Information Builders

WebFOCUS

Release 8207.05

About This Release

May 27, 2020

Contents

Chapter 1

8207.05 Release Notes

The following topic provides all the information that you need to know about this release of WebFOCUS.

In this chapter:

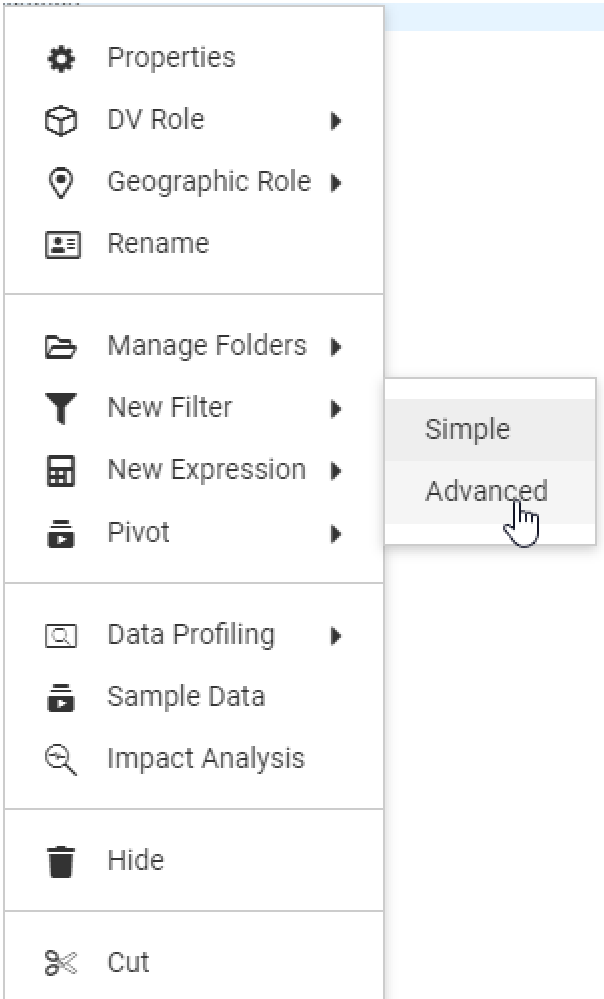
Release and Gen Information

Release Date	Gen Information	Reporting Server
Monday, March 2, 2020	wf021920b Gen 2 as021920b	8207.05 Gen 1910

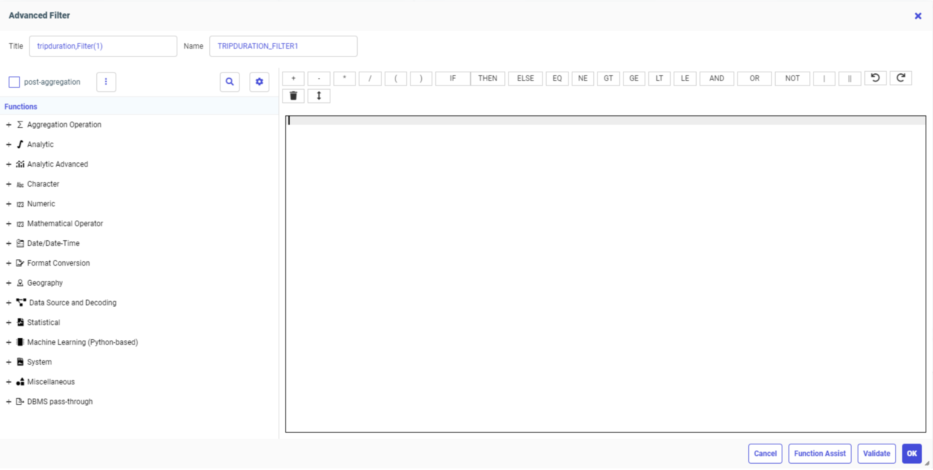
New Features

Creating Advanced Filters

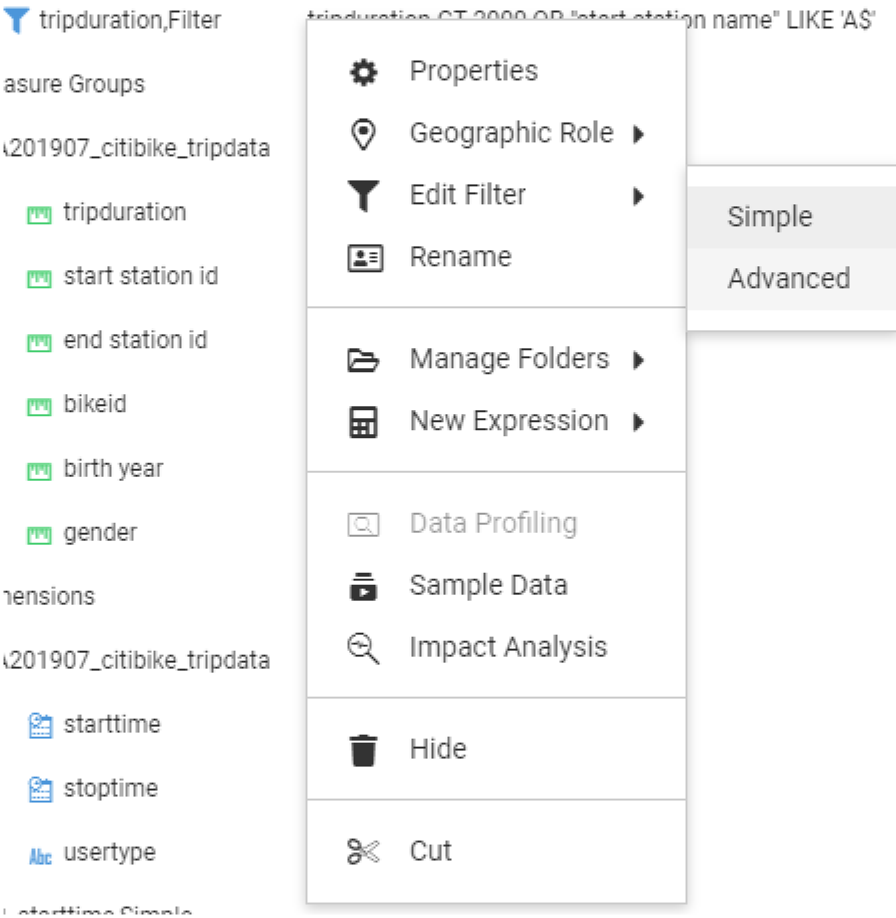
You can now create a complex filter in a data flow or the Synonym Editor using the expression calculator. To create an advanced filter, right-click the field you want to filter, click *New Filter*, and click *Advanced*, as shown in the following image.



