inubit BPM 7.3

Questions and answers regarding OpenJDK support

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1. General information on Oracle Java or OpenJDK support

Oracle has confirmed the end of free support for Java 8 at the end of January 2019. Security updates for the commercial use of Java 8 are only possible via a fee-based support account with Oracle.

To enable inubit BPM customers to use a free alternative, inubit BPM 7.3 will support OpenJDK 8 (https://github.com/ojdkbuild/contrib_jdk8u-ci/releases) in future patches.

To make this possible no JRE will be shipped along with the software anymore. Customers of inubit BPM need to make sure that a JDK is installed on the system before inubit BPM can be used.

More detailed information can be found in the Release Notes and the documentation for inubit BPM 7.3. A patch with this change is planned for February 2019.

2. Can I use OpenJDK for inubit BPM?

inubit BPM 7.3 supports the use of OpenJDK 8, which can be found at https://github.com/ojdkbuild/contrib_jdk8u-ci/releases. According to this community there will be updates for this distribution until June 2023.

inubit BPM 7.3 is always tested against exactly one version of this OpenJDK 8 distribution. As soon as important updates are available, tests against this updated version of OpenJDK 8 will be performed. The exact version of OpenJDK that is supported in a current inubit BPM patch is specified in the system requirements of the respective documentation.

Bosch Software Innovations reserves the right to switch to other OpenJDK distributions if, for example, this results in advantages for security and maintainability.

3. Can I use Oracle Java Standard Edition for inubit BPM?

The use of Oracle Java SE is subject to special licensing conditions by Oracle. These have to be checked and fulfilled by the customer for their specific use cases.

Information on this can be found at https://www.oracle.com/technetwork/Java/Javase/downloads/index.html .

For technical questions regarding the use of inubit BPM 7.3 with Oracle Java 8, please contact Customer Support.

4. What is changing in the functionality of inubit BPM using OpenJDK?

Nothing.

Oracle JDK is based on OpenJDK. A few UI functions and a few sound functions are not available in the OpenJDK. Some debugging/monitoring tools are also not available in the OpenJDK.

The use of inubit BPM is not affected by this.

5. What is changing in the setup of inubit BPM?

The installer of inubit BPM 7.4 is delivered without JDK.

For a new installation it is required that a JDK supported by inubit BPM is installed on the system before running the inubit BPM Installer.

6. Who installs the JDK?

The customer is responsible for ensuring that the system meets the requirements for an installation of inubit BPM. This includes the presence of a JDK version that is supported by inubit BPM.

7. Who is responsible for updates?

As was the case before the customer is responsible to update. The only difference is that the JRE is not automatically updated with the inubit BPM Patch installer anymore.

Bosch Software Innovations will indicate the supported JDK version accordingly in the system requirements. The JDK update must then be performed by the customer.

8. What about customers that are still using inubit BPM 7.2?

Maintenance and support for version 7.2 ends with the release of inubit BPM 7.4.

There will be no change to OpenJDK support for this version 7.2. Bosch Software Innovations recommends migrating to a new version of inubit BPM. Continuing to use inubit BPM with a deprecated version of Java is at the customer's own risk.

9. Can inubit BPM continue to be used productively with an outdated Oracle JVM?

Continued use of the installed JVM is possible, but is explicitly not recommended. As already mentioned above, security updates for the commercial use of Java are only possible via a fee-based support account with Oracle. The use of inubit BPM with a deprecated version of Java is at the customer's own risk.

10 Which patch is tested with which OpenJDK version?

The information which OpenJDK version is supported for the respective inubit BPM 7.3 patch can be found in the documentation.

Changes in the supported JDK version will also be listed in the release notes of the respective inubit BPM patch.

11. Can Liferay be used with OpenJDK? Are there any limitations when using the Community Edition?

The operation of the Liferay portal with OpenJDK is independent of inubit BPM. This means that the customer must use the OpenJDK version supported by Liferay for the respective Liferay portal version. See https://web.liferay.com/services/support/compatibility-matrix.

The use of the Liferay Community Edition in productive operation is based on Liferay's recommendations.

12. Why is the JDK no longer shipped along with inubit BPM installer?

OpenJDK is licensed under the GNU General Public License. As such it may only be redistributed in software that equally falls under the terms of the GNU GPL. See https://openjdk.java.net/legal/gplv2+ce.html for further information.

For the commercial use of Oracle JDK a separate license agreement between end customer and Oracle is required. Since this cannot be assumed to be the case Oracle JDK must not be included in the inubit BPM installer.

13. Can alternative OpenJDK distributions be used?

For inubit BPM 7.3 the use of OpenJDK 8 is supported which can be found at https://github.com/ojdkbuild/contrib_jdk8u-ci/releases .

Theoretically the different OpenJDK distributions should not differ technically and should all be compatible to Oracle JAVA. However, Bosch Softeware Innovations cannot gurantee the compatibility of alternative distributions.

The system requirements for inubit BPM explicitely state the tested JDK version. The customers can then check in individual cases whether the OpenJDK distribution of their choice is compatible with this.

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