ALTAIR

RELEASE NOTES

Monarch Server v2020.0

Content Server | Automator | Report Mining Server

Table of Contents

ALTAIR

1. Welcome

Welcome to Altair Monarch Server major release 2020.0.

This release is generally available on December 1, 2020, following the previous version 15.3 released in December 2018.

The version numbering has been changed to align with the overall Altair product versioning and reflecting also its compatibility with the Altair Monarch Complete software, which is used to create the foundation Model, Projects, and Workspaces that underpin subsequent functionalities in Monarch Server.

This document provides an overview of the new features and enhancements provided by Monarch Server in the 2020.0 release. For information on installation and upgrade procedures, as well as details on supported platforms and software requirements, see the separate installation guides that are provided with this release.

Altair highly recommends upgrading to the latest available release, in order to make use of the latest functionality and feature enhancements, improvements in performance and stability, and to be best prepared for the next release.

The full internal build version of the release is 16.0.0.89. The full internal version of Datawatch.SDK used in the build is 16.0.1.10914.

The full internal version of Datawatch.DataPrep.Engine used in the build is 16.0.1.27621.

2. Software Support

Altair will support the current major version of a product release, and one major version behind the current product version (N -1).

This means supported versions at time of this Altair Monarch Server release will be 2020.0 and 15.3.x.

Support includes:

- Response to questions about using product features
- Operational questions
- Guidance on installing new updates, service updates, and patch fixes (Altair strongly suggests that Altair Knowledge Works Professional Services be involved with your upgrades and patches)
- Investigation into operational failures and/or issues

3. Access to Software Updates

Customers with an active Maintenance Plan are automatically provided access to the latest product releases via the Customer Support Portal (https://support.datawatch.com/hc/en-us). This includes major software releases and service releases for updates and fixes.

3.1. Release Overview

Altair Monarch Server is a deployment platform for the Monarch based server products within the Knowledge Works product set. The server-based platform is scalable from a single-server implementation to a multi-server web distributed system, providing failover, scaling, and pooling capabilities accordingly.

Altair Monarch Server consists of three products:

- Content Server

  - Traditional Enterprise Server
  - Filing, storage, retrieval

- Automator

  - Traditional Data Pump Engine
  - Project Editor
  - Visual Process Editor

- Report Mining Server (RMS)

  - 'Overlaying' Content Server' functionality on top of an existing Content Management System

Altair Monarch Server 2020.0 continues the paths to

- Simplify providing a centralized browser-based report warehouse with rich data extraction/manipulation/export capabilities;
- The automation of data preparation based on Altair Monarch Workspaces and Models;
- Enhancing the user experience of existing Content Management Systems by enabling richer interactions with compatible report content and enabling rich data extraction/manipulation/export capabilities.

Enhancements in the general user experience are added to process definitions, and improvements are made for data connectivity and exports. There are also a few additions in data connections following the additions in Altair Monarch Complete 2020.0.

Additionally, a few general enhancements are included in this release related to upgrades and for improved performance.

Finally, a code scan for vulnerability issues was run to ensure no significant risks for security breaches where apparent and appropriate remedial work to address issues accordingly.

4. Release Benefits

This document is divided into the major areas where improvements and additions of new features provide significant benefits to the users of Altair Monarch Server 2020.0.

Summary of changes/new features are as follows:

- Installation and upgrade
- Updated UI
- Altair Monarch Complete SDK/Engine alignment
- Reduced risk for security breaches
- Bug fixes and improvements

4.1. Installation and Upgrade

Support for deprecated and newer technologies is reflected in this release. Altair Monarch Server supports the following:

- Windows Server 2016 and 2019 with .NET Framework 4.7.2
- Compatible database engines, namely, SQL Server 2016, 2017, and 2019
- SQL Server LocalDB 2017 for relevant deployments

NOTE: Lower versions of Windows Server, SQL Server, .NET Framework, and LocalDB are no longer supported. Future versions of these components may have support provisioned as part of future minor/patch releases. Any queries in this regard can be directed to Altair Knowledge Works Support (https://www.altair.com/knowledge-works-support/)

