

# Licence Management Solution Review

Technical Report



## Lanboss Software Limited

### Licence Management Solution Review - Technical Report

**Evaluation Date:** August 2009

**Company Name:** Lanboss Software Limited

**Address:** Carlyle House  
Ramsdell Road  
Monk Sherborne  
Tadley  
Hampshire  
RG26 5HS

**Contact No.** 0845 2651265

**Contact Email:** [sales@lanboss.com](mailto:sales@lanboss.com)

**Name of Software:** Lanboss Workstation Auditor/Lanboss Workstation Manager

**Version:** Version 4.2.2

**Website:** [www.lanboss.com](http://www.lanboss.com)

#### How the tests are conducted:

The tool evaluations have been conducted using Windows 2000, Windows 2003 or Windows XP for the management console element. The vendor preferred OS for the database and backend server is also selected for the review. Functional testing has been conducted across the Microsoft Windows family of operating systems and where Linux is supported OpenSUSE has been used for testing. The testing takes place on a dedicated hardware environment and where VMWARE or Microsoft Virtual Terminal functionality is supported this is tested if time permits.

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## Installation Requirements

Operating System	Lanboss Workstation Manager Windows 2000/2003/2008 Client: 2000, XP, 32 and 64 bit Microsoft .NET Framework v 2.0 (not necessary)
Processor	INTEL/AMD
Memory	1024MB upwards
Storage	1GB Minimum
Display	1024x768
Network	Ethernet card
Database Required	No, SQL server included with product
Administration Client	YES
Local Client	YES

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**Product review - Testing Schedule - Lanboss V4.2.2**  
**Vendor claimed functionality**

	YES or NO (..notes)
<b>Software Discovery</b> The software will discover all installed software	YES
<b>Software Usage Metering</b> The tool can measure software usage at either machine or user level	YES
<b>Hardware Discovery</b> The software will discover hardware information	YES
<b>Network Device discovery</b> The tool can discover all networked devices including routers, printers, laptops, workstations, servers etc	Laptops and Desktop PCs, Printers, IP Phones, Servers
<b>Smartphone / PDA support</b> Can the tool automatically manage smart devices	NO
<b>Asset Management</b> The product will hold an asset register on all hardware and software.	YES
<b>Network Management</b> The software can complete network functions such as the remote install and uninstall of other software products	YES
<b>Licence Management</b> The software can store software licence information.	YES
<b>Reconciliation Management</b> The software can reconcile installed software to licences.	YES

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Documentation/Evaluation		
Is there an evaluation download, user manual, document available?	NO	Evaluation of the Lanboss products appears to be via qualified lead only There is an eval license, Audit itself is free and there is a full installation guide available.
How is the solution shipped?	CD/DVD/ONLINE	(Evaluations are shipped out on CD or online, and trial keys are sent via email, after qualification.)
Did you have to read to documentation at any point?	NO	Simple and effective installation routine
If so, what did you use it for, and did it meet your needs satisfactorily	YES	
Installation Experience		
Answer		Notes
How long did it take to install Control Center / Server (combined time if separate components)?	15 minutes	Slick, simple and intuitive.
What are the SW & HW requirements (server, Microsoft components like .net)?	Windows 2K servers and upwards	No pre-requisites
Ease of install - intuitive, wizards etc.	EASY	
Were there any 3rd party components installed?	YES	Comes with its own 3rd party database
Are there any restrictions on hardware / OS etc?	YES	See requirements for minimum specifications



