Fileset Association types and precedence

There are several ways Filesets may be associated with devices, and the method used will affect activation. This article shares example associations.

> ℹ️ It does not matter if this is an Association or a Deployment. Each client has one manifest and the below rules apply, however the link between Fileset and Client is established.

1:1 Associations

These are direct associations between a Fileset and a device (or clone)

Standard Association

Automatically installed without user intervention

In the above image, one Fileset is associated directly with this device; Type – Standard

Kiosk Associations

User initiated installation from the Kiosk Menu Item or System Tray.
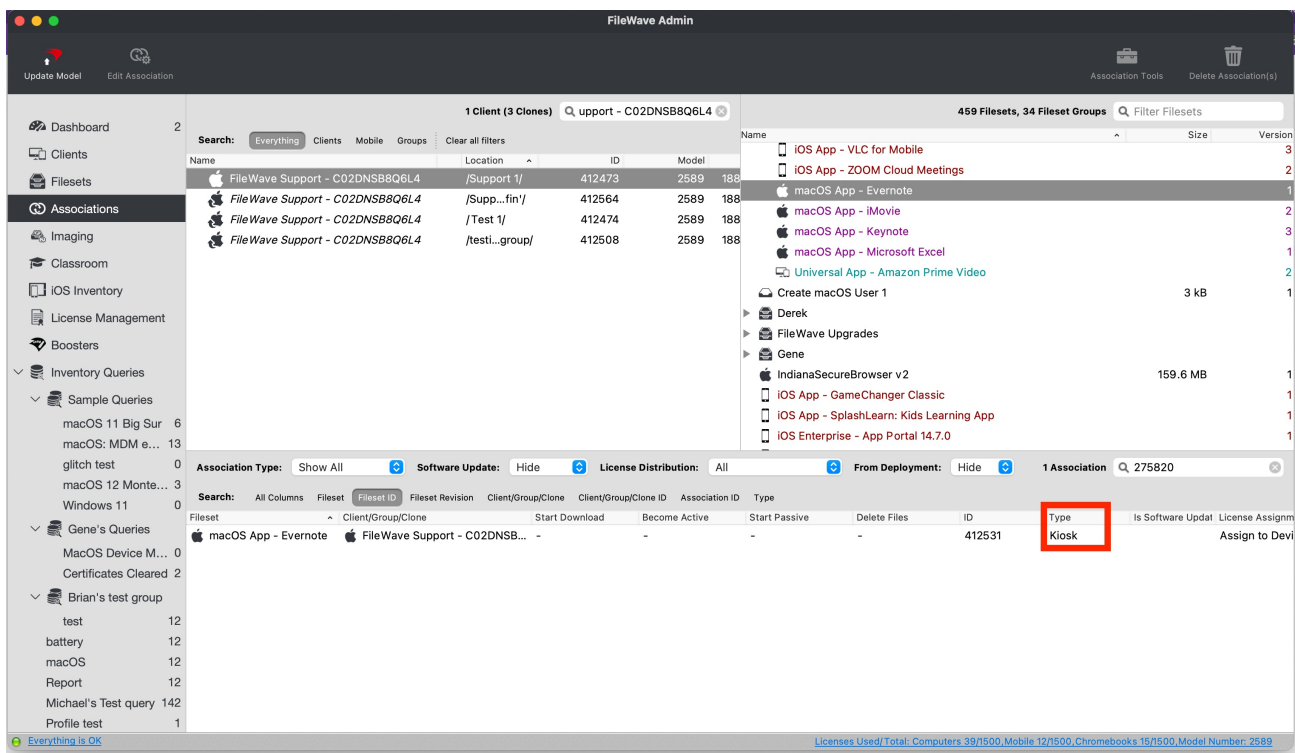
In the above image, one Fileset is associated directly with this device; Type – Kiosk

Group Based Associations

These are associations between a Fileset and a Client Group.

