



What's New in Progress® Version 9.1E

Edition 2, November 2004

Introduction

The features and enhancements that were released in Progress® Version 9.1A laid the groundwork for the Progress e-business platform: increased scalability for the database, asynchronous Progress AppServer™, XML parser, support for TCP/IP sockets, and shared memory for r-code. Version 9.1B expanded the e-business solution with the WebClient™, secure tunneling via HTTPS, the SonicMQ 4GL Adapter, and specialized SmartObjects. Version 9.1C further enhanced the OpenEdge™ platform by introducing the IntelliStream™ technology that extends the ease of installing, securing, and maintaining WebClient deployments. Version 9.1D continues to expand the range of deployment and application integration opportunities for distributed Progress applications.

Progress Version 9.1E increases the robustness of the database and server infrastructure as well as significantly increases the performance of the runtime environment for Progress applications (the Progress Virtual Machine).

The standard guidelines for upgrading from one point release to the next apply to Progress Version 9.1E:

- There is NO Database Version number change from 9.1D to 9.1E.
- NO recompilation of r-code is required for code previously compiled on any Version 9 release.
- A 9.1E client can execute r-code generated with any prior V9 client.

Although it includes new features in some products, Progress Version 9.1E is a maintenance release—the next step for any Version 9 developers looking for bug fixes, new platform support, and other minor enhancements. To maintain our customers' understanding that a maintenance release is more stable than its predecessor, these new features and enhancements have been designed so as not to impact the quality or stability of V9.1D or any of the Version 9.1D Service Packs. A maintenance release replaces the version that precedes it. In terms of product availability, the replaced version, in this case 9.1D, will only be available for 2 months following the first commercial shipment (FCS) of 9.1E (that is, until the beginning of January, 2005).

Please note that with the release of Progress Version 9.1E, the Progress Version 9 product line moves into its Functionally Stable lifecycle phase.

Functionally Stable Phase products are fully supported but do not receive new features. If problems are found in Functionally Stable Phase products, Progress Technical Support will work with customers towards an appropriate resolution where possible if their licenses are covered under Standard or Extended 24/7 Support. Functionally Stable Phase products will be evaluated for certifications on new operating environments. (For more information on Progress product lifecycles, please see <http://www.progress.com/products/lifecycle.pdf>.)

Please note that Edition 2 of this document corrects the following error:

- Removes mention of support for Oracle 9.2 certification on AIX 5.2.

What Are the New Features?

Version 9.1E supports the following new platforms not supported by Version 9.1D:

- Windows 2003
- Citrix Metaframe XP Presentation Server V3
- Linux SuSE ES 8.0

As a maintenance release for a very stable product line, Progress Version 9.1E focuses on building on the quality and stability of previous releases. In addition, it features significant performance improvements in the database, the index rebuild utility and throughout the Progress client run-time environment, also known as the Progress Virtual Machine (PVM). The latter performance increases result substantially from work in these areas:

- Temp Tables
- String Operations (lookup, index, etc).
- Super Procedure Dispatching
- Internal Procedure Calls
- Function Calls

In addition to the performance improvements made throughout the client and database server infrastructure, Progress Version 9.1E includes new features in these layers of the OpenEdge platform:

- Client Processing: Progress 4GL Client
- Application Server: WebSpeed
- Data Management: Progress RDBMS, SQL-92, DataServers

OpenEdge Client Processing

Feature	Description
Progress 4GL Client	
Windows XP Look & Feel	The Progress GUI Client objects now align more closely with XP conventions. Specifically, developers can use alternatives to the “classic” visual theme.
SESSION:STARTUP-PARAMETERS Session Handle	Developers can access and view the startup parameters that are in effect for the current Progress session, which should simplify the debugging process as more information about an application’s run-time conditions can be retrieved.

OpenEdge Data Management Features

Feature	Description
Progress RDBMS	
Failover Cluster	Failover clusters are now included as part of the Enterprise RDBMS license. They were previously sold separately as part of the Fathom™ product line.
PROSTRCT Reorder AI Option	This PROSTRCT option reorders the AI extents so that all empty extents are moved in front of all full or locked extents. This allows the database to continue switching AI extents as they become full or busy. Instead of leaving the database in a wait state where it appears to be hung while waiting for a free extent, administrators can make the free extents available.
RFUTIL Query Option	This option queries for information on the status of AI extents, specifically to retrieve the status of the extents before they are reordered using the PROSTRCT reorder ai option described above.
RFUTIL Sequence Option	This new option allows the user to reset the target standby database’s ai seq to the appropriate number from the source database to better support a hot-standby recovery strategy. Users can now make an OS copy/backup of the database sometime after the initial start of after-imaging on the source database and bring the target database’s ai sequence number to the level of the last switched extent on the source database.
Performance Improvements	A combination of code path reductions, algorithm adjustments, and data structure changes incrementally improve operation of large production databases in deployments. These performance improvements apply both to the Progress 4GL

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	and SQL-92 database engines with additional improvements to the performance of the index rebuild utility..
-tmpbsize Client Startup Parameter	This new option can specify the temp-table block size that will be used for a session, which can result in performance benefits.
SQL-92	
ODBC/JDBC Configuration Scripts	Two scripts (sql_env and sql_env.bat (NT)) are now available to assist in setting up ODBC and JDBC clients. These scripts replace a manual configuration process previously documented in Release Notes.
CREATE TABLE with Case Insensitivity	An extra syntax keyword added to the create table statement allows for the creation of case-insensitive columns. Now the SQL engine will handle both case insensitive and case sensitive columns regardless of whether they were first created using Progress 4GL syntax or SQL-92 syntax.
DBTool Utility	This new utility reconciles the discrepancy between the Progress 4GL variable width and the SQL fixed width.
-checkwidth Startup Parameter	This new parameter allows Progress to reconcile the discrepancy between Progress 4GL variable width and the SQL fixed width with newly entered data.
LockWaitTimeOut Environment Variable	Currently in SQL the wait time for a locked record is hard coded. This environment variable makes the wait time configurable.
Readpast Record Lock	This feature allows the read of a locked record to wait the specified period of time. If the record is not freed within that timeframe, the process accessing the record will move on to the next record, without bringing the process to a halt. Information on the omission of the record in replication is provided to the application to ensure that follow up occurs to replicate the record.
DataServer for MS SQL Server	
Connection Pooling	Connection pooling results in significantly stronger performance. Connections do not have to be re-established for every request, improving cursor management and speeding the return of results, especially for applications with multiple NO-LOCK queries that process results simultaneously.
Firehose and Fast-Forward Cursors	DataServer applications can benefit from firehose and fast-forward cursors when connection pooling is enabled. Firehose cursors are Microsoft's default result set. The default result set does not require cursor management, which speeds the delivery of data. A fast-forward cursor is used as an alternate to firehose cursors. These cursors have minimal cursor management, resulting in comparable performance in most cases. The DataServer log file includes information that allows you to monitor connection and cursor usage so that you can optimize queries for performance.
DataServer for Oracle	
	The DataServer for Oracle is certified for Oracle 9.2 on Windows 2000, HP/UX 64 11.11, Solaris 64 v9.

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