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What is the total install time?	45 minutes	Including one client
Was there anything unusual / unexpected about the installation?	YES	Due to a workgroup PC being used it took longer than usual to install a client. Superb support from Lanboss helped through the process.
<b>Agent deployment</b>	<b>Answer</b>	<b>Notes</b>
What are the methods for agent deployment (push (direct connect), email, others etc)?	Push/Script	The system can be deployed from the Lanboss console, using scripts or discovery/push system, self fulfillment through delivery web page, DHCP tracked installation.
What other platforms is there an agent for (e.g. NT4, 2000, 2003, XP non NT based etc.)?	MS	Windows OS's only currently
Time to deploy to 1, 10 and 50 PCs?	Approx 5 minutes per PC	This can be staggered at login time or overnight. (Using Active Directory Group Policy Deployment devices can be installed concurrently. The client agent installation takes less than a minute.)
Size of initial deployment per PC (and extrapolated to assess bandwidth overhead for 500 PC network)	<1MB	Good, small deployment payload, additional client modules and functionalities are added by license on demand.
Any interruption to user experience?	NO	Silent installer
Requires reboot before full functionality is achieved?	NO	
Installation status report, so you can be re-assured that all PCs are covered?	YES	This can be checked via the Lanboss agent distributor component.

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Information Collection capabilities What media is supported?	Network / Removable media	Uses network for data gathering
<b>Creating User Groups</b>	<b>Answer</b>	<b>Notes</b>
How easy is it to select users from existing AD / NT Domains?	Users can be extracted from the AD	The Discovery component can interface to the AD store and pull back machine information.
Does solution support local users (not in Group, only registered on local machine)?	YES	System can be configured with user/device combination rules
Does solution support NDS or LDAP work stations?	YES	
Overall experience	GOOD	Easily integrates with MS domain services.
Does solution allow you to control policy based on user and a specific machine?	YES	
<b>Defining a policy/Setup/Usage</b>	<b>Answer</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Time to create simple one user / AD user group policy	N/A	
Does the product incorporate software metering?	YES	Powerful system allows custom controls to be setup for virtually any executable piece of code that may run on a client PC
Does the product track the use of applications?	YES	

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Does the product track the use of executables?	YES	
Does the product track the use of other files?	NO	Can track any file type. Other files can be tracked with optional modules available from Lanboss.
Can overuse of licences be prevented?	YES	Through either real-time control or the monitoring process.
Can users be asked to quit an unused application?	YES	Excellent functionality here and it shows it's been well thought through.
Policy creation experience	GOOD	
Can policy changes be instantly applied?	YES	
Is policy update automated or manual?	YES	The client agent checks for updates to the policy configuration at time of inventory upload.
Policy status report? Do all PCs have the latest policy?	YES	Distributor component can advise on machines not running the agent
<b>Administration / Inventory</b>	<b>Answer</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Are policy updates distributed automatically to PCs (check different OS and network setups)?	YES	(Schedules and file exclusions are configurable in the interface and are distributed automatically to the clients.)
If yes, is there an update schedule and is it configurable?	YES	Schedule can be controlled via the console.
What is the typical size of a policy update per PC?	5-12k	Small payload for the client.



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Can solution support offline user exemptions or non networked devices? If yes how?	YES	Each client has its own mini-database providing excellent offline cover and monitoring.
Does the product maintain itself, i.e. Auto update Agents?	YES	Console is able to force a sync of all devices with new config/client files. Agent is 100% auto healing and has tamper proof technologies built in.
SNMP MIB browsing support?	NO	
Does the tool leave client files on the devices?	YES	Small payload agent software. The local DB files can grow, especially when file scanning, suggest 20MB for a typical workstation.
Can the tool audit a single device on demand?	YES	Via the Distributor component.
Can the tool audit a defined group of devices on demand?	YES	
Can the tool do delta audits (changes only)?	NO	Penned for a future release.
<b>Licensing &amp; Reconciliation</b>	<b>Answer</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Can the tool hold licence information?	YES	Through Application Explorer
Can the tool hold licence cost information?	YES	Yes, very copious in this area, a strong point Multiple licenses per application, with different anniversary dates for budgeting.
Can the tool hold Client Access Licence information?	YES	Yes, and can allocate management rules against the information in real-time.



