microsoft .NET Framework 2.0, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 4.6</li> <li>• Microsoft Visual Studio 2012, 2013, 2015</li> </ul>

System Area	Tested With
Rich Internet applications (Web 2.0)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WCF Web Services</li> <li>• Microsoft Silverlight 4, 5</li> <li>• Apache Flex 2, 3, 4</li> <li>• GraniteDS 2.3.2</li> <li>• BlazeDS 3.2.0</li> <li>• Google Web Toolkit</li> <li>• ExtJS</li> <li>• Eclipse RAP</li> <li>• script.aculo.us</li> </ul>
SNMP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SNMPv2-MIB</li> <li>• RFC1213-MIB</li> <li>• RDBMS-MIB</li> <li>• ORADB-MIB</li> <li>• httpServer-MIB</li> <li>• ftpServer-MIB</li> <li>• SUN-MIB</li> <li>• BEA-WEBLOGIC-MIB</li> <li>• APPSRV_MIB (NetDynamics)</li> <li>• SQUID-MIB</li> </ul>
Proxy servers for firewall tunneling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WinGate</li> <li>• Squid</li> <li>• Dante</li> <li>• Microsoft ISA Server</li> </ul>



**Note:** To find RFCs and vendor MIBs on the Web, visit [The Internet Engineering Task Force](#).

# Planned End of Support

Note that Java 6 and earlier versions will no longer be supported in future versions of Silk Performer.

# End of Support

Note that Windows 2003 and Windows 2003 R2 are no longer supported in this and future versions of Silk Performer.