The below image shows the same Fileset associated with two different client groups; one group nested inside another group.
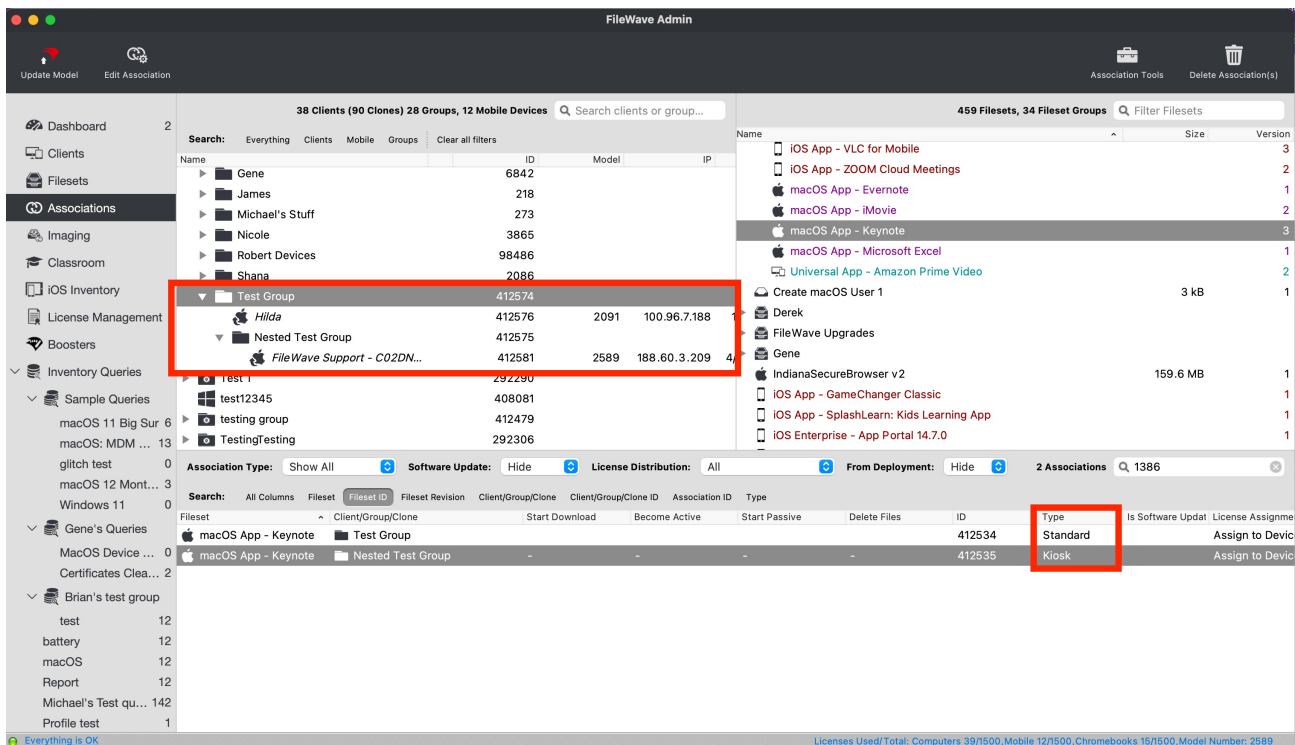
This example demonstrates the Keynote Fileset associated with two Client Groups: Test Group and Nested Test Group.

Expected behavior:

- Client 'Hilda' will install Keynote without user intervention
- Client 'FileWave Support - C02DNSB8Q6L4' will have Keynote available to the user via the Kiosk.

The below image provides another more complex example, with more nested groups.

Excel Fileset is associated with three groups: Test Group, Nested Test Group, and Double Nested Test Group.

Expected behavior:

- Client 'FileWave Support - C02DNSB8Q6L4' will have Excel available via Kiosk.
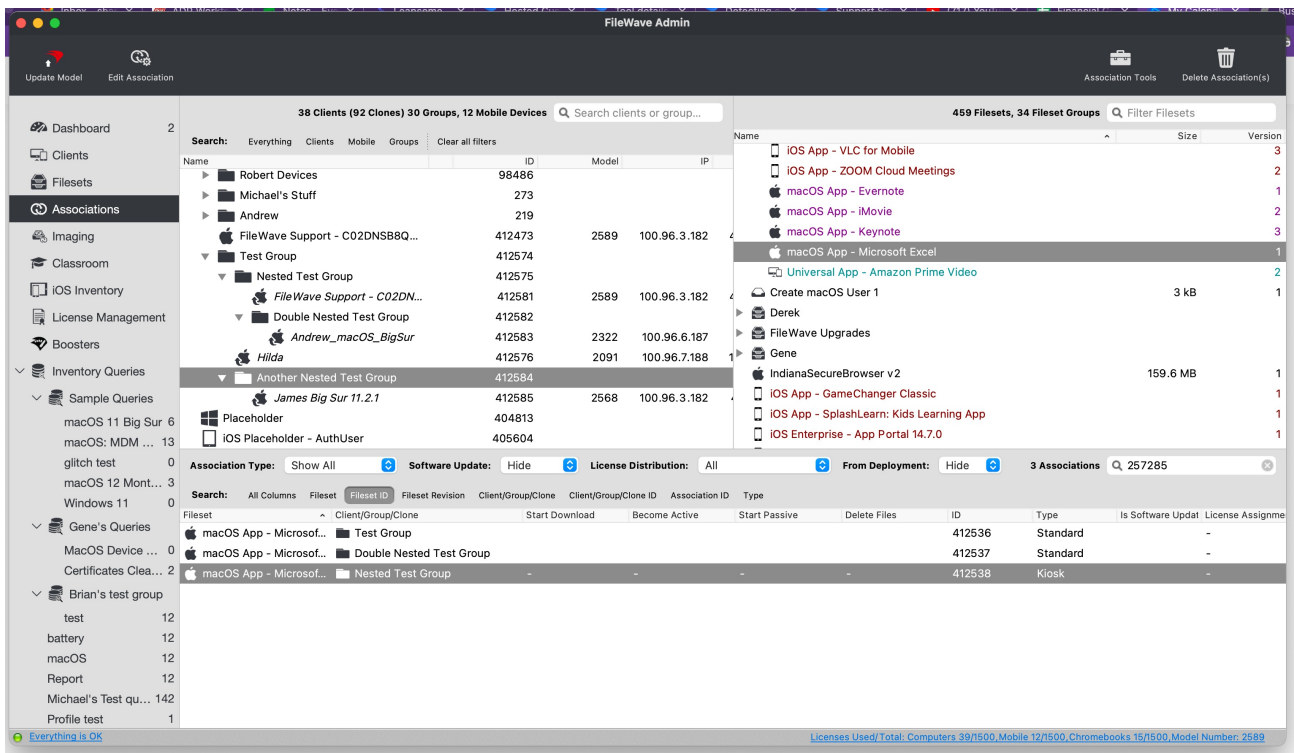- Client 'James Big Sur 11.2.1', 'Andrew_macOS_BigSur' and 'Hilda' will install Excel without user intervention.