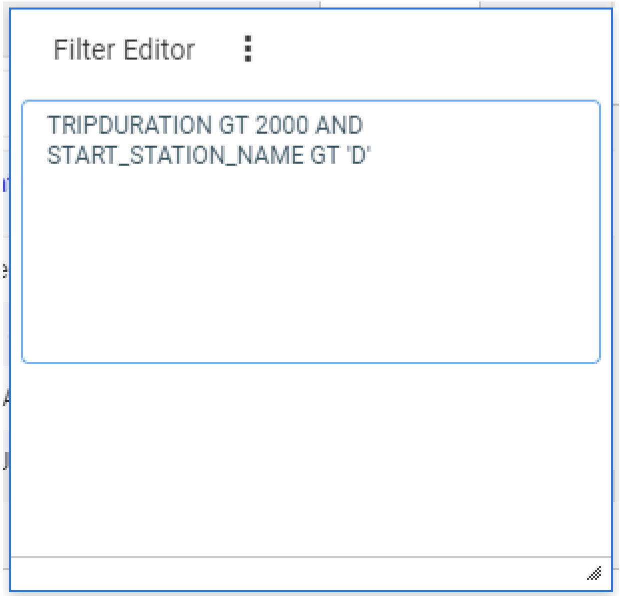
The Advanced Filter Expression Calculator opens. Unlike the calculators that open for DEFINE and COMPUTE, there is no Format entry field, as shown in the following image.



When you edit a filter, you also have the choice of *Simple* or *Advanced*, as shown in the following image.



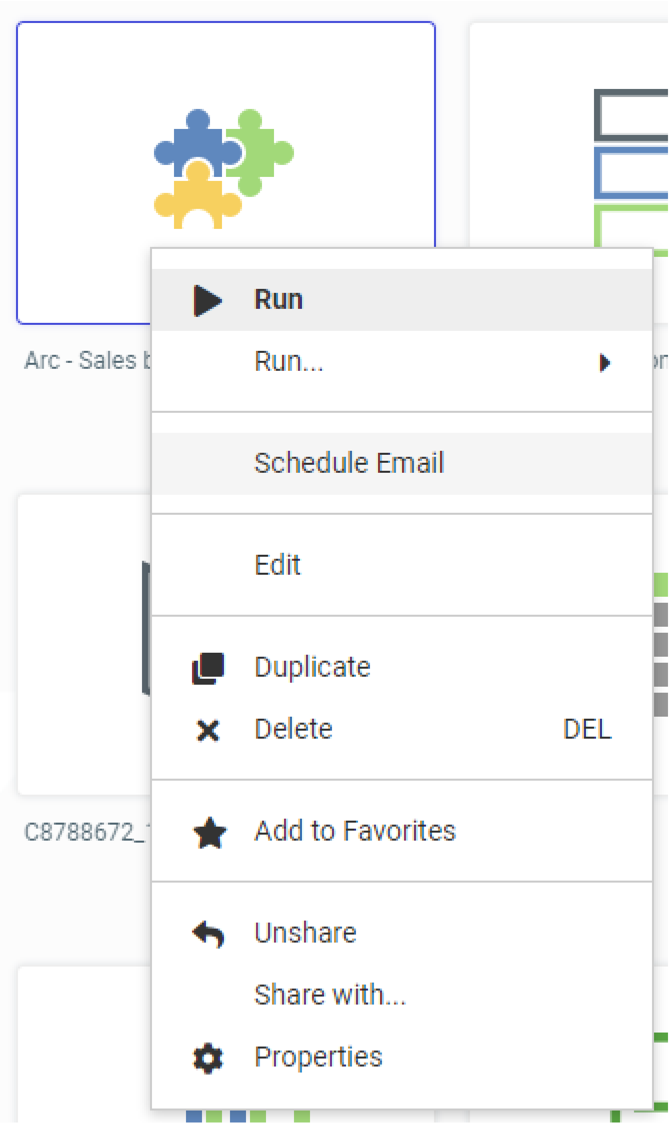
If you edit an advanced filter but click *Simple* instead of *Advanced*, the filter opens in read-only mode in the simple filter tool, as shown in the following image:



ReportCaster Email Scheduling From the Designer Home Page

You can easily schedule emailing of procedure (.fex) output directly from a Workspace on the Home Page using a simple user interface.

Right-click the procedure you want to schedule, and click *Schedule Email*, as shown in the following image.



The *Schedule Email* dialog box opens.

The dialog box has the following tabs:

- **Properties.** Provides a Title, Path where the schedule will be created or was opened from, Summary, and Owner, and enables the schedule.
- **Email Options.** Provides options to specify the recipients to which the procedure will be distributed.
- **Recurrence.** Provides run-time intervals for distribution and repeat options.
- **Parameters.** Specifies values for parameters that are required at run time by the procedure being scheduled.
- **Notifications.** Provides options to set up notification of the schedule status.

