Administering Adobe Creative Suite 6 with the Casper Suite

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Contents

Introduction

Target Audience

This guide is designed for system administrators who plan to administer Adobe® Creative Suite® 6 (CS6) with the Casper Suite.

What's in This Guide

This guide provides step-by-step instructions on how to deploy, serialize, and report on Adobe CS6 with Adobe technologies and the Casper Suite.

Before You Begin

Before using the instructions in this guide, make sure you are familiar with the following concepts:

Adobe CS6 Deployment Planning

Adobe recommends that you do some planning before deploying Adobe CS6. For more information, see "Planning for Deployment" in the *Adobe Application Manager Enterprise Edition Deployment Guide 3.0.*

Adobe Application Manager Enterprise Edition 3.0

Deploying Adobe CS6 with the Casper Suite requires Adobe Application Manager Enterprise Edition (AAMEE) 3.0. Before installing AAMEE, make sure you are familiar with the installation guidelines and version requirements.

For more information, see "Deployment Tools" in "Chapter 1: Using Adobe Application Manager 3.0 for Enterprise Deployment of Creative Suite 6" of the *Adobe Application Manager Enterprise Edition Deployment Guide 3.0*.

Additional Resources

For more information in general about the applications, concepts, and processes mentioned in this guide, see the following documentation:

- *Casper Suite Administrator's Guide*

  http://jamfsoftware.com/resources/documentation
- *Adobe Application Manager Enterprise Edition Deployment Guide 3.0*

  http://www.adobe.com/devnet/creativesuite/enterprisedeployment.html

For information about administering other Adobe products with the Casper Suite, see the following technical papers:

- "Simplifying Adobe CS5 and 5.5 Administration with the Casper Suite"

  http://jamfsoftware.com/libraries/pdf/white_papers/Simplifying-Adobe-CS5-Administration-with-the-Casper-Suite.pdf

- "Administering Adobe Acrobat X Pro with the Casper Suite"

  http://jamfsoftware.com/libraries/pdf/white_papers/Administering-Adobe-Acrobat-X-Pro-with-the-Casper-Suite.pdf

- "Simplifying Adobe Acrobat 9 Pro Administration with the Casper Suite"

  http://jamfsoftware.com/libraries/pdf/white_papers/Simplifying-Adobe-Acrobat-9-Pro-Administration-with-the-Casper-Suite.pdf

- "Administering Adobe Photoshop Touch with the Casper Suite"

  http://jamfsoftware.com/libraries/pdf/white_papers/Administering-Adobe-Photoshop-Touch-with-the-Casper-Suite.pdf

Overview

In the past, Mac administrators have used the Casper Suite together with Adobe technologies to administer Adobe Creative Suite products in the enterprise. A similar workflow can now be used to administer Adobe Creative Suite 6 (CS6).

Administrators can package Adobe CS6 products with Adobe Application Manager Enterprise Edition (AAMEE) 3.0 and deploy them with the Casper Suite using a number of remote deployment methods.

The Casper Suite can also be used to serialize Adobe CS6 products after they are deployed. Administrators can create a serialization file using AAMEE, package the serialization components, and deploy them with a serialization command by using the Casper Suite's policy framework. This allows administrators to distribute licenses more efficiently by serializing only the products needed on a given computer.

The Casper Suite's reporting capabilities can also help administrators manage Adobe CS6 licenses. Administrators can store license information in the JSS, track license distribution across their environment, and view how often licensed products are used.

Requirements

To administer Adobe CS6 using the instructions in this guide, you need:

- The Casper Suite v7.3 or later running in your environment
- Adobe Application Manager Enterprise Edition (AAMEE) 3.0 for Mac
  You can download AAMEE 3.0 from Adobe at:
  http://www.adobe.com/devnet/creativesuite/enterprisedeployment.html
- Adobe CS6 installer media
- Access to the JAMF Software Server (JSS)
- Casper Admin
- Composer

Deploying Adobe CS6

This section explains how to deploy Adobe CS6 with the Casper Suite by using the following steps:

1. Create a CS6 deployment package using AAMEE.

2. Upload the deployment package to Casper Admin.

3. Deploy the deployment package.

Creating a CS6 Deployment Package

The first step to deploying Adobe CS6 is to create a deployment package using Adobe's custom enterprise deployment tool, AAMEE 3.0.

