



baramundi and Intune Co-management

The best of both worlds for hybrid endpoint management

Contents

What is co-management?.....	1
Advantages of co-management:.....	1
The strengths of each solution	2
Strengths of Intune.....	2
Strengths of the baramundi Management Suite.....	3
Practical implementation of co-management	4
Microsoft Intune Connector in baramundi	5
baramundi Management in an existing Intune environment.	6
Bi-directional communication	7
Provisioning new devices	8
Co-management saves time and effort.....	9

What is co-management?

In IT, co-management refers to the concurrent administration of end devices by two or more management systems, usually a hybrid combination of local (on-premises) and cloud-based solutions. In this white paper we'll describe the benefits of combining classic Unified Endpoint Management (UEM) solutions from baramundi and Microsoft's Modern Management tools using Intune.

Advantages of co-management:

Parallel or hybrid operation makes it possible to utilize the strengths of each system in accordance with the "best of breed" principle. This requires both systems to be correctly configured and integrated with each other but provides several advantages:

- **Flexibility:** Companies can test different cloud services without having to change their entire IT infrastructure.
- **Increased security:** The combination of self-hosted on-premises systems and cloud-based administration offers greater protection.
- **Heterogeneous environments:** Hybrid operation allows a significantly wider range of management actions for end devices and operating systems.
- **Redundancy:** Failures in either on-premises or cloud-based systems can be addressed by using the other system. Distribution across multiple systems also strengthens data sovereignty practices.

Microsoft itself recommends co-management to complement Intune:

*"Co-management enables you to concurrently manage Windows 10 or later devices by using [...] [an Endpoint Manager] and Microsoft Intune. It lets you cloud-attach your existing investment [...] by adding new functionality. By using co-management, you have the flexibility to use the technology solution that works best for your organization."*¹

¹ <https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/intune/configmgr/comanage/overview>

The strengths of each solution

Intune and baramundi solutions complement each other with strengths in different areas. IT managers can maximize the benefits of hybrid operation by understanding those differences:

Strengths of Intune

Detailed configuration per policy

Intune enables the distribution of in-depth and comprehensive endpoint configurations via Windows Group Policy without having to rely on scripts.

Access control with conditional access

In the area of compliance, Conditional Access enables very granular settings for user and application access to cloud-based and other company resources. For example, non-compliant end devices can be prevented from accessing the company's network content.

Comprehensive Defender Management

As part of the Windows ecosystem, the Microsoft Defender Suite can be controlled centrally via Intune. By setting policies, IT admins can quickly and reliably ensure that all computers are protected and have the correct configuration.

Simple management of Microsoft Store apps

Intune can be used to centrally distribute apps from the Microsoft Store and keep them up to date. New systems can be set up relatively easily when all of the required applications are available in the Store.

Strengths of the baramundi Management Suite

Operating system installation

The baramundi solution enables easy reinstallation of Windows. Every PC can be rapidly supplied with a fresh version of Windows that's precisely configured to company preferences and policies without the use of complex scripts.

Comprehensive inventory of hardware and software

The baramundi Management Suite excels at automatically generating a highly detailed inventory of all hardware and software that includes but goes far beyond Microsoft products. This enables flexible creation of logical and dynamic groups of endpoints and time-saving automation of management tasks. That capability is especially valuable for providing a precise overview of the status of devices in IoT and OT environments.

Provisioning of a wide range of 3rd-party applications

For organizations using applications not available in the Microsoft Store, baramundi makes it easy to automate distribution of security patches and feature updates for a wide range of 3rd-party apps. baramundi also enables automated distribution of software with highly complex or manual installation methods. To further enhance security and efficiency, baramundi's Managed Software solution offers updates and patches for dozens of 3rd-party applications as tested, ready-to-distribute packages.