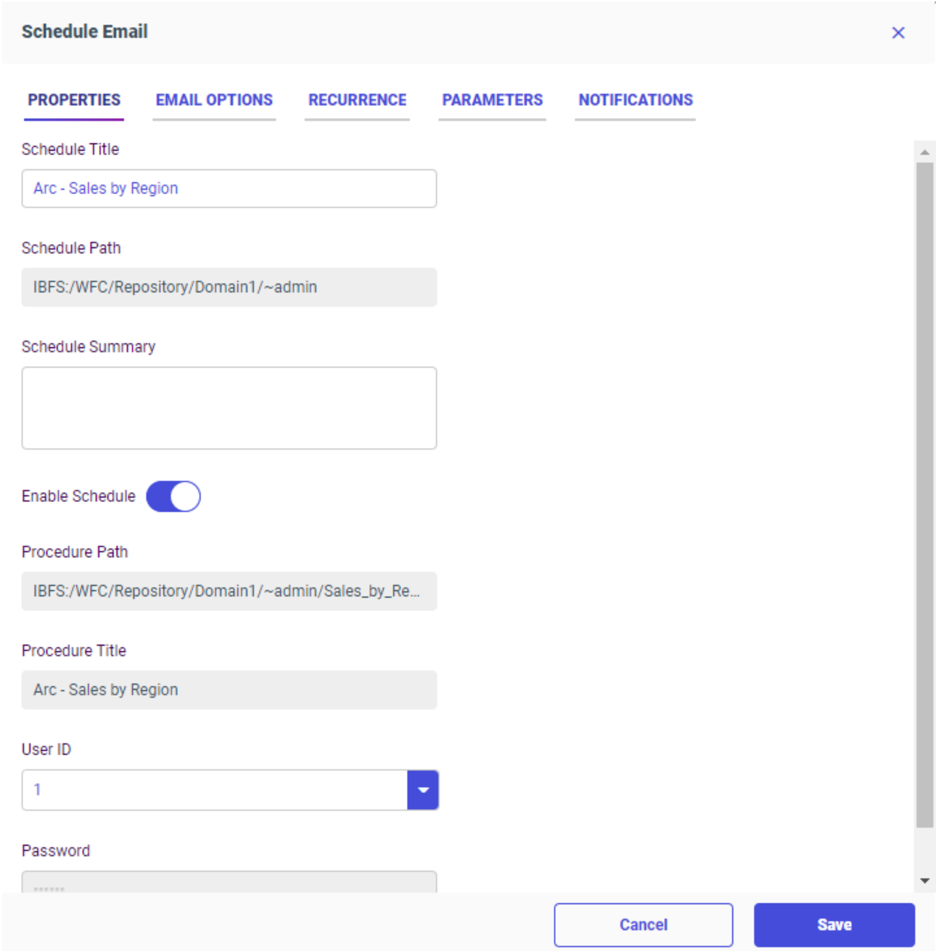
To save a schedule, click *Save*, after you have entered all of the options. The required information in the Properties, Recurrence, Distribution, and Notification tabs must be provided. If required schedule information is missing when you save the schedule, a message will display informing you of the schedule information that needs to be entered. If the schedule is saved successfully, the scheduling dialog box closes.

A saved schedule is identified by the schedule icon, as shown in the following image.

Once you have saved a schedule using the Designer Scheduler tool, you can edit the schedule by right-clicking it and clicking *Edit With Designer Scheduler*.

Entering Scheduling Properties on the PROPERTIES Tab

The PROPERTIES tab is shown in the following image.



Configure the following entries on the tab.

Schedule Title

You can edit the name for the schedule in the Title box. By default, the schedule name is the procedure name.

Schedule Path

The Schedule Path box is automatically filled in based on the Workspace from which you opened the Scheduling tool.

Schedule Summary

Optionally, type a descriptive summary in the Summary box.

Enable Schedule

Enable Schedule is automatically implemented. To disable the schedule, click the button.

Procedure Path

The Procedure Path box is automatically filled in based on the procedure from which you opened the Scheduling tool.

Procedure Title

The Procedure Title box is automatically filled in based on the procedure from which you opened the Scheduling tool.

User ID

Select or enter the user ID under which the procedure will run on the server from the User ID drop-down list.

Note: The User ID and Password fields only appear if the ReportCaster data server security was set to *User* in the ReportCaster Configuration tool. You access the configuration tool from the WebFOCUS Administration Console, which has a ReportCaster tab, if ReportCaster is installed.

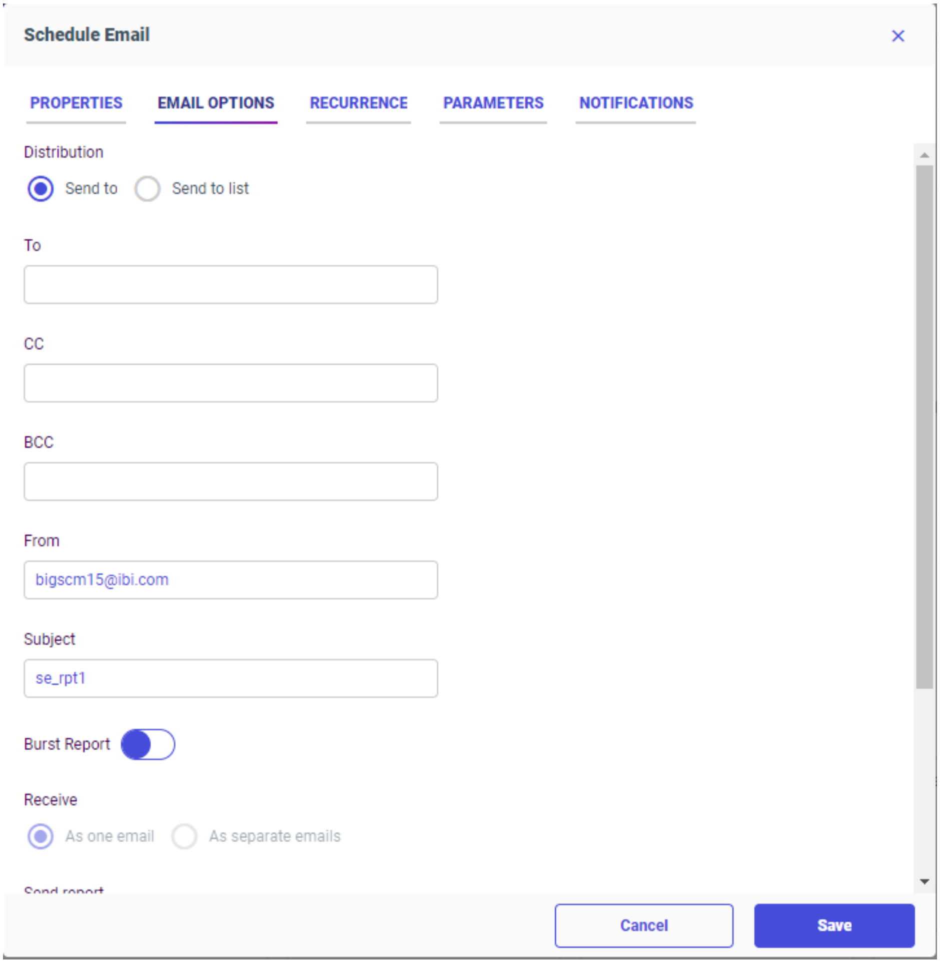
Password

Select or enter the password under which the procedure will run on the server from the Password drop-down list. The password may be automatically entered and is hidden.

Note: The User ID and Password fields only appear if the ReportCaster data server security was set to *User* in the ReportCaster Configuration tool. You access the configuration tool from the WebFOCUS Administration Console, which has a ReportCaster tab, if ReportCaster is installed.

Entering Email Options on the EMAIL OPTIONS Tab

The EMAIL OPTIONS tab is shown in the following image.



When you distribute a report through email, you can include the report in the body of the email (known as an inline email message) or send it as an attachment. Only the DHTML, DOC, GIF, HTML, JPG, PNG, SVG, and WP formats can be distributed as an inline email message.