4.2. Updated UI

Altair Monarch Server has an updated UI in line with the Altair branding. This is visible primarily in the Content Server, Automator & RMS website UI's and in the 2020.0 product documentation.
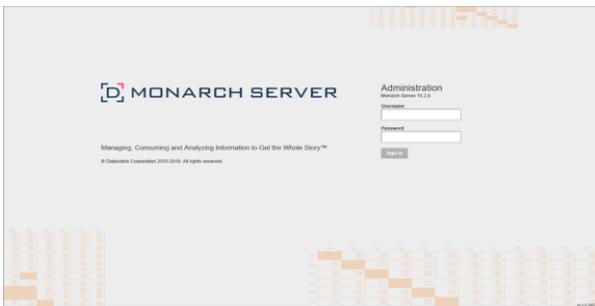

Figure 1 Monarch Server 15.3 Logon

Figure 2 Monarch Server 2020.0 Logon
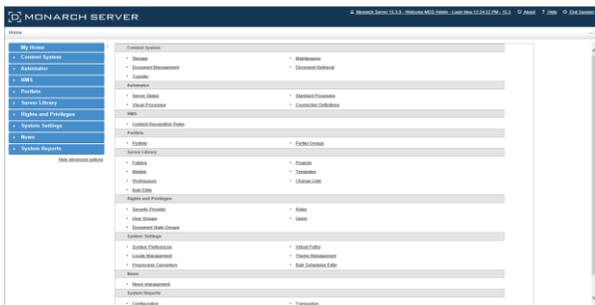
*Figure 3 Monarch Server 15.3 Admin Home Page*
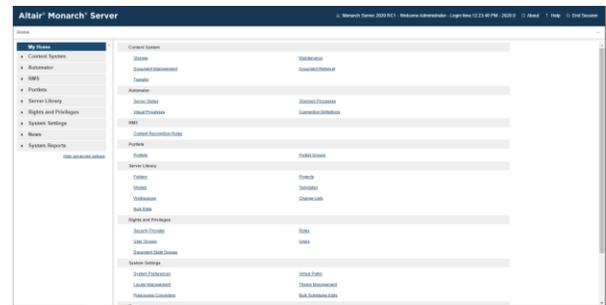
Figure 4 Monarch Server 2020.0 Admin Home Page

4.3. Altair Monarch Complete SDK/Engine Alignment

Altair Monarch Complete 2020.0 was released in June 2020.

Altair Monarch Complete 2020.0.1 was released in August 2020, providing a number of fixes to the Classic and Data Prep Studio engines.

To align with the desktop tools, Altair Monarch Server 2020.0 makes use of the Altair Monarch Complete 2020.0.1 engines accordingly (also referred to as the Monarch Classic and Data Prep Studio SDK's).

It is important to ensure desktop and server components are of a common version to avoid issues with models/projects/workspaces generated in the desktop product and subsequently used in server product(s). The version of the Engine/SDK is provided as part of Altair Monarch Server's minor releases and patch release notes. They should be checked to ensure commonality between products accordingly. Altair Knowledge Works Support can provide further assistance if required (https://www.altair.com/knowledge-works-support/).

4.4. Reduced Risk for Security Breaches

Regular review of the software eliminates the risk of having vulnerabilities exposed. The code scans performed on Altair Monarch Server permit deployments to more easily comply with major regulatory requirements and industry standards.

A vulnerability code scan was performed on Altair Monarch Server 2020.0 by using Veracode Static Scan, which is considered one of the most effective ways to eliminate software flaws. Altair Monarch Server complies with Veracode Level VL3+SCA, and all relevant issues found and classified as high or medium were fixed (DST-2304).

4.5. Bug Fixes and Improvements

Altair Monarch Server is maintained in a cumulative manner. Latest patch will also include all items from previous patches, resulting in only the latest patch being required to benefit from the newest and previous addresses items.

