ACCRUENT

Meridian Updates Will No Longer Include the PowerUser Client

Dear PowerUser Client,

We are announcing some important changes to Meridian which we expect to implement over the next 12 months.

Meridian Server 2021 (expected to be released in January 2021) will be the last Meridian release to include PowerUser (the client installed on the workstation). PowerWeb (the browser-based client) will replace PowerUser as the default client for editing workflows.

Per the Accruent support policy, as distributed with your most recent license renewal, the Meridian 2021 release will be in standard/premium support until the release of Meridian Server 2023, which is expected in January 2023.

After the release of Meridian 2021, only critical and security patches will be provided for the PowerUser.

Why PowerUser Will No Longer Be Supported

At Accruent, we want to provide secure and sustainable solutions that can bring EDM functionality to your users at any location. This required us to reduce or eliminate our dependence on legacy technologies such as DCOM, ActiveX and Java. Support for these technologies is waning, putting security and continuity at risk.

Today, web technology is the method of choice to make functionality available on the device best suited for the user. Whether they are in or out of the office, on the same site, or 10 time zones away.

Web technology also enables the centralization of engineering data, reduces total cost of ownership through consolidation of servers and reduces the footprint on workstations. Furthermore, the centralization of engineering data also allows you to better utilize your global engineering workforce.

Product Roadmap

In the Meridian 2019, 2019 R2 and 2020 releases, the capabilities and scalability of Meridian PowerWeb have been significantly improved. These improvements enable consolidation of engineering data on a limited number of servers in a central location which reduce the total cost of ownership and increase availability.

In the upcoming Meridian 2020 R2 and 2021 releases, we are focused on closing the

remaining small gaps between PowerUser and PowerWeb and continue to improve the user experience of PowerWeb.

Next Steps

Are you planning or expecting to upgrade to Meridian 2021 R2 or later? There are several areas and aspects that will need review in order to smoothly transition your users from PowerUser to the PowerWeb client. Please see the FAQ section below, and contact your Account Rep or Partner with any further questions.

FAQ's

Do I need to upgrade right away?
No. However, if you are using PowerUser today with your Meridian implementation, you must start planning to upgrade. Please contact your Accruent Account Executive or partner.

Will there still be a component installed on the workstation?
To utilize PowerWeb, nothing needs to be installed on the workstation. There is a connector utility that enables supported authoring applications to connect with documents under edit in PowerWeb. This connector is required to work on your "To-Do List" from applications such as AutoCAD or MS Office applications. Downloading multiple files and opening documents directly from PowerWeb also depend on this connector.

Does this mean my users or I will need internet access to use the tool?
No, internal network access is all that would be required for users.

Who can I contact to view a demo of PowerWeb?
Please contact your Accruent Account Executive or Meridian Partner to schedule a meeting.

Who can I contact to discuss an upgrade to the new version?
Please contact your Accruent Account Executive or Meridian Partner to schedule a meeting.

What is PowerUser?
PowerUser is the Meridian client installed on the workstation of the users. PowerUser is the client which originally shipped with Meridian. If you are using Meridian 2016 SP1 or earlier, most users will probably be using PowerUser.

What is PowerWeb?
PowerWeb is the Meridian client that runs in a web browser. It was first introduced in Meridian 2016 and has been significantly enhanced since then.

What is supported and not supported with PowerWeb vs PowerUser?
Check out our User's Guide.

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