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# Terminal Server resources are consumed by multiple instances of Symantec Endpoint Protection processes

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#### Question/Issue:

When SEP (Symantec Endpoint Protection) is installed, Citrix and other Terminal Servers slow down or become unresponsive. There may be multiple SEP system tray icons and/or the Task Manager Process List indicates multiple instances of SEP processes.

### Symptoms:

Symptoms include one or more of the following, usually increasing as additional clients log onto a Terminal Server

- High CPU utilization
- Multiple instances of the following processes: SmcGui.exe, ccApp.exe, ProtectionUtilSurrogate.exe (64 bit only)
- Duplicate SEP system tray icons (on the server; see Note in Solution below for duplicate icons on a Terminal Server client)
- Hourglass that won't go away on logged in clients (this was specifically because they don't show the icon as part
  of their policies)

#### Cause

This problem was fixed in Symantec Endpoint Protection 11.0 Maintenance Release 3.

#### Solution:

Upgrade to Symantec Endpoint Protection 11.0 Maintenance Release 3 or newer.

In addition to upgrading, SmcGui must be disabled (to avoid multiple instances of that process and the SEP tray icon) by setting the following DWORD registry value on the Terminal Server:  $HKLM \ SOFTWARE \ Symantec \ Endpoint \ Protection \ SMC \ Launch SmcGui = 0$ 

**Note:** Duplicate SEP system tray icons in the local system tray of a Terminal Server **client** may be the result of a Citrix feature called Seamless Desktop Integration, where server resources are made to appear as if they are running on the client. See Symantec Endpoint Protection: Duplicate system tray icons appear on Terminal Server Client for each connection to a Citrix Server

## **Technical Information:**

If you prevent SmcGui from loading, the following functionality is disabled:

- No SEP icon on the system tray
- $\bullet\,\,$  No ability to open the system logs from the client GUI
- No ability to see the firewall or SNAC status from the GUI (most customers will not install a firewall on their Terminal Server)
- No startup scans
- No delayed threat detection notifications
- No missing or out of date definition notifications

## References

Please see the Symantec Endpoint Protection 11 Terminal Server and Citrix Best Practices White Paper.



SEP\_on\_Terminal\_Servers.pdf

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