

AGILE E6.0.2

RELEASE NOTES

July 24, 2006

Agile e6.0.2 represents both: a service release and a feature release. This document outlines the major enhancements and additions to the core product as well as the improvements in each of the following areas:

- ❑ Support for MS SQL-Server 2005
- ❑ Support for Oracle 10.2
- ❑ I18N Basic Support
- ❑ Multi-Organization Access Rights
- ❑ Parallel Structures

Next to this, a large number of bug fixes have been rolled up in Agile e6.0.2. For further information on this release, check the Agile Support page on our website at <http://eignersupport.agilesoft.com/index.asp> (you will need a password to enter the support website).

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Support for MS SQL-Server

On Windows Server platforms, Microsoft SQL Server 2005 is now supported. For a complete and most current list of all officially supported platforms, please visit the Platform Support page on our website at <http://eignersupport.agilesoft.com/index.asp> (you will need a password to enter the support website).

Thanks to improvements in Microsoft SQL Server 2005, previous limitations in the area of database locking and the binary loader are removed.

To remove restrictions and add I18N support, a new EPO implementation using Microsoft's ADO interface instead of the no longer supported DB-library was realized.

This enables a parallel connect for the Number Server and increases the BLOB Size to 2³¹-1 Bytes. LONGTEXT Fields are now mapped to VARCHAR data type instead of TEXT so that equal operator can be used in comparison. The data type NVARCHAR will be supported.

To optimize the performance, static stored procedures are used for executing structure explosions and bind variables are used for EPO.

As global temporary Tables are not supported within SQL server, an implantation using specific views was realized to improve performance. To improve performance for multi-users, statements like Oracle's "SELECT ... FOR UPDATE" were implemented to support number server.

For I18N support, the data type BigInt was introduced to replace the data class type money for Number(12).

Compared to Oracle, the "CommandTimeout" was added to the environment definition file to be able to set the timeout period for executing a command to a certain time instead of using the standard timeout set to endless.

Support for Oracle 10.2

To facilitate the management of database rights, a role has been created budling the rights of the database user. This is only available for Oracle 10.2

Note: To ensure a consistent character representation and avoid that special characters like the € character are not stored correctly in the database the following is important for NLS_LANG:

Note: For new installations, NLS_LANG should be set to WE8MSWIN1252. If a dump was created with an older Agile version, use the existing settings

I18N Basic Support

Global markets and outsourcing activities force an increasing number of companies to make their products ready for Asian or east European markets. At the same time the integration of subsidiaries in these regions often becomes mandatory. To support such activities, Agile e6.0.2 now allows handling e.g. part names in Chinese or Japanese document descriptions. From a technical point of view, Agile e6.0.2 supports characters other than Latin1 in multi-language attributes of all important entities. Fields that contain such data are called "encoded fields". The standard UTF-8 encoding is used to store these characters.

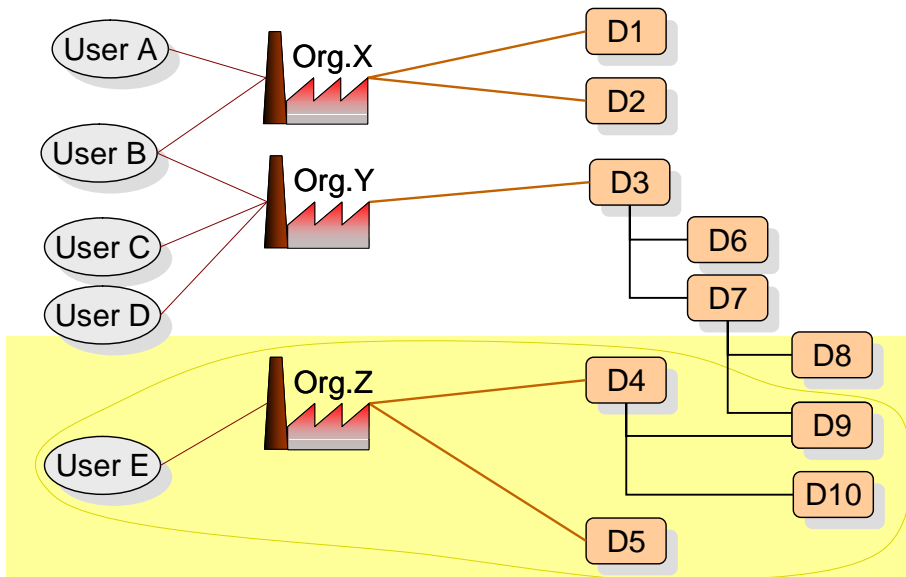
The ability to store text with non-Latin1 characters is referred to as “Internationalization” (I18N) – not to be mixed up with “Localization” (L10N), which refers to a user interface in the language of the local markets. Agile e6.0.2 provides localization for English and German.

