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(54) **SOFTWARE DELIVERY MANAGER**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Methods and apparatus, including computer program products, for receiving and processing a software delivery archive to deploy software to a target computer system, in particular to deploy software into a J2EE server. The software delivery archive can be implemented as a JAR-compatible archive that includes a supplementary manifest and a deployment descriptor, in addition to a standard JAR manifest and software to be deployed. The software delivery archive can optionally also include a nested software delivery archive have the same structure and functionality.

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