Class ID: IT18200

Deploying Autodesk software the easy way

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Learning Objectives

- Creation of Autodesk deployments
- Creation of scripts (CMD and batch files) to deploy add-ons
- SCCM packages creation and deployment
- Software deployment monitoring and reports

Description

- You don't have to be an Information Technology specialist to deploy Autodesk software the easy way.

- Autodesk software installs can take sufficient effort to deploy to multiple computers. This class will explore the creation of deployment packages and push technology. This can greatly reduce the amount of effort to deploy Autodesk software.

- Streamline the deployment of Autodesk software and add-ons using Microsoft System Center Configuration Manager 2012r R2 © (SCCM) and script technology. When deploying Autodesk products to two or one thousand computers, you can use these techniques with SCCM. You can also use this same workflow for other similar IT software management tools to deploy Autodesk products.

- We will briefly explore the creation of Autodesk packages using the out of the box tools in Autodesk products. We will run through how to create an SCCM software package, and deploying the Autodesk build to a collection of computers. We will also explore how to deploy third Party or Autodesk add-ons to the same collection of computers using scripts and SCCM. SCCM has powerful reporting tools to monitor the software deployment status during and/or after the deployment.

Your AU Expert(s)

Derek Gauer

Derek Gauer has more than 25 years of CAD management experience, and he has worked at IBI Group for the past 23 years. Mr. Gauer specializes in CAD management, road design (including horizontal and vertical alignment), quantity calculations, and contract document preparation. Mr. Gauer's current position is the global manager for the hardware, software, and support in the Design Technology Group. His experience of CAD, Building Information Modeling (BIM), and IT has enabled him to integrate over 20 new firms into the IBI Group of companies. He supports over 1,500 users spread across 65

offices in ten countries. His role includes investigating and implementing training methodologies and researching new advancements in software. Mr. Gauer has extensive knowledge of AutoCAD software, AutoCAD Map software, AutoCAD Civil 3D software, Revit software, 3ds Max software, and InfraWorks 360 software. Mr. Gauer is a member of the Autodesk User Group International (AUGI), Groundbreakers AutoCAD Civil 3D User Group, and the Ontario Revit User Group.

Ted Martin

Mr. Martin one of the few full time support staff tasked with global CAD support. Mr. Martin has almost 22 Years of experience with Autodesk product and consulting services. He has a background in Civil and had a brief stint as a mechanical / manufacturing designer prior to joining IBI.
Mr Martin was hired by Cumming Cockburn Limited in 2002 to help rebuild a local presents in Waterloo Ontario Canada and managed CAD and IT operations. In 2004 IBI acquired CCL and he began helping with integrations shortly after that. Since Mr Martin has been a CAD team lead on integrations, this offered lots of opportunities to see customization and work flow in a multitude of applications. Currently he supports over 65 offices and 1,500 users worldwide

1. Design Technology group

1.1 What is a Design Technology group?

- Design Technology is a group of former CAD Designers, CAD managers, BIM managers working for the alignment of the overall corporate goals. The Design Technology group or (DT) needs to work very closely with the IT group.

1.2 What is unique about Design Technology (DT)?

- DT works at a user level to resolve all issues related to project deliverables, workflow or software issues.

- DT makes decisions based on calculated evaluations that IT may not have the expertise or time to assess.

- DT controls licensing management and ensures the company is compliant with all design technology license agreements.

- DT tests and evaluates hardware for its' functionally with in the area of design, maintaining a fiscal balance between cost and performance.

- DT is a specialized subset of IT that marries management ideology, IT technology and most important user sensitivities.

1.3 Why not just leave the deploying of software to IT?

- IT may be good at installing some software, but DT has a working knowledge of specific applications and the design requirements for projects.

- DT can test the applications and coordinate the best products and add-ons to deploy globally and locally.

- IT may be too busy to deploy critical design software during project ramp up. New versions of Revit may be required on projects that are outside a corporate standard. DT can download, build and deploy with short notice.

- DT proactively monitors patches and hotfixes and can set up pushes resolving critical issues ahead of any impact for users.

2. Why use Microsoft System Center Configuration Manager 2012 r2 © (SCCM)?

- Faster (about twice as fast to install applications)
- You can push to one or thousands of computers. It is like your own personal robot to do installs.
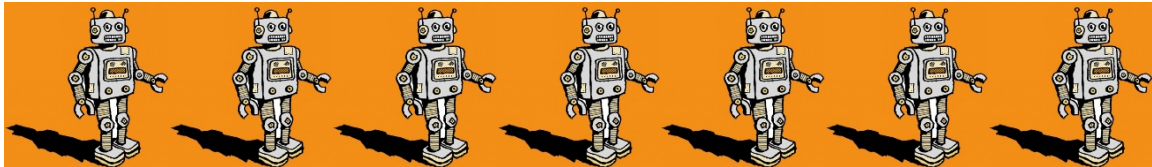
- You can run reports
- Autodesk recommends it
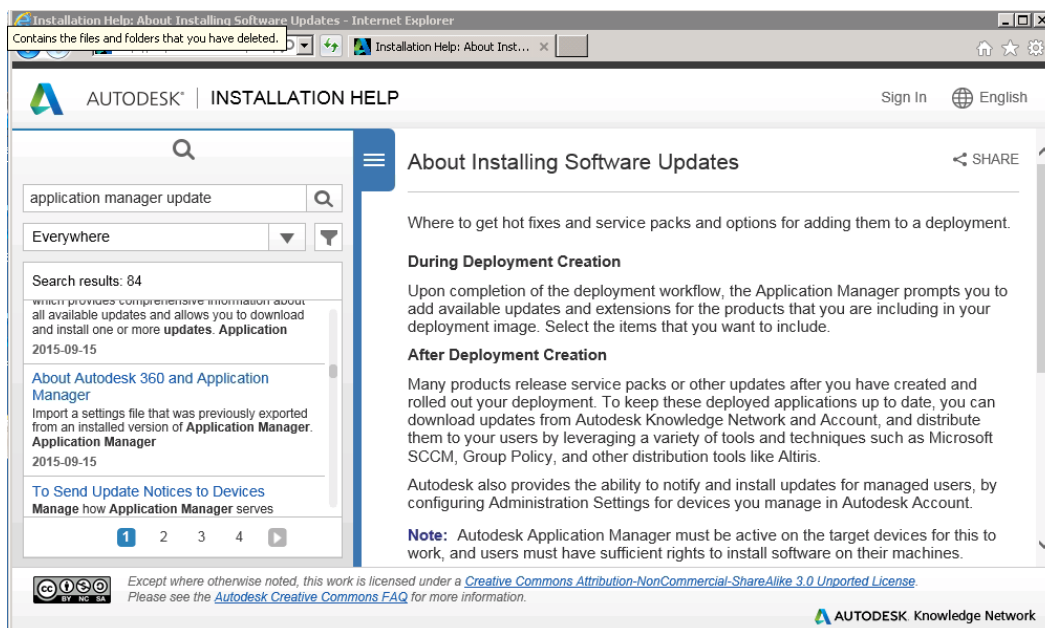
3. Creation of Autodesk packages in Autodesk design suite packages

