



## BigFix Inventory

Maintain software audit readiness and mitigate security risks with software compliance and usage

BigFix® Inventory can identify an organization's licensed and unlicensed software with drill-down granularity to track software usage patterns and trends across Windows, Mac OS, UNIX and Linux endpoints. Dramatically reducing the time required to conduct a comprehensive software asset inventory for license reconciliation or compliance purposes, the solution provides valuable insight into what the organization owns—and what it has installed but doesn't own—along with how often the software is being used in order to support better planning, budgeting and vendor license compliance while mitigating security risk.

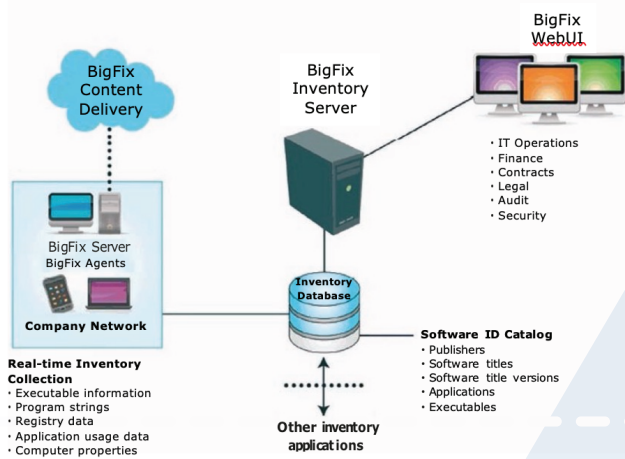
The near-instant visibility into enterprise assets provided by BigFix Inventory can be vital to optimizing asset control and operations in the interconnected, instrumented and intelligent technology environments of today's smarter planet.

Easy to use and centrally managed from a unified console, the solution enables continuous asset assessment and reporting with low total cost of ownership and high return on investment. Not only does BigFix Inventory discover and manage applications—down to the version level—the insights it provides can translate into significant cost savings for organizations that are spending more than necessary on software licensing fees.

### Highlights

- Identify licensed and unlicensed software with drill-down granularity to pass more audits, limit security exposures and reduce annual software costs
- Reduce the time, effort and inaccuracy of manual inventory and analysis
- Manage assets on hundreds—or hundreds of thousands—of Microsoft Windows, MacOS, UNIX and Linux endpoints

## BigFix Inventory: How it works



BigFix Inventory Architecture leverages a comprehensive software identification catalog (iso 19770 enabled) to simplify asset identification and support reporting that organizational units can use to enhance software-related operations and management.

## Knowing your assets, managing them better

When it comes to understanding and managing software assets, organizations today face common challenges. What do you have—and how can you reconcile what you’ve purchased with what’s installed? Do you have the right applications available to

the right users—and how can you redistribute software to make sure it’s deployed to the best advantage? Overall, are you managing your assets in the most efficient and comprehensive way? Are you meeting standard compliance—and are you legally licensed for all the software installed on users’ endpoints?

BigFix Inventory can provide answers, delivering deep asset management capabilities even in the most complex environments. Providing infrastructure views and enabling customized “slice-and-dice” reports on aggregate application counts, software usage statistics and compliance with basic license types, the solution can provide an understanding of the connections between software license management and desktop, patch and security management processes. It can give you the focus you need to better manage your endpoints, reconciling the real-time endpoint state against application licenses on Windows, MacOS, UNIX and Linux platforms.

## Benefiting from an intelligent agent-based approach

BigFix Inventory is a standalone product that provides capabilities either as an independent solution or in concert with other solutions in the BigFix family. The solution correlates the inventory data it gathers with its built-in Software Identification Catalog (ISO 19770 enabled) to create an inventory data warehouse. It then allows users to browse the data warehouse and generate reports.

The Software Identification Catalog simplifies the identification of specific software installations with information on 9,100 publishers, 38,000 software products and more than 105,000 application signatures out of the box. Continually updated via a cloud-based update service with information on commercial applications and publishers, the catalog is also easily configurable to include tracking of homegrown and proprietary

applications—with no scripting or coding required. The BigFix Inventory approach is a significant change from—and advantage over—conventional management solutions.

