Red Hat Network Satellite 5.5

Release Notes

Major features, changes, enhancements, corrections, API information and known issues in Red Hat Network Satellite 5.5

Edition 2

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Edition 2

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Abstract

Welcome to the RHN Satellite Release Notes.

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CHAPTER 1. MAJOR FEATURES

The following are the major features released as part of Red Hat Network Satellite 5.5.

IPv6 enablement

RHN Satellite, RHN Proxy and RHN Client/Tools all work within an IPv6 environment.

IMPORTANT

Restrictions: Satellite still needs IPv4 for external communications to RHN Hosted/Classic in order for `satellite-sync` to download content. The following are not supported in IPv6:

- PXE Provisioning
- Monitoring
- Solaris Clients

Older Red Hat Enterprise Linux anaconda installers do not provision/install over IPv6. Please review the Red Hat Enterprise Linux release notes for instances where the anaconda installation over IPv6 worked.

OpenSCAP support

RHN Satellite now provides security audit state (Security Content Automation Protocol or SCAP) reports of Red Hat Enterprise Linux systems running inside the Satellite environment. Includes client support for Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5.8 and above as well as Red Hat Enterprise Linux 6.2 and above.

CHAPTER 2. MAJOR CHANGES

i386 Architecture Support

Red Hat Network Satellite and Proxy 5.5 will continue to provide support for x86 (64-bit) machines and s390x architectures. Satellite and Proxy will no longer support the i386 (32-bit) architecture.

Red Hat Network Satellite and Proxy 5.4 will provide support for i386 (32-bit) machines up to March 31, 2017 as set out by the RHN Satellite and Proxy Server Life Cycle .

CHAPTER 3. ENHANCEMENTS

Improvements and enhancements added for Red Hat Network Satellite 5.5.

Clone-by-date

Allows customers to create and maintain custom-cloned Red Hat Enterprise Linux channels based on the date that content (Errata) was made available from the Red Hat Enterprise Linux channel. With RHN Satellite 5.5, **`spacewalk-clone-by-date`** was enhanced to allow a user to clone security errata only.

Provisioning over bonded network interfaces

RHN Satellite will now support the ability to define bonded network interfaces for new Satellite installations, as well as reprovisioning Red Hat Enterprise Linux Systems.

For new installations, setting up bonded networking in a kickstart profile can be done via WebUI, regardless of whether this has been set up on the system prior to the Satellite installation.

API Additions

The following are API additions of note in this release:

- BZ#760352

  This API addition allows the system to access the System Currency report via the API.

- BZ#782582

  The API function archives scheduled items without going through the web interface.

- BZ#773113

  An API function enhancement that allows the user to preserve the **`ks.cfg`** file through the API.

Database maintenance tool

- BZ#552628

  Allows administrators to change the embedded database password.

Configuration File Changes

- BZ#621531

  Configuration files within **`/etc/rhn/default`** have been moved to **`/usr/share/rhn/config-defaults`**. To edit any configuration settings, use **`/etc/rhn/rhn.conf`**. Changes made to **`/etc/rhn/rhn.conf`** will override the values in the defaults set in **`/usr/share/rhn/config-defaults`**.

CHAPTER 4. MAJOR CORRECTIONS

Major bug fixes and workarounds released for Red Hat Network Satellite 5.5.

- BZ#719629

  In a Satellite update installation, the install.pl script did not keep the proxy settings in `/etc/rhn/rhn.conf`. This was resolved in the Satellite upgrade installation by including instructions to create an answer file containing the correct proxy settings and using the answer file in the Satellite upgrade.

- BZ#769908

  Authentication tokens were not being handled correctly in a multi-tiered RHN Proxy Server configuration. The code which regenerates the authentication token depended on the **`X-RHN-Proxy-Auth-Error`** header in the html reply for every method. This has been fixed and auth information is now being correctly passed between RHN Proxy Servers in a multi-tiered configuration.

- BZ#695257

  Only errata containing the latest upgradeable package were being offered for system update which, in a situation where the package has an older security erratum and a newer non-critical erratum, only the non-critical one was offered to a system to upgrade. This fix now offers all errata to a system for upgrade. All security errata will be visible to a system.

- BZ#807875

  Previously, the java heapdump directory for **`taskomatic`** and **`rhn-search`** defaulted to **`/usr/sbin`** which caused the directory to fill up quickly. The java heapdump directory now defaults to **`/var/crash`**.

