

Release Bulletin for PowerBuilder 2017 R3

PowerBuilder® 2017 R3
FOR WINDOWS

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1 Release Bulletin

This release bulletin provides late-breaking information about Appeon PowerBuilder® 2017 R3.

Appeon PowerBuilder version 2017 R3 supports these operating systems (same as version 2017 R2 does):

- Windows 7 32- or 64-bit with SP1
- Windows 8.1 32- or 64-bit
- Windows 10 32- or 64-bit
- Windows Server 2008 32- or 64-bit with SP2 (supported for runtime)
- Windows Server 2012 R2 (supported for runtime)
- Windows Server 2016 (supported for runtime)

2 Known Issues

Learn about known issues and workarounds.

Note

If you have an Appeon® support contract, use the Appeon Support Website to search for knowledge-based articles and solved cases. Go to the Appeon Support Website at <https://support.appeon.com>, log in, and select Knowledge Base to start the search.

2.1 Known issues with RESTClient

RESTClient object has changed the declaration of its Retrieve function, from "By reference" in 2017 R2 to "By value" in 2017 R3, therefore, you might need to do the following in order for the source code to work properly after migrated from R2 to R3.

- If you have overloaded the RESTClient Retrieve function in your source code, make sure you manually remove the "ref" declaration and then full build the source code.
- If you have called the RESTClient Retrieve function but not overloaded it in your source code, make sure you full build the source code after migrated from R2 to R3.

The following table lists the RESTClient Retrieve function declaration in 2017 R2 and R3. Note that there is no "ref" declaration in 2017 R3.

Retrieve Function Definitions in 2017 R2	Retrieve Function Definitions in 2017 R3
public function long retrieve (ref datastore ds, string urlname)	public function long retrieve (datastore ds, string urlname)
public function long retrieve (ref datastore ds, string urlname, blob data)	public function long retrieve (datastore ds, string urlname, blob data)
public function long retrieve (ref datastore ds, string urlname, string data)	public function long retrieve (datastore ds, string urlname, string data)
public function long retrieve (ref datawindow dw, string urlname)	public function long retrieve (datawindow dw, string urlname)
public function long retrieve (ref datawindow dw, string urlname, blob data)	public function long retrieve (datawindow dw, string urlname, blob data)
public function long retrieve (ref datawindow dw, string urlname, string data)	public function long retrieve (datawindow dw, string urlname, string data)

2.2 Data volume for ImportJSON and ExportJSON

Considering that the computer memory is limited, ImportJSON and ExportJSON functions may have a limit on the amount of data it can handle. Our tests show that the maximum data volume is 110,000 rows x 16 columns when importing/exporting the standard-format JSON, or 160,000 rows x 16 columns when importing/exporting the simple-format JSON. When there are more columns, there are less rows the function can handle.

2.3 Known issues with deployment capabilities

The capabilities to do Web and/or mobile deployments are constrained by both PowerServer Toolkit and PowerServer server. For example,

- PowerServer Toolkit 2017 R3 can deploy the Web and/or mobile application to PowerServer server 2017 R3;
- PowerServer Toolkit 2017 R3 can deploy the mobile application to PowerServer server 2017 R2 (or 2017), but not the Web application (because PowerServer server 2017 R2 (or 2017) does not support the Web deployment); you will receive an error message when using PowerServer Toolkit 2017 R3 to deploy the Web app to PowerServer server 2017 R2 (or 2017);
- PowerServer Toolkit 2017 R2 (or 2017) can deploy the mobile application to PowerServer server 2017 R3, but not the Web application (because PowerServer Toolkit 2017 R2 (or 2017) does not support the Web deployment); you will receive an error message when using PowerServer Toolkit 2017 R2 (or 2017) to deploy the Web app to PowerServer server 2017 R3.

2.4 Known issues with license

Issue 1: (PB online license renewal) Although you have set the "remind me every N days" in the Reminder for Renewal window, if you have not renewed your subscription, the window will pop up every time you log in PowerBuilder. Workaround: Disable the "Sign out on exit" option in Account Management so that you do not need to log in every time you start PowerBuilder.