Distributing a report as an inline email message is particularly useful when the report is distributed to mobile devices or through email systems that do not support attachments.

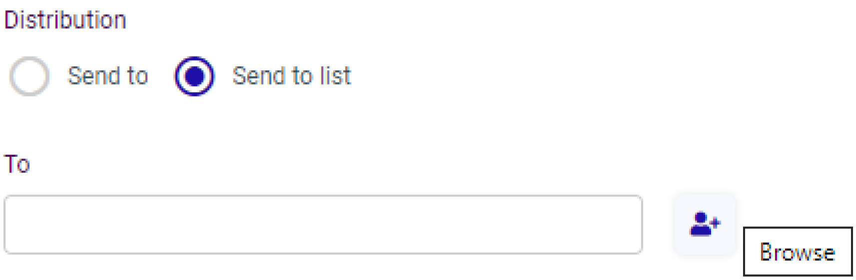
Configure the following entries on the tab.

Distribution

The Distribution options are *Send* to and *Send to list*.

- *Send to* is selected by default. Multiple email addresses can be entered for *Send to*. They can be separated by commas (,) if you want all email addresses to be visible to all recipients, or by semi-colons (;) to send a separate email to each recipient.

- Click *Send to list*, if you have a distribution list. A Browse button appears, as shown in the following image.



Either enter the path and name of the distribution list, or click the button to navigate to the distribution list you want.

Note: You create distribution lists using the ReportCaster tool, as in prior releases.

CC

Enter the email addresses to receive carbon copies, separated by commas (,) or semi-colons (;). Whichever delimiter you use, separate emails will be sent to each carbon copy recipient. All carbon copy recipients will receive every section of a burst report.

BCC

Enter the email addresses to receive blind carbon copies, separated by commas (,) or semi-colons (;). Whichever delimiter you use, separate emails will be sent to each blind carbon copy recipient. All blind carbon copy recipients will receive every section of a burst report.

From

Enter the email address of the sender.

Subject

Subject is automatically filled in with the procedure name. You can change it by entering your own subject text.

Burst Report

Click to burst the report output into separate files based on the first sort field.

Receive

Recipients can receive the burst report as one email or separate emails. By default, one email will be sent.

Send Report

The Send Report options enable you to send the report output as an attachment (the default) or within the body of the email (click *Inline*).

Note: The display of a report that is distributed as an inline email message can be affected by settings and restrictions of your email server or email client.

If you are distributing the report output as attachments, you have the following additional options.

Attachment Name

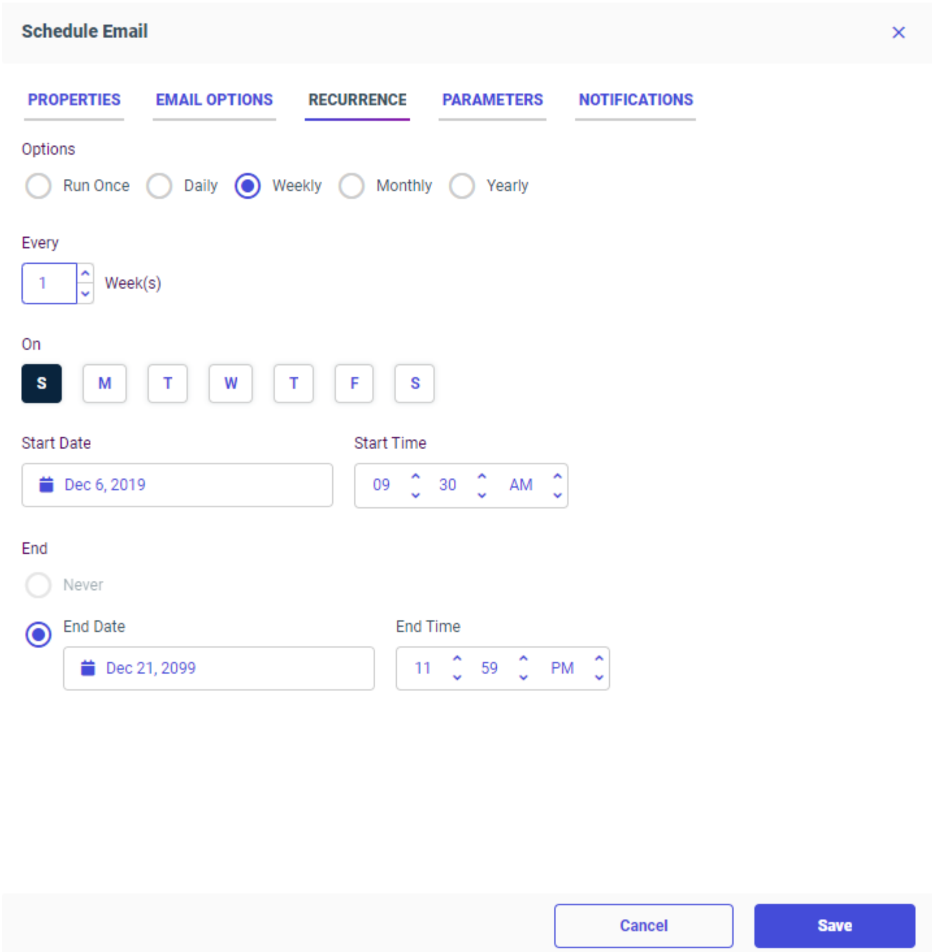
Enter a name for the attachment.

Attachment Message

By default, *Message* is clicked, and the text box contains a default message, which you can change by entering your own text. If you have your message text saved in a file, click *File*. A *Browse* button appears that enables you to navigate to the file that contains your message text. Alternatively, you can enter the file path and name in the text box.

Entering Recurrence Options on the RECURRENCE Tab

The following image shows the RECURRENCE tab.



The following RECURRENCE tab options enable you to define how often to run the schedule.

Options

Click one of the following recurrence options.

- **Run Once.** This is the default option.
- **Daily.** If you click this option, the schedule will run every *n* days, where you select or enter the interval in the *Every* field. The default value is 1, to run it every day.

- **Weekly.** If you click this option, the schedule will run every *n* weeks, where you select or enter the interval in the *Every* field. The default is 1, to run it every week. In the *On* field, you can select one or more days within the week for running the schedule. The default is Sunday.
- **Monthly.** If you click this option, the schedule will run every n months, where you select or enter the interval in the *Every* field. The default is 1, to run it every month. In the *On* field, you can select a numeric day within the month for running the schedule, or a week and day of the week within the month (for example the second Tuesday of each month). The default is either day 1, or the first Sunday of the month.
- **Yearly.** If you click this option, the schedule will run every *n* years, where you select or enter the interval in the *Every* field. The default is 1, to run it every year.

