BigFix Inventory 11.0.3.0 Release Notes

This document provides information about the BigFix Inventory application update 11.0.3.0.

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!)	7	Yes
BigFix Inventory Server	11.0.3.0	Yes
- BigFix Inventory Server: ILMT Core library	9.2.38.0	Yes*
- BigFix Inventory Server: ILMT Catalog	9.2.38.7-20250107-1736	Yes*
- BigFix Inventory Server Software Catalog	20250221	Yes*
- BigFix Inventory Scanner Software Catalog - Major	2638933	Yes*
BigFix Inventory Scanner	BigFix Scanner is available under the BigFix Scanner site. For details refer to the Scanner related updates.	N/A
BigFix Inventory Disconnected Scanner	11.0.3.0 9.2.38.1 on IBM i	Yes Yes
BigFix Inventory Container Solution Packages	11.0.3.0	Yes
BigFix Inventory VM Manager Tool	11.0.2.0	No
SAP Metric Data Collector	11.0.3.0	Yes
BigFix Inventory Image Scanner Script	11.0.3.0	Yes
BigFix Inventory Scanner Service	11.0.3.0	Yes
BigFix Inventory Cloud Adapter	11.0.3.0	Yes
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

Allowed upgrade path

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.

Please note that starting from version 11.0.3.0, FIPS support is not available in BigFix Inventory Server due to a limitation of external components. Customers who have enabled FIPS in BigFix Inventory Server should disable it before upgrading BigFix Inventory Server to version 11.0.3.0 or higher. See more information on this matter in this article <u>KB0118392</u>.

BigFix Inventory Server allows direct upgrades from a limited number of past releases. For version 11.0.3.0, the minimal version for the direct upgrade path is 10.0.13.0.

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

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

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

Upgrading BigFix Inventory Server 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-ReleaseNotes.pdf.

Additional steps for upgrading the scanner from a version lower than 11.0.37

Scanner-related content (fixlets, analysis) is available from the *BigFix Scanner* site.

For more information about the scanner site content, actions, and new functions refer to the Scanner Release Notes: https://support.bigfix.com/scanner/BigFix-Scanner-11.0.38.0-ReleaseNotes.pdf

Scan Actions Compatibility with BigFix Inventory Server

Starting from this release, *Initiate Software Scan* and *Upload Software Scan Results* require BigFix Inventory Server 10.0.4 or higher!

For optimized Data Import of file facts, both actions were updated to not collect delta result files that are no longer used since BigFix Inventory Server 10.0.4 (released 2021) and are unnecessarily transferred. Those files were retained for backward compatibility reasons until now.

If the BigFix Inventory server version you are using is lower than 10.0.4, please:

- Plan to upgrade the BigFix Inventory Server to the latest version.
- Make a backup of the Initiate Software Scan and Upload Software Scan Results actions you
 are currently using in your environment to be able to recreate them if necessary.

Notice about the upcoming removal of historical deprecated APIs

In the next upcoming BigFix Inventory Server update, the following historical deprecated APIs are planned to be removed.

- REST API for software inventory management
- REST API for software classification

Customers who use these APIs should migrate to the new version of them.

Scan-to-Report time reduced

This release takes reporting to a new level. After the *Continuous Discovery Processing* function is enabled the BigFix Inventory will refresh discovery reports automatically every few minutes— completely eliminating the need to wait for data imports. Stay effortlessly up-to-date and enjoy a more streamlined, hands-off experience.

BigFix Inventory server collects and processes scan data shortly after it is uploaded from the endpoint to the BigFix server, not waiting for the standard, scheduled import process. There are no changes to the scanner and data collection schedule.

For procedure to enable/disable this option, refer to user documentation: <u>Continuous Discovery Processing</u>.

Reports benefiting from this change:

- Software Classification, Software Installations
 - New software discovery records based on the Catalog discovery mechanism (File, Package, CIT signatures)
 - Fresh data records are marked with icon and the new *Processed* flag is set to *No* as licensing and discovery detailed information are calculated during the import process.
- Software Summary
 - Fresh data record groups are visible and marked with sicon if the new Processed flag is added to the report.
- Package Summary
 - Fresh data records can be distinguished by the First Detected column.
- Package Data
 - Fresh data records can be distinguished by the *First Detected* column.
- Scanned File Data
 - Fresh data records can be distinguished by the *First Detected* column.
- Computers
 - Fresh data records can be distinguished by the *First Seen* column.

Note: Continuous Discovery Processing Mode is stopped for the time when the standard import process is being run, and it resumes after the import process finishes.

