

Release Notes:

Update 2 for GRANTA MI Version 8.1

September 2015 Release

Introduction

Granta Design distributes regular updates for the GRANTA MI software package in addition to the major version releases. Updates typically contain a number of minor improvements, performance enhancements and bug fixes. Installing an update is optional. Subsequent updates always include the content of previous updates. These Release Notes will help you understand what's in this update and whether you should install it.

For information on how to install this software update, see [Applying this update](#) on page 6.

How can installing this release help you?

- All organizations will benefit from a number of security enhancements to GRANTA MI web applications.
- General users will benefit from performance improvements in areas such as MI:Viewer startup, datasheet load times, and FEA exporter load and save times.
- Administrators will benefit from
 - Exporter and importer enhancements, including the ability to export and import subset membership information for records, and also to export files and pictures with the Excel Exporter.
 - New copy and paste functionality in MI:Admin that allows units and layouts to be defined in Microsoft Excel or in any text editor and then easily copied into MI:Admin via the clipboard.
 - Easier access to GRANTA MI product documentation PDFs, which are now copied onto the MI:Viewer server during product installation and can be quickly accessed from the Admin page in MI:Viewer.

In addition, you may want to install this update if your users have been affected by any of the specific issues listed under *Usability improvements and bug fixes* below.

What's new in this update?

As well as bug fixes, this Update release includes a number of performance and security improvements, and usability enhancements.

Performance improvements

There are a number of performance improvements across the system at this release, particularly when MI:Viewer is started and when datasheets are loaded.

In addition, users exporting data from MI:Viewer using the FEA exporters will benefit from the following performance enhancements:

- The exporters load faster on opening the Reports page.
- Saving FEA exports to disk is faster.

Security enhancements

Security enhancements have been made to GRANTA MI web applications including MI:Viewer, MI:Remote Import, User Manager, and MI:Explore:

- Autocomplete is now turned OFF in password input fields in MI:Viewer and Remote Import.
- HTTP Strict Transport Security (HSTS) is now supported for the User Manager service to help protect against downgrade attacks and cookie hijacking.
- The X-Frame-Options header is now set for all responses to help protect against "clickjacking" attacks.
- Headers that expose server details are no longer included in HTTP responses.
- Cookie security is improved.

Data export/import enhancements

Enhancements to data export and import tools for GRANTA MI include:

- The ability to export and import subset membership information for records, enabling records created or re-imported using the Excel or Text Importers to be added to, and removed from, specified subsets. Previously, subset membership was not exported, and records imported or created during an import operation were either placed into the same subset as their parent record, or into a single specific subset (set as an import option for all records being imported).
- The ability to export file and picture data when exporting records using the Excel Exporter. Multiple file and picture attributes for the same records can now be exported alongside the record data in Excel, and easily re-imported.

Enhanced copy and paste functionality in MI:Admin

MI data administrators will benefit from enhanced copy and paste functionality in MI:Admin. Unit and layout definitions created in Microsoft Excel or in a text editor can now be copied and pasted into and out of MI:Admin via the clipboard.

The Help for MI:Admin has been updated to specify the required format for unit and layout data in Excel and text files.

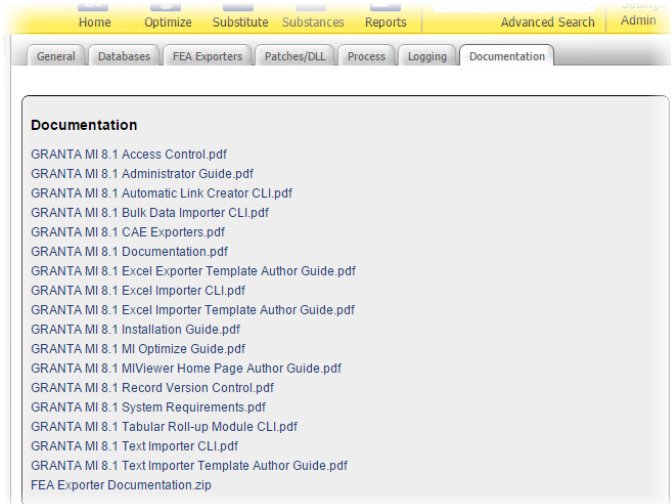
Easier access to GRANTA MI product documentation

The reference documentation for GRANTA MI, aimed at IT Administrators, Granta System Admins, Granta Database Admins, and people importing/exporting data, can now be accessed more easily by people who do not have administrator access to the host server where MI:Server is installed.

In MI:Viewer:

The GRANTA MI PDF documentation is now copied to the MI:Viewer host during product installation, and can then be accessed by users with Administrative privileges from the Admin pages in MI:Viewer.

Click on **Admin** in the MI:Viewer toolbar and then click on the **Documentation** tab.



On the Granta Support website:

Release Notes and System Requirements documents for the current GRANTA MI release are located on the [GRANTA MI Support page](#) on the Granta Design website.

