



# UPDATE NOTES

2024.4

December 2024 (updated December 3, 2024)

# Table of Contents

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- Table of Contents** ..... 2
- 2024.4 Update Notes** ..... 4
  - Introduction ..... 4
  - Quarterly Updates ..... 5
  - Update Guide ..... 5
  - Academy and Community Resources ..... 6
  - Installing STEP 2024.4 ..... 6
- 2024.4 Update Guide** ..... 8
  - Java version change ..... 8
  - Address Normalizer renamed to 'Address Normalizer v1 (superseded)' ..... 8
  - Lock-Free Schema Change (LFSC) notification changes ..... 9
  - STEPXML schema changes from 2024.3 to 2024.4 ..... 9
  - Customer-focused transition: Final feature update and end-of-life notification for on-premises and other non-SaaS v2 environments ..... 9
  - End-of-life schedule for currently supported STEP updates ..... 9
  - Deprecated e-Signature functionality ..... 10
  - Online help / documentation changes ..... 10
- Developments in New UI for STEP** ..... 12
  - Selecting a reference target ..... 12
- Customer, Supplier, and Location MDM Enhancements** ..... 13
  - Object type icons added ..... 13
  - New ML Matcher version 2.0 for address matching and Address Normalizer v2 ..... 13
  - Removal of mandatory field requirements from the Address Component Model ..... 14
  - Machine Learning Matcher now supports sets of input data ..... 14
  - Stibo Systems MDM Connector for Salesforce ..... 14

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- Data Exchange Enhancements and Changes** ..... 15
  - SSL Client Certificates improved renewal process on SaaS ..... 15
  - New IIEP processing engine and increased limits for Kafka Streaming Receiver ..... 16
  - IIEP Business Rule Based Message Processor now respects 'Swap User' ..... 16
  - New REST API V2 operations ..... 17
  - Support for the latest industry standard formats ..... 17
  - ETIM Taxonomy API Import Integration ..... 18
  - Import Flow Process framework standalone component ..... 18
  - New import deletion policy – partial update option for ECLASS Advanced importer ..... 18
  - PDX Onboarding Channel Configurator now supports generation of language-specific channel UI ... 19
- General Enhancements and Changes** ..... 20
  - New JavaScript methods ..... 21
  - New JavaScript business rule logging ..... 21
  - OAuth available for email relay server ..... 22
  - New Translation Screen for Web UI ..... 22
- Platform and Software Support Changes** ..... 24
  - Current Updates ..... 24
    - Deprecated functionality ..... 24
  - Future Updates and End-of-Life (EOL) Notifications ..... 24
    - Baseline EOL ..... 24
- Miscellaneous Bugfixes** ..... 26
  - Component and Other Fixes ..... 26
  - Performance Enhancements ..... 28

# 2024.4 Update Notes

**Note:** Some changes necessitate action, so it is crucial to review these notes thoroughly. They complement the Stibo Systems Enterprise Platform (STEP) Online Help, which offers comprehensive details on both existing and new system functionality, providing detailed explanations and step-by-step instructions for use, as applicable.

## Introduction

We are excited to share the latest update with you. Stibo Systems consistently creates updates to align with the changing demands of the market and the needs of our valued customers, incorporating enhancements inspired by user requests. The update notes highlight a comprehensive range of new features, enhancements, and other changes that deliver significant value to customers—those mentioned below and many more. This update includes significant improvements in many areas, focusing on self-service capabilities, interface enhancements, and AI-driven features.

### Platform Improvements

- Message Streaming enhancements
- Expanding API for user management
- Platform maintenance update

### Product MDM Updates

- ETIM dictionary data import
- Improved translation efficiency

### Customer, Supplier, and Location MDM Updates

- AI/ML Address Matcher
- MDM connector for Salesforce

### PDX Updates

- Language-specific LOVs
- Asset transformations
- Channel management enhancements

**Important:** Some functionality described within these notes is controlled via licenses and/or component installations and may not be available on your system.

