

Columbus 7.6.5

Release Notes

Product version 7.6

columbus

Issue: 07.21

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Columbus 7.6.0 – Global Note

0.1 Content

This document contains the product changes for version 7.6.x. For more information of improvements from older versions, please check release notes for each older version (E.g. 7.5.5, 7.4.0, 7.3.0).

0.2 Changed DB-engine

Columbus 7.6 (Since version 7.5.0) will no longer support Firebird SQL and will now support Microsoft SQL Server only. See chapter 1 - Prerequisites for more information.

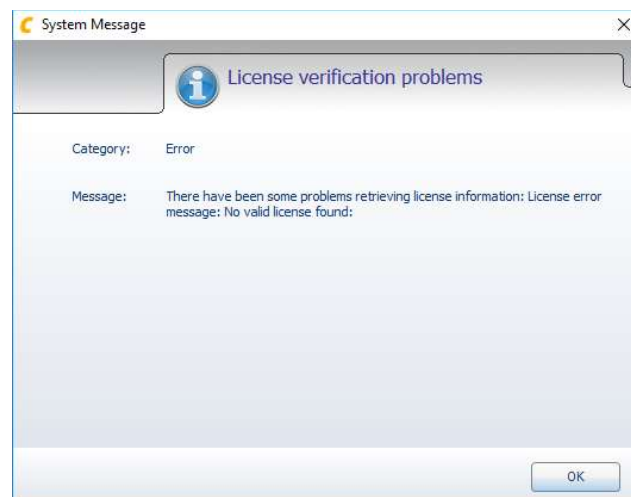
0.3 Changed license service

The license server was previously written with Microsoft .net2 framework and installed to: C:\inetpub\wwwroot\LicenseService.

The new license server is written with Microsoft .net4 framework and installed to: %_ProgramFiles%\Columbus\LicenseService

Note	A license activation is required after migration from version prior to 7.5.0; please follow the instructions from the LicenseConsole.exe
-------------	--

0.4 Exchange license file



If you get this error, please exchange license file prior to the setup process with License Console.

0.5 Supported Columbus Versions

The Columbus 7.6.x setup supports the automated migration from Columbus 7.3 or higher. Older Columbus installations must have updated to the latest 7.4.1 version before updating to 7.6.x.

0.6 PatchDeploy replaced by UpdateManagement

As a sequel to Patch Deploy, Update Management was released in May 2017. The previous services (catalog and patches) for PatchDeployment will be discontinued as of December 31, 2018.

0.7 Discontinued

Infrastructure

Discontinued: Allow alternate server connection for Blockstore agent

The configuration does not more allow to define alternate Blockstore hosts as this concurrent current Client Templates.

Management Console

Discontinued: Local impersonation credentials for OS Deployment agent

Only the net access credentials are needed.

0.8 Fixed

Management Console

Fixed: Various problem with filtering

Various problems during filtering for list content fixed.

Fixed: Various problem with tool tips

Various problems with tool tips for list content fixed.

Fixed: Various export did not work

Various problems with export for list content fixed.

Fixed: Delete for additional SWDepots not successfully

Some registry keys exist after removing additional SWDepots.

Fixed: SmartSelection “not contains” did not work

Queries with “not contains” are working now.

Management Client

Fixed: Command IF GROUP does not resolve nested groups

The command IF GROUP works as expected now.

Fixed: The “hide” button was disabled during action processing

The Client can have switched to hide mode now.

Fixed: Access violation when viewing Backup Set

An access violation dialog was present when viewing Backup Sets.

Fixed: Access violation when stopping Client

An access violation dialog was present when stopping Client.

Fixed: OTB connection may not closed.

In some circumstances an OTB connection gets not closed.

UpdateManagement

Fixed: Log overflow by UpdateManagement

Only output relevant log information.

Fixed: Force a scan even a daily scan has begun

The administrator can overcontrol a daily scheduled scan.

Fixed: Uninstall for updates did not work

In some circumstances the uninstall for updates did not work.

OS-Deployment

Fixed: Wrong WinPE assignment for Hyper-V

The WinPE architecture was wrong for requests for Hyper-V Clients.

Fixed: Same name for sources could struggle process

Same names are handled correctly now.

Fixed: Problem while identify HP Elite x2 1012 G2 during WinPE

The UUID could not read correctly.

Packaging

Fixed: Package Maker creates bluescreen on Windows 10 1803

The reason for bluescreening is fixed.

Inventory

Fixed: Connection state for Monitor differentiated between agent or scanner reporting

The Agent and Scanner did report different results.