Other techniques utilize endpoint agents that are entirely dependent on instructions received from a central command-

and-control server and require lengthy scans to acquire inventory data. With BigFix Inventory, the endpoint itself provides the computational power necessary for assessment and

reporting, considerably enhancing reporting speed. The ability to schedule inventory and reporting at times that are most appropriate to the workloads of individual endpoints, rather than requiring a batch to execute all at once, further enhances efficiencies by avoiding bandwidth and endpoint CPU bottlenecks.

## Drilling down for insight and cost savings

BigFix Inventory enables two key software metering functions—“always on” software inventory and analysis, and software asset and license management.

The inventory and analysis function provides a constantly updated inventory that drills down into software asset information, providing aggregated statistics and usage gathered by searching, filtering, sorting, viewing and exporting data on potentially thousands of computer properties. Automation and speed of operations enable IT organizations to radically reduce the number of hours and resources spent on inventory activities.

These two central functions are supported by a number of key capabilities:

- **Rapid installation and implementation**—A robust platform designed for speed as well as intelligence means that installation throughout the entire enterprise takes only hours. Traditional solutions, by contrast, often can require months or even longer. Once installation is complete, “always on” inventory captures software status and changes in near real time, boosting time to value for low total cost of ownership. Existing BigFix customers can quickly add Inventory capabilities without requiring additional endpoint software and relay infrastructure.
- **Flexible, efficient design**—With the ability to handle hundreds of thousands of endpoints, the solution provides significant advantages for simplified management and reduced hardware and staff costs over traditional asset management methods requiring dozens of dedicated back-end servers.
- **Visibility into any asset**—The solution can gain visibility into any computing device across topologies in a heterogeneous environment and regardless of connection state— whether on the corporate network or connected via the Internet. Software discovery and usage monitoring enabled on all platforms supported by BigFix clients, including all UNIX operating systems. It also provides discovery for processes, file systems and hardware and usage. Common Inventory Technology scans can also be used to gather data from endpoints and to discover all signature types, including those that cannot be resolved by searching for file names. Additionally, enhanced usage data monitoring can help prevent duplication of signatures and verify software entitlements. Persistent inventory and visibility ensure that software records are up to date, accurate and complete.
- **Streamlined catalog management**—The built-in catalog feature enables users to configure software-asset content based on publishers, products and releases, as well as drill down to the package or file-data level. This built-in view, as well as the launch-in-context feature, also allows users to leverage scan and registry data reports for quick creation of signatures. The configurable catalog can then be exported into native format and uploaded into a new software use analysis installation before the initial import.
- **Ongoing analysis and reporting**—Because the solution’s asset monitoring takes place continuously, administrators and financial analysts can generate the reports they need when they need them. Real-time reporting can deliver information

on the health and compliance of software assets in minutes—regardless of the size of the environment. Reporting access, based on computer groups, is available to various roles and individuals in the enterprise, not just to operations managers, helping support line-of-business requirements.

- **Integration with other solutions**—To extend management capabilities, BigFix Inventory integrates with the asset management capabilities of IBM Control Desk, which provides functions such as procurement and contract management. The combined platform delivers management across the full software lifecycle—from procurement through retirement—ultimately enabling an automated, self-service enterprise application store to help streamline control of software requests, approvals, deployment and licensing.

In addition, the Software Knowledge Base Toolkit integrates with and manages the Software Identification Catalog, delivering greatly improved catalog content. The software catalog contains UNIX software from some third-party vendors as well as full coverage of IBM products on Windows, Mac OS, UNIX and Linux platforms—including increased Windows coverage. New software signatures can be defined based on raw inventory data; if users find a software item that is not matched by any signature from their existing software catalog, they can create a signature for the unmatched software item.

## Generating reports for IT and business operations

Using BigFix Inventory, organizations can gain increased visibility into their software license consumption and usage while reducing the amount of time and effort required to generate reports that show compliance and overall software usage.

Leveraging the power and flexibility of BigFix technology, this solution enables significant benefits including the ability to more accurately plan software budgets based on inventory and usage trends. The solution can also help facilitate planning. For example, when organizations are migrating from an old version of Microsoft Office to the latest version of Office, BigFix can help administrators quickly determine which endpoints meet the prerequisites, and which endpoints need hardware upgrades such as added RAM.

