
Software and hardware requirements for GRANTA MI 6.0

Third party software

The general prerequisites for running GRANTA MI are:

- Microsoft Windows Server 2003 or later with all critical Windows updates at time of release
- Microsoft Internet Information Services (IIS)
- Microsoft .NET Framework Runtime v4.0*
- Microsoft SQL Server 2005 or later
- Web Browser (see section below)

The following sections describe the detailed software requirements for running GRANTA MI. Note that the requirements are given per tier, but do not change if the tiers are combined.

Definitions

In this document, configurations are referred to as either **certified** or **supported**. Certified means a full set of functional regression tests have been run on this configuration. Supported means some tests have been run on this configuration, and/or it is a configuration that we would investigate issues in and where possible provide fixes.

Granta's general support policy is to make every effort possible to get the software working in the environment in which it has been deployed, irrespective of whether it has been certified for or tested in that type of environment. However, if a reported issue appears to be due to the environment in which the software is running rather than a fault with the software itself (i.e., the fault cannot be reproduced in a certified environment), then it may not be possible to resolve the issue and any attempt to do so may require extended reciprocal support from the customer's IT organization, and fees may be payable.

Browser support

The software is certified on IE9 with US locale. Other supported browsers are IE7, IE8, IE9, Firefox 15.0.1 and higher, and Google Chrome 21.0.1180 and higher.

* Included in Installation Package

Virtualization

GRANTA MI has been installed on Microsoft Hyper-V 2008 R2, VMWare ESXi v4 and v5 and XenServer v5.6 and v6.0. The virtual environment must be configured to have the same resources available as a typical physical server for running GRANTA MI.

GRANTA MI can also run in Microsoft Virtual PC and VMWare Workstation for limited size pilot projects. It is not certified or tested in other virtualization environments, but is known to run without issue in Amazon EC2.

Database server

The following tables list the combinations of operating system and database server which are certified or supported for the database tier:

Operating System		SQL Server version			
		SQL Server 2012	SQL Server 2008 R2	SQL Server 2008 Express **	SQL Server 2005 SP4
64 bit	Windows Server 2008 R2	Supported	Certified	Supported	Supported
	Windows Server 2008 SP2	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
	Windows Server 2003 SP2	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
	Windows 7 Professional **	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
	Windows 8	Not Supported	Not Supported	Not Supported	Not Supported

Operating System		SQL Server version			
		SQL Server 2012	SQL Server 2008 R2	SQL Server 2008 Express **	SQL Server 2005 SP4
32 bit	Windows Server 2008 SP2	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
	Windows Server 2003 SP2	Supported	Supported	Supported	Certified
	Windows 7 Professional **	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
	Windows 8	Not Supported	Not Supported	Not Supported	Not Supported

** These configurations only supported in trial installations

Application and web servers

The following tables list the operating systems which are certified or supported for hosting the application and/or web tier (i.e., the servers which host MI:Server and/or MI:Viewer):

Operating System		
64 bit	Windows Server 2008 R2	Certified
	Windows Server 2008 SP2	Supported
	Windows Server 2003 SP2	Supported
	Windows 7 Professional **	Supported
	Windows 8	Not Supported

Operating System		
32 bit	Windows Server 2008 SP2	Supported
	Windows Server 2003 SP2	Certified
	Windows 7 Professional **	Supported
	Windows 8	Not Supported

** These configurations only supported in trial installations

Clients

The following tables list the operating systems which are certified or supported for the GRANTA MI client applications:

Operating System		
64 bit	Windows Server 2008 R2	Supported
	Windows Server 2008 SP2	Supported
	Windows Server 2003 SP2	Supported
	Windows 7 Professional	Certified
	Windows XP SP3 Business	Supported
	Windows 8	Not Supported

Operating System		
32 bit	Windows Server 2008 SP2	Supported
	Windows Server 2003 SP2	Supported
	Windows 7 Professional	Certified
	Windows XP SP3 Business	Supported
	Windows 8	Not Supported

Typical hardware requirements

Servers

GRANTA MI is deployed with a wide variety of types of database, user audience, and pattern of use. The hardware requirements listed below are guidelines for a typical small enterprise using a database containing an even proportion of data types, with an even spread of tool usage by users. Other deployments may require more processor speed for the same number of users. Memory requirements too may vary according to the task in hand.

- Processor (per tier): Intel Xeon x3440 2.53 GHz or better
- RAM: 4 - 8 GB

Notes

Processor: The performance of the GRANTA MI application tier scales linearly with processor performance and with concurrent usage: a faster processor will always yield better performance. In configurations where tiers are hosted together, it is recommended (although not required) that each tier be able to use an individual processor or processor core. We recommend using 64 bit processors where databases are large, or where there are many installed databases (more than 10, for example).

The processor listed above is to give a guide for reasonable level of performance; it does not indicate a requirement for brand or architecture, and is not necessarily appropriate for all situations.

RAM: The application tier requires a minimum amount of memory to initialize, the amount of which is strongly dependent on the content of the database(s), and an additional ~30MB per concurrent user. In cases where the amount of memory is limited (e.g. a 32bit or virtual environment) and/or the number and size of databases is large, Granta can estimate the amount of memory required (this will require a detailed analysis of the database structure to be provided to Granta). The web tier requires additional memory (~100-200MB). The database tier benefits from free access to RAM to allow SQL server to optimize data access. We suggest allowing at least 1GB for SQL Server.

Storage: GRANTA MI databases vary in file size from a few hundred megabytes to several gigabytes. Again, size is strongly dependent on content. For a GRANTA MI server machine, 40GB disk space should be regarded as a minimum, a more typical allowance is 200-250GB.

Clients

MI:Viewer clients use a web browser to access GRANTA MI data. There are no particular hardware requirements specific to GRANTA MI for running browsers.

GRANTA MI has rich clients such as MI:Toolbox and MI:Admin. Granta recommends that machines running these clients have at least 2GB of memory. The tools will run with less memory, but may have issues with manipulating large databases.