To create a CS6 deployment package:

1. Open AAMEE.

2. If you are opening AAMEE for the first time, read and accept the License Agreement.

3. Choose to create a CS6 Installation package or a Trial package.

4. Enter information on the onscreen panes to create the package. For complete instructions, see "Creating a CS6 Installation Package" or "Creating a Trial Package" in the *Adobe Application Manager Enterprise Edition Deployment Guide 3.0*.

   JAMF Software makes the following recommendations for deployment packages:

   - If you plan to deploy Acrobat® X Pro, include it in a package with other CS6 products instead of deploying it separately.

   - Disable Adobe AIR® components in the package. (This option is displayed on the Configuration pane.)

     Leaving AIR components enabled limits your deployment options. Packages with AIR components enabled can only be deployed with a login policy, during imaging, or using Self Service. Packages with AIR components disabled can be deployed at any time.

   - Configure the package to ignore conflicting processes. (This option is displayed on the Configuration pane.)

   When you are finished, AAMEE creates a folder in the location that you specified. (You specified the name and location for the folder on the Media and Package Identification pane in AAMEE.) The folder contains a Build folder that contains the deployment package.

Uploading the Deployment Package to Casper Admin

Upload the deployment package to Casper Admin so that you can deploy it with the Casper Suite.

To upload the deployment package to Casper Admin:

1. Open Casper Admin.

2. Log in using credentials for a JSS administrator account.

3. Locate and open the deployment package folder.

4. Open the Build folder and locate the deployment package.

5. Drag the package to the Package pane in Casper Admin.

   The package may take a few minutes to upload depending on its size.

6. Double-click the package in Casper Admin, and the click the **Info** tab on the Information pane that appears.

7. Choose a category from the **Category** pop-up menu.

8. Click the **Options** tab and choose a number from the **Priority** pop-up menu.

   The recommended priority for a deployment package is "10". For more information on priorities and how they work, see "Changing Package Attributes" in the *Casper Suite Administrator's Guide.*

9. Configure additional settings as needed and then click **OK**.

10. Save your changes and quit the application.

Deploying the Deployment Package

After uploading the deployment package to Casper Admin, you can deploy it using any of the following methods:

- Use a policy
- Use Casper Remote
- Deploy during imaging
- Make available in Self Service (For instructions, see "Making Policies Available in Self Service" in the *Casper Suite Administrator's Guide.*)

> *Important:* Do not use the deployment instructions in this guide if the master distribution point in your JSS is an SMB share. Instead, use the deployment instructions in the following Knowledge Base article:
>
> http://jamfsoftware.com/kb/article.php?id=305

To deploy the deployment package using a policy:

1. Log in to the JSS with a web browser.

2. Click the **Management** tab.

3. Click the **Policies** link.

4. Click the **Create Policy** button.

5. Select the **Install or uninstall a package** option and then click **Continue**.

6. Follow the onscreen instructions to configure the rest of the policy.

> *Note:* If the package has Adobe AIR components enabled, you must set the trigger as "login" or "Self Service".

The package is deployed to computers in the scope the next time they contact the JSS and meet the policy criteria.

To deploy the deployment package using Casper Remote:

1. Open Casper Remote.

2. Log in using credentials for a JSS administrator account.

3. On the **Computers** tab, locate the computers that you want to receive the package and select the checkbox next to each one.

4. Click the **Packages** tab.

5. Locate the deployment package in the Packages list and select the checkbox next to it.

6. Click **Go** to initiate the deployment.
   The package is immediately deployed to target computers.

7. When the deployment is complete, quit the application.

To deploy the deployment package during imaging:

1. Open Casper Admin.

2. Log in using credentials for a JSS administrator account.

3. Double-click the deployment package in the repository, and click the **Options** tab in the Information pane that appears.

4. Select the **This package must be installed to the boot volume at imaging time** checkbox and click **OK**.

5. Drag the deployment package from the Package pane to a configuration in the sidebar.

6. Save your changes and quit the application.

7. Image computers with the configuration as needed.

Serializing Adobe CS6

The instructions in this section explain how to serialize Adobe CS6 products after they are deployed. This allows you to distribute licenses more effectively by activating only the products needed on a given computer.

Serializing Adobe CS6 products involves the following steps:

1. Create a CS6 Serialization File using AAMEE.

2. Create a serialization file package using Composer.

3. Upload the serialization file package to Casper Admin.

4. Create a policy to serialize Adobe CS6 products.

Creating a CS6 Serialization File

Use AAMEE to create the CS6 Serialization File. This file contains the components required to serialize Adobe CS6.

