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HP ZCentral Connect Release Notes
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Release v2022.0.0

Release v2022.0.0 is a major release and builds upon functionalities delivered in version 2020 releases adding the following features and improvements:

1. Reservations

- * Added support for editing Reservations. Users will now be able to edit Reservations they created
- * Refer to the user guide for details and limitations of this feature

2. Minor user experience improvements and bug fixes

- * Some control labels were updated for improved clarity
- * Fixed issue with "Don't show again" preference persistence
- * Improved Manager installer

Reference "HP ZCentral Connect Troubleshooting.pdf" for known issues.

Quick Start v2022.0

If you are upgrading from a previous BETA version, you must uninstall it and all data directories before proceeding. Any existing data such as Hosts, Users, Security Groups, Pools or Private Hosts will need to be entered again.

If you are upgrading from a previous version, you do not need to uninstall.

But if you are upgrading from version 20.0, please refer to the "Upgrading from Version 20.0" section in "HP ZCentral Connect Manager Troubleshooting.pdf" for details on upgrading.

Each release of ZCentral Connect is a release of all components, including the Manager, Agent, and Client. An updated Connect Manager version will have compatibility with older versions of the Connect Agent and Client, but may limit some of its functionality for new features.

For ZCentral Connect to be fully integrated with Remote Boost and take advantage of the latest features, Remote Boost versions should also be up to date. Although Connect supports older versions of Remote Boost, formerly known as HP RGS, an older Remote Boost version will limit functionality.

Licenses purchased for any 20.x versions are valid for this release. If a License is not present, this release includes an internal license allowing Users to create new Sessions with Hosts. For more information on licensing refer to "HP ZCentral Connect User Guide.pdf."

For further details reference "HP ZCentral Connect Quick Start Guide.pdf."

Release v2020.3.0

Release v2020.3.0 adds the following new features and improvements:

1. Database Failover

- * Database Failover allows administrators to configure a cluster of Manager instances to use an external Microsoft SQL Server Database Management System configured for high availability to avoid data loss or downtime in the event of an outage.
- * Refer to "HP ZCentral Connect Failover Guide.pdf" for details on how to use this feature.

2. Reservations - Pool Availability

- * Pool Availability is a new feature that allows users to view time slots with available Hosts within a specified Pool

3. Updated Client Portal user interface

- * The Client Portal has been updated to provide quicker access to available Private Hosts and Pools

4. Minor user experience improvements and bug fixes.

- * Addressed an issue where Hardware Monitor would fail to install or start
- * Addressed an issue that occurred when reading Microsoft Active Directory
- * Made Agent and Client installers accessible via the side menu of the Manager

Refer to "HP ZCentral Connect Troubleshooting.pdf" for known issues.

Release v2020.2.0

Release v2020.2.0 builds upon functionality delivered in 2020.1 releases, and adds the following new features and improvements:

1. Reservations (Preview)

- * Host Reservations is a new feature introduced in ZCentral Connect

which allows Administrators to guarantee the availability of Hosts in a Pool for Users at a certain time.

* Reference "ZCentral Connect User Guide.pdf" for details on how to use this feature.

2. Log out Users

* A new feature allowing ZCentral Connect Manager to Log out Users from remote Hosts.

* This feature can be manually invoked by the Administrators and automatically triggered when a Host Session (or Reservation) ends.

3. Fixes a potential security issue. NOTE: HP strongly recommends transitioning promptly to this updated version which supersedes all previous releases.

4. Minor user experience improvements and bug fixes.

* Fixed issue where the Manager was listening on unnecessary ports.

* Added Administrator password rotation.

* Administrators are now able to see which User checked out a Host for a Session.

* Administrator and Client Portals are now unified under a single access point.

* Added HP ThinPro 7.2 support on ZCentral Connect Client.

* Fixed "malicious software" message when installing ZCentral Connect Client on macOS.

Reference "HP ZCentral Connect Troubleshooting.pdf" for known issues.