0.9 Depreciated

PatchDeploy

“UpdateManagement” replaces the known feature “Columbus PatchDeploy”.

For existing customer Columbus 7.5.0 preserves existing PatchDeploy data and behaviour. We recommend new UpdateManagement to protect your IT-systems. To disable your PatchDeploy behaviour, please request a new license file from orders@flexera.com without the feature LFT_ColumbusPatchDeploy.

Your subscription for PatchDeploy automatically updated to UpdateManagement.

The PatchDeploy services get deactivated latest on December 31th 2018 (Or earlier).

For new Customers “Columbus PatchDeploy” is not available at all.

PatchDeploy replaced by UpdateManagement

As a sequel to Patch Deploy, Update Management was released in May 2017. The previous services (catalog and patches) for PatchDeployment will be discontinued as of December 31, 2018.

The Patch Deploy module will be removed from Columbus soon.

COM Interface

The known feature “SOAP interface” replaced by “REST”.

SOAP used by actions triggered by Spider OperationManager (SW ordering, inventory data for incident tickets and ASAP commands)

The COM Interface will be removed soon.

0.10 Improved

Infrastructure

Improvement: Cleanup data when removing user/device

The cleanup is faster now.

Improvement: Less log file spam

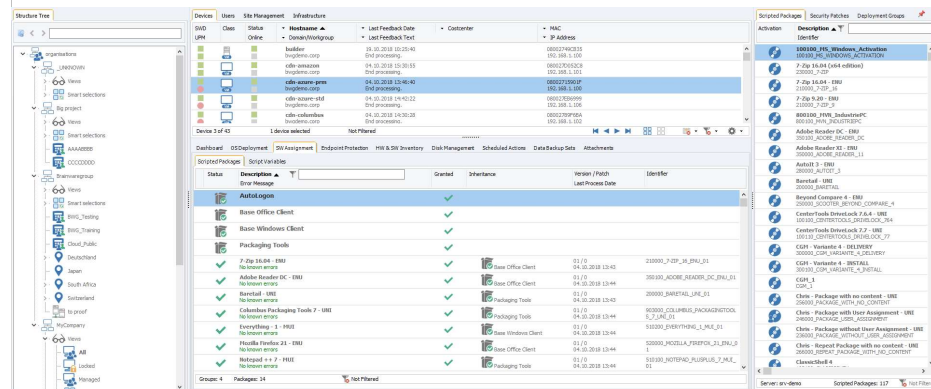
Many log entries moved to higher log levels to prevent user with spammed log files.

0.11 New functions / features

Management Console

New: Replaced device & user grid

New grid offers more details and state information for lists. Filter, sort and navigation highly improved.



New: Store log files from WinPE in DB and offer to watch in Console

Device	CDN	Device Name	Status	Last Feedback Date	Container	MAC
cdn-azure-prm	bwgdemo.corp	04.10.2018 13:46:40	End processing.	08002715901F	192.168.1.100	
cdn-azure-std	bwgdemo.corp	04.10.2018 14:42:22	End processing.	080027EB6999	192.168.1.106	
cdn-columbus	bwgdemo.corp	04.10.2018 14:30:28	End processing.	08002789F6BA	192.168.1.102	

Title /	Type	Size	Date/Time	Attachment ID
OS-Deploy Debug Files	OSD.DEBUG.ZIP	384 kb	20181004 130748	IA4D7mWaf7
OS-Deploy Debug Files	OSD.DEBUG.ZIP	386 kb	20181004 093036	IA49Ua7U3v
OS-Deploy Debug Files	OSD.DEBUG.ZIP	387 kb	20181003 151453	IA3FfAePB
OS-Deploy Debug Files	OSD.DEBUG.ZIP	388 kb	20181003 144851	IA3EmpJ2Hx
OS-Deploy Debug Files	OSD.DEBUG.ZIP	398 kb	20181004 105050	IA4AocC0BQ
OS-Deploy Debug Files	OSD.DEBUG.ZIP	400 kb	20181003 120355	IA3C3tr8tx

Note: The creation for Debug logs must be enabled in configuration for OS-Deployment agent.

