

IMDS-a2 News

Oracle's planned JAVA licensing policy change
in January 2019

Dear IMDS-a2 User,

The IMDS-a2 is an application service developed in the Java programming language. The Java Runtime Environment version 8 (JRE 8) is a prerequisite to run the IMDS-a2 and needs to be installed on each PC. This Java Runtime Software is a product of Oracle Corporation who has announced that it will completely revise the Java release cycle and associated support model. This is an independent decision by Oracle that affects all Java based software and thus also affects the IMDS-a2.

End of public updates for Oracle JRE 8

Oracle will not post further updates of JRE 8 to its public download sites for commercial use after January 2019. Users who need continued access to critical bug fixes and security fixes as well as general maintenance for **Java SE 8** or previous versions can get long term support through Oracle Java SE Subscription or Oracle Java SE Desktop Subscription. For more detailed information please see:

<https://www.oracle.com/technetwork/java/javase/overview/index.html>

What can I access with the Java SE Subscription?

Already installed Java installations can still be used without maintenance. Oracle customers, who continue to rely on feature updates, fixes, and patches, must purchase a paid subscription: <https://www.oracle.com/java/java-se-subscription.html>

What impact does this have on IMDS-a2 Users?

Oracle will freeze the status of the JRE version 8 on 31.01.2019 and will not publish further updates of JRE 8 on its download sites for commercial use after January 2019. Users have to decide if they want to continue using the JRE 8 without further maintenance and support (for free) after that time or if they buy a maintenance license (called "Oracle Java SE Subscription" or "Oracle Java SE Desktop Subscription") from Oracle and are therefore eligible to get further updates for the JRE after February 2019.

What impact does this have on IMDS-a2?

The IMDS-a2 software will run on Oracle JRE 8 installations independent of the existence of a maintenance contract. Please note that the IMDS-a2 currently requires a JRE version 8 and does not support higher JRE versions like JRE 11.

Recommendation for IMDS-a2 Users

Generally it is best practice to implement software updates that fix functional or security related deficiencies in order to minimize risks. Not implementing any Java updates in the future increases the risk of functional or security-related problems. To continue using the IMDS-a2 we recommend to update your JRE on a regular basis.

Please forward this information to your internal IT department. As this new Oracle policy affects all Java based systems your IT department may already be aware or has even made its decision regarding to the future Java support and maintenance.

If you have any IMDS-a2 related questions or comments, please feel free to contact us at mds-solutions@dxc.com.

Best regards,
Your IMDS-a2 Team

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