

# HCLSoftware

## HCL BigFix Inventory

Verified by Oracle and certified by IBM, BigFix Inventory is a leading solution for efficient Software Asset Management

HCL BigFix Inventory can identify an organization's licensed and unlicensed software with drill-down granularity to track software usage patterns and trends across Windows, UNIX, Linux and macOS endpoints. The solution dramatically reduces the time required to conduct a comprehensive software asset inventory for license reconciliation or compliance purposes. HCL BigFix Inventory provides valuable insight into what the organization owns—and what it has installed but doesn't own, to understand potential security risk. It also identifies how often software is being used, which supports better planning, budgeting and vendor license compliance. The near-instant visibility into enterprise assets provided by HCL BigFix Inventory is vital to optimizing asset control and streamlining operations.

Easy to use and centrally managed from a unified console, HCL BigFix Inventory enables continuous asset assessment and reporting, delivering a low total cost of ownership (TCO) and a high return on investment (ROI). BigFix Inventory discovers applications, providing up to 4 digit version/release/update level information to precisely report critical versioning details. These insights translate into significant cost savings for organizations that are spending more than necessary on software licensing fees.



## HCL BigFix

### Highlights

- Manages assets on hundreds—or hundreds of thousands—of Microsoft Windows, UNIX, Linux and macOS endpoints.
- Identifies licensed and unlicensed software with drill-down granularity to pass more audits, limit security exposures and reduces annual software expenditures while reducing the time, effort and inaccuracy of manual inventory and analysis
- Inventories all endpoints, whether on-premise, in the cloud, or in containers
- Integrates with other asset management tools such as ServiceNow.

*"HCL BigFix Inventory distinguishes between different applications from the same vendor or between different versions of the same software. That's something our previous tool couldn't do. BigFix has saved us hundreds of hours."*

*- Director of Client Technology  
Food Distribution Company*

## Know your assets

When it comes to understanding and managing software assets, organizations today face common challenges. What do you have? How can you reconcile what you've purchased with what's installed? Are the right applications available to the right users? How can you redistribute software to ensure it's deployed to the best advantage? Are you managing your assets in the most efficient and comprehensive way? Are you meeting compliance standards? And are you legally licensed for all the software installed on users' endpoints? HCL BigFix Inventory can provide answers to these questions by delivering deep asset management capabilities even in the most complex environments.

HCL BigFix Inventory covers software vendors including Oracle, Microsoft, Adobe, SAP, HP, BMC, CA, Citrix, Corel, Symantec, TIBCO, VMware and IBM -- and provided software vendor reports as shown in Figure 1. For IBM products with sub capacity licensing, it also measures the processor value units (PVUs), resource value units (RVUs), and processor cores available to and consumed by each software product.

HCL BigFix Inventory provides infrastructure views and enables customized views of aggregate application counts, software usage statistics and compliance with basic license types. The solution can provide an understanding of the connections between software license management and desktop, patch, and security management processes. It can give you the focus you need to better manage your endpoints, reconciling the real-time endpoint state against application licenses on Windows, macOS, UNIX and Linux platforms in physical, private and public cloud environments including AWS, Azure and VMware.

