



IBM System x

IBM System Updates for Microsoft System Center Configuration Manager Release Notes

Version 4.5





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Microsoft System Center Configuration Manager
Release Notes

Version 4.5

Note

Before using this information and the product it supports, read the information in “Notices” on page 9.

Edition Notice

This edition applies to version 4.5 of IBM System Updates for Microsoft System Center Configuration Manager and to all subsequent releases and modifications until otherwise indicated in new editions.

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About this publication

These Release Notes[®] provide the latest information for the IBM[®] System Updates for Microsoft[®] System Center Configuration Manager, version 4.5. The IBM[®] System Updates tool is used to acquire and publish IBM[®] system updates in your environment.

Conventions and terminology

Paragraphs that start with a bold **Note**, **Important**, or **Attention** are notices with specific meanings that highlight key information.

Note: These notices provide important tips, guidance, or advice.

Important: These notices provide information or advice that might help you avoid inconvenient or difficult situations.

Attention: These notices indicate possible damage to programs, devices, or data. An attention notice appears before the instruction or situation in which damage can occur.

The following table describes some of the terms, acronyms, and/or abbreviations used in this document.

Table 1. System Updates terms and acronyms

Term/Acronym	Definition
SCCM	Microsoft [®] System Center Configuration Manager
SUAP	IBM [®] System Updates Acquisition and Publishing tool
WSUS	Windows Server [®] Update Services
UXSPi	UpdateXpress System Pack Installer
UXSP	UpdateXpress System Packs
SSL	Secure Sockets Layer

Information resources

You can find additional information about IBM System Updates for Microsoft® System Center Configuration Manager, version 4.5 in the product documentation and on the World Wide Web.

PDF files

View or print documentation that is available in Portable Document Format (PDF).

Downloading Adobe Acrobat Reader

You need Adobe Acrobat Reader to view or print these PDF files. You can download a copy from the Adobe Reader Web site.

Viewing and printing PDF files

You can view or print any of the PDF files in the following list. Go to Microsoft Systems Management Solutions for IBM Servers to sign in and locate the download links for these publications.

- IBM System Updates for Microsoft System Center Configuration Manager Release Notes, version 4.5
- IBM System Updates for Microsoft System Center Configuration Manager User's Guide, version 4.5

World Wide Web resources

The following web pages provide resources for understanding, using, and troubleshooting IBM System x, BladeCenter® servers, and systems-management tools.

IBM Systems Technical support site

Support for IBM Systems.

Locate support for IBM hardware and systems-management software.

IBM website for Microsoft Systems Management Solutions for IBM Servers

Microsoft Systems Management Solutions for IBM Servers

Locate the latest downloads for IBM System Updates for Microsoft System Center Configuration Manager, v4.5.

IBM Systems Management page

IBM Systems Management

Obtain the information about IBM system management tools.

IBM ServerProven® pages

IBM ServerProven

BladeCenter ServerProven

Obtain information about hardware compatibility with IBM System x, IBM BladeCenter, and IBM IntelliStation® hardware.

Microsoft System Center Configuration Manager page

Microsoft TechNet: System Center Configuration Manager

Chapter 1. About this release

The topics in this section provide specific information about the current release.

What's new in this release

IBM System Updates v4.5 for Microsoft System Center Configuration Manager adds the following features:

Trial license support

A trial license is automatically activated if a product license is not activated when installing this product for the first time. It is necessary to verify your system time is correct before allowing the trial license to become activated. After a trial license is activated, the trial period is 90 days. During the trial period, the premium features are usable.

In the last 5 days of the trial period, the trial license software will provide notification about the trial license expiration. This notification will display every 24 hours. After the trial license expires, a product license should be activated or the premium features will be disabled. After a product license is activated, manually restart the component to enable the premium features.

Premium features

The premium features are available when the IBM System Updates installation is registered with the IBM Upward Integration for Microsoft System Center, v3.1 or later license. Activation licenses can be purchased by contacting your IBM representative or an IBM Business Partner. The following features are fee-based functions that are enabled with a valid product license of v3.0 or later:

- Check the latest updates on the IBM website: You can check all or selected updates from the IBM website for a supported machine type.
- View the detail information for each of the updates on the IBM website: You can view details for each of the updates on the IBM website, including general information about the updates, installation information, and applicable platforms information.
- Check published updates on Windows Server Update Services (WSUS): You can check all or selected updates on WSUS for a supported machine type.
- View detail information for each of the updates on the WSUS server: You can view details for each of the updates on the WSUS server, including general information about the updates and the packages information, which includes the publish date, package ID, and state.
- Generate the Updates Comparison Report: You can export the updates to a CSV file or a TXT file using this new function.
- Remotely view journal of updates deployment for endpoints: You can view the remote update deployment result using the IBM Systems Update tool.
- Allow updates to be installed as a downgrade: All published updates with the same update name will be expired.

