



Custom PED

Performance Enhancing Deployments

Achieving massive gains through MDM & OSS

Open Source

vs and

Vendor MDM

(Custom DEP)



Dean Hager

@deanhager

Free tech often comes at a high
cost... twitter.com/jamfsoftware/s...

Apr 2 8:51 PM

Freeware vs. Paid



The high cost
of a cheap solution

Why?

1. The core of Jamf Pro is built on free, open source technologies

- [MySQL](#)
- [Tomcat](#)

2. Most Jamf Pro environments use other macadmin open source projects

- [auto-update-magic](#)
- [AutoCasperNBI](#)
- [AutoDMG](#)
- [AutoPkg](#)
- [Community Blog Posts / Scripts](#)
- [createOSXInstallPkg](#)
- [dockutil](#)
- [jss-recipes](#)
- [JSSImporter](#)
- [outset](#)
- [Rich Trouton Scripts](#)
- [SplashBuddy/CasperSplash](#)

Open source isn't *cheap* - it's ***free***

Cheap: *of inferior quality or worth*

Why did we leave Jamf Pro?

1. Platform Limitations

- Profiles (.mobileconfig) are neither dynamic nor **singular** in scope.
- No native support for .dmg compressed **Applications** or **Choice Changes XML**
- No native support for managing/installing Apple updates, **updating applications** or **detecting app state**
- **Outstanding bugs** that were **not fixed** and no **bug tracking**
- No alpha -> beta -> production promotion
- Extension Attributes/Smart Groups only support **strings** and Extension Attributes cannot be **scoped**
- iOS and macOS only

2. Employee Extensibility / Trust

- Management framework is not code-reviewable/**logged** nor audited ^N.
- Management framework cannot be augmented by the user.

^N Audit log causes swelling of the database, leading to lower performance

Platform Limitations

Profile deployments are terrible on
all traditional MDM platforms

Payload Best Practices

If you have multiple profiles containing similar payloads with different settings, the resulting behavior is undefined.

— *Apple*

Managing the screensaver lock shouldn't result in managing extra payloads:

Tool	Total Payloads	Total Keys Managed
Chef	1	2
AirWatch	6	7
Profile Manager	8	12 !
Jamf Pro	9	14 🤖

`com.apple.screensaver`

- `askForPassword`
- `askForPasswordDelay`

Managing the screensaver lock shouldn't result in managing extra payloads:

Payload	Chef	AirWatch	Profile Manager	Jamf Pro
com.apple.screensaver	✓	✓	✓	✓
com.apple.applicationaccess		✓	✓	✓
com.apple.loginwindow		✓	✓	✓
com.apple.MCX			✓	✓
com.apple.preference.security			✓	✓
com.apple.security.firewall			✓	✓
com.apple.SubmitDiagInfo		✓	✓	✓
com.apple.systempolicy.control		✓	✓	✓
com.apple.systempolicy.managed		✓		✓

More ✓ is not a good thing...

Creating profiles through a paid
MDM solution may result in
undefined behavior.

Deploying profiles through Chef is incredibly precise.

Empowering your employees with Chef:

company_wide.rb

```
# Manage the screensaver with cpe_screensaver Chef cookbook
begin
  node.default['cpe_screensaver']['idleTime'] = 600
  node.default['cpe_screensaver']['askForPassword'] = true
  node.default['cpe_screensaver']['askForPasswordDelay'] = 0
end
```

egomez.rb

```
# Override delay to 5 seconds for egomez
begin
  node.default['cpe_screensaver']['askForPasswordDelay'] = 5
end
```

Adding new functionality to Chef is pretty easy.

Example 10.12.4 iCloud Drive

```
# Add 10.12.4 iCloud Drive functionality
begin
  node.default['cpe_applicationaccess']['features']['allowCloudDesktopAndDocuments'] = false
end
```

Show All 9 Lines	
10	-----
11	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['lists']['pathBlackList']
12	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['lists']['pathWhiteList']
13	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['lists']['whiteList']
14	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['features']['allowAutoUnlock']
15	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['features']['allowCamera']
16	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['features']['allowCloudAddressBook']
17	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['features']['allowCloudBTMM']
18	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['features']['allowCloudDocumentSync']
19	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['features']['allowCloudFMM']
20	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['features']['allowCloudKeychainSync']
21	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['features']['allowCloudMail']
22	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['features']['allowCloudCalendar']
23	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['features']['allowCloudReminders']
24	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['features']['allowCloudBookmarks']
25	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['features']['allowCloudNotes']

