Release Notes:
Update 3 for GRANTA MI Version 8.1

November 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

How can installing this release help you?

- Users will benefit from improved performance in areas such as MI:Viewer startup, and datasheet load times.
- Administrators will benefit from enhancements to the Remote Import API, including the ability to import embedded files and pictures, and support for larger imports.
- Users of web applications that access GRANTA MI via the Service Layer, such as MI:Gateway, MI:Explore, and MI:BoM Analyzer, will see noticeable performance improvements.

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 across the system at this release include:

- Significantly faster datasheet load times for datasheets containing large amounts of tabular data.
- Faster MI:Viewer startup.
- Faster performance for applications that access GRANTA MI via the Service Layer.

New Service Layer, version 28.0

This GRANTA MI update includes a new version of the Service Layer, version 28.0. In this release, enhancements to the Service Layer "keep-alive" feature mean that the speed of response to first requests is now faster, especially for clients that perform many short interactions with it, such as MI:BoM Analyzer.

Full details of the changes in each new version of the Service Layer are included in the PDF document *GRANTA MI:Service Layer SDK Revisions*, installed with the Service Layer software.

Usability improvements and bug fixes

The following usability improvements and bug fixes have been made since the GRANTA MI version 8.2 release in September 2015.

MI:Server

- Improved error handling when loading databases during server startup.

User Manager

- You can now import updated information for existing users. This allows you to modify names and/or email address details outside User Manager, and then import the updated information into User Manager. Previously, it was not possible to import details for users who already existed in User Manager.

MI:Viewer

- To ensure that Excel Templates downloaded in MI:Viewer are as simple and easy-to-use as possible, subset and color ranges are no longer included.

MI:Toolbox

- **Bulk Data Importer**—Log files now include timestamps to aid troubleshooting.
- **Excel Importer**—When using attribute values to place records in the tree, the correct tree structure and folder names are now created even when the relevant attribute names on the Import Options & Attribute Lookup worksheets are specified in different cases (for example, "Stainless steels" and "Stainless Steels").

Remote Import API

- It is now possible to import more than 2 MB of data in a single import job.
- Embedded files and pictures can now be imported.

Service Layer

- Improved error handling when records are not found.
- Better feedback when attempting to access the Service Layer Welcome page in a Web browser, while the Service Layer is starting. Users will now see a "starting up" page rather than a wait-cursor.

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 update*s, 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