Free features

This release has all of the free features and functions from version 3.1, and includes the following new and improved free features:

- **Full support the new update file format .uxz:** You can download/publish/deploy the OS agnostic firmware update which is not a traditional executable file (.exe), using a .uxz file.
- **New hardware system support:** You can use this release to install the updates for the latest IBM hardware system: IBM x3250 M4, x3100 M4 and x3755 M3.
- **Show the prerequisite and supersede updates information:** Some updates have prerequisites and supersede updates. You can view the related updates in the detail view.
- **OS type of None Support:** Some updates have the Application Operating Systems property as *None*, which means it is OS agnostic. You can deploy this kind of update to any operating system supported by this release.

For more information, see the IBM System Updates for Microsoft® System Center Configuration Manager User's Guide version 4.5.

Chapter 2. Known limitations

The topics in this section provide information about limitations, problems, and workarounds that are applicable to the IBM System Updates for Microsoft System Center Configuration Manager, version 4.5.

The IBM System Updates Acquisition and Publishing tool is the core component in IBM System Updates for Microsoft System Center Configuration Manager, version 4.5. The System Updates Acquisition and Publishing tool provides the functions to acquire the updates from IBM website or import the updates from the local computer, and publish the updates to the Windows Server Update Services (WSUS) server.

Limitations

The following limitations are applicable to the IBM System Updates for System Center Configuration Manager, version 4.5.

The uninstall confirmation dialog box is blocked by the InstallShield progress bar

A message dialog of uninstall confirmation may be blocked by the processing bar of installation program.

Symptom: When uninstalling the product from the system control panel, a confirmation message dialog is displayed at the end of uninstallation; however, the processing bar of installation program blocks you from confirming the uninstall.

Description: This is normal behavior for the SUAP tool version 4.5.

Action:

- Bring the underlying uninstall confirmation window into focus by clicking on it, and click **OK** to complete the uninstall.
- Use the uninstall shortcut option from the Start menu to uninstall the product. The confirmation message dialog is not blocked when using this method.

No notification about trial license expiration

There will be no notification about the trial license expiration in the last 5 days of trial period when using the **view journal of update deployment** function without the SUAP main form being open.

Symptom: When using the function view journal of update deployment without the SUAP main form being open, SUAP will not pop-up any notification about trial license expiration in the last 5 days of trial period.

Description: This is normal behavior for the SUAP tool version 4.5.

Updates published by the IBM System Updates Acquisition and Publishing tool version 2.0 on the WSUS server will be expired when using System Updates Acquisition and Publishing tool versions 3.1 and 3.2 to publish updates

Any Updates that were published by the IBM System Updates Acquisition and Publishing tool version 2.0 on the Windows Server Update Services (WSUS) server, will be expired when using System Updates Acquisition and Publishing tool versions 3.1 and 3.2 to publish updates.

Symptom: If there are any updates that were published by the System Updates Acquisition and Publishing tool version 2.0 on the WSUS server, they will expire when publishing updates using System Updates Acquisition and Publishing tool versions 3.1 and 3.2.

Description: This is normal behavior of the System Updates Acquisition and Publishing tool versions 3.1 and 3.2.

SUAP tries to download updates

System Updates Acquisition and Publishing (SUAP) tries to download updates even though the network is unavailable.

Symptom: Even if the network is unavailable, SUAP still tries to download all updates one by one. The state of the update is marked as "Error".

Description: This is normal behavior for the SUAP tool version 3.2.

SUAP failed to download updates

System Updates Acquisition and Publishing (SUAP) failed to download updates due to insufficient space for the download.

Symptom: If the available disk drive space for the download is not sufficient, SUAP reports "Failed to download updates due to not enough space for download."

Description: This is normal behavior for SUAP tool version 3.2.

Action: Make more space available for SUAP or change the SUAP repository folder to another disk drive.

UXSPi tool crashes

The IBM UpdateXpress System Pack Installer (UXSPi) tool crashes due to an unstable network.

Symptom: The System Updates Acquisition and Publishing (SUAP) tool uses UXSPi version 4.40 to check and download updates from the IBM website. When the network is unstable, UXSPi 4.40 might crash. The SUAP tool runs continually.

Description: This is normal behavior for SUAP tool version 3.2 and a limitation of UXSPi 4.40.

Action: Run a check of download actions when the network is stable or upgrade the UXSPi software using the SUAP tool.

Machine types are not shown

The machine types are not shown under **All Updates** even if they are in the repository.

Symptom: By default, the System Updates Acquisition and Publishing (SUAP) tool will restore the **All Updates** tree view in the left panel through the last exit time. If there is not enough available space for SUAP to work, the **All Updates** tree view may not display correctly.

Description: This is normal behavior for SUAP tool version 3.2.

Action: Make more disk space available for the SUAP tool.

Some updates may fail to publish

Some updates may fail to publish.

Symptom: Some updates may fail to publish with the error “failed to create metadata file”. This error occurs when trying to publish the update to some machine types that the current update does not support.

