IBM Cúram Social Program Management V8.0.0

Deep Dive: Microsoft Word Integration Improvements

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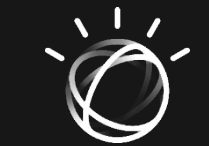
Agenda

- Problem Background
- Solution Details
  - Support added for the Microsoft Edge browser
  - Installation and troubleshooting functionality improved
  - Updates to supported versions of Microsoft Word and the included version of the JACOB library
- Where to Find More Information



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Problem Background

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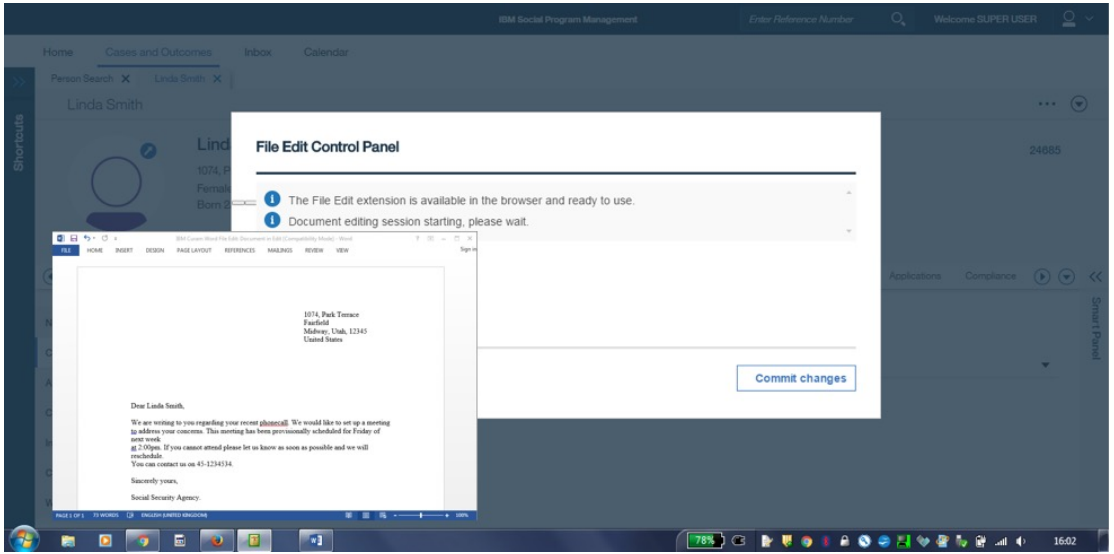
- Users can edit Microsoft Word documents locally and then save them to the SPM database or a content management system.

- Before V8.0.0, there were two Microsoft Word integration solutions: one for Internet Explorer and another for Chrome browsers.



- The solution for Internet Explorer needed to be changed for the following two reasons:
  - The deprecation and subsequent removal of applet technology by Oracle
  - Microsoft's advice to move from Internet Explorer to Edge, which is based on Chromium

- Feedback from customers and IBM Support also highlighted the need to simplify the installation and troubleshooting of the solution.

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Solution Details

Support Added for the Microsoft Edge Browser

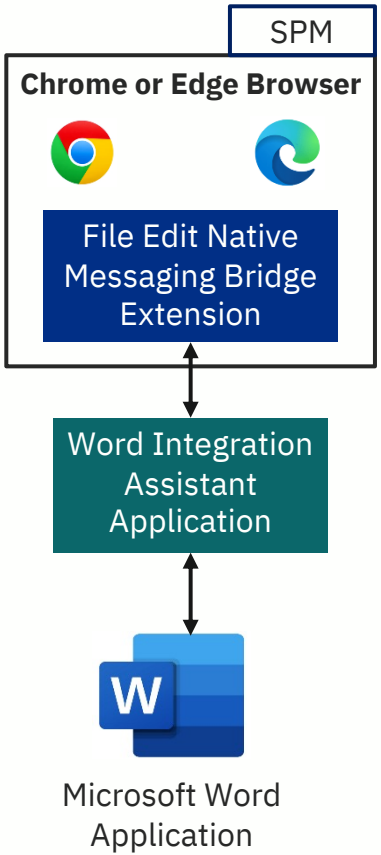
- The native messaging implementation for Chrome was extended in V8.0.0 to support Microsoft Edge based on Chromium.

- The implementation consists of the following components:
  - A browser extension – File Edit Native Messaging Bridge
  - A native messaging application on the client – Word Integration Assistant

- File Edit Native Messaging Bridge
  - The new version of this extension can be installed on Google Chrome or Microsoft Edge browsers.
  - You can get the new version from the Chrome Web Store.

