DBA Classic Conversion Guide

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1   Introduction

DBA Manufacturing is a completely different product

DBA Manufacturing is a completely <u>different</u> product than *DBA Classic*.

Different Origin

DBA Manufacturing originated from a software package named *Ezijobz SME*, which we acquired from another company in 2003. It was re-branded with the DBA name in late 2004 when our programming team took over product development.

Different Technology

DBA Manufacturing's technology is completely different than *DBA Classic's* technology. It is written in a different programming language (Delphi vs. TAS) and uses a different database (Firebird SQL vs. Pervasive).

Different Multi-User Control

Both systems limit the number of users who can access the system at any given time to your licensed user count. *DBA Manufacturing* has an additional restriction whereby the number of user logon ID's that can be designated as "active" is limited to your licensed user count.

> NOTE: In some cases this may require purchase of additional users when converting to the new system.

Different Feature Set

The two products serve the same target market – manufacturing businesses – and have many of the same modules, but the similarities end there. Within the modules the features and functions are quite different.

Different Support Model

Unlike the old fee-for-service support model used with *Classic*, support for *DBA Manufacturing* is Internet-based and is provided via a flat fee support subscription.

The decision to convert is yours alone

We are neutral in regards to which system you use. <u>Only you can make the decision to change systems</u>. You must look at *DBA Manufacturing* objectively like you would any other new product and decide if it's in your best interest to make the change.

Follow the Startup Wizard

If you decide to convert to *DBA Manufacturing*, you must go through the exact same implementation process that any other company would undergo coming from a non-DBA system. This means that you must complete all the tasks in the *Startup Wizard.*

The *Startup Wizard* provides videos and documentation that guide you through a set of sequential setup and rehearsal tasks leading up to system startup day. If you have a question within a given task, you can submit a support ticket and we will help you. By the time you get to startup day, your system will be properly set up and users fully rehearsed for live operations.

Use the standard chart of accounts

DBA Manufacturing is supplied with a standard chart of accounts that is optimized for manufacturing and for the *DBA Manufacturing* system. Instead of using your existing chart of accounts, we provide a means whereby you cross-reference your old accounts with the standard accounts and add new accounts for any exceptions.

Multi-Currency is not supported within the DBA Legacy Financials

If you are using the *Legacy Financials* accounting configuration, be aware that the legacy financial modules --*Accounts Receivable*, *Accounts Payable*, and *Banking* – have no multi-currency capabilities. For multi-currency processing you must convert to the *Financial Transfer* accounting configuration and a mainstream accounting package for financial processes (receivables, payables, banking, payroll, overall general ledger).

[Financial Transfer Guide Multi-Currency](#)

[Using a Mainstream Accounting Package](#)

Do not convert without a support subscription

Any company that converts to an all-new manufacturing system cannot realistically do so without any training and support.

Our flat-fee support subscription is resource-based and provides value to all your users, whether your company uses support tickets heavily or not at all. During the conversion process you will most assuredly have questions and will benefit from our help.

Support: What to expect and not to expect

The Internet-based support model we use with *DBA Manufacturing* is quite different than the fee-for service model we offered in the *DBA Classic* era. It is more affordable, more responsive, and offers many more self-help resources. Here are some things to keep in mind as you get involved with our support program.

Expect support to be an ongoing cost over the life of the system

You should not attempt to convert to *DBA Manufacturing* on your own and should budget for a support subscription. In fact, we advise customers to maintain a support subscription over the life of the product. To encourage this, after your initial 6-month subscription expires, you receive a special renewal rate that is discounted by $200 that stays in effect for as long as you continue your subscription without interruption.

Do not expect "per incident" or free support

The purpose of our support subscription model is to eliminate fee-for-service billing in favor of a low-cost flat fee that is affordable for all. Therefore, we do not offer any type of "per incident" alternative. We also do not provide any free or "back channel" support for system installation or updates.

Do not expect to pick up the phone

Without exception, all support is initiated through a support ticket. The ticket queue is monitored throughout business hours and channels all support requests through a central system. We do not have a support phone number. Please do not call our sales office for support-related issues.

Do not expect our support staff to be familiar with DBA Classic

Our support staff knows *DBA Manufacturing* well, but not one person on the staff comes from the *DBA Classic* era. So when you submit tickets, please don't compare and contrast how *DBA Classic* did something with the way *DBA Manufacturing* does it because it will have no meaning to our support people.

Data Transfer: What not to expect

Do not expect complete data transfer

The DBATRAN utility only exports master tables. It does not export open sales orders, work orders, purchase orders, customer invoices, supplier invoices, or transactional history. For some time after the conversion you will want to retain access to *Classic* in order to reference historical information.