Association Distance

Where the same Fileset is associated to a device by more than one path, the device's 'closest' association should win.

- Direct Association to devices is closer than a Direct Association to a Clone
- Association to a parent group is closer than one if its nested groups
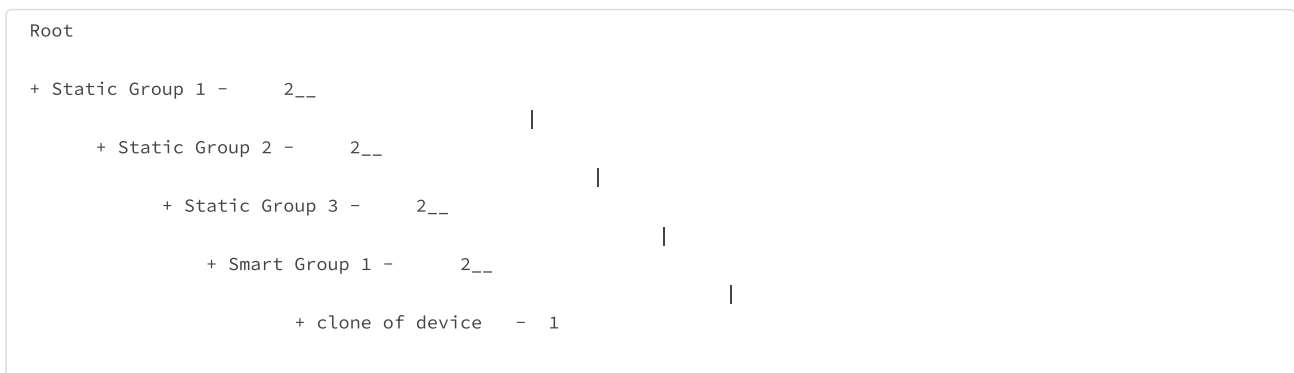- Association to a group is closer than a Clone within that group.

Each association is given a score.

Association to...	Score
Device	0
Device Clone	1
Static/Smart Group	2
Clone of Static/Smart Group	2

The score is determined starting with the device or clone and working back to the actual association.

Example

Consider the below Tree Structure:

```
Root

+ Static Group 1 -    2__
                            |
    + Static Group 2 -     2__
                               |
        + Static Group 3 -    2__
                                  |
            + Smart Group 1 -    2__
                                     |
                + clone of device  - 1
```

```
  + Static Group 4 - 2__
                                         |
       + Smart Group 2 -  2__
                                    |
            + clone of device - 1
```
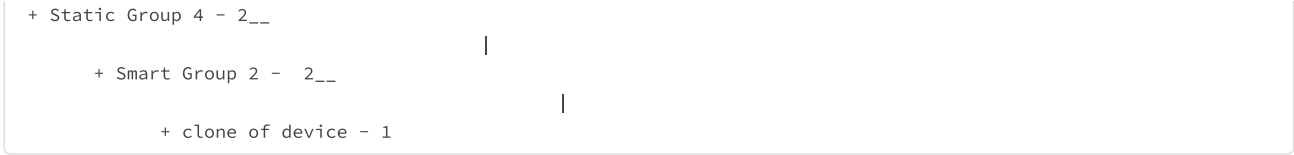
Total Scores (lowest score wins):

Association to...	Scoring	Total
Static Group 1	1 + 2 + 2 + 2 + 2	9
Static Group 3	1 + 2 + 2	5
Smart Group 1	1 + 2	3
Clone of device in Smart Group 1	1	1
Static Group 4	1 + 2 + 2	5
Smart Group 2	1 + 2	3

As such, an association to Smart Group 1 is closer than Static Group 4.

Matching Score

Closest always wins; however, where the distance is the same, the highest Association ID will win, which should be the last association created.

Hence, if an association of a Fileset was made to Smart Group 2 and then to Smart Group 1, the association to Smart Group 1 would win, as this equidistant association is the latest and hence will have the highest Association ID.