Issue 2: (PB offline license renewal) If you have renewed your offline license in 2017 or 2017 R2, and then if you renew your offline license again after PowerBuilder 2017 R3 is installed, your offline license becomes expired when you log into PowerBuilder next time. This is caused by an internal change to the offline license renewal file name. To resolve this issue, you activate and renew the offline license again in the PowerBuilder IDE.

Issue 3: (PowerServer license activation) AEM cannot connect with the license backup server (<https://api2.appeon.com/license/public/1.0/login>) through a proxy server; which means PowerServer license cannot be processed by the license backup server when a proxy server is used for Internet connection.

2.5 Known issues with RichTextEdit control

(For the built-in rich-text control) PowerBuilder IDE crashes, when executing the InsertDocument function in the RichTextEdit control under the preview mode.

Richtext edit-style DataWindow does not support to save image to the PDF file.

2.6 Known issues with crash

When you right-click the PowerBar area (to bring up the popup menu) for about 10 times, PowerBuilder IDE may crash or throw a runtime error.

2.7 Known issues with anti-virus tools

The anti-virus tools that have been certified to work with PowerBuilder and PowerServer are AVG, Avira, McAfee, Avast, and Kaspersky. Other anti-virus tools that are not listed here may block the installation program or runtime files of PowerBuilder or PowerServer. If this happens, please contact the Appeon Support team for help.

2.8 Known issues with opening objects

The object (such as Menu, User Object) opens slowly in the PowerBuilder 2017 R3 IDE, especially for large complex applications.

Performing a full build of the application can greatly improve the opening speed of the object.

3 Bug Fixes

The following bugs are fixed in PowerBuilder 2017 R3.

- (BugZilla ID: 1057) In PowerBuilder Japanese environment, the DataWindow IME property does not take effect and the language bar does not change accordingly when the focus is switched between the DataWindow fields.
- (BugZilla ID: N/A) In PowerBuilder Japanese environment, the TrimSpaces property is set to 1 and does not take effect.
- (BugZilla ID: 868) When you enter a full-width numeral in a numeric column, the conversion is incorrect.
- (BugZilla ID: 831) After a workspace is added to the SVN source control, committing a PBD file will cause errors.
- (BugZilla ID: 724) If the SCC Interface component is not selected to install during the PowerBuilder installation process, PowerBuilder will fail to launch after installation is complete, and the error indicates that PBSourceControl170.dll is missing.
- (BugZilla ID: 699) PBSourceControl170.dll should not be required for deployment.
- (BugZilla ID: 332) RichTextEdit control displays truncated text in Paragraph orientation drop-down in Bold font.
- (BugZilla ID: 807, 1322) InputFieldChangeData function failed to show the carriage return at the beginning of the string in the RichTextEdit control.
- (BugZilla ID: 834, 364, 629, 942) RichTextEdit control opens very slowly and the control does not paint correctly if the default printer is a remote desktop printer.
- (BugZilla ID: 1006) In the Arabic environment, PowerBuilder crashed when exporting the PDF file using the NativePDF method.
- (BugZilla ID: 493) After changing the RichTextEdit control to the preview mode, the control switches back to the edit mode when printing or saving the document, although the setting (control.isPreview) still indicates that it is in the preview mode. And changing the preview mode to the edit mode does not take effect.
- (BugZilla ID: 441) When the RichTextEdit control is empty, CopyRTF function returns an empty string in PowerBuilder 12.6, while returns the richtext format settings in PowerBuilder 2017.
- (BugZilla ID: N/A) When the specified directory does not exist, SaveAs to XML returns 1 which is incorrect.
- (BugZilla ID: 664) When saving RichTextEdit DataWindow as a PDF file, the file will have duplicate pages.
- (BugZilla ID: 288 partially fixed) In printout of RichTextEdit controls, lines or texts may be truncated on the right of the page.