## An intelligent, agent-based approach

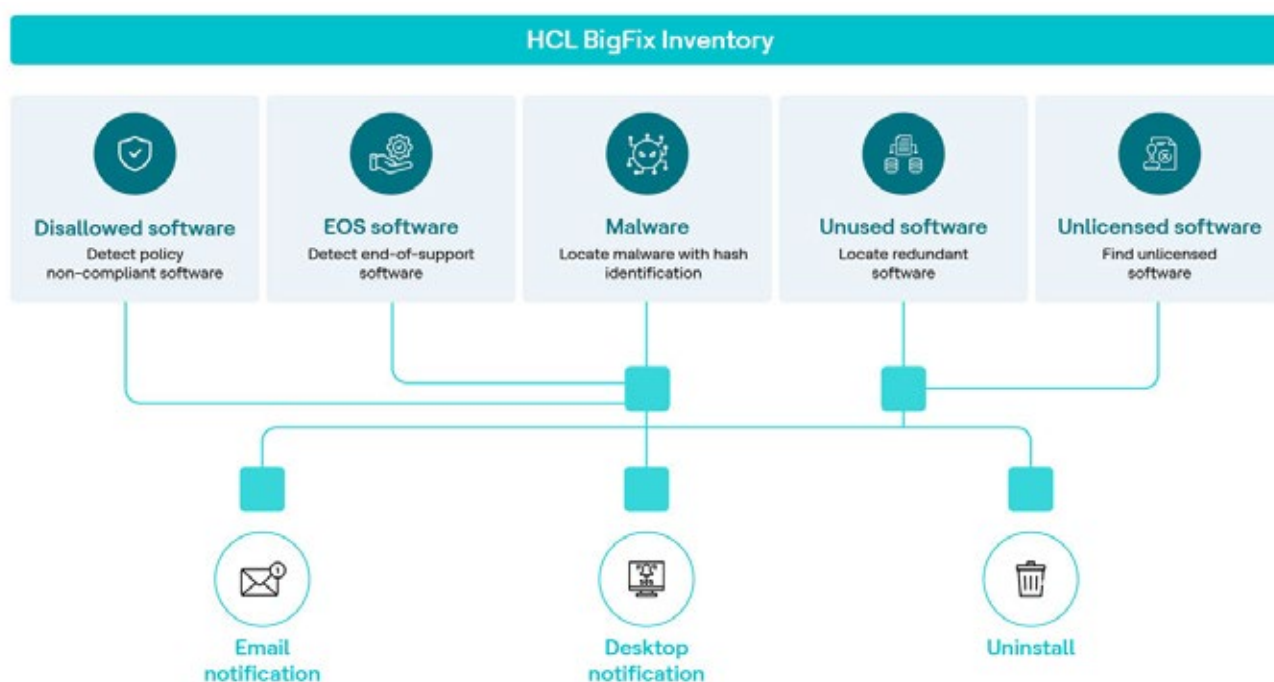
HCL BigFix Inventory utilizes six different forms of discovery including a Software Identification Catalog (ISO 19770 enabled), customized template signatures, an installation registry, vendor-specific discovery solutions, ISO SWID tags and hardware discovery. This data is gathered to create an inventory data warehouse where users can browse data and generate reports.

The built-in Software Identification Catalog simplifies the identification of specific software installations by providing information on over 9,000 publishers, 38,000 software products and more than 100,000 application signatures. The catalog is continually updated via the cloud with information on commercial applications and publishers using four different sources: IBM for the IBM Software, Windows and UNIX signatures from a 3rd party vendor, and additional signatures created by the HCL BigFix team. Home-grown and proprietary applications can also be discovered by using customized template signatures—with no scripting or coding required.

The HCL BigFix Inventory approach is a significant change from—and advantage over—conventional management solutions. Other solutions utilize endpoint agents that rely on instructions from a central server and require lengthy scans. The HCL BigFix Inventory agent itself provides the computational power necessary for assessment and reporting, which vastly enhances reporting speed. Rather than scanning

## What makes HCL BigFix Inventory unique?

HCL BigFix Inventory is a unique solution in the market because it can find problems and fix problems using just one tool utilizing a single user interface and only one agent. As shown below, HCL BigFix Inventory helps you identify disallowed software that has reached end of support, malware, unused software and unlicensed software.



endpoints all at once, the HCL BigFix Inventory agent monitors changes and sends updates to the server as needed, avoiding bandwidth and endpoint CPU bottlenecks. The Overview dashboard, shown in Figure 2, helps IT staff understand the overall health of HCL BigFix Inventory.

## Drilling down for insight and cost savings

HCL BigFix Inventory enables two key software asset management functions—"always on" software inventory and analysis and software asset and license management.

The "always on" function provides a constantly updated inventory that drills down into software asset information, providing aggregated statistics and usage gathered by searching, filtering, sorting, viewing and exporting data on potentially thousands of computer properties.

Software asset management is accomplished by utilizing discovered software through the constantly updated inventory. Software license management, in contrast, compares discovered software against the number of available licenses as shown in Figure 3. Automating and streamlining operations enable IT organizations to radically reduce the number of hours and resources spent on inventory activities.

## Container software discovery

HCL BigFix Inventory Container Software Discovery is a feature that discovers and tracks usage of software in containers. Container support provides the ability for organizations to discover all Kubernetes container instances running in the cloud, similar to VM instances; retrieve basic properties of the containers, including their current status (running, idle, stopped, etc.); scan software in container images and assess whether the container instances are running software that is unused, blacklisted or whitelisted; track the usage of software running in containers; scan software in container images; and tag discovered software and later report on the purpose the software was deployed (e.g. test or production) and who deployed the software.

BigFix Inventory Container Software Discovery helps organizations report on all software deployed throughout the organization including vulnerable software, avoiding overdeployment

penalties and understanding usage and status of software running in containers.