Issues identified in one supported version are reviewed to see if a fix is required to other supported versions; for example, an issue in 15.3 might result in the same fix in 2020.0, or vice versa, assuming that the issue/resolution is common to both.

The items addressed as part of this release are as follows

4.5.1. General Fixes/Improvements

Category	Ref	Monarch Server Issue Summary
Bug	DST-1999	CLONE - Receiving "Unable to open channel" accessing MSAdmin web site after removing Automator Modules from the configuration
Bug	DST-2090	MSAdmin: script error with assign-control-sorter-container
Bug	DST-2332	Error (-2147023293) occurred during installation using Single Server
Bug	DST-2340	Warning that another app use app.log appears during removing app
Bug	DST-2380	Chrome: fix styles for disabled fields
Bug	DST-2405	System Reports are displayed with errors
Bug	DST-2411	Administrator right should not to be requested to run MonarchServerv2020x64.msi
Bug	DST-2431	Impossible to use Enter key on the dialog forms
Bug	DST-2432	UI: Error executing when trying to login as locked user with Incorrect Password
Bug	DST-2437	Server Library: revisions aren't displayed in IE11 browser
Bug	DST-2452	Configurator: logs are empty
Bug	DST-2453	There is error "Package hash does not match" when you try to install app without the ISSetupPrerequisites folder
Bug	DST-2455	Unable to perform upgrade of distributed installation on a machine that contains only the Agent Service

Category	Ref	Monarch Server Issue Summary
Improvement	DST-1953	Include Full Name in the Users list
Improvement	DST-2020	Alert users when license is about to expire
Improvement	DST-2189	CLONE - Add AD Groups cache and truncate data if it's big
Improvement	DST-2299	Make LDAP port configurable
Improvement	DST-2313	Doc: Installation doc should tell users to Unblock installer after downloading it
Improvement	DST-2360	CLONE - Improve logging
New Feature	DST-2066	Add Support for Windows 2019 Server

4.5.2. Automator Fixes/Improvements

Category	Ref	Automator Issue Summary
Bug	DST-1956	VPD: DataPumpDispatcherServiceHost module terminated unexpectedly during the Canceling Visual process with Swarm connection
Bug	DST-1998	CLONE - List of processes becomes inaccessible if a process has a single quote character in the name (grayed out showing Loading status)
Bug	DST-2032	CLONE - References, Imports is duplicating when opened
Bug	DST-2036	VPD: Visual process cannot be deleted if the process script has references
Bug	DST-2037	VPD: Process script declaration and references are deleted into old process after Save it as a new one
Bug	DST-2047	Name column is not auto resized if same process has name with special symbols
Bug	DST-2048	Security issue: It shouldn't be possible to run any scripts from the process name.
Bug	DST-2065	CLONE - Update and Append option in Automator should not be available even in IE
Bug	DST-2072	Standard process: hide "Previous", "Go to process", "Next" buttons at Show Log page from Run Script
Bug	DST-2077	CLONE - Automator visual process stuck in running state with sync node not ready yet error
Bug	DST-2079	CLONE - Summary export to delimited file generates two .csv extensions