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Can the tool hold invoice information?	YES	Reconciles licenses to invoice numbers Multiple licenses per application, with different anniversary dates for budgeting.
Can the tool hold contract information?	YES	
Can the tool reconcile licences to discovered software?	YES	Shows differentials and financial discrepancies too.
<b>Security</b>	<b>Answer</b>	<b>Notes</b>
If user has local admin rights, can agent be modified / deleted / deactivated? (is it easy to identify the service in task manager)	NO	Very secure with bi-directional referencing in memory of components.
Does the agent appear in add remove programs dialog?	YES	But you can't uninstall without permission at the Proxy.
Does the admin console have Username and Password protection?	YES	Has its own strong login process, one of the few that does.
Does the admin console have user profiling; i.e. Only specific people can amend policies, but everyone can view logs?	YES	Very capable in this area.
Can the client process be killed to bypass policy security?	NO	Excellent

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Hardware Inventory	Answer	Notes
Does the tool utilise WMI information?	YES	The product has excellent, clear reporting on this information
Does the tool utilise SM Bios information?	YES	
Does the tool utilise DMI information?	YES	
Does the tool collect Manufacturer detail?	YES	
Does the tool collect the model number?	YES	
Can the tool identify the processor?	YES	
Can the tool identify the processor speed?	YES	
Can the tool identify the hard drive capacity?	YES	At partition level, for all partition types (including Linux), not just windows volumes.
Can the tool identify the remaining hard drive capacity?	YES	
Can the tool identify installed cards?	YES	
Can the tool identify devices connected via the serial port?	NO	Interrogates all known ports, but cannot detect the devices themselves.

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Can the tool identify devices connected via the USB port?	YES	Hard disk drives for example and other USB devices. With the use of the removable device option the system can control them too.
Can the tool identify devices connected via the parallel port?	YES	
Can the tool identify devices connected via a firewire?	YES	Hard disk drives for example including other firewire device types, cameras for example.
Can the tool identify the LAN address?	YES	MAC Address
Can the tool identify the IP address?	YES	
<b>Software Identification</b>	<b>Answer</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Does the tool have an internal software recognition library?	YES	Software recognition of executables and other files.
Can the library be updated by the end user?	YES	
Does the publisher/reseller supply updates to the library?	YES	
Does the tool supply paths for discovered files?	YES	
Does the tool discover unrecognised executables?	NO	Penned for the next version
Does the tool identify software suites?	YES	

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Does the tool scan MSI packages for recognition purposes?	NO	
Does the tool collect Product ID or GUID ID for installed applications?	YES	Collects Microsoft Product IDs
Can it determine parent/child relationships within suites?	YES	
Can the tool discover renamed executables?	NO	Penned for the next version
Can the tool discover hidden executables?	YES	
Can the tool discover compressed executables (e.g. Zipped)?	YES	
Does the tool report on unrecognised executables?	NO	
Can the tool show when a file was last accessed?	YES	
What files types are identified out of the box?	ALL	File type decoders include interrogation of MP3, JPEG, Version Info for all applicable types including Fonts etc
Is File Size reported for all file types?	YES	
Is the full path for all file types reported?	YES	



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Audit/Reporting	Answer	Notes
Are policy changes logged?	NO	
Are deployment changes logged?	YES	
Are temporary exceptions logged?	NO	
Does solution report on unauthorized connections?	NO	There is DHCP tracking so that MAC addresses can be tracked but this does not provide the functionality fully.
Does solution log file transfer movements?	NO	Penned for the next version
Is there a reporting function?	YES	
Does the reporting function contain sample reports?	YES	120 or so
Are these reports customisable?	YES	Powerful scripting language allows virtually limitless reporting combinations.
Can additional reports be created?	YES	
Can asset information be imported?	YES	
Can asset information be exported?	YES	

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Can license information be imported automatically	YES	From various sources and data structure types
Can consumption reports be imported automatically(Microsoft Claret report)	NO	
Does the tool use a third party reporting tool	NO	
<b>Pricing</b>	<b>Answer</b>	<b>Notes</b>
What are the pricing bands for the product?	YES	
How much does it cost to include maintenance/support?	First year included in full license purchase, 2nd year onward is 33% for full maintenance and upgrade protection	
Are there educational price bands?	Yes	It is also worth mentioning that the products are priced per workstation, not per user, which is particularly important to education clients
Is there a bundling price with other products?	No, but periodic promotions are available	