REST

New: Support filters for "treeNodes" and "companies"

List all Sites for a specific Company (Or Site)

1/treeNodes?filter=parentId:I7J8pBO1lR

Get information for a specific Site by Name

1/treeNodes?filter=title:"My Site"

Get information for a specific Company by Name

1/companies?filter=name:"Brainwaregroup"

New: Get device inventory for software

?include=softwareInventory

New: Get available SmartDeploy templates

GET /companies/{id}/operatingSystemTemplates

UpdateManagement

New: Support for servicing stack updates (SSU)

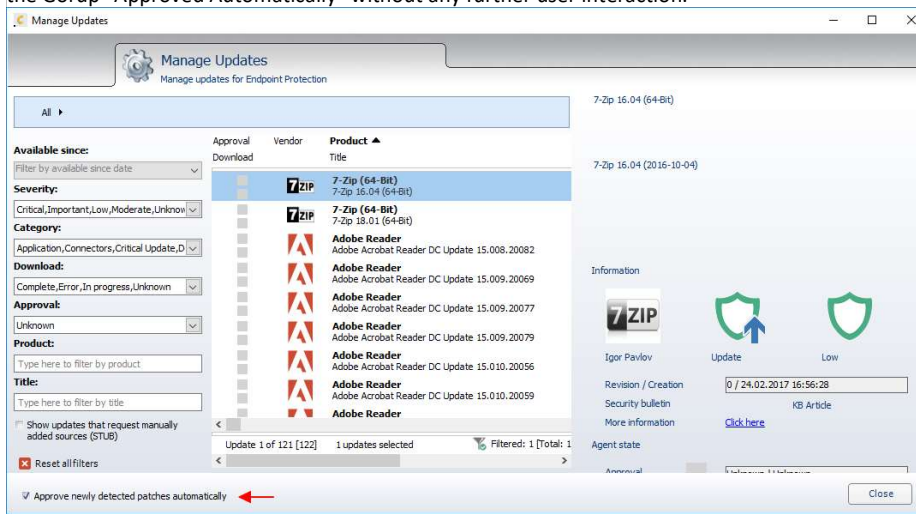
UpdateManagement can support SSU files.

New: Simplify the selection from device list to select update in Endpoint agent

Select needed updates, select from context menu “Save selection to clipboard”. In the list for downloaded items, select from context menu: select from clipboard.

New: Automatic approval

Newly detected patches may now be automatically approved. Set a repeated Patch download to gain the advantage of this feature. Those patches will be deployed autonomously to all clients with the Gorus “Approved Automatically” without any further user interaction.



0.12 Known issues

UpdateManagement

Open: Audit events for UpdateManagement

The current release does not support the audit UpdateManagement events.

Known: No support to remove updates from Windows prior NT6.1

Windows XP, 2003, Vista and Server 2008 not supported to remove installed updates.

Documentation

Open: The topic for “SW-Management from Cloud”

The documentation will be delivered soon (Included in OS- or SW-Deployment manuals).

CMC - Languages

Open: Partial Japanese translations missing

The Japanese language only translated partially and will not more delivered or supported.

1 Columbus 7.6.0 – R1

Fixed

CMC - “Show package assignments” did not work correctly

The report has been fixed

CMC - Sorting of software status

In some circumstances an OTB connection gets not closed.

CMC - Config template: Alternate shareless settings restored

Inventory Common Inventory Spider Power Management **Shareless**

Shareless options

Template settings:

- ☐ Not configured
- ☐ Default
- ☒ Configure

General:

Get data blocks from:

- ☒ Columbus BlockStore
- ☐ Content Delivery Network (CDN)

Columbus BlockStore:

- ☒ Set alternate server if current is not
- ☐ Override OU assigned

Alt1:

Alt2:

Port:

2 Columbus 7.6.1

This release contains mainly bugfixes and optimizations. A lot of work has been done to give the user a better experience. The most notable are listed in this section.

Console

Filtering with special characters

This issue has been fixed.

Refresh after changed device activation state

A refresh for the device has been added.

The searches "Assigned to OU" and "Not Assigned to OU" may not work correctly

This issue has been fixed.

Software sorting on software package patch list

The default Sort order has been changed to order after patch number.

Smart selections not updated on other instances

Smart selections will now get updated on other CMC instances.

Devices hidden in list

After some actions, devices may get hidden in the device list. List gets now refreshed correctly.

Groups assignments to user didn't work

This issue has been fixed.

User Software grid updated

The user's software list looks now the same as the one from the devices.

Sorting of devices list

Various optimisations.

Unicode Packages in software list

Packages with Unicode characters in title were displayed as "???".

Update management settings in config template

Explanations have been added.

Unresponsive console

Console may get sometimes unresponsive due to processing notifications. This issue has been fixed.





Assignments of empty software group are not visible

This issue has been fixed.

“Show package assignments” performance

The database queries have been optimised.

