

Peregrine

# Desktop Inventory 7.1.1

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## Release Notes

For use with Desktop Inventory 7.1.1

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This edition applies to version 7.1.1 of the licensed program.

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# 1

## CHAPTER

# Desktop Inventory 7.1.1 release notes

Welcome to Peregrine Systems, Inc.'s Desktop Inventory 7.1.1, a minor release that replaces the previous Desktop Inventory 7.0.0 release.

In these release notes you will find information on the following:

- *New features and enhancements in v7.1.1* on page 6
- *Installation information* on page 10
- *Related documentation* on page 11
- *Known issues* on page 13
- *Corrected issues* on page 14
- *Compatibility information* on page 20
- *Additional contact information* on page 21

# New features and enhancements in v7.1.1

Desktop Inventory 7.1.1 is the successor to Desktop Inventory 7.0.0, and primarily implements performance enhancements and fixes for issues found after the release.

The following enhancements were implemented:

## General

### Recognition Engine Optimization.

The Recognition Engine has been optimized, decreasing the time necessary to load scan files in Viewer, Analysis Workbench and XML Enricher. On average, the time required per scan file is reduced by around 30%.

Since the optimizations were done to Application Recognition, the performance benefit only applies when Application Recognition using SAIs is enabled.

Also note that performance is affected by the type of scan files loaded. It is generally more efficient to load FSFs than it is to load .xml.gz based scan files.

## Scanners

### More and better UNIX hardware detection

The Linux scanner now collects the full range of UNIX System Configuration data.

The detection of User Profile data in all flavors of UNIX has been improved to include user name, home directory and full name of user.

CPU Model detection has been improved in HP/UX.

The AIX Scanner has been improved to detect monitor and physical disk data on more systems.

CPU Speed detection has been improved on Solaris, HP/UX and AIX, where the *hwCPUSpeedMeasured* field is now detected.

## Improved PC hardware detection

Two new hardware fields have been added to the *hwDiskData* container: *hwDiskTotalSizeMB* and *hwDiskTotalFreeMB*. These contain the total size and free space of all partitions on local hard disks in a machine.

The scanners can now detect Mobile Pentium 4 and Pentium 4 Xeon processors.

## New Scanner command line parameters

A new scanner parameter `-31` can be used to disable Monitor Detection.

The UNIX Scanners have a new command line option, `-excl:150`, that can be used to disable collection of System Configuration information.

## Support for Accessed timestamps

The Win32 and UNIX Scanners can now collect Created and Accessed timestamps for files as well as Modified timestamps.

A new option has been added to Scanner Generator, allowing the Accessed timestamps for scanned files to remain unchanged by the Scanner. When this option is enabled, the Scanner sets the timestamp back to the value it had before the Scanner accessed the file.

## Viewer

### Compare function enhanced

The compare functionality in the Viewer has been enhanced to better support changes in lists, such as environment variables, user profiles, disk data, etc.

The compare wizard now remembers the settings used on the last compare.

When comparing file data, a new option to **Ignore Last Accessed Time** has been added. If this option is not checked, it is likely that otherwise identical scans will show many differences.

### Summary Tab

The Viewer Summary Tab now shows the Machine Name as well as other data.

## Scanner Generator

### New option for Hidden Scanners

When creating a Hidden Scanner using Scanner Generator, a new option on the Scanner Options -> GUI Options tab becomes available: **Do not show error messages**. When checked, the scanner will not show any error messages but will instead fail and exit.

Cases where the scanner would otherwise show an error message but will now exit with an error code include:

- A “required” asset field is blank,
- If the machine shuts down while the scanner is running,
- Various scanning errors (Out of disk space, etc).

### New option to Maximize the Scanner

On the Scanner Options -> GUI Options tab, a new option is available: **Maximized**. When selected, the GUI scanners will run in a very large window.

### New Accessed timestamp option

A new option to preserve file Accessed timestamps has been added to the **File Scanning > File Identification** tab.

If this is enabled, the Accessed timestamp is not changed when the scanner opens the file for identification and signaturing. However, enabling it causes the Scanners to run slower.

## Analysis Workbench

### Asset Field Editing

Editing of Asset Fields is now controlled on a per-machine basis. Previously, it was assumed that all Scanners were configured with the same Derived fields. Since Derived fields cannot be edited when AW is configured to auto-recalculate their value, the columns containing Derived fields were read only.