To create a CS6 Serialization File:

1. Open AAMEE 3.0.

2. Choose to create a CS6 Serialization File.

3. Enter information on the onscreen panes to create the file. For complete instructions, see "Creating a CS6 Serialization File" in the *Adobe Application Manager Enterprise Edition Deployment Guide 3.0*.

When you are finished, AAMEE creates a folder in the location that you specified. (You specified the name and location for the folder on the Prepare Serialization Executable pane in AAMEE.) The folder contains the following components:

- An executable file (`AdobeSerialization`)
- An XML file that contains serialization information (`prov.xml`)

Creating a Serialization File Package

The `AdobeSerialization` executable file and the `prov.xml` file must be moved to different locations and then packaged as a DMG using Composer.

To create a serialization file package:

1. Create a folder named "Adobe" in the following location:

   `/Library/Application Support/JAMF/`

2. Move the `AdobeSerialization` executable file to the Adobe folder that you created in step 1. For example:

   `/Library/Application Support/JAMF/Adobe/AdobeSerialization`

3. Move the `prov.xml` file to the following location:

   `/private/tmp/`

4. Open Composer and authenticate locally.

5. Drag the `AdobeSerialization` executable file to the Sources list in Composer.

   Composer creates a package source from the folder and displays it in the Sources list.

6. Drag the `prov.xml` file into the Contents pane to add it to the package source.

7. Make sure the package source is selected in the Sources list and click the **Build as DMG** button.

8. Select a location to save the package and click **Save**.

9. When Composer is finished building the package, quit the application.

Uploading the Serialization File Package to Casper Admin

Upload the serialization file package to Casper Admin so that you can deploy it with the Casper Suite.

To upload the serialization file package to Casper Admin:

1. Open Casper Admin.

2. Log in using credentials for a JSS administrator account.

3. Drag the serialization file package to the Package pane in Casper Admin.

   The package may take a few minutes to upload depending on its size.

4. Drag the package into a category.

5. Save your changes and quit the application.

Creating a Policy to Serialize Adobe CS6 Products

To serialize the Adobe CS6 products deployed throughout your environment, create a policy that deploys the serialization file package and runs a serialization command on target computers.

To create a policy to serialize Adobe CS6 products:

1. Log in to the JSS with a web browser.

2. Click the **Management** tab.

3. Click the **Policies** link.

4. Click the **Create Policy** button.

5. Select the **Install or Uninstall a Package** option and then click **Continue**.

6. Enter the name of the serialization file package and then click **Continue**.

7. Complete the rest of the Policy Assistant, making sure to configure the following settings:
   - Set the trigger as "every15".
   - Set the execution frequency as "Once Per Computer".

   You will add the serialization command using the manual policy interface as explained in the next few steps.

8. On the Conclusion pane, click the **Edit Manually** button.

9. Click the **Advanced** tab and then enter the following command in the "Run Command" field:

```
/Library/Application\ Support/JAMF/Adobe/AdobeSerialization adobe_
    prtk --tool=VolumeSerialize --provfile=/private/tmp/prov.xml
```

10. Click the **Save** button.

    The serialization takes place for computers in the scope the next time they contact the JSS and meet the policy criteria.

Reporting on Adobe CS6

After deploying Adobe CS6, you can use the Casper Suite to track software licenses and report on how often they are used. You can use this information to remediate clients that do not have Adobe CS6 products installed and retrieve unused licenses.

Reporting on Adobe CS6 involves the following steps:

1. Create a licensed software record.

2. Update inventory in the JSS.

3. Generate a Licensed Software report.

4. Generate an Application Usage report.

5. Create a smart computer group.

Creating a Licensed Software Record

Licensed software records allow you to store license information in the JSS.

To create a licensed software record:

1. Download the licensed software template for the appropriate Adobe CS6 collection from JAMF Nation at:

   https://jamfnation.jamfsoftware.com/licensedSoftwareTemplates.html

2. Log in to the JSS using a web browser.

3. Click the **Settings** tab.

4. Click the **Licensed Software Management** link.

5. Click the **Upload Licensed Software** button.

6. Click **Choose File** and select the licensed software template that you downloaded in step 1. Then, click **Upload Selected Template**.