Update notes are accessible by clicking on the links below:

- [2024.4 Update Guide](#)
- [Developments in New UI for STEP](#)
- [Customer, Supplier, and Location MDM Enhancements](#)
- [Data Exchange Enhancements and Changes](#)
- [General Enhancements and Changes](#)
- [Platform and Software Support Changes](#)
- [Miscellaneous Bugfixes](#)

**Note:** Product Data Exchange (PDX) updates typically follow a different cadence than STEP updates. PDX-specific update notes and online help are available within the PDX solution. Once logged into PDX, click Help Center > Documentation using the left navigation panel. Documentation opens in a new tab.

Additional information is included in supplemental materials such as update overview slide decks and update-specific videos. These resources are available, along with these update notes, in the Stibo Systems Service Portal and within the Customer and Partner Communities.

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## Quarterly Updates

Feature updates are identified by the year and quarter in which they are introduced to customers. The first four digits (2024) indicate the year of the update. The last digit (4) indicates the calendar quarter. To learn more about update frequency, including target update times, and end-of-life baseline support dates, refer to the new STEP Update and End-of-Life Information topic in the System Update and Patch Notes documentation.

Along with the feature updates, there are also maintenance updates that are made available when fixes need to be deployed. The fixes are included in the regular maintenance updates. These updates follow the same baseline identifier plus timestamps (e.g., step-2024.4-2025-01-08-14-41-04).

Change Logs are accessible from within the Stibo Systems Service Portal. To view the logs, log in and go to the 'Update Information' dashboard. Change Logs are linked under each update version (for all supported versions of STEP). SaaS users will also be able to access these Change Logs via the STEP Documentation that is accessible from their system's Start Page or from within workbench.

## Update Guide

In addition to the individual update notes, upgrading customers should read the 2024.4 Update Guide. This guide provides information that existing customers need to know prior to upgrading. This includes actions required for deprecated components and unsupported functionality.

***The Update Guide includes information about actions that existing customers need to take prior to updating to the latest version.***

## Academy and Community Resources

### Stibo Systems Communities

We strongly encourage all **customers** and **partners** to actively participate in their dedicated Stibo Systems' Communities, fostering collaboration with fellow users. These update notes and other update materials, including videos, are also available within each Community. Stay updated on upcoming events and much more by registering today.

### Stibo Systems Academy

Maximize your investment in Stibo Systems Master Data Management (MDM) by taking Academy courses and completing our certification programs. The MDM Academy provides hands-on training opportunities for both customers and partners, aiming to enhance your understanding of Stibo Systems' MDM solutions. Comprehensive details regarding classes and programs can be found on our website:

<https://www.stibosystems.com/services-support/mdm-academy>.

## Installing STEP 2024.4

For SaaS environments, updates can be done in the SaaS Self-Service UI or (if not available) by raising a request with Stibo Systems Support. More information on the update process in the SaaS Self-Service UI can be found in the Upgrade Environment section in the in-built User Guide.

For on-premises customers, the baseline (and additional components) can be installed using these commands:

```
./spot --upgrade=step:2024.4
```

For on-prem deployed systems, it is always recommended to use the latest version of SPOT (regardless of the current STEP version in use). If updating via the `--upgrade` command, using the latest SPOT version is required.

For on-prem systems, the SPOT `--upgrade` command may be used to find compatible components that can be added at the same time as the baseline patch (i.e., `--upgrade=all`). Refer to the SPOT Program topic of the System Administration Guide found in Downloadable Documentation. For assistance, contact Stibo Systems Technical Services.

For customers that have custom add-on components and/or if Stibo Systems Support is deploying your system updates, submit an update request via the Stibo Systems Service Portal.

**Important: Customers and partners who have built their own custom extensions with Extension API may need to recompile and redeploy these extensions themselves in conjunction with upgrading to 2024.4. Refer to the STEP Extension API Guide available via the Technical Documentation accessible at [system]/sdk or from the system Start Page.**

*This document is intended for use by active Stibo Systems Enterprise Platform (STEP) users and partners and describes the above and other new functionality and improvements in greater detail. It does not serve as a replacement for the online help, which includes additional information on previously existing and new system functionality, as well as more detailed explanations and step-by-step instructions for use, when appropriate.*

# 2024.4 Update Guide

## Summary

System updates are your first line of defense against security threats while also boosting performance, ensuring compatibility, and unlocking exciting new features that add value to your digital experience. Regular updates not only protect your data and keep your system running smoothly, but they also give you access to innovative tools and capabilities that can enhance your productivity and user experience.