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Support		
Is the product supported directly or via a channel?	Both	
Are there escalation procedures?	Yes	Via channel if purchased this way.
What does it cost?	Email - always free, telephonic and remote KVM per incident	
Is it included with the software maintenance fees?	First 90 days included, thereafter per incident as above	

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## SCREENSHOTS

### HOME

The screenshot displays the Lanboss Console interface, version v4.2.2.1476 [10.0.0.59 - ProxyLocal] Admin. The interface is divided into several sections:

- System Statistics:** A pie chart titled "Total Objects" showing the distribution of objects by type. The legend includes: Engine (yellow), Live Monitor (blue), Machine (purple), Proxy (green), and User (red).
- Registered Objects:** A list of objects categorized by type. The categories and their sub-items are:
  - Live Monitor: GOLEM2003, OBELIX
  - Machine: OBELIX, OBELIX
  - Proxy: Lanboss Site
  - User: Tony
- System Summaries:** A section for viewing summaries, currently showing "1010 - CPU Speed Summary". It includes a "Summary Graph" and "Summary Details" tabs.
- Object Notifications:** A table for displaying notifications. The table has columns for Active, Type, Object Name, Category, Last Seen, and Description. The table is currently empty, showing "<No data to display>".

The interface also includes a navigation menu at the top with options like Information, Security & Monitoring, Manage & Migrate, Reporting, and Global Settings. The bottom of the screenshot shows the Windows taskbar with the Start button, several open applications, and the system clock showing 5:27 PM.



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## PC HARDWARE DETAIL

The screenshot displays the Lanboss Console interface for a machine named "OBELIX". The console title bar reads "Lanboss Console - v4.2.2.1476 [10.0.0.59 - ProxyLocal] Admin". The main window is divided into several sections:

- Navigation:** Home, Objects Details (selected), Advanced Search, Health Check, Snippets.
- Object Information:** Object Name: OBELIX, Last Updated: 8/11/2009 4:36:40 P, Default User: Tony. Description: EVGA nForce 750i SLI, Intel Core 2 Quad Q6600 2.40GHz, 4096MB RAM, 2632GB HDD on 4 Drives, NVIDIA GeForce 8800 GTX 768MB RAM, Windows XP Professional.
- Hardware Detail Section:**
  - General:** Physical Total: 3072 MBytes, Memory utilization: 83% (indicated by a green progress bar).
  - Processor:** Physical Free: 516 MBytes.
  - Memory:** Page File Total: 4958 MBytes, Virtual Total: 2048 MBytes.
  - Disk Drives:** Page File Free: 3694 MBytes, Virtual Free: 2012 MBytes.
  - Video:** Drag a column header here to group by that column.
  - Power:** (Empty section)
  - Devices:** A table listing memory banks.
- Comments:** A table with columns: Created, User, Subject, Notes. It currently shows "<No data to display>".

The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the Start button, several open applications including "Lanboss Console - Ad..." and "Lanboss Distribution Man...", and the system tray with the time 5:28 PM.

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## APPLICATION EXPLORER

The screenshot displays the Lanboss Console interface, specifically the 'Application Explorer' section. The window title is 'Lanboss Console - v4.2.2.1476 [10.0.0.59 - ProxyLocal] Admin'. The interface includes a navigation menu with options like 'Home', 'Manage UNC References', 'Application Explorer', 'Manage Tasks', 'Scripted Tasks', and 'Snippets'. The main area shows a tree view on the left with categories like 'Operating System', 'Utility Software', 'Networking', 'Media', 'Office Automation', 'Microsoft Office', 'Microsoft Specialised Tools', 'Microsoft Works', 'Lotus', 'Other Office', 'Document Management', 'General Applications', 'Learning Products', 'CRM Systems', 'Graphic / CAD / CAM / DTP', 'Business Systems', 'In-House Development', 'Malware', 'Trash Files', 'Unassigned Executables', 'Unassigned Software', and 'Work in Progress'. The right pane shows a table of applications with columns for Title, Categorized As, Tag, EXE Cou, Ins Cou, Total Cou, Lic Count, Total Cost, and Deficit. Below the table are sections for 'Application Details', 'License Details', and 'Graphic'. The 'License Details' section shows 'Add License' and 'Delete License' buttons. The 'Graphic' section has a form with fields for Application Title, Product Name, License Type, Quantity, Cost Each, Order No., Invoice No., Maint. Date, Maint. Cost, Purchase Date, and Purchased From. The status bar at the bottom indicates 'Records: 13' and 'Fast Report: 1030-12 - Used Applications Detail'.

