

What's New in MicroStrategy 9 Release 3

(FYI: this release is also known as version 9.0.2)

MicroStrategy 9 Release 3 introduces new **Data Import** feature that enable users to import data from local Excel files or from database query [from MicroStrategy Web](#) into an Intelligent Cube. During the import process, users can map the columns from the Excel spreadsheet or returned by the database query to attributes and metrics which form the definition of the Intelligent Cube. Once data is imported into an intelligent Cube is created, users can build reports and dashboards of this cube, just as they would on any other Intelligent Cube. Data can be refreshed by simply importing an updated Excel file or rerunning the query into the Intelligent Cube.

With Version 9 Release3, MicroStrategy provides expands the list of Multi-Dimensional data-source it can access by providing ability to connect to Cognos TM1 cubes. Architects can connect to a Cognos TM1 cube and import the cube definition into MicroStrategy. MicroStrategy automatically maps a Cognos TM1 cube definition into MicroStrategy attributes and metrics which can be used to build reports and dashboards. A Cognos TM1 connector provided a part of the product install must be installed in order to connect to Cognos TM1 cubes.

Finally, with Version 9 Release 3, architects can extract data from Web-Services by writing a Free-From X-Query through a Free-Form editor.

Note: Please refer to the product readmes for comprehensive product information including *What's New, System Requirements and Compatibility, Certified and Supported Configurations, Installing and Upgrading*.

Performance enhancements for The MicroStrategy Platform in 9.0.2

MicroStrategy 9.0.2 provides various enhancements to the performance of the MicroStrategy 9.0.x line. Express Mode replaces the old View mode and delivers high performance through fast rendering. MicroStrategy 9 Release 3 incorporates a new data compression technology that reduces dashboard size by 80% enabling them to be transferred incredibly fast over networks. A new client rendering engine complements this data compression architecture by generating the HTML dashboard on the web client improving rendering performance by 50%.

The performance of flash dashboard and rendering has been also improved. With server-side optimizations and re-designed rendering engine and with on-demand grid rendering, flash dashboards perform significantly faster.

MicroStrategy 9 Release 3 introduces several metadata changes for better metadata management. New algorithms have been designed that have resulted in a dramatic reduction in metadata upgrade time. Performance enhancements projects are loaded in parallel rather than serially reducing time taken for the Intelligence Server to start up.

Improved MicroStrategy Upgrade Workflow and Support

The MicroStrategy Configuration Wizard has been enhanced to support the process of upgrading MicroStrategy projects and environments to the most recent version of MicroStrategy. The upgrade support includes system object unification where system objects - which are objects that get created with a new project - GUIDs are changed to a standardized GUID. This is applicable to those projects that were created in v801 or earlier.

MicroStrategy Mobile

MicroStrategy Mobile for iPhone

- **Alert Push Notifications:** enables users to receive a notification on their iPhone when a threshold condition is met. Such An alert can be set from MicroStrategy Web.
- **PNG Format Support:** Support for Images in PNG format
- **Multi-Tasking:** Support for suspended state in iOS4 that allow users to resume a session from where they left off.
- **New Widgets for iPhone**
 - RSS Widget to display RSS Feeds
 - New marker style included in the map widget
- **Additional SDK samples**
 - Timesheet sample
 - Mashup point sample
 - Write back sample

MicroStrategy Mobile for iPad

- **Alert Push Notifications:** Enables users to receive a notification on their iPad when a threshold condition is met. Such An alert can be set up from MicroStrategy Web.
- **Stability:** Improvements in memory management and stability
- **Linked Drilling Support:** Provides users the ability to organize different related business reports into standardized workflows.
- **Email Report Screen:** Ability to send an email of the currently selected screen as an attachment.
- **Support for Additional Graph Types**
 - Bubble Graph
 - Gauge graphs
- **Support for Additional Widgets**

