BigFix Inventory 11.0.1.0 Release Notes

This document provides information about the BigFix Inventory application update 11.0.1.0. The update is cumulative and contains changes provided in the previous updates.

Name of the component	Version	Updated in this Release
BigFix Inventory Site (NEW SITE!)	4	Yes
BigFix Inventory Server	11.0.1.0	Yes
BigFix Inventory Server: ILMT Core library	9.2.36.0	Yes*
BigFix Inventory Server: ILMT Catalog	9.2.36.6-20240603-2243	Yes*
BigFix Inventory Server Software Catalog	20240813	Yes*
BigFix Inventory Scanner Software Catalog - Major	2638899	Yes*
BigFix Inventory Scanner	11.0.36.0 on all platforms except: 9.2.36.0000 on Linux on SystemZ / s390	Yes
BigFix Inventory Disconnected Scanner	11.0.1.0 9.2.36.0 on IBM I	Yes Yes
BigFix Inventory Container Solution Packages	11.0.1.0	Yes
BigFix Inventory VM Manager Tool	11.0.1.0	No
SAP Metric Data Collector	11.0.1.0	No
BigFix Inventory Image Scanner Script	11.0.1.0	No
BigFix Inventory Scanner Service	11.0.1.0	No
BigFix Inventory Cloud Adapter	11.0.1.0	No
Software Data Harvesting Tool for BigFix Inventory	1.1	No
BigFix Inventory Keystore Migration Tool	1.0	No
BigFix Inventory Utility	1.1	No

^{*} Included in the server installation package

If the BigFix Inventory site is not visible

- 1. Check for License Update via BigFix License Overview (refresh if needed)
 <u>License Overview dashboard</u>
- 2. Enable new sites: *BigFix Inventory* and *BigFix Inventory Discovery*. <u>Selecting Sites</u>

Additional steps for BigFix Inventory upgrade to version 11.0.1.

- After refreshing the BigFix Inventory site, run one-time action: Create Scanner Wrapper for Scanner 11.0.0 (9.2.35) or older against all relevant endpoints.
- 2. Upgrade the actions first before upgrading Scanner to version 11.0.1.
- 3. Proceed with the upgrade process as before.

The deployment path of the scanner is changed to be aligned with BigFix. To support past and new deployment paths the Scanner Wrapper is introduced to manage the deployment complexity. From this release, Analysis and Fixlets refer to the old and new Scanner only via Scanner Wrapper. Scanner Wrapper is part of the Scanner and for new deployments, is managed via the "Install or Upgrade Scanner" fixlet.

Additional steps for BigFix Inventory Server upgrade to version 11.x from 10.x

Upgrade procedure from BigFix Inventory Server 10.x to 11.x. version has a few additional steps to be followed before and after the standard upgrade procedure. Those steps are one-time tasks. For more details, check https://support.bigfix.com/bfi/BigFix-Inventory-11.0.0.0-ReleaseNotes.pdf.

Note: This is not applicable if the BigFix Inventory server is already using the new *BigFix Inventory* site. In such a case, only the standard upgrade procedure should be applied.

Allowed upgrade path

Starting with release 11.0.0.0, server updates are available from the *BigFix Inventory* site, and catalog updates are available from the *BigFix Inventory Discovery* site.

It is recommended to upgrade the BigFix Inventory server and tools frequently to benefit from new features and security fixes. Please plan at least one upgrade per year.

BigFix Inventory Server allows direct upgrades from a limited number of past releases. **For version 11.0.1, the minimal version for direct upgrade path is 10.0.11.0.** For version 10.0.10.0, upgrade first to 11.0.0.0 using *Upgrade to interim version* fixlet and then upgrade to 11.0.1.0.

Deprecated BigFix Inventory v10 site update

The BigFix Inventory v10 site is deprecated and it does not offer download options for older packages.

If your BigFix Inventory version is 10.0.10 or above, use the *BigFix Inventory* and *BigFix Inventory Discovery* sites to upgrade the BigFix Inventory server and update the server software catalog.

If your BigFix Inventory version is older than 10.0.10.0 and you are not able to run an upgrade to an interim version using the BigFix Inventory v10 site, contact HCL support for instructions.