Start Date

Opens the calendar control for selecting a start date for running the schedule.

Start Time

Select the start time in the Start Time control. If the start date is the current date, make sure the start time is set to a time after you save and enable the schedule, or it will not run on the current date.

End

For every option except Run Once, you need to identify when the schedule should stop running. The options are *Never* or *End Date*. The default is *Never*. For *End Date*, the following options are available.

End Date

Opens the calendar control for selecting an end date for running the schedule.

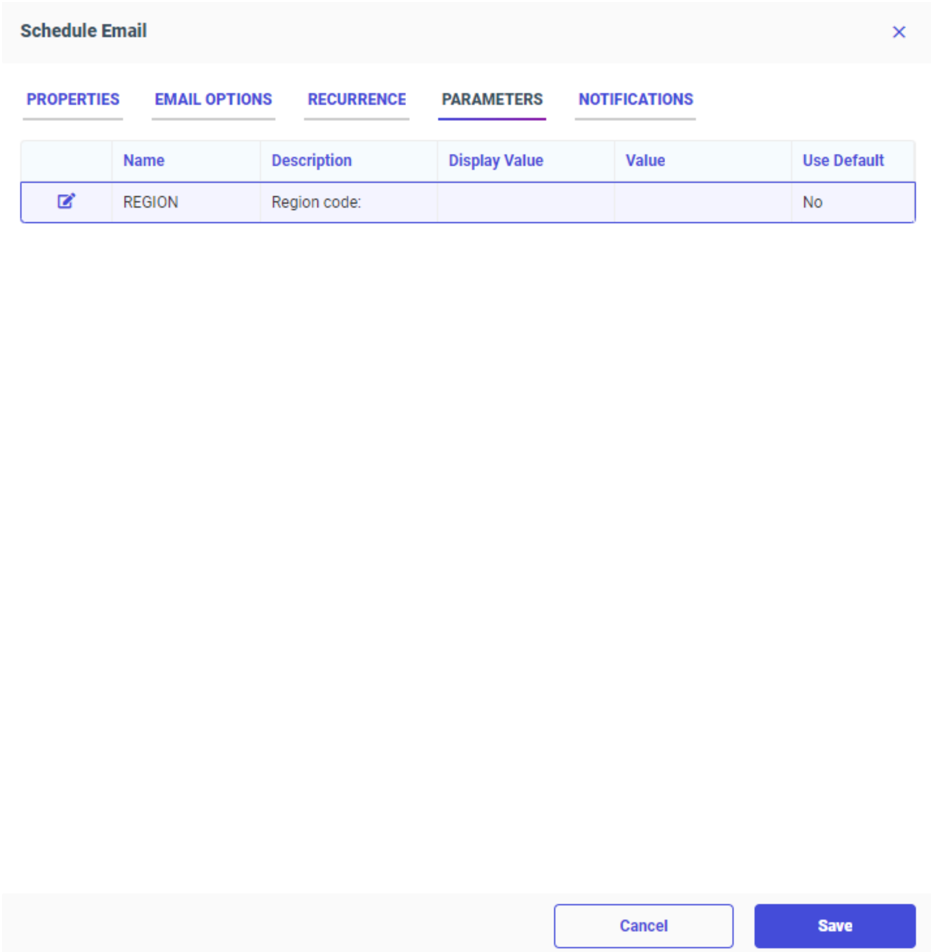
End Time

Select the end time in the Start Time control. If the start date is the current date, make sure the start time is set to a time after you save and enable the schedule, or it will not run on the current date.

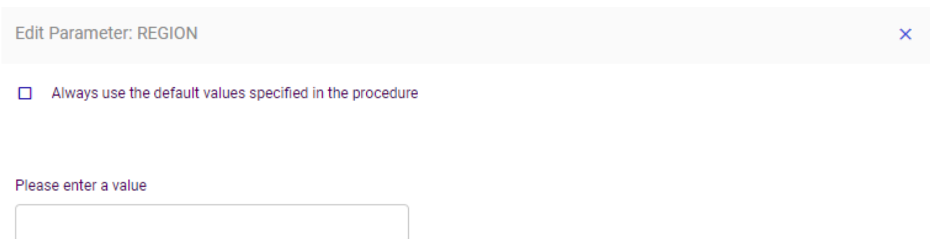
Entering Parameter Values on the PARAMETERS Tab

If the procedure being scheduled includes parameters (amper variables) defined within the request, you can set the parameter values on the PARAMETERS tab.

The following image shows the PARAMETERS tab when the procedure has one parameter named REGION defined.



1. Click the *Edit* icon in the first column to enter the parameter value. The Edit Parameter dialog box opens, as shown in the following image.



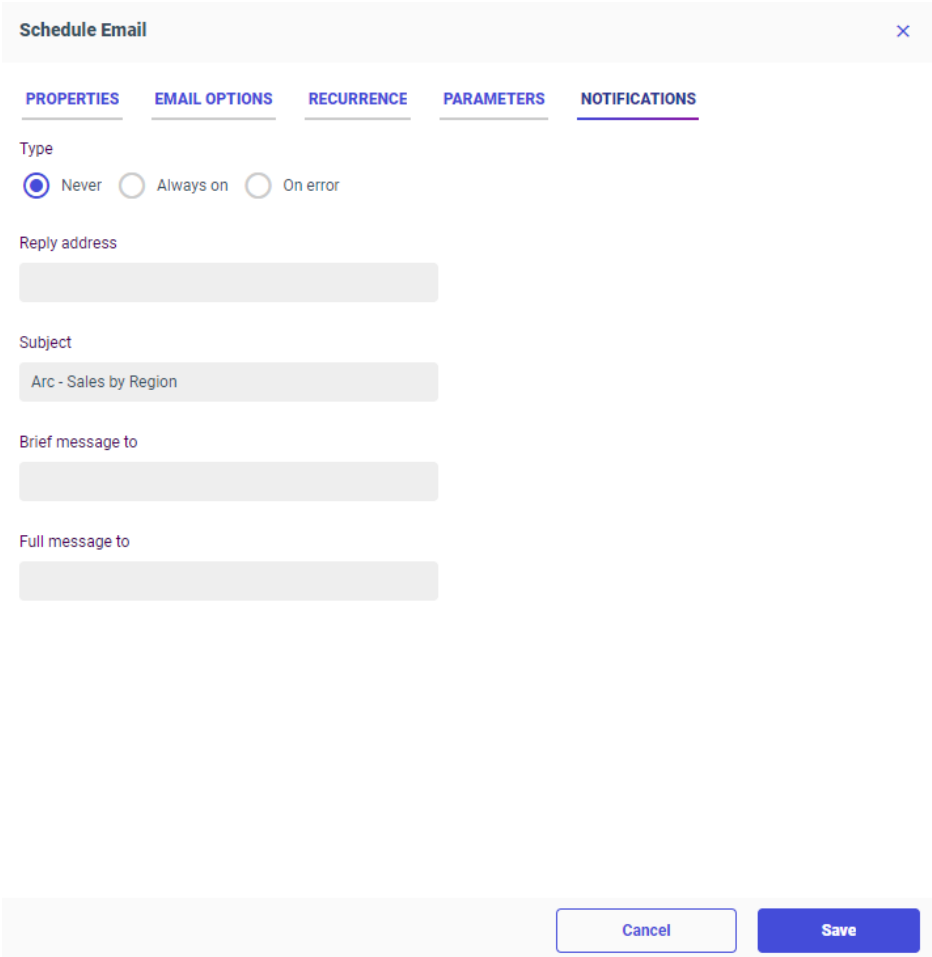
Note: If the parameter is a multi-select parameter, a double-list dialog box opens. You can select multiple values from the available values list, then move them to the selected values list.