7. Choose a platform from the pop-up menu.

8. Click the **Licenses** tab and click **Add License**.

9. In the **Serial Number 1** and **Serial Number 2** fields, enter serial number(s) for the product as needed.

10. Make sure that the **Licenses For** option is selected and enter the number of licenses in the **Licenses** field.

11. Click the **Store License** button.

12. Click the **Software Definitions** tab and verify that all products in your licensed version of Adobe CS6 are listed.
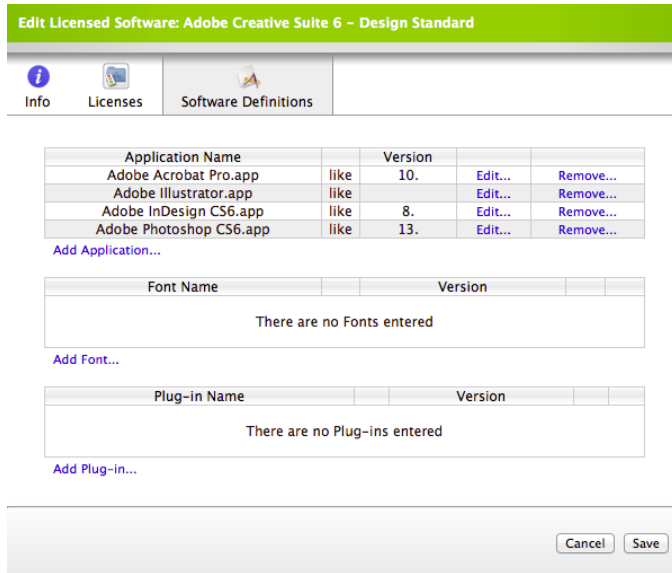

13. Click the **Save** button.

Updating Inventory

The JSS must contain up-to-date inventory information to generate accurate reports. Although computers automatically submit updated inventory reports to the JSS, you may want to generate inventory reports on the fly. You can do this using Casper Remote.

To update inventory using Casper Remote:

1. Open Casper Remote.

2. Log in using credentials for a JSS administrator account.

3. On the **Computers** tab, select the checkbox next to each computer that has Adobe CS6 products installed.

4. Click the **Advanced** tab, and select the **Update Inventory (Recon)** checkbox.

5. Click the **Go** button to initiate the update.
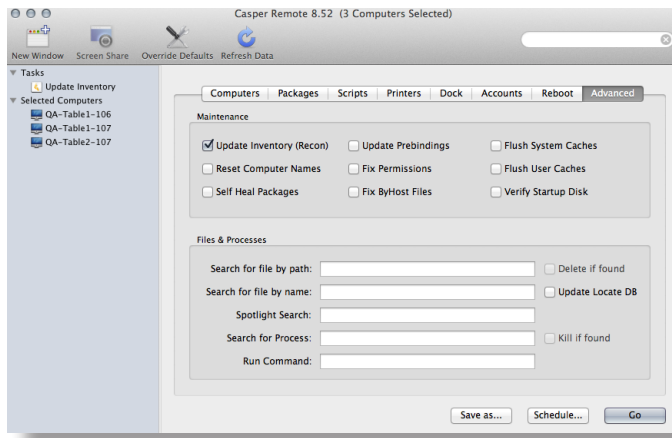
6. When the update is complete, quit the application.

Creating a Licensed Software Report

Licensed Software reports allow you to view the following information about the licenses owned by your organization:

- Number of licenses owned
- Number of licenses in use
- Computers that have the licenses installed

To create a Licensed Software report:

1. Log in to the JSS with a web browser.

2. Click the **Inventory** tab.

3. Click the **Licensing** link above the search field.

4. Enter the name of the licensed software object in the search field.
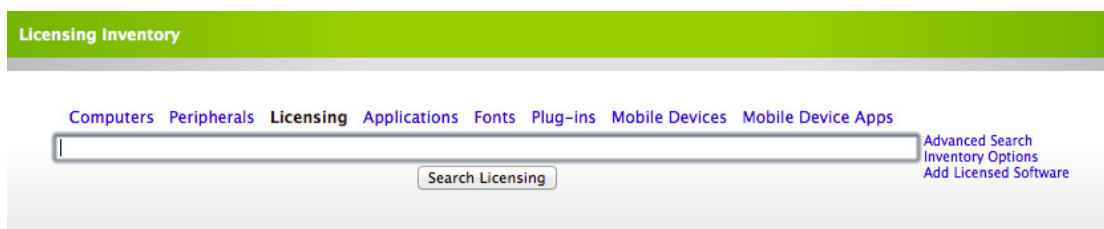
5. Click the **Search Licensing** button, or press the **Enter** key.

Creating an Application Usage Report

Application Usage reports go one step beyond license tracking by allowing you to view which licenses are being used. You can create a computer group based on the results of the report and use it to reclaim unused licenses.

