



McAfee Agent 5.6.x Release Notes

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What's new in the 5.6.0 release

Releases can introduce new features and enhancements or update platform support.

Release details

For release date and build number details of McAfee® Agent 5.6.0, see [KB51573](#).

New features

This release introduces new features or improves existing features:

- **McAfee Agent with integrated McAfee® Data Exchange Layer (DXL)** — McAfee Agent 5.6.0 bundles the McAfee Data Exchange Layer client 5.0 as a component. The Data Exchange Layer client is automatically installed on managed systems and connects to a DXL broker in your environment. DXL services run as part of McAfee Agent services. For information about using the DXL client, see the Data Exchange Layer client product documents.
- **Code consolidation and merging of management client components** — McAfee Agent 5.5.2 or later replaces the Product Improvement Program (PIP) with a new, more efficient, and more secure product telemetry framework.

To simplify the management experience, the new framework is integrated with McAfee Agent management extension and client. This integration eliminates the need for a separate PIP extension. McAfee Agent 5.6.0 or later installer removes any previously installed PIP extension and PIP client. To make these changes as transparent as possible, we have maintained the name of the Server Setting in McAfee ePO and maintained previous PIP settings with this new capability.

- **Update to crypto library** — McAfee Agent 5.6.0 now uses the OpenSSL crypto library.
- **Incompatibility check** — McAfee Agent 5.6.0 checks for incompatibilities with McAfee products before it is deployed on the client system using a McAfee ePO deployment task. McAfee Agent has a built-in content driven incompatibility specification list, which controls the McAfee product installation.
McAfee Agent 5.6.0 can block the deployment of incompatible McAfee products on the client system based on the incompatibility specification list.

Product Deployment Incompatibility report — You can now view the Product Deployment Incompatibility report using either **Dashboard** or **Queries & Reports**. The Product Deployment Incompatibility queries display a bar chart with product incompatibilities detected during product deployment on the client system. The following queries are available on the Product Deployment Incompatibility report:
 - Product Deployment Incompatibility Summary within 24 hours
 - Product Deployment Incompatibility Summary within 7 days
- **Backward compatibility service on Windows** — When McAfee Agent is installed, the `macompatsvc` service does not start until the McAfee products integrated with agent, using legacy method are installed on the client system.

Features not supported on McAfee ePO Cloud

The following features of McAfee Agent 5.6.0 are not supported on McAfee ePO Cloud.

- Code consolidation and merging of management client components
- Incompatibility check

Updated platform, environment, or operating system support

This release extends support to additional platforms, environments, or operating systems:

- SUSE Linux Enterprise Server (SLES) 15
- SUSE Linux Enterprise Desktop (SLES) 15
- openSUSE Leap 15
- Red Hat Enterprise Linux 7.6
- CentOS 7.6
- Ubuntu 18.10
- Mac 10.14.1

Resolved issues in the 5.6.0 release

The current release of the product resolved these issues. For a list of issues fixed in earlier releases, see the Release Notes for the specific release.

For a list of current known issues, see [McAfee Agent 5.6.0 Known Issues \(KB90993\)](#).

Installing McAfee Agent 5.6.0 on systems running the McAfee® Active Response client — If using the McAfee Active Response client, you must first install a mandatory Hotfix on all systems running the client before installing McAfee Agent 5.6.0 on those systems.

- If using Active Response 2.2 or earlier, upgrade to Active Response 2.4, then install Hotfix 1 (build 2.4.0.176).
- If using Active Response 2.3, install Hotfix 4 (build 2.3.0.264).
- If using Active Response 2.4, install Hotfix 1 (build 2.4.0.176).

After the hotfix is installed, you can then install McAfee Agent 5.6.0. For details, see [KB91003](#).

Table 2-1 Security

Reference	Resolution
1028220	McAfee Agent now fixes a low severity issue regarding integrity of files tampered in the safe mode (Windows only).
1241166	McAfee Agent now fixes a low severity issue during service startup (Windows only).
1258321	McAfee Agent now fixes a "Use After Free" vulnerability. For more information, see SB10258 (Windows, Linux, and Mac).
1227436	McAfee Agent now fixes a "Privilege escalation" vulnerability. For more information, see SB10259 (Linux only).
1243071	McAfee Agent now fixes multiple issues in its non-Windows installer. For more information, see SB10260 (Linux and Mac).

Table 2-2 Installation

Reference	Resolution
1244784 and 1245798	McAfeeSmart installer now handles the space between the user name and hence installation is successful (Windows only).
1243520	The warning message <code>RPMDB altered outside of yum</code> no longer appears when the agent is installed using <code>yum</code> command or other third-party deployment methods (Linux only).
1246436	The error message no longer appears when you install McAfee Agent on a Mac system using <code>-x</code> command (Mac only).
1246613	Post installation or upgrade of McAfee Agent, no error messages are logged in WMI activity logs (Windows only).

Table 2-3 Updater

Reference	Resolution
1141628	McAfee Agent can now sort the repositories correctly in slow network. Hence, updates are successful (Windows only).
1208821, 1215076, and 1223655	The deployment task or update task failing as a result of the <code>masvc</code> failing to spawn the updater engine due to the incorrect status of "Null driver" service, no longer exists (Windows only). This issue is resolved in McAfee Agent 5.5.1 and later.
1176863	McAfee Agent now updates successfully from a repository on a Linux Apache server (Windows, Linux, and Mac).
1237342	Peer-to-peer server can now save the files locally, if the files are downloaded from the FTP repository configured on a non-Windows operating system (Windows, Linux, and Mac).
1237360 and 1256585	The <code>McScript_InUse.exe</code> program now allocates sufficient memory space for client systems that are having a network interface with multiple IP addresses (Windows only).
1250164	If McAfee Agent is installed using McAfee® VirusScan® Enterprise MID method, repository settings are retained (Windows only).

