



MARIMBA NEWSLETTER

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>8.3.00 - The Biggest Marimba Release</i>	1
<i>Marimba 8.3.00 Highlights</i>	2
<i>The Marimba Roadmap</i>	4
<i>Competitive Analysis Between Marimba Versus Other Similar Products</i>	5

Special points of interest:

- BBKA 8.3.01 is tentatively planned to be released on 17th March 2014.
- The next CM-UG call is scheduled on:

19th February 2014 at Noon Central Time Zone

8.3.00 - THE BIGGEST MARIMBA RELEASE



With the ushering of the new year 2014, a warm welcome to all our customers. The second edition of the Marimba newsletter brings you news about the new developments in Marimba.

The 8.3.00 release is now officially released. It represents an important milestone in our ultimate goal which in short is *Marimba As a Platform*.

It is worth emphasizing the last sentence and we believe that the features in 8.3.00 release will go a very long way towards strengthening Marimba in the areas where needed. In this newsletter, you can read details of features that have been introduced in the 8.3.00 release, and how they aim to enhance the customer experience. For more details on obtaining the 8.3.00 release channels, you can contact our Director of Support Services, Arturo Samper, at the following e-mail address:

Arturo.Samper@symphonyteleca.com

You can also contact me at the following e-mail address:

Nitish.Shrivastava@symphonyteleca.com

We will also have our monthly CMUG meeting on February

19th, 2014 at Noon Central Time Zone where we intend to provide a forum to discuss the contents of this newsletter and also answer your queries.

Leading up towards our goal of *Marimba As A Platform*, we have also provided details on features that we intend to provide in the upcoming releases of Marimba such as release 8.5.00 and above. We see these releases as a continuation of a story that we intend to tell; a gradual shift from a product that constrains our customers to using and working around existing features, to a future where the product becomes a service, and works as a platform. This can be likened to a canvas on which our customers can paint magnificent vistas of complicated and highly customized use cases! You will also be able to use the platform to implement simple use cases that are not covered by our competitors.

Finally, this newsletter also presents a report which can be construed as an instructive exercise to share with our customers the results of our exhaustive study into how we perform against our competitors. The sources for this competitive study range from direct customer feedback to messages from social media platforms. The sources also include the so-called rigorous studies by third-party analysts. We believe that our study provides a definitive guidance on how Marimba stacks up against our competitors, because the report is large-

ly based on what you, the customer, have told us.

We are grateful to you, our customers, for keeping faith and believing in our mission. We assure you of our continued commitment to Marimba, and intend to bring even more exciting and world-class features!

MARIMBA 8.3.00 HIGHLIGHTS

Marimba 8.3.00 features:

- **Marimba over Internet**

Marimba now supports Inventory, Policy, Patching and deployment over Internet with the same configuration.

- **Marimba Packaging**

⇒ Generic Installer for Agent-less Deployment

Use generic installer to create packages that can be installed on machines without tuner. It gives a unique capability to report package information back in Inventory for compliance and auditing.

⇒ Automatic upgrade of packages during installation

Upgrading pre-8.3.00 packages will not be required now. Application Packager fixes until 8.3.00 version will be available for older version packages without the need for re-packaging.

- **Infrastructure**

⇒ Support for 64-bit CMS

You can run CMS on a 64 bit tuner.

⇒ Session Isolation

The Marimba agent now separates the UI components from the service application. The agent will always run in session 0. A new executable marimbaclient.exe encapsulates the UI functionality for Marimba Tuner and interacts with the tuner to handle all communication and events between the tuner and the UI.

⇒ Infrastructure Administration 64-bit segment for the 64-bit CMS

The new 64-bit segment for Infrastructure Administration can run on 64-bit CMS tuner.

- **Marimba Discovery**

⇒ Discovery of agentless machines

Use Host Discovery to find machines in your network that doesn't have tuner.

⇒ Advanced software title discovery

The License Key Scanner provides options for the administrator to customize the software title for specific executable files.

⇒ Support for custom decryption logic in License Key Scanner

License Key Scanner 8.3.00 supports Custom decryption logic which allows you to scan license keys of non-Microsoft products using custom decryption channel built in your environment.

