

Retek® Data Warehouse 10.2



Release Notes



The software described in this documentation is furnished under a license agreement and may be used only in accordance with the terms of the agreement.

No part of this documentation may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means without the express written permission of Retek Inc., Retek on the Mall, 950 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55403.

Information in this documentation is subject to change without notice.

Retek provides product documentation in a read-only-format to ensure content integrity. Retek Customer Support cannot support documentation that has been changed without Retek authorization.

Corporate Headquarters:

Retek Inc.
Retek on the Mall
950 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55403
888.61.RETEK (toll free US)
+1 612 587 5000

European Headquarters:

Retek
110 Wigmore Street
London
W1U 3RW
United Kingdom
Switchboard:
+44 (0)20 7563 4600
Sales Enquiries:
+44 (0)20 7563 46 46
Fax: +44 (0)20 7563 46 10

Retek® Data Warehouse™ is a trademark of Retek Inc.

Retek and the Retek logo are registered trademarks of Retek Inc.

This unpublished work is protected by confidentiality agreement, and by trade secret, copyright, and other laws. In the event of publication, the following notice shall apply:

©2002 Retek Inc. All rights reserved.

All other product names mentioned are trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective owners and should be treated as such.

Printed in the United States of America.



Customer Support

Customer Support hours:

Customer Support is available 7x24x365 via e-mail, phone, and Web access.

Depending on the Support option chosen by a particular client (Standard, Plus, or Premium), the times that certain services are delivered may be restricted. Severity 1 (Critical) issues are addressed on a 7x24 basis and receive continuous attention until resolved, for all clients on active maintenance.

Contact Method Contact Information

Internet (ROCS) www.retek.com/support
Retek's secure client Web site to update and view issues

E-mail support@rettek.com

Phone US & Canada: 1-800-61-RETEK (1-800-617-3835)
World: +1 612-587-5800
EMEA: 011 44 1223 703 444
Asia Pacific: 61 425 792 927

Mail Retek Customer Support
Retek on the Mall
950 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55403

When contacting Customer Support, please provide:

- Product version and program/module name.
- Functional and technical description of the problem (include business impact).
- Detailed step by step instructions to recreate.
- Exact error message received.
- Screen shots of each step you take.

Contents

Overview	1
Functional enhancements	1
Localization	1
Fixed defects	2
Batch scheduling modifications	2
Software requirements and configuration matrix	2
Known limitations and issues	3
Product defects	3
Limitations and issues of tools used with RDW 10.2	4
MicroStrategy 7.1.6	4
RETL 10.2	4

Overview

RDW 10.2 is a General Availability release that also serves as the first patch for RDW 10.1. This release includes localization functionality that was not available in the RDW 10.1 release. A number of RDW 10.1 defects have also been addressed in this release. RDW 10.2 incorporates the changes needed to maintain integration with the Retek Merchandising System (RMS), given the functionality changes made in the RMS 10.1 release. RDW 10.2 also maintains the existing interface with other Retek products, such as Retek Sales Audit (ReSA), Retek Customer Order Management (RCOM), and Retek TopPlan.

Functional enhancements

The following features have been significantly modified or are new to RDW for version 10.2.

Localization

Localization is the process of creating a version of the software for release into a specific market. Below are the localization enhancements made for RDW 10.2:

Expanded field lengths

Many character field lengths in the RDW data model have been expanded. It was determined that the field lengths RDW held in previous releases were more than sufficient for languages such as English or French, however these same field lengths were insufficient for languages that take up multiple bytes per character, such as Japanese. In order to allow full and meaningful descriptions to be held in RDW for all languages, the appropriate field lengths were expanded.

Secondary field descriptions

A secondary description field was added to several tables in the RDW data model. The intent of these new fields is to give the user an additional place to insert any added descriptive information that would be beneficial. These new fields will be particularly beneficial to users who use languages that use multiple alphabets or may have more than one word for the same description. Refer to document 'Retek Data Warehouse 10.2 Migration Guide' (rdw-102-mig.doc) for specific modules and tables affected.

Fixed defects

The following is a list of defects that were fixed in RDW 10.2. Refer to document 'Retek Data Warehouse 10.2 Migration Guide' (rdw-102-mig.doc) for descriptions of the defects. Contact Customer Support for further information.

