



PSM Release Notes

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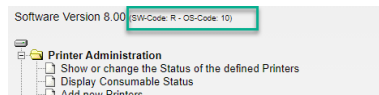
Please read before you start




Version 8 is a major release, please read carefully before you upgrade.!

As time is moving forward, we have to say goodbye to some very old editions of PSM. The so called "very old" editions were all Linux base, but built on an OS Version which is definitely outdated today, and on PHP versions, which do not support new methods, and are considered to be insecure.

Therefore, Version 8 will support only the editions noted below. If you are running on a recent Version 7, you will see the editions noted on the top of the main menu.

Supported PSM Editions:



SW-Code – OS Code	Description		Supported
W – W	PSM on Windows		Yes
R – 10	Raspberry Appliance with Raspbian OS		Yes
B – 3	Virtual Server with Ubuntu 14.04 64 Bit		Yes
A – 3	Rack Appliance with Ubuntu 14.04 64 Bit		Yes
S – 2	Rack Appliance with Ubuntu 12.04 64 Bit		Yes **
U – 2	Virtual Server with Ubuntu 12.04 64 Bit		Yes **
L – 2	PSM Lite Appliance (yellow) with Ubuntu 12.04 32 Bit		No
L – 1	PSM Lite Appliance (yellow) with Ubuntu 9.10 32 Bit		No
O – 0	Other (older) Linux appliances with SUSE OS		No

** Appliances built on Ubuntu 12.04 are using PHP Version 5.2. Not all functions will be available, such as SNMP V3, which is not supported there. We do also recommend to move away from that and change to the new Windows Version.

We are not sure yet, if we will build another hardware based Linux appliance yet, since there was no more demand for it over the past 2 years. If there is enough demand for it, we could build another virtual Linux image with a recent OS and PHP Version. Please let us know, if there is a need for that.

Update requirements:

The requirement for an upgrade to version 8 is, that the latest version 7 build is currently installed. The pre requirements (and update steps) are as follows:

- Versions below 6.24 : install 6.24 first
- Version between 6.24 and 7.01: install 7.02 first
- Versions between 7.02 and 7.20: install 7.21 first
- == 7.21 is the version which must be installed, before you can update to version 8.

Changes concerning the backup files

In Version 8 we have changed the backups to no longer contain the program files to make the backup files smaller. This means only the database backup and the data files are stored inside a backup archive. Version 7 backups < > Version 8 backups are NOT compatible. The Version 8 backups always contain "...v8.tar" on Linux based versions or "...v8.zip" on Windows based versions. DO NOT rename them and try to restore on a version it was not built for. (Restoring a non V8 Backup in V8 or restoring a V8 backup on a V7 PSM would render your installation unusable!

V8 Backups can only be restored on the same PSM Version where they were created. If you need to restore because of a server change or a crash, you will need to install the same version of PSM before restoring the backup. If you don't remember the backup version, you can open the archive file and look for the file "hwedition.txt". This will contain the needed information.

"Umlaut" considerations (öäü/éàè)

Not all PSM editions (and releases) were setup using the UTF8 Character Set. Version 8 is now using it, and it will change the database table to UTF8, if not already set. Depending on you previous version (and browser used) it might be, that Umlaut characters will be displayed incorrectly. In this case you will need to correct this manually one time. After it has been corrected, it will work correctly on all browsers (Tested: IE, Chrome, Edge, Firefox, Safari).



Windows full update (upgrade)

The current "PSM on Windows" installations are all built on MySQL Server 5.5 and PHP 5.6. These packages are recognised as "outdated" by quite a view software inventory programs or even security / virus scanners. Many customers have asked for a new version. So if you have to (or want to) upgrade the complete packages, a new built based on MySQL Server 8 and PHP 7.3 is available.

The "[PSM for Windows Installation-Guide Version-8.00.pdf](#)" manual describes the process of upgrading existing windows servers or migrating to a new windows server in chapter 8. Please follow the steps there for a successful migration / upgrade.

Please note that if you are upgrading (full update) your windows installation (which means also that the MySQL Server is upgraded), you will loose the MySQL Users, if you have defined any. You will need to re-create the MySQL Users again over the administration section of PSM after the upgrade.

Reporting Section (graphical reports)

Since version 8 has changes in the MySQL area, you will need a new reporting package, if you are using the graphical reports at all (optional). On the new windows installation, the graphical reports are not even installed by default.

You can download the new reporting package over the download pages, or use the links here:

- Linux based PSM reporting package [download](#)
- Windows based PSM reporting package [download](#)

To install the new reporting package, use the administrative section of PSM after you have updated to Version 8 of PSM.