In addition, all product documentation for the current and previous GRANTA MI releases is available on the [GRANTA MI Documentation page](#) in the Support area of the Granta Design website. A Download Account is required to access product documentation on this page.



On the MI:Server or MI:Toolbox host:

The GRANTA MI PDF documentation continues to be installed on the MI:Server and MI:Toolbox host servers during product installation.

- For MI:Server, by default the documentation will be located in *C:\Program Files\Granta\GRANTA MI\Server\Documentation*, although a different product location may be specified during installation.
- For MI:Toolbox, the relevant PDF documentation is installed in a *Documentation* subfolder within each plugin, for example: *C:\Program Files\Granta\GRANTA MI\Toolbox\plugins\Exporters\Excel\Documentation*

Usability improvements and bug fixes

The following usability improvements and bug fixes have been made since the GRANTA MI version 8.1 release in April 2015.

Installation Manager

- Fixed an issue where it was not possible to upgrade an MI installation due to problems creating the necessary local security groups. Now, a warning will be logged if the groups cannot be created, but installation of the new MI version will continue.

MI:Server

- Fixed an issue where MI:Server Manager would sometimes hang or disconnect from MI:Server when encryption was enabled for MI:Server.

MI:Admin

- Resolved an issue where pasting smart link groups into a layout from Excel (via the **Paste New** button) caused an error.
- In the Edit Layout page of the Schema Editor, attributes created using the **Add Another** button now appear in the list of attributes without having to refresh the list.

MI:Viewer

- When defining filters on the Record Filter page (**Advanced Search > Tools > Record filter**), users can now select the record type: Records, Generic records, and/or Folders. Used in combination with the other filter options on this page this allows, for example, results to be filtered to show only unreleased folders.
- Tabular data rows that contain no data, and that link to records with no data, and have a linked records column, are no longer hidden in Read mode. Tabular data rows with a linked record column and that link to records with no data are no longer hidden in Read mode.
- When working with custom reports, report names are now displayed correctly, and in the correct locale.
- Y-axis values are now displayed correctly on charts that use log scales.
- Timeouts occurring when downloading large reports are now handled correctly by displaying an error message on screen instead of downloading the error message as an HTML file.
- When exporting data from the Reports page, the Export Options page no longer appears if there are no options to enter.
- Improved error reporting when MI:Viewer is unable to connect to MI:Server because the MI:Server service is not running.
- Downloading an MI:Viewer log file (**Admin>Logging>Download Log File**) no longer causes the application to hang.
- The "is one of" search criterion now works correctly when searching functional discrete attributes.

- A number of improvements have been made to the formatting of charts on printable datasheets:
 - Chart images are no longer clipped .
 - Crosshairs visible in the screen version of the chart are no longer included on the printed image.
 - Charts are now automatically scaled to fit the page they are printed on.
- In Edit mode, the link summary page for a record link group now includes all links for a record, rather than only those in the current subset. In Read mode, only the links in the current subset are shown.

MI:Toolbox

- Information about record and data links created during import is now logged.
- Fixed a spurious access control error which prevented data from being imported into a database in which permission-based access control had been turned off.

Localization improvements

- The layout of the **Create New Template** window is now correct on all locales. Previously, the attribute lists obscured some of the buttons in the window in some locales.
- Fixed an issue where some labels were incorrectly displayed in the OS locale language instead of the language chosen from the Toolbox **Options>Language** menu.

Excel Exporter

- When exporting data using templates generated with MI:Viewer's "Download Excel Template" feature, automatically-named worksheets no longer exceed the Excel worksheet name limit of 31 characters.
- Gridded data is now exported when not all valid parameters of the attribute have a range name. Previously, no data would be exported, even if the attribute was empty.
- Export files generated using the Automatic Template Generator no longer contain invalid internal attribute hyperlinks.

Text Importer

- Fixed an OutOfMemoryException error when importing files containing a very large number of specimens.

Remote Import

Security enhancements included in this release:

- Only MI users can use Remote Import (users must be in at least the MI_READ group to access the Remote Import page).
- Relative paths in file names (in a GET or POST request) are no longer allowed.

System requirements for this release

This release updates your existing GRANTA MI Version 8.1 installation. See your GRANTA MI Version 8.1 release documentation for detailed system requirements.

Applying this update

This update should be applied to MI:Server, MI:Viewer, MI:Remote Import, and MI Service Layer, and to all locally-installed instances of MI:Admin and MI:Toolbox.

See the PDF document *Applying GRANTA MI software updates*, included in the download package for the update, for step-by-step instructions on how to apply software updates.

Note that you need Administrator rights to install all GRANTA MI updates and patches.

Further information and contact details

More background on the features and benefits of GRANTA MI Version 8.1 is available at <http://www.grantadesign.com/products/mi/whatsnew.htm>

If you have further questions, please email Granta Support: support@grantadesign.com