- BZ#630953

  Duplicate entries in the Satellite database, specifically the rhnCPU table caused internal server errors. A fix to ensure all rows are unique before the unique index is created has been implemented. No duplicate entries should appear in the Satellite database.

- BZ#674071

  When running numerous monitoring probes with large tables, RHN probes result in a deadlock error message (ORA-00060).

- BZ#828795

  When deleting a child channel, related rows in the database were not automatically being deleted along with the child channel. Deleting the child channel would result in an unhandled exception error. Rules were added into the oracle database at the time of table creation which would correctly delete the related rows that matched the channel to be deleted. Database data with associated channels should now be cleaned up correctly.

- BZ#705154

  The sorting directions in the Satellite web interface's drop-down lists were displaying incorrectly causing confusion in the "Managing Channels" interface. The fix updated the perl channel-select-dropdowns to use the same hierarchical sorting as java pages. The sorting directions should now reflect uniformly.

- BZ#695276

  When a client system is registered to a Satellite Server via an RHN Proxy server, koan attempts to download the kickstart file directly from the Satellite server because of Cobbler redirection. This results in a URLError. Cobbler will now replace the hostname of the server with the hostname of the first proxy in the chain if koan is requesting anything from the cobbler API.

- BZ#742905

  When a request in one thread breaks in a multi-threaded task, **`satellite-sync`** locks up on the download. The thread throwing the traceback will now release the lock so other threads will continue the download.

CHAPTER 5. KNOWN ISSUES

Known issues and workarounds found in RHN Satellite Server 5.5:

- Monitoring with SELinux in enforcing mode continues to be offered as a technical preview for Red Hat Enterprise Linux 5 and Red Hat Enterprise Linux 6 installations of RHN Satellite and RHN Proxy.

CHAPTER 6. API INFORMATION

New APIs

- **channel**
  - **`listVendorChannels`**

    Lists all the vendor software channels that the user's organization is entitled to.
- **channel.software**
  - **`removeErrata`**

    Removes a given list of errata from the given channel.
  - **`mergeErrata`**

    Merges all errata from one channel into another based upon a given start/end date.
  - **`removeRepo`**

    Removes a repository.
  - **`updateRepoURL`**

    Updates repository source URL.
  - **`updateRepoLabel`**

    Updates repository label.
  - **`updateRepo`**

    Updates a ContentSource repository.
  - **`getRepoDetails`**

    Returns details of the given repository.
- **configchannel**
  - **`getEncodedFileRevision`**

    Get revision of the specified configuration file.
  - **`lookupFileInfo`**

    Given a list of paths and a channel, it returns details about the latest revisions of the paths.
- **system.scap**
  - **`listXccdfScans`**

    Returns a list of finished OpenSCAP scans for a given system.

    - **`getXccdfScanDetails`**

      Gets details of a selected OpenSCAP XCCDF scan.

    - **`getXccdfScanRuleResults`**

      Returns a full list of RuleResults for given OpenSCAP XCCDF scan.

    - **`scheduleXccdfScan`**

      Schedule OpenSCAP scan.

- **system**

    - **`provisionVirtualGuest`**

      Provisions a guest on the specified host. This API method schedules the guest for creation and will begin the provisioning process when the host checks in. Or, if OSAD is enabled, it will begin immediately. This method defaults to mac_address=random, memory=512MB, vcpu=1, and storage=3GB.

    - **`getSystemCurrencyMultipliers`**

      Obtains the System Currency score multipliers.

    - **`getSystemCurrencyScores`**

      Obtains the System Currency score multipliers.

    - **`getUuid`**

      Obtains the UUID from the given system ID.

- **kickstart.profile**

    - **`getCfgPreservation`**

      Obtains the **`ks.cfg`** preservation option for a kickstart profile.

    - **`setCfgPreservation`**

      Sets the **`ks.cfg`** preservation option for a kickstart profile.

- **satellite**

    - **`isMonitoringEnabled`**

      This API method will return "True" if monitoring is enabled on the satellite.

    - **`isMonitoringEnabledBySystemId`**

      This API method will return "True" if monitoring is enabled on the satellite.

- **schedule**

    - **`archiveActions`**

Archives all actions in the given list.

- **system.search**
  - **uuid**

    Lists the systems which match this UUID.