Coming in the future releases:

The following discovery data is still processed during standard import time:

- Disconnected scans (including Container images)
- <u>Discovering software on shared disks</u>
- SWID ISO Tag based discovery
- Mac Software Discovery (see 10.0.10 Discovering Mac software in BigFix Inventory)
- Metering Data

Continuous discovery processing for data above will be added incrementally in the future releases.

Data Import indicator:

If Continuous Discovery Processing discovers new unprocessed components, a 'data import indication' ____ appears. This indication disappears after the data import is completed.

Spend Management

According to <u>Gartner</u>, organizations waste 30% of their software spend each year—millions of dollars are lost on unused licenses, unnecessary renewals, and inefficient purchasing. BigFix has a proven track record of helping companies recover this spend, and now, it is making it even easier. With the new financial layer in reporting, users gain deeper insights and greater control, maximizing software Return on Investment.

The Spend Management feature helps users answer the following questions:

- Which vendors should I prioritize to maximize ROI for my organization quickly?
- What is our spending on specific software, software categories, or departments?
- Is expensive software being used by the right teams or individuals?
- Are there more cost-effective software alternatives within the organization that could help us save money?
- Does the level of software adoption justify the high spending on a particular product?

To support spend-optimization related scenarios, the contract management functionality was enhanced.

- The *Overview* is extended with the new *Spend Overview* dashboard to easily explore specific areas from the summary to the details.
- The *All Contracts* report is extended with Expense related information. Expense details can be provided on the Purchase level. You can also add information about what *Cost Center* and *Project* the specific expense is related to.
- If you have your own report outside of Inventory then you can also import contract data with expenses using the CSV file import option.
- The new *Purchases in Contracts* report allows you to explore all purchases and details like expense, cost center, and project in one view.

For details, refer to the user documentation: Spend Dashboard

Notes:

- 1. For the best reporting and clear spend split, the suggested practice is to create separate contracts per product.
- 2. Expense information in REST API will be provided in the next server update.

Reminder on the Software Component Detailed Version logic

The logic for calculating the Software Component Detailed Version logic has been last adjusted in version 10.0.4 due to adding Package Data as a source. The precedence of the version information displayed is:

- 1. Extended Signature
- 2. ISO SWID tags
- 3. The package with the version attribute
- 4. Windows file version

The key is that Package Data entry takes precedence over the file metadata on Windows. This means that when there is a Package and File signature for Windows software with many instances discovered and a Package Version available, all instances will have a Component Detailed Version from the package.

Included Software Catalog

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

The BigFix Inventory server package includes Software Catalog version 20250221.

For catalog content details, refer to the catalog release notes: https://support.bigfix.com/bfi/BigFix-Inventory-Catalog-20250221-ReleaseNotes.pdf

Modified content

The version number of the fixlet is 11.0.3.0.

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 SAP Metric Data Collector
- Install the SAP Metric Data Collector
- Download the Disconnected Scanner Package for IBM i.
- Download the Disconnected Scanner Package.
- Download the BigFix Inventory Container Solution Packages.
- Download BigFix Inventory
- Download the 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 Reupload of Software Scan Results
- Upload Software Scan Results

The following fixlets were updated:

• Uninstall VM Manager Tool

Enhancements and important changes

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

Abstract	Description	Available since
[Contract Management] New Spend Overview dashboard in the Overview	The <i>Overview</i> is extended with a new <i>Spend Overview</i> dashboard to easily explore specific areas from the summary to the details. For more details, check the <u>documentation</u> .	11.0.3.0
[Contract Management] Changed definition of saved reports	The filter criteria in the following predefined reports were adjusted in order not to show already expired contracts: • Contracts License Ends in 30 Days • Contracts: License Ends in 90 Days • Contracts: Support Ends in 30 Days • Contracts: Support Ends in 90 Days	11.0.3.0
[Contract Management] The All Contracts report is extended with expense related information.	Expense details can be provided on the Purchase level. You can add information about the <i>Expense</i> and what <i>Cost Center</i> and <i>Project</i> the specific expense is related to. For more details, check the <u>documentation</u> .	11.0.3.0
[Contract Management] CSV Import extended by new columns	In the <i>All Contracts</i> report, the CSV import option has been updated to support the newly added columns: <i>Expense, Cost Center,</i> and <i>Project</i> . Those columns are optional and behave just like any other optional header. The expense field accepts non-negative float values with up to 2 decimals while other fields accept strings.	11.0.3.0
[Contract Management] Add/Modify Contract view changes	The view fits the whole window now. The view is split into Contract Details and Purchases. Standard contract properties and custom fields are available in the <i>Contract Details</i> tab; Purchase information is under the <i>Purchases</i> tab.	11.0.3.0
[Contract Management] New Purchases in Contracts report under Reports menu and Contracts section	The new <i>Purchases in Contracts</i> report allows you to explore all purchases and details like expense, cost center, and project in one view.	11.0.3.0
[Contract Management] A new setting to configure currency format for expense-related values	The contract_currency_format advanced server setting allows customization of the currency and format of the values related to contract expense. The default value is a dollar prefix, e.g., \$100. Doc link: Advanced server settings	11.0.3.0
[Contract Management] Adjustments of column names and calculations	The Current Contract Value column is renamed to Metric Quantity, and the Current Measured Value is renamed to Metric Measurement. The Metric Quantity value is now 0 if there are no purchases. In case the Metric Measurement value is not present, the Delta is equal to the metric quantity, and Threshold Delta is the threshold value.	11.0.3.0