3.1 Autodesk Subscription site login

Login into your subscription account.

https://accounts.autodesk.com/Logon

3.2 Download your products

Go to all products & services and select the products to download
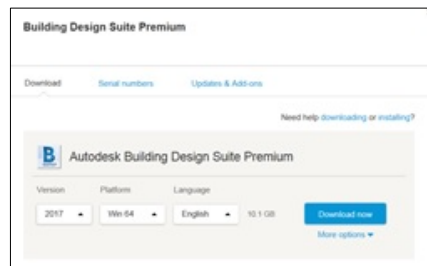
3.3 Start creating a deployment

Double click on the downloaded file and start creating the package. Select create deployment.
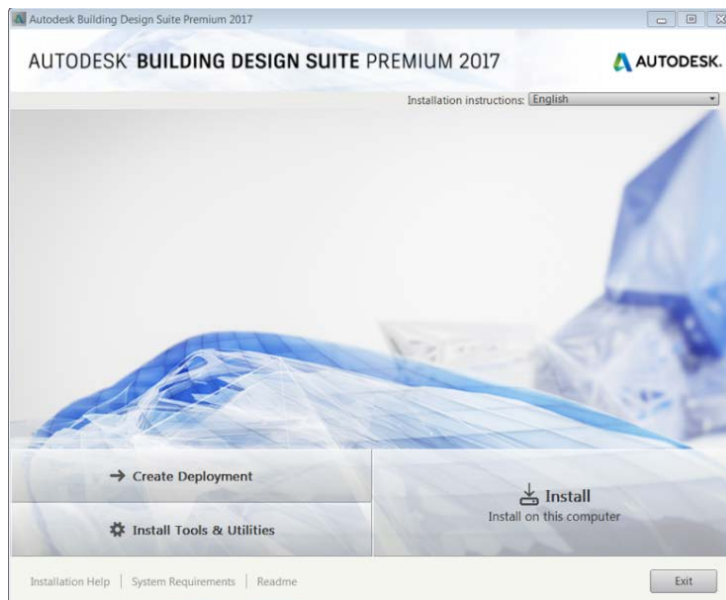
3.4 Configure the deployment name and path locations.

Use a Universal Naming Convention (UNC) or mapped drive for the server location. For example \\server1\deployments\Autodesk_BDSP_2017
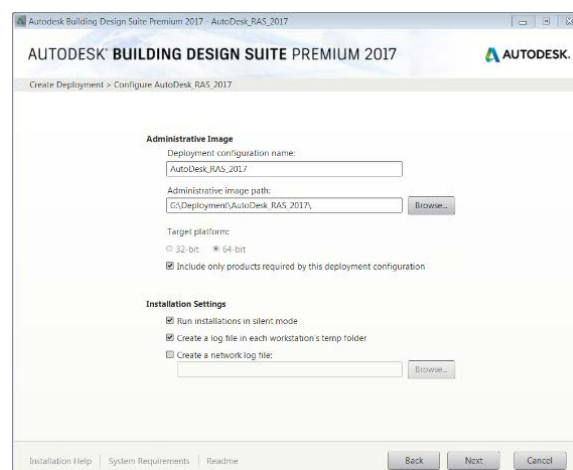
3.5 License agreement

Select your Country or Region. Read your license and services agreement. Click next
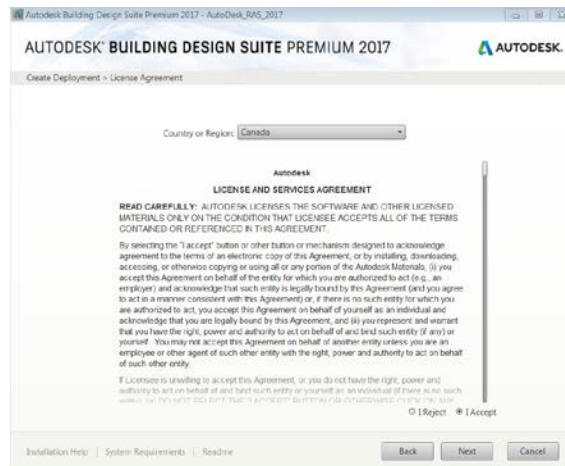
3.6 Product information

Select license access type. Enter you license number and product key.