10	-----
11	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['lists']['pathBlackList']
12	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['lists']['pathWhiteList']
13	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['lists']['whiteList']
14	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['features']['allowAutoUnlock']
15	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['features']['allowCamera']
16	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['features']['allowCloudAddressBook']
17	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['features']['allowCloudBTMM']
18	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['features']['allowCloudDesktopAndDocuments']
19	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['features']['allowCloudDocumentSync']
20	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['features']['allowCloudFMM']
21	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['features']['allowCloudKeychainSync']
22	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['features']['allowCloudMail']
23	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['features']['allowCloudCalendar']
24	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['features']['allowCloudReminders']
25	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['features']['allowCloudBookmarks']
26	* node['cpe_applicationaccess']['features']['allowCloudNotes']

Platform Limitations

Traditional MDM is *not* Desired
State.

(If someone tells you this, they are *wrong*.)

Traditional MDM is *not* Desired State

Desired State: Defining your machine state with code.

Machines often and easily “drift” through various states.

- While some MDM's can push scripts/packages, they cannot adequately ensure a machine is in an accurate state. The *script* is the underlying method of detection/resolution.
- Devices could change state *during* Recons.
- Dynamic MDM Smart Groups are often "too late" - It takes multiple policy runs to bring a device back into an expected state. This is too long.

Traditional MDM is *not* Desired State

```
# Traditional MDM Demo Script
#!/bin/bash

# Create MDM Folder
/bin/mkdir -p "/Library/Application Support/MDM"

# Set MDM Permissions
/bin/chown -R root:wheel "/Library/Application Support/MDM"
```

```
-----

# Chef Demo Code
directory "Create /Library/Application Support/MDM" do
  owner 'root'
  group 'wheel'
  mode '0755'
  path "/Library/Application Support/MDM"
  action :create
end
```

The Jamf Free vs. Paid ebook was right about two things:

It takes time and effort to build a system from the ground up...

...but Rome wasn't built in a day

- GitHub
- Google Groups
- IT Think Tank
- Jamfnation (yep)
- MacAdmin Slack
- MacBrained
- Twitter

Our community is incredibly strong

And zero-touch deployments weren't possible...

...until now.

Unique Partnership

Paid MDM + Open source

Pinterest

&

vmware[®]

airwatch[®]

Choosing a "Best of Breed, Hybrid" Model

Tool	DEP	Remote Wipe	Apps	Machine State	Profiles	FileVault
AirWatch	✓	✓	✓ ³	-	✓ ²	✓ ¹
Chef	-	-	✓ ¹	✓	✓	-
Crypt	-	-	-	-	-	✓
Munki	-	-	✓	-	✓ ¹	-

¹ Available but not utilized by Pinterest

² Signed/Encrypted Certificate Payloads

³ App Store apps

There's not enough money in the
world to make me use AirWatch
again.

— *Erik Gomez, 2012 - 2016*

AirWatch isn't perfect

- API
 - Does not return all logged machine data
- Enterprise Integrations
 - Poor OpenLDAP documentation
 - Requires two SAML connections (admin and user)
- UI
 - Many things are buried within multiple sub-menus

So why AirWatch?

- Active in the macadmin Slack ([#airwatch](#))
- Laser Focus on MDM/DEP
- Multi-platform support
 - Android, iOS, macOS, Windows
- Multi-tenancy
 - Can give helpdesk / admins granular access
 - Multiple DEP profiles both globally and per tenant
- Partnerships
 - Custom DEP
 - Custom Android functionality

Instead of posting ebooks about the dangers of open source,
AirWatch *embraced* it.

Within a week of our partnership,
we had the ability to deliver our
custom DEP package.

But it took a lot of brainstorming (and code) to come up with our deployment.