Software version of package was missing in the infrastructure agent view

Scripted Packages Security Patches Deployment Groups							
Activation	Description Identifier	status	Version	CRC	Deploy	Status Platform	Lang
	999000_ColumbusStatus 999000_COLUMBUSSTATUS	01				Ready for QA EASY	ENU
	999000_ColumbusStatus 999000_COLUMBUSSTATUS	02				Ready for QA EASY	ENU

UpdateManagement forensic report

Various optimisations.

Run as a different user

The console may not have been run as a different user (e.g. runas.exe cmd.exe ...). This issue has been fixed

Management Client**“Missing blocks” in shareless mode**

This error was raised due to insufficient free space on the target. The device will now report back which packages couldn't be installed.

High CPU usage

On some specific hardware, the scanner may have caused a high CPU usage during the inventory scan. This issue has been fixed.

Infrastructure Service

OTB performance

The infrastructure is now able to handle 15% more connections.

PXE

Wrong version of DOSUNDI shown in legacy mode

This issue has been fixed.

OS-Deployment

WinPE reboots immediately after loading

This issue has been fixed.

NOTE: If this issue persists, set an “Inject Windows PE files” action on the preboot agent to update the necessary files.

Columbus 7.6.2

New

Columbus Infrastructure on a Synology NAS

Blockstore and PXE can now be used from a NAS.

The screenshot shows the Columbus Infrastructure web interface. The 'Infrastructure' tab is selected, showing a list of agents. Below the table, there is a 'Columbus Infrastructure' window with a 'Status' section showing 'Preboot' and 'Blockstore' both as 'Started (30825)' and 'Started (30818)' respectively. The 'REST Connection' section prompts the user to enter the address and credentials for the Columbus REST service, with fields for 'Server' (192.168.0.111), 'User' (RESTUser), and 'Password'. A 'Test & save' button is at the bottom.

The Synology package and documentation can be found in the download area of the Flexera community <https://community.flexera.com>

Fixes

Blockstore

Processing large packages (25GB+) may have timed out on a slow system

This issue has been fixed.

CMC

Wrong hints in Software list

This issue has been fixed.

Incorrect Software Status

Some packages were marked for uninstallation even if they never were installed.

Selected package gets changed on device change

This issue has been fixed

Selected Agent gets reselected

Changing between servers in infrastructure view will now reselect the previously selected agent.

Package re-install not shown correctly

This issue has been fixed.

SWDeploy

New installations may have had errors during SWDepot refresh due to missing configuration

This issue has been fixed.

Columbus 7.6.3

In this release we have fixed, improved and added new features. The following list shows an overview about the most noteworthy.

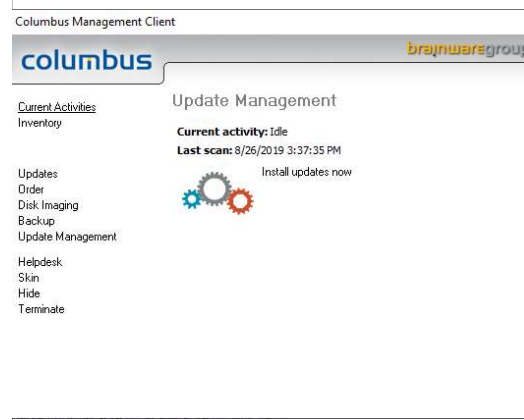
Management Client

Missing Client translations

Some client translations were missing for the imaging. Those have been added

Update Management status shown in client

The update status of a machine is now shown in the client's GUI. You may enable the menu entry in the client's configuration template.



Management Client uninstaller

The uninstall function of the client can only be used from the Management Console. An appropriate message has been added.

Management Console

Empty hints

Under circumstances the console may have displayed empty hints on buttons or other elements. This issue has been fixed.

Wrong date format in dashboard

If a client has a different time format (eg. YYYYDDMM) will be shown correctly. This issue has been fixed.

Preboot Agent – Shortcuts

Some Shortcuts were overriding default action. This has been optimised

Show package assignments – Wrong results if AND query is used

This issue has been fixed

OS Deploy**Updated Windows PE**

The boot images have been updated to version 1903.
There won't be an official 1909, but the images have been updated for latest hardware compatibility. Please check your drivers needed accordingly.

Remotely Anywhere**New Version**

Updated to 12.4.4693

REST**Improvements and harmonization**

The REST interface has been improved for simplification and “completeness”. It does not provide full functionality like the console but it's a step further.

For full details, read the REST documentation.

Setup**Files were not removed**

Some files may have been left after an uninstall. This issue has been fixed

Prerequisites Links updated

The pre-installation checks had wrong links due to changes of the Flexera community. The links have no been updated.