⇒ Support for USGCB standards

8.3.00 USGCB scan enables you to monitor the USGCB compliance of your Windows computers against the benchmarks in Security Content Automation Protocol (SCAP) bundles.

- **Advanced and Improved Policy Based Deployment**

⇒ User Centric Deployment

You can now define policy for the user in an advanced way. The feature extends the user policies of Policy Manager to allow binding of machines with user. Administrator can define a separate policy for primary and secondary machine of any specific user or group.

⇒ Site based deployment

You can use the site based deployment feature of the Policy Manager to configure policies for sites or subnets.

⇒ Command-line option to export all or only child policies from Subscription Manager.



MARIMBA 8.3.00 HIGHLIGHTS CONTD.

- **On-Demand Deployment**

⇒ Improved Deployment Manager for on-demand deployment on both server and client machine
The new and improved Deployment Manager performs Windows Management Instrumentation (WMI), Power-Shell, and Registry operations on the target endpoints or servers, including LDAP groups.

⇒ Command execution from Infrastructure Administration

You can now use Infrastructure Administration to execute one or multiple commands on target endpoint/server.

- **Patching**

⇒ New patch deployment process

Now you don't have to build the whole repository for patch rollout. 8.3.00 offers much improved and optimized patch deployment process that allow packaging of only the relevant patches. This drastically brings down the deployment time.

⇒ Improved Windows Patch Source

Windows Patch Source now comes with a significant improvement in Packaging performance and it also supports simultaneous packaging of multiple locales

⇒ Update and Embedded SDK

8.3.00 SDK for Java and C developer to create their own apps and use Marimba platform. A unique capability that allow Marimba integration with any product.

- **Marimba Store**

⇒ Organization store

Create flexible and customizable Channel Store specific to your organization using 8.3.00.

⇒ Channel Store enhancements

Improvements in Channel Store to offer many new features.

⇒ Over 30 Custom Channels under Marimba Resource Kit

Channel store offers over 30 new custom channels under MRK and FSRK categories. They add more value to feature rich product.

- **Marimba Extensions**

Now any Java developer can customer marimba by writing custom java channel. You can use Marimba Eclipse Plugin to auto-generate code wrapper for different Marimba Channels. It also gives option to compile and publish channel to Transmitter and Channel Store.

- **Marimba as a Platform**

Customize almost everything with 8.3.00 code connectors. You can create customized plug-in, inventory, ISM and channel store connector to change the workflow as per the organization need. You can now integrate any self-service or approval product with Marimba and customize the workflow. Marimba offers its platform capability that can help customize everything and add custom workflow.

- **New Platform Support**

⇒ Windows 8 Embedded

⇒ Windows 8.1

⇒ Windows 8.1 Embedded

⇒ Windows Server 2012 R2

⇒ Mac 10.9

- **New Browser Support**

⇒ Internet Explorer 11

⇒ FireFox 26


⇒ Chrome 32


Marimba-Castanet

Support contact details

<http://www.bmc.com/support>

You can also view our updates at the following sites:

 [CM-UG.com group on LinkedIn](#)

 <https://twitter.com/MarimbaCastanet>

 <https://www.facebook.com/marimba.castanet?fref=ts>



THE MARIMBA ROADMAP

Marimba 8.3.01 Special Patch

Marimba 8.3.01 special patch is tentatively scheduled to be released in the mid of March and will feature the following:

- Operating System Migration Solution
- Support for IPv6
- Fixes for customer reported defects and a few important RFEs which will be based on version 8.3.00

Marimba 8.5.00

Marimba 8.5.00 is tentatively scheduled to be released in December 2014 and will feature the following:

- Backlog of RFEs
- Multi-Tenancy
- Multi-forest (final phase)
- Mobile Devices Management (MDM)
- Marimba as a Service
- Mac Patching
- SCAP 1.2



Marimba 9.0.00

Marimba 9.0.00 is tentatively scheduled to be released in September 2015 and will feature the following:

- Backlog of RFEs
- Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI)
- Final phase of OS provisioning where support will be provided for migrating to OS, Citrix, VM operating systems
- Infrastructure on Cloud
- Dynamic Reporting/Management

