



Silk Performer 18.5

Release Notes

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Silk Performer 18.5 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 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.

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

System Requirements

The following sections describe the system requirements for installing and running Silk Performer.

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:

Hardware Requirements

System Area	Requirement
Processor	Intel Core 2 Duo or equivalent CPU
RAM	4 GB
Hard disk space	2.2 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

- Both the Silk Performer controller and the Silk Performer agent can be installed on any Windows client or server operating system of version 6.1 or newer. This means Silk Performer requires Microsoft Windows 7 or newer, or Microsoft Windows Server 2008 R2 or newer.
- Installing the network emulation driver is currently not supported for Microsoft Windows 10 and Microsoft Windows Server 2016.

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, 2015, or 2017 for Visual Studio extension. 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 does not differentiate between test metrics of multiple running tests. Therefore, real-time values of the wrong test might be displayed.

What's New in Silk Performer 18.5

Silk Performer 18.5 introduces significant enhancements and changes.

Developing Performance Tests Using Visual Studio and C#

The Silk Performer Visual Studio extension allows you to develop performance tests in Microsoft Visual Studio. It offers functionality to record web technologies, supporting both the protocol-level as well as the browser-driven approach. The recording functionality of the Visual Studio extension resembles the one of the Silk Performer Workbench and includes capturing web traffic and user interactions. The captured information can be converted into a C# class including methods, each representing a user transaction.

The Visual Studio extension offers a comprehensive C# binding for all kernel, web, and browser API functions. Thus, it combines the rich development feature set of Visual Studio, including all debugging features, with the powerful load testing capabilities of Silk Performer, including capture file recording and TrueLog analysis.

Extended Browser Support for Imported Functional Tests

In the previous release, Silk Performer has introduced functionality to reuse your functional tests for performance testing. For browser-driven tests, Silk Performer now also supports Internet Explorer, Edge, and mobile browsers, additionally to Firefox, Chrome, and PhantomJS. The import wizard generates the required code for either multi or single session GUI-level testing.

Browser-driven Web Load Testing Enhancements

Inspect DOM elements using the F12 key

In the Browser Application, you can now use the **F12** key to inspect DOM elements. The **F12** key behaves just like the **Pause/Break** key.

Open Browser Application in full screen mode

The Browser Application now uses the size parameters of the BDL function `BrowserStart`: When `-1` is specified for the width and height, the Browser Application opens in full screen mode.

CloudBurst Enhancements

CloudBurst agents now have a unique name following the structure `ecs-<IP address>.cloudburstagents.com`. For example: `ecs-54-78-155-88.cloudburstagents.com`. Also, CloudBurst agents are part of the domain `cloudburstagents.com` and are now equipped with a valid TLS certificate, which facilitates tasks like defining firewall exceptions.

CloudBurst now provides a new AWS region: London.

Usability Enhancements

Default Java home

The Java home path can be defined in the Silk Performer profile settings. If this path is not correct, the default Java home path of the operating system is used instead.

Filtering TrueLog sections

In TrueLog Explorer, you can now hide all TrueLog sections using the TrueLog filter. This allows you to quickly display all relevant nodes without having to expand a number of nodes manually. This enhancement is also useful when your TrueLog sections contain only one node each. In such a case, the sections do not provide a particular benefit, since TrueLog sections are primarily intended to combine logically related nodes to provide a tidy and clear tree.

Longer project names allowed

The names for Silk Performer projects can now be up to 50 characters long.

Refined Responsiveness measure for Citrix

The `Responsiveness` measure has been refined for Citrix load tests.

Technology Updates

Support for Oracle Forms 12c

Silk Performer now supports Oracle Forms 12c.

OpenSSL Upgrade

OpenSSL has been upgraded to version 1.1.0f.

Dynatrace Plugin Upgrade

The Dynatrace plugin has been upgraded to support Dynatrace 6.5+.

Resolved Issues and Customer-Driven Enhancements

The following table lists issues that have been resolved in Silk Performer 18.5 as well as enhancements that have been implemented in this version:

SI #	RPI #	Description
3113040	1110140	When attempting to generate a script from a capture file, the analyzing process continues forever.
3106376	1109979	When using recording rules for Remedy 9.1 SP2, the <code>WEB_FLAG_ALL_RESPONSES</code> flag needs to be set.
3111487	1110063	TrueLog Explorer does not work correctly with Oracle ADF.
3114837	1110642	Using the comments attribute of cookies causes issues with the parser.
3111256	1110037	The Browser Application does not recognize any input. The BDL function <code>BrowserGetActiveWindow</code> is required to re-enable the Browser Application.
3112750	1110207	When verifying text, TrueLog Explorer generates the BDL function <code>WebVerifyData</code> , with incorrect parameters in some cases.
3116151	1110419	Scripts compiled in Silk Performer 17.5 lead to a memory leak in the <code>Perfrun.exe</code> .
3119817	1110884	Domain users do not work for GUI-level testing.
3121238	1110981	RC4 and possibly other weak ciphers are not included in the OpenSSL 1.1.0 build of Silk Performer 18.0.
3108417	1109630	When attempting to import a <code>.pem</code> client certificate, a password is required.
3121494	1111163	Unusual characters display in the TrueLog when recording Citrix.
3121998	1110952	When importing a Silk Test test asset, the check box Use project attributes for session login is disabled when it actually should be enabled.
3125004	1111239	A Silk Test monitor fails when it is uploaded to Silk Performer STM.
3108887	1109946	Recording secure Oracle Forms causes issues.
3126578	1111422	The <code>DOMStorage</code> counter in the registry causes rendering problems.
3112275	1110030	In the summary report, in the section <code>Available User Types</code> , the <code>measurement time</code> shows an incorrect, large numeric value.
3120113	1110905	The agent configuration does not work correctly in Silk Performer 18.0.
3113466	1111237	The XML baseline report cannot be generated.
3125486	1111441	Executing load tests with identical settings within Silk Performer 16.5 and 18.0 produces results that differ considerably.
3121476	1110941	The Overview Report cannot be customized.

