

FlexNet Embedded 2023.11 License Server

Release Notes

November 2023

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Introduction

These release notes describe the new features, enhancements, resolved issues, current requirements, and known issues for the 2023.11 release of the FlexNet Embedded license server.

For a complete description of the functionality and management of the FlexNet Embedded license server—either the local license server (LLS) or the CLS (Cloud Licensing Service) instance—see the FlexNet Embedded License Server Producer Guide and the FlexNet Embedded License Server Administration Guide.

For information about the most recent release of the FlexNet Embedded SDKs and FlexNet Operations, see the latest *FlexNet Embedded Client Release Notes* and *FlexNet Operations Release Notes*, respectively.

New Features and Enhancements

The FlexNet Embedded 2023.11 license server includes the following new features or enhancements.

- Additional Attributes for /hostid Endpoint
- Dongle Libraries for flexid9 and flexid10 Hostids No Longer Statically Linked

Additional Attributes for /hostid Endpoint

The output of the **/hostid** endpoint for the local license server now includes attribute information such as Physical, Builtin, and Removable. These attributes help license administrators identify and select the appropriate hostid for scenarios where they want to manually specify a hostid.

Consider the following scenario: The local license server is running on a laptop that is connected to a docking station; the MAC address of the docking station is used as a hostid. When the laptop is disconnected from the docking station, the MAC address is no longer available, resulting in broken trusted storage. In this case, it is advisable to manually specify the hostid to ensure continuous operation. The license administrator can call the **/hostid** endpoint which returns all MAC addresses as well as attribute information. The administrator can then identify the appropriate hostid based on the attribute information (builtin) and manually set the MAC address.

For backward compatibility reasons, the order of the returned MAC address is the same as in previous releases.

(FNE-20452)

Dongle Libraries for flexid9 and flexid10 Hostids No Longer Statically Linked

From release 2023.11 onwards, the dongle libraries required for flexid9 and flexid10 hostids are no longer statically linked in the FlexNet Embedded local license server. Instead, producers who want their local license server to support the flexid9 or flexid10 hostid must include the relevant dongle drivers in the license server software package that they make available to their customers.

The required dongle drivers and shared objects are included in the artifact **FlexNet Embedded Accessories for Dongles (YYYY.MM)** (where YYYY and MM stand for the year and month corresponding to the relevant FlexNet Embedded release), which is available for download from the Revenera Product and License Center.

For detailed information about the dongle libraries, see the new section "Information for Producers Supporting flexid9 or flexid10 Hostids" in the FlexNet Embedded License Server Producer Guide.

Requirements

The following sections list the requirements for the FlexNet Embedded local license server:

- Hardware Requirements
- Validated Platforms
- Virtual Machine Support
- Java Prerequisites
- License Server Manager Requirements
- Supported FlexNet ID Dongles



Important • Due to potential incompatibilities with trusted storage and other stored data, do not downgrade your current license server to a previous version.

Hardware Requirements

The following are the minimum hardware requirements for the license server:

- Disk—500 MB
- RAM-4 GB
- CPU-2 GHz 2 Cores

Validated Platforms

The following table lists the validated platforms for the FlexNet Embedded license server.

Operating System	CPU Architecture	Operating System Versions
*Linux	x86-64	CentOS 7.0
		CentOS 8.0
		Ubuntu 22.04.2 LTS

Operating System	CPU Architecture	Operating System Versions
**Windows	x86-64	Windows 8.1, 10 and 11
		Windows Server 2012 and 2012 R2
		Windows Server 2016
		Windows Server 2019
		Windows Server 2022

^{*} The FlexNet Embedded license server has been validated on CentOS 7 and 8, but can also be run on RedHat Enterprise Linux 7 or 8.

Virtual Machine Support

Virtualization functionality in the FlexNet Embedded local license server supports the following:

- VMware ESXi 6.5
- VMware Workstation 14.1.5
- Microsoft Hyper-V 6.3 on Windows Server 2016
- Citrix XenServer 7.2
- Oracle VirtualBox 6.1.18
- QEMU-KVM 2.7
- Parallels 15.1.2
- Google Compute Cloud
- Amazon EC2

Java Prerequisites

The following are the Java prerequisites for the machine on which the FlexNet Embedded local license server is installed:

Oracle Java SE 8, OpenJDK 8, or OpenJDK 11.



Note • The latest Java versions that are supported by the license server (Java 8 or 11) are needed for AWS certificate support. If an older Java version is used, the FlexNet Embedded license server cannot communicate with FlexNet Operations on AWS.

• A 64-bit JRE for a 64-bit license server or a 32-bit JRE for a 32-bit license server (not adhering to this requirement can cause the license server to fail to start)

^{** .}NET Framework 4.5 or later is required for Windows platforms.

 Windows only: The JAVA_HOME (or JRE_HOME) environment variable on your system set to the path for your default JDK (or JRE) installation.



Note • The license server requires only the JRE component. If JRE is your default Java installation, set the JRE_HOME environment variable; if JDK is your default installation, set JAVA_HOME.