**Important: Customer action may be required.** Before updating to 2024.4 from an older version, customers should be aware of certain system changes. The list that follows may not be comprehensive; however, along with the full update note-set, it provides a starting point for update evaluation.

## Details

### Java version change

Java 21 is the latest available Long-Term Support (LTS) version and is required to run STEP (updating to 2024.4 will handle this automatically). It is an upgrade from Java 11 and provides better performance, enhanced security, greater scalability, and optimized memory management.

Impacted by this upgrade are base64 encoding and Gzipping. The strings for the same configuration element (e.g., business rule, event processor, integration endpoint, etc.) exported in STEPXML from a 2024.4 (or later) environment and from a pre-2024.4 environment will be different, leading to potential false positives when comparing files. Customers using features such as Impact Analysis for Change Packages could be impacted. Decoding and unzipping are backwards compatible, and configurations exported from older systems can be imported to updated environments.

**Note:** This change does not affect customizations in any way, and the same goes for any partner-driven extension to STEP. However, if you have built your own custom extensions with Extension API, refer to 2024.4 Update Notes for an unrelated issue that requires they be recompiled and redeployed in coordination with updating.

### Address Normalizer renamed to 'Address Normalizer v1 (superseded)'

The Address Normalizer has been renamed to 'Address Normalizer v1 (superseded)' in the workbench. It remains available, but users of SaaS v2 systems are encouraged to transition to the new 'Address Normalizer v2' and the Machine Learning Matcher.

For details, refer to the Customer, Supplier, and Location MDM Enhancements topic in the 2024.4 updates notes and to the topic Data Element: Address Normalizer v2 in the Matching, Linking, and Merging documentation.



## Lock-Free Schema Change (LFSC) notification changes

As a result of backend changes to support various STEP environments, when a Lock-Free Schema Change (LFSC) encounters a lock, the current notification process has been slightly modified. Instead of displaying a detailed explanation, users will now see a pop-up with a process ID. To understand the specific reasons for an LFSC failure, customers will need to review the execution report.

## STEPXML schema changes from 2024.3 to 2024.4

There are no changes to report.

## Customer-focused transition: Final feature update and end-of-life notification for on-premises and other non-SaaS v2 environments

As part of our commitment to our customers' long-term success, we have made a strategic decision that we believe will benefit our entire customer community in the long term.

The 2024.4 update is the final update for on-premises systems and other non-SaaS v2 environments. Support of these deployments will continue until December 31, 2027. During this transition period, we will continue to provide security updates and critical fixes as needed. All subsequent feature updates will be exclusive to SaaS v2 customers.

Our focus remains on ensuring sustainable success for all our customers as we move forward on this SaaS journey together. Cloud-based SaaS v2 solutions have the benefits of new capabilities and continuous innovation—all while benefiting from predictable costs and scalable infrastructure.

Our goal is to support your long-term success by providing a platform that evolves with your business, and we want to ensure that your organization can experience these advantages as well. Impacted customers have been contact by Stibo Systems prior to this release, and any questions should be directed to the contact listed within those communications.

## End-of-life schedule for currently supported STEP updates

Below is a table outlining the end-of-life schedule for the STEP updates shown:

Update	Update Available to Customers	EOL for on-prem and other non-SaaS v2 systems	EOL for SaaS v2 systems not enrolled in continuous updates	EOL for SaaS v2 systems enrolled in continuous updates
11.0	June 8, 2022	June 8, 2025	June 8, 2025	N/A
11.1	November 30, 2022	November 30, 2025	November 30, 2025	N/A
11.2	June 7, 2023	March 7, 2026	March 7, 2026	N/A