Update Management**Invalid WSUSCN2.cab signature**

Some customers experienced the problem of an invalid update catalogue (client log):

EndpointProtection: [EXCEPTION] - VerifyMicrosoftCatalogueFile: WUA API
AddScanPackageService fails: [E0leException] The digital signature of the object did not verify

The Infrastructure server will now verify the integrity of the file before any further processing. As prerequisite on the master server (where the patches are downloaded), this functionality requires the local Windows Update service to be active!

Improved Reboot options

It's now possible to set the behaviour for installation and reboot apart.

New installations may have had errors during SWDepot refresh due to missing configuration

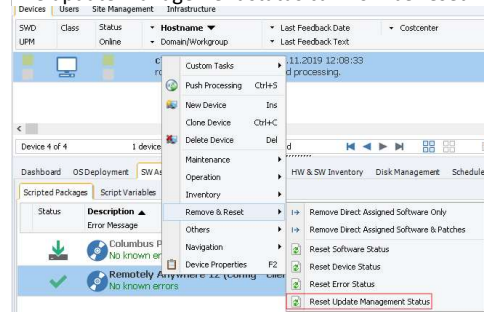
This issue has been fixed.

Improvements on initial Patch download

Improved Metadata generation for the 3rd party and MS catalogue.

Reset Update management Status

The update management status can now be reset.



Automatically set stub patch as approved

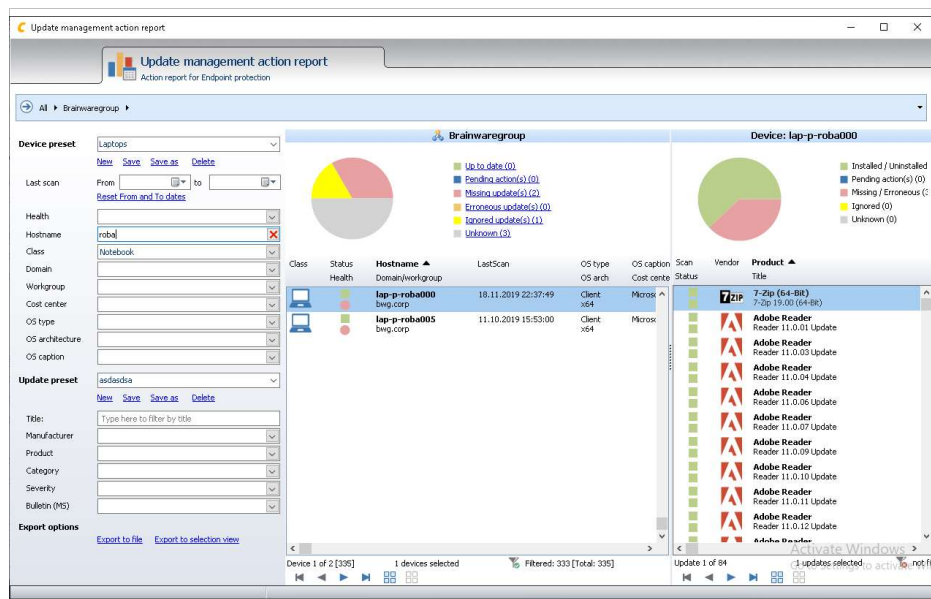
When the source of a stub patch gets added, the patch will automatically be set as approved

Wrong update selected for stub patches

When loading a stub patch, a wrong filter may have been set. This issue has been fixed.

New Report

A new report has been added for simplification. Additionally, it has also preset which allows to save the most common searches for an easier use.



Update approval from device list

Updates can now be directly approved from the device list.



Install / missing count

The “Manage Updates” dialog shows now how many times an update is installed or missing.

Approval	Vendor	Product	Category	Severity	Available since	Installed	Missing
Download		Title ▲			Last approval change		
		Adobe Acrobat			22.11.2017 09:09:51	2	0
		Acrobat 11.0.23 Update			Unknown		
		Adobe Reader			21.11.2017 06:46:17	50	10
		Reader 11.0.23 Update			Unknown		

Expired / superseded coloring

Expired and superseded updates are now shown in a different color:

- Expired red
- Superseded dark red

**Adobe Reader**

Reader Multi Lingual User Interface 11.0.19 Update

**Flash Player**

Flash Player 32.0.0.114 (Firefox and Netscape - NPAPI)

**Garmin Express**

Garmin Express 6.11.1.0

**Java Runtime Environment (32-Bit)**

Java Runtime Environment 1.8.111 (32-Bit)

**Java Runtime Environment (64-Bit)**

Java Runtime Environment 1.8.111 (64-Bit)

**Microsoft SQL Server 2012**

Security Update for SQL Server 2012 Service Pack 3 GDR (KB4057115)

PXE

Signed UEFI files – final release

The files have now been signed and secure boot should not be an issue anymore.