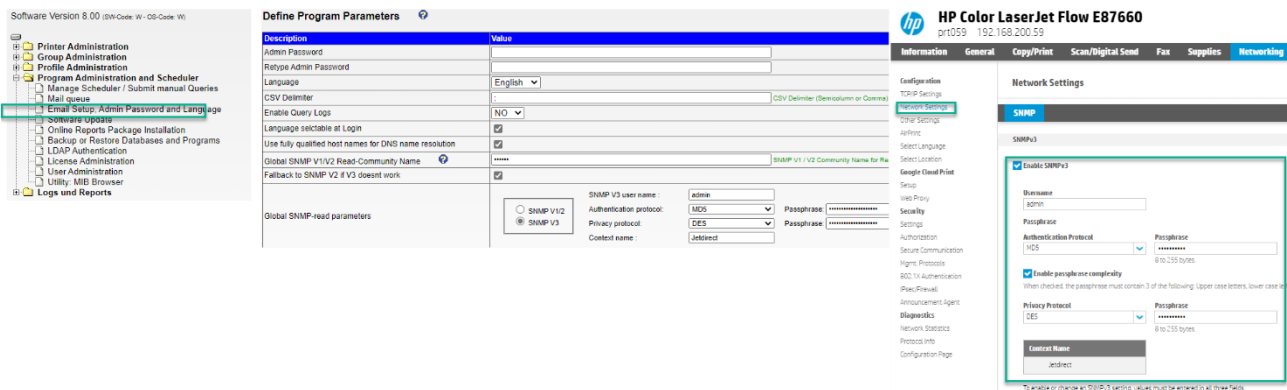
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New: SNMP V3 (Read) Support

SNMP V3 is now supported. There are different levels, where you can enable V3:

- At device level: recommended if you only have a very view device which should work with SNMP V3 instead of SNMP V2.
- At Group1 level: recommended if you have a considerable number of devices, which should use V3 instead of V2, or if you got groups of devices with different credentials.
- At Global Level: recommended if you want to use V3 for all devices and they have the same credentials.

Here is an example on how to set SNMPv3 on global level, and how it is corresponding to a HP device setup.



The screenshot displays the PSM administration interface. On the left, a tree view shows the 'Program Administration and Scheduler' section expanded to 'Software Update'. The main area is titled 'Define Program Parameters' and shows a table with columns 'Description' and 'Value'. The 'Global SNMP V1/V2 Read-Community Name' is set to 'public'. Below this, the 'Global SNMP-read parameters' section is visible, with 'SNMP V3' selected. The 'SNMP V3 User-name' is 'admin', the 'Authentication protocol' is 'MD5', the 'Privacy protocol' is 'DES', and the 'Context name' is 'unselect'. To the right, the 'HP Color LaserJet Flow E87660' configuration page is shown, with the 'Network Settings' tab active. The 'SNMP' section is expanded, and 'Enable SNMPv3' is checked. The 'SNMPv3' settings are configured with 'Username' as 'admin', 'Password' as '*****', 'Authentication Protocol' as 'MD5', and 'Privacy Protocol' as 'DES'. The 'Context Name' is 'unselect'.



Please note, that you can also enable "Fallback". If enabled, PSM will try to establish a V3 connection first. If this does not succeed, PSM will try V2. If V2 then works, PSM will only try V3 again on the next day (to prevent lockouts because of too many unsuccessful attempts.). If you manually update the device status over the browser, it will immediately retry V3.

Considerations for using SNMP V3

There are many discussions going on concerning the use of SNMPv3. We do NOT recommend v3 for most customers.

The reasons why we do not recommend it:

- Half as fast and double the amount of traffic compared to SNMPv2. Since V3 is encrypted, the amount of data is increased. Also the authentication is more complex. V2 is only sending a plain text password (community name).
- There is an administrative effort to setup V3 on the devices which needs to be done.
- If you switch off SNMPv2 on the devices, you can no longer get the status of a devices on windows print servers or clients. This means that if the device has (for example) no more paper, you will not see this in the queue status. Microsoft is still not supporting SNMPv3 to query the printer status.

We recommend to stay with SNMPv2. Maybe you can change the community name away from "public" to something else, to prevent any SNMP capable program to query your devices without any effort. The only information which we would consider as "maybe sensitive" are information such as the names of last print jobs for example.

If you still want to use SNMPv3, be informed, that we have taken a lot of effort to prevent a huge increase in data traffic. We group the queries as much as possible to decrease the amount of authentications needed. Still – you should calculate the times used to query all printers *2 compared to SNMPv2.

Code cleanup and use MySQLi calls instead of MySQL calls

A lot of code cleanup has been performed in version 8. Since it is too technical and people who are not familiar with programming would not understand it, we do not publish the technical details here. If someone wants to know it exactly, we can deliver the information upon request.

Special thanks also goes to Dominik Blunk. He is one of the PSM users, but also programmer, and did quite a lot of the work with the code cleanup.



PSM Software Version 6.xx and 7.xx versions

Older versions have been moved to "[PSM Release Notes Version 7 and older](#)".

PSM Software Version 5.xx and older versions

Older versions have been moved to "PSM Release Notes Version 5 and older".

