



Silk Central 18.5

Release Notes

Micro Focus
The Lawn
22-30 Old Bath Road
Newbury, Berkshire RG14 1QN
UK
<http://www.microfocus.com>

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Silk Central 18.5 Release Notes

Version 18.5

November, 2017

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 18.5

Silk Central 18.5 introduces significant enhancements and changes.

Administration

Local System Diagnostics Access

If Silk Central denies login or no longer responds due to overload, you can now still access the **System Diagnostics** page locally on your front-end server machine (via `http://localhost:19120/systemdiagnostics`) to gather valuable information for root cause analysis.

Execution Planning and Test Execution

Distributed Execution

Silk Central now supports the distributed execution of the assigned tests of one single execution plan, by running the tests on all matching execution servers in parallel.

To prevent overload on your execution servers, you can now also configure the amount of **Maximum concurrent executions** per execution server. This is the maximum amount of execution plans (with disabled **Exclusive execution** setting) that are allowed to run concurrently on one specific execution server.

An additional major benefit coming with distributed executions is the immediate visibility of execution progress in the **Activities** and **Current Runs** grids for automated test executions. Previously, this information was only available after the complete execution plan run was finished.

Execution Planning Attributes

Execution planning attributes are now considered in Silk Central's SOAP API. For detailed information, refer to Silk Central's Javadoc.



Note: Execution planning attributes are not yet considered in Silk Central's bulk export/update interface.

Tests

Shared Test Assets

Tests can now be shared by projects to be used in other projects, allowing an efficient central management of reoccurring tests. Such tests reused in other projects will maintain a reference to their origin to receive information on any update (test version), which can be accepted or skipped. Additionally, reused tests will be assigned to existing requirements in their project, identical to the requirements assignment of their origin.

Extended Test Versions

Due to their vital role in test asset sharing, test versions now include parameters, attributes, properties, success conditions, and inheritance information.

Displaying Custom Attributes in Tests Document View

Custom attributes can now be displayed in **Tests > Document View**. You can use attributes for filtering and reporting purposes.

Copying Test Assets with Read-Only Rights

Test assets can now be copied by users who have read-only rights for a project. They can then be pasted into projects where that user has write privileges.

Issue Manager Enhancements

Issue Manager, Silk Central's built-in issue tracking solution, has been significantly enhanced in Silk Central 18.5.

Seamless Integration

Issue Manager takes a further step in the direction of seamless integration by optionally reusing the already existing user context to login to a local Issue Manager instance.

Updated User Interface

The **Issue Details** page has been redesigned to provide relevant information about an issue at a glance, and to more efficiently work with issues.

The screenshot displays the Issue Manager interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with buttons for 'New Issue', 'Edit', 'Reassign', 'Fixed', 'Cannot Fix', 'As Designed', and 'More'. A search box labeled 'Go to Issue #' is on the right. Below the navigation bar, a list of issues is shown. The first issue is '#6 - Check-out sum incorrect'. Below the issue title, there is a summary bar with details: 'Severity: 1: Severe Bug', 'Inbox: admin', 'State: Dev-Ready', 'Reason Code: ---', 'Action Release: ---', and icons for comments (0) and attachments (0). Below the summary bar, there is a table of issue details:

Issue Type:	BUG	Platform:	General
Product:	Demo Product	Component:	Charging Unit
Release:	3.1 352	Created By:	dbrauer

At the bottom, there is a tabbed interface with tabs for 'Description', 'History', 'Customers', 'Traceability', and 'Custom'.

Integrations

Integrated Mobile Center Support

Silk Central 18.5 now integrates with Mobile Center for executing your automated functional tests on mobile devices and to additionally provide those mobile devices to Silk Test for automated functional test creation and execution.

Specifying a Branch in Git Source Control Profiles

You can now define a specific branch in your Git source control profile, which will be checked out for all execution plans that use this profile. You can still use a different branch for a specific execution plan by specifying the branch name in the **Source Control Label** field of the respective execution plan.

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	8 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 initial 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 79 or later.

