



What's New in AppSense Management Suite Version 8.0

AppSense Management Suite Version 8.0 is the latest release of the AppSense user environment management solution. AppSense Management Suite comprises four fully integrated components that build on your existing application and desktop delivery mechanisms to provide user personalization, desktop setup, and application and resource entitlement. With user environment management, you are able to fully leverage delivery technologies - such as Terminal Services, Citrix XenApp, VMware VDI, Citrix XenDesktop, and streamed environments - in one enterprise-class solution.

This document provides an overview of the new features of each of the AppSense Management Suite Version 8.0 components and provides an explanation of the associated benefits with each new feature.

Please note this document assumes prior knowledge of AppSense Management Suite 7.2 capabilities. For more information, please visit www.appsense.com.

To download a copy of AppSense Management Suite Version 8.0, please visit www.myappsense.com or contact AppSense at info@appsense.com.

APPSENSE MANAGEMENT SUITE VERSION 8.0 - SUITE HIGHLIGHTS

- > Multi-tier architecture for Enterprise scalability
- > Microsoft Server 2008 Support, both 32 bit and 64 bit platforms
- > Re-designed user interfaces conforming to Microsoft Office 2007 'ribbon' paradigm
- > Enhanced reporting and auditing capabilities to maximize visibility and ease troubleshooting
- > Pre-installed configurations and on-line configuration library

What's New in AppSense Environment Manager Version 8?

Manage corporate policy and enable user personalization across multiple delivery mechanisms. Enable migration of user data from physical to virtual environments. Dynamically personalize the user environment on-demand.

ENVIRONMENT MANAGER	DESCRIPTION	BENEFIT
USER PROFILE MIGRATION	Quickly and easily migrate user profile data between desktops. Users can be migrated from PC or server based computing environments to virtual desktops without having to re-create personalization settings. Profile data can also be migrated between operating systems (e.g. Microsoft XP-to-Vista) and applications (Microsoft Office 2003 to Office 2007) enabling rapid desktop upgrade.	Delivery mechanism, operating system and application migrations and upgrades are faster, easier and ensure all user personal data persists in the new environment.
PERSONALIZATION STREAMING	User policy and personalization settings are streamed to a user on-demand as application and operating system features are used. A 'virtual personalization cache' is located within the logged on user session that stores changes to an existing profile and automatically synchronizes the new settings back to the central profile store.	Logon times are dramatically reduced as only the settings needed are streamed at logon. Settings which are not immediately required are not loaded at logon, this reduces data transfer and time taken to logon and logoff, ultimately increasing profile stability. User personalization settings can be shared across concurrent open sessions without user having to logoff or back on again.
APPLICATION-LEVEL PERSONALIZATION	Personalization settings are managed and streamed at the application level reducing profile size and enables independent management of user profile data on a per application basis.	User profiles are split by user and application, meaning management and stability are improved as the profile is no longer one large file. Applications can now be upgraded or swapped out with no impact to the user experience, since the application profile data is managed separately from the application. The application data remains separate from the desktop, enabling portability across operating system boundaries concurrent and application delivery mechanisms.
PERSONALIZATION ANALYSIS	A rich and interactive set of reports and graphs provides visibility into personalization activity across server based computing and virtual desktop environments.	Based on an individual user, group or application, personalization analysis can identify trends in profile use and potential bottlenecks, enabling extraneous data to be omitted from the user profile where necessary.

What's New in AppSense Environment Manager Version 8? continued...

ENVIRONMENT MANAGER	DESCRIPTION	BENEFIT
PERSONALIZATION ROLLBACK	Automatically save 'snapshots' of user profiles on a scheduled or manual basis to be used as potential future restore points, containing all application and operating system settings. In the event of profile inaccuracies caused by user changes, individual application settings can be seamlessly rolled back to the required profile snapshot with just a couple of clicks.	Reduce support costs, time to repair damaged profiles and preserve user personalization settings by 'rolling back' to a previous known good profile on a per application or user basis. The user receives their rolled-back application settings in real time, with no requirement for the user to re-login to their session.
OFFLINE MODE	Personality data is stored in a virtual cache within the user's desktop session, therefore accessible to the user in a disconnected state. The cache is re-synchronized with the latest, centralized settings when the user comes back online.	The user now has a fully portable personality, ensuring personal settings are always present and policy continues to manage the user desktop ensuring disconnected users are still in compliance with corporate policy.
EXTENDED ACTION TRIGGERS	Further to applying actions based on user logon/logoff and machine startup/shutdown, actions can now be applied at application start/stop, process start/stop, session connect/disconnect, session locked/unlocked and network connect/disconnect.	The application of policy and personalization can be controlled on a far more granular level, providing a more flexible approach to user environment management.
QUICK SETUP WIZARD	AppSense Environment Manager provides administrators with the ability to quickly set up a new configuration by using a wizard driven approach to pre-populate a configuration with the most common user actions such as; creating a new desktop, configuring internet explorer settings, self healing critical operating system and application components, locking down common application and operating system features and improving quality of service by disabling resource intensive processes and services.	The quick set up wizard enables new administrators to quickly set up a user environment whilst also providing an introduction into AppSense Environment Manager functionality.
REGISTRY FILE IMPORT WIZARD	Registry settings can be exported from a desired state target machine and imported into the AppSense Environment Manager console to instantly create configurations.	Time and complexity are both significantly reduced as wizard driven actions simplify registry setting management.

What's New In AppSense Application Manager Version 8?

Automatically control application access without the management overhead of complex scripts or high maintenance lists. Whether malicious or innocent in nature, unexpected activities are controlled, providing a safe and predictable user environment. Application Manager is also used to monitor and audit application usage and enforce Microsoft® Software Licensing in Terminal Services and VDI environments.