COMPETITIVE ANALYSIS BETWEEN MARIMBA VERSUS OTHER SIMILAR PRODUCTS

We have been reaching out to customers in an effort to understand their views on the Marimba platform. In addition to the feedback we have received directly, we also have been monitoring queries and comments on our Facebook and Twitter feeds. We have actively been engaging our customers in order to get feedback in the form of CSI (Customer Satisfaction Index) surveys, and use case discus-

sions, CM-UG hot topic discussions, beta programs, etc. We have also analyzed reports generated by market analysts, all with the purpose of putting together a brief comprehensive report on how Marimba competes against our competitors. The information we provide below is the result of those efforts: Our analysis provides a competitive report around the following seven key areas:

- Discovery, Inventory, and Asset Management
- Bare Metal Provisioning
- Software and Patch Distribution
- Endpoint Virtualization
- Configuration Compliance and Remediation
- Process Automation and Service Desk
- Interfaces & Reporting

Infrastructure and Scalability

The following table compares fey features in the areas of infrastructure and scalability.

Table 1: Infrastructure and Stability

Key Feature	BigFix	LANDesk	Microsoft SCCM	Marimba
Dynamic scalability	x	○	x	✓
Optimized file distribution using “byte differencing”	○	○	○	✓
Client based distribution using Dynamic Proxies	x	x	○	✓
Non-Windows components as “First-Class” Components	○	x	x	✓
Customizable “Infrastructure Status Monitoring” Dashboard	x	x	○	✓
In-built real-time health status monitoring across components	○	○	○	✓
Customizable infrastructure (ability to extend all components)	x	x	x	✓
Custom Segmentation: a mature, customizable and extensible mechanism for targeting different classes of components/operating systems	○	○	x	✓
Mobile device support	✓	✓	✓	○
VDI	✓	✓	✓	x
Agentless Deployment	x	x	x	✓
Number of agents per server	8K	12K	8K	60K
Deployment over Internet: HTTP/HTTPS switching, access control, proxy recognition	x	x	x	✓
Low Latency Environment Optimizations (bandwidth throttling capabilities, latency timeout customization, firewall restriction handling)	○	○	○	✓


*MDM is shown in the roadmap of Marimba version 8.5.


*VDI is shown in the roadmap of Marimba version 9.0.

Marimba-Castanet

Support contact details
<http://www.bmc.com/support>

You can also view our updates at the following sites:

 [CM-UG.com group on LinkedIn](#)

 <https://twitter.com/MarimbaCastanet>

 <https://www.facebook.com/marimba.castanet?fref=ts>



Discovery, Inventory, and Asset Management

The following table compares fey features in the areas of Discovery, Inventory, and Asset Management.

Table 2 Discovery, Inventory, and Asset Management

Key Feature	BigFix	LANDesk	Microsoft SCCM	Marimba
Bare Metal Discovery (x86): Marimba components "baked into" OSM solution components.	x	✓	✓	✓
Windows OS Discovery	✓	✓	✓	✓
Non-x86 System Discovery	✓	✓	x	✓
Linux OS Discovery	✓	✓	x	✓
Application Discovery	✓	✓	✓	✓
License Enforcement	x	✓	✓	○
Customization of discovery template	○	○	○	✓
Extensible/Customizable Discovery	○	x	○	✓

Bare Metal Provisioning

The following table compares fey features in the areas of Bare Metal Provisioning.

Table 3: Bare Metal Provisioning

Key Feature	BigFix	LANDesk	Microsoft SCCM	Marimba
Windows Provisioning	✓	✓	✓	x
Linux Provisioning	x	✓	x	x
Mac OS Provisioning	x	✓	x	x
Virtual Machine Provisioning	x	x	x	x
UNIX Provisioning	x	○	x	x

* Bare Metal Provisioning is shown in the Roadmap of Marimba version 8.3.01 which is scheduled to be released in March.



Software and Patch Distribution

The following table compares fey features in the areas of Software and Patch Distribution.