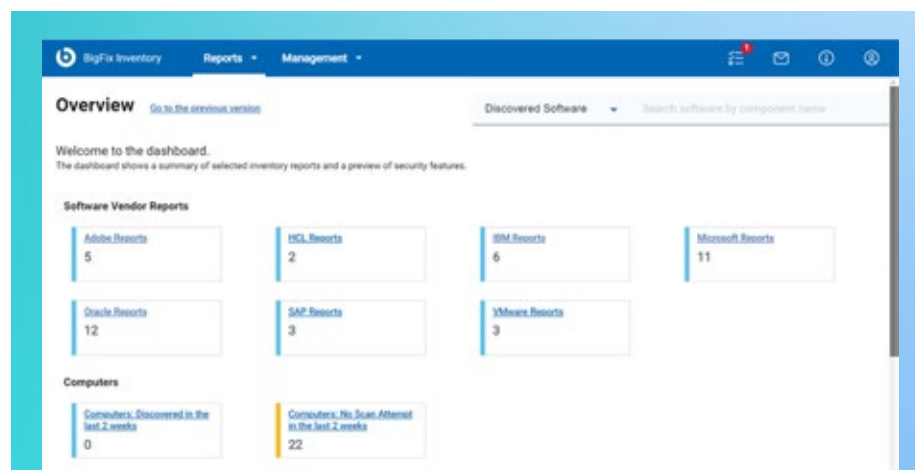


Figure 1: Reports dashboard provides access to reports by software vendors

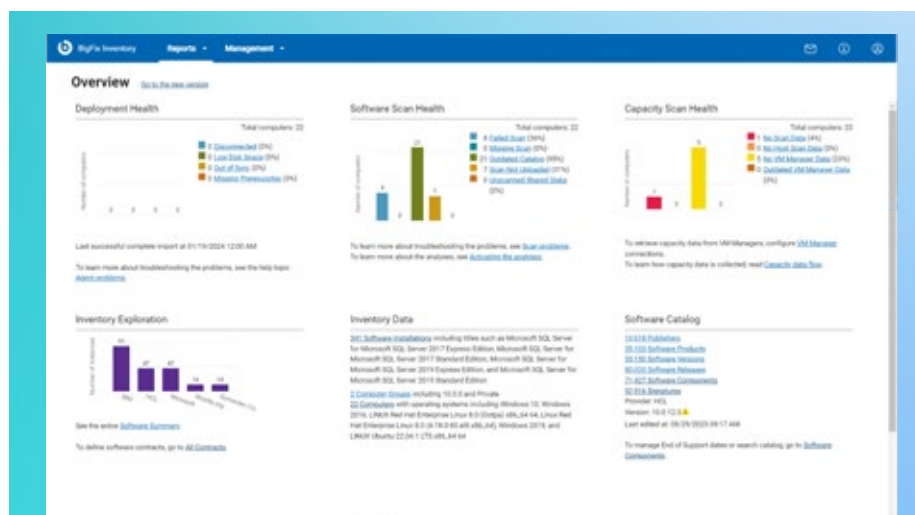


Figure 2: Overview dashboard shows the overall health of HCL BigFix Inventory

Contract Name	Contract...	Metric	Contract Type	Computer Group	Current Contract	Current Maa	Delta	Next Entitlement	Entitlement E.	Products	Software Inst.
Microsoft SQL Server...	C01	Microsoft SQ...	Support	All Computers	0	40	-40	Never	11/30/2023	1	2
Microsoft SQL Server...	C041	Microsoft SQ...	License	All Computers	0	24	-24	Never	11/16/2023	1	1
Microsoft Windows S...	C042	Microsoft W...	License	All Computers	32	0	32	09/12/2024	09/11/2024	1	0
Oracle - Tuning Pack	C044	Oracle Proce...	License	All Computers	24	3	21	09/20/2024	09/19/2024	1	2
Oracle Database - Dia...	C045	Oracle Proce...	License	All Computers	40	0	40	09/17/2026	09/16/2026	1	0
Oracle Database - OL...	C046	Oracle Proce...	License	All Computers	32	3	29	09/22/2022	09/21/2022	1	1
Oracle Database - Par...	C047	Oracle Proce...	License	All Computers	12	3	9	01/02/2025	01/01/2025	1	1
Adobe Illustrator	C048	Registered U...	License	All Computers	31	0	31	11/01/2025	10/31/2025	1	0
Adobe Photoshop	C049	Registered U...	License	All Computers	20	0	20	10/10/2024	10/09/2024	1	0
Microsoft SQL Server...	C050	Microsoft SQ...	License	All Computers	16	40	-24	10/17/2024	10/16/2024	1	2
Microsoft Windows S...	C051	Microsoft W...	License	All Computers	36	32	4	10/14/2022	10/13/2022	1	1
IBM Data Replication	C052	PVU Subcap...	License	All Computers	1,300	1,200	100	10/02/2024	10/01/2024	1	2
IBM InfoSphere Busin...	C054	PVU Subcap...	License	All Computers	1,420	1,680	-260	10/16/2025	10/15/2025	1	5