Tools

CollectBWSupportFiles

Various improvements.

AdminConsole – Start as administrator

On Systems with UAC enabled, the registry entries got written into the VirtualStore of the user. The AdminConsole will now be started as administrator to accomplish the right settings.

Columbus 7.6.4

In this release we have fixed, improved and added new features. The following list shows an overview about the most new and noteworthy.

IMPORTANT

With Columbus 7.6.3, Columbus uses a new authentication method for the communication between client and server. Unfortunately, this may fail on Machines which have set «Chinese» system locale. The client will show «Unable to connect to <Server> ...» with the following lines in the Brainware.log:

```
C7Service: [WARNING] - Problem authenticating with server: 401
C7Service: Connection login: OTB server=columbus:24784 UseSSL=FALSE
```

If you have been encountering this Problem, you must update to 7.6.4 to resolve this issue. The Client must be updated manually because the auto update function is not working anymore.

Client

Uninstallation of the management client was incomplete

All files and logs will now be removed.

Optimizations during package rebuild

The rebuild process of packages while using shareless mode has been improved.

Data restore was not possible

Data restore may not have been possible if the machine was set temporarily to “Locked” or “Unmanaged”

Client translations improved

Some translations for the client were missing.

Client did not update settings for Inventory or UpdateManagement

New/changed settings were not applied until a “software push” / “Update” was run. The client will now update the settings before processing.

UpdateManagement – Unable to locate patch

During the installation of 3rd party patches, the installation may not have found the sources. This issue has been fixed.

Copy may fail using PFRO

In order to replace files in use, the pending file name operations queue will be used. On system with certain restrictions may have blocked the action. This issue has been fixed.

CMC

Rename software group option

This option has been restored and improved. Please note, if a group with the new desired name already exists, the groups will be merged.

Software filtering on user object

Under circumstance, the filtering of the software list of a client, may have shown wrong results. This issue has been fixed.

“OS install is scheduled”

This message will now also be shown in smart deploy tab.

Uninstallation of the management client was incomplete

All files and logs will now be removed.

Sorting of agents

Agents may not have been sorted correctly by “last status” in Infrastructure view.

Black bars in grids

Some grids may have shown temporarily black bars instead of the value. This issue has been fixed.

OS template cleanup improvements

The dialog may have shown error messages. This issue has been fixed.

Support for Japanese language

The support for Japanese Language has been removed.

Package list – Selection changed when sorting changed.

This issue has been fixed

Searching for a user will not selected the object

This issue has been fixed.

Unable to delete OS-Release

It was not possible to delete a Smart OS release from the console. This issue has been fixed.

Show Package assignments – “Include all users” did not work

This issue has been fixed.

Blockstore

Processing Metadata for each package

Reloading the metadata may have not worked. This function has been restored and improved.

Metadata files – “The process cannot access the file because its being used by another process”

This issue has been fixed.

Imaging

Machine can be backed up in locked state

A machine can only be backed up If its activation state is set to “Managed”.

Inventory

New scan intervals

The scanning interval “monthly” has been added.

Notification

FTP Server status not shown

The start/stop status will now be shown in the agents view.

OTB

Columbus client or Console cannot communicate – Unable to authenticate 401

Some Management Clients or the CMC may not be able to communicate to the Columbus Server.

REST

No response

Under rare circumstances, the REST server may have given an empty response. This issue has been fixed

TLS initialization issue

The initialization of the REST TLS may have failed. This issue has been fixed.

Setup

Setup cannot update database

The setup may not have been able to update the database due to missing permission. This issue has been fixed.

Update Management

Some MS updated were not downloaded

If patches from get updated, they persist in the catalogue with multiple entries. An additional handling has been added.

Columbus 7.6.5

In this release we have fixed, improved and added new features. The following list shows an overview about the most new and noteworthy.

Info

This release features an Update of the SSL libraries to the latest LTS release 1.1.1. For reference, the libraries "libeay32.dll" and "ssleay32.dll" are now replaced by "libcrypto-1_1.dll" and "libssl-1_1.dll". The Setup will not delete any files in the Windows directory since there may be dependencies to other applications.

Note - OSDeploy

After the installation, please run a Windows PE injection. Otherwise the staging might fail. Instructions: in CMC goto the "Infrastructure" tab > Select your staging server > Select the "Preboot Services" agent > Select "Inject Windows PE files" from the ribbon menu.