As the term “I18N Basic Support” indicates, there are a few limitations in Agile e6.0.2 regarding the support for internationalization. You should now about the following facts:

- ❑ The Java Client, the Web Client and the Workflow Editor are able to display and modify encoded fields properly.
The Windows-Client displays such fields in UTF-8 syntax (usually not human readable).
- ❑ During system configuration it has to be decided which languages (in a multi-language attribute) shall support non-Latin1 characters.
Only languages that are not yet in use may be configured to use encoded fields (data migration is not supported at this stage).
It is not supported to set one of these languages as the UI language (or “system language” in DataView terminology).
An encoded multi-language field cannot be used as the source of a dynamic select menu.
- ❑ Non-Latin1 characters cannot be entered in standard (single-language) text fields, because these fields are used as ID's, file names and similar.
- ❑ Application code (e.g. LogiView procedures) must not copy the content of an encoded field into a standard text field and vice versa, or concatenate field content of a standard text field with the content of an encoded multi-language field.
Doing otherwise may result in invalid multi-byte sequences.

Multi-Organization Access Rights

With Agile e6.0 the “Multi-Project Access Rights” capability became available, allowing companies to easily grant (read) access to objects based on the assignment of such objects to a project and the role a user has in this project.
Similar to this solution, Agile e6.0.2 introduces “Multi-Organization Access Rights”, which controls access to objects through the assignment of organizational unit. Users have roles in one or several organization units and are thus granted access to objects which have been created in the scope of these organizational units. The user's individual role can further determine the type of access (read, write, delete).



In both concepts access to subordinate structures (e.g. bills of material or document structures) is automatically included. In combination with a delegation of administrative privileges (who can create subordinate organizational units, who can add team members?) the overall administration effort is minimized.

Parallel Structures

With Agile e6.0, the new solution Customer Needs Management was introduced, which features a Modular BOM. The structure of a Modular BOM is company specific, but can represent a single view only. In many cases this is a design view (that is: which subordinate components are included in a module), in other cases this may be a manufacturing view (that is: the modules are determined by the manufacturing process).

Rather than having to decide for only one of these two, Agile e6.0.2 now allows to add the second one as a "Parallel Structure". Beyond this, it is even possible to define Parallel Structures for additional views, such as a recycling or a spare-parts view, which helps other disciplines to optimize their processes.

Parallel Structures do not cause redundant data, as they refer to the objects within a Modular BOM. According to their needs, users can also define Parallel Structures that only refer to a subset of the Modular BOM. Parallel Structures simplify the creation of domain specific reports by limiting corresponding analysis activities to the relevant modules in a Modular BOM.

Note – Parallel Structures are currently not available with MS SQL Server. Please contact your sales representative for further information.

Workflow

The Workflow engine notifies users about new work items by creating E-mails. Currently these E-mails are generated by approximately two dozen templates, which only differ in some minor details. In Agile e6.0.2 an alternative, more compact solution is available. This solution generates E-mails by using only a single XML transform script for HTML output, respectively a single transformation script for plain text output.

To activate this new feature, simply add the line: "XMLSwitch=true" under the [Messenger] module in the ABS.ini file.