Do not expect guaranteed data export

We cannot guarantee that the DBATRAN utility will work for all *Classic* systems. DBATRAN only works with certain version of Pervasive and may not work on systems that have been altered with custom programming or add-on products such as Evo-ERP. DBATRAN does not work on some systems for unknown reasons.

So try DBATRAN and hopefully it will work for your system. If you cannot make it work, you can export data on your own using the Pervasive Control Center.

Hardware & Network Considerations

A final factor to consider before making a conversion to *DBA Manufacturing* is the status of your hardware and network. *DBA Classic* uses older technology that runs on older machines. *DBA Manufacturing*. like most newer software programs, requires more memory, more processing power, and a faster network. You should review our system requirements, which are listed in our *Installation Guide*, and upgrade your equipment and network if required.

2　Classic Features Not Supported

This chapter provides a listing of some *DBA Classic* features that do not have an equivalent capability in *DBA Manufacturing*.

NOTE: This is a <u>partial</u> list and should not substitute for making a thorough trial run to make sure *DBA Manufacturing*

Data Collection

We do not have a formal job clock.. The *Job Labor* screen provides real time job tracking based on routing sequence completions. It also enables you to enter labor hours or you can pre-fill labor based on item completions and estimated cycle times. To improve throughput and efficiency, our recommendation is to use standard hours completions for your labor transactions.

[Training Guide - Job Labor](#)

Estimating

There is no formal estimating module. You can enter a sales quote that can be converted into a sales order, but the sales quote itself does not perform any computations. You can use the *Cost Rollup* screen to calculated estimated BOM costs.

[Custom Manufacturing Sequence of Events](#)

Features & Options

We do not offer the features and options as set up in Classic.   We do support custom manufacturing using the off item item feature.

[Custom Manufacturing Guide](#)

Forms – No text versions

DBA Manufacturing does not offer text-based formats for printed forms. Only graphical formats are supported.

Interest on Overdue Accounts

There is no means to calculate and bill customers for interest on overdue invoice amounts.

Multi-Currency

DBA Manufacturing only offers multi-currency functionality in the Financial Transfer mode using an outside mainstream accounting package for the financial accounting. If you are using multi-currency in Classic, you will need to switch to a mainstream accounting system for your financial accounting.

[Financial Transfer Guide - Multi-Currency](#)

[Using a Mainstream Accounting Package](#)

Multiple Companies – requires separate installation and license

In *DBA Classic*, you could create an unlimited number of additional companies that were under the umbrella of a single license and multi-user controls. In *DBA Manufacturing* you are supplied with a main company and a sample company. Additional companies require separate installation and do not share user logons with other companies, nor is there any provision for multi-company GL consolidation. Additional companies are licensed separately – call for pricing.

[Financial Transfer Guide - Multiple Operating Entities](#)

Payroll

DBA Manufacturing does not include a Payroll module. The payroll function is completely independent from job labor, which means you can use any outside payroll software package or service.   A *Payroll Import* program enables you to import summarized payroll information into the General Ledger if you choose to continue to use DBA Legacy Financials.   If you choose the Financial Transfer option we recommend that you use a mainstream accounting package for your banking and payroll.

[Payroll Accounting](#)

Recurring Sales Orders

Recurring sales orders must be done manually by copying previous sales orders as needed.

RFQ – limited capability

You can designate a PO as being a 'quote', which exempts it from MRP, but there is no RFQ conversion feature that updates pricing tables from RFQ's.

Scrap Codes & QC Codes

A formal table of scrap and QC codes, with appropriate reports, has not yet been added to *Next-Gen*.   You can report on material usage in the *Jobs > Data View> Closed Job Material Usage*.

Sales Commissions – no calculations

In *DBA Manufacturing* you can track sales by sales rep and can get totals by item category and customer type, but no percentages are maintained and no calculations are made.

Sales Tax Payment – no auto transfer

Sales tax detail is provided in reports, but there is no way to automatically transfer sales tax payable into AP entries for payment. AP entries must be made manually.

Tool Table

You do not have the ability to specify tools within routing sequences. You can designate machines at the work center.

WIP Percent Completion Report

There is no report that assesses the overall completion status of a job, normally used for percentage billing purposes.

3   Creating Data Transfer Spreadsheets

You can transfer major master tables from *DBA Classic* to *DBA Manufacturing*. This data transfer is accomplished by exporting master tables into Excel spreadsheets, then editing the spreadsheets as needed, then importing the data into *DBA Manufacturing*.

In this chapter we show you how to use the DBATRAN data export utility to create a set of Excel spreadsheets that you will use for various tasks during the "setup" phase of implementation.

