SUSE Manager

Rapid data center, IT infrastructure and technology advancements have created endless new opportunities for IT innovation, but have also introduced many new management challenges. SUSE® Manager can help—designed to reduce complexity and regain control by enabling comprehensive management of your Linux systems, VMs and containers with a single centralized solution. It provides automated and cost-effective software, asset, patch and configuration management, as well as, system provisioning, orchestration and monitoring capabilities enabling you to easily manage your deployments across physical, virtual and cloud environments.

Product Overview

SUSE Manager delivers a best-in-class open source IT infrastructure management solution for your software-defined infrastructure. Designed to help your enterprise DevOps and IT Operations teams to reduce complexity and regain control of IT and IoT assets, ensure compliance with internal security policies and optimize operations to reduce costs.

Key Benefits

- **Reduce complexity and regain control of your IT assets.** SUSE Manager enables you to manage your Linux systems, VMs and containers with a single tool across a variety of hardware architectures, hypervisors, and cloud platforms. Simplify management and reduce complexity with graphical visualization of your IT systems status and their relationships as well as the capability to organize your Linux servers into logical groupings. SUSE Manager also helps you regain control of your IT assets by allowing you to quickly view and identify which of your IT assets need attention.

- **Ensure Compliances with internal security policies and external regulations.** You can automate monitoring, tracking, auditing, and reporting of your systems, VMs and containers across your DevOps environment to ensure compliance. Easily track system compliance to current patch levels and quickly identify and remediate systems deployed in cloud and container infrastructures that are out of compliance with company policies.

- **Optimize operations and reduce costs**. Enterprise DevOps and IT teams can optimize operations, reduce costs and support CI/CD, with a single tool for automated deployment of hardened OS templates (VMs or containers) to tens of thousands of servers for faster, consistent and repeatable provisioning, orchestration and configuration without compromising speed or security. Additionally, SUSE Manager makes it easy to manage and optimize usage of SUSE subscriptions, helping to ensure you aren't buying subscriptions you don't need.

Only SUSE Manager combines software content lifecycle management (CLM) with a centrally staged repository, class-leading configuration management and automation, plus optional state of the art monitoring capabilities, for all major Linux distributions.

Key Features

AUTOMATION

- API driven automation for Linux server provisioning, configuration and patching
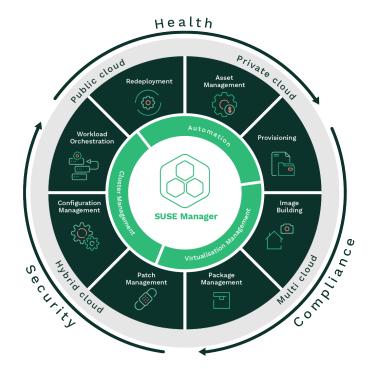
ASSET MANGEMENT

- Inventory hardware and software systems
- Create reports for physical, virtual machines and cloud instances, assign subscriptions and identify over- or under-utilization

PROVISIONING

- Provision unattended bare-metal systems via AutoYaST/Kickstart/PXE booting; virtual guests as easily as physical instances; new servers identical to a running server or predefined configuration; and SUSE Studio™ images directly.
- Track server changes and return to a previous version or configuration if required
- Provision and start/stop/configure virtual guests
- Support first-time installation with rapid setup of network installation environments (create Cobbler systems records)

SOFTWARE AND PACKAGE MANAGEMENT

- Collect and distribute custom software packages into manageable groups
- Centrally push software by grouping servers, easing the burden of manually managing individual servers

- Create customized repositories for the delivery of operating system packages or RPM Packet Manager-based (RPM-based) applications and content
- Migrate SUSE Linux Enterprise to new service packs directly from the SUSE Manager user interface
- Use the SUSE Manager application programming interface (API) to create custom scripts for easily automating many tasks
- Provision RPM-based applications to automatically deploy complete, integrated software stacks
- Search operating system instances by packages, patches or system specifications to reduce administrative overhead
- Remove unnecessary system packages and freeze the current configuration to avoid package installations by mistake

PATCH MANAGEMENT

- Receive notifications when the latest Linux server updates are available
- Connect to SUSE Customer Center to easily access updates, security patches and service packs
- Plan maintenance windows ahead of time by scheduling updates
- Apply role-based controls so administrators have authority to manage each system
- Significantly reduce the time to patch hundreds, even thousands, of servers via real-time configuration and monitoring

REAL-TIME ORCHESTRATION AND CONFIGURATION MANAGEMENT
- Salt-based configuration management enables fast and secure deployment of tens of thousands of systems.
- Manage configurations over time to track and manage configuration drift
- Centralize configuration file management for server groups
- Deploy and parameterize salt formulas with standardized forms via SUSE Manager UI

- Develop and maintain standardized configuration profiles for servers or groups of servers to simplify initial server provisioning
- Easily migrate custom scripts for Red Hat Network Satellite, create new AutoYaST and Kickstart scripts or use SUSE Manager to develop new scripts based on existing installations

REDEPLOYMENT
- Re-deploy on the same hardware; no physical interaction is needed

MONITORING
SUSE Manager includes a comprehensive

monitoring solutions including the Nagios-compatible Icinga montoring server which enables you to use existing Icinga-based in-house monitoring solutions with SUSE Manager. It also offers the option to integrate SUSE manager with Prometheus Monitoring for customers looking to leverage those those monitoring solutions.

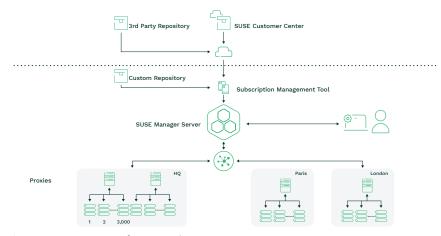For detailed product specifications and system requirements, visit: **www.suse.com/products/suse-manager/**

Figure: SUSE Manager Reference Architecture

System Requirements

MINIMUM LINUX SERVER SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS FOR INSTALLATION
- CPU: Multi-core 64-bit CPU (x86-64)
- RAM: 16 GB minimum for base installation, 32 GB minimum for production server
- Free disk space: 100 GB minimum for base installation, plus a minimum of 130 GB for repository data

SUPPORTED PROCESSOR PLATFORMS
- x86-64 (64-bit)
- IBM z Systems and LinuxONE
- IBM POWER8 or POWER9 processor–based server in Little Endian mode

To learn more about SUSE Manager, visit:
www.suse.com/products/suse-manager/

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