- (BugZilla ID: 325) The vertical scrollbar in the sort dialog hides the ascending check box.
- (BugZilla ID: 1064, 1021) When a shared redirected local printer is selected as default, PrintSetup and PrintGetPrinter functions failed to return it as the default printer.
- (BugZilla ID: 342) PowerBuilder IDE crashes, when AutoScript is used in a non-visual user object with an object-level structure used as function return type.
- (BugZilla ID: 494) PowerBuilder IDE crashes, if the InsertDocument function specifies the directory without the file name.
- (BugZilla ID: 1119) The lower border of the RichTextEdit control toolbar does not show completely.
- (BugZilla ID: 329) CrossTab DataWindow crashes in 64-bit executable if retrieving 8200+ rows.
- (BugZilla ID: 208, 581) After Outlook 2010 is called in the PowerBuilder application to send emails, PowerBuilder process cannot be correctly ended when PowerBuilder IDE is closed and Outlook 2010 could not be successfully launched on its own.
- (BugZilla ID: 1071) After setting the DataWindow sort using LookupDisplay, the sort order value (ascending, descending etc.) is missing.
- (BugZilla ID: 926) RESTClient object returns null values for some float-type columns of the DataWindow.
- (BugZilla ID: N/A) Git Pull and/or Git Push creates unnecessary short-term branches and merges which are a headache to resolve.
- (Internal Bug) If you use the new Git/SVN feature, OrcaScript would fail to create PBLs from source code, because OrcaScript still looks for the source code in the same directory that the PBL is located at, but the source code is now stored in the ws_objects folder under the directory that the PBL is located at.
- (Internal Bug) The newly added fields such as Password, Author, Email etc. in the Source Control tab in the Properties of Workspace dialog box do not have text pop-ups when you press F1 for the field, rather, pressing F1 may cause the PowerBuilder IDE to crash.
- (Internal Bug) On Windows 10, the column with the rich-text edit style will perform slowly (approximately 6 times slower than before), especially in the Grid or Tabular DataWindow.
- (Internal Bug) On Windows 7 or 10, in the RichText DataWindow, when the title bar is true and the title is empty, the screen will flash if you scroll the mouse to refresh the DataWindow.
- (Internal Bug) For PowerBuilder which is activated using an online license, if it is not connecting with the Appeon license server for over 5 days, the local license will be locked when PowerBuilder is launched next time without internet connection. After the local

license is locked, if the same account is used to log in to PowerBuilder, the message "You are already logged in" appears.

- (Internal Bug) Some data in the nested reports (most of the case, in the last nested report) may not print (appear as blank) in the PDF file. If this issue occurs, you can try to avoid it by adjusting the height of the problematic nested report.
- (Internal Bug) When right-clicking a RichText edit style column in a DataWindow, RButtonUp event is not triggered.
- (Internal Bug) When a column loses focus, the list symbols (mainly the customized image) that are aligned to left cannot show completely when under the preview or printout mode

4 Integrate with SAP PowerBuilder 12.6 Bug Fixes

According to the announcement ([view here](#)), Appeon and SAP will offer different product lines of PowerBuilder.

The Appeon's product line will integrate with the bugs fixed in the SAP's product line. In the case of the GA version of Appeon PowerBuilder 2017 R3, the bug fixes in SAP PowerBuilder 12.6 EBF 4220 have been integrated.

5 PowerServer (PB Edition) VS. Other PowerServer Editions

PowerServer (PB Edition) indicates the PowerServer provided in the PowerBuilder Universal Edition; its Developer license supports deploying Web and mobile apps to the .NET-based PowerServer back-ends. Other PowerServer editions indicate the PowerServer (Developer/Workgroup/Enterprise Edition) which supports Web and mobile deployments on both the .NET and J2EE application servers. Notice the different components contained in these editions.

Table 5.1: Components contained in different editions

Component	PowerServer (PB Edition)			Other PowerServer Editions		
	Developer Edition	Standalone Production Edition	Clustered Production Edition	Developer Edition	Workgroup Edition	Enterprise Edition
PowerServer Web/Mobile	Available	Available (Mobile only)	Available (Mobile only)	Available	Available	Available
PowerServer Web Component	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available
PowerServer Help	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available	Available
PowerServer Toolkit	PowerServer Toolkit is only available in the PowerBuilder Universal Edition. It can deploy PowerBuilder apps as mobile apps or Web apps to 2017 R3, 2017 R2, 2017, and 2016 PowerServer (formerly called Appeon Server) based on the .NET or J2EE application servers.					