Introduction of the HCL BigFix Scanner

This release introduces a new HCL BigFix Scanner.

- New HCL binary (except Linux on SystemZ / s390 planned for the next update).
- New versioning.
- Installed under BigFix Client directories.
- Backward compatible with BigFix Inventory Server.
- Wrapper to separate Fixlets and Analysis from Scanner deployment logic.

The scanner binaries and location of the binaries are changed to be aligned with BigFix. As the scanner is now one of BigFix Platform tools, it is located under the Bes Client directory \tool\scanner directory.

The HCL BigFix Scanner does not support use by non-HCL applications. There is an option to keep the previous IBM CIT Scanner installation to continue supporting existing non-HCL applications.

IMPORTANT!

After refreshing BigFix Inventory Site run one time action:

Create Scanner Wrapper for Scanner 11.0.0 (9.2.35) or older for all endpoints.

This enables the use of the BigFix Inventory site content (including Analysis) with existing Scanner deployments.

The above action is also part of the "Install or Upgrade Scanner" action. Scanner deployments will deploy Scanner Wrapper along with the scanner itself.

Upgrading the scanner

All previous installations of Scanner will be removed during scanner upgrade, unless the Scanner instance was used by any non-HCL exploiter. As a result, you may have two folders with a scanner: previous CIT scanner for other non-HCL exploiters and the current BigFix scanner.

Cleaning up non-HCL exploiter installations

There is a separate task *Cleanup Scanner Installations 11.0.0 (9.2.35) and older* that can be used to completely remove remaining IBM CIT Scanner instances installed outside of BigFix Client installation folders if needed.

Note: The new version of HCL BigFix Scanner is 11.0.36.0 and is available for all platforms except Linux s390x / SystemZ, where IBM CIT 9.2.36.0000 is available.

Versioning details: Scanners with version 11.x.x.x are built by HCL, and scanners with version 9.x.x.x are built by IBM. The third digit (in this case 36) is the same for HCL and IBM scanner builds, to indicate the HCL Scanner release is aligned with the IBM Scanner release.

Changes to Oracle Measurements

The Oracle Measurements feature incorporates previously available Oracle Auditing package preparation and extends options for preparing detailed Oracle Databases inventory reports, covering database editions and licensable options for Windows, Linux, AIX, and Solaris systems.

Significant improvements brought by this release include, now for Windows as previously covered for Unix:

- It incorporates all the necessary elements to construct the Oracle Database Inventory report, no need to obtain any external resources.
- The time necessary to build the Oracle Database inventory was reduced significantly.
- Oracle Extreme Performance Edition is now mapped to Enterprise Edition.
- The accuracy of recognizing licensable options (Partitioning, Advanced Compression, and Multitenant) has been improved.

Additional improvements available for all supported systems:

Logging has been optimized and reporting issues more accurately.

The new approach renders the Get Oracle Features obsolete, as all its functions are covered with a more accurate and faster Get Oracle Measurements fixlet.

For more information refer to

https://help.hcl-software.com/bigfix/11.0/inventory/Inventory/softinv/Oracle measurements data.html

Included Software Catalog

Catalog updates are available from the *BigFix Inventory Discovery* site, and BigFix Inventory server version 11.x is required for all subsequent catalog releases.

BigFix Inventory server package includes Software Catalog version 20240813.

For catalog content details, refer to the catalog release notes: BigFix-Inventory-Catalog-20240813-ReleaseNotes.pdf.

Modified content

The version number of the fixlet is: 11.0.1.0.

The following fixlets were updated and should be run to install the latest versions of the specific components:

- Upgrade to the latest version of BigFix Inventory.
- Update the VM Manager Tool
- Update the SAP Metric Data Collector
- Install the VM Manager Tool.
- Install the SAP Metric Data Collector.
- Install the Additional VM Manager Tool.
- Download the Disconnected Scanner Package for IBM i.
- Download the Disconnected Scanner Package.
- Download the BigFix Inventory Container Solution Packages.
- Download the BigFix Inventory.
- Install or Upgrade Scanner.
- Download PVU table (if BigFix Inventory is not upgraded).