Analysis Workbench now stores this information for each loaded scan file and enables editing on a per-cell basis.



## State Images upgraded

State Images saves with previous versions of Analysis Workbench will not work with this version.

## Application Encyclopedia (ApE) Explorer

### New dialogs added

A new dialog to add application types and operating systems has been added.

A file properties dialog has been added.

A new login dialog has been added, to prevent unauthorized access to the database. For this release, a username of **ApeUser** and a password of **password** should be specified. Note that the user name and passwords are case sensitive and should be entered exactly as noted above.

## Application Library

The Software Application Index (SAI) files have been updated with the latest set of software applications in this version.

## Connect-It

### Scenarios removed

The Connect-It scenarios referred to in the *Desktop Inventory User's Guide* are not shipped with this version of the product.

Instead, a set of connectors and scenarios are shipped with Connect-It and any updated to the scenarios can be downloaded from the Peregrine support web site.

## Documentation and Help

The *Data Collected by the Scanners* document has been updated to reflect scanner changes in v7.1.1 and is now available as an HTML document accessible from the Start Menu.

The remaining documentation remains unchanged from v7.0.0.

# Installation information

## Earlier versions of the software

Desktop Inventory 7.1.1 can co-exist with parts of previous versions of Desktop Inventory and InfraTools Desktop Discovery.

The server components cannot coexist and any previous versions of these must be uninstalled before new ones can be installed. Server components are XML Enricher and ApE Server.

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**Important:** To migrate the contents of your ApE database to the new version, export it as a Read-only SAI prior to uninstalling the previous version of ApE.

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Uninstall all previous versions of the server components before installing the latest versions. The installer will not allow a new version to be installed before the old ones have been removed.

All other components (Analysis Workbench, Scanner Generator, Viewer, etc) can be installed in multiple versions.

## MySQL

If MySQL is not installed on the machine, Desktop Inventory will install a version of MySQL when the ApE Server is installed. In this case, the installer will automatically create the necessary database and tables for the ApE Database.

If MySQL is already installed on the machine, Desktop Inventory will not install MySQL again. For security reasons it cannot automatically create the ApE Database and a script to do this must be run.

For further information on how to do this, refer to the *Application Encyclopedia User's Guide*.

## Related documentation

For a complete list of current Desktop Inventory 7.1.1 documentation, see the Documentation pages on the Peregrine Customer Support web site at <http://support.peregrine.com>. (Access to this web page requires a current login name and password.)

You can download documentation PDF files and view them using Acrobat Reader, which is available on the Customer Support web site and through Adobe at <http://www.adobe.com>.

The following table contains related documentation for Desktop Inventory 7.1.1, including documents for installation (by platform), start-up use, and tailoring. This section also includes information about online help.

Title and Part Number	Description	Format
<i>Release Notes</i>	Contains information on the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ New features and enhancements</li> <li>■ Installation information</li> <li>■ Related documentation</li> <li>■ Known issues</li> <li>■ Corrected issues</li> <li>■ Compatibility information</li> </ul>	Print and PDF
<i>Release Notes DI 7.0.0</i>	Contains information relevant to users upgrading from IDD 6.03 or earlier.	PDF
<i>Installation and Upgrade Guide</i>	Explains how to install and configure the Desktop Inventory software.	Print and PDF
<i>User's Guide</i>	Contains details of the applications, a description of the features and details of how you would use the applications.	PDF
<i>Application Encyclopedia User's Guide</i>	Contains details of the application, a description of the features and details of how you would use the application.	PDF
<i>Planning Guide</i>	The guide provides an insight into some of the concepts and ideas behind planning an IT asset inventory. As such it is recommended reading for anyone planning on conducting an IT asset inventory using Desktop Inventory.	PDF

Title and Part Number	Description	Format
<i>Data Collected by the Scanners</i>	This guide is for reference purposes. It contains information about the hardware and configuration data collected by the Desktop Inventory 7.1.1 Scanners.	HTML
<i>Plug-in Interface Guide</i>	Contains an overview which is intended for anyone with a desire to know about the capabilities of the Desktop Inventory Scanner Plug-in Interface. The Technical chapter is intended for IT staff that require intimate knowledge of the interface in order to implement customized plug-ins.	PDF
<i>Analysis Workbench Help</i>	Contains details of the application, a description of the features and details of how you would use the application.	CHM
<i>Scanner Generator Help</i>	Contains details of the application, a description of the features and details of how you would use the application.	CHM
<i>Scanners Help</i>	Contains details of the application, a description of the features and details of how you would use the application.	CHM
<i>Viewer Help</i>	Contains details of the application, a description of the features and details of how you would use the application.	CHM
<i>Licence Manager</i>	Contains details of the application, a description of the features and details of how you would use the application.	CHM
<i>XML Enricher</i>	Contains details of the application, a description of the features and details of how you would use the application.	CHM
<i>SAI Update Wizard</i>	Contains details of the application, a description of the features and details of how you would use the application.	CHM
<i>FSF Converter</i>	Contains details of the application, a description of the features and details of how you would use the application.	CHM