Add your required servers if it is a network license.
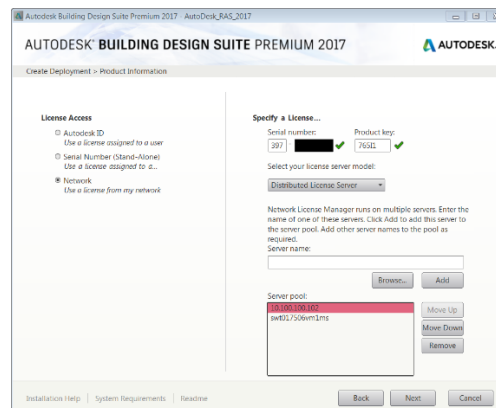
3.7 Modify deployment

Select the products to be installed
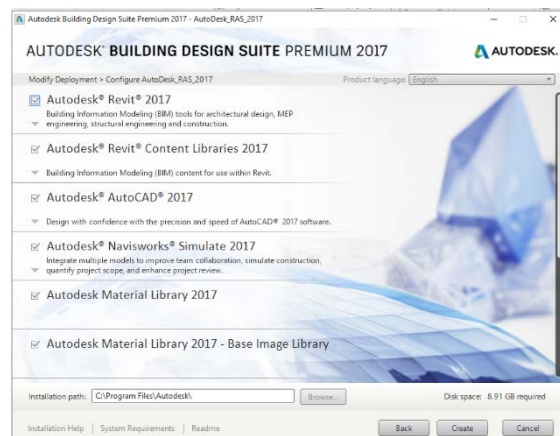
3.8 Configure AutoCAD

Configure AutoCAD
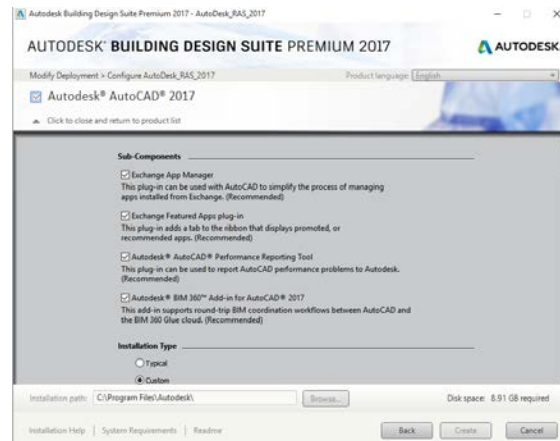
3.9 Create the deployment

Click create deployment.
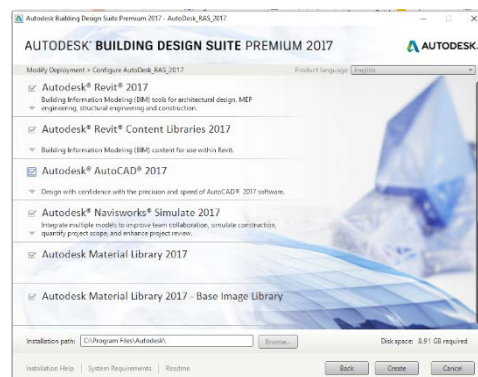
3.10 Finish the deployment and update as necessary.
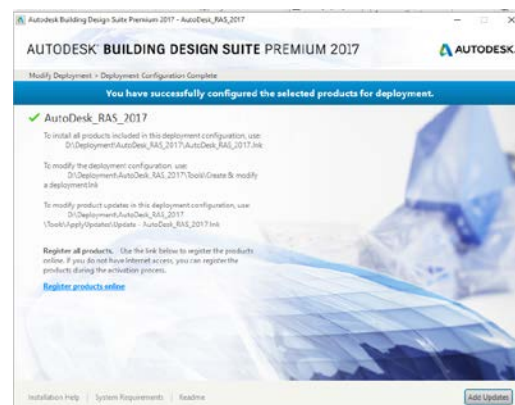
3.11 Add updates

Updates can be added later using a command script.
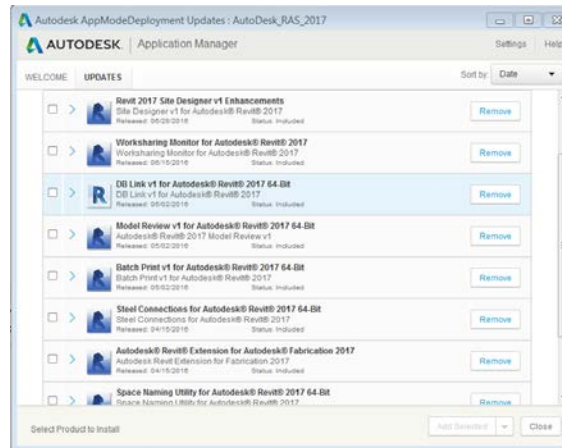
3.12 Finish the deployment and update as necessary.

4. Creation of Command or batch files to install Autodesk or third party applications.

o You can create command or batch files to install

- Autodesk add-ons – msi (installers)
- Service packs
- Third party applications
- Customization files