Figure 3: Dashboard showing all software contracts for license reconciliation



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## Features

- **Rapid installation and implementation** – HCL BigFix Inventory is a robust platform designed for speed. Installation across an entire enterprise only takes a few hours. Other solutions, by contrast, often require months or longer to deploy. Once installation is complete, “always on” inventory captures software status and changes in near real time, boosting time to value. Existing BigFix users can quickly and easily add HCL BigFix Inventory to the environment.
- **Flexible, efficient design** – HCL BigFix Inventory provides simplified management and reduced hardware and staffing costs compared to traditional asset management methods that require dozens of dedicated back-end servers.
- **Superior endpoint visibility** – HCL BigFix Inventory can gain visibility into any endpoint across various network topologies in a heterogeneous environment and regardless of connection state or location. Software discovery and usage monitoring is enabled on all BigFix-supported platforms including all UNIX operating systems. It discovers processes, file systems, hardware and usage information. The HCL BigFix Inventory Common Inventory Technology scanner gathers data from endpoints and discovers all signature types, including those that cannot be identified by searching only file names. Enhanced usage data monitoring helps prevent duplication of signatures and verifies software entitlements. HCL BigFix Inventory ensures that the software inventory is always up to date, accurate and complete.
- **Rapid streamlined catalog management** – The built-in catalog feature enables users to configure software asset content based on publishers, products and releases, and drill down to the package or file-data level. This built-in view, as well as the launch-in-context feature, gives users the power to leverage scans and registry reports for quick signature creation. The catalog can then be exported into native format and uploaded into a new software use analysis installation before the initial import.
- **License compliance for top vendors**– Verified by Oracle and certified by IBM, HCL BigFix Inventory is a leading solution for efficient Software Asset Management that helps organizations manage license compliance efficiently.
- **License reconciliation and penalty avoidance** – Using HCL BigFix Inventory, organizations can gain increased visibility into their software license consumption and usage while reducing the time and effort required to manually generate reports that prove software license compliance and reduce the exposure of vendor-imposed fines and penalties due to overdeployment.
- **IT budget planning** – Financial analysts can generate the reports they need in minutes, when they need them, regardless of the size of the environment. Reporting access, based on computer groups, is available to various roles and individuals in the enterprise, not just to IT Operations staff. The All Metrics report shows license usage over time.
- **Migration planning** – Migration planning can be simplified by using HCL BigFix Inventory. For example,

organizations that are migrating from an old version of Microsoft Office to the latest version can quickly determine which endpoints meet the prerequisites and which require hardware upgrades.

- **Security risk mitigation** – Unauthorized software installations poses an unnecessary security risk. HCL BigFix Inventory helps IT and Security Operations collaborate to secure the enterprise by monitoring for unauthorized software and removing software that pose a security threat.
- **Contract management** – Software asset management best practices suggest starting with an inventory of all purchase documents, not an inventory installed software. HCL BigFix Inventory supports this use case with contract management capabilities such as importing contract information one by one or in bulk, storing links to contract documents and automatically tracking renewals and license compliance.
- **Flexible reporting** – HCL BigFix Inventory provides flexible reporting to support many other use cases. For example, the policy compliance or change management capabilities allow you to create a list of approved or disallowed software titles or versions, and create notifications when changes happen so you can take proactive action to resolve issues.

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## Ready to take the next step?

For more information, please visit [hclfederal.com/bigfix](https://hclfederal.com/bigfix).

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## About HCLSoftware

HCLSoftware is a global leader in software innovation and the software division of HCLTech. We develop, market, sell, and support transformative solutions across business and industry, intelligent operations, total experience, data and analytics, and cybersecurity. We deliver best-in-class software products that empower organizations to achieve their goals. HCLSoftware serves more than 20,000 organizations, including a majority of the Fortune 100 and almost half of the Fortune 500.