Why spreadsheets transfer instead of direct import?

Master tables are exported into spreadsheets instead of being imported directly into *Next-Gen*. This is because most of the tables require some editing before they can be imported to make them compatible with the requirements of the corresponding tables in *DBA Manufacturing*. Spreadsheets are optimized for editing large sets of data and are the ideal medium for data transfer purposes.

Classic System Requirements

In order to run DBATRAN, your *DBA Classic* system must meet these requirements.

- You must be on DBA Clas0sic version 2001.1 or higher.

- Your database engine must be Pervasive 2000i or later. Version 2000i must be SP4 with the Pervasive 2000i "Hot Fix" applied.

    You can determine which version of Pervasive you have by launching DBA and noting the version listed on the Pervasive banner screen that is briefly displayed when the database engine starts up.

    On the following website page you will find download links to to the Pervasive 2000i SP4 update and the Pervasive 2000i "Hot Fix".

    DBA Website - DBA Classic FAQ

    NOTE: Pervasive.SQL 2000i SP4 updates your Pervasive.SQL 2000i SP3 database engine. If you do not have SP3 installed, running this program has no effect on your installation.

Incompatible Versions

DBATRAN is not compatible with versions earlier than 2000i or Pervasive 9.5 and higher.

If you cannot get DBATRAN to run

If you cannot get DBATRAN to run, you can create your data transfer manually. See the next chapter, Exporting from DBA Classic, for details.

Installing DBATRAN

1. Download DBA2NG.EXE from our website

The first strep is to download an installation file named DBA2NG.EXE. A link to this file is provided on the *DBA Classic FAQs* page on our website. Links to this web page can be found on the *Pricing* page and *Contact* page.

Download DBA2NG.EXE into a temporary folder on the same machine where your *DBA Classic* data resides.

2. Run DBA2NG.EXE

Double click on DBA2NG.EXE, which extracts DBATRANEXE as well as several accompanying DLL files. Leave all these files in the temporary folder.

3. Prepare DBA Classic for conversion

Do the following before you run DBATRAN.

- Have all other users exit DBA Classic.

- Run DBA Classic and change to the company from which you will be exporting data.

- Go to UT-A and run ODBDDF. This program creates a full set of DDF files that are needed for data export.

4. Run DBATRAN

Browse to your temporary folder and double click on DBATRAN.EXE, which launches the Pervasive database engine and then the main screen, which contains these settings:

1. Select DBA Classic Location

Browse to the location of your main DBAMFG folder.

2. Select DBA Classic Company

Use the lookup to select the *DBA Classic* company from which you wish to export data.

3. Set Output File Location

Browse to the folder where you want your export spreadsheets to be created.

4. Connect to DBA Classic Data

Click the *Connect* button to connect to the DBA Classic database.

5. Begin the Export

Click the *Export* button to begin the export.

If you are on Pervasive 2000i and cannot get DBATRAN to run:

If you are on Pervasive 2000i and you cannot get DBATRAN to run, you must apply two service pack updates, as follows:

- First, you must update to Pervasive 2000i SP4 (service pack 4). You can download SP4 from the *DBA Classic FAQs* page on our website.

- After you install SP4, you must install the Pervasive."Hot Fix" (HF_SRDE.exe). This file is also found on the *DBA Classic FAQs* page on our website.

Spreadsheet Listing

DBATRAN creates the following 12 Excel spreadsheets in the CSV file format.

ClassicCustomer.csv
ClassicCustomerContacts.csv
ClassicSupplier.csv
ClassicSupplierContacts.csv
ClassicInventory.csv
ClassicInventoryExclusions.csv
ClassicBasePrices.csv
ClassicItemSources.csv
ClassicBOMs.csv
ClassicBOMExclusions.csv
ClassicRoutings.csv
ClassicRoutingExclusions.csv

Data Import Considerations

Here are some points to consider when importing the following tables:

Item Sources

File: ClassicItemSources.csv

In *DBA Classic* there was no association between *Suppliers* and *Manufacturers*, whereas in *DBA Manufacturing*, *Manufacturers* and *Mfgr Part Nos* are assigned to *Suppliers*.

This spreadsheet has separate lines for *Suppliers* and *Manufacturers*. You must blend this information into single lines by adding the *Manufacturer* and *Mfgr Part No* into each *Supplier* line and then deleting the *Manufacturer* line.

Descriptors

File: ClassicInventoryExclusions.csv

In *DBA Manufacturing*, non-stock items were referred to as "Descriptors" and are stored in a separate table from *Stock Items*. *Descriptors* cannot be imported and must be entered manually.

