Take command of the IT management gap created by your organization's shift to web applications and the cloud

New browser management tools help you save money, improve security, and increase productivity

Introduction

Today you are responsible for managing business operations which rely heavily upon web browsers as a core platform for daily workflow. This global shift away from native Windows applications to complex and dynamic on-premises and cloud-based web applications, running in a browser open to the internet, presents you with a new set of IT management challenges.


Many organizations struggle to meet their responsibilities for this digital transformation because they lack the tools to manage their browser and web application environment. Some of the world's largest enterprises have discovered this gap in their IT management toolset, and turn to Browsium's solutions to take command of this new browser-centric landscape to save money, improve security, and increase productivity.

This document will give you insights into this IT management gap, including how much it costs your organization to ignore it, and how browser management gives you visibility into your browser environment so you can take control. Six common use cases are also outlined to illustrate how enterprises today manage their dynamic applications, interdependencies, and browser to meet these new challenges and make a positive impact on their organization's bottom line.

The IT management gap

Traditional IT operations management tools lack visibility into the browser, its associated components, and their activities. Unfortunately, without the proper toolset to navigate the complexities, interdependencies, and distributed nature of your browser-based enterprise, a critical blind spot is created. Without these insights, you not only risk the operational integrity of your organization's most important productivity platform, but you are also likely to be purchasing unnecessary software licenses, cloud services, and hardware. This will waste a significant portion of your IT budget. We call this affliction "browser blindness", and it also results in security exposure from unknowingly hosting vulnerable versions of Java and ActiveX that create an unnecessary attack surface.
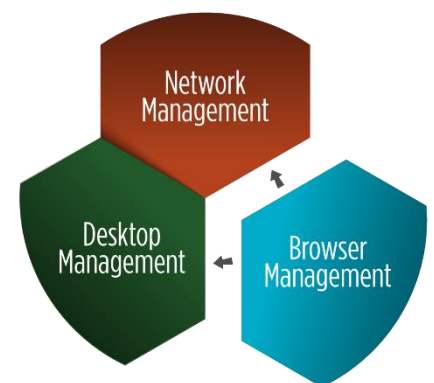
The missing component of IT management

You probably find it hard to imagine leaving the management of your traditional network or desktop environments to chance. With the open, versatile, and dynamic architecture of the web applications your organization relies on, effective browser management is equally, if not more, important. If you don't have the ability to understand your browser estate from end-to-end, you unknowingly risk wasting money, increasing security exposure, and hampering end user productivity. To avoid these risks, you need the tools and resources to manage this new set of web application detection, compatibility, and security challenges that have resulted from the paradigm shift to a browser-based workplace.

Browser management fills the gap

As most in IT have experienced, browser-centric application environments come with seemingly endless software upgrades, security updates, and browser migrations. If you can't see and actively manage your web application environment, an increasing number of issues, from regression testing for routine maintenance to work-stopping compatibility outages, will consume your IT resources and block end user productivity. Fortunately, there is a solution.

Browser management software extends your IT operations management toolset, empowering you to navigate the complexities, interdependencies, and distributed nature of your modern, browser-based enterprise. With this capability, you can avoid critical blind spots blocking your team from effectively delivering the IT services your business needs.

And as today's modern, browser-based enterprise evolves to include new browsers, such as Microsoft Edge, browser management delivers the necessary insights and control you need to keep step with this dynamic computing environment.

Frequently Asked Questions

How much money can I save with browser management?

Here are just three examples of how you can save money by implementing our browser management software suite:

Eliminate unused applications – Browsium software identifies unused and under-used web applications. By eliminating them, an organization spending $25M on software assets could **save about $1M a year*** and improve their security profile.

Reduce regression testing costs – One large customer reported using Browsium software **saved them $2M** per year regression testing Java security patches.

Right-size cloud services – Identifying unneeded server capacity with Browsium software reduces hosting costs. Each server that's not needed can save a few thousand dollars per month. Eliminating 10 servers at $2000/month **saves $240,000 a year**.

*Gartner research shows annually about 4% of applications in an organization were retired or users stopped using them.

Why would my chief security officer be interested in browser management?

Browser management software can improve your enterprise's security profile in the following ways:

Track use of unsecure Java and ActiveX – Isolate legacy versions to applications that need them, remove unneeded versions to reduce attack surface.

Detect shadow IT – Understand shadow IT down to the user level to better evaluate security exposure and eliminate unneeded SaaS services.

Enable zero-day exploit response – Isolate browsing to non-vulnerable browser in the event of a zero-day attack.

Security compliance reporting – Granular inventory and usage reporting for complete understanding of security exposure.

Top browser management use cases

Browser management has helped enterprises of all sizes, in a wide range of industries, take control of their browser and web application environments. These are some of the most common usage scenarios:

Windows 10 migration and Edge readiness
Microsoft aims to establish Edge as the future of browsing on Windows, replacing Internet Explorer as the enterprise standard. This means you must gear up for yet another browser migration project, but this time your migration will be blocked in ways you may not expect. Edge excludes support for many legacy technologies you (and Internet Explorer) depend upon, such as Java, ActiveX controls, Toolbars, BHOs, VBscript, and Binary Behaviors. Using browser management software helps you identify and manage these dependencies proactively, so you can smoothly migrate to Windows 10.