Update	Update Available to Customers	EOL for on-prem and other non-SaaS v2 systems	EOL for SaaS v2 systems not enrolled in continuous updates	EOL for SaaS v2 systems enrolled in continuous updates
2023.3	September 27, 2023	September 30, 2024	September 30, 2024	N/A
2023.4	December 13, 2023	June 13, 2026	June 13, 2026	N/A
2024.1	March 27, 2024	March 31, 2025	March 31, 2025	September 30, 2024
2024.2	June 12, 2024	September 30, 2026	September 30, 2026	December 31, 2024
2024.3	September 16, 2024	September 30, 2025	September 30, 2025	March 31, 2025
2024.4	December 11, 2024	December 31, 2027	December 31, 2026	June 30, 2025

Refer to the updated STEP Update and End-of-Life Information topic in the System Update and Patch Notes section for more information about quarterly update target dates and support end dates for future updates. Additional Platform and Software Support information can be found in the [Platform and Software Support Changes](#) topic in the 2024.4 updates notes.

Customers should update as soon as possible to the latest version of the Stibo Systems Enterprise Platform (STEP). Contact Stibo Systems Support if you have questions and/or to receive help and guidance on how to update to a supported version.

Software errors reported for the versions shown above may be rejected after the listed effective dates. Application support issues in progress for the updates being desupported will be closed on the desupport date. It is not possible to extend the support services for desupported versions.

## Deprecated e-Signature functionality

The e-Signature functionality is deprecated with this release. This functionality is currently not available for SaaS customers, and it will not be made available due to the deprecation.

e-Signature documentation has been updated.

## Online help / documentation changes

With every update, documentation updates occur. In addition to online help that is updated as part of the projects listed in this update note set, users should be aware of the following documentation updates when updating to 2024.4:

- A new Deprecations and Lifecycle Changes topic is available for users to easily identify what functionality and components have been deprecated, superseded, withdrawn, and deleted in the current update as well as post updates and future ones (as known).
- The STEP Update and End-of-Life Information has been updated to include 2024.4 information.

- Workbench images in documentation are being updated to show the restyled UI (from the 2024.1 update). This is an ongoing project that will continue over the next several updates.
- Documentation was updated to remove information about unsupported versions. For unsupported platform versions, this includes the removal of the update and maintenance patch notes, which are still accessible via the Stibo Systems Service Portal on the Update Information dashboard. Product MDM for Automotive 10.3 update and maintenance patch notes were also removed and can be provided upon request.
- Videos for 2024.4 have been incorporated into the update notes and, if applicable, online help. If these videos, or any other videos in the documentation, do not play as expected, they are also accessible within the Communities. Most videos are also available in the Stibo Systems Service Portal.

# Developments in New UI for STEP

## Summary

As part of our ongoing commitment to deliver a simplified user experience in our interfaces, Stibo Systems continues to enhance and extend the functionality of our UIs by adding new capabilities to Stibo Systems' new UI for STEP (also referred to as Instrument)—expanding efficiency and applicability.

The 2024.4 update introduces several changes to the new UI, aimed at improving user experience and efficiency, including the optimization of workflows to provide quicker on-screen updates when submitting tasks, ensuring a smoother and more responsive user experience.

Additionally, now, when selecting a reference target, the item picker only presents relevant options. More information about this enhancement follows.

## Details

### Selecting a reference target

The item picker only presents relevant options when selecting a reference target. Previously, when selecting an item using the item picker, all of the root nodes were displayed which resulted in an overwhelming number of options to select from. Now, the options that are presented to a user are narrowed down to those based on the reference type. This solution allows users to be presented with a smaller, more relevant, selection of items from which to select a reference target.

For more information, review the References topic of the STEP Instrument Documentation available from your system's Start Page (under Resources) or from within the Stibo Systems Service Portal.

