FlexNet Manager

FlexNet Manager FAQ

What is Flexera Software? What happened to Macrovision?

We are excited to inform you that on April 1, 2008, Macrovision's Software Business Unit became a stand-alone company called Flexera Software. The new company, which includes FlexNet® Manager and all the Macrovision software products – such as the InstallShield®, InstallAnywhere, AdminStudio®, and the FlexNet family of products – is completely dedicated to serving our customers by providing solutions that power the business of software. As always, if you have questions feel free to contact your Flexera Software representative or visit our new Web site at www.flexerasoftware.com.

How has FlexNet Manager's new database-powered reporting engine improved performance?

Significantly. FlexNet Manager's new database-powered reporting engine lets you generate reports far faster with even more accurate data than before. Customers of Flexera Software's SAM products will also notice how much faster, more accurate, and more stable FlexNet Manager's reporting is than SAM.

Can I use my current reporting tool to query the FlexNet Manager database?

Yes. FlexNet Manager's database is open, so customers who have their own reporting tools built on top of FlexNet Manager can use those tools to query the new database.

What are FLEXenabled applications and why is FlexNet Manager the only solution that can track and manage them?

Flexera Software, the company that develops FlexNet Manager, has a product called FlexNet Publisher that software producers use to better manage the licensing of their products. Their products that use FlexNet Publisher have been "FLEXenabled". Because FlexNet Publisher and FlexNet Manager use the same patented licensing technology, FlexNet Manager is the only solution with direct access to the FLEX license usage information, enabling enterprises to track and manage their FLEXenabled software with the most comprehensive and accurate usage reports.

Can I use FlexNet Manager to track applications that aren't FLEXenabled?

Yes, you can. For back-office applications, like Oracle datacenters, you can use the new Extensible Monitoring add-on to define and monitor software usage as it relates to unique business needs and vendor contract terms. Offering far more than just a snapshot in time, you can use FlexNet Manager to constantly monitor activity and collect usage data, even when the systems are unconnected. You can then identify trends to better anticipate future needs and accurately manage on-going compliance – all without time-consuming manual audits.

For Windows applications, your IT team can use AdminStudio software packaging solution to inject license tracking capabilities into them – a process known as FLEXwrapping – before deployment, making them visible to FlexNet Manager.

Is FlexNet Manager suited to both large enterprises and small companies?

Yes. Whether you manage 20 license daemons or 500, FlexNet Manager's Web-based interface provides a single-console view of all your FLEXenabled licenses, making them easy to manage. And because FlexNet Manager is so simple to use, smaller companies with limited IT resources can still manage all their licenses with ease.

How easy is it for new users to learn to use this software?

FlexNet Manager is easy to learn. The Web-based interface is designed to make it easy for licensing novices to proactively manage licenses. Many of the basic licensing functions can be automated, and it has alerts that can notify you of problems before they significantly impact your end users.

How is FlexNet Manager licensed?

FlexNet Manager licensing model is based on two factors, your number of end users and the number of vendor daemons you manage, making it ideal for small and large organizations alike. For additional information, please contact an Flexera Software representative.

What platforms does FlexNet Manager support?

FlexNet Manager is a truly multi-platform solution, Its cross-platform architecture runs on virtually every OS, including the latest releases of Windows, Solaris, AIX, Red Hat, and HP-UX.

I have SAMsuite and/or SAMreport. Why should I switch to FlexNet Manager?

As a SAMsuite or SAMreport user, you know the value of managing software license usage. But while SAM tools are helpful, FlexNet Manager is the only solution that gives you the power to properly monitor and control license usage across your organization. With the new database-powered reporting engine, FlexNet Manager does everything that SAM can, and much more, including:

* **Improved Reporting** – The reporting engine is now powered by Cognos 8, making it faster, more flexible and interactive. Reports that would have taken SAMreport hours to create are now ready in minutes. Create your own ad-hoc reports, import your LDAP organizational structure and drill down to identify software usage by cost center or user, and more.

* **Centralized management** – Control licenses across your organization from a single location

* **Cross-platform architecture** – Unlike SAMsuite, FlexNet Manager manages both UNIX and Windows NT servers

* **Automate common tasks** – Save time by automating tasks that were manual in SAM, including running reports and rotating log files

* **Better service to your end users** – Get instant insight into end-user license denials and fix problems quickly

* **User-friendly interface** – SAM users will instantly recognize how much easier FlexNet Manager's UI makes managing licenses

Can I import data (other than LDAP) to cross reference against my usage data?

Organizational data can be imported into FlexNet Manager via XML. As long as you organize your data, whether it is LDAP data or not, using the format described in our Reporting Guide, you can import this data into FlexNet Manager and report upon it.