Category	Ref	Automator Issue Summary
Bug	DST-2087	CLONE - Security keyword is not working in Dynamic Login
Bug	DST-2093	VPD: there is alert with error when importing process with database input that has named path in the data source field
Bug	DST-2099	CLONE - Automator 15.3 does not save password for ODBC connection causing process failure
Bug	DST-2106	Notification error for Automator Light User if there is Exception Dates
Bug	DST-2107	Processes are not started if there is Exception Date
Bug	DST-2112	CLONE - Automator 15.3.2 does not display "First value of field" option for macro
Bug	DST-2114	Automator - Schedules: it's not possible to sort by Process Name
Bug	DST-2117	Error occurred during updating Database with a Global Visual Process
Bug	DST-2125	Project Editor: Project Information print page is empty
Bug	DST-2128	It's impossible Replace Schedules from System Settings/Bulk Schedules Edits for Visual processes
Bug	DST-2138	CLONE - Issue with references and imports in Visual Processes
Bug	DST-2141	CLONE - Importing a Visual Process returns error BLToolkit.Data.DataException Error
Bug	DST-2143	CLONE - After applying patch 15.0.10, Retries option in Standard process is not working as expected
Bug	DST-2145	CLONE - Changing host name in a workspace connection definition using bulk edit failing with the "Value cannot be null" error
Bug	DST-2156	Google Analytics, SQL, OLEDB Edit table view doesn't display as expected in Chrome
Bug	DST-2158	VPD: Logs Process Events are not displayed for Automator User and Automator Light User.
Bug	DST-2168	VPD: error "Object reference not set to an instance of an object" when try to Load table for Oracle or SQL workspaces after updated Datawatch.DataPrep.Engine to 15.4.0.22357.
Bug	DST-2185	VPD: zip-file doesn't contain path to export file if you use "Store directory path" checkbox
Bug	DST-2193	VPD: incorrect name for one of export file types
Bug	DST-2199	CLONE - The following error: "BLToolkit.Data.DataException: There is already an open DataReader associated with this Command which must be closed first" causing DataPumpDispatcherServiceHost.exe fails with unhanded exception

Category	Ref	Automator Issue Summary
Bug	DST-2200	VPD: it's possible to save template without items
Bug	DST-2214	Table PumpNamedPaths is not created in build steps for version 15.3.0 through 15.3.5
Bug	DST-2226	CLONE - Automator 15.3.5 cannot export summary to excel in second export
Bug	DST-2232	CLONE - Performance of specific long visual process flow degrades from 25 second to over two hours after upgrade from 14.3 (7) to 15.3.(5)
Bug	DST-2233	If a Database input object is mapped to a workspace load plan, and when the DOR number was changed in the manifest file, the process could not pick the file from the database input.
Bug	DST-2242	CLONE - Automator File Burster failed when using UNC path in Destination Path settings
Bug	DST-2243	It's not possible to open process with Database input and NamedPath "Browse from root" option
Bug	DST-2245	DataPrep Export: it's not possible to save and export Summary with empty Measure
Bug	DST-2247	VPD: imported process is completed with error about old named path if you run the process from list of visual processes
Bug	DST-2258	CLONE - Standard process with summary export completed with an error if you selected the "Bulk Behavior for OleDb" checkbox
Bug	DST-2271	CLONE - "Hourly" schedule is being scheduled one hour behind the specified time in standard and visual processes independent from time zone or DL saving
Bug	DST-2273	CLONE - When the Database Inputs data source is .csv file, and the Change button is selected, no fields are shown in the Sources Filter.
Bug	DST-2274	VPD: script error when try to duplicate Swarm Input, Visual Process or Standard Process items
Bug	DST-2276	Scheduled process to run weekly are skipping 30th & 31st of December 2019
Bug	DST-2277	Visual process ODBC export to Snowflake failing with "The OdbcType enumeration value, 0, is invalid. Parameter name: OdbcType"
Bug	DST-2288	DataPrep Export - Fixed text: there is a script error when you press Column sizes button
Bug	DST-2295	VPD: It's not possible to replace Database Input (csv) for Workspace
Bug	DST-2322	CLONE - Export with bulk update option creates different results than not bulk export with precision of 0.01
Bug	DST-2324	CLONE - After upgrade from 12.X version to 15.3 bulk edit logs user off abruptly from the application when searching "Standard processes"