Enhanced Security

In Agile e6 it is mandatory to define a password, but in some companies it is important to define very strict password policies. "Enhanced Security" now adds the possibility to define password expiration, minimum/maximum length of passwords and their complexity in terms of letters, numbers and special characters. A password history prevents re-using any of the last five passwords.

Enhanced Security was available in previous releases as a project-specific add-on. It is now contained in the standard product. It is activated by the default 'DTV-PWD-ENC'. Additional defaults allow the company specific definition of password complexity. For more information please check "Password Protection" in the DTV User's Guide (file dtv43.chm), chapter "Users, Groups and Privileges".

Enhanced Security and the Auto-Login mechanism are working independently. When activating Enhanced Security, the Auto-Login flag should be deactivated – otherwise the corresponding users are still able to log in without providing a password.

Copy with structure - Additional relationships

When copying an item (EDB-ARTICLE) or a document type (e.g. TEXTFILE) with structure, some of the new relationships are not included in the copy operation.

This has not been fixed in the e6.0.2 standard delivery, but a loader file is shipped which contains the necessary configuration data to add the following relationships:

For EDB-ARTICLE, it adds EDB-PERSON and EDB-ORGANIZATION

For Document types, it adds EDB-VEH-PLATFORM, EDB-PERSON and EDB-ORGANIZATION.

To add these configuration parameters, load the loader file axa_cal_213087.dat into the database.

ATTENTION: By default, the copy operation is performed through direct database access for performance reasons. This has the effect that the userexits on the masks are not called when the new data is created. For specific system configurations, the system must be customized to perform the copy operation through widgets. This is especially true when working with Multi Project Access Rights or with Multi Organization Access Rights.

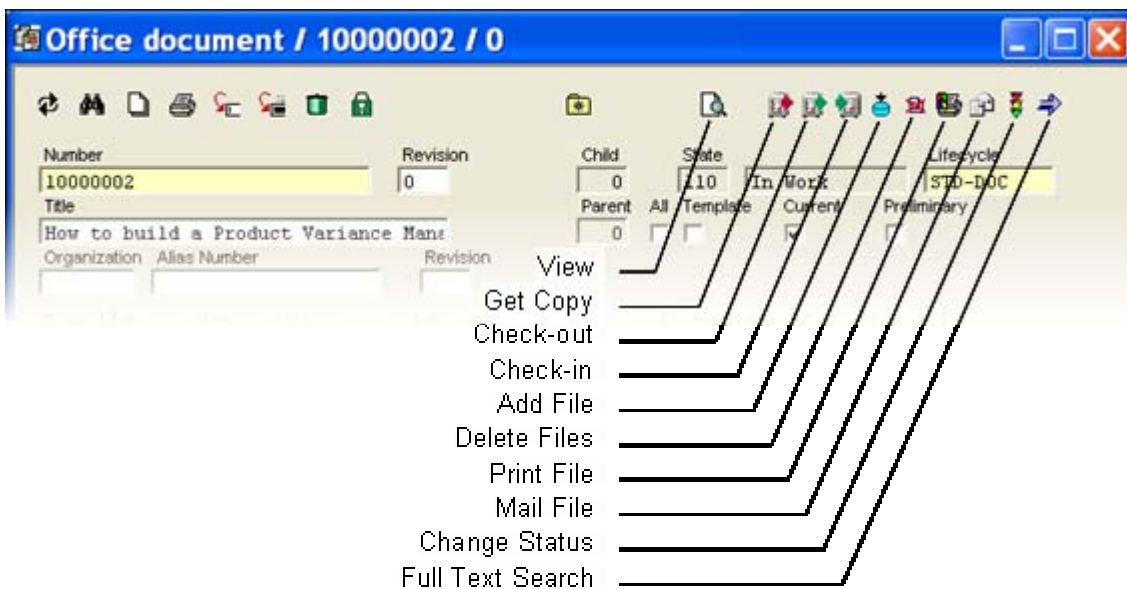
Office Suite

Besides several bug fixes (see previous chapter) the Office Suite has been improved in the area of noted/reserved documents and the Office Document form.