- Microcharts
- Map Widget
- Time Series

MicroStrategy Web

- **Custom Groups on Web:** Custom Groups can now be created over web. Note that no 'Create Custom Group' option is provided. This feature is available through an ICON on the toolbar
- **Advanced Filtering Support:** provides the ability to create metric-to-metric or attribute-to-attribute filters over MicroStrategy Web.
- **Support for opening Links from Widgets:** supported for Microchart, heatmaps, interactive bubble graph, and data cloud widgets.
- **Microchart widget enhancements:** Treeview for Microchart, aggregated spark lines and bullet graphs.
- **NEW Data Import (Interface):** Interface for importing data from Excel, CSV files, and databases directly into Intelligent Cubes. To access this interface, a Web Professional license is needed.
- **Integration with ESRI Mapping:** Integrates with ESRI – (either cloud based or server based) - to show business reports as maps.
- **Additional Portal Support:** Liferay Portal 5.2.3 and DotNetNuke 5.4.4 supported as portal environments

MicroStrategy OLAP Services

- **NEW Data Import:** Data can be uploaded from Excel, CSV files, and databases directly into Intelligent Cubes. As uploaded data is stored as an Intelligent Cube, this capability requires an OLAP Services license.
- **Dynamic Sourcing Enhancements:** Capability that enable reports to access In-Memory Cubes which contain nested aggregations or non-aggregatable metrics.
- **In-Memory Cube Enhancements:** Support for executing Report Services documents based on In-Memory Cubes in a clustered environment.
- **Memory Governing:** Intelligence Server memory can be governed by choosing whether Cubes can be loaded into memory immediately after being published.

MicroStrategy Report Services

- **Dashboards in a PDF Container:** Ability to export FLASH Dashboards in a PDF container. To enable this behavior, the **Export to Flash format** setting in the Project Configuration → Export Settings must be set to PDF.
- **NEW Express Mode:** A New Express Mode has been introduced and replaces the old static View Mode.
Express Mode offers much faster rendering and interaction of dashboards and provides basic interactivity such as
 - Sorting
 - Pivoting
 - Drilling
 - Navigation to Links.
- **Selector control enhancements:**
 - Ability to change the selection color for grid-based and link bar selectors.
 - Dynamic default option section: A selector can be designed to show the last 7 days instead, rather than a static date selection
 - Users can re-set selections to their original state
- **Increased interactivity on Grids in Flash Mode**
 - Sorting and Pivoting
 - Open links to reports and documents
 - On-Grid Filtering
 - Clear Filter
 - Drill within

MicroStrategy Distribution Services

- **Dashboards in a PDF Container:** Ability to send FLASH Dashboards in a PDF Container (Format). To enable this behavior, the **Export to Flash format** setting in the Project Configuration → Export Settings must be set to PDF.

MicroStrategy Intelligence Server

- **New performance counters:** The following counters have been added in 9.0.2, XML Generation, DB Table, Export to Excel, Export to PDF, Export to Text, Export to Flash, Object Server Cache and Element Server Cache.
- **NEW VLDB setting:** to control whether to display NULL as a 0 (zero) in line graphs to maintain continuity.
- **Improvements to metadata performance:** Further Index optimizations for metadata tables.

- **Security filter enhancements:** Ability to INTERSECT Security filters (previously, security filters were only Unioned)
- **Updated “Use Translation Editor” privilege behavior:** This capability now enables users to translate objects in the metadata **without** modifying the object definition (thus the GUID as well as the Version ID is for that object remains unchanged if only the ‘translations’ are changed). This will allow organizations to deploy ‘translators’ or users who may simply carry out translations without actually modifying the report definition.
- **Certification of the database platform support:** (Refer to the readmes for the complete list)
 - Aster 4.5
 - Infobright 3.4
 - Hadoop/Hive: RDBMS object available on request from MicroStrategy.
 - Paracel 2.5
 - Sybase IQ 15.2
 - Hyperion Essbase 11
- **NEW Support for Cognos TM1 as a Data-source:** A TM1 connector is provided with the product install and **must be installed** to access Cognos TM1 cubes as a data-source.
- **NEW Support for extracting data from Web-Services:** Allows for extracts of data from web services by typing an X-Query via Freeform SQL Editor.
- **Predictive metrics enhancements:** can be created when scheduled reports are executed.
- **Enhanced descriptive statistics:** MicroStrategy predictive models now include additional statistics and improved visualization, including variable usefulness and ANOVA for derived fields.
- **New icons:** Training metrics now have their own icons.
- **Algorithm enhancements:** Enhanced Logistic Regression Algorithm designed to better handle datasets with complete-separation and, for binary target, quasi-complete separation.
- **PMML enhancements:** Improved support for PMML targets and the predictive display value output.
- **Function plug-in enhancements**
 - Function Plugin can generate code that can be ported to a non-Windows environment.
 - Cross-platform support for function-plugin.