Download the add-on and extract to C drive or server location.
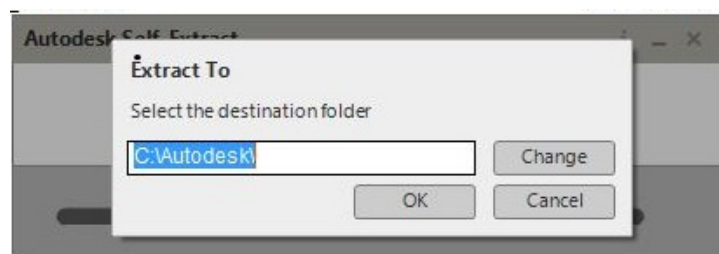
4.1 Review setup files and find msi files
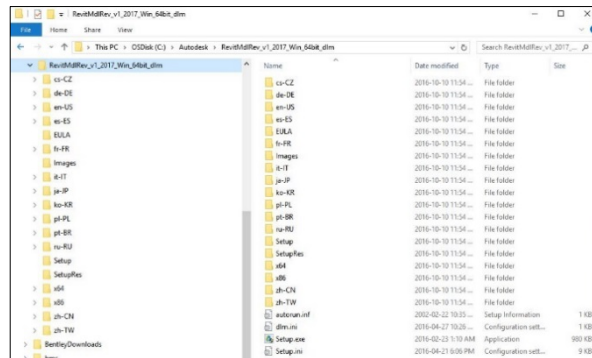
4.2 Typically msi files for add-ons are located in the x64 folder for Autodesk add-ons.
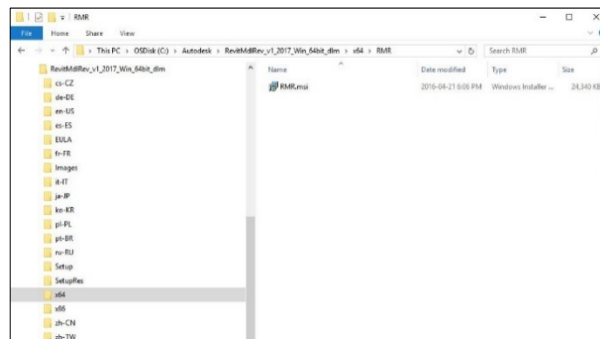
Typically msi files for add-ons are located in the x64 folder for Autodesk add-ons. RMR.msi is used for this example.

Create your Command or batch files in Notepad or notepad plus. Make sure you extension is either .cmd or .bat.

- Example 1 Batch file created in notepad to install Revit add-on

  msiexec /i
  "\\server1\deployments\AutoDesk_BDSP_2017\Revit_Addon\RevitMdlRev_v1_2017
  _Win_64bit_dlm\x64\RMR.msi" /qn

- Example 2 Batch file created in notepad to install Civil 3d add-on

  Extract C3D_2016_PROD_PACK_1_ENGLISH_64.exe to folder

  \\Img\x64\Components\ with WinRAR or 7-Zip

  msiexec /i
  "\\server1\deployments\C3D_2016_PROD_PACK_1_ENGLISH_64\Autodesk_Auto
  CAD_C3D_2016_Productivity_Pack1.msi" /qn

4.3 Commonly used MSIEXEC command line switches:

Switch   Effect

 /qn   Performs the install/patch with no user interface (silent install).

 /qb   Quiet with a file installation progress bar during installation/service pack update.

 /qr   Quiet with a progress thermometer on the standard wizard dialog (no questions

5. Microsoft SCCM packages creation

5.1 SCCM Console

Run SCCM console from workstation or Server
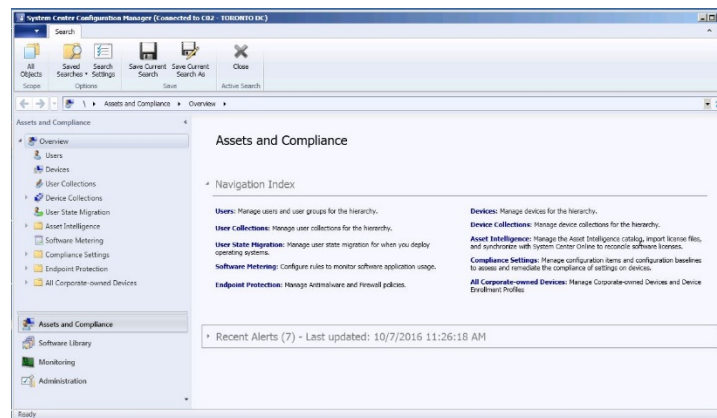
5.2 Open Software library
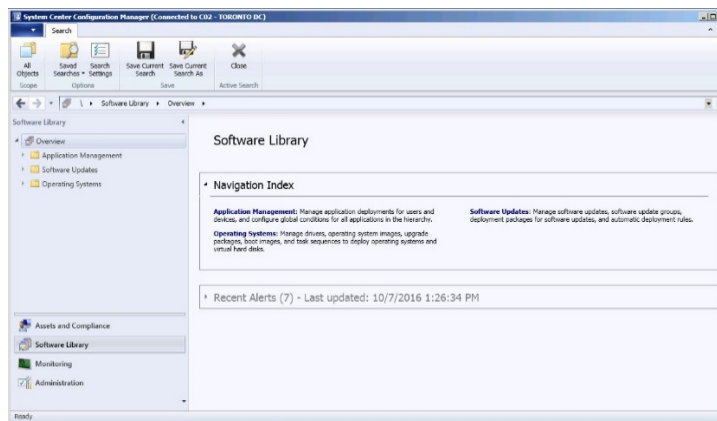
5.3 Create Autodesk folder and select folder.
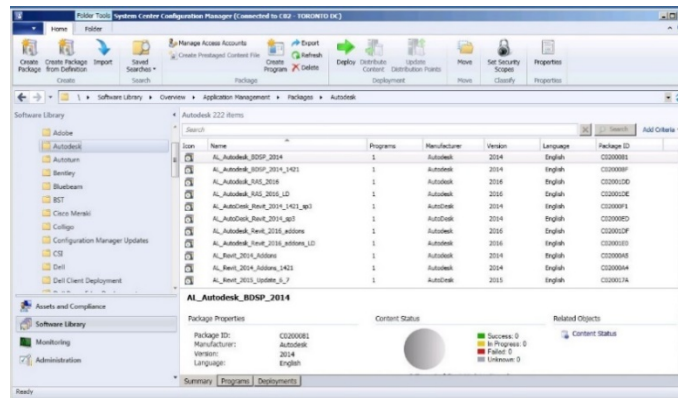
5.4 Specify the information about this standard program.
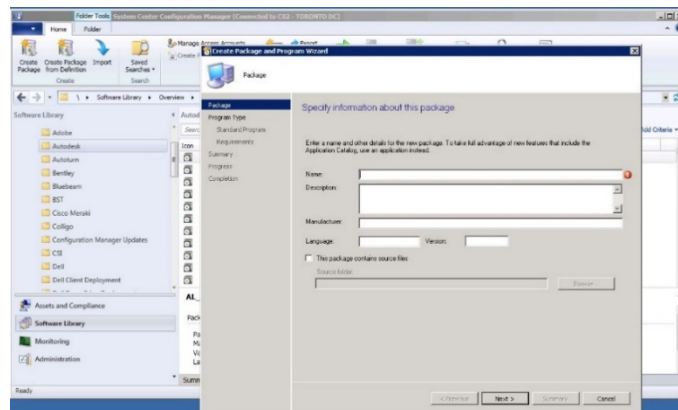
5.5 Input the information about this standard program..
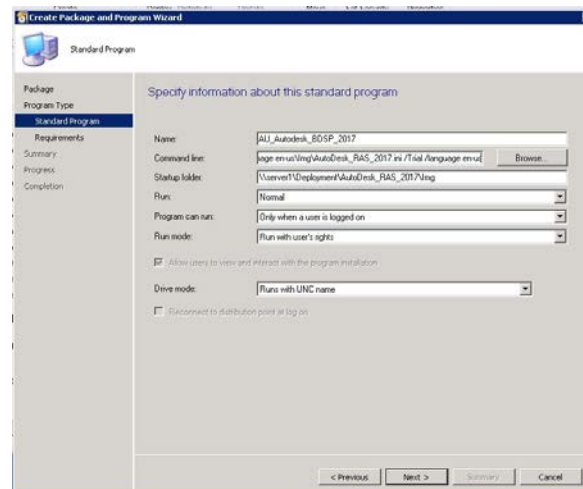
Note:

Since Autodesk software are generally deployed silently to multiple computers at the same time, the software needs to run silent (Hidden). Whether or not a user is logged on, and with administrator rights.

5.6 Specify the requirements for this standard program
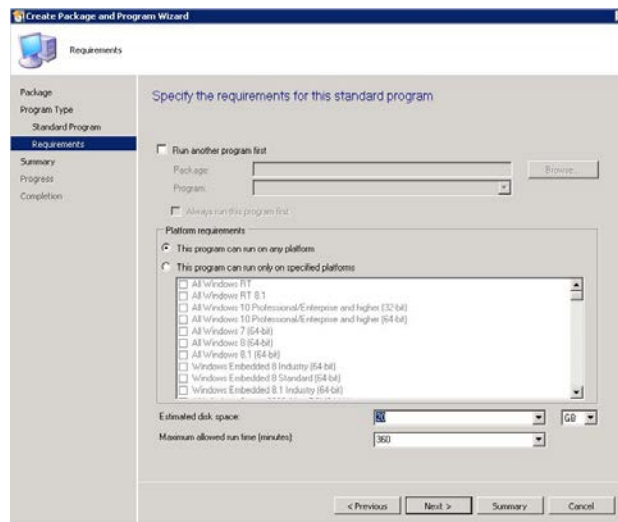
5.7 Confirm the settings and click next.
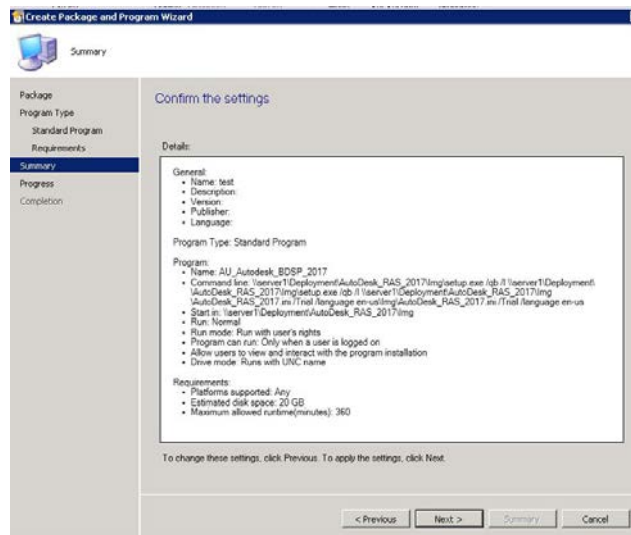
5.8 Click close and the Package and program wizard is completed.
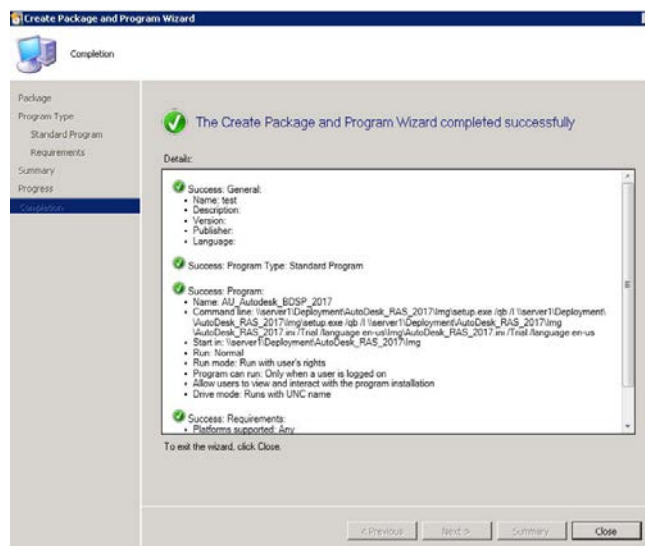
6. Create new Device Collection