The PowerServer Web/Mobile server component from **PowerServer (PB Edition)** and the PowerServer Web/Mobile server component from other **Appeon PowerServer** Editions must be installed on different servers. If you install them on the same server, unpredictable issues may occur, and you should uninstall both, and then install them separately on different servers.

Also notice the different features supported in these editions.

Table 5.2: Features supported in different editions

Feature	PowerServe Toolkit	PowerServer (PB Edition)			Other PowerServer Editions		
	-	Developer Edition	Standalone Production Edition	Clustered Production Edition	Developer Edition	Workgroup Edition	Enterprise Edition
Mobile apps	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
Web apps	Supported	Supported	Not supported	Not supported	Supported	Supported	Supported

Feature	PowerServe Toolkit	PowerServer (PB Edition)			Other PowerServer Editions		
	-	Developer Edition	Standalone Production Edition	Clustered Production Edition	Developer Edition	Workgroup Edition	Enterprise Edition
.NET application server	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
J2EE application server	Supported	Not supported	Not supported	Not supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
Clustering (failover)	Supported	Not supported	Not supported	Supported	Not supported	Not supported	Supported
Offline mobile capability	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported	Supported
Free or paid	Free	Free	Free	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid
Licensing model	-	Subscription	Subscription	Subscription	Perpetual	Perpetual	Perpetual
Supported OS	Windows	Windows	Windows	Windows	Win/ Linux/ Unix	Win/ Linux/ Unix	Win/ Linux/ Unix
User sessions	-	5 (in total)	Unlimited	Unlimited	5	Variable	Variable

6 Product Compatibilities

PowerBuilder has been tested for compatibility with a number of software products.

Table 6.1: Software Products Tested with PowerBuilder

Software Type or Product	Compatibility Description
SQL Anywhere	PowerBuilder 2017 R3 has been tested with SQL Anywhere 12.0 thru 17.0.
Microsoft .NET Framework	PowerBuilder 2017 R3 is compatible with Microsoft .NET Framework 4.0 or later.
Oracle JDK	PowerBuilder 2017 R3 is compatible with Oracle JDK 1.6.

7 Third-Party Components and Deployment

PowerBuilder applications have some dependencies on third-party components that are installed with PowerBuilder.

Most of these components are not installed with the PowerBuilder Runtime Packager. You may redistribute some of these components with your application, but others must be obtained from the vendor.

7.1 Apache Files

You may redistribute the Apache files that are included with PowerBuilder to your users.

Any use or distribution of the Apache code included with PowerBuilder 2017 R3 must comply with the terms of the Apache License, which is located in the free download terms document for PowerBuilder.

Version 0.20.5 of the Apache Formatting Objects Processor (FOP) is required if your application uses XSL-FO to save files as PDF. See the Apache FOP Web site at <https://xmlgraphics.apache.org/fop/>.

The Apache Xerces files *xerces-c_2_8.dll* and *xerces-depdom_2_8.dll* are required for XML Web DataWindow support, XML support for DataWindows and DataStores, PBDOM, and SOAP clients for Web services. See the Xerces C++ Parser Web site at <http://xerces.apache.org/xerces-c/>.

7.2 Microsoft Files

Special Microsoft files are required on runtime computers for various PowerBuilder features.

7.2.1 Visual C++ Runtime and the Active Template Library

When you deploy the core PowerBuilder runtime files, make sure the *msvcr100.dll* and *msvcp100.dll* Microsoft Visual C++ runtime libraries and the Microsoft .NET Active Template Library (ATL) module *atl100.dll*, are present on the user's computer or server.

The PowerBuilder runtime files have a runtime dependency on these files and they are required for all applications and components that require the PowerBuilder runtime. You can obtain these DLL files from the \Program Files\Appeon\Shared\PowerBuilder folder, or from DLL archive Web sites at <http://dlldump.com> or <http://driverskit.com/>. Make sure you obtain the same version (32-bit or 64-bit) of the these DLL files as the version (32-bit or 64-bit) of the PowerBuilder application executable.

Note

Some files that are installed by the MSI file generated by the PowerBuilder Runtime Packager have dependencies on these files. For example, *atl100.dll* must be installed on the user's computer before the *pbjvm<version>.dll* file can be registered. Make sure these files are on the target computer before you run the MSI file generated by the Runtime Packager.