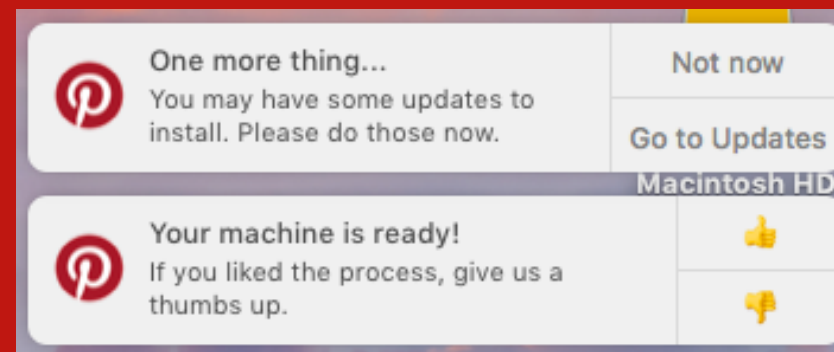
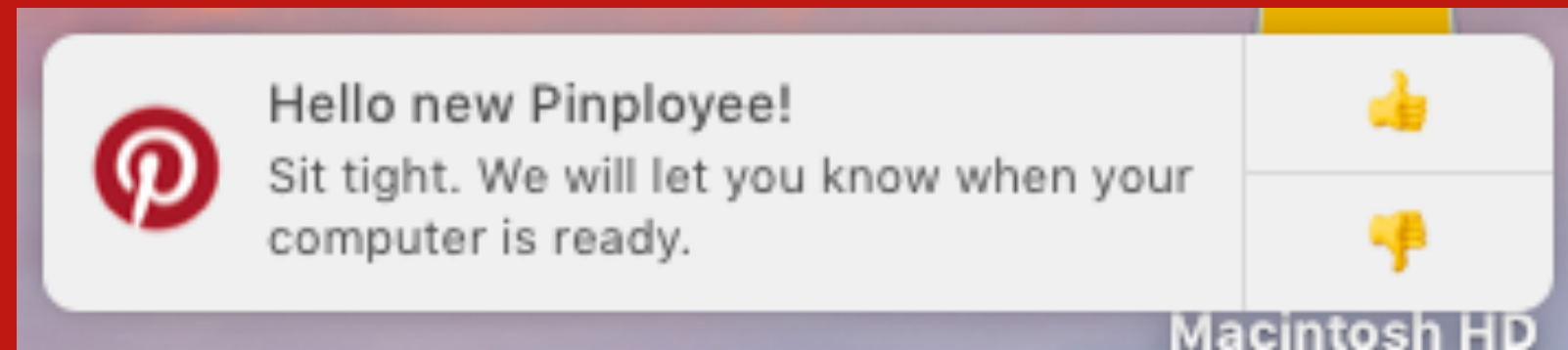
DEP Beta v.01



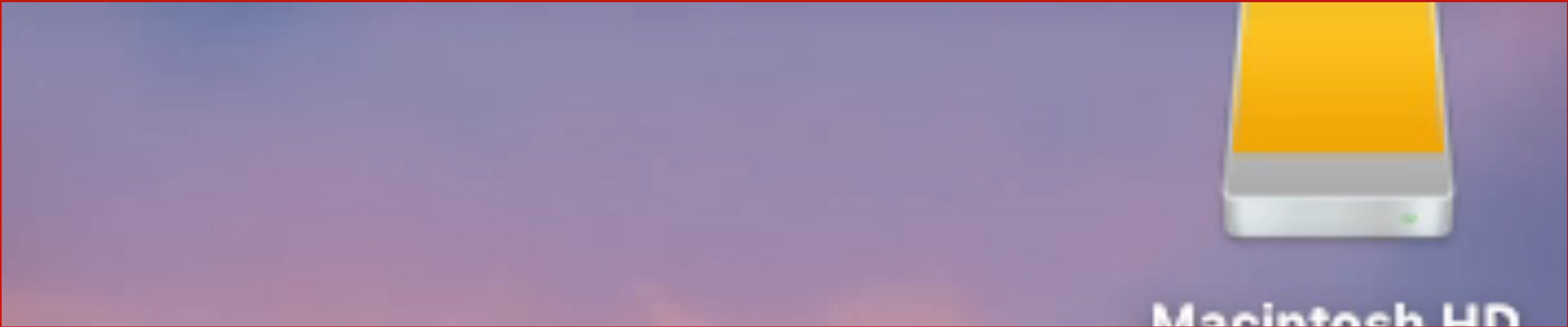
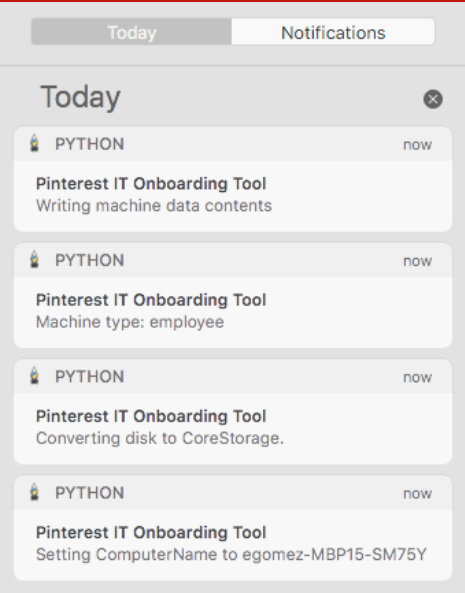
DEP Beta v.01 (cont)