Your non-stock items were excluded from the *ClassicInventory.csv* spreadsheet used for *Stock Items* import. All your non-stock items are listed on this spreadsheet (*ClassicInventoryExclusions.csv*), which you can use as guide for manual data entry.

BOM Routings

File: ClassicRoutingExclusions.csv

In *DBA Classic* you could assign a routing to a non-stock parent item, which is not possible in *DBA Manufacturing*. Any such routings were excluded from the *ClassicRoutings.csv* spreadsheet used for *BOM Routings* import. This spreadsheet (*ClasicRoutingExclusions.csv*) lists these excluded routings for your reference.

Manual entry recommended

Routings drive shop control and subcontracting, so it is vitally important that they are set up properly and conform to subassembly product structures. Instead of importing your routings, consider setting up work centers, subcontractors, routing processes, and tasks from scratch to achieve proper setup and take full advantage of the settings and capabilities available in *DBA Manufacturing* routings. Click this link for an overview:

📘 BOM Guide - Routings

BOM Components

File: ClassicBOMExclusions.csv

In *DBAClassic*, BOM labor could be defined with non-stock labor items instead of using *Routings*. In *DBA Manufacturing* we are standardizing on the use of *Routings* for labor definition. All non-stock items were excluded from the *ClassicBOMs.csv* used for *BOM Components* import. This spreadsheet (*ClassicBOMExclusions.csv*) lists these non-stock components and can be used as a guide for manually entering *Routings*.

Additionally, in *DBA Classic* you could assign *BOM Components* to a non-stock parent item, which is not possible in *DBA Manufacturing*. All components for such BOMs are listed on this spreadsheet for your reference.

4   Exporting from DBA Classic

If you are unable to create data transfer spreadsheets using DBATRAN, data transfer spreadsheets can be created by manual export.

Export Tables

Here are the names of the *DBA Classic* tables that can be exported to data transfer spreadsheets:

BKARCUST - Customers

BKAPVEND - Suppliers

BKICMSTR - Stock Items

BKBMMSTR - BOM Components

ROUTING - BOM Routings

Manual entry recommended

Routings drive shop control and subcontracting, so it is vitally important that they are set up properly and conform to subassembly product structures. Instead of importing your routings, consider setting up work centers, subcontractors, routing processes, and tasks from scratch to achieve proper setup and take full advantage of the settings and capabilities available in *DBA Manufacturing* routings. Click this link for an overview:

📘 BOM Guide - Routings

DE-A Export Data

Use this *DBA Classic* program to export all or selective records and fields from DBA data files to a disk file in an ASCII format. The disk file can then be imported into other programs such as spreadsheets.

General Program Operation

Enter the DBA file name of the file you wish to export from or select one from a pop-up window by pressing the F2 key.

The program automatically assigns an output filename which consists of the file's name followed by an extension of ".TXT." This will be the name of the disk file that can be imported into other programs. You can override this name and give it one of your own, if you wish.

If you have previously exported from this file to this output file name and saved the format, you will be asked Do you want to use previously saved format? If yes, you can

export the data immediately without going through the selection process or you can edit the previous selections (for example, to change a date range filter).

Next specify the output file type, which is displayed in a pop-up window. Your choices are as follows.

- Fixed Length: Each field will be output in exact field lengths with no space in between.

- Delimited: Each field will be separated by a comma and each alphanumeric field will be surrounded by quote "" symbols.

- Textfile: Each field will be output in exact field length with one space between each field.

- Common: Each field will be variable length, separated by a user defined character. You will be prompted for a character. The default character is a brace (|).

Special: Each field will be on a separate line, resulting in a vertical format. Each record will be separated by a user defined character. You will be prompted for a character. The default character is an asterisk (*).

Next you will be asked *Output all or selected fields?* If you specify all, you will advance to the next field. If you specify selected, all the fields in the file will display in a pop-up window. One-by-one highlight the fields you want exported and press <Enter>. When you are done selecting fields, press <Esc>.

All the fields you selected are displayed in the main area of the screen. You may now press <Enter> through any of the fields and indicate whether at each field whether it is to be filtered or not. If you enter a Y for filter, you will be asked for a from/thru range or records.

At any point you may press <Esc> to move on to the next field. At the Sort by Index Field, press F2 for a pop-up window which lists the indexed fields within this field by which you can sort. Highlight the sort field you want and press <Enter>.

You will be asked if you wish to proceed with the export. If you indicate yes, you are asked if you wish to save the format for future use. Save the format if the selections you just made will be used again in the future.

You will see the records being processed one-by-one on the screen. When finished you will be asked if you wish to view your exported data. If yes, you will see the output records displayed on the screen.