



- Management of software products and installations
- Enterprise-wide software asset management
- Integrated license and contract management
- Support for internal billing
- Transparency during license audits



## // FNT Command Software Management

Centralized, Enterprise-Wide Planning, Documentation, and  
Management of Software Products, Installations, and Licenses

A controlled software management process is an essential prerequisite when delivering a wide range of IT services, applications, and software installations within an organization. IT managers not only have to manage software products as part of their IT infrastructure, they also need to deliver those products in accordance with the quality required by the respective business. To do that, they require a complete overview of all the information needed to plan and action a wide range of issues, including permissible combinations of software releases, available licenses, and security-related scenarios. They also require information to enable automated delivery of IT services as well as for cost and pricing calculations.

FNT Command Software Management provides the foundation for enterprise-wide management of related applications and software installations. Centralized planning, documentation, and management of all software products ensures full transparency with regard to IT costs and relationships within the organization. The creation of an enterprise-wide library covering all planned and deployed software products, software

installations, applications, and instances – together with the associated licenses, relationships, contracts, and other information – enables comprehensive documentation in a single, centralized system. Integrated reporting provides a range of analytical insights into the software deployed within the organization as well as being an important tool during license audits. This not only allows implementation of an integrated, centralized software management process, it also helps IT managers meet statutory licensing and compliance requirements.

### Software Products and Installations

All software products are documented and managed together with all relevant information in a single, comprehensive database. This data can then be used to create software installations that are assigned to the corresponding system. For easier management, installations can be bundled as applications and documented along with the relevant license information and contracts on the respective servers and clients on which they are installed.

The allocation and release of software products for one or more CI classes allows documentation of multiple software installations for objects in a CI class. This enables implementation of a structured and controlled release process for all applications within the organization. Using the existing release specifications as a basis, it is also possible to define build plans or permitted combinations of multiple software products as “release units” and thus automate the deployment process. This approach can be used to ensure that all IT services and applications are made available in accordance with company policies and that the documentation for all software installations is properly maintained.

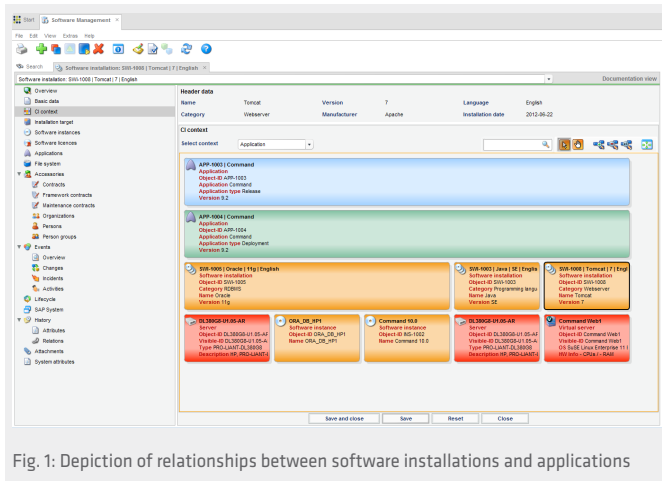


Fig. 1: Depiction of relationships between software installations and applications

### Integrated License Management

During instantiation of software installations, the integrated license management function enables easy identification of all available and issued licenses for all software applications currently deployed within the organization. For example, when installing a piece of software on a server it is easy to locate an existing and unused license and assign it to the new installation.

### Reports

The integrated reporting function in FNT Command Software Management enables fast and effective evaluation of all software products and installations currently in use within the organization. Reports can be created and used to immediately identify a range of issues, including over- and under-licensing. They also simplify access to information during license audits and help IT managers achieve the required legal certainty. In addition, an overview of the software products that are currently deployed makes it easier to determine future demand for individual software products and licenses.

### Internal Billing

The Software Management module also includes the ability to manage and allocate contracts, persons, costs, and log book entries (events, etc.) in relation to software products. This enables IT managers to relate all software and license information to the departments and costs centers that use

them. This in turn greatly simplifies the process of internal billing. Thanks to the open architecture used in FNT Command, billing can be automated through integration with external accounting systems, such as SAP.

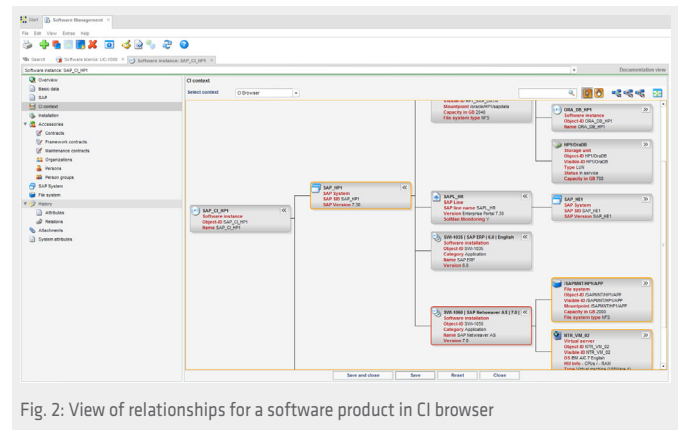


Fig. 2: View of relationships for a software product in CI browser

### Lifecycle

The lifecycles of individual software products can be documented by associating them with the respective mandators, types, and current usage phases. This provides the user with an easily accessible overview of all key activities relating to the selected CI.

### Data Import

Built-in templates make it easy to import existing data on software installations within the organization in standardized formats (e.g., MS Excel). There are also predefined interfaces for commonly used management platforms, such as Microsoft SCCM, enabling automated import of large quantities of data from existing sources into FNT Command. Automatic validation ensures the integrity and proper allocation of data in the CI context.

### History and Attachments

An unlimited number of file attachments can be assigned to each object, which enables comprehensive documentation at all levels of detail. There is also a History function for attributes, links, and additional location information.

### System Requirements

FNT Command C base is a prerequisite for using the Software Management module. The Server Management module is also recommended.