Other UI tests



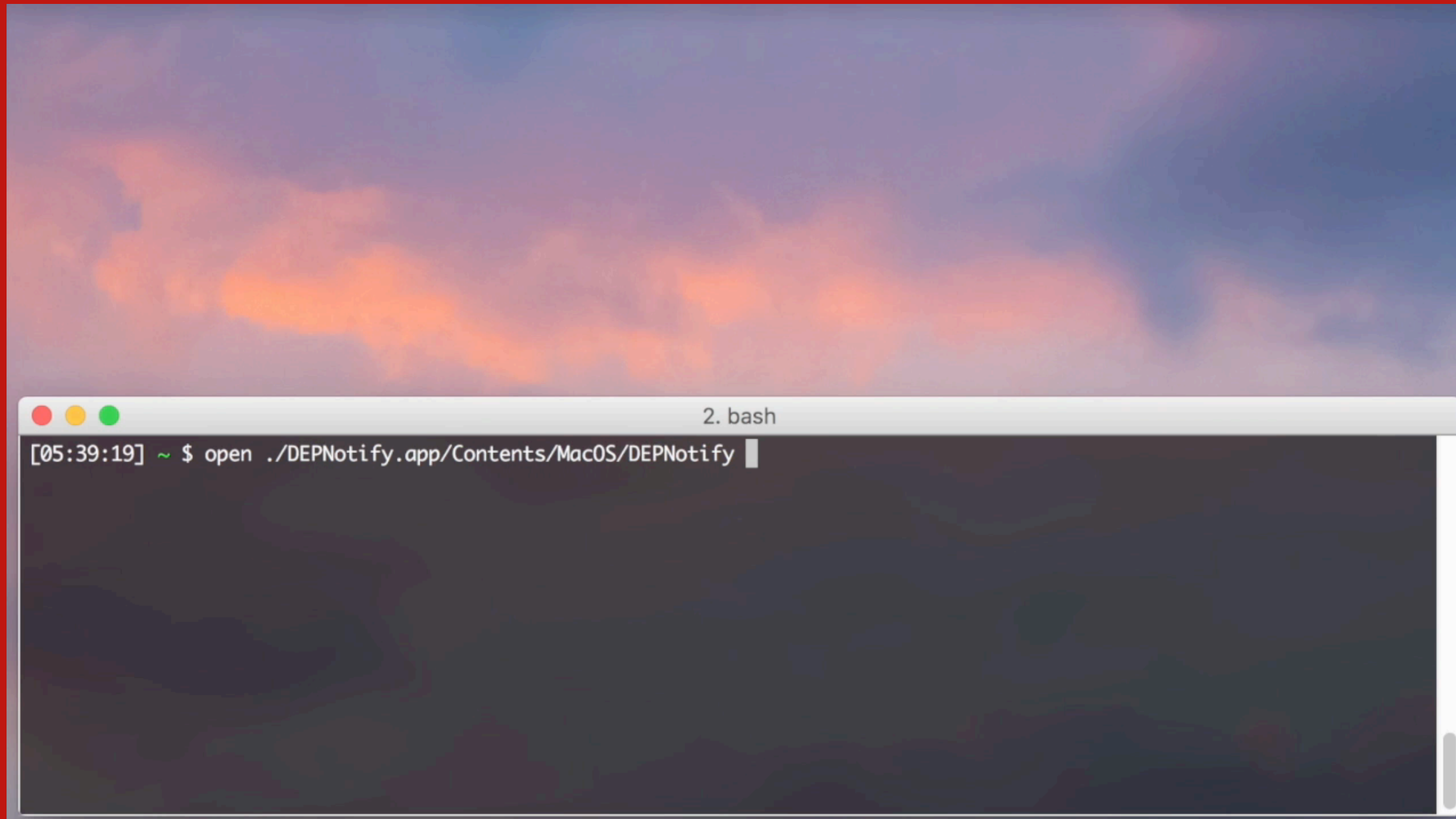
Other UI tests



User Experience 1.0



DEPNotify





DEPNotify

<https://gitlab.com/Mactroll/DEPNotify>

#depnotify on Slack MacAdmins

InstallApplication requirements

- Distribution Package
 - Signed by Developer Account
 - Sub packages optionally signed, but *cannot* be distribution packages
- AppManifest.plist
 - URL to signed distribution package
 - md5/md5s (split into 10MB chunks)

