



REPRINT FOR BARAMUNDI: MAGAZIN

Test: Software "Out of the Box"

Administrators might have any number of jobs in an organization. They are lucky, if a big part of those tasks can be performed with the help of a single software. In addition to that with the latest version of baramundi's Management Suite 8 the packaging of popular software is also accounted for.

Systems management, workplace management or even client lifecycle management are three labels denominating practically the same thing: the centralized management of client computer systems in the network. Examining the lifecycle of an enterprise computer the requirements are obvious: provisioning, installation, configuration, local usage by different users, constant updating, in some cases a targeted upgrade, the migration to a new operating system and removal from the system. However, the most permanent topic during the lifecycle of a computer represents the updating of the installed software on the clients. Baramundi, the in Bavarian Swabia based company, has been offering for many years a comprehensive management software for Windows, both in English and German. On a centralized console administrators are provided with all the required tools and functionalities for an up-to-date IT management: from the possibility of remote installation of an operating system, software distribution, device and system drivers, remote management, inventory, kiosk mode for self-service software installation by users, access control for devices, backup and recovery for user data to the management of Citrix terminal servers.

"Managed Software" simplifies the application distribution

The baramundi solution supports all the customary Microsoft operating systems, from Windows 2000, XP, Server 2003, Windows Vista, and Windows Server 2008, to Windows 7 as well as Windows Server 2008 R2 (also, if available 64-bit versions).

In summer 2011 with the release 8.5 baramundi started a new kind of software provisioning. The provider defined "managed software" as the provisioning of "well known" programs, which would be packaged anyway by the customers. Instead of leaving administrators with the task of packaging Adobe Reader, Adobe Flash Player, Adobe Shockwave Player, Mozilla Firefox, Sun Java JRE or PDF Creator, at baramundi they can download these ready-made packages directly into their database.

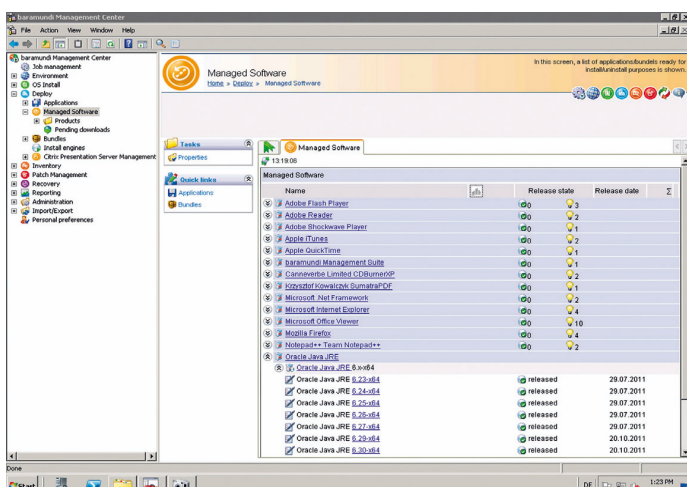
In addition to delivering these software programs as ready-made packages the provider has already tested the distribution mechanisms of the package beforehand. Also, some details are already taken care of, for instance configuring the package for not trying any more to update itself at the original provider.

The "managed software" shows its benefits both in case of an initial installation and for updates and de-installation. It is available in German and English for all baramundi-supported Windows platforms. The Swabians will soon be offering further software products as "managed software" according to customers' request.

Software "in packages" – the path to an app-store is paved

The idea of „managed software“ is not really new. Several vendors are already offering packages for instance labeled "package factory". There is the tendency towards the concept of the app store: choose, install and use. The benefit of this kind of provisioning is for the administrator not having to bother about specific details of an installation -- There are much more important tasks to think about, then caring for the „/SILENT“-parameters.

Thomas Bär/ fms



Pro:

- Easier distribution of popular software
- Search for options like /Silent-Setup is obsolete.

Contra:

- Updates are available only with delay
- Free software becomes subject to a charge.

Prices:

Graded, depending on the number of required clients. Starting with 9,70 € per client and year.

Contact: baramundi software AG

Beim Glaspalast 1
D – 86153 Augsburg
Tel.: +49 (821) 5 67 08-380
Email: request@baramundi.de
www.baramundi.com