## The BigFix family

You can further consolidate tools, reduce the number of endpoint agents and lower your management costs by extending your investment in BigFix Compliance to include other components in the BigFix family. Because all functions operate from the same console, management server and endpoint agent, adding more services is a simple matter of a license key change. The BigFix family includes:

- **BigFix Lifecycle**—This easy-to-manage, quick-to-deploy solution provides unified, real-time visibility and management of endpoints including asset discovery, patch management, software distribution, operating system deployment, and remote desktop control.
- **BigFix Compliance**—This easy-to-manage, quick-to-deploy solution provides unified, real-time visibility and enforcement to help organizations both protect endpoint assets and assure regulators that systems are meeting security compliance standards.

<b>BigFix Platform Requirements</b>	
<b>Server</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Windows Server 2008/2008R2, 2012/2012R2, 2016</li> <li>• Microsoft SQL Server 2008-2017</li> <li>• RedHat Enterprise Server 6, 7</li> <li>• DB2 10.x</li> </ul>	
<b>Console</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Windows 7,8.1,10/Server 2008-2019</li> <li>• Adobe Flash Player 12+</li> </ul>	
<b>Agent</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Windows: Vista-10</li> <li>• Windows: Server 2008-2019</li> <li>• Windows: 10 IoT</li> <li>• Windows: Embedded 7/2009, POSReady 7/2009</li> <li>• RHEL: 5, 6, 7</li> <li>• CentOS: 5.3, 6, 7</li> <li>• Debian: 7, 9, 8</li> <li>• Oracle Enterprise Linux: 6, 6.7, 7, 7.1, 7.2</li> <li>• Raspbian 9</li> <li>• SLES: 10, 11, 12</li> <li>• Ubuntu: 12.04 LTS - 18.04LTS</li> <li>• Solaris:</li> <li>• Mac: OSX 10.8-macOS 10.14</li> <li>• AIX 6.1, 7.1, 7.2</li> <li>• HP-UX 11.11, 11.23, 11.31</li> <li>• + <i>End-of-life platforms managed by previous versions of the BigFix Agent!</i></li> </ul>	
<b>Hypervisor Extenders:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PowerVM</li> <li>• VMWare ESXi 5.5, 6, 6.5</li> </ul>	
<b>Inventory Server</b> ( <i>co-hosted with BigFix Server &lt;5K systems</i> )	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Windows Server 2008/2008R2, 2012/2012R2, 2016</li> <li>• Microsoft SQL Server 2008-2016</li> <li>• RedHat Enterprise Server 6.3, 7</li> <li>• DB2 10.1 fp5+, 10.5 fp6+</li> </ul>	
<b>Hypervisor Support for License Metering</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VMWare ESX, ESXi/vCenter</li> <li>• Microsoft Hyper-V</li> <li>• KVM with RHEV-M</li> <li>• Xen/Citrix Xen</li> </ul>	
<b>Public Cloud Support for Sub-capacity</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IBM Cloud Virtual Server, Cloud Containers</li> <li>• IBM Cloud Bare Metal Servers</li> <li>• Amazon EC2 and Dedicated</li> <li>• Google Compute Engine</li> <li>• Microsoft Azure</li> <li>• Oracle Cloud Compute Instances</li> </ul>	

## For more information

To learn more about BigFix, contact your HCL Software representative, HCL Business Partner, or visit: [www.BigFix.com](http://www.BigFix.com).

## About HCL Software

HCL Software is a division of HCL Technologies that develops and delivers a next-generation portfolio of enterprise-grade software-based offerings with flexible consumption models, spanning traditional on-premises software, Software-as-a-Service (SaaS), and bundled managed services. We bring speed, insights and innovations (big and small) to create value for our customers. HCL Software areas include DevOps, Security, Automation, Application Modernization, Data and Integration Infrastructure, and several Business Applications. HCL embraces the real-world complexity of multi-mode IT that ranges from mainframe to cloud and everything in between while focusing on customer success and building 'Relationships Beyond the Contract.



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