Release v2020.1.3

Release v2020.1.3 is a patch release that improves overall product stability and fixes the following issues:

* Manager refusing to start in certain rare circumstances.

Reference "HP ZCentral Connect Troubleshooting.pdf" for known issues.

Release v2020.1.2

Release v2020.1.2 is a patch release that improves overall product stability and fixes the following issues:

* Fixed issue when installing ZCentral Connect Manager without AD permissions

* Fixed issue on Single Sign-On when using local account

* Added offline certificate renewal/configuration to ManagerConfig tool

* Updated ZCentral Connect Client launcher for ThinPro with Firefox 78

* Minor documentation and user experience improvements

Reference "HP ZCentral Connect Troubleshooting.pdf" for known issues.

Release v2020.1.1

Release v2020.1.1 is a patch release that improves overall product stability and fixes the following issues:

- * Adds support for Security Group names with special characters
 - * Minor documentation and user experience improvements
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Release v2020.1.0

Release v2020.1.0 builds upon functionality delivered in 2020.0 releases, and adds the following new features and improvements:

1. Pools can be configured with the following new Advanced Features:
 - * Offer only Remote Boost ready Hosts - Connect will not offer Hosts that are reporting errors to Users.
 - * Prevent Unmanaged Connections - Prevents Users without a Session from connecting to Hosts using Remote Boost.
 - * Automatically Release Hosts - Connect will release a Host back to a Pool if a User has not logged into the Host or has logged out of the Host within a configurable time period.
2. System Events Monitoring
 - * ZCentral Connect Manager can subscribe itself to receive System Events from Hosts with Intel® AMT version 11 or later.
 - * ZCentral Connect Hardware Monitor enhances System Events by adding the capability of detecting Power Supply errors while the Host's Operating System is running.
3. HP ZCentral 4R Workstation support and exclusive features
 - * Power Supply Unit Errors - 4R workstations are capable of reporting Power Supply Unit errors back to the Manager.
 - * System ID LED - An identifier LED may be toggled remotely by ZCentral Connect Manager to help locate a specific 4R workstation in a rack.
4. Certificate Renewal Simplification
 - * The Manager Config App's Certificate Renewal Process can reach out to all connected Agents and automatically configure them with the new Manager certificate.

Reference "HP ZCentral Connect Troubleshooting.pdf" for known issues.

Release v2020.0.1

Release v2020.0.1 is a patch release that improves overall product stability and fixes the following issues:

- * Service unable to start in certain circumstances

- * Single sign-on no longer requires two authentication prompts
- * Single sign-on can be disabled by Administrators
- * Manager Installer removes and unbinds certificate when installation fails
- * Agent Installer now supports TLS 1.2
- * Improved terminology in Agent installer
- * AgentConfig accepts lowercase certificate thumbprints
- * Minor documentation and UX improvements

Reference "HP ZCentral Connect Manager Troubleshooting.pdf" or "HP ZCentral Connect Agent Troubleshooting.pdf." for known issues.

Release v2020.0.0

Release v2020.0.0 is the first official product release. It builds upon functionality delivered in BETA releases, and adds the following improvements:

1. Product-wide security improvements.
 - * Strengthened administrator password requirements.
 - * Manager now only supports encrypted TLS communication with Intel AMT. Please provision AMT-enabled Workstations with a trusted TLS certificate.
 - * For increased security, domain administrators are no longer considered Administrators of the Manager.
 - * Improved Connect Client security.
2. Improved solution performance and stability for managing a large number of hosts.
3. Minor user experience improvements and bug fixes.
 - * Fixed an issue where Manager installer was not able to open Windows Firewall.
 - * Administrators can provide their own certificate to the ManagerConfig utility for the Manager to use.

Reference "HP ZCentral Connect Manager Troubleshooting.pdf" or "HP ZCentral Connect Agent Troubleshooting.pdf." for known issues.

Release v0.3.0-beta

Prior to using this BETA release, you must uninstall any v0.2.0 BETA software. Any existing data such as Hosts, Users, Security Groups, Pools or Private Hosts will need to be entered again.