Custom DEP Package

Version	Size
0.1	3.5 MB
0.2	10.1 MB
0.3	22.5 MB
0.4	43.9 MB
0.5	58.6 MB
0.6	57.9 MB
0.7	57.0 MB
0.8	71.4 MB
0.9	72.8 MB

Monolithic Packaging 😱

Filename
▼ 📦 Contents of DEP_Package.pkg
▼ 📦 Contents of default
▶ 📦 Contents of Yo-1.0.pkg
▶ 📦 Contents of OutsetDEP-1.0.pkg
▶ 📦 Contents of chef-core.pkg
▶ 📦 Contents of ChefCookbookCache-1.0.1.pkg
▶ 📦 Contents of OhaiHotfix-8.22.0.pkg
▶ 📦 Contents of munkitools_core-2.8.2.2891.pkg
▶ 📦 Contents of munkitools_admin-2.8.2.2891.pkg
▶ 📦 Contents of munkitools_app-4.2.2842.pkg
▶ 📦 Contents of munkitools_launchd-2.0.0.1969.pkg
▶ 📦 Contents of munkibootstrap-1.0.pkg
▶ 📦 Contents of python-requests-0.1.pkg
▶ 📦 Contents of DEPBootstrap-1.0.pkg

Custom DEP Package v1.0

30 KB

(99.95% reduction in size)



InstallApplications

<https://github.com/erikng/installapplications>

[#installapplications](#) on Slack MacAdmins

InstallApplications solves many limitations

- DEP
 - Ability to install more than one package
 - Install packages *during* SetupAssistant and *after* (requires 10.12.4+)
 - Do not have to update your DEP package each time there is an update
- Support for non-MDM/DEP capable devices
 - Virtual Machines
 - Pre-DEP devices through imaging

```
python ./installapplications.py --jsonurl https://domain.tld/dep.json
```

```
{
  "prestige": [
    {
      "file": "/private/tmp/installapplications/depnotify.pkg",
      "url": "https://domain.tld/depnotify.pkg",
      "hash": "71fec9a93119e8649a8e6f601720c6d44d7b19cbccc1a0e29609bd9732b701eb"
    }
  ],
  "stage1": [
    {
      "file": "/private/tmp/installapplications/bootstrap_ui.pkg",
      "url": "https://domain.tld/bootstrap_ui.pkg",
      "hash": "a2e29c3594f63ef2a39dc5591cc725b67c9b528e707f1db159a2391719d72539"
    }
  ],
  "stage2": [
    {
      "file": "/private/tmp/installapplications/chef.pkg",
      "url": "https://domain.tld/chef.pkg",
      "hash": "82502191c9484b04d685374f9879a0066069c49b8acae7a04b01d38d07e8eca0"
    }
  ]
}
```

With AirWatch, **InstallApplications**
and macOS 10.12.4, you can create
an almost instant UI prompt for your
DEP devices.

Create a Computer Account

Fill out the following information to create your computer account.

Full name: Erik Gomez

Account name: egomez

This will be the name of your home folder.

Password: ●●●●●●●●●●

●●●●●●●●●●

Hint: optional

☒ Set time zone based on current location



Back



Continue

With AirWatch 9.1, you can send arbitrary mdmclient commands through the GUI.

The screenshot displays the AirWatch 9.1 web interface. On the left, a sidebar contains navigation options: GETTING STARTED, HUB, DEVICES (highlighted), and ACCOUNTS. The main content area is titled 'List View' under the 'Devices' section. It includes a 'Filters' dropdown and an 'Add Device' button. Below these are action buttons: Query, Send, Lock, and More Actions. A table of devices is shown, with one device selected (indicated by a green checkmark and '1 Item selected'). The 'More Actions' dropdown menu is open, showing a list of actions: Enterprise Wipe, Add Tag, Change Organization Group, Change Ownership, Delete Device, Device Configured, and Custom Command (highlighted with a red box). The 'Custom Command' option is the focus of the image.

Management	Admin	Support
Enterprise Wipe	Add Tag	Location
	Change Organization Group	
	Change Ownership	
	Delete Device	
	Device Configured	
	Custom Command	

With AirWatch 9.1, you can send arbitrary mdmclient commands through the GUI.