6.1 Navigate to Assets and compliance- Overview-Device collection – Software deployment – Au 2016

6.2 Create new Device Collection
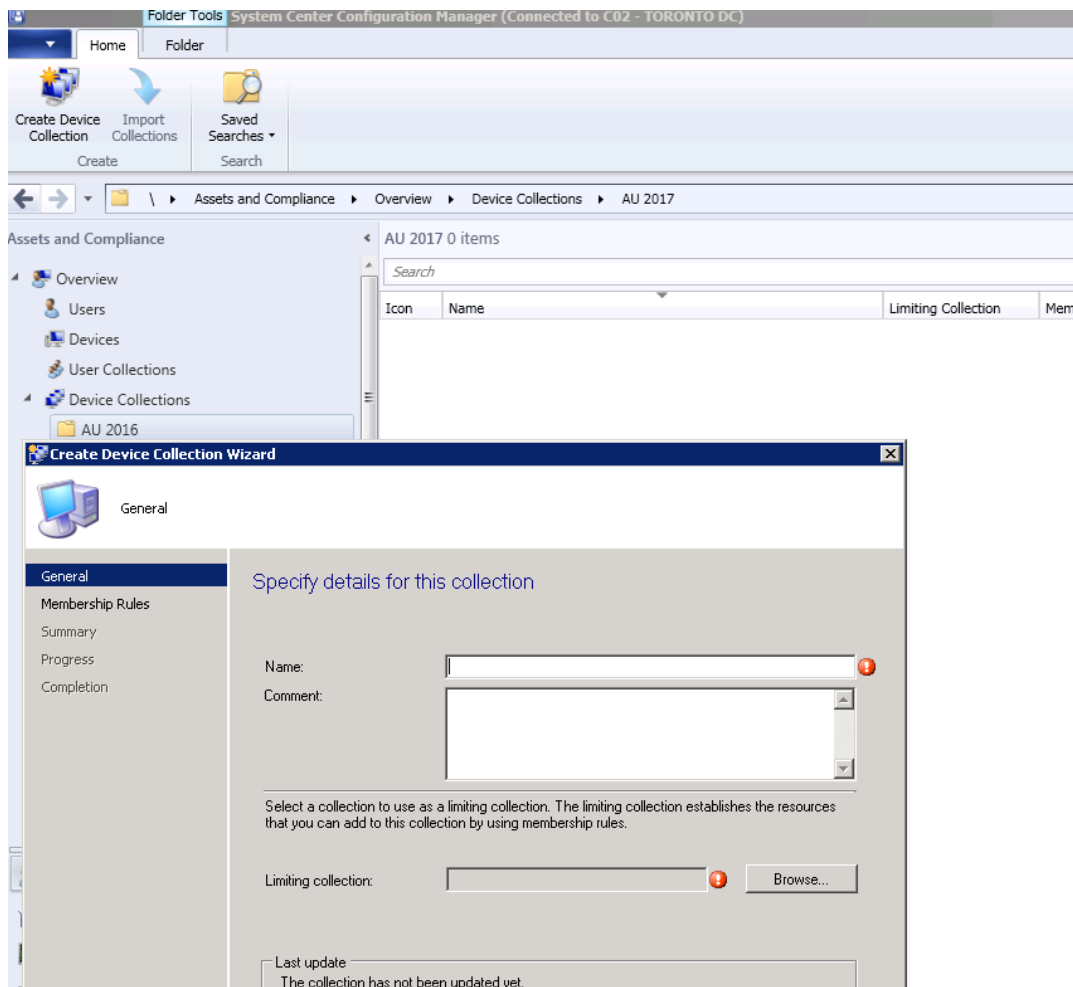
6.3 Specify details for this collection – Limit collection as necessary

6.4 Define membership rules for this collection. Add direct rule or query rules

Example query rule to find computers with Revit 2014, so newer products can be installed

Query Language – Query Statement

select
SMS_R_SYSTEM.ResourceID,SMS_R_SYSTEM.ResourceType,SMS_R_SYSTEM.Name,SMS_R_SYSTEM.SMSUniqueIdentifier,SMS_R_SYSTEM.ResourceDomainORWorkgroup,SMS_R_SYSTEM.Client from SMS_R_System inner join SMS_G_System_INSTALLED_SOFTWARE on SMS_G_System_INSTALLED_SOFTWARE.ResourceId = SMS_R_System.ResourceId where SMS_G_System_INSTALLED_SOFTWARE.ARPDisplayName like "Revit 2014%"

6.5 Confirm the settings – click next
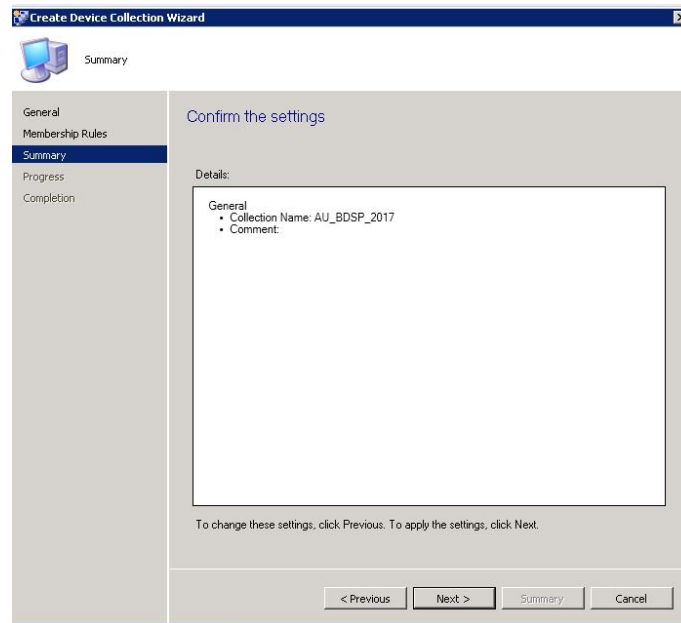
6.6 The Create Device Collection Wizard completed successfully. Click close
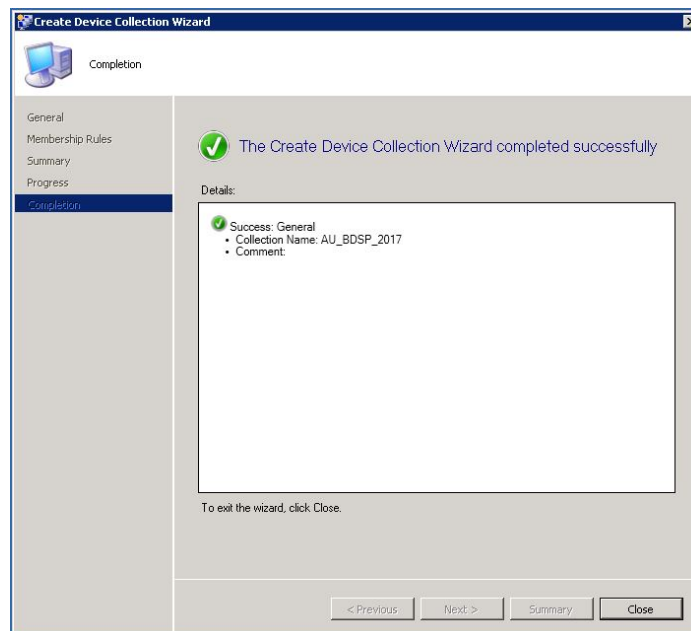
7. Deploy your program