This BETA release requires a license file. HP is shipping a free Trial license with this release. This file will support up to 5 concurrent sessions and will expire April 1, 2020. The file, ZCentralConnectTrial_v030.lic, can be found in the downloaded software package along with the Windows .msi installer. After installation of the ZCentral Connect Manager software, you must copy

this file to the data directory: %PROGRAMDATA%\HP\ZCentralConnect.
See "HP ZCentral Connect Manager User Guide.pdf" for more details.

This BETA release builds upon the functionality delivered in the previous BETA release, and adds the following new functionality:

1. The Client Portal has been improved, allowing a User to check out multiple Hosts at once, and to check out specific Private Hosts or check out a Host from a specific Pool. The algorithm used for automatic check-out was improved to prioritize Hosts that have no errors and the least recently used Hosts first.
2. The Agent has been improved to use a message bus for more efficient communication with the Manager. Knowing when an Agent connects or disconnects will no longer have a delay.
3. The Agent no longer monitors RGS connections, rather it monitors all logins on the Host machine and reports these to the Manager. The Agent also reports an error to the Manager if it detects that the RGS Sender service is no longer running.
4. Pools can now be directly associated to Users.
5. Several updates were updated to improve stability, security, and user experience across ZCentral Connect Software. Among these include being able to run the ZCentral Connect Manager using an Active Directory Managed Service Account, requiring an authorization code to register an agent, and using Kerberos authentication for Intel AMT.

The following are known issues for this release:

1. Due to rebranding, some messages and settings may still contain the name "Broker." In future releases, these should all align with the new term "Manager."
2. For additional issues, please see the Known Issues sections of "HP ZCentral Connect Manager Troubleshooting.pdf" and "HP ZCentral Connect Agent Troubleshooting.pdf."

Release v0.2.1-beta

Prior to using this BETA release, you must uninstall any v0.0.3 BETA software. Any existing data such as Hosts, Users, Security Groups, Pools or Private Hosts will need to be entered again.

This BETA release builds upon the functionality delivered in the previous BETA release, and adds the following new functionality:

1. HP Z Connection Manager now integrates with your corporate Microsoft Active Directory domain. Users and security groups added to the HP Z Connection Manager must come from this domain. Hosts may also come from this domain. Users authenticate themselves with the HP Z Connection Manager Client using their domain account, through single sign-on or with their domain credentials. Administrators continue to use the built-in administrator account.
2. There is now an HP Z Connection Manager Agent to run on each Host to determine the Host's availability on the network, as well as the status of RGS connections. To install Agent software, see the section "Installing the HP Z Connection Manager Agent" in the User Guide.
3. HP Z Connection Manager now supports encrypted communication with Intel AMT.

Bug Fixes:

1. Fixed launch RGS button on new version of Firefox

Release v0.2.0-beta

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This BETA release builds upon the functionality delivered in the previous BETA release, and adds the following new functionality:

1. HP Z Connection Manager now integrates with your corporate Microsoft Active Directory domain. Users and security groups added to the HP Z Connection Manager must come from this domain. Hosts may also come from this domain. Users authenticate themselves with the HP Z Connection Manager Client using their domain account, through single sign-on or with their domain credentials. Administrators continue to use the built-in administrator account.
2. There is now an HP Z Connection Manager Agent to run on each Host to determine the Host's availability on the network, as well as the status of RGS connections. To install Agent software, see the section "Installing the HP Z Connection Manager Agent" in the User Guide.
3. HP Z Connection Manager now supports encrypted communication with Intel AMT.

Release v0.0.3-beta

This is a BETA release of the HP Z Connection Manager software. The Z Connection Manager combines remote manageability and brokering functionality. It allows an administrator to define and manage groups of Workstations for use with HP Remote Graphics Software

(HP RGS). In addition, the Connection Manager provides remote power control functionality via Intel AMT. Consult the User Guide for complete details on configuring and deploying the HP Z Connection Manager.