Custom Command

NOTE : Sending an incorrectly formed or unsupported command could impact the usability and performance of managed devices. Test the command on a single device before issuing custom commands in bulk.

If the Custom Command does not execute successfully, delete the command by navigating to Devices > List View. Select the device to which you assigned the custom command. In the device Details View, select More > Troubleshooting > Commands. Select the Command you want to remove, and then select Delete. The Delete option is only available for Custom Commands with a Pending status.

Do not use custom commands to send commands that already exist in the Console as Device Actions.

Command XML *

<dict>
<key>RequestType</key>
<string>RestartDevice</string>
</dict>

Send

Cancel

With AirWatch 9.1, you can send also arbitrary mdmclient commands through the *API*.

<https://github.com/erikng/mdmscripts>

```
python ./aw_api_installapplication.py \  
--authorization 'dXNlcm5hbWU6cGFzc3dvcmQ=' \  
--baseurl 'https://cn.awmdm.com' \  
--manifesturl 'https://s3.amazonaws.com/appmanifest.plist' \  
--tenantcode 'YWlyd2F0Y2h0ZW5hbnRjb2Rl' \  
--machineserial "CXXXXXXXXX"
```


AppManifest.plist

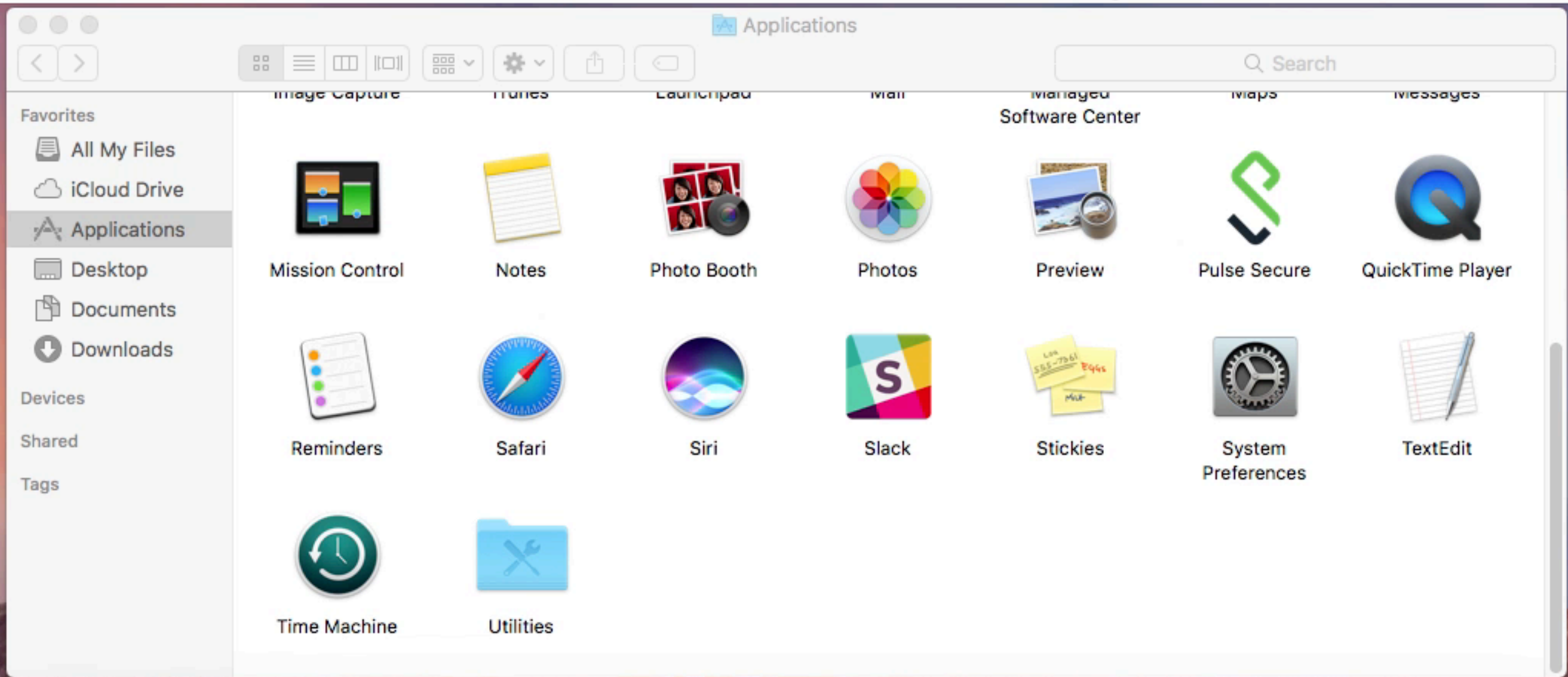
```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<!DOCTYPE plist PUBLIC "-//Apple//DTD PLIST 1.0//EN" "http://www.apple.com/DTDs/PropertyList-1.0.dtd">
<plist version="1.0">
  <dict>
    <key>items</key>
    <array>
      <dict>
        <key>assets</key>
        <array>
          <dict>
            <key>kind</key>
            <string>software-package</string>
            <key>md5-size</key>
            <integer>10485760</integer>
            <key>md5s</key>
            <array>
              <string>2e4ad4a42e2466cf0747fae916cb0b93</string>
              <string>8b03be431ea627c1ed3462decc8c80d1</string>
              <string>a40c97bb6acf0a0e45cc45ae22b207b2</string>
              <string>0d43b6f06b281860a2988e689b7b342b</string>
            </array>
            <key>url</key>
            <string>https://s3.us-west-2.amazonaws.com/nope/Wireshark.pkg</string>
          </dict>
        </array>
      </dict>
    </array>
  </dict>
</plist>
```