# Customer, Supplier, and Location MDM Enhancements

## Summary

The following enhancements to Customer, Supplier, and Location MDM functionality have been made as part of the 2024.4 update. These changes are outlined below and described in the Details section that follows:

- **Icons** for all common object types within the Customer MDM data model have been added in the 'Select Icon' dialog.
- A new **Machine Learning Matcher version 2.0** for person name and address matching is released together with a new Address Normalizer v2, significantly improving the accuracy of matching.
- The **Address Component Model** no longer contains mandatory fields, allowing users to input addresses with varying levels of detail without being restricted by field requirements.
- The Machine Learning Matcher now offers the capability of processing **sets of input data** allowing, for example, multiple addresses to be evaluated and returning the highest score for more accurate matching results.
- A new **Stibo Systems MDM Connector for Salesforce** is available under an early adopter license, accelerating time to value and improving implementation experiences.

## Details

### Object type icons added

In the workbench, when configuring an icon for an object type, the 'Products / Entities' category listed in the icon library will now be separated into two different categories of 'Product' and 'Entities'. In addition to the icon library organizational change, additional icons have been added in the 'Entities' category to account for object types commonly included in the CMDM data models. These changes will improve the look and usability of the icons displayed in both the Web UI and the Instrument Web UI.

### New ML Matcher version 2.0 for address matching and Address Normalizer v2

With the 2024.4 update, the Machine Learning Matcher version 2.0 has been released, featuring matching capabilities for both person names and addresses. To support this matcher, a 'StandardizedAddress' object type is available in JavaScript SDK, and a new 'Address Normalizer v2' has also been released. The previous Address Normalizer has been renamed to 'Address Normalizer v1 (superseded).'

Whereas the initial 1.0 version of the Machine Learning Matcher focused on person name matching, version 2.0 expands these capabilities to include address matching. Leveraging Stibo Systems' machine learning functionality, the matcher handles challenges such as inconsistent address formats and incomplete data, resulting in more accurate address matching.

The new Address Normalizer v2 supports both input values and standardized values. Users of SaaS v2 systems are encouraged to move away from using the legacy person name and address matchers and transition to the Machine Learning Matcher and 'Address Normalizer v2' for enhanced functionality and ongoing support. The previous 'Address Normalizer v1 (superseded)' is still available as the only option for on-premises deployments.

For more information, refer to the topics [Matcher: Machine Learning Matcher](#) and [Data Element: Address Normalizer v2](#) in the [Matching, Linking, and Merging](#) documentation.

## Removal of mandatory field requirements from the Address Component Model

The Address Component Model no longer imposes mandatory field requirements. Previously, the model included specific fields that needed to be completed to meet the requirements of address validation systems such as Loqate. With this update, the Address Component Model now functions effectively without needing specific fields to be filled in, making the system more adaptable to different data sources and address formats.

For more information, refer to the topic [Address Component Model](#) and its subtopics in the [Data Integration](#) documentation.

## Machine Learning Matcher now supports sets of input data

The Machine Learning Matcher now supports processing sets of input data, such as addresses. When comparing e.g., one record with three addresses to another record with two addresses, all six combinations are evaluated, and the highest score is returned as the result. To prevent service failures, the system allows a maximum of 20 elements of input data. If this limit is exceeded, a warning will be logged in the STEP log.

For more information, refer to the topic [Matcher: Machine Learning Matcher](#) in the [Matching, Linking, and Merging](#) documentation.

## Stibo Systems MDM Connector for Salesforce

The MDM Connector is a Salesforce app that supports functionalities within Salesforce, such as bi-directional flow and synchronization of data, and 'Merge' and 'Search before Create' scenarios.

The app contains a managed package maintained by Stibo Systems, and a reference implementation supporting Accounts and Contacts that can be changed and extended by the customer.

The new MDM Connector app accelerates time to value and improves implementation experiences through a rapid and certified integration approach with Salesforce. A certified Salesforce app, coupled with a best practices reference implementation, empowers fast and efficient implementation.

The MDM Connector app works with any supported version of STEP. At present, the app is only available under an early adopter license. As an early adopter, you will work closely with Stibo Systems' experts and the product management team in leveraging the MDM Connector for Salesforce and shaping the direction of the initiative moving forward.

Express your interest and learn more about the early adopter release of the Salesforce connector by emailing [sfdconnector@stibosystems.com](mailto:sfdconnector@stibosystems.com).