Resolved Issues and Customer-Driven Enhancements

The following issues have been resolved in Silk Central 18.5:

SI #	RPI #	Description
2885554	1108168	JIRA: "Time Tracking" field in JIRA is not working correctly
3108645	1110473	Integration with Rational Doors Next Generation synchronizes folders but not the use cases
3111075	1110047	Duplicate entries in Inbox View of Issue Manager
3116218	629498	Silk Meter: Logging number of mobile licenses that are being checked out/in by what host
3116514	1110433	LDAP authentication on ambiguous user filter - Behavior like in Silk Central before version 17.5
3117524	1110592	LDAP SSL Authentication. Silk Central 18.0 displays a generic error when certificate is missing or LDAP/service is unavailable
3117951	1110586	Error In global Search: "The search index is not ready"
3118878	1111016	Slow system performance in one specific project (execution plan)
3120193	1111013	Email notifications: Need to have these stopped for users that are not part of the project
3124572	1111199	JIRA: "Checkboxes" field in JIRA is not supported
3125017	1111250	Handle NPE in item cancellation from a list attribute
3125929	1111308	Inconsistent validation when making platforms inactive
3126080	1111378	Issues when executing Silk Performer tests from Silk Central on a Chinese OS
3126173	1111330	Raising an issue allows users to select inactive platforms
3126421	1111375	Unable to generate web service stubs for <code>IssueManagerService</code> in Silk Central 18.0

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 18.5 has been tested as well as the software that Silk Central supports.

Operating System Support

- Microsoft Windows Server 2012
- Microsoft Windows Server 2012 R2
- Microsoft Windows Server 2016
- Microsoft Windows 7 32-bit/64-bit Service Pack 1 (execution server)
- Microsoft Windows 8.1 32-bit/64-bit (execution server)
- Microsoft Windows 10 32-bit/64-bit (execution server)
- Android 4.4, 5.x, 6.x, 7.x, 8.x (mobile device testing)
- iOS 9.3, 10.x, 11.x (mobile device testing)



Important: [Update for Universal C Runtime in Windows](#) is required for all Microsoft Windows operating systems. For Microsoft Windows Server 2016, the installation option **Windows Server (Server with Desktop Experience)** is required.

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 8 32 bit/64 bit
- IIS 10 32 bit/64 bit

Database Management System Support

- Microsoft SQL Server 2012 Service Pack 3
- Microsoft SQL Server 2014 Service Pack 2
- Microsoft SQL Server 2016
- Oracle 11g (version 11.2.0.4)
- Oracle 12c (version 12.1.0.2)

Integrated Micro Focus Software Support

- AccuRev 6.2

- Caliber 11.4, 11.5
- Mobile Center 2.51 or later
- Silk Performer 18.5
- Silk Test 18.5
- StarTeam 15.x, 16.x
- Silk TestPartner 6.3
- Unified Functional Testing (UFT) 14.0

Integrated Third-Party Software Support

- Apache Commons Virtual File System (VFS)
- Atlassian JIRA 6, 7
- Atlassian JIRA Agile 6, 7
- Bugzilla 4.4.12, 5.0.3
- CA Agile Central
- Git 2.14.2
- 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 2012, 2013, 2015
- NUnit 2.6.4, 3.4.1
- SAP Solution Manager 7.1
- Subversion 1.9
- Team Foundation Server 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 18.5.

Atlassian JIRA 5

Atlassian JIRA 5 is no longer supported with Silk Central 18.5.

Microsoft Windows 8, Microsoft Windows Server 2008, and IIS 7

Microsoft Windows 8, Microsoft Windows Server 2008, and IIS 7 are no longer supported with Silk Central 18.5.

Team Foundation Server 2010

Team Foundation Server 2010 is no longer supported with Silk Central 18.5.

Planned End of Support

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

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.

IBM Rational RequisitePro

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

Microsoft SQL Server 2012

In a future release, support for Microsoft SQL Server 2012 will be discontinued.

Microsoft Windows 7

In a future release, support for Microsoft Windows 7 will be discontinued.

SAP Solution Manager 7.1

In a future release, support for SAP Solution Manager 7.1 will be discontinued.

Team Foundation Server 2012 and 2013

In a future release, support for Team Foundation Server 2012 and 2013 will be discontinued.

VMware vCloud

In a future release, support for VMware vCloud will be discontinued.