Category	Ref	Automator Issue Summary
Bug	DST-2335	Inadequate error reporting on bad business day entry
Bug	DST-2338	Prerequisite error occurred during installation If SQL Server LocalDB isn't 12 version.
Bug	DST-2351	VPD: incorrect default drilling level for summary DataPrep Export
Bug	DST-2364	Manifest Monitoring on Standard Process using Runtime Parameter is not working
Bug	DST-2378	Not possible to open properties for DataPrep Export item for existing processes in Internet Explorer 11
Bug	DST-2379	Not possible to import a Visual Process in Chrome and Chromium
Bug	DST-2401	UI: Error executing when using Incorrect Username or Password
Bug	DST-2408	"This field is required." message overlaps the folder icon
Bug	DST-2410	VPD: dataprep export is completed with error if you used workspace with plugin provider type
Bug	DST-2412	Unable to get account in workspace with Google Analytics Plugin
Bug	DST-2419	VPD: It's not possible to open imported visual process with DataPrep Export and publishing to tableau after Named Paths Mapping
Bug	DST-2420	Automator Process Dependencies report is displayed with error if a standard process contains a project without a model
Bug	DST-2421	Cannot export to tableau server - "307 Temporary Redirect" error.
Bug	DST-2422	Error Message should be "There are no inputs for Load Plans "LoadPlan" when input file does not exist."
Bug	DST-2423	DataPrep Export selects 'Include Column Header' checkbox even if it is already saved unchecked
Bug	DST-2427	"Object reference not set to an instance of an object" error when no file input is defined
Bug	DST-2443	VPD: summary is not exposed in the Data Prep Export if input is join of pdf and xlsx files
Bug	DST-2445	UI - Visual Processes - Alerts: add checkbox search all files (.) and filter *.rss and *.xml for RSS Actions
Bug	DST-2446	VPD - DataPrep Export: "Include password" checkbox is selected all time for "OLE DB and ODBC" Export Type
Bug	DST-2451	There is the "No Input File defined" warning for Knowledge Hub Input if a data source is selected
Bug	DST-2459	Server Library: Edit Table Info buttons are not clickable for Workspaces (except the last one)

ALTAIR

Category	Ref	Automator Issue Summary
Bug	DST-2460	Error by type with SQL Server Plugin
Bug	DST-2461	Bad error message 'Value cannot be null. Parameter name: source" when Host Name unavailable (SQL Server Plugin)
Bug	DST-2463	Load Plans are not available for Workspace with Join and SQL connections
Improvement	DST-1912	Audit Entity Actions report: It should be possible to get information about what was edited/added/deleted for Visual process
Improvement	DST-2022	Ability to assign Exception Date for individual process
Improvement	DST-2042	CLONE - Make timeout configurable for bulk insert/update
Improvement	DST-2053	CLONE - Make the Replace option for Path initially unchecked when uploading Model or Workspace
Improvement	DST-2054	CLONE - Ability to change workspace input source to use Connection Definitions
Improvement	DST-2057	CLONE - Exception date does not allow to specify which process are assign to it, it is only honors category
Improvement	DST-2058	CLONE - Datawatch.ModulesManagement.Agent.exe.config file getting corrupted after server restart
Improvement	DST-2059	CLONE - VPD: should be one email per each iteration of the Angoss export
Improvement	DST-2060	CLONE - Light user option to Create and Edit Schedule in User rights and privileges
Improvement	DST-2080	Doc: add note for Named Path when option "Create folder allowed" unchecked
Improvement	DST-2096	CLONE - Add Selected File Existence Criteria to Standard Process job log or Project Information
Improvement	DST-2103	Add Job ID column on Visual Process Job logs
Improvement	DST-2105	Bulk Edit on Visual Process Distribution not working
Improvement	DST-2115	It shouldn't be possible to start the process by a Schedule, manually with Run button, or via the API if there is an exception date.
Improvement	DST-2118	Automator Visual Process allows summary export only in CSV format
Improvement	DST-2132	VPD: Add Selected File Existence Criteria to Visual Process Log
Improvement	DST-2146	Workspace continues to use the table name used to create the workspace instead of following the Table Name specified in the Database Input node

