Symantec Endpoint Protection MR2 - Release Notification

Upon release, current SEP customers can download the MR2 release through FileConnect with a valid serial key (https://fileconnect.symantec.com)

Customers cannot run LiveUpdate to download MR2. For future releases, after Symantec Endpoint Protection Manager (SEPM) is upgraded to MR2, customers can use LiveUpdate to download client packages to SEPM, and then use these packages to update their Symantec Endpoint Protection Clients.

Summary

Symantec Endpoint Protection 11.0 combines Symantec AntiVirus with advanced threat prevention to deliver unmatched defense against malware for laptops, desktops, and servers. It seamlessly integrates essential security technologies in a single agent and management console, increases protection, and helps lower total cost of ownership. The upcoming maintenance release (MR2) of Symantec Endpoint Protection builds upon the previous maintenance release (MR1) by further solidifying Symantec's technical and market share dominance in the endpoint security space.

Customers who are currently running previous versions of Symantec Endpoint Protection should take immediate advantage of the improvements that SEP 11.0 MR2 offers. Medium to Large customers who are still running Symantec AntiVirus or Symantec Sygate Enterprise Protection should strongly consider migrating to Symantec Endpoint Protection, as the SEP 11.0 MR2 release is a more stable and efficient product (than SEP RTM release) that provides added protection and management benefits (than SAV and SSEP).

Availability

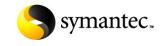| Languages	Download Available	Physical Media Available
English	4/13/2008	4/25/2008

Localization dates will generally follow 2-4 weeks after RTM. These dates will be communicated when they are finalized.

Symantec Endpoint Protection 11.0 MR2 includes the following key improvements

Additional Support

Symantec Endpoint Protection continues to expand its platform and feature support, which includes the following for MR2:

- Support for Microsoft Windows 2008 Server (SEP and SNAC Clients only)
- Support for Microsoft Windows Vista SP1
- Compatibility with Microsoft Network Access Protection (NAP) Framework
- Enhanced Device Control supports Device ID

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Performance

Dramatic reductions in the level of network traffic between Symantec Endpoint Protection Manager (SEPM) and the SEP client and the amount of disk space consumed on SEPM and SEP client by addressing several issues, including the following:

- Fixed port leaks on SEPM server
- Optimized disk space usage of embedded database
- Fixed excessive disk space us by antivirus logs on SEPM
- Reduced CPU utilization of SEPM when building definitions
- Fixed excessive disk space use by LiveUpdate on SEP client
- Reduced length of accelerated heartbeat on SEP client to optimize communication between SEPM and SEP client

Functionality/Usability

Improved the user experience by ensuring that all features function as expected/documented and reduced the amount of time for users to perform tasks by addressing several issues, including the following:

- Resolved inconsistent scanning of files on SEP client
- Improvements to SEPM console home page include all charts displayed properly, all agents and agent status appear correctly
- Fixed site and agent replication issues
- Fixed ClientRemote Utility
- Optimized creation of group folders so that they can be created in a timely manner
- Optimized performance of Active Directory synchronization to avoid database deadlocks
- Minimized boot time on SEP client by optimizing Symantec processes during startup
- Device control enhancements that permit more specific granularity of choices i.e. Vendor Device ID.
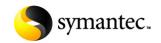
Stability

Reduced the amount of crashes and errors that appear on the screen, which includes the following:

- Addressed issues that triggered error messages on SEPM and SEP client
- Addressed issues that caused blue screens and other crashes on SEPM and SEP client

Communication/Connectivity

Improved communication between SEPM and SEP client, which includes the following:

- Addressed issues with SEP client communicating with SEPM behind a firewall with NAT or after changing the remote console port
- Addressed issue when SNAC Enforcer fails after adding too many MAC addresses
- Addressed issue with Agent SNAC service blocking Checkpoint VPN client connections

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Symantec is a global leader in providing security, storage and systems management solutions to help businesses and consumers secure and manage their information. Headquartered in Cupertino, Calif., Symantec has operations in more than 40 countries. More information is available at www.symantec.com.

Symantec World Headquarters

20330 Stevens Creek
Blvd. Cupertino, CA
95014 USA +1 (408) 517
8000 1 (800) 721 3934
www.symantec.com

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