## Known issues

The following sections contain known issues information for this release of Desktop Inventory 7.1.1.

- **Issue 7625: Scan File Names in OS/2**

If the default scanner is used on OS/2 systems supporting SMBIOS and the offsite save location is set to a FAT drive or other drive type that does not support long file names, the scanner cannot save the offsite scan file. This is because the file name is derived from the SMBIOS Asset Tag, which is string that is longer than 8 characters.

To scan such systems, the asset questionnaire should be changed to choose a different asset tag.

- **Issue 7599: Publisher descriptions in User SAI files**

When adding a new Publisher entry to a User SAI using Analysis Workbench, the Description string is not stored in the SAI file. To add Publishers with description strings, the ApE Explorer should be used.

- **Issue 4516: Using Formatted Scanner Fields on Japanese machines**

Formatted Scanner fields are not aware of multi-byte character set issues and should not be used in locales where such characters may be entered, such as Japan. In such locales, Free Form Text or Pick List fields should be used instead.

- **Issue 6725: Running the Windows Scanner on a RAID machine**

The partition scanning logic of the Windows Scanners cannot detect RAID drives correctly. When scanning machines with a RAID disk configuration or machines in a SAN, either run the scanner without Administrator rights or run the scanner with a -60 command line switch to disable low level disk detection.

- **Rights when scanning UNIX systems**

When scanning UNIX systems without root access, the scanner may output error messages caused by insufficient rights to certain key executables required by hardware detection. Such error messages can normally be ignored.

- **Documentation for scanner -O: and -P: switches is incorrect**

The -O: and -P: switches are mutually exclusive and only one of them can be used at a time. Which switch is valid for a given scanner depends on how the scanner was configured:

**-O: switch**

-O:<filename> is valid only when the **Asset Number Source** is set to **Scanner Command Line (/O switch)** in the **Asset Number** tab page of the Scanner Generator. It may contain a fully qualified file name, or just a path name, or just a file name.

If a file name is not supplied, the file is named **Default.fsf** or **Default.xml.gz**.

If only the filename is specified, then the file is stored in the path specified in the **Offsite Save path** specified in the scanner generator

**-P: switch**

-P:<path> is valid only when the **Asset Number Source** is set to **Asset Tag Field** in the **Asset Number** tab page of the Scanner Generator. When specified, it can be used to override the specified **Offsite Save Path**.

For compatibility-related issues, see [Compatibility information](#) on page 20.

## Corrected issues

Desktop Inventory 7.1.1 corrects several issues in v7.0.0. The list below is not meant to be comprehensive but covers those problems that were either reported by more than one customer or deemed of high importance.

Area	Ticket Number	Description and resolution
Installation	8501	The Application Encyclopedia user preferences database was not always created correctly on installation.
PC Scanners	8440	The scanner command-line option (-30) to disable video scanning did not also disable monitor scanning. A separate switch to disable monitor scanning (-31) was also introduced.
	8506	Some asset data configurations could cause the scanner to fail with an error message.
	8512	The DOS scanner did not correctly update asset fields referring to enumerated hardware fields (such as CPU Type).
	8558	Targeted Scanning would ignore entries pointing to the root of a volume, such as C:\.
	8559	The Win16 scanner would sometimes not detect the correct amount of memory when running in Windows 3.1x.

