

DATA SHEET

SilkPerformer®

Business challenge

Today's client/server systems are expected to perform reliably under loads ranging from hundreds to thousands of simultaneous users. Organizations need to perform repeatable load testing and determine the ultimate performance and potential limits of a system. Full application failure or poor performance can result in diminished productivity or, even worse, adversely affect the business' bottom line.

Product overview

SilkPerformer® is a proven, powerful and easy-to-use load and stress testing solution for optimizing the performance of business applications. Easy-to-create, accurate and realistic tests simulate tens or even tens of thousands of IT system users in a wide range of enterprise environments and platforms. The tests isolate issues and bottlenecks that could impact reliability, performance and scalability. Intuitive diagnostic and analysis capabilities help resolve the issue quickly, reducing test-and-fix cycles, accelerating time-to-market, and supporting critical release decisions related to application performance. To further reduce costs and promote more testing by more people, SilkPerformer removes the usage restrictions common in other solutions with its flexible, sharable deployment model.

Key benefits

SilkPerformer offers the following benefits:

- Reduced R&D costs. Minimize test and fix cycles and better utilize expensive resources
- Improved ROI. Provide greater access to test creation and execution for more team members and support a higher number of virtual users per box
- Leverage current investments. Reduce your investment in multiple tools and training, exploit new technologies and maintain business confidence even as technologies change
- Quick user adoption. Discover ease of use with step-by-step workflow wizards

Detailed feature overview

REDUCE COSTS, FEWER RISKS OF PERFORMANCE RELATED FAILURES

SilkPerformer ensures the quality of business applications by measuring their performance from the end-user perspective - while also monitoring system performance - in a variety of scenarios under Dynamic load

conditions. SilkPerformer can reduce costs and minimize performance risks by helping you:

- Accurately assess application performance, scalability and reliability characteristics before deployment
- Create realistic, reproducible load test scenarios to cover all critical use cases and requirements
- Isolate and resolve the root cause of performance problems in cross-platform systems quickly and easily
- Lower IT infrastructure costs through tuning and accurate capacity planning before deployment

EFFICIENT TEST CREATION AND TEST CYCLES

SilkPerformer facilitates testing while taking no shortcuts in quality.

- Discover ease of use with the built-in step-by-step workflow wizards
- Create tests and executions with SilkPerformer's intuitive interface, or leverage the Eclipse IDE or Visual Studio .NET
- Test a wide range of enterprise environments with versatile, sharable, multi-protocol virtual-user types
- Reuse test cases in different environments and scenarios without changing test scripts
- Analyze load tests in real time to avoid invalid test results that require time-intensive test-case reruns

REALISTIC, LIGHTWEIGHT & ACCURATE SIMULATION

The innovative SilkPerformer technology minimizes the hardware resources needed per virtual user, enabling more and larger load tests. Within a single load test, virtual users working with different Internet, middleware and database protocols - across varied computing environments - can be simulated. For internationalized applications that utilize Unicode®, SilkPerformer supports multibyte character sets and UTF-8. Client IP address simulation allows for the testing of load-balanced sites.

PROBLEM ISOLATION AND CORRECTION

Powerful end-to-end diagnostics capabilities help identify the root cause of performance problems, then take corrective action and report on activities.

Client-Side Diagnostics

The unrivaled TrueLog™ technology of SilkPerformer provides visual front-end diagnostics from the end-user perspective. TrueLog visually re-creates

the data that users provide and receive during load tests - for HTML pages this includes all embedded objects - enabling you to visually analyze the behavior of your application as errors occur during load tests. Detailed response timer statistics help you uncover the root causes of missed service levels before your application goes live.

Server-Side Diagnostics

With the addition of the Server Analysis Module, you can monitor server statistics and automatically correlate data with load test results to identify ongoing problems with your system's back-end servers, even those located behind firewalls.

Performance Trend Reporting (PTR) with SCTM

To enable rapid response times to issues as they arise, Micro Focus provides Performance Trend Reporting, allowing users developing in rapid Agile, or iterative, sprints to identify potential issues as they occur, from preconfigured graphs. This integrated facility using SilkPerformer and SilkCentral® Test Manager™ enables users to effectively and easily control their environment.

Code-Level Root-Cause Resolution

For deep-down, code-level resolution of performance issues, Micro Focus offers dynaTrace Diagnostics. Fully integrated, click-through drill down delivers a multi-tier performance breakdown to identify the root cause of performance bottlenecks, down to the offending line of code for both Java™ and .NET applications.

Product Specifications and System Requirements

SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

Operating System

- Microsoft® Windows Vista®, Windows® 2008, Windows® 2003, Windows XP

Memory

- 512 MB RAM (1024 MB recommended)

Networking

- 10 MBit Ethernet (100 MBit recommended)

SUPPORTED ENVIRONMENTS

Protocols and Interfaces for Load Testing

- HTTP(S)/HTML, Unicode (UTF-8), SOAP (XML), WAP2 (WTLS, MMS), i-mode, streaming media (MS, Real), Adobe® Flex/AMF, FTP, LDAP, MAPI, IMAP, SMTP/POP, SSL, CORBA (IIOP), Java RMI (EJB/J2EE), .NET Remoting, (D)COM, Oracle® Forms, Citrix® ICA, ODBC, ADO, Oracle Call Interface (OCI), DB2 CLI, TCP/IP, UDP, Tuxedo® ATMI, Jolt, Jacada®, TN3270E, TN5250, and T100/200+

Open Interfaces

- .NET Framework
- Java Framework
- VB Framework
- COM Interface
- DLL Interface

Packaged Applications (CRM/ERP)

- Remedy ARS Web
- SAP
- PeopleSoft
- Siebel
- Oracle Applications

Real-time Server Monitors

- Windows and UNIX® system/network counters
- JMX
- SNMP
- Server counters for Microsoft IIS
- Apache™
- IBM® WebSphere®
- BEA® WebLogic®
- Oracle®
- IBM® DB2®
- Microsoft® SQL Server™

For additional information please visit: www.microfocus.com