IBM Maximo Asset Management for IT

From desktops, laptops and servers to software, contracts and maintenance agreements, managing the thousands of IT assets spread across your organization can be a difficult task. Just when you least expect it, another obstacle occurs — a server crash, a system-wide virus, a compliance violation. Manually tracking and managing inventory data is costly, time-consuming and error-prone. That’s why IT asset managers need a solution that enables them to manage software, hardware and related information across the infrastructure — throughout the asset life cycle — and to manage the financial impact of IT assets and costs related to procurement, overprovisioning, budgeting and compliance.

IBM Maximo® Asset Management for IT is a complete IT asset management application that combines inventory, financial, maintenance and contract management into one easy-to-use interface. This entirely Web-architected application helps you automatically track and efficiently manage the complete life cycle of IT assets. As a result, Maximo Asset Management for IT can help you:

- Control costs of procurement, licensing and maintenance agreements.
- More accurately forecast for future IT needs.
- Minimize maverick software and hardware purchases.
- Maintain — and document — internal, contractual and regulatory compliance efforts for software licenses and hardware leases.
- Negotiate more effectively for volume discounts.

Maximo Asset Management for IT is part of the Maximo product family, a technically advanced product suite that has been built on a single platform to enable you to have a comprehensive view of all asset types across your
Deploy a solution designed for IT asset management excellence

The functions and features of Maximo Asset Management for IT help you quickly and efficiently manage your IT investments and better control burgeoning costs related to compliance, overprovisioning, budgeting and forecasting. It manages data regarding a multitude of assets, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Desktops
- Laptops
- Servers
- Mainframes
- Routers
- Hubs
- PBXs
- Switches
- Mobile devices
- Software licenses
- Contracts
- Maintenance agreements

This unique application helps reduce the cost of provisioning and maintaining your assets, and helps mitigate the risk of compliance violations arising under software license agreements and regulatory requirements. It uses more than 160 out-of-the-box, role-based reports to support effective decision making and deliver business intelligence.

You can easily adapt Maximo Asset Management for IT to your existing environment and configure it to better meet your business objectives. Key technology components include:

- An embedded, robust process automation system that helps you to create dynamic, customizable workflows.
- A comprehensive escalation and notification engine that sends automatic alerts regarding incidents and problems.
- A thorough database that stores and tracks IT-related asset information.
- Screen designing tools, including an application designer that enables you to configure the product to better meet your business objectives.
- A standards-based approach that makes integrations with key physical, financial and HR systems far simpler than other solutions.

Asset tracking helps avoid overprovisioning

Maximo Asset Management for IT delivers thorough and accurate asset tracking that produces meaningful information that you can use to drive key business decisions and effectively redeploy assets to avoid overprovisioning. With Maximo Asset Management for IT, you can also:

- Discover and store asset information and relationships, such as parent, location, vendor, availability status and maintenance costs.
- Plan and manage asset reconfigurations, moves, adds and changes.
- Assign assets to users, general ledger (GL) accounts and locations.
- Integrate with automated asset discovery applications from IBM and other vendors.

Asset reconciliation views reveal compliance threats

Maximo Asset Management for IT compares “should be” with “as is” asset configurations and reconciles them to give you a clearer picture of your IT assets. As a result, you can more easily view discrepancies in real time for more effective software compliance and hardware standardization efforts. Simple business rules establish “authorized” versus “deployed” configurations, as well as the relationships
between and among associated
assets. The result is a unique set of
asset comparison views, reports and
powerful key performance indicators
(KPIs) that monitor the health of the
entire IT infrastructure.

Change management promotes
proactive planning
Maximo Asset Management for IT offers
change management capabilities that
allow your IT operations to proactively
plan for modifications as part of your
overall IT asset management process.
This functionality helps parcel the
components of your change manage-
ment process into smaller, more
manageable pieces, such as tasks,
labor, materials, services and tools.

With this granular view, you can:
• Plan, review and report the actual work,
resources and costs associated with imple-
menting changes to the IT infrastructure.
• Notify support staff of these changes.
• Schedule rollouts.

Assess financial impact of your IT assets
Imagine having immediate access to
vital financial information for budget
planning and cost allocation. Maximo
Asset Management for IT makes it
possible. Once you establish GL
account fields, you can track full asset
and asset service costs, as well as
establish and reconcile chargebacks.
Then you can leverage up-to-date asset
cost data to reconcile with enterprise
resource planning (ERP) financial
systems, streamline vendor payments
and enable better planning and
expense control — including forecasting
the financial resources required to
complete specific IT projects. Maximo
Asset Management for IT provides true
end-to-end cost measurement, giving
you total visibility into the financial
impact of assets.

