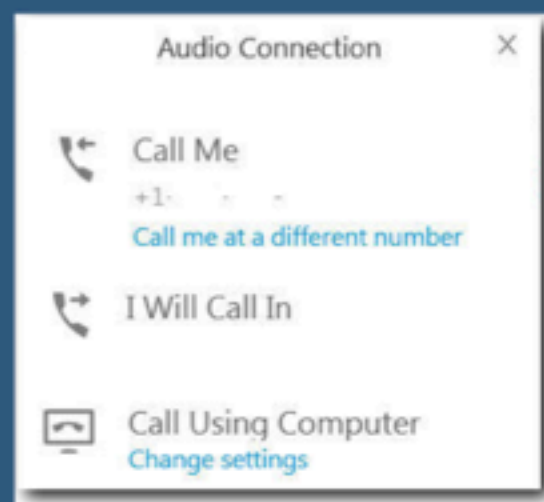# Update on bundling rules - automatic and manual

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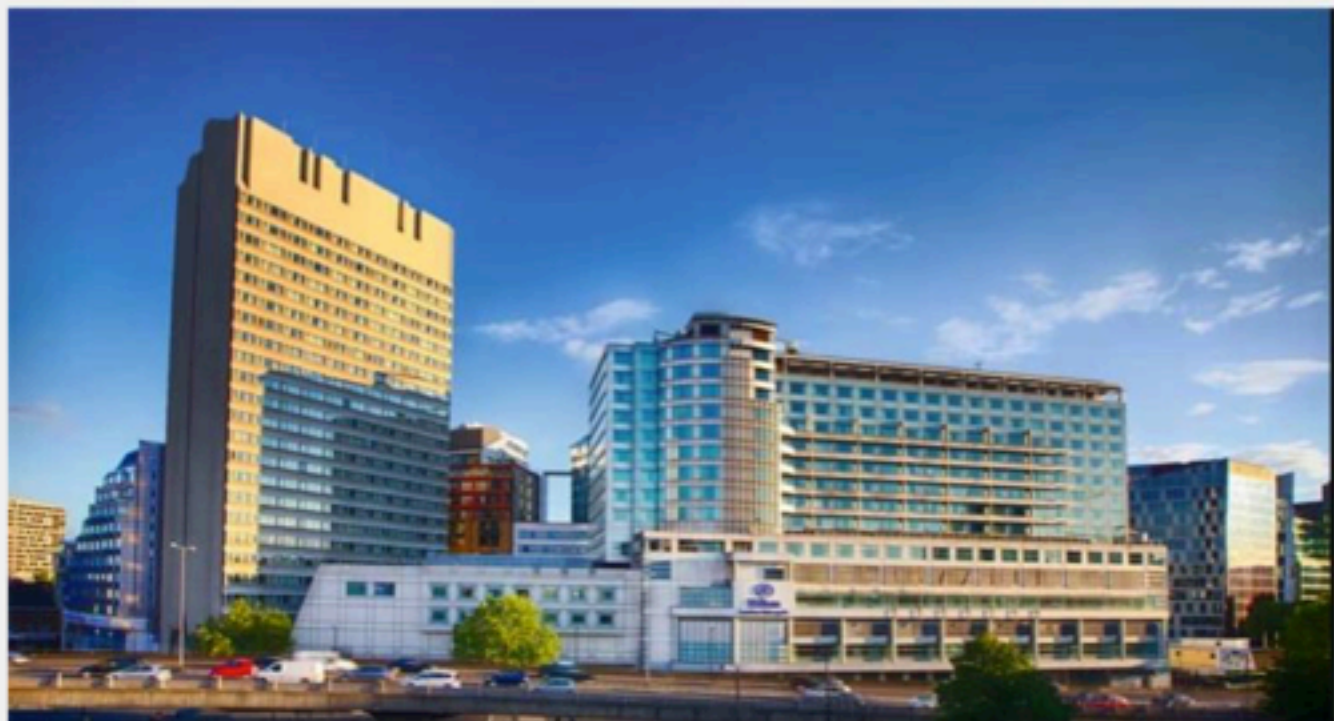
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Audio Connection

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+1- - -
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29 August 2018

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Panel

Presenter: Les Popow – ILMT/BFI L2 Support

Panelist: Khalid Yahya – ILMT/BFI L2 Support
Panelist: Sherrie Clarke – ILMT/BFI L2 Support

Host: Beth McCawley – Knowledge Manager, IBM Security Support

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Goal of session

- To cover the ILMT/BFI process of Software Bundling dealing with both the automated and manual aspects of the process.

- To outline the reasons that bundling is required, as well as the steps necessary to make it as accurate as possible.

- To share the Zen of Bundling

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Agenda

- Intention / purpose of bundling

- Before you bundle

- Automated bundling

- Software Classification

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Intention / purpose

Intention / purpose of bundling

- To allow ILMT reports to correctly reflect the Software installed

- Bundling is based on:
  - installation
  - usage (what it is being used for / what it is supporting - not whether or not it is running)

Bundling is not done to reflect or agree with licenses.

Bundling is ALWAYS required.

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Before you bundle

Before you bundle

- As many of your endpoints as possible should be enabled.

- Fixlets need to be successfully run.
  - Install or Upgrade Scanner
  - Catalog download
  - Initiate Software Scan
  - Upload Software Scan Results

- Not required for bundling, but needed to judge results.
  - Set up VM Manager connection and scanning
  - Run Capacity Scan and Upload Results Fixlet

- Part numbers should be imported from IBM PassPort Advantage (optional but recommended).