# Data Exchange Enhancements and Changes

## Summary

These enhancements and changes have been made as part of the 2024.4 update and are described in the Details section that follows:

- For Stibo Systems SaaS environments using the mTLS authentication for outbound REST integrations, the **SSL Client Certificates** renewal process is now facilitated. Within STEP, up to 90 days before the current certificate expires, users can retrieve the renewed mTLS client certificate that will be used.
- **Kafka Streaming Receiver** IIEPs (inbound integration endpoints) can use the new 'STEP Streaming Business Action Manager' to handle processing of incoming messages through a business action. Additional changes include an increased size limit allowed for topics and an increased reporting range on the Statistics tab for messages processed.
- The IIEP '**Business Rule Based Message Processor**' now respects the 'Swap User' parameter on the 'File Loading Widget' in the Web UI.
- **New REST API V2 operations** allow administrators to manage STEP users and user groups outside of STEP UIs.
- **Industry standard updates** include support for the newest versions of ECLASS, ETIM, and GDSN Receiver.
- A new API-based way to **import ETIM taxonomy** in different languages for different ETIM versions streamlines ETIM data management.
- The **Import Flow Process framework** component is now a standalone component capable of handling the new API-based ETIM Taxonomy import.
- A new parameter in the **ECLASS Advanced Importer** supports selective data deletion.
- **PDX Onboarding Channel Configurator** now supports generation of language-specific channel user interfaces.

## Details

### SSL Client Certificates improved renewal process on SaaS

The SSL Client Certificates editor now includes functionality to simplify management of expiration and renewal of mTLS client certificates for customers on Stibo Systems SaaS environments. Up to 90 days before the current certificate expires, administrators can download the renewed mTLS client certificate, view the details, and configure it. When the new certificate is active, outbound REST integrations using mTLS will use it automatically and continue to work since restarting the STEP application is no longer necessary. This enhancement reduces the manual effort required to manage and renew mTLS client certificates and helps prevent issues caused by delayed renewals.

▼ mTLS Client Certificate					
Subject Common Name	Valid From	Valid Until	Active	Client Certificate	
step-prod.stibosystems.com ...	Wed Jun 26 2024 02:00	Mon Jul 28 2025 01:59	Yes		<a href="#">Download</a>
step-prod.stibosystems.com ...	Thu Jun 26 2025 02:00	Tue Jul 28 2026 01:59	No		<a href="#">Download</a>

For more information, refer to the SSL Client Certificates topic in the Data Exchange documentation.

## New IIEP processing engine and increased limits for Kafka Streaming Receiver

The new 'STEP Streaming Business Action Message Processor' allows defining a JavaScript business action to be invoked on the inbound message via an IIEP (inbound integration endpoint). For the JavaScript business action, the following binds are available:

- 'Streaming Message' bind, which gives access to all streaming message objects, including content, key, topic, partition, offset, and headers.
- 'Streaming Execution Report Logger' bind, which logs data to the execution report of the streaming IIEP (compared to the standard 'Logger' bind which logs data to the step.0.log file).

Additional changes for the IIEP Kafka Streaming Receiver include:

- The 'maximum message size in bytes' defined on a Kafka topic is increased from 1 MB (1048576 bytes) to 2 MB (2097152 bytes).
- The Statistics tab now reports the count of messages imported successfully or with errors during the last 72 hours. This expands the reporting from the previous 24-hour maximum, which gives users insight, for example, to understand how the IIEP performed over a weekend.

For more information, refer to the IIEP - Configure STEP Streaming Business Action Message Processor Processing Engine topic and the Kafka Streaming Receiver topic in the Data Exchange documentation.

## IIEP Business Rule Based Message Processor now respects 'Swap User'

In the Web UI, the 'File Loading Widget' includes a 'Swap User' parameter that, when enabled, runs the related inbound integration endpoint (IIEP) with the Web UI user's credentials instead of the user configured on the IIEP. This parameter now also applies to IIEPs that use the Business Rule Based Message Processor. When 'Swap User' is enabled, the 'File Loading Widget' logs the Web UI user as the person who initiates the IIEP and the manager bound for the business action runs as that user. Traceability is improved by correctly logging the Web UI user who uploaded the file and handling the data as that user.

