NWA Quality Analyst Version 6.2 Release Update
Maintenance Release Update Notes
August 2011

These notes describe the update of NWA Quality Analyst Version 6.2 to the current release and explain the process. This maintenance release is being provided only to customers who have purchased NWA Quality Analyst maintenance.

> For users with Version 6.2 Release 2.3.429 and older, this new release (2.3.540) includes a major upgrade to key components, providing full compatibility with the 64-bit version of Windows 7, some minor enhancements, and fixes to problems found in the previous releases (see list below). *We recommend that everyone with QA Version 6.2 Release 2.3.429 or older now update to the newest release. Please contact NWA Technical Support if you have questions.*

> For users with Version 6.2 Release 2.3.469 or later, this release includes limited changes and minor enhancements and you may want to review the change list below before deciding whether to update.

You will not be required to enter a new Activation Key. This new release will use the Activation Key entered when your original QA 6.2 was installed.

Note: This software is provided as a replacement of an existing, legally licensed product, and is covered by the license agreement for that product. The license does not allow for the installation or use of this product on a system or systems other than as covered by the initial license.

Note to Quality Analyst Web Server and Quality Analytics Server users

Both products include a copy of NWA Quality Analyst that performs the database connections and calculations used to create output and update Clients. This update/maintenance release of Quality Analyst is fully compatible and may replace your current copy of Quality Analyst without requiring any other changes.

How to get the upgrade to Quality Analyst Version 6.2 release 2.3.540

The primary distribution method for this release is via download from our website. This is provided as a single "zip" format file that can be downloaded using the following link:

http://www.nwasoft.com/files/nwa-files/maintenance/quality-analyst/QA62Update_081811.ZIP

Click on the link or enter the address into your browser to initiate the download.

Be sure to select to "Save" the file (do not try to "Open" or "Run" it directly). The file "QA62Update_081811.ZIP" will be saved to the location you specify.

Unzip that file and extract the contents to your system (again, don't try to run the setup from within the zip file itself). This will give you all the files as would be on the CD, in the same folder structure.

Follow the directions below to complete the upgrade process.

If you have problems with the download, contact NWA Technical Support. If you would prefer to receive a CD, contact your NWA Account Manager or Customer Service.

How to upgrade NWA Quality Analyst 6.2 to release 2.3.540

The update process requires installing the new release over your existing QA 6.2 as follows. Note that the installer will ask about uninstalling the old version first; you should answer "Yes", it does need to do this.

Single User Installation

If you are doing a single-user installation, run **Setup.EXE** and follow the instructions.

LAN Network Installation Point

If you are doing a LAN installation, run the **LANAdmin.EXE** program located in the "Eng" folder, to the same Network Installation Point you used for the original QA 6.2.

Then reinstall NWA Quality Analyst on each of the workstations by running the **LANUserSetup.EXE** program in the Network Installation Point. The new version will replace the previous version.

See the Installation Guide, "QAsetup.pdf", in the "Eng\DOC" folder, for details.

> **NOTE**: If the system being used to run **LANAdmin.exe** to set up the server Network Installation Point also has QA installed, the LANAdmin.exe program may warn that it found an older installation of QA and needs to remove it. This removes the previous version of QA 6.2 from the system.
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> If you do receive that message, then after completing the LAN setup, you will need to reinstall QA on that same system. (You should not need to re-do any configuration or activation keys; just reinstall QA.)

To check if the update was successful:

Start up Quality Analyst. Go to the pull-down "Help" menu, and select "About Quality Analyst". Confirm that the Editor release number is 2.3.540.

Please contact NWA Quality Analyst Technical Support if you have any questions.

Changes from previous releases

Fixes to release 2.3.536
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The following problems have been fixed in release 2.3.540:

On the Process Capability Report, the estimated below specification and above specification values didn't add up to the outside specification value.

On the Process Capability Report, if the normal distribution was used, the estimated below, above, and outside specification estimates were always zero.

Fixes to release 2.3.512
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The following problems have been fixed in release 2.3.536:

RUN files

Data sets created within a RUN file could cause the Breakdown feature to misbehave.

Executing a RUN file from within the Quality Analyst data editor would consume an additional LAN license.

The UpdateNWH command would truncate variable descriptions to 39 characters.