- Word Integration Assistant
  - Install on client machines by using the installer distributed with the CDEJ.
  - Requires a JRE to be installed on the client.

- The server-side JSP was also updated to include support for the Edge browser based on Chromium.



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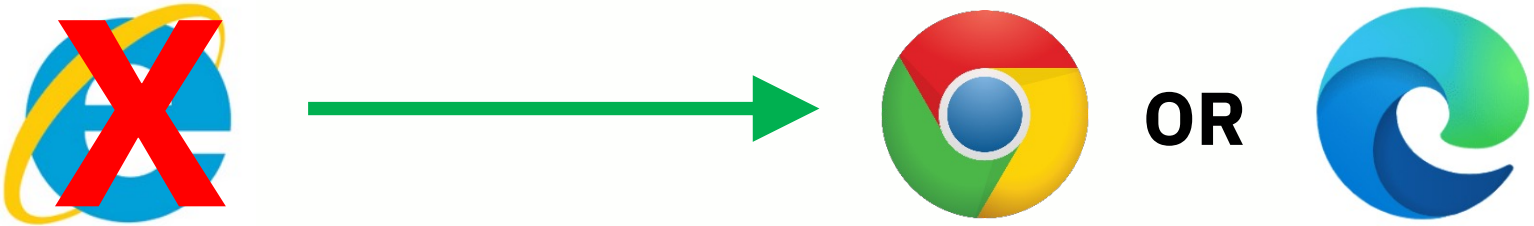
Removal of Support for Internet Explorer

- The Java applet implementation for Internet Explorer 11 is removed in V8.0.0.



- Customers currently using Internet Explorer 11 with the Java applet to edit Microsoft Word communications in SPM should instead use either Google Chrome or Microsoft Edge with the native messaging implementation.

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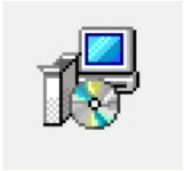
Installation and Troubleshooting Functionality Improved

- The Word Integration Assistant in V8.0.0 includes new features that improve installation and troubleshooting.



IBMCúramWordIntegrationAssistant.msi

- There are several changes to the Word Integration Assistant MSI installer:
  - Check prerequisites
  - Configure the location of the installation
  - Specify which JRE on the client machine is used to launch the Assistant application
  - New environment variables to enable post-install configuration
  - Support for per-machine installation and per-user installation
  - Restructured installation layout

- Troubleshooting Scripts
  - A Must Gather batch script examines the client machine configuration to detect problems that could prevent the Word Integration Assistant from working correctly.

- Note that you can install the Word Integration Assistant by running either a full user interface installation, or a silent installation.

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Updates to Supported Versions of Microsoft Word and the Included Version of the JACOB Library

- The following changes have been made to the Microsoft Word version support for V8.0.0:
  - Support for Microsoft Word 2010 and future fix packs has been dropped. Official support for this version of MS Word has been dropped by Microsoft.
  - Support for Microsoft Word 2019 and future fix packs has been added.

- This means that the Microsoft Word versions supported are as follows:
  - 2013 and future fix packs
  - 2016 and future fix packs
  - 2019 and future fix packs

- JACOB Library
  - JACOB allows Java applications, such as the Word Integration Assistant, to communicate with Microsoft Windows DLLs or COM libraries.
  - The Word Integration Assistant in v8.0.0 includes JACOB 1.20.
  - JACOB 1.20 contains some bug fixes and several other improvements.

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Where to Find More Information

- IBM Documentation
  - What's New in IBM Cúram Social Program Management 8.0.0 - Improved Word Integration Assistant

- Release Notes
  - 258119 – Extend existing Word Integration solution to work with Edge Chromium
  - 268779 – Microsoft Word Integration Assistant Enhancements
  - 259418 – Support for the Microsoft Word Integration applet solution has been dropped
  - 264299 – Updates to the versions of MS Word supported for the Microsoft Word Integration feature
  - 254545 – Update the version of JACOB used in Social Program Management from 1.15-M4 to 1.20
  - 271234 – Issue when attempting to open documents for editing using the Microsoft Word integration feature through Google Chrome
  - 270345 – Incorrect severity of messages when creating documents using Microsoft Word templates
  - 270344 – Commit changes button on the File Edit Control Panel always looks enabled
  - 270272 – File Edit Control Panel says the File Edit Extension is available in browser when it is not

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Train

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