

## **Codemasters declares war on surplus software**

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### **Asset discovery uncovers GBP11,000 worth of redundant licenses**

Following the latest research from the BSA (British Software Alliance) which found that 27% of software in the UK is pirated, some British companies are using asset discovery tools to actually help improve their software optimisation. Codemasters, the leading developer and publisher of critically acclaimed video games, has used an automatic IT asset discovery tool to identify redundant software and achieve savings of GBP11,000 in just one month.

The leading British video games company, which has operations in the UK, USA Germany and Spain, used the Discovery solution from Centennial Software to find, identify and audit all hardware and software on its network. By reconciling the number of applications in use against the licenses it held, the video games specialist was able to see where it had more software than it actually needed.

Having reviewed a number of options, Codemasters selected Discovery for its speed of deployment, ease of use and lack of disruption to staff. The company implemented the software audit tool across 500 seats within one week and plans to integrate the Discovery data with its HEAT helpdesk and PRISM Deploy software distribution solutions.

"Previously, we had no live data on our IT assets, our audit process was incredibly time intensive and information had to be transferred manually to a central repository. Only then could we create limited reports to help us understand and highlight areas of concern," said Jonathan Humphrey, IT manager at Codemasters. "By deploying Discovery we have completely automated the process, freeing up staff to focus on more skilled projects."

"As a games developer, our software engineers are constantly working on new bespoke projects, which need to be tracked. It was vital to us that our chosen audit solution was able to audit our own unique in-development programme's just as easily as it could Microsoft Office or Adobe Acrobat."

Humphrey added: "And when software development is your business, processing speed is absolutely vital. As far as our developers are concerned Discovery is invisible - it has had no noticeable impact on the speed of developers' PCs."

Andy Burton, chief executive of Centennial Software commented: "Our research has found that an organisation is typically over-licensed on around 30% of the software titles it uses, representing thousands of pounds that could be saved or invested elsewhere. Rather than treating software compliance as a tactical cost, Discovery enables organisations to actively identify where they can make savings by reducing IT spend and ensuring that they get maximum ROI from existing investments."

By automatically identifying all software and hardware on the network, as well as building up a picture of how these assets are used, Discovery provides managers with the intelligence they need to eliminate unnecessary IT spending, re-allocate unused assets and ensure that project plans are based on a true picture of the network.

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