- Defect # 331528: RDW Library (factload.ksh)
- Defect # 332032: Teradata Primary Index Install DDL Script
- Defect # 334624: RDW Library (dim_top.ksh)
- Defect # 335246: Localization
- Defect # 335310: RDW Time Program (cr_time_454.c and cr_time_13.c)
- Defect # 335747: RDW Fact Extraction Program (pre_dwi_temp.ksh)

Batch scheduling modifications

In RDW 10.1, several Data Warehouse Interface (DWI) programs were dependent on RMS programs rtvupld.pc and ctuiupld.pc. These RMS programs have now been replaced by the Retek Integration Bus (RIB), and thus in RDW 10.2 the DWI dependencies to these RMS programs no longer exist. One additional batch scheduling change is RMS program salmth.pc is now dependent on the successful completion of DWI program stlblrwex.ksh. All the above batch scheduling modifications are reflected in the RDW 10.2 Operations Guide under chapter 7, 'Program Flow Diagrams'.

Software requirements and configuration matrix

Refer to the RDW 10.2 Installation Guide and Middle Tier Installation Guides, which show all the currently supported software and hardware configurations for RDW 10.2 at the time of release. For additional configurations, contact Retek Customer Support to verify recently certified versions.

Known limitations and issues

Product defects

ReSA defects affecting RDW

Defect # 329715: a minor ReSA fix that is required to the saexprdw.pc program so that it will export a “-1” to RDW in place of a null SUB_TRAN_TYPE. The RDW 10.2 version of DWI program slsildmex.ksh is already expecting ReSA to export the -1 in this case. Implication: without this minor fix, sales data that includes a null SUB_TRAN_TYPE may not be loaded into RDW.

RMS defects affecting RDW

Defect # 329526: this RMS defect gates RDW defect # 329527. The problem originates when an item-contract relationship in RMS is deleted before a contract order is placed for the item. This situation can leave “open” contract positional facts in RDW (such as “quantity contracted”) attributes to the now deleted item-contract relationship. RMS will require a small enhancement to provide information for properly closing out the contract-item relationship in RDW.

Defect # 329668: concerns the fact that if a transaction is written to the RMS tran_data table with a timestamp including hours/minutes/seconds, this transaction will not be posted to RDW until the next day. This has a minor business impact in RDW by delaying a user’s access to this data by one day.

RDW defects

Defect # 335802: current RETL version 10.2 will not support extended ASCII or Unicode characters in a batch flow. This defect does not impact RDW’s ability to extract extended ASCII or Unicode characters from a source system (such as localized RMS). This does, however, affect a minor subset of dimension descriptions that are hard coded in DWI dimension extracts. This RDW defect will be fixed once RETL provides the needed enhancement.

Defect #336262: Teradata clients only: some modules fail in Teradata because the Teradata restart table name exceeds the 30 characters limit. This occurs because RETL 10.2.X utilizes Teradata fastload when writing to tables. The problem occurs when RDW code creates a temp table with a table name containing more than 27 characters, as Teradata adds an additional 3 characters to its own restart version of these tables.

Limitations and issues of tools used with RDW 10.2

MicroStrategy 7.1.6

N-Tile Ranking function

The N-Tile Ranking function does not currently have an option to specify the output level. Instead, the output level is set on the filter qualification, which includes the N-Tile metric. In MicroStrategy Desktop, executing a report that uses a filter qualification containing an N-Tile metric requires the user to modify the prompt's existing default answer in order for the output level to be applied correctly. Adding a new prompt answer will not apply to the output level. In RDW Web, the output level of the default prompt answer is applied to all answers for the prompt, therefore this is not an issue. This has been logged as an enhancement with MicroStrategy (Case # 148054).

Hidden hierarchy filters

Hidden hierarchy filters do not stay hidden after exiting out of the MicroStrategy Desktop application. This causes the filter to be displayed when browsing from Department to Supplier, which is not the desired result. Because RDW Web does not show the hidden filters unless specified by the administrator, this is not an issue for RDW Web users. The issue with MicroStrategy Desktop has been logged as a defect with MicroStrategy (Case # 140264).

Age

Age is defined by taking the system date and subtracting the birth date of the customer. This will often result in a decimal, which is then displayed as a whole number reflecting the difference in years. As such, there will be more than one attribute element for a given age within the data explorer. As an example, if you have 3 customers that are 29 with different birth dates, three 29's will show up in the data explorer as elements of Age.

Analytical engine error

Drilling twice on a report that contains a hierarchy on the template causes an analytical engine error if the parent attribute is retained. For example, if you drill on a report with the Product hierarchy on the template, and then drill down from the resulting attribute while keeping the parent, an analytical engine error is produced. This is a known grid formatting issue and not an SQL generation issue. This has been logged as an enhancement with MicroStrategy (Case # 155607).

RETL 10.2

Extended ASCII characters and Unicode

RETL 10.2 can't handle extended ASCII characters or Unicode within a batch flow. This limitation is the cause of defect # 335802 (see RDW Defects section above).