

BlackBerry UEMCritical Issue Advisory

Deprecation of SHA-1 in BlackBerry UEM version 12.12 (JI 2668539)

12.12

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Summary

The Secure Hashing Algorithms (SHA) are a collection of cryptographic hash functions that are part of the U.S. Federal Information Processing Standard (FIPS), and were developed to keep data secured. There are three core Secure Hash Algorithms; each successively designed with increasingly stronger encryption:

- SHA-1
- SHA-2
- SHA-3

In 1993, upon initial release of its specification, SHA-1 became popular and was widely implemented within the technology industry, particularly in security-focused applications and protocols. Over time, a variety of weaknesses have been identified in SHA-1 ciphers and they are no longer recommended for cryptographic purposes. Many software companies (including Apple, Google, Microsoft, Mozilla, and others) have been deprecating support for SHA-1 in their apps and platforms, instead focusing their support on SHA-2 and stronger ciphers. In highly secure environments, such as NIAP and FedRAMP, SHA-1 ciphers are completely disallowed for making connections.

BlackBerry will be deprecating the use of SHA-1 in BlackBerry UEM version 12.12, in January 2020.

Impact

Users running versions of the BlackBerry UEM Client that are older than version 12.35.0.155510 (on Android devices) and 12.41.2379 (on iOS devices) will not be able to make connections from the BlackBerry UEM Client to BlackBerry UEM version 12.12.

Activation types that use the BlackBerry UEM Client are affected, including:

- · MDM controls for Android devices
- User privacy for Android devices
- Work space only (Android Enterprise fully managed device)
- Work and personal user privacy (Samsung KNOX)
- Work and personal full control (Samsung Knox)
- Work space only (Samsung KNOX)
- · Work and personal user privacy (Android Enterprise work profile)
- Work and personal full control (Android Enterprise fully managed device with work profile)
- · iOS MDM controls with DEP
- · iOS MDM controls without DEP

Resolution

Customers should take the following actions as soon as possible to avoid impact to BlackBerry service:

Server configuration	Recommendation
BlackBerry UEM (on-premises)	Users must upgrade to BlackBerry UEM Client for Android version 12.35.0.155510 or later, or BlackBerry UEM Client for iOS version 12.41.2379 or later before administrators upgrade to BlackBerry UEM version 12.12. If users are currently running older versions of BlackBerry UEM Client for Android or BlackBerry UEM Client for iOS, they should upgrade to the latest version of BlackBerry UEM Client that is available in Google Play or the App Store.
BlackBerry UEM Cloud	In January 2020, BlackBerry UEM Cloud was upgraded to version 12.12. To avoid connectivity issues, BlackBerry UEM Cloud users must be running BlackBerry UEM Client for Android version 12.35.0.155510 or later, or BlackBerry UEM Client for iOS version 12.41.2379 or later. If BlackBerry UEM Cloud users are currently running older versions of BlackBerry UEM Client for Android or BlackBerry UEM Client for iOS, they should upgrade to the latest version of BlackBerry UEM Client that is available in Google Play or the App Store.

Note: If a user is running an older version of the BlackBerry UEM Client after the UEM upgrade to version 12.12, the user must upgrade their UEM Client to restore connectivity to UEM.

Additional information

BlackBerry Dynamics SDK v7.0, tentatively scheduled for January 2020, includes changes to the list of supported cipher suites for SSL connections to application servers. For more information, visit support.blackberry.com to read article KB60040.

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