

FMW Enterprise v4.00 Release Notes

The following are the new features and changes that are included in this release. This document details the changes vs. v3.90.00. To look at the changes between v3.00 and v3.80 please see the release notes related to these releases.

Technical

- Microsoft SQL Server 6.5 is no longer supported in this release. SQL Server 7.0 and SQL Server 2000 are supported. SQL Server 6.5 is now ten years old, is incompatible with later releases and is too limited for us to continue supporting.
- Oracle 7.x and Oracle 8.0 are no longer supported in this release. Oracle 8i (8.1.x) and Oracle 9i are supported. Oracle 7.x is now over 10 years old and in practice the vast majority of Oracle users have upgraded to at least 8i.
- An assumption is made that FMW users will now have available a monitor resolution of at least 600x800. Previously FMW worked on as little as 480x600. This increase allows more space to expand some dialogs (e.g. report definitions dialogs) to make them more readable, which were previously designed to fit in a 480x600 screen resolution. In practice, very few users still use the 480x600 resolution.

New modules

- An Advanced Salary Planning module, which runs as a separate Java-based application, but which can be integrated with FMW Enterprise or run as a stand-alone module, is now available. This extends the functionality of FMW in a similar fashion to Advanced Capital Planning, which was introduced with v3.90. We intend to continue supplying integrated add-on modules of this type to deal with specialized requirements.

Access Administrator (Security)

- When a user has Modify access to an element, it will no longer allow data against that element to be deleted within the editing view. This was considered a hole in the security scheme.

Versions

- An real-time statistics inquiry is now available for each version, indicating the number of keys (rows), deleted keys, balance cells, items (line item rows), line item cells, and journal lines, by class and year within the version. This is useful when deleting or copying data, as the user can now see exactly what is contained within the version.
- When copying data from one version to another an option to copy all data, regardless of class or year, in one operation, is now available.
- A full budget submission mechanism is now available. This allows a user to submit a budget, whereupon it is locked against further updates and administrators are notified of the submission via the Messenger system.

Administrators have a sortable screen to examine what has been submitted (by user, date etc) and to selectively un-submit budgets where necessary (which makes them available for further editing and resubmission).

- At the line item level, lookup add-ins are now triggered by a change in the transactions type drop down list and the transaction type is passed into the addin. This means that lookups can be developed based on what transaction type is selected.

Editing views

- An indicator on the drill-down to line items button (magnifying glass icon) now indicates whether there are existing lines items or not.
- The print date and time is now indicated on the Editing view printout.
- A row-column indicator shows on which column and row the cursor is currently placed. This is similar to Excel, so that a user can more easily see which column and row is currently being edited.
- The DEL key now deletes data from a cell as expected.
- The Copy feature now work as expected (both CTL-C and Edit | Copy from the menu).
- When defining which users have access to an editing view, an ALL ON / OFF button is now available. This means that if you have a long list of users, and you only want one or two to have access to the editing view, whereas previously you would have needed to click each user off, you can now set them all off in one operation, and then selectively click the users you want to have access back on.
- Editing views can now contain up to 24 additional relationship indicators (previously limited to 4).
- There is now an indicator as to whether there is an existing combination description (included in 3.90.01).
- Combination descriptions are now year-specific (included in 3.90.01).

Hierarchies

- Hierarchies can now be dumped into Excel, to facilitate analysis and partial printing.
- The same filters in Hierarchy-based security are now available as exist in Access Administrator (e.g. show only users with Modify or better access etc.).
- A fix to element level security as defined from a hierarchy, has been completed. Previously when changing an element level override for a user, element level overrides for other users were deleted.

Elements

- Element lists can now be both dumped into Excel as well as printed directly from FMW.

Report Distributor

- User list is now sorted in alpha order.
- If MS-Outlook is the users e-mail system, a lookup for the e-mail address is now available.
- If the distributor batch interface (.bat file) was used to drive Report Distributor and the report had a '-' in its name, the distributor did not interpret the command line properly. If the report name is now enclosed in double quotes it will work properly.

Journal Entry

- In the J/E copy feature, a check is now done to ensure that a user has security access to all copied lines, otherwise the copy is disallowed.

Reforecasts

- Locked columns will no longer prevent a reforecast occurring. In addition columns up to the end of the YTD data will be automatically locked.

Reporting

- In the Excel export, a user can now choose whether to export absolute, relative or no formulas for column / row calculations.
- When exporting to Excel, extra columns which parse out the line item description and transaction type into separate columns, for analysis and sorting purposes, can be requested.
- Row and column numbers are now explicitly displayed on the report layout template.
- When executing the report viewer by double clicking on a .fmw file, the splash screen is no longer displayed (this was unnecessary and annoying).
- When on the report layout manager, if your cursor is placed over a column or row, the major attributes of the column or row, including calculations and version/class/year popup in a tooltip window after a couple of seconds. This means, for example, that column and row calculations can be easily examined without having to drill into each row or column specification.
- Cell-specific formatting (fonts, font colors and background colors) can now be defined. These formats can also be conditional (e.g. a certain font color appears provided the cell value meets a specified criterion).
- Reports can now include up to 24 additional information columns (i.e. columns based on hierarchy levels). Previously limited to 4. The actual number of these

tree relationships that can be displayed is also dependent on the number of Combination description columns – the number of tree relationship columns = 24 – (no combo description columns*6). So if you have two columns for combo descriptions you can have up to 12 tree relationships and so on.

- An number of formula functions can now be used in report row and column calculations, including IF() and ABS() functions as well as many others. We were previously limited to simple *,+,- and / operations.
- A report design specification listing report can now be generated, so that all report definitions can now be seen on one document.

Capital Plan

- An Event log, which is intended to allow the recording by name, date, event and event description of significant events over the life of the projects, has been added. This also allows a cumulative log of costs to be maintained.
- A Task list, which is intended to record tasks by task description, responsibility etc. for the project, has been added.

Other

- A facility to automatically clear the process monitor after a specified number of days is now available.
- A version-class-year lock for Addins has now been added to the other locks that can be placed on a version-class-year. This protects data against inadvertently being changed with an addin.
- Every object in the navigator now has a Dependencies inquiry attached, which allows a user to see every object on which the specified object is dependant, as well as all objects which are dependent on the specified object. This has many uses. For example, if we want to delete a hierarchy we can now see which objects (e.g. reports, allocations, reforecasts etc) use that hierarchy and which might prevent us from deleting it. A similar list is available for all objects (reports, versions, classes, elements etc.).
- The Navigator window automatically widens to show the data you are working on. Previously when you expanded the navigator tree, some items might have been partially hidden, requiring you to manually drag the window to see the data.
- The calculation dialogs now have popup element selection dialogs.

Miscellaneous Bug fixes

- A bug occurred when a user created a line item with a description but no data (amounts) – the line item was lost (did not appear next time the line items were accessed). This has been corrected.
- There was a problem in report distributor where the <Column> specifier for a report column heading was used. This has been corrected.
- A user is prompted to save changes in column definitions when switching from one column to another in the column definitions dialog.

- Some fixes to Messenger have now been completed. In addition, the user list is now sorted so that connected users appear at the top of the list. We intend to increase the use of the Messenger system to report various events in the system.