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.

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

The Silk Performer licensing model is based on virtual users (VUsers).

Starting and using the Silk Performer Workbench does not require a license. You can model and customize scripts as well as adjust many other load test settings without a license. Also, executions that are performed with only one virtual user (like try script or baseline executions) do not require a license.

Starting a load test run requires licenses for the virtual users employed in the execution.

Silk Performer offers two licensing models:

- on-premise licensing
- online licensing

When you upgrade from an older Silk Performer version, new licenses are required for executing load tests with the new version. During the upgrade process, you can keep the old licenses for a period of 90 days.

Silk Performer works with three types of VUsers. Each type allows to simulate different application types:

- Web
- Standard
- Premium

VUser Type	Application Type
Web	Web Browser-Driven GUI-level testing in single session mode with selected web browsers HTTP(S) (Web browser low level) HTTP(S)/HTML (Web browser high level) HTTP(S)/XML (Web services, SOAP) HTTP Live Streaming (HLS) Silverlight Mobile SAP NetWeaver WebDAV (MS Outlook Web Access) Email (SMTP/POP) FTP TCP/IP UDP AMF0/AMF3/FLEX DLL Interface
Standard	All of <i>Web</i> , plus: Visual Studio Extension Java Add-On DB2-CLI Add-On OCI Add-On

VUser Type	Application Type
Premium	ODBC Add-On Visual Basic Add-On (Framework) Directory server (LDAP) CORBA Add-On All of <i>Standard</i> , plus: GUI Level Testing (Silk4J, Silk4NET, Silk Test Classic) Remedy Web ARS SAPGUI Add-On for Silk Performer Oracle Applications/Forms Add-On PeopleSoft Add-On Siebel Add-On Citrix Add-On Terminal Emulation (Green-Screen) Add-On Tuxedo/ATMI Add-On

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 2008 R2 • Microsoft Windows Server 2012 • Microsoft Windows Server 2012 R2 • Microsoft Windows Server 2016 • Microsoft Windows 7 32/64bit • Microsoft Windows 8 32/64bit • Microsoft Windows 8.1 32/64bit • Microsoft Windows 10 32/64bit
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 10, 11 <p>For GUI-level testing in single-session mode:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mozilla Firefox • Google Chrome • PhantomJS <p>For GUI-level testing in multi-session mode:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet Explorer • Microsoft Edge • mobile browsers
Terminal emulation products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AttachMate Extra 8 • AttachMateWRQ 13.0 • Distinct IntelliTerm 8.1 • Ericom Powerterm Pro v8.8.1 • HummingBird_Exceed 11.0 (hooking via socks proxy) • JProtector 4.5.2.0 • MochaSoft 5.3 (hooking via socks proxy) • NetTerm 5.1.1 • Nexus Terminal 5.3 • PassportPC2Host 3 • Quick3270 3.73 • Rumba 9

System Area	Tested With
ERP/CRM solutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SDI TN3270 Plus v2.4 • SecureCRT 1.0 • TeraTermPro 2.3 • TN5250_sourceforge 0.17.3 • TNBridge <p>SAPGUI Clients:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAPGUI client 740 <p>PeopleSoft Systems: PeopleSoft 8.0, 8.3, 8.4, 8.8, 9.0</p> <p>Siebel Systems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Siebel 6.3 using MS SQL Server • Siebel 6.3 using IBM DB2 • Siebel 6.3 using Oracle • Siebel 7 • Siebel 8.0, 8.1 <p>Remedy Web ARS: Remedy Web ARS 7.5, 7.6, 7.6.04 SP4 and SP5, 8.0, 8.1 SP1, 9.0, 9.1, 9.1 SP2</p> <p>Oracle Forms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oracle Forms 6i, 9i, 10g, 11g, 12c • Oracle EBS 11i, 12.x • Oracle Fusion 10g, 11g, 12c
Citrix clients	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citrix XenApp Client 12.x • Citrix Web Interface 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4 • Citrix StoreFront / Netscaler Gateway • Citrix Receiver for Microsoft Windows 3.x, 4.x (except 4.4)
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, 1.6 • GlassFish Metro 1.5 • Apache CXF 3.1.4
Database products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IBM Universal Database Systems 5.2, 6.1, 7.1 • Microsoft SQL Server 2008, 2008 R2, 2012 • Oracle Database 10g Release 2 • Oracle Database 11g Release 2 • Oracle Database 12g • Sybase SQL Anywhere Network Server 5.5.04
Corba products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oracle WebLogic Enterprise

System Area	Tested With
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Micro Focus VisiBroker • Micro Focus Orbix • IBM WebSphere
Tuxedo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oracle TUXEDO Server 6.3, 6.4, 7.0, 7.1, 8.0, 9.0 • Oracle WebLogic Enterprise 4.2
Jolt	Oracle Jolt 1.1 (including Oracle TUXEDO Server 6.4), 1.2
Java support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Java Development Kit 7, 8 • IBM Java Development Kit • Eclipse
.Net-based technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microsoft .NET Framework 2.0, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7 • Microsoft Visual Studio 2013, 2015, 2017 • 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

End of Support

Note that Oracle Forms with JInitiator is no longer supported in this and future versions of Silk Performer.