3. If the procedure specifies a default value for the parameter, you can click *Always use the default values specified in the procedure* to always use the default values.
4. Click *OK*.

Entering Notification Options on the NOTIFICATION Tab

The Notification tab provides the options to send a notification of the schedule status to specific email recipients.

The following image shows the NOTIFICATIONS tab.



Configure the following entries on the tab.

Type

Select one of the following notification types.

- **Never.** This option does not send notifications of the schedule status. This is the default option.
- **Always on.** This option always sends notification of the schedule status
- **On error.** This option only sends notifications if an error occurred when running the schedule.

Reply address

Enter the email address of the sender. If report recipients reply to the report sender, then their messages are sent to this address. If your email system is unable to deliver a report, the undeliverable report message is also returned to this address.

Subject

Enter the text you want to display as the message subject in the *Subject* box. There is a limit of 255 alphanumeric characters. By default, this field inherits the title of the schedule.

Brief message to

Enter the email address to which you want a brief status message sent. Use this option when you are sending notification to devices that have limited memory, such as pagers and cell phones.

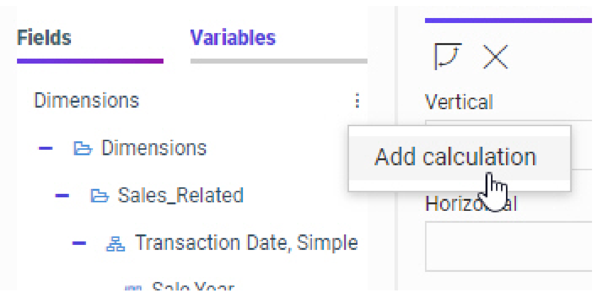
Full message to

Enter one or more email address to which you want a full notification sent. You can use either commas (,) or semi-colons (;) to separate addresses, but, in either case, all recipients see the full list of email addresses.

Creating Calculated Fields From the Field List

In past releases of WebFOCUS Designer, pre-aggregation, or DEFINE, fields were created from the field list, and post-aggregation, or COMPUTE, fields were created from a field in a measure bucket. Now, both types of fields can be created from the field list, meaning that the type of field that you create is no longer predetermined by the location where you create it, and you do not need to have a measure field already added to your content in order to create a COMPUTE field. This gives you more flexibility in creating calculated fields.

To create a DEFINE or COMPUTE field, right-click a field in the field list, or click the field list shortcut menu and click *Add calculation*, as shown in the following image.



When the calculator opens, select *Calculate at the source* to create a pre-aggregation DEFINE field, or select *Calculate after aggregation* to create a post-aggregation COMPUTE field.

To learn more, see the *Performing Basic Calculations* topic.

Generating the Standard Deviation Using Prefix Operators

In WebFOCUS Designer, you can add the standard deviation of a measure field to your content by using one of two standard deviation prefix operators. Prefix operator aggregations can quickly be added to and removed from measure fields in your content, so you can now evaluate the variance of your data even more easily. To display the standard deviation of a field, add a measure field to a chart or report, right-click the measure in the bucket where you added it, point to *Aggregation*, and click *Standard Deviation, Sample* or *Standard Deviation, Population*. The field is immediately aggregated to display standard deviation values.

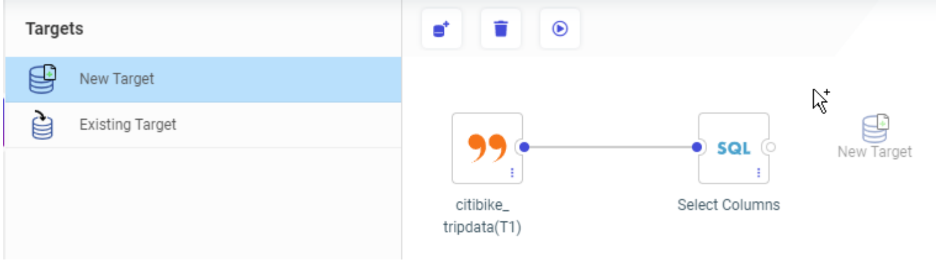
Use *Standard Deviation, Sample* to display the standard deviation for a subset of the full data set, performing the evaluation using Bessel's correction. Use *Standard Deviation, Population* to display the standard deviation of your entire data set, performing the evaluation using the full count of records.

Now that standard deviation is available as a prefix operator aggregation, it is no longer available as a quick transform option in WebFOCUS Designer.

