

## Asset Management Guide Addendum



*Version 7.1*

## **First Edition** (July 2005)

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## **Patent**

Prism Suite is protected under US patent number 6,564,369

## **Additional Notes**

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## Purpose of this document

This document is an addendum to the Prism Asset Manager™ 7.x Guide. It describes new features available as of version 7.1.

## Overview

Prism Suite 7.1 introduces support for user-defined fields within Prism Asset Manager. This new functionality will allow you to customize and extend Asset Manager by adding new fields to computers and applications that have been scanned in your environment. Prism's powerful reporting engine enables you to then incorporate the newly defined fields into the various available reports.

There are cases where you might want to add fields to the results of Prism's inventory scans. From a hardware perspective, adding data fields to a given computer's inventory results can be helpful. Some examples of what you might add as additional hardware user-defined fields are:

- The location of a computer, such as the floor or cube number
- Owner of the PC
- Purchase date
- Cost of the asset
- Something not even related to the computer, such as the type of desk the computer rests upon, the brand of the locking cable used to secure the laptop, etc., etc.

Earlier versions of Prism Asset Manager already provide plenty of ways of extending the data associated with an application, like cost of the software, serial number, warranty expiration, etc. The new user-defined fields support allow for further customization. Some examples of what you might add as additional software user-defined fields are:

- Department application is used in
- Required or optional?
- Support information

These are merely suggestions and Prism Asset Manager allows you to add as many user-defined fields as you desire.

## User-Defined Fields

A basic understanding of Prism Suite is assumed to begin implementing user-defined fields. If you're new to the product, or want a refresher on how to get started, the Quick Start Guide is a great place to start:

[http://www.newboundary.com/products/manuals/prismsuite7/ps\\_quickstart.pdf](http://www.newboundary.com/products/manuals/prismsuite7/ps_quickstart.pdf)

It's important to inventory one or multiple machines in order to populate Prism's database with some asset information.

## Hardware

User-defined fields for hardware allow the administrator to associate additional information with each computer, beyond what is collected automatically. For example, a room number could be associated with each computer.

- **Managing:** To create, edit, and delete user-defined fields for computers:
  1. Select **Asset Management | User-defined Fields | Hardware** to open the [User-defined Fields - Hardware](#) dialog.
  2. **This dialog may also be opened by right-clicking** within the [Hardware](#) tab. To do this, a computer or group must first be selected.
  3. From **the [User-defined Fields - Hardware](#)** dialog, new fields can be added, existing fields can be deleted, and field names and descriptions can be modified.
- **Setting Values:** To set the value for an existing user-defined field for a specific computer, follow these steps:
  1. From the [Hardware](#) tab, select a computer for which you wish to set a user-defined field value.
  2. Scroll among the attributes and select the desired user-defined field listed under **Description**. The category for all hardware user-defined fields is "User-defined".
  3. Click under the "Value" column heading. This makes the grid cell editable.
  4. Enter the value for the field for that computer.
- **Generating reports:** Hardware reports can include user-defined fields.
  1. Hardware - All Details: User-defined fields are listed along with other attributes within the category named **User-defined**.
  2. Hardware Summary: User-defined fields are added simply by using the **More Fields** dialog within the report window.

**Note: All user-defined field values are strings. If sorting by user-defined field values is desired, the syntax for values entered must be carefully specified. For example, date information should be entered as YYYYMMDD.**

## License Units

User-defined fields for license units allow the administrator to associate additional information with each license unit beyond what is collected automatically. For example, an organizational entity could be associated with each license unit.

- **Managing:** To create, edit, and delete user-defined fields for license units:
  1. Select **Asset Management | User-defined Fields | License Units** to open the [User-defined Field - License Units](#) dialog.
  2. **This dialog may also be opened by right-clicking** on a license unit within the [License Units](#) tab.
  3. From **the [User-defined Field - License Units](#)** dialog, new fields can be added, existing fields can be deleted, and field names and descriptions can be modified.
- **Setting Values:** To set the value for an existing user-defined field for a specific license unit, follow these steps:
  1. From the [License Units](#) tab (using either [Licenses](#) or [Members](#) detail tab), highlight "All License Units" or other top level group in the left pane.
  2. In the detail pane, right-click on the column headings bar and select **More Fields**.
  3. Drag & drop the desired user-defined field into the column heading bar.
  4. Select a specific license unit in the detail pane.
  5. Click under the specific user-defined field column heading for which you are setting a value. This makes the grid cell editable.
  6. Enter the value for the field for that license unit.
- **Generating reports:** The following License Unit reports can include user-defined fields:
  1. Purchased Software Summary: User-defined fields are added by using the **More Fields** dialog within the report window.
  2. Software License Compliance: User-defined fields are added by using the **More Fields** dialog within the report window.