7.2.2 Ink Picture Libraries

Microsoft.Ink, *Microsoft.Ink.dll*, and *Microsoft.Resources.dll* are required if your application uses InkEdit and InkPicture controls. These files are part of the Microsoft .NET Framework 3.5 and later, and are available at C:\Windows\winsxs and its sub-folders after .NET framework is installed.

7.2.3 DirectX Runtime

PowerBuilder applications can use DirectX 3D rendering to display 3D graphs (Pie3D, Bar3D, Column3D, Line3D, and Area3D) with a more sophisticated look. You can use data item or series transparency with the DirectX graph styles to improve the presentation of data.

The DirectX 3D rendering depends on the DirectX runtime. The first time you select the Render3D check box on the General tab of the Properties view for a 3D graph, PowerBuilder launches the DirectX installer. If you opt out of the installation, the Render3D property is ignored. End users of PowerBuilder applications must also have the DirectX runtime installed on their computers to view the DirectX graph styles. You can download the DirectX runtime from the Microsoft Web site at <http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?FamilyID=2da43d38-db71-4c1b-bc6a-9b6652cd92a3&DisplayLang=en>.

For computers with older graphics drivers, you can check whether DirectX is supported by running *dxdiag.exe*. This file is typically installed in the Windows\System32 directory. The Display tab of the DirectX Diagnostic Tool that opens when you run *dxdiag.exe* indicates whether Direct3D is enabled.

7.3 Oracle files

The Java Runtime Environment (JRE) is required for EJB clients, JDBC connections, and saving as PDF using XSL-FO. For a copy of third-party terms and conditions for the JRE, see the free download terms document. The JRE can be downloaded from the Oracle Technology Network at <http://www.oracle.com/technetwork/java/javase/downloads/index.html>.

7.4 Software Used for SOAP Clients for Web Services (Deprecated)

PowerBuilder applications can use EasySoap to connect to Web services. The EasySoap ++ library in executable form (*EasySoap170.dll*), which is dynamically linked to *PBSoapClient170.pbx*, is distributed with PowerBuilder.

The EasySoap++ library and its use are covered by the GNU Lesser General Public License (LGPL). For a copy of this license, see the free download terms document.

You may distribute the EasySoap++ library to third parties, subject to the terms and conditions of the LGPL.

The complete machine-readable source code for the EasySoap++ library is in the *EasySoap.zip* file in the *Support\WSExtn* folder on the installation package. In addition, the object code and Microsoft Visual C++ project file for the *PBSoapClient170.pbx* are in the *soapclient.zip* file in the same directory.

These files are provided under the terms of the LGPL so you can modify the EasySoap ++ library and then relink to produce a modified *EasySoap170.dll*. You can also relink *PBSoapClient170.pbx* with the modified EasySoap++ import library. According to the terms

of the LPGL, you may not be able to recompile *PBSoapClient170.pbx* to use the definitions you have modified in the EasySoap++ library.

Follow the instructions in the *Readme.txt* file in the *soapclient.zip* file to build *PBSoapClient170.pbx*.

7.5 List of Free Download Components (Including Open Source Components)

For the complete list of the free download components (including open-source components), view the [Free Download Terms document](#) on the Appeon Web site.

8 Migration Information

You can migrate a PowerBuilder application from any version of PowerBuilder directly to PowerBuilder 2017 R3. You cannot migrate applications from PowerBuilder 2017 R3 to older versions of PowerBuilder.

Before you migrate, back up your files and use the Migration Assistant to identify obsolete code. The applications you build using the current version of PowerBuilder must be deployed with the PowerBuilder runtime DLLs from the current version.

Note

The "Migrating PowerBuilder Applications" technical document at https://www.appeon.com/support/documents/appeon_online_help/pb2017r3/migrating_pb_apps includes information on changes to PowerBuilder since version 6.5 that might affect the conversion of applications to a more recent PowerBuilder version.

8.1 Migrating .NET Targets from Earlier Versions of PowerBuilder

When you migrate .NET Web Service components, you might need to remove or install supporting files on development and deployment computers.