Support for Dragging Targets Into a Data Flow

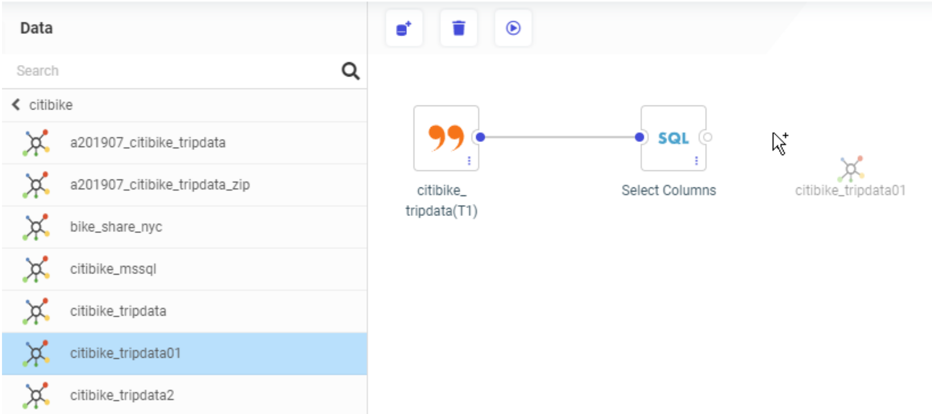
You can now drag new or existing targets onto the data flow canvas.

For a new target, click *Targets* and drag the New Target icon onto the Data Flow canvas, as shown in the following image.



Once you drop the icon onto the data flow canvas, it will be configured as the default target type with the default load options. You can change these attributes by right-clicking the target and clicking *Load Options*.

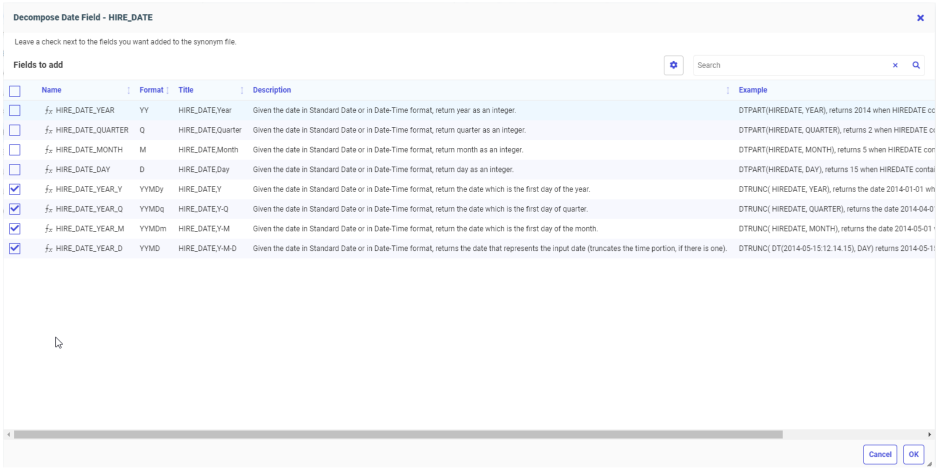
There are now two ways of dragging an existing target. You can drag the *Existing Target* icon from the Targets palette onto the canvas, which then opens a dialog box where you can select the target. You can also drag a synonym from the Resources pane to the right side of the SQL object, as shown in the following image.



Once you drop the existing target onto the data flow canvas, it will be represented by the database-specific icon and will have the load options specified when the target was first created, with the default merge option. You can edit the options for merging the data into the target by right-clicking the target and clicking *Load Options*. You can also edit the merge expressions and conditions by right-clicking the target and clicking *Merge Editor*.

Descriptions and Examples Now Shown in the Decompose Date Dialog Box

In the Synonym Editor or a Data Flow, the option to add or replace a date or date-time field with "decomposed dates" opens a dialog box that previously showed the names and titles that would be created for the new fields. Now, a description of what will be returned for each option and an example of its value have been added, as shown in the following image.

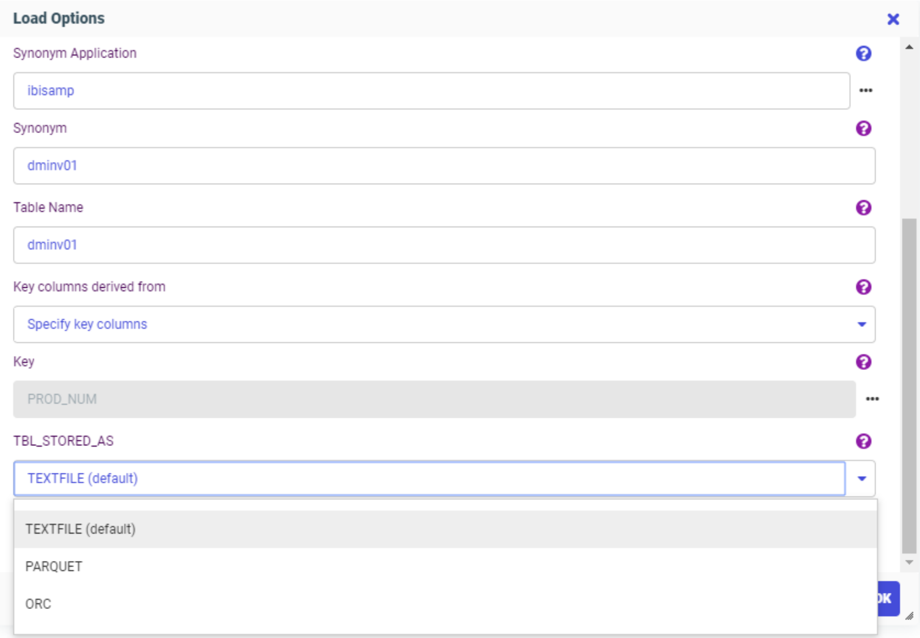


You can choose whether these additional items show in the Decompose Date dialog box by clicking the *Choose Columns* (gear) icon in the dialog box.

Adapter for Amazon Athena: Creating Files in Parquet or ORC Format

When using DataMigrator or a data flow to load data to S3 using the Adapter for Athena, files can now be created in the ORC or Parquet column store formats, providing better performance when reading from them.

In Target Properties or Load Options, select from the TBL_STORED_AS drop-down list, as shown in the following image.