For more information, refer to the IIEP - Configure Business Rule Based Message Processor Processing Engine topic in the Data Exchange documentation and the File Loading Widget topic in the Web User Interfaces documentation.



## New REST API V2 operations

New HTTP operations are introduced in REST API V2 for managing users and user groups outside of the STEP UIs:

- **GET /users/{id}** and **GET /groups/{id}** - retrieves information for a user or a user group; responses include valid attributes on users or user groups and specific information respectively, such as 'E-mail' or 'VendorRoot' (the STEPXML tag for the classification ID selected in the 'Supplier' section of the User Group for the corresponding vendor / supplier)
- **GET /user-groups/{id}/users** - retrieves users IDs linked in a user group (recursive option to retrieve users IDs linked in subgroups as well)
- **GET /user-groups/{id}/children** retrieves immediate subgroup IDs
- **PUT /users/{id}** - creates a user, sets the user name and E-mail, sets attribute values, and links the user to one or more existing user group(s)
- **PUT /groups/{id}** - creates a user group, sets the user group name, VendorRoot, and attribute values, and defines the parent of the user group
- **PATCH /users/{id}** and **PATCH /groups/{id}** - partially updates existing a user or a user group
- **POST /users/{id}/randomize-step-password** - prevents user connection to STEP using a previous local password by updating the local STEP password to a random entry; only useful for STEP authenticated users
- **POST /users/{id}/add-to-group** and **POST /users/{id}/remove-from-group** - links a user to a user group or unlinks a user from a user group unless the user group is the only one the user is linked in
- **DELETE /users/{id}** and **DELETE /groups/{id}** - deletes a user that is not in use (for example, has no assigned tasks nor is used in an IEP) or an empty user group

For more information, refer to the REST API V2 section of the Technical Documentation accessible at [system]/sdk or from the Resources section of the system's Start Page.

## Support for the latest industry standard formats

Updates include support for:

- ECLASS Release 15.0
- ETIM 10.0
- GS1 GDSN 3.1.29

For more information, refer to the ECLASS Format and ETIM Format topics in the Data Exchange section of the documentation.

For more information on GS1 GDSN, refer to the GDSN Receiver Solution Enablement in the Solution Enablement documentation here. GS1 Maintenance Release information is posted quarterly on the Update Information dashboard within the Stibo Systems Service Portal.

## **ETIM Taxonomy API Import Integration**

The new ETIM Taxonomy API Importer is now available, offering an automated solution that replaces the previous manual, file-based approach for managing ETIM taxonomies. This tool enables users to integrate ETIM taxonomies across multiple languages and select specific versions and Article Groups during the import process. It also supports saving configurations as assets for easy reuse. Additionally, users can schedule automatic imports, ensuring a consistent update process. The importer is fully compatible with SaaS v2 STEP systems.

The functionality is enabled with the ETIM Industry Standards Package commercial license.

For more information, refer to the ETIM Component Model Configuration topic in the Data Exchange documentation.

## **Import Flow Process framework standalone component**

The Import Flow Process framework, previously dedicated to automotive file imports, is now available for broader use across multiple import types, including ETIM files via the ETIM Taxonomy API Importer. The Import Flow Process framework enables customers to leverage a workflow-based approach, allowing for highly customized imports with advanced control over data handling, data quality, and tailored import processes.

This setup only needs to be executed once per system, regardless of the number of standards implemented, but it must be completed before using any Easy Setup functions for the standards.

For existing PMDM for Automotive implementations, no changes are required.

For more information, refer to the Run Easy Setup of Import Flow Process topic in the Data Exchange documentation.

## **New import deletion policy – partial update option for ECLASS Advanced importer**

The ECLASS Advanced Data Importer now supports a partial update deletion policy, allowing users to selectively update parts of product data from specific sources during the import process. This is achieved with a new parameter, 'Classifications of Blocks and Aspects to be Deleted,' which enables users to specify exactly which classifications, blocks, or aspects should be removed or replaced, without requiring a full data deletion. By defining specific classification IDs within this parameter, users gain precise control over data being imported.