Table 2-4 Scheduler

Reference	Resolution
1238668	McAfee Agent now adheres to the randomization with run missed schedule settings and execute the tasks accordingly (Windows, Linux, and Mac).
1238800	McAfee Agent no longer ignores the end date scheduled for client tasks when the Run missed task option is enabled (Windows, Linux, and Mac).
1239135	The scheduler detects date change and recalculates next fire time for all tasks during Daylight Saving Time change. Hence, McAfee Agent continues to communicate with McAfee ePO (Windows, Linux, and Mac).

Table 2-5 Product manageability

Reference	Resolution
1179748	The <code>Mcscript_InUse</code> process now closes successfully after the update task is completed (Windows, Linux, and Mac).
1244307	Repository ordering assignment using Subnet distance is optimized for unreachable and fallback repositories. Hence, McAfee Agent now updates from closest reachable repository (Windows, Linux, and Mac).
1250339, 1248759, 1256402, and 1259350	McAfee Agent now ignores the empty strings received from SMBIOS UUID wmic call. Hence, the agent GUIDs are not regenerated until SMBIOS UUID is changed permanently (Windows, Linux, and Mac).
1242536 and 1224633	Intermittently, while sorting repositories, McAfee Agent failed to collect its properties. As a result, the SuperAgent property was reported incorrectly. Specifically, the SuperAgent repository was not reported as a Distributed repository in the McAfee ePO server. Now, when this property collection failure is encountered, McAfee Agent retains the previously reported properties (Windows, Linux, and Mac).
1255069	Communication failure no longer occurs between McAfee Agent and McAfee ePO when multiple IP addresses are configured on the same NIC (Windows, Linux, and Mac).
1256850	McAfee Agent functions normally when SELINUX is enabled when <code>selinuxuser_execstack</code> is off (Linux only).
1258822 and 1253500	<code>McScript_InUse</code> no longer fails to update using peer-to-peer, if multiple IP addresses are assigned to the same NIC (Windows, Linux, and Mac).
1249151	McAfee Agent now truncates the system description string length to 128 bytes and uploads it to McAfee ePO. Hence, McAfee ePO processes the request successfully (Windows, Linux, and Mac).
1242508	McAfee Agent now enforces event filtering policies as soon as the policy is received from McAfee ePO (Linux only).
1256004	McAfee Agent adheres to the user added repository ordering if the Use other repository list option is selected (Windows only).
1244294 and 1244953	McAfee Agent now collects and reports properties of McAfee products even if their services are not running (Windows, Linux, and Mac).
1248484	In unmanaged mode, McAfee Agent now retains the configured repository settings even after the system reboot (Linux only).
1220566 and 1225847	Product deployment and update tasks now run successfully in LACP/Bond (Link Aggregation) network topology (Mac only).
1247578	McAfee Agent no longer sends the <code>event_2427</code> to McAfee ePO, if disabled (Windows, Linux, and Mac).
1255115	McAfee Agent now reports Windows Server 2019 operating system property correctly. (Windows only).
1235575	McAfee Agent now performs thread operations asynchronously. Hence, process crash issues are not seen when processing the McAfee Agent information (Linux only).
1253249	McAfee Agent now backs up the contents/files so that contents are not nullified when the system is shut down abruptly (Windows, Linux, and Mac).
1250620	The <code>MFErt</code> package now restricts the RPM to publish library information of the McAfee Agent package. Thus, it adheres to best practices of Fedora operating system (Linux only).

Table 2-6 Performance

Reference	Resolution
1255573	McAfee Agent has optimized its operations after the system restart. Now, McAfee Agent operations such as policy enforcement, property collection, repository ranking, and updating are triggered without delay (Windows only).
1247846	McAfee Agent no longer experience high CPU utilization when enforcing large policies (Windows, Linux, and Mac).
1088587	McAfee Agent now releases the file descriptors appropriately. Hence, optimizing the memory leaks (Linux and Mac).
1234754	<code>masvc</code> memory utilization now remains almost constant (Mac only).
1253234	McAfee Agent allocation and utilization of memory pages (private bytes and working set) now remain constant. (Windows only).

Table 2-7 Other fixes

Reference	Resolution
1254006	In presence of McAfee Agent, second chance exception was observed for <code>msiexec.exe</code> while installing McAfee® Endpoint Security for Servers (Windows only).
1195707	McTray icon no longer appears after the system reboot when the option Show the McAfee system tray icon (Windows only) is disabled (Windows only).
992156	Additional validation is added to the <code>OverwriteClientSites</code> parameter and hence the repository settings are rendered correctly (Windows, Linux, and Mac).
1255524	Post upgrading to McAfee Agent 5.6.0, you can change the Product Improvement Program policy at system level (Windows, Linux, and Mac).
1250510	McAfee system tray icon policy is now disabled by default on McAfee ePO Cloud (Windows only).
1245104	Generating rpm/deb files using the <code>install.sh -p</code> option is now documented in Installation Guide (Linux only).
1198726	McTray now appears immediately after the installation of McAfee Agent in the console session (Windows only).