Action: Open the XML file for the update and check to see if that particular machine type exists in the support list.

SUAP fails to publish updates

System Updates Acquisition and Publishing (SUAP) fails to publish updates if the network is unstable.

Symptom: SUAP will fail to publish updates if the network is unavailable or unstable.

Description: This is normal behavior for SUAP Tool version 3.2.

Action: Try to publish the updates again after the network is repaired.

Updates are marked as “Required” on MSCCM

Updates are marked as “Required” on Microsoft System Center Configuration Manager (MSCCM) if they are not deployed already.

Symptom: After the UXSPi has been deployed successfully, if one of the updates has not been deployed on the client system before, the compliance result of this update will always be marked as "Required" on MSCCM console.

Description: This is a normal behavior. Updates will show the correct state after the updates are deployed to the client system.

Some updates fail to install

Some updates fail to install on the client system.

Symptom: Some updates may fail to install on the client system for different reasons.

Action: To determine the cause, see the “Troubleshooting” section in the IBM System Updates for Microsoft System Center Configuration Manager 2007 User's Guide, version 3.2.

Some device drivers installed successfully

Some device drivers installed successfully, but cannot be found in the device management console.

Symptom: The IBM System Updates Acquisition and Publishing (SUAP) tool reports device drivers as successfully installed, but the installed device drivers are not listed in the device management console on the target systems.

Description: This is a limitation of device drivers; a driver can be installed without the physical hardware being installed.

A device driver installed successfully

A device driver installed successfully but the version is not updated in the device management console.

Symptom: The IBM System Updates Acquisition and Publishing (SUAP) tool reports that a device driver installed successfully, but the version reported by the Device Management Console is the previous version.

Description: This is a device driver limitation; because a device driver can support multiple operating systems, the driver behaves differently depending on the operating systems.

Update may fail if it is the same version is installed

An update may fail if it is the same version is installed on the client system.

Symptom: An update may fail if it is installed on a client that already has the same version of the update installed using a tool other than the System Updates Acquisition and Publishing (SUAP) tool.

Description: This is a normal behavior of the SUAP tool. Updates with the same version on the client system will show as not required on the Microsoft System Center Configuration Manager (MSCCM) server if they were installed on client using the SUAP tool.

Some long texts do not completely display all of the text

Some long texts do not completely display all of the text, and an ellipsis is inserted.

Symptom: During the installation process, some long texts are not fully displayed because there is not enough space in a layout shape. The text will be truncated to the nearest word, and an ellipsis is inserted at the end of the text.

Description: This is normal behavior for the SUAP tool version 3.2.

Known problems and workarounds

The following known problems and workarounds are applicable to IBM System Updates for Microsoft System Center Configuration Manager, version 4.5.

The Setup Wizard disappears

The Setup Wizard disappears when you click **Browse** to select a local repository folder on a Windows 64-bit operating system with .Net framework 2.0.

In the Download Wizard, select the Update packages page. If you click **Browse** to select the target folder before the update query action completes, the System Updates Acquisition and Publishing (SUAP) tool application may crash. This problem only occurs on a Windows 64-bit operating system.

This problem is caused by a .Net framework 2.0 known issue on a Windows 64-bit operating system.

Workaround: Use the following hotfix to resolve this problem: `NullReferenceException` exception when you use `ShowDialog` method.

A customized UXSP update may fail

A customized UpdateXpress System Pack (UXSP) update may fail to install.

If a UXSP update is deployed to a client system after it has been customized by deleting some individual updates, it may fail to install on the client system.

Workaround: Delete the related update node from the UXSP metadata file for those deleted individual updates.

Upgrade doesn't remove the IBM System Updates Acquisition and Publishing tool 2.6 folder

The upgrade doesn't remove the IBM System Updates Acquisition and Publishing tool 2.6 folder from system.

When upgrading to IBM System Updates for Microsoft System Center Configuration Manager, version 3.1 from version 2.6, the installation folder for version 2.6 still exists. Some configuration files and log files are not removed.

Workaround: Manually delete the folder.

Install fails if UAC is enabled

The install fails if User Account Control (UAC) is enabled.

The Install will fail if the Administrator account is not being used. The User Access Control (UAC) must be switched off in order to successfully install IBM System Updates for Microsoft System Center Configuration Manager, version 3.1.

Workaround: Install IBM System Updates for Microsoft System Center Configuration Manager, version 3.1 with the Administrator account and turn off UAC.

Some updates remains active on a MSCCM managed client after install failed

Some updates remain active on the Microsoft System Center Configuration Manager (MSCCM) managed client after the install failed.

Some updates may fail to install. The updates may remain active on the MSCCM managed client even after a failed install.

Workaround: Rename the file to the suggested name to solve this problem or just ignore. The C:\Program file is created by UpdateXpress System Package Installer (UXSPi) tool version 4.40. When there is a new version of UXSPi, this problem should be fixed.

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