Near real-time execution of endpoint tasks

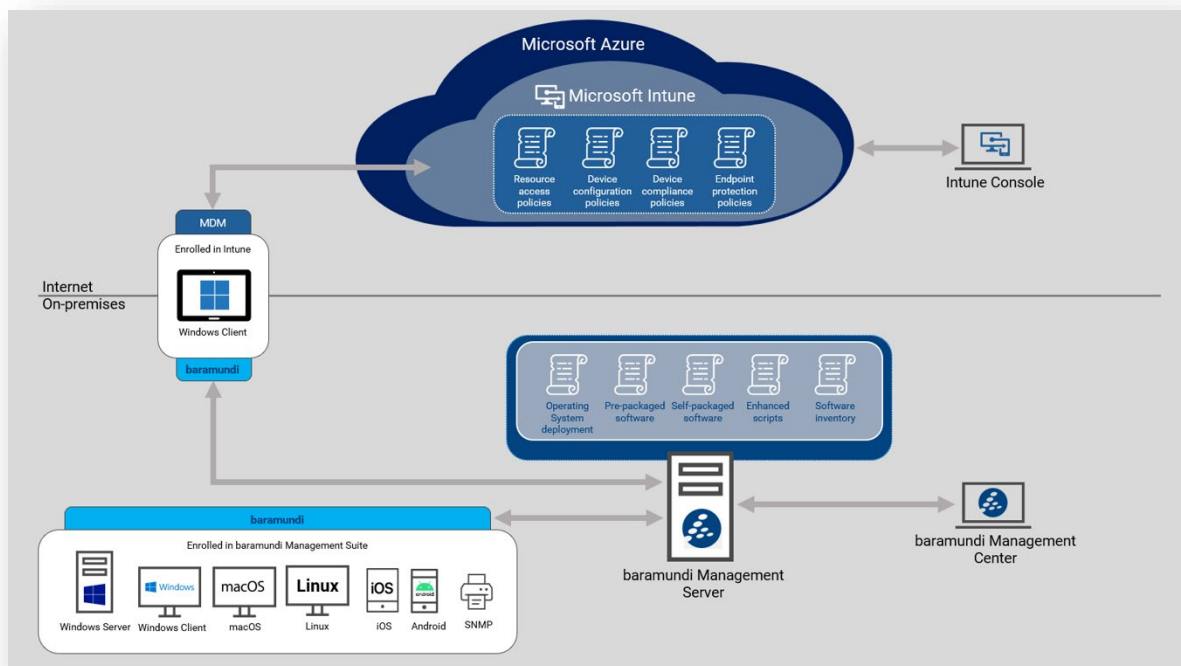
The baramundi Management Suite uses a push process to execute and report the status of endpoint maintenance jobs in near real-time. Instead of having to wait for a job to finish to see its status, baramundi immediately reports when a job has completed successfully or has encountered errors. The baramundi solution also facilitates error analysis to help IT admins take needed corrective actions.

Management of heterogeneous environments

baramundi significantly simplifies management of complex environments with diverse hardware, operating systems and configurations. Heterogeneous systems, legacy applications and Linux software used in IIoT devices also can be securely managed without Entra ID.

Practical implementation of co-management

Windows clients typically are managed via Intune's MDM interface, e.g., to distribute device configuration policies or control the Defender Suite. baramundi, on the other hand, uses the baramundi Management Server for tasks such as distribution of operating systems, automatic updating of IT inventory, or distribution of preconfigured software and packaged updates. baramundi also provides the easiest way to manage Windows servers.



Graphic representation of co-management in practice:

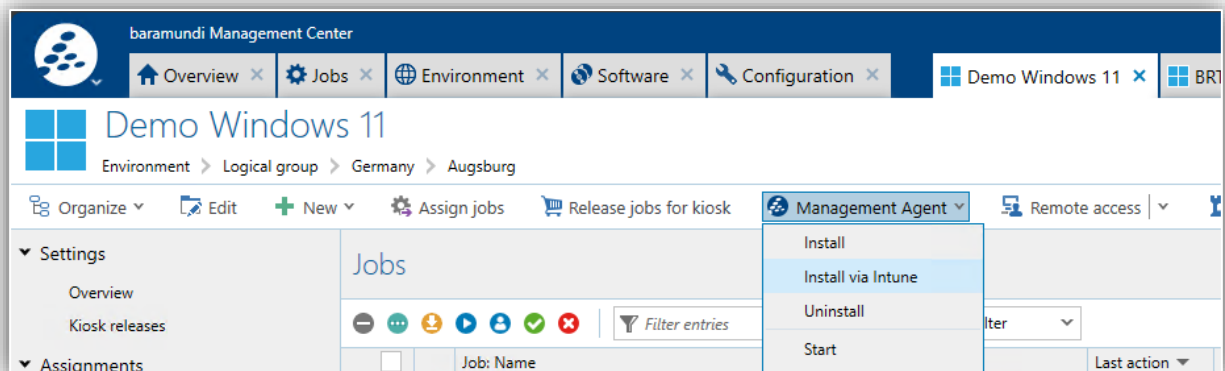
- In the middle is the **boundary between the cloud and the on-premises world**
- **Microsoft** is located in **the cloud with Azure/EntraID and Intune**
- The **baramundi Management Suite** is located **on-prem**
- **Within the border** is a modern **Windows 11 client**, which is managed by both the baramundi Management Suite and Intune
- **Heterogeneous environments** with a wide variety of platforms can be **managed by the baramundi Management Suite**
- baramundi's **intuitive and consistent admin interface** is used for managing all endpoints

Microsoft Intune Connector in baramundi

Setting up co-management via baramundi's own Microsoft Intune Connector is straightforward:

- First, **add your devices** to Intune administration.
- Configure the **automatic synchronization of Microsoft Intune-managed Windows devices** in the baramundi Management Suite.
- Use the "**Management Agent**" action > "**Install via Intune**" to distribute the baramundi Management Agent (bMA) to the devices.
- For additional or more extensive communication with clients after installing the bMA, you can configure an **Internet-Enabled Endpoint Management (IEM)** gateway in the baramundi Management Suite.

Both management systems are then able to access the end devices via the respective gateway and execute tasks or jobs.

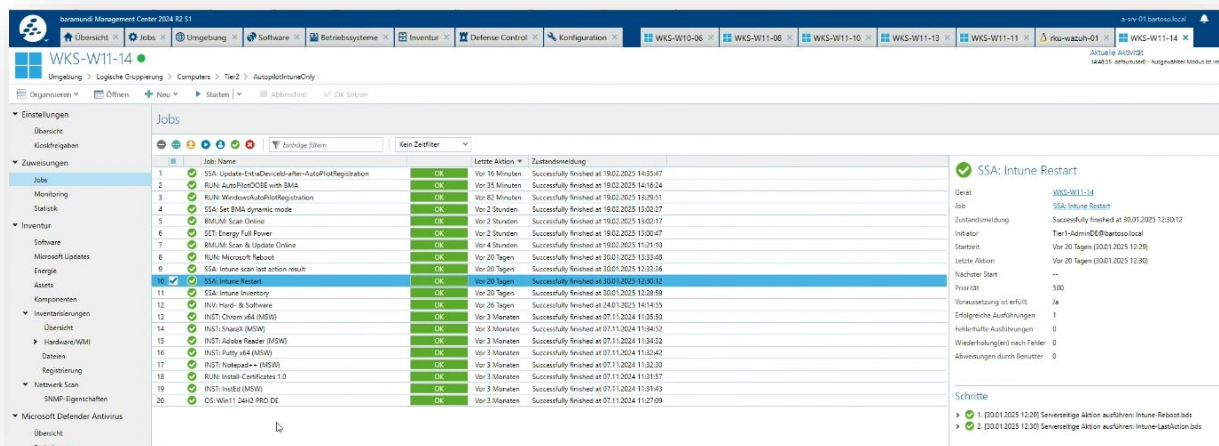


baramundi Management in an existing Intune environment.