Note - Setup

The Setup might show a message that the

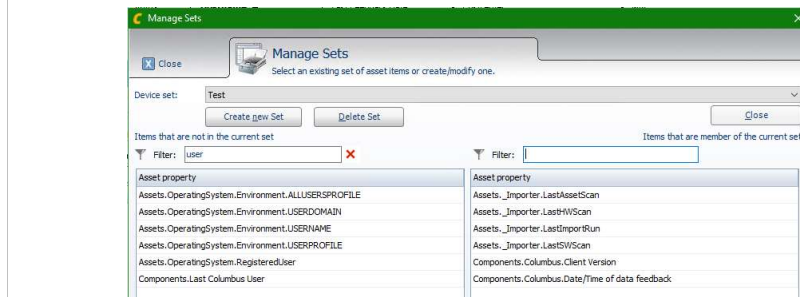
Client

NEW: UserAdd was not executed when a re-install from the console has been set.

This feature has been added

Management Console

IMP: "Preselected details for selected Objects" have now search filters



IMP: Failed login will reset to saved user

After a failed login attempt, the credentials will not be reset.

FIX: Filtering inventory asset data might have not shown correctly

This issue has been fixed.

FIX: Infrastructure > Agent list: Blank/grey grid

The agent list might have gone unusable after a longer period of time. This issue has been fixed

FIX: Sorting of date values in asset data was wrong

This issue has been fixed.

FIX: Filtering inventory asset data might have not shown correctly

This issue has been fixed.

FIX: Cancelling a rollout job might have gone stuck

This issue has been fixed.

FIX: Deleting multiple PXE rules didn't work

This issue has been fixed.

OS Deploy / PXE

NEW: Shortcuts in WinPE session

Press “Alt+S” to show the details or “Alt+C” for the command prompt.

NEW: The structure for the “DrvStore” when a device gets registered in PXE

Formerly, this was done during the WinPE phase when a new device got installed the first time.



FIX: During the SmatCapture process the client actions were not set correctly

This issue has been fixed

Package Maker

FIX: A runtime error might have shown when snapshot is cancelled.

This issue has been fixed

Inventory Agent

NEW: Option to run at specific time

This feature allows to run and transmit the inventory and metering data at a specific time. A configuration example for "ColumbusInventoryScanner.cfg":

```
[Scanner]
InvScanStartDelay=0
InvScanStartPeriod=daily-at
InvScanDailyAt=22:00
```

Please note: The scan will only run once a day. For testing, stop the service, delete the following registry key "HKLM\SOFTWARE\WOW6432Node\BrainWare\Columbus\7\InvAgent" > "LastRun" and start the service again.

Additionally, there is a random delay between 1-10 minutes. In the example above, the scan/transmission would run between 22:01 and 22:11

FIX: Inventory files might not have been imported to Spider due to wrong column count

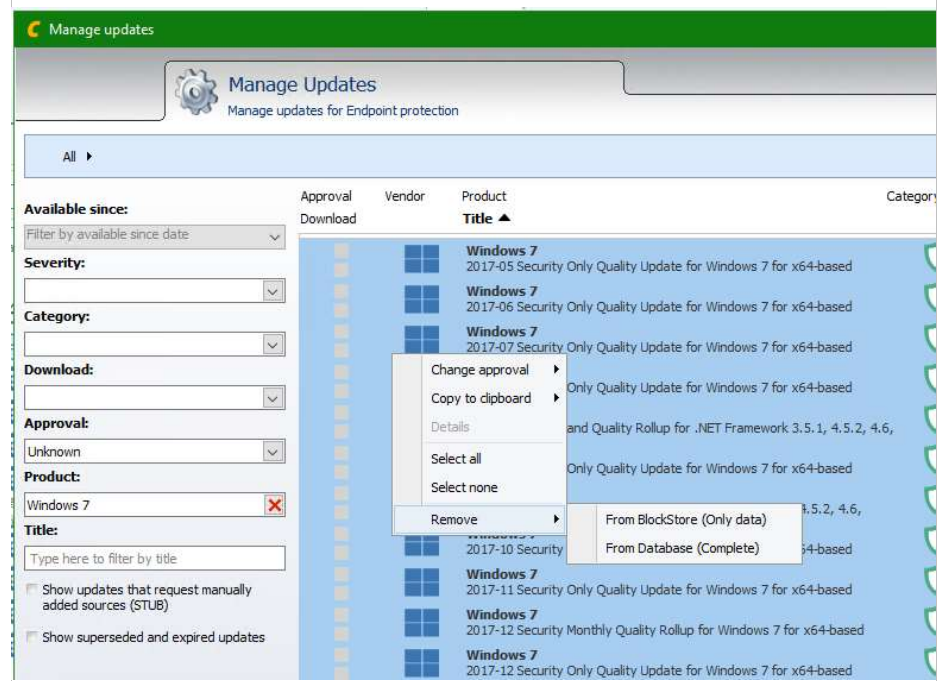
This issue has been fixed.