Java version management and security
Quarterly Java patches are a regular reminder of the security vulnerability Java represents to your organization. With 19 releases of Java 8 since its introduction in March 2014, ensuring all your PCs are patched properly, and standardizing on the latest Java release, is no easy task. Add in legacy versions such as Java 7 or Java 6, and the complexity deepens. Browser management changes this by enabling you to detect Java usage throughout your organization, isolate legacy versions from the Internet, and manage multiple versions of Java on each PC to maximize security and compatibility.

Eliminate unused software to reduce attack surface

As early as 2010, TechAdvisory.org warned, if you have old or unused programs, you're running the risk of hackers exploiting them. With the complexities of browser environments, it's impossible to know what you're running and how it's used unless you have the right tools. That all changes with browser management. It provides current, granular-level web application usage data down to the component-level, so you can determine what legacy software components, such as ActiveX controls and browser helper objects, are no longer being used. These insights enable you to eliminate this attack surface from your enterprise computing environment. And as an added benefit, you will no longer be buying and maintaining unnecessary software, saving your organization significant money.

Web application performance optimization

Traditional web application performance monitoring only provides a global view of performance issues, because its run from a limited endpoint location or directly on a server. This data is not detailed enough for you to troubleshoot or optimize web application performance. Browser management gives you detailed insights about web application performance by collecting data at user endpoints. This gives you a clear viewpoint and deeper insight into the patterns of web application performance, along with historical performance data, so you can troubleshoot and optimize application performance issues and improve end user experience and productivity.

SaaS license compliance and rationalization

A recent Cisco survey of CIOs estimated they each had an average of 51 cloud services running in their organization, however, the actual number determined by Cisco was shockingly higher. This reflects a new shadow IT management challenge of growing proportions. Browser management gives you the ability to understand what SaaS licenses are used in your company and by whom. This enables you to ensure compliance, gain volume discounts, properly scale hosting services, and set a strategy moving forward.

Information security compliance

A 2015 HIPPA Journal article stated a HIPPA data breach can cost up to $50K per violation, but the cost of a breach can extend well beyond violation penalties. The cost to your company's reputation alone can have a negative impact for months or even years. Browser management easily delivers detailed and current web application usage data, including detection of corporate documents stored on cloud storage services, so you can validate the integrity of your IT environment and improve your internal compliance reporting process.

Browsium's browser management suite

Browsium's browser management suite is comprehensive IT operations management software that fills the gap left behind by your desktop and network management tools. It gives you vital inventory and analytics needed to discover your complex browser-based application environment's activities and performance at a granular level. With this data and analytics, you're empowered with the insights needed to plan the best course forward for your organization's browser and web application environment. And the suite's powerful management tools give you the ability to take action to effectively manage your mission-critical, line-of-business web applications.

With this powerful software, you're well equipped to navigate the complexities, interdependencies, and distributed nature of your modern, browser-based enterprise. This enables you to save money, improve security, and increase productivity throughout your organization.

About Browsium

Browsium is the leading browser management provider for the enterprise. Built by a team of enterprise web technology experts with years of experience at Microsoft and Amazon, the company's mission is to enable your organization to cost-effectively analyze, manage, and secure web browsers and web applications at a global scale. Browsium delivers on this mission by providing browser management software solutions to the world's largest enterprises.

Benefits achieved by Browsium customers

	Save Money	Improve Security	Increase Productivity
Software/Equipment			
Eliminate unused licenses and software footprint	✓	✓	
Reduce unnecessary hardware and cloud services	✓		
Seek volume discounts for SaaS applications	✓		
Efficiency			
Gather timely application usage data	✓		
Monitor and improve application performance	✓		✓
Obtain accurate compliance and audit information	✓		
Avoid unnecessary helpdesk calls	✓		✓
Reduce end user distraction	✓		✓
IT Services			
Reduce risk of IT downtime (planned migrations/upgrades)	✓		✓
Unblock stalled migrations	✓		✓
Monitor deployment success			✓
Extend the life of legacy software	✓		✓
Plan continual service improvements			✓
Improve service desk response	✓		✓
Multi-browser management (IE, Chrome, Firefox)		✓	✓
Security			
Detect vulnerable components (Java and ActiveX)		✓	✓
Java version management and isolation		✓	✓
Identify shadow IT activity at the department level		✓	
Identify unnecessary IT attack surface		✓	✓
Establish zero-day exploit response	✓	✓	

Unblocking the freedom to innovate

With deep insights into your browser environment, and powerful tools to manage it, you'll save your company significant resources. Our customers find this opens new opportunities to add value and innovate. Imagine, having peace of mind knowing you can deploy changes more quickly because you understand and can effectively manage the complexities of your browsers and web applications. This gives you and your team more time to recharge and be ready for your next IT innovation. Ultimately, this all contributes your company's bottom line.

Learn more

Why wait? Information about Browsium's complete browser management suite can be found at https://www.browsium.com/. Or email info@browsium.com to schedule an executive briefing.

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