If you deployed .NET projects from earlier versions of PowerBuilder, verify or complete these steps before redeploying the migrated .NET projects:

- For .NET Web Service targets, clear ASP.NET temporary files for the application or component on development computers and production servers.

The temporary files are located in the *C:\WINDOWS\Microsoft.NET\Framework\version\Temporary ASP.NET Files\projectName* directory, where *version* is typically *v2.0.50727*, and *projectName* is the project's Web application name or its Web service virtual directory name.

- For all .NET targets, uninstall earlier versions of PowerBuilder runtime files (system assemblies and win32 DLLs) on all deployment computers or servers, then install the runtime files for the current version of PowerBuilder using the Runtime Packager or another tool, as described in the "Checklist for deployment" section of the Deploying Components as .NET Assemblies or Web Services.

8.2 System Types as Variable Names in Proxies

In PowerBuilder versions 10.5 and later, you cannot use system types as variable names in Web service proxies.

If a PowerBuilder system type is used as a variable name, the Web Service Proxy wizard renames the variable by applying the prefix `ws_`. If you are migrating Web service applications from PowerBuilder 10.2 or earlier, and regenerating the Web service proxies in PowerBuilder 10.5 or later, you may need to modify your code to reflect the change in variable names.

PowerBuilder system types include not only the objects and controls listed on the System tab page in the PowerBuilder Browser, but also the enumerated types listed on the Enumerated

page in the Browser, such as band, button, encoding, location, and weekday. For example, if you build a Web service from a PowerBuilder custom class user object, and one of its functions has a string argument named `location`, in the proxy generated for that Web service, the argument is changed to `ws_location`.

8.3 OLE DB Performance with Microsoft SQL Server

In PowerBuilder 10.5.2 and later, when you use the OLE DB database interface with a Microsoft SQL Server database and retrieve data into a DataWindow, or use an embedded SQL cursor in a **SELECT** statement, server-side cursors help to support multiple command execution.

If this has a negative impact on performance, try increasing the size of the Block database parameter to 500 or more, or adding the following line to the [Microsoft SQL Server] section in the PBODB initialization file to turn off server-side cursors: `ServerCursor = 'NO'`

8.4 Change in Behavior of OpenTab

A change was made in PowerBuilder 10.2.1 Build 9716, PowerBuilder 10.5.1 Build 6505, and PowerBuilder 11.0 Build 5021, to correct an anomalous behavior when the SelectedTab property was applied at runtime to a tab for which the Visible property was set to false.

As a result of this change, there is a change in the behavior of the `OpenTab` and `OpenTabWithParm` functions. In earlier versions, calling the `OpenTab` or `OpenTabWithParm` function to open a user object as a tab page displayed the tab page even if the user object's Visible property was set to false. In the current version, the user object's Visible property must be set to true for the tab page to appear.

8.5 ImportFile Size Limit

If your application uses the `ImportFile` method to import very large text files into a DataWindow or DataStore, `ImportFile` returns the error code -15.

PowerBuilder versions 10.0 and later are Unicode enabled. Earlier ANSI versions of PowerBuilder were able to import larger text files.

Note

The release bulletins for earlier versions listed the size limit for large files as approximately 839,000 lines. However, the size limit depends on the number of columns in the files, as well as the number of lines.

9 Obtaining Help and Additional Information

Use the Product Documentation site and online help to learn more about this product release.

- Product Documentation at <https://www.appeon.com/developers/library/product-manuals-for-pb> – PDF documentation that you can download. The Web site also has links to other resources, such as white papers, community forums, maintenance releases, and support content.
- Online Web help published at https://www.appeon.com/support/documents/appeon_online_help/appeon_online_help.htm.
- Compiled HTML help (.chm) packaged into the product.

To read or print PDF documents, you need Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available as a free download from the [Adobe](#) Web site.

Note

A more recent release bulletin, with critical product or document information added after the product release, will be available from the online help Web site.

9.1 Technical Support

All customers are entitled to standard technical support for reproducible software defects. You can open a standard support ticket at the Appeon support site: <https://www.appeon.com/standardsupport/> (login required).

If your organization has purchased a premium support contract for this product, then the designated authorized support contact(s) may seek assistance with your technical issue or question at the Appeon support site: <https://support.appeon.com> (login required).

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