The following fixlets were updated and require that actions created by their previous versions are stopped and then started by using the updated fixlets. Restarting actions is necessary to ensure that new features work properly.

- Force VM Manager Tool Scan Results Upload
- Force the reupload of Software Scan Results.
- Initiate Software Scan on Shared Disks
- Initiate Software Scan
- Schedule VM Manager Tool Scan Results Upload
- Upload Software Scan Results

The following fixlets were updated or added:

- Get Oracle Concurrent Sessions Number
- Get Oracle Hardware Auditing Data
- Get Oracle Features
- Get Oracle Database Measurements
- Create Scanner Wrapper for Scanner (11.0.1.0) or older.
- Cleanup Scanner Installations 11.0.0 (9.2.35) and older

Enhancements and important changes

The following table lists enhancements and changes that are introduced in this update.

Abstract	Description	Available since
HCL BigFix Scanner	 This release introduces a new HCL BigFix Scanner. New HCL binary (except Linux on SystemZ / s390 – planned for the next update). New versioning. Installed under BigFix Client directories. Backward compatible with BigFix Inventory Server. Wrapper to separate Fixlets and Analysis from Scanner deployment logic. The scanner binaries and location of the binaries are changed to be aligned with BigFix. As the Scanner is now one of BigFix Platform tools it is located under Bes Client directory \tool\scanner directory. 	11.0.1.0
[BFINV-I-218] Isolate ability to create rules from Manage Imports permission	New permission called <i>Manage Rules</i> has been created, it provides access to view/create/delete custom rules when combined with <i>Manage Software Classification</i> permission. Access for users having <i>Manage Imports</i> permission will be preserved, so changes in permissions can be applied gradually.	11.0.1.0
Send feedback link is changed to point to HCL BigFix Ideas Portal	Providing feedback to the Development team from the BigFix Inventory server leads to the dedicated portal: https://bigfix-ideas.hcltechsw.com where new ideas can be tracked. The previous email address talk2sam@hcl.com is withdrawn. Any customization made to this address via Advanced Server Settings are preserved during the upgrade.	11.0.1.0
Oracle Measurements supports gathering Database Inventory information from Windows endpoints	The Oracle Measurements feature extends options for preparing detailed Oracle Databases inventory reports, covering database editions and licensable options for Windows, Linux, AIX, and Solaris systems.	11.0.1.0
Get Oracle Features fixlet becomes Deprecated	The functionality is fully replaced with the Get Oracle Database Measurements. This one fixlet is no longer updated and all future changes will be applied to Get Oracle Database Measurements. For details refer to Collecting Oracle Measurements Data	11.0.1.0
IBM Virtualization Capacity reporting equivalent	BigFix Inventory 11.0.1.0 is equivalent to IBM License Metric Tool (ILMT) 9.2.36.0 for IBM Virtualization Capacity reporting. The update covers IBM sub-capacity calculation, IBM Catalog, PVU and Scanner parity. For the status of IBM validated releases, see the following BFI FAO Document.	11.0.1.0

Update of IBM components	 Following IBM components have been updated: ILMT Core and catalog import libraries to 9.2.36 (released June 2024 by IBM) 	11.0.1.0
Create Scanner Wrapper for Scanner (11.0.1.0) or older	This fixlet introduces a new file in scanner installations scanner.properties which will be used by all scanner fixlets to get scanner location. It is mandatory to run this fixlet if you are not planning to upgrade the scanner immediately in order to continue scans with new fixlets.	11.0.1.0
Cleanup Scanner Installations 11.0.0 (9.2.35) and older	This fixlet removes any installations of the scanner regardless if there are any other exploiters or not. Applies to Scanner installations 11.0.0 (9.2.35) and older	11.0.1.0

Defect fixes

For the list of known defects please refer to <u>HCL Knowledge Base</u>.

The following table lists BigFix Inventory Server APARs and other defects that are fixed in this update.