7.1 Deploy your program - right click on deployment.
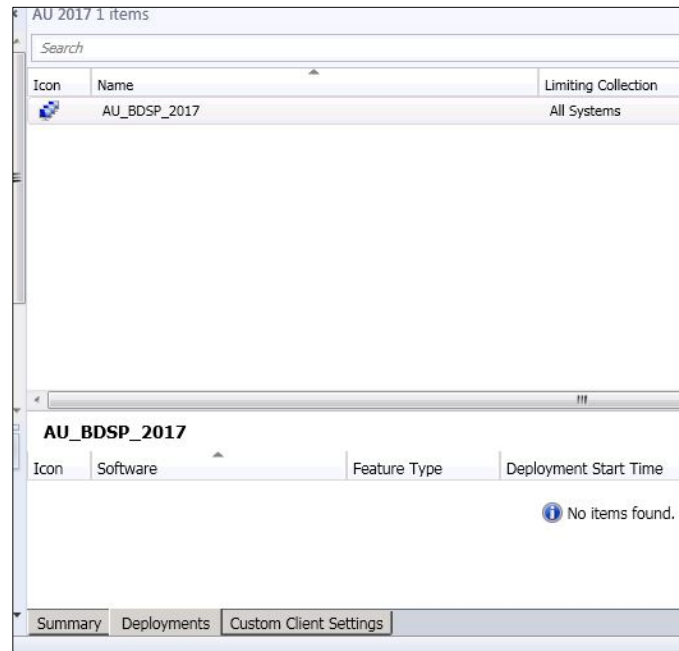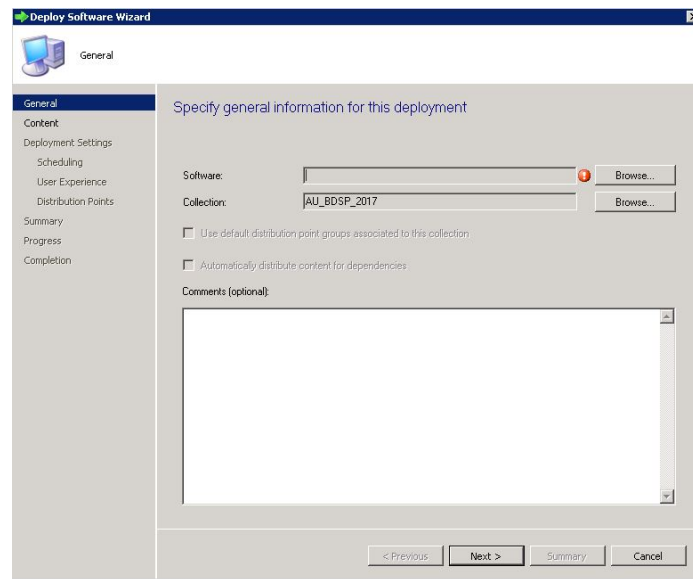
7.2 Deploy your program – Select deploy- program

7.3 Specify general information for this deployment.

7.4 Select software for this deployment.
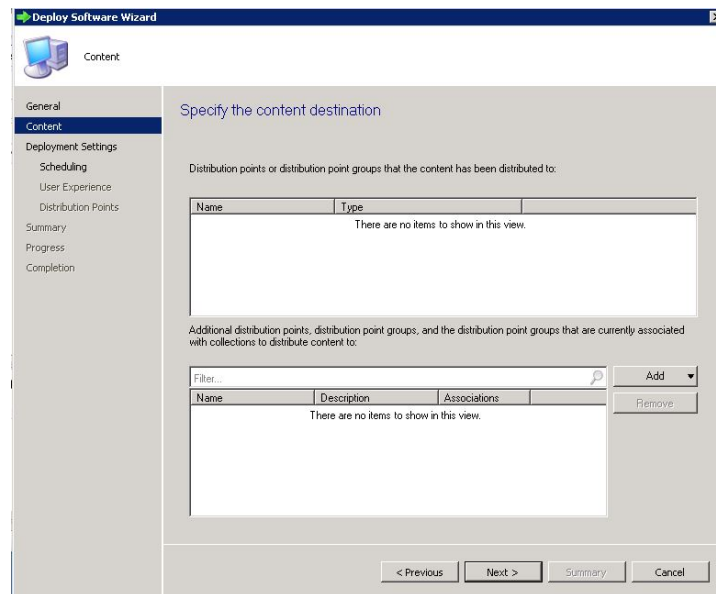
7.5 Specify general information for this deployment and click next.