MicroStrategy Architect

- **Read Only Mode:** This mode allows architects to login into Architect **without locking** the schema. Thus, Architect 1 can log in to review the schema in Read-Only mode, Architect 2 can login **after** Architect 1 and make schema changes.
- **Improved Auto-Recognition Capabilities:** Architect provides the ability to set form formats for certain column types

- **Preview of Auto-Recognition Results:** Architect provides a preview of the Auto-recognition results allowing architects flexibility on choosing which auto-recognized attributes and facts to accept.
- **Improved Usability**
 - Improved look and feel with new ribbon tool bars
 - Ability to set generic metric names
 - Heterogeneous Fact Mapping is supported
 - Support for Expanding or Collapsing ALL tables.

MicroStrategy Object Manager

- **Object Migration:** Full support for object migration across **unrelated** projects (**Note:** The system objects in the source and the destination projects must be unified. For more details on performing system object unification, please refer to MicroStrategy Configuration Wizard 9.0.2.).
Note: In 9.0.1, migration of objects between unrelated projects was supported for only those projects that were created in v802 or above.
- **Update Package Enhancements:**
 - Ability to view or edit an update package.
 - Ability to rollback changes by creating an **UNDO** update package. An Undo Package can be created in Object Manager by choosing the source update package in the destination project. An undo package captures the object definition in the destination project **before** the update package is applied.
 - Ability to dry run the update package import. This information is dumped in a log file and mirrors a similar capability in Project Merge.
 - Ability to automate update package creation:
 1. Provide a container such as a folder or object prompt or a search object that holds or returns objects to be migrated.
 2. Through the package creation editor, choose to select 'Create XML' to create the migration XML.
 3. Run this XML with Project Merge (This step can be automated)

MicroStrategy Office

- **Single Sign-Off Support:** Support for Tivoli and Site minder
- **Authentication:** Kerberos integrated authentication with J2EE Web Services
- **Other Enhancements:**
 - Ability to automatically connect to the last active project
 - Ability to remember project and web services passwords

- Options to set position for report and document in Powerpoints.
- Microsoft Office 2010 certification

MicroStrategy SDK

- **SDK Enhancements:**
 - Web Customization editor supports customization and rebranding of right-click context menus
 - MicroStrategy Mobile SDK for iPad allows rebranding MicroStrategy iPad application

MicroStrategy Command Manager

- **Security:** Provides capability to encrypt command manager scripts to avoid exposing user logins and passwords.
- **Intelligence Cube Management:** New outlines to support Intelligent Cube management which includes publishing, deleting and listing of Intelligent cubes.
- **Color Coding:** Support for Color Coding in procedure editor

Health Center

- **Server System Checks:** The network ports check will confirm that the port(s) used by Intelligence Server and Narrowcast Server are open. The status of the port will be checked by using NetStat. If the port is not available, then an error will be returned to the user.
- **MicroStrategy Desktop System Checks:** Provides the ability to ensure path validation, .DLL validation and metadata connection validation
 - **Path Validation:** Health Center checks whether the Desktop log path registry key (HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\MicroStrategy\DSS Suite\LogPath) exists and is valid.
 - **DLL Validation:** Health Center goes through a list of DLLs required by MicroStrategy Desktop and checks for their existence and proper registration.
- **Metadata Connection Checks:** Health Center checks whether the metadata connections are valid by connecting to the database and verifying whether metadata table exists (with applicable prefix). This is achieved by checking whether the MDDSSYSPPROP exists and is not empty (both row count and column counts are larger than zero).

Configuration Wizard

- **Upgrade:** MicroStrategy metadata can be upgraded to the most recent version of MicroStrategy
- **System Object Unification:** The system object unification is part of the project/metadata upgrade in which system objects - such as functions, folders, object templates etc. - GUIDs in a project are standardized hardcoded IDs from the PDS file.
The system object unification is essential for those projects that were created in v801 or earlier. In such projects (**created** in v801 or earlier), the system object GUIDs were assigned randomly. Thus, system objects in any two projects created in v801 or earlier had the same GUID. This limitation prevented objects from being migrated across unrelated projects.

Jumpstart

- 2 iPad dashboards are now available for rapid prototyping
- An iPhone App with 7 screens is now available for rapid prototyping