Modified APIs (interface changes only)

- **channel.software.clone**

  Preferred gpg parameters are: **gpg_key_url**, **gpg_key_id**, **gpg_key_fp**. (The old **gpg_url**, **gpg_id**, and **gpg_fingerprint** are kept for compatibility reasons.)

- **configchannel.createOrUpdatePath**, **system.config.createOrUpdatePath**

  Now accepts the '**binary**' attribute to support binary uploads.

- **errata.getDetails**

  Now returns an '**erratаFrom**' attribute.

- **errata.setDetails**, **errata.create**

  Now takes the '**erratаFrom**' attribute. It also takes the '**url**' attribute within the bug structure.

- **packages.listChangelog**

  Now returns changelog string instead of an array of maps representing the changelog.

- **system.listSubscribedChildChannels**, **system.getSubscribedBaseChannel**, **kickstart.listKickstartableChannels**, **channel.software.getDetails**, **channel.software.listChildren**, **channel.software.associateRepo**, **channel.software.disassociateRepo**

  Now returns a list of **contentSources** structure instead of **yumrepo_source_url** and **yumrepo_label**

- **configchannel.getFileRevisions**, **configchannel.getFileRevision**, **configchannel.getEncodedFileRevision**, **configchannel.createOrUpdatePath**, **configchannel.lookupFileInfo**, **system.config.lookupFileInfo**, **system.config.createOrUpdatePath**

  Now returns the '**contents_enc64**' attribute.

- **channel.software.listErrata**, **system.getRelevantErrata**, **system.getRelevantErrataByType**

  Now returns the '**issue_date**' and '**update_date**' attributes.

- **system.getNetworkDevices**

  Now returns a list of IPv6 address structures.

- **`system.comparePackages`**, **`system.comparePackageProfile`**

  Now returns the '**`package_arch`**' attribute.

- **`system.getScriptResults`**, **`system.getScriptActionDetails`**

  Now returns the '**`output_enc64`**' attribute.

- **`system.listPackages`**

  Now returns the '**`id`**' attribute.

- **`system.getNetwork`**

  Now returns the '**`ip6`**' attribute

APIs Recently Deprecated

- **`channel.listRedHatChannels`**

  Replaced by **`channel.listVendorChannels`**

APIs Recently Removed

APIs are very rarely removed. If new functionality is required, new API calls will be introduced.

- None

API Bugs

This is a list of Bugzillas that have affected APIs that are fixed in Red Hat Network Satellite 5.5.

- BZ#698940

  The **`activationkey.addChildChannels`** API call checks for parent channel presence in the activation key before it added a child channel. If it failed to detect it, an exception resulted. In the latest version, **`activationkey.addChildChannels`** will now allow a child channel to be created with an activation key that has no base channel set.

- BZ#726114

  Satellite should be ignoring the parameters *macro-start-delimiter* and *macro-end-delimiter* to create a directory. Instead, this causes a traceback fault. This fix in **`configchannel.createOrUpdatePath`** ignores the macro delimiters if it is working with a directory.

- BZ#735381

  Previously, turning on *auto_errata_update* via the **`system.setDetails`** API did not schedule events correctly. This fix will allow the scheduling of errata update when *auto_errata_update* is enabled via the **`system.setDetails`** API.

- BZ#736661

  When calling **`system.config.createOrUpdatePath`** with the same content for multiple system, it causes an exception and leaves inconsistent config files that cannot be deleted using

the Satellite graphical interface. This fix prevents **system.config.createOrUpdatePath** from causing a deadlock and will not cause exceptions.

- BZ#741477

  The API *system.getDmi()* method did not return any data when the "System" field in the RHNSERVERDMI table is null. The null *dmi.getBios()* API call which caused the issue has been fixed and *system.getDmi()* now returns values when RHNSERVERDMI has blank rows.

- BZ#743434

  The API *system.getDmi()* method did not return data when the "BIOS_VERSION" field in the RHNSERVERDMI table is null. The null *dmi.getBios()* API call which caused the issue has been fixed and *system.getDmi()* now returns values when RHNSERVERDMI has blank rows.

- BZ#760352

  System Currency only generated a web interface report. An API call has been added to **System Currency** to allow System Currency to generate an API report.

- BZ#773113

  Previously, the **ks.cfg** file could only be preserved via a check box in the web interface. A new XMLRPC API method was added to allow changes in the kickstart preserve **ks.cfg** option to work via the API.

- BZ#784288

  system.getScriptResults returned malformed XML. This fix prevents the **system.getScriptResults** API from sending XML invalid characters.

