

## Oracle Secure Global Desktop: X11 Based Firefox 17 Application Displays as a Very Small Window That Cannot Be Resized [ID 1520595.1]

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### Applies to:

Oracle Secure Global Desktop - Version 4.62 and later  
Information in this document applies to any platform.

### Symptoms

Secure Global Desktop users may report that launches of Mozilla's Firefox browser version 17 from a UNIX or Linux application server may result in a very small application window when using Client Window Management display modality. In this situation, the window size cannot be adjusted or maximized by the user, as there are no window manager controls to allow this.

This behavior is not seen when launching the Firefox application outside of the SGD, via direct application launches from the application server environment. Nor is this behavior seen when using Kiosk or Independent Window display configurations within SGD.

This behavior did not exist in the previous release of Firefox, version 16, and is only known to occur with X11 based instances of Firefox. Firefox applications launched from a Windows application server are not affected.

### Cause

This is a known defect within Mozilla's Firefox browser, specific to Version 17, and described on Mozilla's site: [https://bugzilla.mozilla.org/show\\_bug.cgi?id=813997](https://bugzilla.mozilla.org/show_bug.cgi?id=813997)

Details from Mozilla's site:

A newly introduced "program specified maximum size: 1073741824 by 1073741824" windows size hint (WM\_SIZE\_HINTS) value has been observed when running xprops on the firefox application:

Firefox 16.0.2:

WM\_NORMAL\_HINTS(WM\_SIZE\_HINTS):  
program specified minimum size: 0 by 0

Firefox 17.0.1:

WM\_NORMAL\_HINTS(WM\_SIZE\_HINTS):  
program specified minimum size: 18 by 84  
program specified maximum size: 1073741824 by 1073741824

The newly introduced maximum window size hints reported by Firefox 17 is known to be a problem with non SGD based window managers, such as Sawfish, and it is believed that the geometry value of 1073741824 by 1073741824 exceeds the maximum size that can be addressed by some window managers, resulting in unexpected maximum windows size limits as interpreted by the window manager.

### Solution

### Workarounds

There are multiple workarounds to this identified compatability issue.

- Provision a version of Firefox that does not have this known defect.
  - Version 16, and 18 of Firefox have been tested with SGD and do not exhibit the incorrect sizing behavior seen in Firefox 17.
- If Firefox version 17 is needed for compatability reasons, the administrator may:
  - Configure an alternate display modality to Client Window Management for X11 versions of Firefox, or,
  - Provision Firefox version 17 from an alternate application server platform,s uch as Microsoft Windows

Details of the Firefox specific solution, from Mozilla's site:

Firefox 18 now reports a reasonably reduced maximum window size hint values via xprops that are compatible with the SGD client windows manager:

```
WM_NORMAL_HINTS(WM_SIZE_HINTS):  
  program specified minimum size: 1 by 84  
  program specified maximum size: 32767 by 32767
```

## References

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[NOTE:1270553.1](#) - How to Use the 'tarantella info' Command to Collect Diagnostic Data for Secure Global Desktop