7.6 Specify the content destination or click next.

7.7 Specify settings to control how this software is deployed.

7.8 If this is a mandatory deployment, specify the schedule for this deployment

7.9 Assignment Schedule

7.10 Create custom schedule

7.11 Assignment schedule – Click Ok
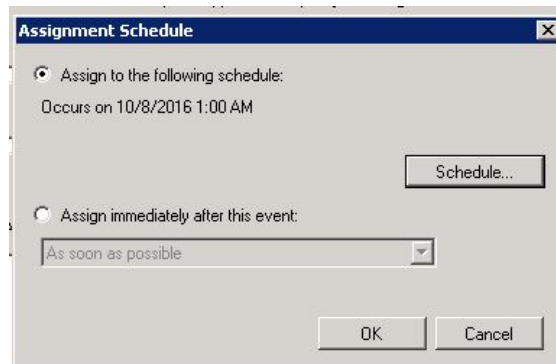
7.12 Schedule for this deployment is complete – click next
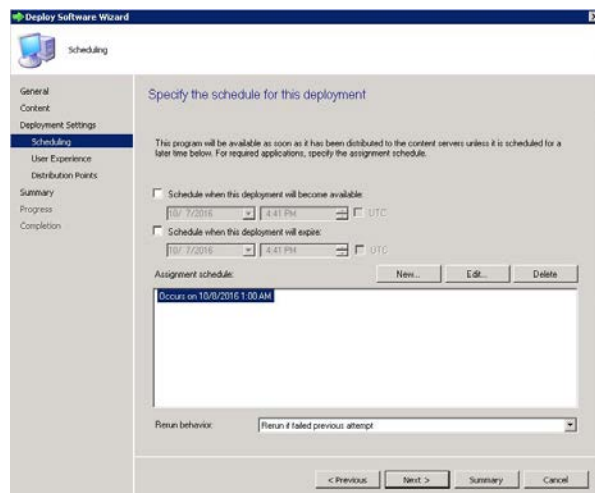
7.13 User Experience- Select the user experience for the installation of this software on the selected devices.
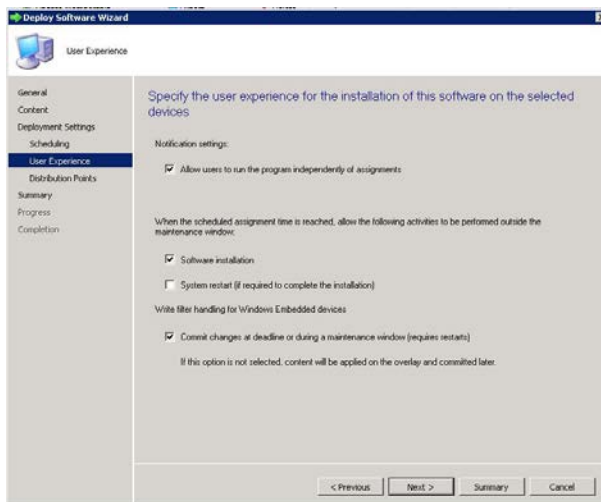
7.14 Specify how to run the content for this program according to type of boundary the client is connect to.

7.15 User Experience- Select the user experience for the installation of this software on the selected devices. Click next
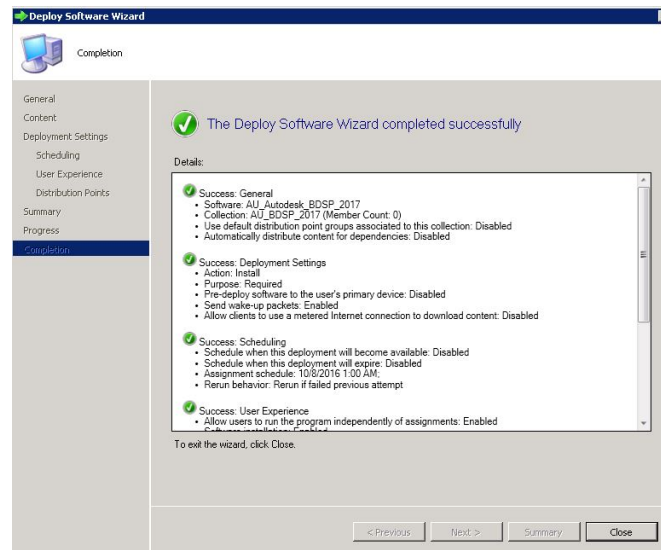
7.16 Summary – Confirm the settings for this new deployment – click next.
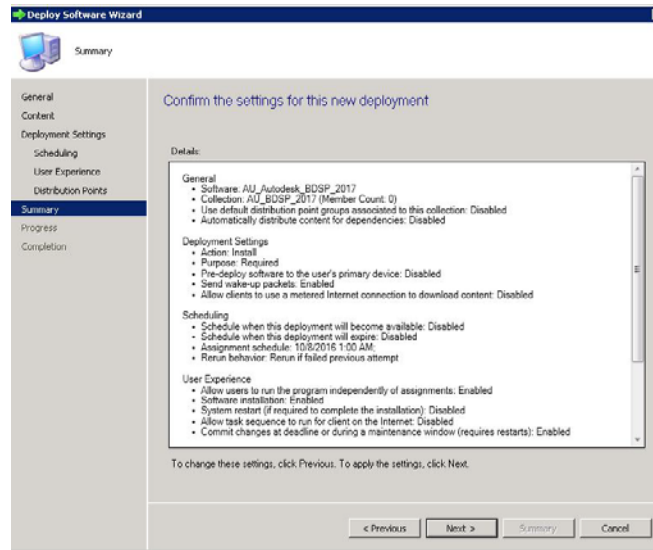
7.17 Completion – The Deploy Software Wizard competed successfully. Click close

8. Check the status of the deployment

8.1 Monitoring overview of Deployment – Deployment Status

9. SCCM other advantages

Deploy from distribution points

Run reports and queries

Monitoring

Alerts

Compliance

Deploy other windows software

The END