IT departments that previously only used Entra/Intune can use the following steps to activate co-management with baramundi for newly added devices:

- **User logs on to Windows**
- **The end device is registered with Entra ID**
- **The end device is now included in Intune management**
- **The baramundi Management Suite synchronizes with the list of end devices from Intune**
- **The baramundi Management Agent is installed via Intune**
- **The end device is now managed by both management solutions**

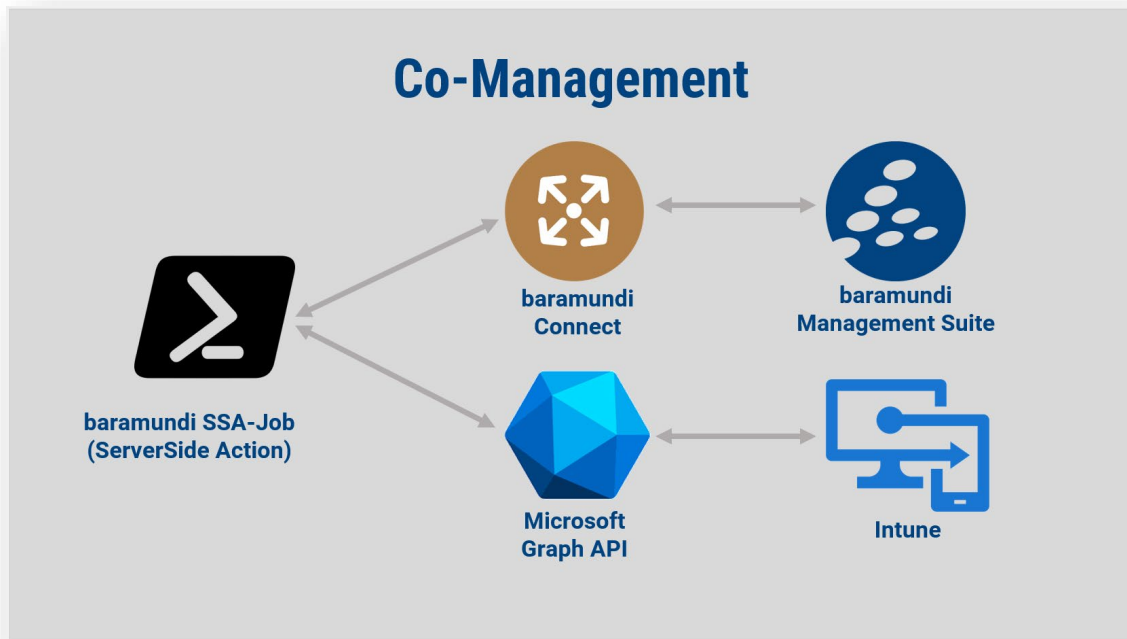
This method ensures that Intune retains access to the Modern Management Interface without creating a conflict with the baramundi Agent.



Please note: If you use Autopilot registration after installing the baramundi Management Agent, the Modern Management interface is occupied by the baramundi Server and prevents co-management with Intune!

Bi-directional communication

baramundi Connect for the Management Suite and Microsoft Graph API for Intune - enable bi-directional communication between the two management solutions:



This means that data from Intune can be accessed in the baramundi Management Suite as well.

Co-management use case: remotely wipe an end device

The co-management setup shows its strengths when it comes to time-critical tasks, e.g., when a lost laptop needs to be wiped as quickly as possible:

- The wipe job is designated as a high priority task in the baramundi Management Suite.
- Using bidirectional communication, the command is executed via Intune (action name: Clean Windows Device) as soon as the device connects to the Internet.
- Completion is reported to the baramundi Management Suite with the next synchronization of the connector

The security risk posed by the lost laptop is quickly neutralized with just one step.