- Data Import must be run.

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Automated Bundling

Automated Bundling

- After a component is discovered, it undergoes the process of automated bundling.
  During the process, bundling rules are applied to discover possible component-product relations.
  Each relation is evaluated and assigned an internal score.
  The component is assigned to the product with the highest score.

- If the discovered component belongs to the product and license metric assigned during automated
  bundling, you can confirm the assignment.
  Otherwise, assign the component to a different product or license metric so that the relation reflects
  your entitlement, and confirm it.
  If the assignment is not confirmed, it might be automatically changed.
  It might happen when a new software catalog is uploaded or when a different product is suggested as
  the best bundling option based on the new results of automated bundling.

- As long as there is more than one possible bundling option, ILMT cannot be 100% sure that this is the
  correct option regardless of how obvious it may appear.

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Automated Bundling

When the automated bundling task runs, it determines the best bundle connections to all unconfirmed product instances. If the newly calculated bundles have a higher level of confidence than the current product bundles, automated bundling rebundles those product instances to the new product with the best match.
In the vast majority of cases, subsequent automated bundling runs calculate the same level of confidence for most or even for all of the unconfirmed product instances.
However, from time to time, especially in large environments with a large percentage of unconfirmed instances where it can actually happen frequently, the newly calculated confidence level can turn out to be higher than the old one.
In this case, the software instance is rebundled.
The most common reasons why automatic bundling is able to rebundle some old unconfirmed product instances are:

- Import of a new set of part numbers

- Import of a new software catalog

- After manual rebundling or manual confirmation of one product instance, other unconfirmed product instances can be better bundled by using partition or infrastructure collocation rules

- Detection of a new simple software component (a component that can be assigned to only one product) by agents might also change the calculations for other unconfirmed instances due to partition or infrastructure collocation automated bundling rules.

However, automated bundling does NOT replace the manual work that must be done to confirm or rebundle all unconfirmed product instances. The confidence level that is calculated by automated bundling is intended to facilitate manual bundling by providing the best potential bundling options for all unconfirmed product instances.

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Automated Bundling: Bundling Rules

9.2.5 Bundling tags

This rule assigns a component to the product and license metric that are represented by the part number listed in the bundling tag. The tag is placed on the computer where the component is installed which allows for assigning the specific instance of the component to the right product and license metric.

Part numbers

This rule uses part numbers that you upload to License Metric Tool to narrow down the list of products and license metrics to which a component can be assigned to the ones that you purchased.

Partition collocation

This rule discovers components that are installed on the same partition, and are related to the same product in the software catalog.

Infrastructure collocation

This rule discovers components that are installed in the same infrastructure, and are related to the same product in the software catalog.
The search does not include the computer on which the component is installed.

Stand-alone product discovery

This rule identifies all products to which a component can be assigned and chooses the product for which the fewest components are listed in the software catalog.

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Automated Bundling
a.k.a. – Software Classification

Software Classification - Overview Widget

IBM Software Classification

88 Completed (70%)
37 Pending (30%)
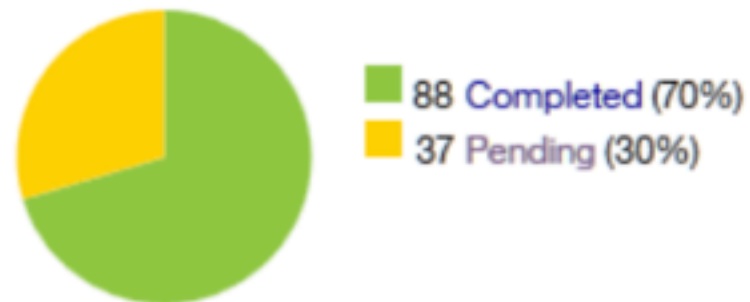
Go to Software Classification

⚠ The part numbers file for computer group All Computers has not been imported yet.
If a new part numbers file is available, upload this file.

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Demonstration:
Software Classification

Questions for the panel

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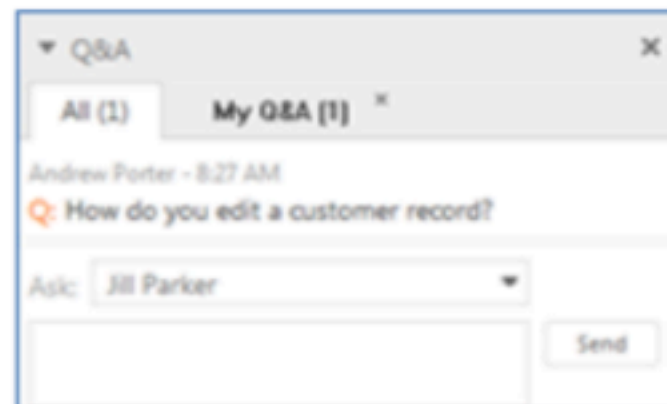
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More information:

- Security Learning Academy: http://ibm.biz/SecLearningAcademyILMT

- Prior Bundling Open Mic (7 Feb 2018): https://youtu.be/hkwC6dq6QSk

- IBM Knowledge Center:
  https://www.ibm.com/support/knowledgecenter/SS8JFY_9.2.0/com.ibm.lmt.doc/welcome/LMT_welcome.html

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