Release Notes: Update 2 for GRANTA MI Version 9

July 2016 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 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.

This release updates an existing GRANTA MI Version 9 installation; see your GRANTA MI Version 9 release documentation for detailed server, client, and database requirements.

How can installing this release help you?

This release includes over 75 bug fixes, performance enhancements, and minor improvements. In addition, you may want to install this update if your users have been affected by any of the specific issues listed below under *Usability improvements and bug fixes*.

What's new in this update?

Data Updater enhancements

The Data Updater tool can be used to apply updates to the content of Granta reference databases such as Restricted Substances. At this release:

- The *Conflict Report* has been redesigned and now includes much more detailed information about data conflicts detected before an update is applied. Now in Microsoft Excel format instead of HTML, you can quickly search and sort the information on conflicts for each type of database object (records, attributes, data, layouts, subsets, and so on), allowing you to get the information you need to fix any problems before you apply an update to your database.

- A new *Change Report*, available after an update has been applied, allows you to see exactly what changes were made in your database as a result of applying an update, providing a useful audit trail.

- Some errors that would previously have prevented an update from being applied are now better handled and reported.

New Service Layer, version 32.0

This GRANTA MI update includes a new version of the Service Layer, version 32.0, which includes a number of performance enhancements and bug fixes.

Usability improvements and bug fixes in this update

Installation

- When installing the Service Layer via the Installation Manager, the IIS Dynamic Content Compression Windows Feature will now be automatically installed on machines where it is not already installed.

MI:Server

- Fixed a bug that prevented databases from being loaded or reloaded when FIPS mode was enabled on the MI:Server host operating system.
- When specifying functional graph settings in the `<Graphs>` element in the MI:Server configuration file *MI.config*, `maxNumberOfPoints` can now be set to a negative number to ensure that functional graphs will always be displayed in the datasheet, regardless of how many points they contain.
- Kerberos authentication now works when MI:Server is run either as a named service account or as LocalSystem. Previously, MI:Server could only be run as LocalSystem when using Kerberos.
- Improved logging of security settings in the MI:Server log file: the value of the SSPI setting is now shown in the log file, and a warning line is included if an invalid value has been entered (e.g."kerberos", or "Kerberus").
- Information about failed searches, including the database key, all textual search terms (if any), and a count of all attributes (if any) mentioned in the search/selection, is now saved in the MI:Server log file.

MI:Viewer

Usability enhancements

- Removed some superfluous logging information from the MI:Viewer log file.

Bug fixes & performance enhancements

- Folders and records that had been moved did not show up in search results if their original parent folder was deleted. This is now fixed.
- Pressing Enter when editing XY Chart properties sometime resulted in an error. This is now fixed.
- 'Locate in contents tree' sometimes failed to display all of the records in folders containing a large number (>1000) of records. This is now fixed.
- Export Data to Excel sometimes failed when record names contained non-ASCII characters. This is now handled correctly.
- Export Data to Excel now exports the selected record version. Previously, the latest record version was always exported regardless of the version currently selected.
- When adding a new row to a tabular data attribute, an error occurred if the new row did not have the same access control permissions as the attribute. This is now fixed, and access control permissions can now be set independently on new tabular data rows.

MI:Admin

- Fixed a memory leak where clicking the toolbar buttons caused process memory usage to increase over time.
- In MI:Admin and in other client tools like MI:Server Manager, date settings are now shown in the correct format for the user's current locale.
- More rigorous validation prevents invalid units from being defined. Previously, it was possible to define an invalid unit, which resulted in an error when attempting to load the database.

Data Updater

- Deleting and adding tabular data in the same operation could cause the Data Updater to crash. The Data Updater now handles this properly.

MI:Toolbox

Usability enhancements

- Improved error reporting for export errors relating to meta-attributes: the name of the parent attribute is now included in the error message, making troubleshooting easier when a meta-attribute is used in several different attributes.

Excel Exporter

- Fixed a bug that caused an unreadable content error on opening an Excel export file. When characters from the record name are included in the name of any worksheets for functional or tabular attribute data, any apostrophe (') characters will now be removed, as the apostrophe is a special character reserved for references in Excel worksheet names.
- An "Index out of range" error sometimes occurred for expressions with no parameters when exporting equation-based functional data. This is now fixed.
- The export of large numbers of curves (series) to functional data, where the series is spread over several worksheets, is now handled correctly.
- Values for discrete X-axis parameters in series functional data were not being written to Excel. This is now fixed.

Excel Importer

- Previously, it was possible to import functional data that included a duplicated X-axis parameter, resulting in an invalid record. An error is now generated if incoming data includes any duplicated parameters, and the data will not be imported.
- When using the Excel Importer command-line interface (CLI), it is no longer necessary to specify the **-dbkey** or **-table** command-line arguments if the import template includes autoplacement options. Previously, these were required arguments even when autoplacement was being used.
- Reading values from complex formulae sometimes resulted in an import error. This is now fixed.
- Use of the Rename conflict resolution option for duplicate record names sometimes resulted in an import error. This is now fixed.
- The import of large numbers of curves (series) to functional data, where the series is spread over several worksheets, is now handled correctly.

Text Importer

- Importing equation-based data from multiple files sometimes resulted in an error. This is now fixed.

User Manager

- Improved feedback when importing user details from a CSV file: you can now view a summary detailing which new users were created, which existing users were updated, and which users could not be imported, and why. This information can also be saved as in CSV format file and viewed in Microsoft Excel.

- When exporting information from User Manager, the export and import formats are now the same, and so, for each type of data (e.g. Users, Groups), exported files can now be imported back into User Manager without having to manually remove fields or add headers first.

- The 'Help' link in the User Manager toolbar now opens the correct version of the help.

Remote Import

- Enhanced logging:
  - The Remote Import server log file now records the port number specified for communication between the Remote Import server and Remote Import web application.
  - The Remote Import web application log file now records the port number specified for communication between the Remote Import Service and the Remote Import web application.

- Previously, users who were members of the system security Read group could not create import jobs, even when they were members of an appropriate database security group (Write or higher). This is now fixed, and any system user with write access to the database can now create import jobs.

Service Layer

- Some files downloaded via the Service Layer had invalid filenames/extensions. This is now fixed.

- In some locales, when a user attempted to access a database they did not have permission to view, an error was displayed in the Service Layer. This is now fixed.

System requirements for this release

This release updates an existing GRANTA MI Version 9.0 installation; see your GRANTA MI Version 9 release documentation for detailed server, client, and database requirements.

Installing this update

Updates for MI:Server, MI:Viewer, MI:Remote Import, MI:Admin, and MI:Toolbox are included in the update package. Separate .msp files are provided for 64-bit and 32-bit operating systems. The MI:Server, MI:Viewer, and Remote Import updates must be installed on the relevant server; the MI:Toolbox and MI:Admin updates must be installed on each client PC. You will need Administrator rights to install GRANTA MI updates.

Note that the Service Layer cannot be updated in the same way as the other GRANTA MI components: instead, you will need to download the Version 9.0 Update 2 *InstallationCD* and upgrade the Service Layer to the latest version (version 32.0) using the GRANTA MI Installation Manager.

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

Further information and contact details

More background on the features and benefits of GRANTA MI Version 9 is available at
http://www.grantadesign.com/products/mi/whatsnew.htm

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