ID	Symptoms	Behavior after you install the update	Available since
KB0114597	Incorrect error message displayed during custom catalog import	The error message is adjusted to explain the issue.	11.0.1.0
BI-25056	Products without a publisher are listed	Invalid products will be removed after the next catalog import.	11.0.1.0
BI-25020	Mission Control Feature Evidence is identified as Oracle Product	Mission Control is no longer included in the Oracle report.	11.0.1.0
KB0113821	Users are unable to run Audit Snapshot Reports	Users can run Audit Snapshot Reports.	11.0.1.0
KB0115163	New software catalog import fails	The catalog is successfully imported. If your last uploaded software catalog import failed, you need to reupload it manually or upload a newer one using the fixlet: Updating server software catalog	11.0.0.0 (republish ed) 11.0.1.0
KB0114905	Data Import cannot insert new file facts. Applies particularly to servers with the number of endpoints above 100,000	File facts are inserted successfully, and all recently installed or upgraded software is discovered properly.	11.0.1.0
KB0115750	Import is taking a long time due to Parsing Raw Usage Results	Identified and resolved efficiency issues, resulting in a 98% improvement in the UsageFact import process.	11.0.1.0
BI-24076	Extended processing time observed during the Import Aggregation handler step, leading to significant delays in Import operations.	Updated statistics on key database tables to improve query performance and execution plans.	11.0.1.0
KB0114714	Custom bundling changes after data import	Bundling remains the same after data import	11.0.1.0

The following table lists BigFix Inventory Scanner APARs and other defects that are fixed in this update.

ID	Symptoms	Behavior after you install the update	Available since
BI-23756	PackageInfoMatch operand has been querying additional sources compared to the data collected for Package Data.	For PackageInfoMatch operand by default only following providers are queried: Windows: os, patch, wmiPatch, program, appPath, LINUX: os, rpm, and dpkg.	11.0.1.0
KB0111034	Sometimes, with partial imports enabled, the software didn't get suppressed as per default Custom Rule for given software.	Suppression is being applied to all relevant software entries.	11.0.1.0

The following table lists user documentation APARs and other defects that are fixed in this update.

ID	Symptoms	Behavior after the update	Available since
<u>BI-24423</u>	Classifying software (v2) types	Correct the data type for instance_id,computer_bigfix_id, and token. Doc link: Classifying software (v2)	11.0.1.0

Security enhancements

- WebSphere Liberty updated to version 24.0.0.8.
- IBM Java Runtime Environment for BFI Server updated to version 8.0.8.30
- IBM Java Runtime Environment for BigFix Inventory VM Manager Tool and SAP Metric Data Collector updated to version IBM Semeru Runtime Open Edition 8.0.422.0
- IBM Java Runtime Environment for BigFix Inventory Cloud Adapter and BigFix Inventory Scanner Service updated to version IBM Semeru Runtime Open Edition 17.0.12.0
- Spring Boot updated to version 3.3.2.
- Spring Framework updated to version 6.1.11

VM Manager Tool version and changes

The VM Manager Tool version that is used with this update is 11.0.1.0.

Scanner version and changes

The scanner version that is used with this update is 11.0.36.0 for all platforms except Linux s390x (zSystems), for which the scanner version is 9.2.36.0000. The disconnected scanner versions that are used with this update are 11.0.1.0 and 9.2.36.0 for IBM I.

Changes to supported systems

Scanner and Disconnected Scanner for Linux systems running on a PowerPC Big Endian architecture is no longer available within the standard installation package. The only architecture without changes for Linux on Power PC is Little Endian.

For IBM Virtualization Capacity reporting support for the Red Hat Enterprise Linux (RHEL) Server 7 Linux POWER System—Big Endian operating system is provided per request using Disconnected Scanner 11.0.0 until IBM License Metric Tool officially supports it. Request for the install media to be raised via support case.

Discontinued support for the following platforms and systems as managed devices:

- Linux Red Hat Enterprise 6 x86-64,
- Oracle Enterprise Linux 6 x86-64
- Linux x86 (32 bit)
- HP-UX
- IBM i 7.2

Support for those systems is already dropped by IBM License Metric Tool and BigFix Platform.

For more information about supported systems, refer to the <u>Detailed System Requirements.</u>

Documentation

For more information about how to install, maintain, and use this application refer to BigFix Inventory user documentation:

https://help.hcl-software.com/bigfix/11.0/inventory/welcome/BigFix Inventory welcome.html