Update Management

NEW: Option bulk remove updates

The update management dialog provides now the possibility to remove all unused updates

NOTE: A Block Store cleanup must be scheduled afterwards to free-up space.



Prerequisites

7.1 Master Server

Columbus Infrastructure

- Server 2008 SP2 (32/64bit)
- Server 2016 (recommended)
- 5GB free Space for application files
- 10 GB free Space for Repository (Dependent customers OS- and SW-release data)
- 4GB RAM
- Physical or virtualized
- SQL native Client 2012 (To process Columbus installation)

License (Server and Console)

- Microsoft .net Framework 4.6
- Windows IIS

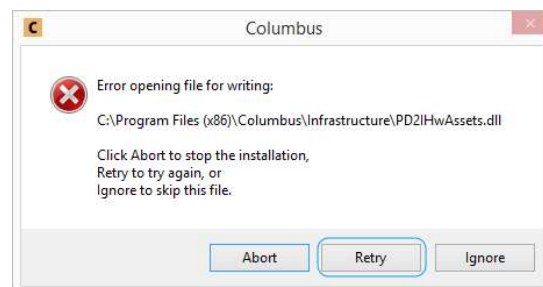
Database

Local installation or remote access:

- MS SQL Server 2014, 2016 (Servicepack 1 mandatory), 2017 (Express, Standard, Enterprise)
- Windows or SQL-User Authentication

7.1.1 Setup issue “Error opening file for writing:”

In some circumstances (Depend from running modules), Columbus 7.5.x setup cannot overwrite some files:



Workaround:

Click on “Retry”. The same or similar message can appear multiple times.

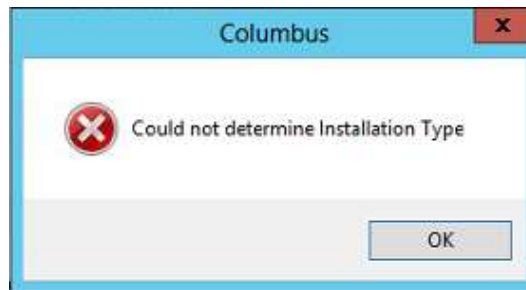
7.2 Site Server

Columbus Infrastructure

- Server 2008 SP2 (32/64bit)
- Server 2016 (recommended)
- 5 GB free Space for Program Files
- 10 GB free Space for Repository (Dependent customers OS- and SW-release data)
- 4 GB RAM
- Physical or virtualized

7.2.1 Setup issue “Could not determine Installation Type”

Columbus 7.5.x setup requires some information from registry, not provided by 7.4.x setup script:

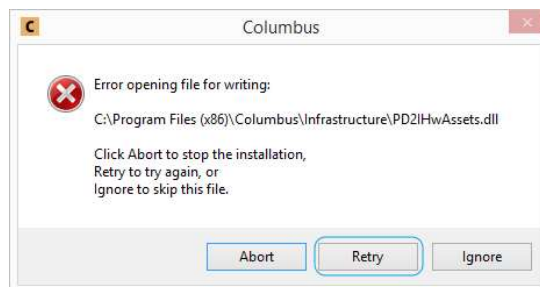


Workaround:

```
[HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Wow6432Node\Brainware\Columbus\7\Setup]  
"IsSite"=dword:00000001
```

7.2.2 Setup issue “Error opening file for writing:”

In some circumstances (Depend from running modules), Columbus 7.5.x setup cannot overwrite some files:



Workaround:

Click on “Retry”. The same or similar message can appear multiple times.

Knowledgebase Articles

Setup

Prerequisites Columbus 7.5 or newer

<https://community.flexera.com/t5/Columbus-knowledge-base/Prerequisites-Columbus-7-5/ta-p/460>

System Requirements - SQL Server

<https://community.flexera.com/t5/Columbus-knowledge-base/System-Requirements-SQL-Server/ta-p/478>

Communication

Columbus 7.5 or newer Client and Server Communication (Ports)

<https://community.flexera.com/t5/Columbus-knowledge-base/Columbus-7-5-Client-and-Server-Communication-Ports/ta-p/5227>