Title	Categorized As	Tag	EXE Cou	Ins Cou	Total Cou	Lic Count	Total Cost	Deficit
MICROSOFT OFFICE ACCESS MUI (ENGLISH) 2007	Automatic					1	0	
MICROSOFT OFFICE ACCESS SETUP METADATA MUI (ENGLISH) 2007	Automatic					1	0	
MICROSOFT OFFICE ENTERPRISE 2007	Automatic					2	0	
MICROSOFT OFFICE EXCEL MUI (ENGLISH) 2007	Automatic					1	0	
MICROSOFT OFFICE OUTLOOK MUI (ENGLISH) 2007	Automatic					1	0	
MICROSOFT OFFICE POWERPOINT MUI (ENGLISH) 2007	Automatic					1	0	
MICROSOFT OFFICE PROOF (ENGLISH) 2007	Automatic					1	0	
MICROSOFT OFFICE PROOF (FRENCH) 2007	Automatic					1	0	
MICROSOFT OFFICE PROOF (SPANISH) 2007	Automatic					1	0	
MICROSOFT OFFICE PROOFING (ENGLISH) 2007	Automatic					1	0	
MICROSOFT OFFICE SHARED MUI (ENGLISH) 2007	Automatic					1	0	
MICROSOFT OFFICE SHARED SETUP METADATA MUI (ENGLISH) 2007	Automatic					1	0	
MICROSOFT OFFICE WORD MUI (ENGLISH) 2007	Automatic					1	0	

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## APPLICATIONS RUNNING

A screenshot of the Lanboss Console interface. The window title is "Lanboss Console - v4.2.2.1476 [10.0.0.59 - ProxyLocal] Admin". The interface includes a navigation menu with "Information", "Security & Monitoring", "Manage & Migrate", "Reporting", and "Global Settings". Below this are icons for "Home", "Objects Details", "Advanced Search", "Health Check", and "Snippets". The main area shows a tree view on the left with "Machine", "OBELIX", "Proxy", and "User" categories. The "User" category is expanded to show "Tony". The main pane displays "Running Applications" for user Tony, with a table listing applications and their details.

Path	Name	Title	Last Run	Used By	Machine	Application Hung
C:\Program Files\GameShadow	GameShadow.exe	GameShadow	8/11/2009 4:17:18 PM	Tony	OBELIX	<input type="checkbox"/>
C:\Program Files\Microsoft Office\Office12	OUTLOOK.EXE	Inbox - Microsoft Outlook	8/11/2009 4:17:18 PM	Tony	OBELIX	<input type="checkbox"/>
C:\Program Files\VMware\VMware Workstation	vmware.exe	Windows Server 2003 Standard Editi	8/11/2009 4:17:18 PM	Tony	OBELIX	<input type="checkbox"/>
C:\WINDOWS	Explorer.EXE	Program Manager	8/11/2009 4:17:18 PM	Tony	OBELIX	<input type="checkbox"/>
C:\WINDOWS\system32	logon.scr	Screen Saver	8/11/2009 4:17:18 PM	Tony	OBELIX	<input type="checkbox"/>

Comments section: Add, Delete, Edit buttons. Below the table is a table with columns: Created, User, Subject, Notes. Below that is the text "<No data to display>".