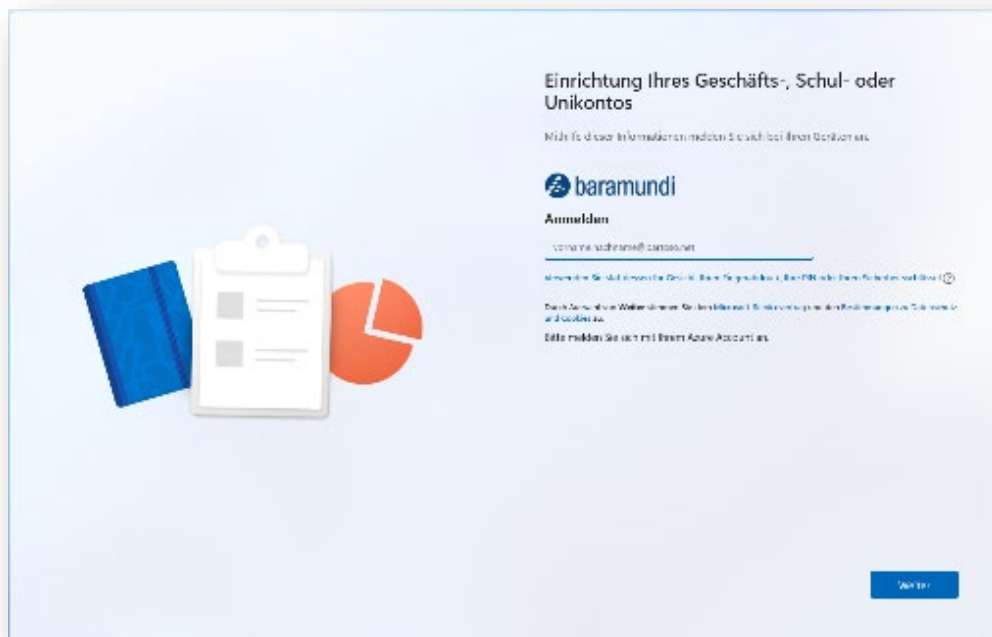
Provisioning new devices

Entra ID/Intune Only – Intune-baramundi Enrollment without local Active Directory

If you want to provide your users devices fully provisioned with software available from the Microsoft Store as well as 3rd-party applications, you can follow this workflow without using the MDM interface.

- **The computers are set up with Windows using baramundi OS Install**
- **Applications, configurations and updates are also distributed via the baramundi Management Suite.**
- **The devices are registered in Autopilot via a baramundi script² and reset to the OOBE state (Out Of Box Experience)**

As a result, the end user receives a fully equipped, co-managed computer with the latest software in OOBE mode.



² This function has not yet been implemented directly in the baramundi Management Suite but is available from baramundi as a consulting service.

Co-management saves time and effort

The strongest argument for co-management with baramundi and Intune is the significant reduction in time and effort needed for endpoint provisioning and maintenance. Used together, the solutions enable you to efficiently and securely:

- manage both systems with just one intuitive and consistent interface
- automate routine tasks
- manage endpoint devices as granularly as you like or need whether they are on-premises or in the cloud
- assign role-based tasks and admin rights only to the extent needed.