Table 4: Software and Patch Distribution

Key Feature	BigFix	LANDesk	Microsoft SCCM	Marimba
Windows Clients (Desktop and Server)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Linux Clients (Desktop and Server)	✓	✓	✗	✓
Apple	✗	✓	✗	○
UNIX (HP/UX, Solaris, AIX) Clients OEM and Custom Application Support (non Shavlik)	✗	✗	✗	✓
Patches, custom packaging)	✗	✓	✓	✓
Customizable Software Title Discovery	✗	✗	✗	✓
Policy based software distribution	✓	✓	○	✓
Software deployment & patching over Internet	✗	✗	✓	✓
Customized segment hierarchy	✗	✗	✗	✓
User & Site based deployment	○	○	✓	✓

Configuration Compliance and Remediation

The following table compares fey features in the areas of Configuration Compliance and Remediation


Table 5: Configuration Compliance and Remediation


Key Feature	BigFix	LANDesk	Microsoft SCCM	Marimba
Policy-based Software Configuration Checking, Enforcement, and Remediation (Client-driven remediation)	✓	✓	○	✓
Peer review for Policy	✗	✗	✗	✓
Password Enforcement (hard disk, power-on, screen-saver, policy)	✗	✓	✓	○
Administrator-initiated Remediation	✗	✓	✓	✓
Automatic or Scheduled Remediation	✗	✓	✗	✓
Remote control	✓	✓	✓	✓
Scanning and Quarantine of Non-compliant Systems	✗	✓	✓	✓
“Push” based remediation (Deployment Manager) for both server/client class components	○	○	○	✓

Marimba-Castanet

Support contact details
<http://www.bmc.com/support>

You can also view our updates at the following sites:

 [CM-UG.com group on LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=11111111)

 <https://twitter.com/MarimbaCastanet>

 <https://www.facebook.com/marimba.castanet?fref=ts>



Process Automation and Service Desk

The following table compares fey features in the areas of Process Automation and Service Desk.

Table 6: Process Automation and Service Desk

Key Feature	BigFix	LANDesk	Microsoft SCCM	Marimba
Includes Process Automation or Orchestration Capabilities	✓	✓	✓	○
Wizard-based Scripting	✓	✓	✓	○
Workflow Connects Directly with Integrated Service Desk	○	✓	✗	○
Workflow Connects Directly with Service Desk	✓	✓	○	○
Integrated Service Ticket Creation, and Tracking	✓	○	✗	○

Interfaces and Reporting

The following table compares fey features in the areas of Interfaces and Reporting.

Table 7: Interfaces and Reporting

Key Feature	BigFix	LANDesk	Microsoft SCCM	Marimba
Web Browser-based Administration GUI	✓	✓	✓	✓
Role-based Administration, with Pre-defined Roles	✓	✓	✗	✓
Pre-defined and Customizable Web-based Reports	✗	✓	✓	✓
Data Export for OEM Reporting	✗	✓	✓	✓
Real-time Alerting	✗	✓	✗	✓
Ability to create Organization specific store	✗	✗	✓	✓
“Granular” Organization Store User classification (support for both LDAP sub-group authentication and database users, customizable access restrictions)	✗	✗	✓	✓
“Client as a Console” (agents support a management dashboard, can be used to administer other agents from the same dashboard)	✗	✗	✗	✓



Power Management

The following table compares fey features in the areas of Power management.

Table 8: Power Management

Key Feature	BigFix	LANDesk	Microsoft SCCM	Marimba
Power Actions	✓	✓	✓	✓
WOL	✓	✓	✓	✓
WOW	○	○	○	✓

Extension and Customization

The following table compares fey features in the areas of Extension and Customization.

Table 9: Extension and Customization

Key Feature	BigFix	LANDesk	Microsoft SCCM	Marimba
SDK for all supported platform	✗	✗	✗	✓
Dev IDE	✗	✗	✗	✓
Customization of logic at every level	○	○	○	✓
Use product as platform	✗	✗	✗	✓
Distributed Power Management (subnet-based wakeup strategies, broadcasted "power up" notifications, vPro-based wakeup support)	○	○	○	✓

Legend	
✓	Full support
✗	No support
○	Partial support or support through integration with 3 rd party tools

MARIMBA TRAINING PROGRAMS


Through customer feedback, note of the fact has been taken that there is a dearth of Marimba experts. We are working on partnering with organizations to provide professional Marimba training. We will soon share the updates related to Marimba Trainings.


Marimba-Castanet

Support contact details

<http://www.bmc.com/support>

You can also view our updates at the following sites:

 [CM-UG.com group on LinkedIn](#)

 <https://twitter.com/MarimbaCastanet>

 <https://www.facebook.com/marimba.castanet?fref=ts>

