

Skylar Compliance Release Notes

Version 6.0 Preview

Overview

The Skylar Compliance version 6.0 Preview includes the new Rule Library, a new process to import and update packaged entities into Skylar Compliance, and a new rule creation wizard that replaces the single-page rule builder from previous releases. This release also include a refresh to the Skylar Compliance user interface and an updated v3 API.

The Skylar Compliance 6.0 Preview is available as an opt-in update to your existing appliance, but you will need to request access from ScienceLogic by opening a support case and providing the relevant serial number.

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Key Features

This section covers the major features that were included in this release:

- Added the ***Rule Library*** (Compliance > Device Policies > Rule Library tab), a central repository for creating and managing reusable compliance rules that exist independently of any single policy. Administrators can now link these library rules into multiple policies as live instances, ensuring that updates to a base rule automatically propagate across all referencing policies while still allowing for specific field overrides at the policy level. For more details, see *Additional Features of the Rule Library*.
- Added a set of quality-of-life enhancements to the Skylar Compliance user interface, including clearer error messages, improved rule testing tools, and streamlined policy navigation. These updates also feature enhanced editors and metadata filters designed to reduce day-to-day friction for advanced users. For more details, see *Skylar Compliance Platform Enhancements*.
- Added support for the deployment of packaged compliance rules and policies. This enhancement allows pre-built compliance checks, such as those based on configurations or firmware versions, to be pushed to customer appliances in a manner similar to plugin updates, reducing the time and technical expertise required for users to establish compliance monitoring.
- The v3 API replaces the v2 API. Any request to a v2 API is transparently rewritten to v3, but requests can error if the endpoint has received breaking changes.
- The *Skylar Compliance Manual* was completely reorganized for this release. Chapters were set up based on their location in the Skylar Compliance user interface.

Additional Features

This section covers the other key features that were included in this release.

Additional Features of the Rule Library

- Added a "Make Standalone" feature that lets administrators promote existing inline policy rules to the Rule Library. This conversion process assigns a new UUID to the rule and replaces the inline version with a live library instance, enabling the rule to be reused across other policies.
- Add Rule Categories as global tags for compliance rules, which are used for reporting and the Compliance Hub. You can manage categories on the **[Rule Categories]** tab of the **Device Policies** page, which is visible to users who hold the ModifyRuleCategories permission in the global domain. Users can add, edit and delete their own categories, and export and import them, or they can use the categories created by ScienceLogic.
- Introduced dedicated `rule:view` and `rule:manage` permissions to provide granular access control for the Rule Library. These permissions are domain-scoped, ensuring users can only interact with rules that overlap with their accessible domains.
- Streamlined the creation of inline Scheduled Action Output (SAO) rules by allowing administrators to select a command schedule directly within the policy rule editor. This update removes the need to navigate to Device Control separately to link schedules and includes the ability to create new schedules via a modal overlay.

> **WARNING:** Check the SAO assignments in a policy if that policy had more than one SAO rule.

- You can add multiple test strings with descriptions and expected outcomes (pass/fail) directly within a rule form to streamline the rule development and validation process. This update includes a new [Test Rule] button that lets you test unsaved rule changes against the provided test data, eliminating the need to run rules against live devices during initial configuration.
- Added a line-by-line processing option for Runtime Command outputs in compliance rules. Existing Runtime Commands now include a toggle to enable this behavior, while all newly created Runtime Commands will default to line-by-line processing to ensure consistency with other rule types.
- Add the ability to enable or disable individual rules within active compliance policies and policy instances, which lets you tailor policies to specific network environments. Disabled rules are automatically excluded from compliance score calculations and are not executed during device backup processes.
- You can create multiple instances of a library policy that remain linked to the original source to receive automatic updates while still letting you customize fields such as name, risk alerts, and assigned devices. You can also create a clone of a policy, which creates a new policy from the library one.

Skylar Compliance Platform Enhancements

- Added new subtypes for Phrase and Regex compliance rules, including All (Unordered), All (Ordered), All (Consecutive), All (Consecutive - Once), and Any, to provide more flexible multi-line matching logic without requiring custom Lua scripts. These subtypes allow for precise control over whether required patterns must appear in a specific sequence, consecutively, or anywhere within a configuration file.
- Added advanced filtering options for rules, letting you define specific criteria that must be met before a rule is executed. These filters support Phrase or Regex matching against built-in or user-defined assets, labels, and additional info/infotypes, enabling more granular control over policy application based on dynamic device data.
- Implemented a new storage model for compliance variables that supports a global value alongside per-domain overrides. Variables now resolve dynamically based on the domain of the device being evaluated, ensuring that the correct domain-specific value is applied during rule execution.
- Updated the variables user interface to support the management of global values and per-domain overrides. The Add/Edit dialog now includes a searchable domain picker for repeatable value rows, and the variables list features collapsible rows that display a summary of domain-specific values.
- Added a process to import and update packaged entities into Skylar Compliance. (Jira ID: RES-4511)
- You can import and export Device Control Actions using JSON format. This ensures that rules linked to runtime commands can be successfully shared between appliances by including their associated UUIDs.
- You can also import and export Device Control Schedules using JSON format. This allows users to migrate command schedules between appliances, which is required for maintaining references in policy-assigned library rules.

Domains

- Introduced domain-specific variables and scoped name uniqueness to ensure variables only resolve within their intended domains. This update also includes reference guards that prevent renaming, deleting, or removing values from variables that are currently referenced by active compliance policies.
- Implemented domain-scoped access for compliance variables, allowing delegated administrators to view and edit only the variable overrides within their assigned domains. This update also includes per-domain audit logging for all variable creation, modification, and deletion activities to ensure precise tracking of changes.
- Added domain change validation to prevent actions that would break existing policy references. The system now blocks domain assignment changes for rules, commands, and policies if the resulting state would invalidate a reference, providing clear error messages naming the affected entities.
- Updated the variable CSV import and export functionality to include a Global column and individual columns for each Domain ID. This enhancement allows for the bulk loading and management of variables and their domain-specific overrides.

TIP: To view release notes and manuals for all versions of Skylar Compliance, see the *Skylar Compliance Documentation*.

Known Issues

This release contains the following known issues:

- Network Discovery over IPv6 is not yet implemented. IPv6 devices can only be added manually, via CSV import, or using the API.
- IPv6 will only be supported on appliances based on Oracle Linux 8.
- SNMP settings (Administration > System Settings > SNMP) may need to be reset/updated after upgrading to this release.
- Failed user login attempts on the Slave node don't register correctly on the user login attempts table.
- Failed user login attempts on the Master node sync the login attempt date incorrectly (without the timezone) to the Slave node. The user is then unable to log into the Slave node after a failed login attempt.
- Observed an issue in which Skylar Compliance returned invalid data after a device's plugin type was changed; this was due to the device plugin's inability to permit specific config types used in the newly-changed plugin type's existing schedules.
- Addressed an issue in which the **[Rescan]** button, located on the Devices > Discovery > Devices screen, failed to rescan devices if multiple were selected. The **[Rescan]** button only works correctly for the top-most selected device; this leaves all of the following devices selected to be rescanned and tested one-by-one.
- Asset data does not populate on the **Asset** page of a new device when you perform a GET function, even though logs show a successful return of the fetched value.

Installing or Upgrading Skylar Compliance

For detailed steps about installing or upgrading to this version of Skylar Compliance, see *Installing Skylar Compliance.*

IMPORTANT: You should always upgrade to the most recent release of Skylar Compliance.

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