



Microsoft Discontinues Remote Desktop Connection Manager (RDCMan) + Invitation to Try Remote Desktop Manager (RDM)



VULNERABILITY EXISTS IN THE REMOTE DESKTOP CONNECTION MANAGER (RDCMAN) APPLICATION

In March, Microsoft announced that it was discontinuing Remote Desktop Connection Manager (RDCMan) due to a major security flaw ([CVE-2020-0765](#)). Here is the bulletin:

An information disclosure vulnerability exists in the Remote Desktop Connection Manager (RDCMan) application when it improperly parses XML input containing a reference to an external entity. An attacker who successfully exploited this vulnerability could read arbitrary files via an XML external entity (XXE) declaration. To exploit the vulnerability, an attacker could create an RDG file containing specially crafted XML content and convince an authenticated user to open the file.

Here's what [ZDNet](#) said about Microsoft's response to the problem: "Instead of fixing the bug, Microsoft decided to retire RDCMan, seeing no reason to revive an app that received its last update almost six years ago."

Limited Functionality

Even before this major visibility was discovered, many users found RDCMan frustrating and limited. For example, it lacked many of the time-saving integrations available in other (and better) alternatives. Plus, RDCMan only worked in Windows deployments. And overall, RDCMan — even by Microsoft's admission — was always a very basic tool and never designed to handle sophisticated functions like utilizing 2FA, managing privileged accounts, securing sensitive data, generating strong passwords, creating audit logs, and so on.

Step 1: Stop Using RDCMan

If you're a current RDCMan user, then the advice is clear: stop using it. Yes, you and your team may have been using it for years. But now that this bug has been made public, you can be certain that bad actors are mobilizing and will be specifically targeting this vulnerability. Considering the costs of a data breach (and how furious your boss would be), it's not worth the risk.

Step 2: Give Remote Desktop Manager a Try!

If you're looking for a free alternative to RDCMan, then Remote Desktop Manager (RDM) Free could be exactly what you need. RDM Free is designed for individual IT pros, while RDM Enterprise is designed for IT teams (co-located and remote) who need to share remote connections and privileged passwords. Here is a [side-by-side comparison](#) of the two solutions. Also, be assured that RDM Free is not nagware, donationware, or trialware. It's a legitimate, standalone solution for IT pros that is constantly being updated.

Interested in trying RDM, but you don't want to lose your data? Good news! You can import your sessions from an existing application or an existing file format. You can follow this online help right [here](#).



- + New Entry Ins
- Add ▶
- Edit ▶
- Move...
- ✕ Delete Selection (2 Entries)... Ctrl+Del
- ☰ Play List ▶
- Clipboard ▶
- View ▶
- Import ▶
- Export ▶
- ☰ Expand All Ctrl +
- ☰ Collapse All Ctrl -
- ✎ Properties

- 📄 Import (.rdm, .pvm, .xml)... Ctrl+Shift+I
- 📄 Import Computer Wizard...
- 🔄 Import with Network Scan...
- 🔄 Import Spiceworks Wizard...
- 📄 Import Session Csv Wizard...
- 📄 Import Login Csv Wizard...
- 📄 Import Software Serials Csv Wizard...
- Import Sessions From ▶
- Import Logins From ▶
- Import Contacts From ▶

- ★ Bookmarks (web)...
- 📄 ConnectWise Control...
- 📄 CoRD...
- 📄 DameWare Mini Remote Control...
- 🔒 KeePass (link)...
- 🔒 KeePass (.xml)...
- 🔒 KeePass Legacy (.xml)...
- 👤 LogMeIn (Rss)...
- 📄 Microsoft Azure...
- 📄 MobaXterm...
- 📄 MtPutty...
- 📄 mRemote...
- ⋮ Other (Custom) (.csv)...
- 📄 Putty...
- 🔗 PortForward (.csv)...
- 📄 RDTabs...
- 📄 Remote Desktop Connection Manager (.rdg)...
- 📄 RDP Configuration (.rdp)...
- 👤 RoyalTS...
- 📄 SuperPutty (.xml)...
- 📄 TeamViewer Manager...
- 📄 Terminals...
- 📄 visionApp Remote Desktop (.vrd, .vre, .vrb, .rde, .csv)...
- 📄 Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)...

RDM Enterprise

Switching from RDCMan to Remote Desktop Manager (RDM) Enterprise is a significant upgrade in every area. Here is a helpful chart to help you compare the differences.

	 Remote Desktop Manager	 RDCMan
RDP	X	X
Remote Assistant	X	-
ICA	X	-
VNC	X	-
SSH	X	-
Telnet	X	-
Radmin	X	-
Other	LogMeIn, TeamViewer, Dameware, Virtual PC, VMware Server, Hyper-V and many more.	-
IMPORT METHODS		
From Active Directory	X	-
From a text file	X	X
Scanning IP range	X	-
By name range	X	X
From other file formats	.rdp, .vnc, .pvm, .vrd and Office format (doc/x, xls/x, ppt/x, etc)	-
Other Import Sources	LogMeIn, TeamViewer, Dameware, mRemote, RoyalTS, KeePass, VSIONApp, Screenconnect, local subnet and many more	-
ADMINISTRATION TOOLS (TARGETED AT THE REMOTE COMPUTER)		
Computer Management	X	-
Event Viewer	X	-
Registry Editor	X	-
Wake on LAN	X	-
Remote CMD	X	-
iLO integration	X	-
Restart/Shutdown	X	-
SSH file transfert (SFTP)	X	-
Manage user sessions	X	-
Manage file system	X	-
Custom command execution	X	-

For a complete list of features in RDM, please head over [here](#).

Try RDM

We invite you to try RDM Enterprise free for 30 days, and to explore all of its features and functions. Then when your trial period is over, you can either purchase an affordable license (multiple options are available based on your needs), or you can switch over to RDM Free and use it for as long as you wish without paying anything.

Other Alternatives

If RDM (Free or Enterprise) isn't the alternative to RDCMan that you're looking for, then we suggest you head to [AlternativeTo](#), where you'll find profiles and reviews of various remote connection tools.