MicroMDM's appmanifest

Tool to easily make a manifest.plist for use with InstallApplication

```
./appmanifest /path/to/pkg > ./appmanifest.plist
```

<https://github.com/micromdm/tools/releases>



```
Desktop — -bash — 141x11
egomez-MBP13-RL1F6:Desktop egomez$ python ./aw_api_installapplication.py --manifesturl 'https://s3.us-east-2.amazonaws.com/vmwaw-macqe/WiresharkManifest.plist'
```



MDM Availability

Tool	Basic MDM	Custom InstallApplication	Custom DEP
AirWatch	✓	✓ v9.1+	✓ Coming soon!
Fleetsmith	-	-	-
jamf Pro	✓	-	-
MicroMDM	✓	✓	✓
Microsoft Intune	✓	-	-
MobileIron	✓	-	-
Meraki Systems Manager	✓	-	-
Simple MDM	✓	✓	✓

Greater control of MDM benefits everyone.

- Apple
 - Gets feedback regarding `mdmclient` that they desperately need
 - Radars / Feature Enhancements
- Customers
 - Full control of DEP
 - Ability to interact directly with MDM commands vs vendor agents
- Vendors
 - **You still get paid!**
 - Support customers who want more control over their deployments

Hello MDM vendors,
Greater control of MDM benefits
everyone. Please support these
features.


Sincerely, your **paying** customers



Thank you, AirWatch!


Honorable mentions:


- **Centrify**
 - New Mac App Management (v17.4) powered by **munki/autopkg**
- **MicroMDM** - Not production ready, but getting very close
 - Deepest admin control of any MDM
 - Robust API to interact with mdmclient
 - macOS focus, but can work with iOS
- **SimpleMDM**
 - UI for custom packages using InstallApplication
 - API for adding multiple packages


SimpleMDM Custom Package


 SimpleMDM


 **Demonstration Account**
demo@simplemdm.com 

 Devices

 **Apps**

 Configs

 Settings

 Support

A

Apps

Catalog

Assignment







VPP

Settings

Add the apps to your catalog that you wish to distribute to your devices. These apps are made available under the "Assignment" tab for distribution. Apps in associated VPP accounts will be automatically added.

Add App ▾

Apple Store App
iOS Enterprise App
macOS Package

App Name	Platform	Distribution	
 Afterlight	Universal iOS	VPP	2 licenses, 1 available
 CaptureTest	Universal iOS	Enterprise	Version 1 <div>Delete</div>
 DeviceLink (VPP)	Universal iOS	VPP	11 licenses, 11 available
 Evernote – stay organized	macOS	VPP	10 licenses, 10 available
 Google Drive - free online storage from Google	Universal iOS	VPP	3 licenses, 3 available
 Google Maps - Real-time navigation, traffic, tr...	Universal iOS	App Store	<div>Delete</div>

SimpleMDM Custom Package

 Devices

 **Apps**

 Configs

 Settings

 Support

Upload macOS Packages

Note: Packages must be *signed product archives* to be accepted by macOS and SimpleMDM.

Drag and drop .pkg files in this box or [click here](#) to upload macOS packages.

Done



Zentral

Event Stream processing and
alerting

Pinterest

We're hiring...



Client Platform Engineer

goo.gl/gEWQ5C

Corporate Security Engineer

goo.gl/pg1Dpb

Two more things...