Area	Ticket Number	Description and resolution
PC Scanners	8632	The shortcuts to show the Log tab in the Windows scanners did not work.
	8648	Detection of PCMCIA cards in Windows did not always work correctly.
	7833	The Scanners allowed both -O: and -P: to be specified on the command line.
	7836	Refilling from an offsite Scan file did not work if InfrTool.ini was disabled.
	8414	Setting the default view to the Information page did not work.
	7507	The Scanners would not always pick up stored files located in “specific directory”.
	8368	The Win32 scanner would crash on Windows 95 when USB detection was enabled on machines with USB devices. USB support in Windows 95 does not conform to the later standards and the Scanners no longer attempt USB detection on these systems.
	8392	On machines with certain S3 graphics cards running Windows NT/2000/XP, monitor detection caused the machine to run very slowly. Monitor detection is now disabled for these machines.
	8769	On machines with a problematic BIOS, the Scanners would detect an incorrect size for hard disks larger than 9GB when run in Windows 9x or DOS.
UNIX Scanners	8601	The UNIX scanners did not correctly handle symlinks to non-existing directories.
	7851	The Swap File Location detected in the Linux scanners was correct but used a different syntax from that used for mount points.
	7891	The UNIX scanners sometimes could not detect the correct mount point free space and instead showed 0.

Area	Ticket Number	Description and resolution
UNIX Scanners	7970	The UNIX Scanners did not correctly validate the asset data input, for example allowing text input in a numeric field.
	7972	The AIX Scanner was not always able to get the CPU Serial Number.
	8034	The Disk Geometry (Cylinders, Heads and Sectors) was sometimes displayed as 0 when no data should be displayed.
	8147	The AIX Scanner did not always detect as much hardware data as it should.
	8065	The permissions for the offsite save file in UNIX was set to 400 (-r-----, meaning it could only be read by the owner, and not be written to). The permissions are now set to 644 (-rw-r--r--).
	8407	The Scan Date of all UNIX scans was registered as being exactly 1 day in the future.
	8708, 8739	The HP/UX Scanner would not scan directories in Targeted Scan if a trailing slash was found in the directory. This would be the case if \$PATH included a trailing slash, for example.
	8737	Mount point size figures in UNIX were incorrect. The figures recorded were in MB, but were shown in KB.



Area	Ticket Number	Description and resolution
All Scanners	8401	<p>When using an Asset Field referring to a hardware item that can have multiple instances (such as MAC address), the Scanners used to concatenate all of the values, separating them with “\”.</p> <p>In scanners where this field was used to specify the Asset Tag, the scan file could not be saved as a result.</p> <p>This has been changed so the Scanners now pick the first item from the list that conforms to the criteria for the field. This allows the user to configure a list of undesirable or invalid entries in the Ignore list.</p>
	8508	If the user disabled hardware detection, it was still possible to set up the software scan as a “targeted scan”. Since targeted scanning requires extensive configuration information to be collected, it can no longer be selected if hardware scanning is disabled.
	8637	When setting up a Targeted scan, Scanner Generator always assumed the “Start Menu” setting was unchecked.
Scanner Generator	8185	The Scanner Generator does not display correctly when Large Fonts are enabled. A warning message has been added.
	8334	Clicking on the field header when defining a Sequence field in Scanner Generator caused the screen to corrupt.
	7737	If the Browse button was used to browse to the save location, the Settings.txt file would not be created.
	8515, 8546	When using Advanced hardware view, sorting the primary view would cause the linked items to be incorrect.
	8527	The Find File dialog would not always go to the right file.
Viewer	8528	The Properties dialog for a drive had the Capacity and Free Space number swapped around.

Area	Ticket Number	Description and resolution
Viewer	8530	Viewer allowed some hardware fields and derived asset fields to be edited. It now only allows editing of standard asset fields.
	8553	In Viewer, the Window menu could not be used to switch between open scan files.
	8600	In the software view, right-clicking on a “link” did not always navigate to the destination directory.
	8204	Viewer would sometimes show an error message if the hardware tree was navigated after editing asset data.
Analysis Workbench	8548	Editing Asset data did not correctly update derived fields, and also did not support different Asset field setups for different scan files.  The Asset data editor now enables editing on a per-cell basis instead of on a per-column basis.
	8574	When deleting items from a User SAI, the items would not be deleted from the actual file unless the option was set to “Delete when AW Exits”.
	7615, 8583	Export of Stored Files did not work for some UNIX scan files.
	8624	When using the Change Case function of asset data editing, derived fields were not recalculated.
	7958	The order of columns in the Machine window was not stored correctly when saving the Window layout.
	8248	It was not possible to launch stored queries from Analysis Workbench script files.
	8089	Relational Exports did not work correctly because the exports were not set to Detailed.

