Release Notes – Build 398

Build 398.2.0 – Released March 30, 2021

Contents

Overview

In this time of economic crisis, every manufacturer has to tighten its belt. Build 398 gives you an exciting new planning tool that will help you reduce lead times, stop inventory accumulation, and minimize shortages.

Multi Item Stock Status (New)

The centerpiece of build 398 is our new Multi Item Stock Status inquiry screen, which enables you to assess the summarized stock status of multiple items, aided by a variety of filtering options and drill-down to the single item Stock Status screen.

This inquiry complements MRP and is driven by the same settings. If you are a manual planner, this inquiry will be of immense help, but more importantly, we hope it educates and inspires you to use demand-driven MRP, which is the best way by far to reduce lead times, eliminate stock accumulation, and minimize the frequency and duration of shortages.

System Administrator Task List

<u>Pre-Installation Recommendations</u>

Support subscription recommended

We recommend obtaining an ongoing support subscription so that you can submit support tickets if you need any assistance with the product update or any other issues.

<u>Always</u> make a manual backup!

Always make a manual backup of your main company database, custom form layouts, and documents and images before installing any product update.

Database

We recommend backing up your main company database using the Backup Manager utility (see below), which automatically detects the database path.

Otherwise, the main company database file (*EJDB.FDB*) is normally located in the following folder -- *(drive letter\program files (x86)\DBA Manufacturing\Database*.

Custom Form Layouts (*.rtm files)

Custom form layouts are stored as **.rtm* files in the *Reports* folder, normally in this path -- *(drive letter\program files (x86)\DBA Manufacturing\Reports*.

Documents and Images

Documents and images can be saved into user-selected folders. Back up the appropriate folders as needed.

Use the Backup Manager

A new Backup Manager was introduced in previous build 395. It is used for database backups and should be incorporated into your current backup procedures.

The Backup Manager is an external utility that is used to create database backups, to restore from backup when needed, and to optimize your database performance with a simultaneous backup and restore.

Used solely for database backups

The Backup Manager is not a generic backup utility that can be used with multiple file types. Its sole purpose is to create database backups to the server and mirror copies to an external drive. These database backups can then be incorporated into your general server backup to the cloud or an off-site location.

Creates FBK files

When the Backup Manager makes a database backup, it creates an FBK file that can be safely backed up with a generic software program or service. An FBK file is created using the GBAK utility supplied with the Firebird database. Besides backing up the database, the FBK file does the following:

- Rebuilds indices
- Eliminates obsolete record versions ("garbage")
- Defragment database pages
- Rewrites database tables contiguously

So whenever you restore from an FBK backup file, your database is optimized to be leaner and more efficient.

The backup fails if data corruption is encountered

When an FBK backup file is being created, the backup process will fail if data corruption is encountered that cannot be fixed. The benefit from this is that if yesterday's FBK file was successfully created, you know with confidence that the data corruption occurred in your most recent business day. You can therefore safely restore from yesterday's backup and you minimize any data loss to just one day.

Incorporate FBK backup files in your daily general backup

You will continue to make a general daily backup of all the critical data folders on your server, not just for DBA but for other applications as well. The general daily backup should incorporate the *(drive letter)\ProgramData\DBABackup* folder, which contains your FBK backup files.

Accessed from the server

The Backup Manager is accessed from the server by clicking *Windows Start – DBA Manufacturing – Utilities – Backup Manager*.

Instructions

Refer to the Installation / Update guide for Backup Manager instructions.

Review resolved programming issues

A list of resolved programming issues in build 398 is available in the "What's New" area of the support center.

Build 398 Releases

Build 398.2.0	Service Pack	March 30, 2021
Build 398.1.0	Service Pack	
Build 398.0.0	Main Release	

Service Pack 398.2.0

This service pack update provides several programming issue fixes. Refer to the following document for specifics.

Programming Issues Resolved Build 398

New Features - Service Pack 398.1.0

Job Inquiry

(*Jobs – Job Inquiry*)

This inquiry, which is the definitive reference for job cost information, has several key enhancements.

Header Panel

A new Est Job Cost field has been added to the header panel, along with a visual indicator when multiple outputs exist.

Est Job Cost Tab (New)

This new tab is devoted entirely to estimated job costs, broken out into four sub-tabs – Summary, Routing Costs, Material Costs, Misc Costs -- each with a Unit Cost or Total Cost option.

Job Costs Tab

The Job Lines sub-tab has been enhanced with new fields for Qty Per, Act Qty, and Est Cost.

New Features - Main Release Build 398.0.0

Stock Status

(*Inventory – Stock Status*)

This inquiry is now an option on the Inventory menu, where it precedes the new Multi Item Stock Status inquiry (see below). On the Summary tab, a Beyond Planning Period panel has been added below the Planning Period Availability panel.

Multi Item Stock Status (New)

(*Inventory - Multi Item Stock Status*)

This new screen enables you to assess the summarized stock status of multiple items, aided by a variety of filtering options and drill-down to the single item Stock Status screen.

Screen Help – Multi Item Stock Status