

MobileIron Bridge

Harness the Power of EMM to Secure and Manage Your PCs



Windows 10 and EMM Disrupt PC Management

Mobile and PC security are converging. PC management has evolved significantly over the years in an effort to support rapidly changing enterprise needs and evolving security models. Today, a common model of PC management requires devices to join a domain that's governed by a set of group policy objects (GPOs), which define what a system looks like and how it behaves for a certain group of users. The use of traditional PC management tools has been most effective when all devices are connected to a persistent local area network (LAN). However, they lack the flexibility needed to manage intermittently connected mobile devices — which enterprise users are adopting at a much faster rate than legacy, domain-joined devices. As a result, IT admins need a more consistent platform to manage the broad variety of devices across the enterprise. Windows 10 addresses this gap by shifting device management from domain-joining to establishing Enterprise Mobility Management (EMM) as a single point of trust in the enterprise.

Windows 10 and Enterprise Mobility Management (EMM) promise to greatly simplify and secure PC management over time. According to Gartner, "EMM should be your first choice for managing Windows 10 and Mac OS X. EMM is disrupting PC management because it offers fundamentally more efficient management, addresses unmet use cases, and offers a better user experience for existing use cases."

Therefore, 2016 is the start of the transition where PCs will increasingly be secured and managed using a modern EMM approach over traditional PC management solutions.

MobileIron Bridge Closes the EMM Gap

While the EMM approach to managing both PCs and mobile offers many benefits including significantly reducing costs, increasing efficiency and ensuring consistent security across PCs and mobile, until now there were some gaps in the EMM-centric model that prevented IT admins from adopting it fully to secure and manage their PCs. However, with MobileIron Bridge, those gaps in the EMM model have now been closed, essentially freeing up admins to provision, secure and manage Windows 10 PCs in much the same way they do today using traditional PC management tools, only more cost-effectively and with greater agility.

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- Source: **Gartner Inc., August 2016***

*Source: "EMM Should Be Your First Choice for Managing Windows 10 and Mac OS X," by Andrew Garver, Gartner Catalyst Conference, August 15-18, 2016. Gartner does not endorse any vendor, product or service depicted in its research publications, and does not advise technology users to select only those vendors with the highest ratings or other designation. Gartner research publications consist of the opinions of Gartner's research organization and should not be construed as statements of fact. Gartner disclaims all warranties, expressed or implied, with respect to this research, including any warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose.



MobileIron Bridge Leverages Existing Desktop Skills

Today organizations often use traditional PC management tools to manage their fleet of PCs with over 3,000 Group Policy Objects (GPOs). MobileIron Bridge, with its greatly enhanced EMM capabilities, allows these organizations to take advantage of the scripts that enable granular security and management of PCs.

Previously, MobileIron Core could only secure and manage the modern half of the Windows operating system using mobile device management (MDM) protocols. While this provided significant controls to the admin, these protocols did not meet all of the PC security and management goals. Using MobileIron Bridge admins now have the ability to use the same MDM protocols to send information to the legacy sections of the Windows 10 OS.

MobileIron Bridge is pushed as an application to the PC using MobileIron Core at the time of device enrollment. By adding the MobileIron Bridge application to the legacy portion of the OS, admins can now use the same protocols to send instructions to both sections and allow greater control using both MDM API's and GPO commands delivered via Powershell scripts to the device. Using MobileIron Bridge, admins can also send instructions to influence elements in the legacy portion of the OS such as deploying Win32 apps in a way that PC managers are used to, using PowerShell scripts to impact the Registry and setting rules such as blocking popups etc.

Summary

MobileIron Bridge enables IT organizations to increasingly move away from a costly and confusing hybrid model where PCs are managed by traditional tools while mobile devices are managed by modern ones. Scripts that leverage GPOs can now coexist with EMM profiles, without the need for traditional PC management tools. All commands can now use the EMM protocol to send information to the device regardless of whether it is a script or an EMM API. This means that IT organizations can focus on increasing organizational productivity with greater efficiency and agility, and at lower cost -- all without compromising device security for on-the-go users in the modern enterprise.

With MobileIron Bridge, organizations can now:

- Have complete control over PCs with EMM
- Manage PCs remotely, over-the-air
- Reduce the need for imaging desktops
- Leverage GPOs-based commands with Powershell scripts deployed by EMM
- Easily edit and manage Registry
- Effortlessly deploy non-MSI wrapped Win32 apps
- Gain File System visibility

MobileIron Bridge now unlocks PC management capabilities not possible previously using EMM, such as:

- Defining a peripheral device
- Creating desktop shortcuts
- Determining the hardware connected to the device
- Visibility into software on the device
- Understanding which files are in a folder
- Gaining visibility into the registry
- Making changes to the registry
- Removing bloatware from the device even if it was a system app



415 East Middlefield Road,
Mountain View, CA 94043

info@mobileiron.com
www.mobileiron.com

Tel: +1.877.819.3451

Fax :+1.650.919.8006