Exception Report based on multiple QXP files would only display the chart from the last QXP.

Merging files created from the SUMSTAT command could cause an error.

Database Connectivity

The Wonderware IndustrialSQL connectivity interface would fail with an error.

Database table field names would fail if longer than sixty characters.

Entering QA column names and then assigning a database field could cause an error.

Non-numeric entries in numeric columns were treated as missing data, not zero.

Other

Pattern rules based on alternating up and down points could be triggered erroneously.

Attribute charts ending with missing values could have ending limits shrink to center line.

Multivariate charts could ignore tagged data.

EWMA charts didn't report lambda value.

Some Windows Regional Settings could trigger an error message if a control chart with an exception section was created.

Exception Report could include entries for variables with no exceptions even when the "Show Variable with Exceptions Only" box was checked.

Histogram and Capability Report could fail with grouped data.

The standard deviation calculation method was not obeyed on the Capability Report.

Some data values that were exactly equal to the USL could be reported as outside of USL on the Capability Report.

Creating a scatter diagram of a variable against itself could result in an error message or a confusing scatter diagram.

The Shelf Life / ANCOVA procedure could pick the wrong batch as the worst case if the batch data had no variation.

If the LAN user count was exceeded, the user was put into an infinite loop.

The QA data editor "calculate standard deviation" function didn't pay attention to the Recalculation Range.

Fixes to release 2.3.510
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The following problems have been fixed in release 2.3.512:

The multivariate control charts (T-squared and SPE) were ignoring data and row tags. Now the multivariate charts recognize the tags and treat them according to the tagged data setting.

Database connectivity would fail if database field names were longer than 60 characters. The new limit is 128 characters.

When new columns were being added to a database connectivity data set by first typing in the QA column name and then assigning a database field, it was possible to generate an error.

In a RUN file that creates an exception report based on multiple QA data sets, the exception report would only display control charts from the last data set processed.

Fixes to release 2.3.508
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The following problem has been fixed in release 2.3.510:

With a denormalized database connection, most changes made on the Variable Definition and Specification dialog would erase the External Database Filters. Quality Analyst now retains the External Database Filters when at all possible.

Enhancements to release 2.3.489
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A new special replaceable parameter "^DateTime!Now" has been added that returns a string representation of the current date and time. It can be used in Run files to create uniquely named graphics files. See "Including a Time Stamp in a Replaceable Parameter" in Chapter 9 of the revised QA User's Manual included with this update, available electronically from QA's Help > Manuals menu.

A configuration option has been added to prevent user changes to graphics titles and footers. When this setting is added to the NWAGraph.cfg configuration file:

[Edit]
Lock Title Footer=1

Then the Title and Footer of graphics cannot be edited. To find the location of this file on your system, start up QA, go to Help > About QA, and look at the "Directory, Configuration".

Fixes to release 2.3.489

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The following problems have been fixed in release 2.3.508:

RUN files

Using the IR command in a Run file to create a range chart with no accompanying I chart would result in a range chart with no visible points.

Dates passed into the Run file processing routine using a replaceable parameter (caret ^ variable) on the command line weren't evaluated using the user chosen date format.

Run files with the EXCEPT command that used multiple QXP format files located in different folders would fail.

Run files with insufficient data didn't complete automatically

If the Report command read a mismatched report format (.RPT) file, an unhelpful error message was generated.

If the DAT and NWH files of a dataset were mismatched, two (rather than one) error messages were generated.

The UpdateNWH command didn't work if multiple updated variables didn't match the order they appear in the data set.

Database Connectivity

With a connectivity data set, changing a column name would always (often unnecessarily) remove the connection's ORDER BY command.

Other

The Assignable Cause / Corrective Action lists on the Quality Analyst Settings dialog couldn't be printed.

The Graphics Copy command didn't obey the Graphics Print Border setting.

With some data sets an I-chart wouldn't have y-axis scale values above 100.

The Descriptive Statistics report was poorly formatted if there was "insufficient data" available for any statistics.

When the breakdown option was used on 'N' type variables, the resulting windows were sorted by alpha value rather than numeric value.

The Descriptive Statistics report wasn't using the File Wide Range.

Data Filters constructed with both From and To values on non-integer data could fail.

Sorting a file by a date type column that contained missing data would cause the missing data to be replaced by an impossible date value.