Fixes

- When saving an Excel template to a folder path containing kana Unicode characters and copying it to baseapp, the agent crashes when trying to use the template in a report. (190805011)
- Flow with a Bulk load fails when the target uses an Apache Hive adapter which is configured with Zookeeper and with SFTP protocol. (200131099)
- When creating a synonym for a delimited file and specifying a value that contained a space for Missing Value, the letters after the space are ignored.
- When a flow loads values into a synonym with a read-only AUTOINCREMENT column, DataMigrator inserts or updates the values in that column which leads to wrong results. (200128053)
- Only the first recipient receives an email notification from the job when a flow sends the emails to multiple recipients. (191114059)

- When a flow contains corrupted syntax and is not scheduled when the Mail to addresses defined in procedure is used and the application directory name contains a percent sign. (191114059)
- When creating a Double List Control box, if the Keep selected value is set to Yes, the previously selected value is not saved when the Reset button is clicked or when you click search on the paging or search control box. (190920097)
- Global Names set with the AS command are not updated across portal tabs. (191203023)
- The final SQL statement is generated incorrectly by DataMigrator when using a filter with a specific combination of conditions. (200122015)
- May 2020 has its last weekday on Friday the 29th and should be covered by the blackout period, but the schedule can be saved without an error. (190510023)

Known Issues

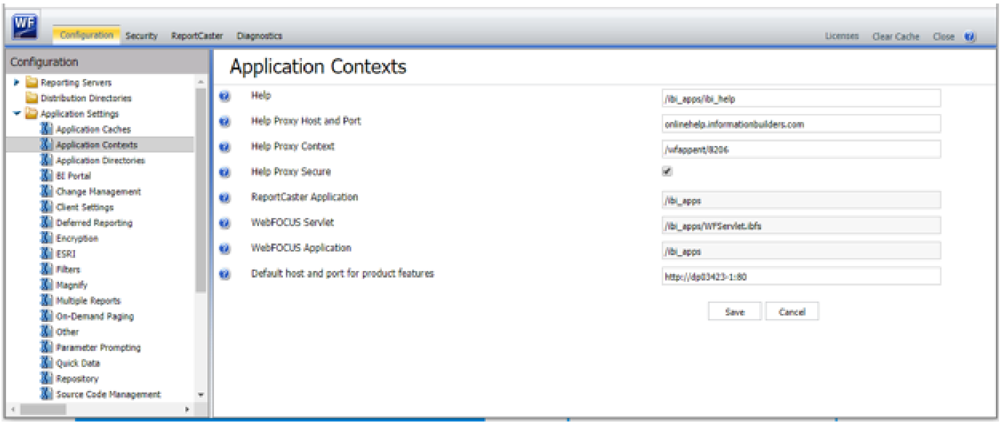
- The WebFOCUS help system does not work when the Application Server is configured with Java Version 11. As a workaround, you can configure your WebFOCUS instance to use help hosted by IBI. This provides an additional benefit, as users will have access to the latest content.

  To accomplish this, you need to perform the following configuration using the WebFOCUS Administration Console:

  1. Select the *Configuration* tab and navigate to *Application Settings* and then *Application Contexts*.
  2. Change the *Help* value to */ibi_apps/ibi_help*.

     Note: The ibi_apps value must be the same as the WebFOCUS web app context created during installation. If you provided an alias, for example, ibi_apps8206, then the value for Help should be entered as /ibi_apps8206/ibi_help.
  3. Set the *Help Proxy Host and Port* value to *onlinehelp.informationbuilders.com*.
  4. Set the *Help Proxy Context* to */wfappent/8206*. If you are using WebFOCUS Release 8207, set the value to /wfappent/8207.
  5. Select the *Help Proxy Secure* check box.

For example:



6. Click the *Clear Cache* option and continue to sign out and sign in for the settings to take effect.

- The canvas of WebFOCUS Designer for this release is an interactive canvas based on AHTML. When creating a report, page and row break settings are not supported on this canvas for this release. If you select any other output format, such as HTML, PDF, PPTX, or XLSX, you will see these breaks at runtime. These output format options are available for stand-alone content items only. This will be resolved with the introduction of the non-interactive document canvas in a future release.

- When an Insight-enabled chart created in the 8207.00 version of WebFOCUS Designer is added to a visualization as external content, the Insight icon does not appear on the chart when the page is run, so Insight features cannot be accessed. Resave the chart in WebFOCUS Designer 8207.01 or later to make Insight available when the chart is added to a visualization.

- When working with the Cell menu in an interactive report, the filtering functionality does not work as expected.

- When saving an artifact (from or of and interactive report, chart or dashboard), the output file name is ARsave.html rather than ARhtml.html.

- If you create a report or chart in ARVERSION=2 (In-Document Analytics) and you set the output format to PDF Analytic Document, an error occurs when you run it. If you change the option in Procedure Settings to Legacy, the report or chart is produced correctly.

- If you are working with an In-Document Analytics chart in landscape mode on an Android mobile device and you switch to portrait mode, your content displays in fullscreen mode. Your chart displays at the bottom. If you run your content in new window mode, your In-Document Analytics chart does not display in fullscreen mode, displaying the chart on the right.
- HIDENULLACRS, which hides across columns that have null or zero values in the entire column, is not supported with interactive content using the new Designer style of In-Document Analytics capabilities.
- If you add an existing ARVERSION=1 report to an AHTML document set to ARVERSION=2, it fails at run time, displaying JSON text on the screen instead of the expected report output.
- If you are working with a procedure (.fex) and you change the ARVERSION to ARVERSION=2, global filters do not display when you run the procedure.
- In a scatter plot chart or bubble chart, multiple measure fields on the horizontal and vertical axes generate separate axes, resulting in a grid of scatter plots for each combination of measure fields. In WebFOCUS Designer, if you create a scatter plot chart or bubble chart with multiple measures in the Vertical or Horizontal buckets, only the axis for the first measure in each bucket displays on the canvas. When you run the chart, all measure fields in the Vertical and Horizontal buckets are shown as separate axes, as intended.
- The Expression Editor has a an area that displays objects that you can add to an expression, which are columns, variables or functions. The selection and display of these was controlled by buttons above the area, but when then size of the area was compressed, some of the buttons were hidden. Now there is a single button with a pull-down menu that allows selecting what objects are displayed.
- Both the db_collation.sh file and the db_collation.bat file generate the "Main WARN Error while converting string [] to type," error message in the Command Prompt window at the end of their run. This message has no impact on the functionality of this post-installation utility, and it completes the run successfully.
- The load_repos.sh file generates the "WARNING: sun.reflect.Reflection.getCaller Class is not supported. This will impact performance," error message in the Command Prompt window at the end of its run. In addition, the db_inplace_update.sh, WFReposUtilCMDLine.sh, and update_repos.sh files generate the "Main WARN Error while converting string [ ] to type," error message in the Command Prompt window at the end of their run. These messages have no impact on the functionality of these post installation utilities, and each one completes its run successfully.

System Requirements

This release is now certified and has been tested with Google Chrome version 80, Firefox version 73, Microsoft Edge version 44 (WebFOCUS only), and Internet Explorer 11. Internet Explorer Compatibility mode is not supported. For additional browser details, see *Browser Information*.

For more information on supported clients and more, see *Release Information*.

Feedback

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WebFOCUS

Release 8207.05

About This Release

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