User Interface brand adjustments	 Key changes include: The main window bar colors are changed to white and black. View background color changed to light grey. Overview—Reports and Health Check dashboard adjusted in terms of colors and alignment. 	11.0.3
[Continuous Discovery] Software inventory (v2) API option to return information about component instances processing status	The /api/sam/v2/software_instances API allows returning the component instances with unfinished processing by using the include_unprocessed parameters. A component instance processing status can be returned with a new is_processed property.	11.0.3.0
[Continuous Discovery] Software classification (v2) API option to modify component instances with unfinished processing	The /api/sam/v2/software_instances API allows modifying component instances with unfinished processing by using <code>include_unprocessed</code> parameters.	11.0.3.0
[Continuous Discovery] Unified Software API option to return information about component instances processing status	The /api/sam/unified/current/software API allows returning the component instances with unfinished processing by using an include_unprocessed parameter. A component instance processing status can be returned with a new is_processed property. For more details, refer to the documentation.	11.0.3.0
[Continuous Discovery] The Software Classification report presents the status of a component instance processing.	In the Software Classification report, a component instance processing status can be displayed with a new Processed column. Additionally, a new icon is displayed next to the names of software components with unfinished processing.	11.0.3.0
[Continuous Discovery] The Software Summary report presents the status of component instances processing.	In the <i>Software Summary</i> report, component instance processing status can be displayed with a new <i>Processed</i> column. Additionally, when the <i>Processed</i> column is shown, a new icon is displayed next to the names of software components with unfinished processing.	11.0.3.0
[Continuous Discovery] New computers added as part of the Continuous Discovery Processing	Newly discovered computers are added as part of the Continuous Discovery Processing. This occurs after uploading the software scan result using the <i>Upload Software Scan Results</i> fixlet with the Continuous Discovery Processing flag enabled.	11.0.3.0
[Continuous Discovery] Updated package analyses	Information about installed packages is not presented in analyses for computers where Continuous Discovery Processing has been scheduled using the Upload Software Scan Results task.	11.0.3.0
[Continuous Discovery]	The additional option "Continuous Discovery Processing" for the Upload Software Scan Results task	11.0.3.0

Updated the Upload Software Scan Results task	to enable an upload of a single archive containing software scan results	
Detailed Hardware Information SMBIOS data preserved for deleted computers	It is possible to retrieve the SMBIOS data, like system_serial_number for deleted computers. The removal of the SMBIOS data is now controlled by the maximum_data_lifetime setting. Retrieval of information related to SMBIOS (v2)	11.0.3.0
Software inventory (v2) API available associations extended with Detailed Hardware Information Software inventory (v2) API Using /api/sam/v2/software_instances API it is also possible to filter results with use of Detailed Hardware Information associations like SMBIOS system_serial_number information. Retrieval of software inventory (v2)		11.0.3.0
Computers API (v2) extended with a switch to show only computers with unique BIOS serial numbers.	Computers API, /api/sam/v2/computers, has a new API switch, "bios_unique", which when set to "true," will filter the API results to show only computers with unique BIOS Serial Numbers, prioritizing computers with lower internal computer IDs. Retrieval of hardware inventory (v2)	
Update of IBM components	The following IBM components have been updated: • ILMT Core and catalog import libraries to 9.2.38 (released on December 2024 by IBM)	11.0.3.0
IBM Virtualization Capacity reporting equivalent	 BigFix Inventory 11.0.3.0 is equivalent to IBM License Metric Tool (ILMT) 9.2.38.0 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, refer to the BFI FAQ Document. 	11.0.3.0

