STAIRWELL

Stairwell macOS Forwarder 1.6.6 Release Notes

Version: 1.6.6.
Date: Dec 27, 2024

New Features

Support for registration key [FOR-447]

The automatically-assigned AssetID for a computer can be overridden by setting a STAIRWELL_REGISTRATION_KEY value in an MDM profile. This allows an asset to be replaced, but retain the history of the previous computer.

Note: this setting *does not* directly set the AssetID, but is used to generate an opaque "registration key", which identifies the asset. In order to replace a computer without losing the history, it must be initially registered with a set key both times, or you have to use *exactly the same key* as the forwarder would derive by default. Normally, you'd want to use a key that's related to either the hostname or the organization's internal asset identifier.

The current algorithm for generating the registration key uses the computer hostname with the MAC address of the internal network interface concatenated. E.g. for a computer named "Mark's MacBook Pro", with an ethernet address of f8:12:34:56:78:90, the key would be "Mark's MacBook Prof8:12:34:56:78:90" (note no space between computer name and MAC address).

Remote Log Collection [FOR-63]

It is now possible for the Stairwell customer support team to remotely download endpoint logs, to assist with debugging customer issues.

Simpler manual install process [FOR-390]

When installing the forwarder manually, the installer now asks the user for the Registration Token and EnvironmentID, if they haven't been previously set by an MDM profile. This will make installation for evaluation purposes easier.

Persistent log files [FOR-360]

The forwarder now creates on-disk log files, in addition to using the Apple system log. This allows the "collect logs" action to retrieve log messages from past events which have been purged from the system log.

EICAR test files are recognized by the Mac forwarder [FOR-395]

The EICAR malware test vector is now recognized by the Mac version of the forwarder, and uploaded to Stairwell.

Bug Fixes

Files extracted from an archive sometimes not uploaded [FOR-473]

A bad interaction with a bug in the MacOS "Archive Utility" would sometimes cause files extracted from an archive to not get uploaded. This is now fixed.

Failed uploads were not restarted properly [FOR-449]

Some file uploads would need to be retried multiple times due to an error in handling server errors. This has been corrected, and files should upload more quickly in these cases.

Extraneous "error" messages removed from logs [FOR-387, FOR-388]

The forwarder was logging error messages in some cases that weren't actually errors.

Downgrades from 1.6.4 can cause changes in AssetID [FOR-509]

Downgrading an asset from forwarder version 1.6.4 to 1.6.2 can cause the AssetID for the asset to change. As of 1.6.6, this should not be an issue. If you do need to downgrade to v1.6.2 of the forwarder, check with Stairwell about how to ensure that your asset history is properly preserved.

Files in this release

File	SHA256 Hash
InceptionForwarder-1.6.6..pkg	bc33e71912926b281d7e0653d304b78aa3cda34223b8f6082c0c11de4833d048