Category	Ref	Automator Issue Summary
Improvement	DST-2165	Remove Watson integration - IBM has dropped support and it is no longer working
Improvement	DST-2192	CLONE - Add info about running or waiting schedules/jobs for standard processes into logs
Improvement	DST-2205	CLONE - VPD: Improve logs for Verify Workspace. Handle error "System.ArgumentOutOfRangeException: Index was out of range"
Improvement	DST-2209	CLONE - Create an option to use transaction for Bulk behavior
Improvement	DST-2217	VPD: improve manifest for Workspace item. It should be possible to specify TableName in the manifest for Access, ODBC, Excel.
Improvement	DST-2223	CLONE - Verify Workspace: rename option from "greater than" to "greater than or equal to"
Improvement	DST-2240	CLONE - Automator Burster does not keep time stamp of source file in burst files.
Improvement	DST-2244	Specify drilling for summary DataPrep Export
Improvement	DST-2248	Light Automator user unable to invoke Visual Process API
Improvement	DST-2260	CLONE - Better message requested for error "Collection was modified; enumeration operation may not execute."
Improvement	DST-2284	Add hint for Database input item for Apply filter Option
Improvement	DST-2294	Request to certify Automator against SQL Server 2017 and 2019
Improvement	DST-2310	Request to have the ability to do Data Prep Export to JSON in Automator
Improvement	DST-2315	Standard Process fails with "Failed: The process specifies a combination of xprjs whose input specifications are incompatible with each other" with "multiple projects per job" enabled
Improvement	DST-2326	Doc: Screenshots in Online help for scripting are illegible
Improvement	DST-2377	Add support for Excel XLSB inputs
Improvement	DST-2392	Workspace: should be possible replace inputs for Excel Trapping Provider
Improvement	DST-2400	CLONE - Fix "file in use" error
New Feature	DST-1811	Clone - Options for mapping of Named Path when importing process from another environment
New Feature	DST-2131	CLONE - Option to clear Active Jobs/Processes queues from Server Status page

Category	Ref	Automator Issue Summary
New Feature	DST-2157	Need to implement ability to support "Add filter option in Tables and Views tab" feature added in DPS 15.4
New Feature	DST-2172	Option to change temp file location on Automator

4.5.3. Content Server Fixes/Improvements

Category	Ref	Summary
Bug	DST-2110	CLONE - Ingestion fails with "The given key was not present in the dictionary" error when Report security rules are configured on a document type
Bug	DST-2178	ESStyle-PDF views rendering differently after selecting a PDF export from the Document Search tab, viewing the document, and then selecting a ESStyle-PDF view
Bug	DST-2311	Pre-Mine failing withing the filing or maintenance process for specific model with error "Sequence contains more than one matching element"
Improvement	DST-1987	Provide available index id in a dropdown list for the available indexes when mapping index model indexes to a monarch model indexes
Improvement	DST-2001	CLONE - Filing task fails not logging correct failure status and does not provide useful information on cause of the failure
Improvement	DST-2016	CLONE - Customer requested for the Document search result list to auto-resize and sort document "State" column in MSClient
Improvement	DST-2071	CLONE - CS: Add ability to hide "Working List" by choice by using the configuration in MSAdmin
Improvement	DST-2265	CLONE - Improve memory management for GetEsStylePdf method

4.5.4. Report Mining Server Fixes/Improvements

Category	Ref	Summary
Bug	DST-2320	News section is displayed incorrectly in RMSClient
Bug	DST-2440	RMSClient: it's impossible to save model via My Models tab

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5. Known Issues

The following known issues will be fixed in a subsequent patch on Altair Monarch Server 2020.0.

- Updating of Monarch Classic/DataPrep Engines/SDK to 2020.1
- (DST-2466) Name column in Bulk Edits result for workspace doesn't reflect full path to certain load plan. It displays only workspace and it hard to know in what load plan change would be applied.
- (DST-2465) Excel Trapping Worksheet Context Macros are not exposed in Monarch Server 2020
- (DST-2395) Add support for password-protected Excel files when using Modern Excel engine

Monarch Server 2020.1 is targeted to be available in January 2021.

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