Certain data with no variation could lead to an error message in the capability report.

With certain data containing exactly equal means, the Shelf Life / Stability report could refuse to compare regression slopes.

Short file names (8.3) were still being generated under certain circumstances.

Fixes to release 2.3.487
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The following problems have been fixed in release 2.3.489:

Access Database fields of type Decimal weren't listed in QA Connectivity dialogs.

Control Limits displayed in Chart Footers were rounded to fewer digits than in the previous version, QA 6.1.

Capability Report to a data file included a BREAKDOWN column even if no breakdown was specified.

Fixes to release 2.3.477
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The following problems have been fixed in release 2.3.487:

Formatted Report ignored the Characters per Line ($PAGEWIDTH in RUN files) setting.

Capability Report failed with Johnson Transform if the Breakdown category had no variation.

Pareto weighted by "Cost" was still labeled as "Count".

RUN files didn't give a message if header and data files had a mismatch on column count.

The MERGE command in RUN files, when inserting columns, didn't fill shorter columns with missing data symbols.

In Descriptive Statistics, some results were reported as very small numbers in scientific notation when they should have been "zero".

Very large graphics (NWG) files couldn't be "copied" or saved, though they would display properly.

In some circumstances, Control Chart Limits entered in Parameters weren't always saved and charted.

A RUN file path or name that included a forward slash "/" failed when called from an external program.

SUMSTAT output to a data file set the variable Type for the "VARIABLE" column to the wrong type.

Fixes to release 2.3.476
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The following problems have been fixed in release 2.3.477:

Although the data editor retrieved database fields of type Boolean as 0 and -1, the RUN file CONNECT statement treated all Boolean fields as missing data.

For Subgroup data, setting "Calculation method" on the "Chart Parameters" tab in Settings to "Individual measurements" resulted in no control limits being displayed on IR charts.

A Moving Range chart on a variable with missing data and the "Missing Data Mode" set to "Don't leave space on chart for missing subgroups" produced an incorrect chart.

Fixes to release 2.3.469
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The following problems have been fixed in release 2.3.476:

Control chart limits and other parameters were discarded if a variable's name was changed.

Capability Report and Boxplot were counting "I" type data multiple times if a subgroup size was set.

Runchart didn't display X-axis descriptions.

Histogram capability limit label didn't reflect non-default sigma value.

Data breakdown on a Date or Time column containing only invalid values would result in an error.

Scatter and Runchart would fail if the x-axis variable was identified using a "column" type (one column of a subgroup). For example, WEIGHT was accepted but WEIGHT:1 would fail.

Using a "From / To" Data Filter on an Alpha column could cause an Insufficient Data message.

Enhancements to release 2.3.429
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QA is fully functional with 64-bit Windows. Statistical and data manipulation functions are now performed by .NET routines.

Data breakdown function is now available for all control charts (X, R, S, I, M, MI, CUSUM, EWMA, p, np, c, u, T-sq, SPE), Histogram, Pareto, Run Charts, Scatter, and Normal probability plot.

Several changes were made to output text. The Column Description maximum length increased from 40 to 128 characters. The Maximum Title Length was 65, now is 128. Assignable Cause / Corrective Action text length was increased from 60 to 65 characters.

Default graphics font sizes were changed. Graphics footer minimum font size increased from 4 to 6. Graphics footer callout minimum font size increased from 4 to 6.

Fixes to release 2.3.429
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The following problems have been fixed in release 2.3.469:

RUN files with QXPs created in QA 5 no longer result in an error.

Some parameters (specification limits, description variable, others) weren't being saved if they were the only changes to the data set.

EWMA limits that were set to recalculate didn't work.

Data breakdown based on text containing a single quote character was failing.

Single Variable Pareto on text containing a single quote character was failing.

External Database filter using text containing a double quote character was failing.

If numeric control chart limits existed, the "calculate from Process" button wouldn't work.

A Boxplot containing extreme values could fail.

The capability report and Boxplot didn't handle long server names.

ACCA records couldn't be modified if a key value was a four digit date.

Missing data combined with missing data mode "4" caused chart axis labels / callouts on control charts to appear with the wrong subgroup.

Windows regional settings for New Zealand caused illegal time formats to be used with database connectivity data sets.

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