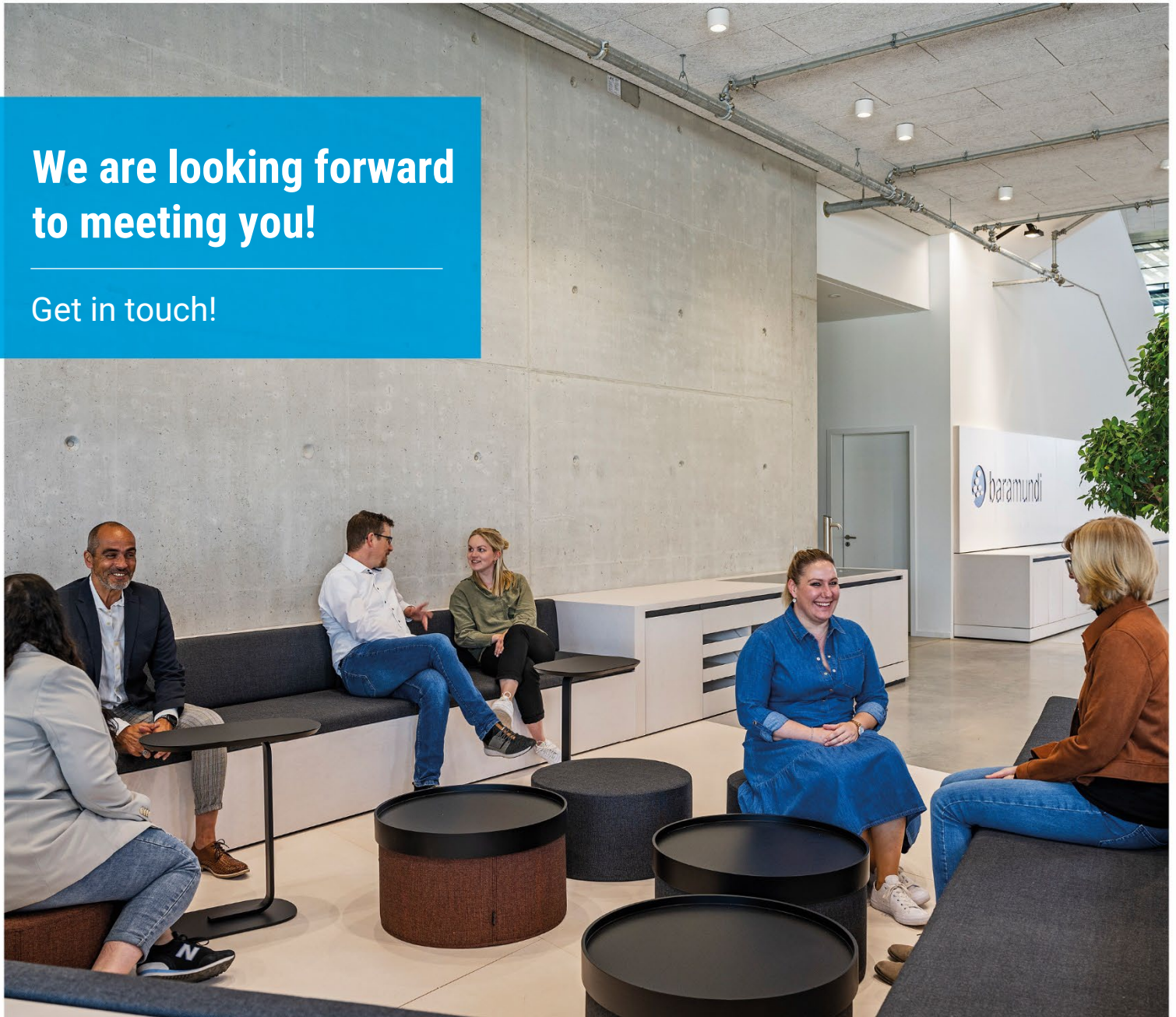
Nearly every organization today works with hybrid on-prem and cloud infrastructures to support mobile and in-office working environments. That means that IT admins need highly flexible tools to manage endpoints securely and efficiently.

The baramundi Management Suite with its comprehensive functions, ease of use and excellent support provides the tools that IT admins need but Intune doesn't have. Co-management gives IT admins a flexible and robust toolset for deploying and managing a wide range of Windows, mobile, Linux and legacy assets. All in all, co-management makes endpoint administration simpler, more efficient and future-proof.

IT teams considering the baramundi Management Suite can request our [free 30-day trial](#) version or a proof of concept deployment on their own network to experience its advantages both with and without Intune.

We are looking forward to meeting you!

Get in touch!



baramundi software GmbH
Forschungsallee 3
86159 Augsburg, Germany

 +49 821 5 67 08 - 380
request@baramundi.com
www.baramundi.com

 +44 2071 93 28 77
request@baramundi.com
www.baramundi.com

 +48 735 91 44 54
request@baramundi.com
www.baramundi.com

 +49 821 5 67 08 - 390
request@baramundi.com
www.baramundi.com

 +43 19 28 01 36 00 10
request@baramundi.com
www.baramundi.com

 +39 340 8861886
request@baramundi.com
www.baramundi.com

 +41 77 280 49 79
request@baramundi.com
www.baramundi.com

baramundi software USA, Inc.
30 Speen St, Suite 501
Framingham, MA 01701, USA

 +1 508-861-7561
requestUSA@baramundi.com
www.baramundi.com