

SUSE Manager for Retail 4

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SUSE Manager for Retail—a next-generation open source infrastructure management solution—delivers best-in-class open source infrastructure management that is optimized and tailored specifically for the retail industry. From mainframe and HPC clusters, bare metal servers and VMs, down to point of service terminals, kiosks, self-service and reverse-vending systems Linux deployments, SUSE Manager for Retail is designed to help you reduce costs, optimize operations, and ensure compliance across your IT infrastructure, while reducing complexity and regaining control.

What is SUSE Manager for Retail?

SUSE Manager for Retail—a next-generation open source infrastructure management solution—delivers best-in-class open source infrastructure management that is optimized and tailored specifically for the retail industry. From mainframe and HPC clusters, bare metal servers and VMs, down to point of service terminals, kiosks, self-service and reverse-vending systems Linux deployments, SUSE Manager for Retail is designed to help you reduce costs, optimize operations, and ensure compliance across your IT infrastructure, while reducing complexity and regaining control.

What is new in SUSE Manager for Retail 4 and what are the benefits?

SUSE Manager for Retail 4 delivers best-in-class open source infrastructure management, optimized and tailored specifically for the retail industry. This latest release delivers new enhancements focused on improving operational efficiency, increasing scalability, reducing complexity and simplifying management. SUSE Manager for Retail 4 will help you:

- Reduce costs and increase efficiency with new off-line branch operations, optimized image synchronization with support for delta images and background image download capabilities. These enhancements enable you to efficiently operate in store environments that have limited network connectivity.
- Support large retail environments. With the new scalability enhancements, thousands of end-point terminals can be supported per SUSE Manager server.
- Simplify management and streamline operations using the enhanced SUSE Manager web UI to easily manage your proxy servers and configure branch servers.
- Reduce complexity with new “Formulas with Forms” capabilities for SAP. This enables easy setup of SAP HANA nodes and HA cluster configuration (technology preview), making it easier than ever to implement SAP’s best practices for installing SAP HANA on SUSE Linux Enterprise Server.
- Simplify operations with an improved content staging UI and APIs that enable you to easily build patch staging environments (without custom scripting) for your Linux updates that mirror the SAP infrastructure.
- Save costs by extending the life of old hardware in the point of service environment by building and deploying 32-bit SLEPOS 11 SP3 images.

SUSE Manager for Retail 4 is built on the latest release of SUSE Manager.

SUSE Manager for Retail 4 delivers a best-in-class open source infrastructure management solution that lowers costs, enhances availability and reduces complexity.

Key benefits:

- Simplify management and reduce operational expenditure with enhanced package staging that have been enhanced through a new Content Lifecycle Management (CLM) user interface and improved APIs for managing packages, patches and configurations. Moving packages across multiple stages (such as development, QA and production) is now a simple UI-based task.
- Ease virtual machine management complexity with new Salt-based virtual machine management that enables near real-time management of hundreds of servers. This allows for managing virtual machines through a UI, with start/stop buttons and by defining Salt states. For example, you can create a Salt state that always ensures that the same three virtual machines are created and running on all your retail branch servers.

Note: This functionality is a paid-for add-on subscription.

- Gain better infrastructure insights and reduce downtime with the ability to provision, configure and automate a reliable and easy-to-use monitoring and alerting infrastructure that is built on the next generation Prometheus based monitoring stack. With a single tool, you can now not only deploy, configure and manage your Linux infrastructure, but also monitor the health of that infrastructure.

Note: This functionality is a paid-for add-on subscription.

- Regain control of complex heterogeneous IT environments with extended target OS support that now includes

openSUSE and Ubuntu client management and simplified deployments via a unified installer.

- Reduce complexity with new “Formulas with Forms” capabilities for SAP that allow the easy set-up of SAP HANA nodes and HA cluster configurations (technology preview). Making it easier than ever to implement SAP’s best practices for installing SAP HANA on SUSE Linux Enterprise..
- Simplify operations with an improved content staging UI and APIs that enables SAP customers to easily build patch staging environments for Linux updates that mirror their SAP infrastructure, without the need for custom scripting.

What are the advantages of deploying SUSE Manager for Retail?

From mainframe and HPC clusters, bare metal servers and VMs, down to point of service terminals, kiosks, self-service and reverse-vending systems Linux deployments, SUSE Manager for Retail is designed to help you reduce costs, optimize operations and ensure compliance across your IT infrastructure, while reducing complexity and regaining control.

With SUSE Manager for Retail, you can:

- Centrally create, deploy and maintain images for point of service devices.
- Deploy software updates to the point of service environment. Take advantage of Salt-based configuration management.
- Automate monitoring, tracking and reporting of systems. Utilize stronger security to prevent data loss.
- Maintain compliance in your point of service environment. Search for compliance status of systems regarding specific CVE reports.
- Ensure continuity of business operations in the event of a network outage between the store and a central management location.
- Maintain a fully managed, updated and compliant store environment, with limited load on the available bandwidth between the store and a central management location.

How does SUSE Linux Enterprise Server for Point of Service fit into the picture with SUSE Manager for Retail?

Legacy SUSE Linux Enterprise Server for Point of Service had a three-tiered layered architecture, comprising an Admin server, multiple Branch servers and Point of Service Clients. We have moved away from the image management paradigm in legacy SUSE Linux Enterprise Server for Point of Service to a managed endpoint paradigm with SUSE Manager for Retail.