In Agile e6.0, the parallel existence of "Noted Objects" and "Reserved Documents" was partially confusing. In Agile e6.0.2, these two concepts have been consolidated, leading to a simpler user interface, using only the term "Reserved Documents".

This affects the structure browser and the context menu in the browser for a selected file. In addition the menu entry 'Start>Documents>Reserved Documents' replaces 'Manager>OfficeSuite>Noted Objects'. The menu 'File Functions' is adapted accordingly (see FIS-ID 09707)

The second improvement is related to the buttons which are contained in the Office Document form. They are changed to be in line with the standard buttons in most of the other document type forms. The following figure summarizes the changes:



Most importantly the "View" button is now the standard button to open the attached file. This prevents unintentional reservation of the document.

Another goal of this modification was to provide accessibility to Office Documents in the Java Client and the Web Client too. In these clients, the buttons for "View", "Get Copy", "Check-out", "Check-in" and "Add File" call different functions than in the Windows Client (which heavily rely on Windows specific functionality and a deep integration with Microsoft Office). The functions that are called in the Java Client and the Web Client do not perform an update/exchange of the file properties.

At this stage most of these specific functions are not implemented yet, but call individual LogiView procedures which are basically just skeletons. Agile will provide complete LogiView procedures soon, but this way it is possible to temporarily include customer specific functionality where this is most urgently required.

Browser

In previous releases it was possible to delete objects in the Stored Queries and Favorites browser. This behavior was undesirable because the delete function did not remove the object from the Stored Query or the Favorite, but removed the object itself. This issue has been fixed by copying the following standard lists and menus (see table) and by removing the delete operation. As of Agile e6.0.2, the browser uses the new lists and menus. If the former standard lists/menus have been customized, these changes have to be applied to the new lists and menus as well.

List (standard)	List (new)
EDB-DOC-SLB	EDB-DOC-SLQ
EDB-ART-SLB	EDB-ART-SLQ
EDB-PRO-SLB	EDB-PRO-SLQ

EDB-DOC-3DM-SLB	EDB-DOC-3DM-SLQ
EDB-DOC-ARC-SLB	EDB-DOC-ARC-SLQ
EDB-DOC-DFL-SLB	EDB-DOC-DFL-SLQ
EDB-DOC-DRW-SLB	EDB-DOC-DRW-SLQ
EDB-DOC-SLB	EDB-DOC-SLQ
EDB-ART-SLB	EDB-ART-SLQ
EDB-PRO-SLB	EDB-PRO-SLQ
EDB-DOC-3DM-SLB	EDB-DOC-3DM-SLQ
EDB-DOC-GDM-SLB	EDB-DOC-GDM-SLQ
EDB-DOC-PHM-SLB	EDB-DOC-PHM-SLQ
EDB-DOC-TXT-SLB	EDB-DOC-TXT-SLQ

Menu (standard)	Menu (new)
EDB-DOC-SLSB	EDB-DOC-SLSQ
EDB-PRO-SLSB	EDB-PRO-SLSQ
EDB-ART-SLSB	EDB-ART-SLSQ

Upgrade Tool

All features implemented for Oracle in Agile e6.0 are now also available for Microsoft SQL Server 2005.

To support I18N the creation of multi-language fields with non-latin characters now supported.

Important bug fixes were made for the LogiView update; variables and defaults are now not only inserted but really updated and the LogiView procedure Delete Change was corrected.

A list of all upgrade bugs fixed with this release will be available soon.

Installation

The Windows installation procedure has been facilitate by introducing a separate client and server installation to improve the distributed installation of the Client. The client is now installed with a new MSI installation using CAB files. It is now also possible to remove the client through the Windows control panel with Add/Remove Programs.

The Modify and Repair feature is now available with the new Agile Client installation.

Like the Client Installation, the Office Suite was also added to the software list so that it is now easier to update and remove the feature from the Microsoft Control Panel with Add/Remove Programs.

Resolved Issues

For a list of all resolved issues, refer to the separate document available on Agile Documentation Webpage (<http://docs.agile.com>) and the Agile Support page.

This page can be directly accessed through our Agile Support page log-in and you will need a password to enter the support website).