Manage your business and regulatory
compliance efforts
With Maximo Asset Management for IT,
you can more easily manage software
license agreements, leases, warranties,
service, procurement and maintenance
contracts. Robust contract function-
ality enables you to compare terms and
conditions and asset procurement
agreements with vendor invoices,
helping you to avoid costly overpayments and unauthorized purchases.

Maximo Asset Management for IT also supports your ongoing regulatory compliance efforts, such as Sarbanes-Oxley and international financial reporting standards. According to some industry analysts, 30 to 40 percent of businesses will find themselves fielding a software audit in the next few years.

A solid software asset management (SAM) program is imperative for helping to control unauthorized purchases and mitigating the legal and financial risks of noncompliant software installations. Maximo Asset Management for IT addresses SAM requirements by allowing you to:

• Store enterprise license agreements in a centralized location.
• Standardize naming conventions for individual software packages.
• Specify suite names, versions and components.
• Monitor software usage.
• Identify and reconcile licensed use with actual use across your entire organization.

Control procurement costs
Appropriate and controlled provisioning of IT assets is crucial for keeping costs down. Maximo Asset Management for IT helps you redeploy existing assets when possible and compares purchasing requests to predefined approval standards before allowing additional purchases. With Maximo Asset Management for IT, you can:

• Automatically generate requisitions and purchase orders.
• Receive and record physical inventory items.
• Reconcile invoices with purchase orders and receipts.
• Manage multiple vendor quotations.
• Define standard terms and conditions.

Federated data model simplifies management of data stores
The reality of large, heterogeneous IT organizations makes having one single asset repository nearly impossible. Businesses evolve over time and implement point solutions for human resources, IT infrastructure management, customer relationship management (CRM), service management and asset management as budgets allow. Maximo Asset Management for IT enables distributed organizations to successfully leverage a federated data model. It includes an adapter that enables it to more easily link to your organization’s existing data stores. When you automate processes to funnel information among — and draw relationships between — data stores, it helps minimize the need to manually migrate data or rewrite code.

Conclusion
Maximo Asset Management for IT delivers an end-to-end IT asset management solution available to you from any Web interface through a single, unified platform. Use Maximo Asset Management for IT to help:

• Reduce costs related to IT asset procurement, management, forecasting and contractual/regulatory compliance.
• Enhance service levels and response times by delivering more accurate asset and configuration information to your help desk.
• Improve first-call response rates by standardizing configurations.
• Boost employee productivity through more effective management of provisioning requests.

Maximo Asset Management for IT integrates with products like IBM Maximo Discovery and IBM Tivoli Configuration Manager, to help you
discover IT inventory. It is unified on the same platform with Tivoli Service Desk, to enable service desk agents to use your asset data to help speed problem resolution and increase customer satisfaction. Together, these products support the IBM Service Management strategy to help align your IT functions with your business objectives.

**For more information**

To learn more about how Maximo Asset Management for IT can help your organization track and manage all your IT assets, please contact your IBM representative or IBM Business Partner, or visit [www.mro.com](http://www.mro.com)

**About Tivoli software from IBM**

Tivoli software provides a comprehensive set of offerings and capabilities in support of IBM Service Management, a scalable, modular approach used to deliver more efficient and effective services to your business. Meeting the needs of any size business, Tivoli software enables you to deliver service excellence in support of your business objectives through integration and automation of processes, workflows and tasks. The security-rich, open standards-based Tivoli service management platform is complemented by proactive operational management solutions that provide end-to-end visibility and control. It is also backed by world-class IBM Services, IBM Support and an active ecosystem of IBM Business Partners. Tivoli customers and partners can also leverage each other’s best practices by participating in independently run IBM Tivoli User Groups around the world — visit [www.tivoli-ug.org](http://www.tivoli-ug.org)

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**Maximo Asset Management for IT at a glance**

Maximo Asset Management for IT supports various combinations of the following:

- IBM AIX®
- BEA WebLogic 8
- HP-UX
- IBM WebSphere® 6
- Microsoft® SQL Server
- Microsoft Windows®
- Oracle
- Red Hat Enterprise Linux®
- Sun Solaris