Defect fixes

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

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
KB0112329	Incorrect 'Component Detailed Version' displayed for 'Toad for Oracle'	With BI-23470 (Software Catalog 20240508), there has been an adjustment of signatures to correct behaviour. There are no other changes planned in BigFix Inventory Server.	11.0.3.0
DT418068	Custom rules are not displayed in Custom Rules panel and are evaluated for All Computers when the user's default computer	The Custom rules are displayed correctly and are not evaluated for users with the default computer group 'No Computers.'	11.0.3.0

	group is changed to 'No Computers'		
KB0119110	Software_Instances V2 API Not Returning All Results - UTF-8 Malformed Source Error in tema.log	Records causing the issue will be skipped in API results. A new log is printed in the tema.log with the skipped row details.	11.0.3.0
KB0119083	Data import fails due to "violation of PRIMARY KEY constraint 'apaths_pk" error	The issue is resolved.	11.0.3.0
KB0119881	Computer Totals in the BFI Health Widgets	The Software Scan report in the Health Check DashBoard has been updated to work with version 11.0.3 as well as limit the number of computers to the subscribed ones.	11.0.3.0
KB0119453	BigFix Inventory UI uninstall action doesn't work	BigFix Inventory UI uninstall action works.	11.0.3.0
BI-27470	Metric is empty for CloudPaks in Products&Metrics report	The metric for CloudPaks is the FlexPoints in Products & Metrics report.	11.0.3.0
BI-28725	Missing Content Security Policy (CSP) and X-Frame-Options headers on the root application page '/', before being redirected to the login form	CSP and X-Frame-Options headers are present on the root page even before page redirection.	11.0.3.0

Important! For the BigFix Inventory Scanner APARs and other defects that are fixed, refer to the Scanner Release Notes:

https://support.bigfix.com/scanner/BigFix-Scanner-11.0.38.0-ReleaseNotes.pdf

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

ID	Symptoms	Behavior after the update	Available since
BI-28036	[DOC] reinstalling BFI article missing files to backup	Added a list of files that must be backed up before reinstalling BigFix Inventory with an existing database. Doc link: Reinstalling BigFix Inventory with an existing database	11.0.3.0
BI-29446	Missing info on Ovirt permissions and login format	Updated the document to include information on the Ovirt permissions Doc link: Supported virtualization types	11.0.3.0
BI-29267	LDAP documentation update	Updated the document to keep the appropriate information about LDAP configuration.	11.0.3

		Doc link: <u>Troubleshooting LDAP</u> connectivity issues	
BI-28530	SSO and Security documentation rework for 11.0.3	Doc link: Security problems	11.0.3
BI-27710	To update Not supported OS for BFI server and its EOS	Added EOS version to the not supported OS. Doc link: Supported software for BigFix Inventory Server	11.0.3
BI-27506	Reinstalling BFI article missing files to backup	Added the list of files that should be backed up. Doc link: Reinstalling BigFix Inventory with an existing database	11.0.3
BI-27365	End of support for some platforms and systems - remove from BFI documentation support for BigFix 9.5	Added a note that BigFix version 9.5 is no longer supported. Doc links: Supported software for BigFix Inventory Server Software requirements	11.0.3
BI-28530	BigFix Inventory and FIPS support	Updated documents include SSO and FIPS support information. Doc link: Security problems	11.0.3
BI-27461	Missing documentation of Hidden Settings: csv_formatters_level	Documentation of the exporting activity has been extended to accommodate actions recommended when the high number of records is to be exported.	11.0.3.0
BI-29536	Missing/unclear error codes: 3, 5	The update includes clarification of error code 3 and an explanation of where code 5 might be coming from. Doc link: Troubleshooting Oracle data issues	11.0.3

Security enhancements

- WebSphere Liberty updated to version 25.0.0.2
- Java Runtime Environment for BigFix Inventory Server, BigFix Inventory Cloud Adapter, SAP Metric Data Collector, and BigFix Inventory Scanner Service updated to version IBM Semeru Runtime Open Edition 17.0.12.1
- Spring Boot updated to version 3.4.2
- Spring Framework updated to version 6.2.2
- 7-Zip updated to version 24.09

VM Manager Tool version and changes

The VM Manager Tool version that is used with this update is 11.0.2.0. Customers who already use this version do not need to perform any actions.

Scanner version and changes

The scanner version that is used with this update is 11.0.38.0 for scanner- supported platforms. For details, refer to the scanner release notes:

https://support.bigfix.com/scanner/BigFix-Scanner-11.0.38.0-ReleaseNotes.pdf.

The disconnected scanner versions that are used with this update are 11.0.3.0 and 9.2.38.1 for IBM i.

Changes to supported systems

Added support for the following platforms and systems for the managed devices:

- Red Hat Enterprise Linux 9 on zSystems by using the BigFix client
- Windows Server 2025 by using BigFix client and disconnected scanner

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

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