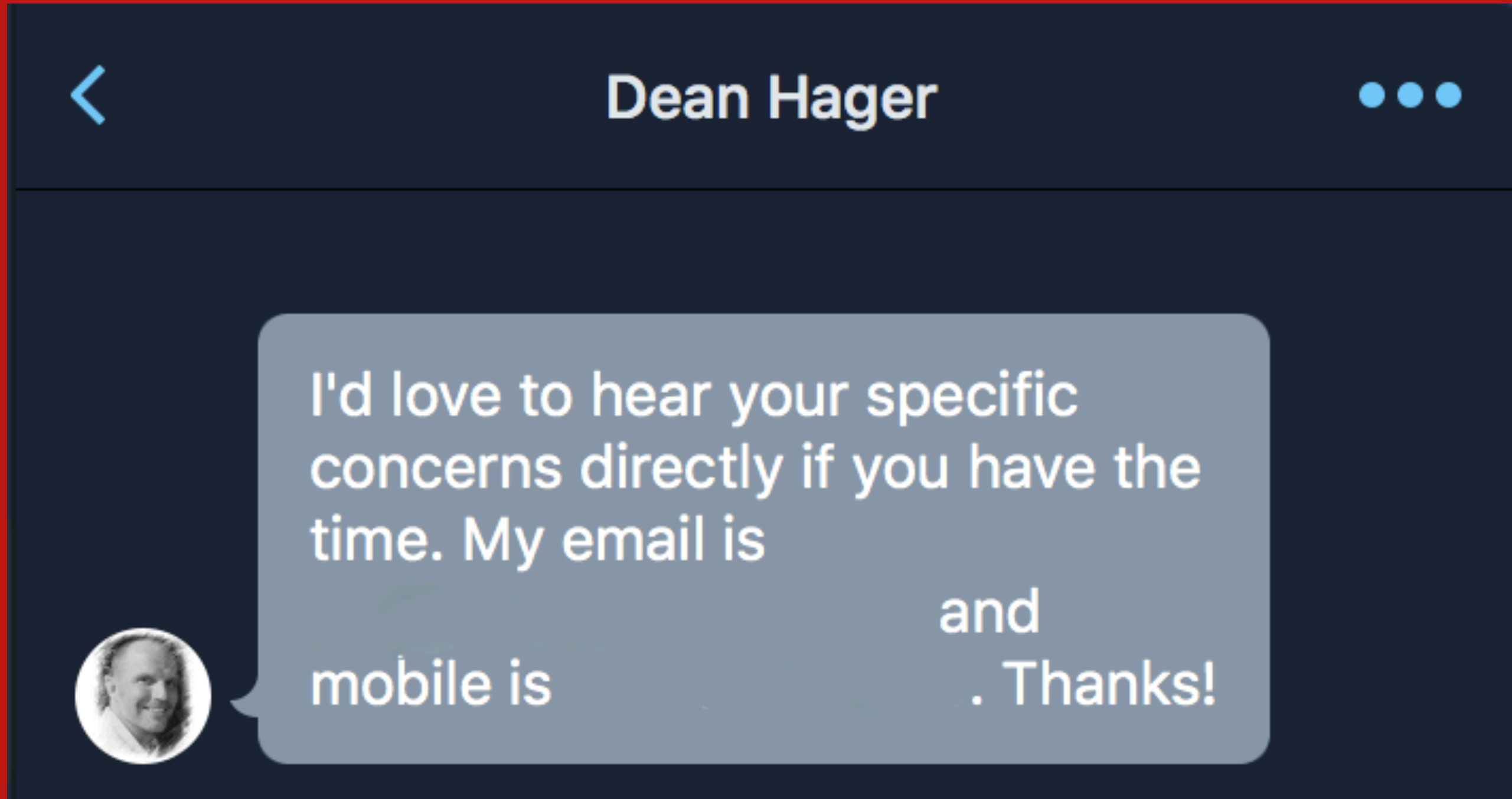
AirWatch is **here!**

No marketing speeches, no sales numbers

Just some passionate engineers.

Find them and ask some questions.

Dean and Jamf are good people.



Q & A

Welcome

In just a few steps, you can register and set up your Mac.



United States

Canada

United Kingdom

Australia

New Zealand

Ireland

Singapore

☐ Show All



Back



Continue

Do you need to hear instructions for setting up your Mac?
To learn how to use VoiceOver to set up your computer, press the Escape key now.