To create an Application Usage report:

1. Log in to the JSS with a web browser.

2. Click the **Logs** tab.

3. Click **Application Usage** logs.

4. Use the **Reports Starting** and **Reports Ending** pop-up menus to set a date range for the report.

5. Click the **View Usage** link across from the licensed software title for which you want to view full usage details.
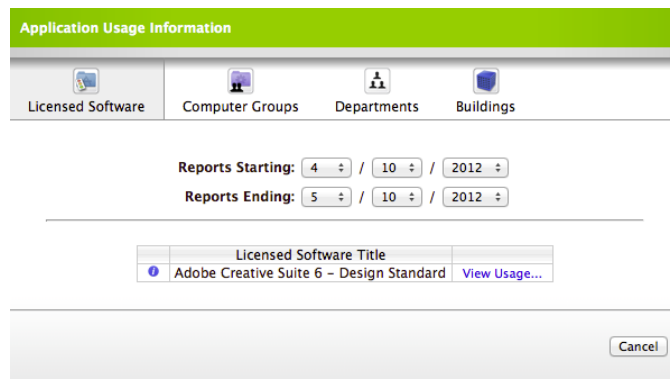
To reclaim unused licenses:

1. Generate an Application Usage report as explained in the previous procedure.

2. After clicking the **View Usage** link, click the **Unused Licenses** tab.
    This displays a list of computers that have unused licenses for the product.

3. Click the **Create Computer Group** button to create a group that contains these computers.

4. Create a policy to uninstall Adobe CS6, and assign the group that you just created as the scope.
    For detailed instructions on creating a policy to uninstall software, see the "Uninstalling Packages" section in the *Casper Suite Administrator's Guide.*
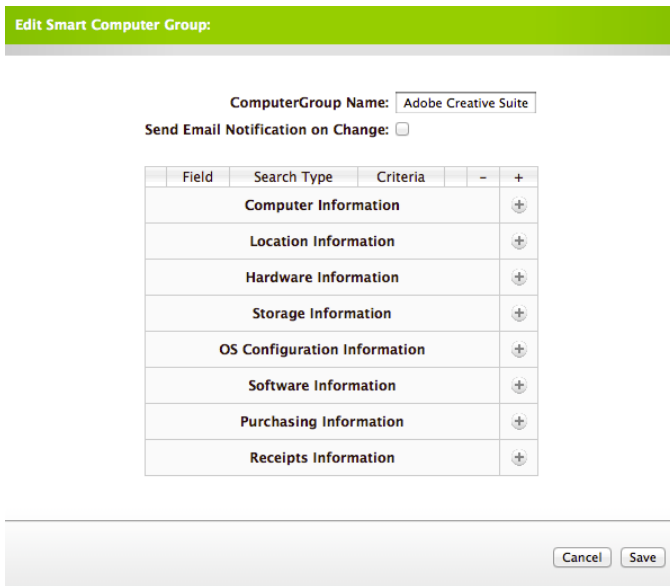
Creating a Smart Computer Group

Smart computer groups can be used to report on computers that have Adobe CS6 installed. Membership is updated automatically when computers submit inventory reports to the JSS.

The following instructions explain how to create a smart computer group for computers that have Adobe CS6 Design Standard installed.

To create a smart computer group:

1.   Log in to the JSS with a web browser.

2.   Click the **Management** tab.

3.   Click the **Smart Computer Groups** link.

4.   Click the **Create Smart Group** button.

5.   Enter a name for the group, such as "Adobe Creative Suite 6 - Design Standard".

6.   In the list of categories, click the **Add (+)** button across from **Software Information**.

7.   Click the **Licensed Software** link in the list of items.
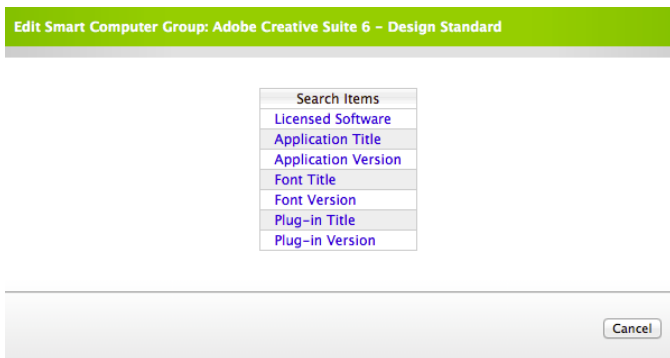
8.   Leave the text field next to "Licensed Software" blank and click the **Ellipsis (...)** button. Then, click the software title that you want to track.

9. Click the **Save** button.