This implies that the SUSE Linux Enterprise Server for Point of Service Admin and Branch server components have been discontinued and that SUSE Linux Enterprise Server for Point of Service will only refer to point of service clients, which can be built and managed via SUSE Manager for Retail.

What happens to existing SUSE Linux Enterprise Server for Point of Service customers?

All existing SLEPOS customers will be supported, per the support policies highlighted here: [suse.com/lifecycle/](https://www.suse.com/lifecycle/).

Can existing SUSE Linux Enterprise Server for Point of Service customers migrate to SUSE Manager for Retail 4?

Yes. All existing SLEPOS customers can migrate to SUSE Manager for Retail 4, per the migration guidelines found here: <https://www.suse.com/documentation/suse-manager-for-retail/>

Note: In addition to the technical requirements for this migration, you might also need to consider additional commercial requirements. Please contact a SUSE representative for further details.

What are the components of SUSE Manager for Retail?

SUSE Manager for Retail has two main components:
SUSE Manager Server: SUSE Manager server provides the web-based user interface and the connection to SUSE Customer Center. SUSE Manager server enables you to set up a KIWI build host for the creation of operating system images for the point

of service infrastructure. The server captures and maintains data for the managed devices and provides comprehensive lifecycle management functionality, via the user interface and a rich API for automation. You deploy SUSE Manager server behind your company firewall. SUSE Manager server subscriptions are available:

- For environments with up to 50 managed instances .
- For environments with more than 50 managed instances

SUSE Manager for Retail Branch Server:

The branch server is installed in the store environment. It is the technical equivalent of the SUSE Manager proxy server, with enhanced functionality for the retail environment. It lowers bandwidth needs and provides faster local updates for deployments across dispersed geographical locations. The branch server provides the network boot and system management infrastructure for the point of service terminals. It can also serve as a generic system platform for in-store applications such as database systems, as well as a backend for point of service applications.

In your environment, the branch server runs DNS services for the local network. It might also run DHCP to control the network boot process. Conversely, instead of setting up the DHCP service on the branch server, an external DHCP server can be used. It also provides a boot infrastructure for point of service terminals and transfers system images from the SUSE Manager server to the terminals.

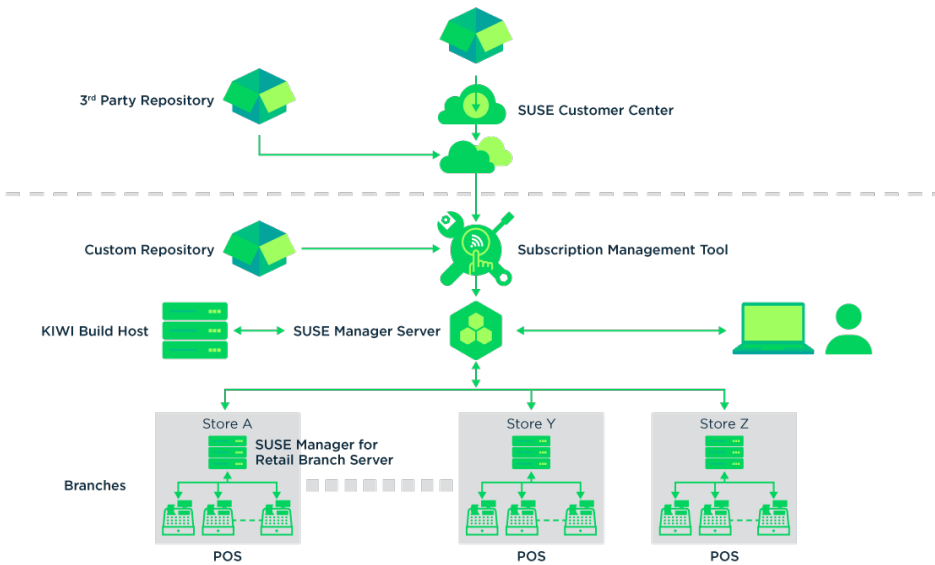
What is the SUSE solution for the retail industry?

SUSE is focused on delivering a comprehensive solution for the management of the point of service environment. With that goal, SUSE offers a combination of:

- SUSE Manager for Retail
- SUSE Linux Enterprise Point of Service Clients

These products come together to enable you to manage the IT infrastructure supporting your point of service environment, from the data center to the end-point devices.

What does the reference architecture look like for the SUSE retail solution?



Contact us at:
www.suse.com

What subscriptions do I need to run this setup?

The following subscription offerings are required to deploy the SUSE retail solution:

- SUSE Manager Server
- SUSE Manager for Retail Branch Server
- SUSE Linux Enterprise Point of Service Clients

Do I need to purchase SUSE Manager Lifecycle Management subscriptions separately for my managed devices?

For environments where SUSE Manager for Retail is deployed to manage the point of service infrastructure, Lifecycle Management for either the branch servers or the end-point client devices need not be purchased separately.

Where can I get more information?

For more information about SUSE Manager for Retail, please visit suse.com/products/suse-manager-retail/.

For information on how to install and configure SUSE Manager for Retail, please visit suse.com/documentation/suse-manager-for-retail.