- BZ#804706

  The API documentation for *deployAllSystems()* did not show the date parameter when it called the *deployAllSystems()* method. The API documentation for *deployAllSystems()* has been fixed to include the date parameter.

- BZ#811875

  Configuration channels could not be queried as the content of *channel_label* when querying **system.config.listFiles** is not the label but the channel name instead. This is fixed in this release. **system.config.listFiles** now returns the channel label and not the channel name.

- BZ#814642

  The API documentation for *errata.listPackages* was incomplete and did not give a full accounting of the actual return of the API. The documentation has been updated to add *file* and *checkstum_type*.

- BZ#814838

  activationkey.listActivationKeys() returned all activation keys when called, instead of those that should only be visible for the user. This has been fixed to only show custom activation keys.

- BZ#816320

`listMyChannels` does not return the correct provider_name for customer-created channels, and also lists Red Hat channels if they have custom child channels. In this version, only channels owned by the user's organization are returned by the API, and the provider_name now matches the organization name.

- BZ#816349

  The **`channel.listSharedChannels`** API previously listed channels not just from the current organization but from other organizations as well. This has been fixed. The Shared Channels page and API now only returns channels from the current org.

- BZ#816356

  Previously, the **`channel.listRedHatChannels`** API output included custom channels. This has been fixed and only Red Hat channels are now included in the **`channel.listRedHatChannels`** API output.

- BZ#818447

  Verbose logging of caller_ip details in the **`rhn_web_api.log`** file is now enabled.

- BZ#801463

  Issues with binary file handling prevented API binary file uploads. How **`configchannel.createOrUpdatePath`** handles binary files have been corrected and now accepts '**`binary`**' attributes. In addition, **`configchannel.lookupFileInfo`** now returns base64 encoded content for binary files. API binary file uploads are now possible.

APPENDIX A. REVISION HISTORY

Revision 1-19 **Thu Aug 20 2015** **Dan Macpherson**
Mass publication of all Satellite 5.5 books

Revision 1-18 **2015-08-18** **Dan Macpherson**
Removing note about bonded interfaces with Anaconda

Revision 1-17.400 **2013-10-31** **Rüdiger Landmann**
Rebuild with publican 4.0.0

Revision 1-17 **Wed May 22 2013** **Athene Chan**
BZ#965875 PDF version was reporting incorrect version due to book information format. Changes have been made to correct this.

Revision 1-16 **Fri Feb 15 2013** **Athene Chan**
BZ#910713 Minor edits to dates

Revision 1-15 **Thu Feb 14 2013** **Athene Chan**
BZ#910713 Added chapter "Major Changes"

Revision 1-14 **Mon Oct 24 2012** **Athene Chan**
BZ#862270 Minor typographical errors

Revision 1-13 **Mon Oct 22 2012** **Athene Chan**
BZ#862270 Added "Configuration File Changes" in the Enhancement chapter.

Revision 1-12 **Fri Sep 21 2012** **Athene Chan**
Copyright year changed.

Revision 1-11 **Fri Sep 21 2012** **Dan Macpherson**
Final packaging for 5.5

Revision 1-10 **Wed Sept 19 2012** **Dan Macpherson**
Final packaging for 5.5

Revision 1-9 **Wed Sep 19 2012** **Athene Chan**
QA edits incorporated.

Revision 1-8 **Mon Sep 10 2012** **Athene Chan**
All API attributes standardized to one format.

Revision 1-7 **Mon Sep 10 2012** **Athene Chan**
Minor grammatical changes.

Revision 1-6 **Mon Sep 10 2012** **Athene Chan**
BZ#852959 Edited new APIs as per technical review.

Revision 1-5 **Thu Sep 6 2012** **Athene Chan**
BZ#852959 Added modified APIs as well as recently deprecated APIs.

Revision 1-4 **Tue Sep 4 2012** **Athene Chan**
BZ#852959 Addition of BZ#801463 to Bug Fixes.

Revision 1-3 **Mon Sep 3 2012** **Athene Chan**
BZ#852959 Technical Review edits.

Revision 1-2 **Fri Aug 31 2012** **Athene Chan**

BZ#852959 Added Chapter 3 Major Corrections.

Revision 1-1 **Fri Aug 24 2012** **Athene Chan**

Added Release features

Revision 1-0 **Fri Aug 24 2012** **Athene Chan**

Prepared for publication