Area	Ticket Number	Description and resolution
Analysis Workbench	8608	<p>When doing a Detailed Machine or Relational export, data items in arrays (such as shares, environment variables, etc) did not have a unique column header.</p> <p>When exporting such items, the index is now appended to the column header (like in the machines window).</p>
ApE Explorer	7931	<p>When importing a Master.sai into the ApE database using the ApE Explorer on a system with a primary language of German, the import failed.</p>
XML Enricher	8678	<p>The XML Enricher now verifies that the scan file is complete before opening it for enrichment.</p> <p>This allows scan files to be transferred to the incoming directory using slow mechanisms like FTP.</p>
	7916	<p>By default, the XML Enricher waited for 20 seconds between each scan file, even when more scan files were queued for processing in the incoming directory.</p> <p>This delay has been removed.</p>

## Compatibility information

Compatibility matrices for Peregrine products, which identify the hardware and software requirements for installing this release, are available in the Software pages of the Customer Support web site at: <http://support.peregrine.com>.

Peregrine Systems recommends that you check the web sites of the suppliers of the platforms in use at your site to verify that they are still supported. Peregrine Systems, Inc. only offers limited support for platforms that are no longer supported by the vendor.

## Backwards compatibility

The following table contains known compatibility information for this release of Desktop Inventory 7.1.1.

Area	Description
FSFs	<p>In order to ensure backwards compatibility for FSFs collected with Scanners from IDD 6.03 and earlier, an FSF Converter Wizard is included with Desktop Inventory.</p> <p>The FSF Converter accepts FSFs from IDD v4.40 to 6.03 and converts these to Desktop Inventory Compressed XML format. The converted scan files can be used with all Desktop Inventory tools, including the XML Enricher.</p> <p>Scan files collected with Desktop Inventory 7.0.0 do not need to be converted and can be used without change in v7.1.1.</p>
Refilling	<p>The Desktop Inventory Scanners can perform Asset Data refilling from IDD FSFs, even when these have not been converted to the new format. This ability allows an existing inventory scheme to be continued by simply upgrading the Scanners used.</p>

Area	Description
SAIs and ApE	<p>Software Application Index files and customized ApE databases from IDD 6.03 can be used with Desktop Inventory 7.1.1, provided the upgrade procedures are followed.</p> <p>SAI files from v7.0.0 can be used with no changes.</p> <p>To upgrade your ApE Database, export the contents of the old database to a Read-only SAI first, and import this into the new database when the new version has been installed.</p>
Licences	<p>The licence for previous versions of IDD and Desktop Inventory are no longer valid for Desktop Inventory 7.1.1 installations.</p> <p>To obtain a new licence, contact customer support.</p>

For more information on upgrade issues, please refer to the Desktop Inventory Installation and Upgrade Guide.

## Additional contact information

Peregrine is committed to ensuring your success with our products. We offer a number of ways for you to provide product feedback, suggest enhancements, and receive technical assistance with any issues you encounter.

### Internet

Peregrine Systems has an extensive online support web site available 24 hours a day. From this web site you can obtain product licenses, submit service requests and surveys, consult our Knowledge Base, review Technical Notes, obtain product documentation, and enter enhancement requests.

- 1 To access the Peregrine Customer Support web site, go to <http://supportweb.peregrine.com>
- 2 Enter a current login name (this is your valid Support Contract ID) and your password. If you do not know your user name and password, contact Peregrine Customer Support directly at the telephone numbers listed below.
- 3 Select the Online Services tab to submit a service request or to obtain a license. You will be notified and given a ticket number when your request is received by Peregrine Customer Support.

## Telephone

Direct access to Peregrine Customer Support engineers is available by telephone. You can find the telephone numbers for all Peregrine products by accessing the Customer Support web site at <http://supportweb.peregrine.com>.

Use the following telephone numbers for Desktop Inventory product support only. Before contacting Peregrine Customer Support, please have ready your user name, password, and system information.

<b>North America</b>	1-925-469-4200 5:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Pacific Standard Time (U.S.), excluding pre-announced Peregrine holidays.
<b>Europe (EMEA)</b>	+44 1344 866800 6:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Greenwich Mean Time (England), excluding pre-announced Peregrine holidays.
<b>Asia Pacific</b>	+65 551 5080 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Singapore Time, excluding pre-announced Peregrine holidays.

International customers outside these areas, please contact your local Peregrine Partner for support.

## E-mail

Peregrine also accepts technical inquiries by e-mail. Send your requests to [support@peregrine.com](mailto:support@peregrine.com). You will receive e-mail notification when we receive your message.