APPLICATION MANAGER	DESCRIPTION	BENEFIT
APPLICATION NETWORK ACCESS CONTROL	Network access and outbound connections from a target device are subject to entitlement rules. Connections include access to UNC paths (including all files & folders on that drive), servers, IP addresses, URL's, devices & FTP locations.	Network access can be tailored to dynamically change dependent on user or device properties without the need for complex hardware such as routers, switches and firewalls etc...
END POINT ANALYSIS	Identify all executable files on a target device and group the files into authorized or unauthorized to build a configuration. Configurations can be deployed to a user, group of users, machine, group of machines.	Quickly control application access entitlement on for existing user environments without having to manually create application lists.
APPLICATION USAGE SCAN	Scan a target device and identify how many times individual applications have been executed on a per user basis. Results of the scan are presented in an interactive report.	By highlighting which applications are being used and which are not, unlicensed software can be identified and restricted and licensed software can be removed, reducing both the amount of applications on a device, and also the cost of licensing those applications.

What's New In Performance Manager Version 8?

Ensure all environments presented to a user react in a consistent manner by using business policy to allocate CPU, Memory and Disk resources to users and applications. Optimizing resource consumption and improving the number of users on any given hardware provides huge cost savings in physical hardware and carbon footprint.

PERFORMANCE MANAGER	DESCRIPTION	BENEFIT
DISK RESOURCE MANAGEMENT	Control disk access on a per application basis and prevent I/O Request Packet (IRP) bottlenecks from impacting mission critical applications. Disk Resource Management prioritizes the disk IRP's in accordance to business policy, ensuring disk availability to specific applications by preventing less important processes from creating bottlenecks.	Ensure critical applications respond more quickly by providing a higher priority to the disk. Increases business agility, user acceptance and prolongs the life of current hardware.
APPLICATION DISCOVERY MODE	Application discovery mode gathers the information required to create application groups by quickly scanning target devices. All applications and processes along with property information such as network path and command line options are detailed in a comprehensive report. Application groups are created by selecting applications and processes from the results. These application groups can then be used in resource entitlement policies.	The creation of application groups is simplified allowing for a faster implementation of resource entitlement policy. As all processes are identified, this allows for a more detailed view as to what is running on the system, allowing IT to forward plan instead of reacting to incidents.
STATISTICAL ANALYSIS AND REPORTING	Report on CPU, Memory and Disk usage at the process level on a per user or application basis. Tabular reports and graphs are used to report on defined events to show resource consumption and optimization. When used in conjunction with AppSense Management Center, alerts can be raised when configurable events are triggered.	By understanding how users interact with their environment and the amount resource their actions consume, resource entitlement can be optimized to provide a more efficient use of hardware and allow for capacity planning.

What's New in AppSense Management Center Version 8?

An enterprise scalable management framework to centrally manage and securely deploy configurations to thousands of devices across multiple site locations with full failover capabilities. Event monitoring and automated alerts provide instant visibility into the user environment along with the individual actions of each user.

MANAGEMENT CENTER	DESCRIPTION	BENEFIT
ROLE-BASED ACCESS CONTROL	Granular control of access rights on all objects such as deployment groups, packages, reports and alerts. Based on flexible role architecture, Management Server Administrative users can be granted different access rights to each object on a per user or group basis.	In enterprise environments where multiple administrators are present, especially across many sites around the world, role-based access control ensures administrators from one territory cannot view, or change configurations or reports associated with other sites and territories. For example an Administrative user in New York cannot change policy objects in a farm London.

What's New in AppSense Management Center Version 8? continued...

MANAGEMENT CENTER	DESCRIPTION	BENEFIT
AUTOMATIC CLIENT REGISTRATION	Any new device added to an environment automatically registers itself with the Management Server via the Client Communications Agent (CCA). The device is automatically added to the correct deployment group and the subsequent policy is pushed to the device.	In enterprise environments where devices are frequently added or changed, all policy and personalization configurations associated with the device are automatically deployed without the need for manual intervention.
CONFIGURATION CHECK-OUT PROCESS	Single user configuration check out supports multiple administrators simultaneously opening and editing configurations. Upon access to the management object (subject to role based access control), any objects already open by another user are available as read only. Metadata tag's can be added as a description when saving back a new configuration version to the database.	Prevent configuration corruptions due to last write wins when two or more administrators simultaneously work on a shared configuration. Administrators are also presented with a configuration description, allowing for an easy transfer of knowledge, especially between sites or locations.
MANAGEMENT SUITE INSTALLER AND SERVER CONFIGURATION	The new Management Suite installer is used to install all or selected components of the AppSense Management Suite. During installation, the installer checks for all required prerequisites and offers to install if required. The Server Configurations enables the administrator to easily configure parts of the Management Center framework like the Microsoft Internet Information Server (IIS) and Microsoft SQL Server. The administrator is also presented with options to fine tune settings and if conflict arises, repairs are suggested as well as the capability to generate Support Reports ready to send to AppSense Support.	The installation procedure is simplified as all IIS and SQL prerequisites are included in the AppSense installer. Automatically checking configurations as they are constructed ensures only failsafe configurations are deployed to users or devices.
FAILOVER SUPPORT	Multiple servers can be designated as an AppSense Management Server. Should the link to the current Management Server fail, the CCA will re-connect to a different server allowing for full failover support and continuous communication between the end point device and the Management Server.	Resilience is hardened and failover ensures user policy and personalization persists at all times.

AppSense Configuration Templates

This release sees the official publication of a library of configuration templates that can be easily imported into your Management Suite consoles. Based on AppSense customer feedback and best practices, these templates can be used to accelerate your user environment management implementation. To access these templates, please visit the Configuration Center at www.myappsense.com.



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