

BlackBerry UEMCritical Issue Advisory

End of support for the legacy binary protocol in Apple Push Notification service (APNs)

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End of support for the legacy binary protocol in Apple Push Notification service (APNs)

Summary

End of support for the legacy binary protocol in Apple Push Notification service (APNs).

Impact

APNs is an Apple-hosted service that allows app developers to deliver information to iOS, iPadOS, and macOS devices. When an iOS, iPadOS, or macOS app is first launched, a connection to Apple's infrastructure is established, which provides a method for the app to both receive and send notifications. Apple currently supports two methods of communicating with APNs: a legacy binary protocol and an HTTP/2-based APNs provider API. In November 2020, Apple will be discontinuing support for the legacy binary protocol and has instructed developers to transition to using the HTTP/2-based APNs provider API before then. Information about the HTTP/2-based APNs provider API can be reviewed in Apple's documentation.

Resolution

BlackBerry UEM version 12.11.1 includes support for the HTTP/2-based APNs provider API. Customers must be running BlackBerry UEM version 12.11.1 or later before November 2020 to avoid interruption to service on iOS, iPadOS, and macOS devices. If customers have not upgraded to BlackBerry UEM version 12.11.1 or later by November 2020, when Apple disables support for the legacy binary protocol, their iOS, iPadOS, and macOS devices will not be able to send or receive information using APNs, and push notifications to those devices will no longer occur.

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