Early Notification: Local License Server Migration to Higher Java Version

In a future release in 2023, the FlexNet Embedded local license server will migrate to a higher Java version (Java 11 or 17), with no backward compatibility. As a consequence, the updated local license server will no longer run on Java 8.

Older releases of the FlexNet Embedded local license server (released before the license server migration to the higher Java version) will continue to work on Java 8 and are supported as per the FlexNet Embedded Lifecycle Timeline.

License Server Manager Requirements

The FlexNet License Server Manager is a browser-based interface used to monitor and configure the local license server. This tool is provided as a separate package, called FlexnetLicenseServerManager-</ri>
version>.zip. The package is a Docker container which holds the image revenera/flsm:
version>.
You must therefore install Docker to be able to run the License Server Manager.

The FlexNet License Server Manager runs on an Nginx web server. The Nginx web server is included in the FlexnetLicenseServerManager-<version>.zip package, therefore you do not need to install Nginx.

Supported FlexNet ID Dongles

The following table lists the FlexNet ID dongles, the platforms on which they can be used, and the hostid keywords.

Table 1 • FlexNet ID Dongles: Tested Platforms for FlexNet Embedded License Server

Operating System	Manufacturer and Device and hostid Keyword
64-bit Microsoft Windows	SafeNet (FLEXID9):
Windows 10	 HASP 4 M1 and Sentinel HL Pro USB memory keys
	Sentinel HL Pro Drive
	Wibu Systems AG (FLEXID10):
	WibuKey

Table 1 • FlexNet ID Dongles: Tested Platforms for FlexNet Embedded License Server

Operating System	Manufacturer and Device and hostid Keyword
64-bit RHEL	SafeNet (FLEXID9):
RHEL 7.x	 HASP 4 M1 and Sentinel HL Pro USB memory keys Sentinel HL Pro Drive
	Wibu Systems AG (FLEXID10): • WibuKey

Support for Multiple Dongles

For FLEXID10, 3 dongles maximum are supported.

For FLEXID9, multiple dongles are supported:

- Windows—one HASP4 dongle and multiple Sentinel HL Pro dongles
- Linux—either one HASP4 dongle or multiple Sentinel HL Pro dongles

Resolved Issues

The following known issue has been resolved for the FlexNet Embedded license server in this release.

Resolved Failover Server Error

In some scenarios, the failover server reported the error Something went wrong when fetching server instance id from feature. This issue has been addressed and the error no longer occurs.

(Case 02799244, FNE-20694)

Known Issues

The following known issues exist in this release of the FlexNet Embedded License Server.

- Vulnerability in madler-zlib-1.2.8
- Error When Disallowing Client Deletion in producer-settings.xml
- No Azure VMUUID Hostid Detection on Linux SUSE or Red Hat
- Restart of Back-up License Server Needed to Initiate Synchronization

Vulnerability in madler-zlib-1.2.8

A vulnerability was identified in the dependency madler-zlib-1.2.8 (CVE-2016-9840, CVE-2016-9841, CVE-2016-9842, CVE-2016-9843).

To address this, dongle drivers for SafeNet/Thales have been updated to the latest version, which removes the vulnerability.

However, the x86 Linux platform could not be updated. Revenera is working with the vendor (SafeNet/Thales) to resolve this. Until the issue has been resolved, the vulnerability is present in any kit containing x86 Linux elements (Linux x86 XT kits, .Net Core XT kits and the LLS Native component).

(FNE-17291)

Error When Disallowing Client Deletion in producer-settings.xml

If the setting licensing.dropClientEnforcedDelay in the policy settings file, producer-settings.xml, is changed to DROP_CLIENT_DISALLOWED (to disallow client deletion), the creation of producer-settings.xml fails with an error similar to the following:

Publisher settings key "licensing.dropClientEnforcedDelay" has an invalid value of "DROP_CLIENT_DISALLOWED".

As a temporary workaround, set licensing.dropClientEnforcedDelay to 2147483647s to disallow the deletion of clients.

(Case 01817330, FNE-13718)

No Azure VMUUID Hostid Detection on Linux SUSE or Red Hat

The local license server running on certain Linux virtual machines (SUSE 12 or Red Hat 7 or greater) currently does not support VMUUID detection on Microsoft Azure Cloud. Consequently, you cannot bind to the VMUUID as the hostid on these virtual platforms on Azure Cloud.

Restart of Back-up License Server Needed to Initiate Synchronization

After the initial configuration, the back-up license server in a failover setup should be restarted once. This ensures that the back-up server initiates the synchronization with the main license server.

(FNE-8349)

End of Support

The following components are no longer supported:

Self-contained Server

Self-contained Server

Revenera has already communicated plans to deprecate the self-contained server. This was first announced in the License Server Release Notes in February 2022.

From the 2022.09 release onwards, the self-contained server (provided as selfcontainedServer.zip—an archive required for special license-server installations) is no longer supported and will no longer be shipped with the product.

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