For more information, refer to the Configuring an IIEP for ECLASS Advanced Data Imports topic in the Solution Enablement: ECLASS Advanced documentation.

## **PDX Onboarding Channel Configurator now supports generation of language-specific channel UI**

The PDX Channel UI now supports language-specific views for channels covering multiple languages and markets, enhancing accessibility for suppliers by displaying more parts of the interface in their local language.

Using the PDX Onboarding Channel Configurator, retailers can now translate Attribute Names, Attribute Descriptions, and Lists of Values for localized display within the channel interface: The PDX Channel UI will reflect any translations already made in STEP. Language-specific Lists of Values are currently supported for both global and country / market-specific attributes, providing a more tailored experience in multilingual environments.

For more information, refer to the Handling STEP Dimension-Varying Data in PDX Onboarding Channel topic in the Data Integration documentation.

# General Enhancements and Changes

## Summary

The following enhancements and changes have been made as part of the 2024.4 update:

- Security is enhanced with a stricter password policy on preproduction and production environments for 'stepsys' and 'DBA' accounts. For details, refer to the Changing a User Password topic in the System Setup documentation.
- Testing business rules via REST now includes access to the Logger bind and meaningful error messages, which improves test and automation support for STEP systems and configurations in DTAP environments. Refer to the REST API V2 section of the Technical Documentation accessible at [system]/sdk or from the Resources section of the system's Start Page.
- Data on references is now available in the In-Memory usage report and reporting is aligned between Cassandra and Oracle databases. This provides reliable outcomes when investigating heap memory issues related to references. A new summary tab is also provided in the report.
- A new memory host pod called DuoPod has been introduced for use in smaller environments.
- STEP now responds faster to stop commands when OneQueue is enabled. In addition, OneQueue scheduler can now process many small background processes with a performance comparable to MultipleQueue scheduler.

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The following enhancements and changes have been made for SaaS environments and are documented in the SaaS Self Service 'User guide':

- Access control can now be managed through import and export, which simplifies maintenance and enables transferring this configuration between environments. Also, users can automatically add their current IP address, while still having the option to manually enter other individual IP addresses / ranges as needed.
- The STEP application shutdown process has been refined to ensure efficient, timely completion, with added diagnostic tools to facilitate monitoring and troubleshooting.
- Optimizations have been made to improve performance of image caching for SaaS environments.

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These enhancements and changes have been made as part of the 2024.4 update and are described in the Details section that follows:

- Two **new JavaScript methods** allow purging product, entity, asset, and classification objects from STEP and for calling business functions by ID. These methods enable efficient removal of unused objects and simplify testing business actions with a dynamic lookup and execution of business functions.

- **JavaScript business rules logging** is now limited in the standard STEP log file and is instead written in the new JS log files. This reduces the size of the STEP log and improves troubleshooting by separating log entries based on the source.
- Security is improved with support for OAuth 2.0 (Open Authorization) authentication for connections to an **email relay server**.
- A new **Translation Screen** for the Web UI allows for more granular review and management of in-progress translation jobs within the Web UI by displaying language-dependent attributes across languages and workspaces.

## Details

### New JavaScript methods

JavaScript functionality now includes two new methods, 'forceDelete()' and 'getBusinessFunctionByID()'.

- `forceDelete()` efficiently bypasses the recycle bin when purging a node without dependencies (child nodes, references or links from other objects). If a node is included in a workflow or an event, purging it using this method also removes these instances. This method allows a JavaScript business action to fully remove product, entity, asset, and classification objects from STEP. Note that no delete event is captured with this method. For example, assets not referenced by any other object but included in an 'approval' workflow can be purged using this method. However, if a product has dependencies such as child objects or is referenced by another object, the purge will fail with a dependency exception that can be logged via the JavaScript Logger bind.
- `getBusinessFunctionByID()` allows dynamically calling and evaluating business functions found by ID via `BusinessRuleHome` and is consistent with existing behavior for calling business conditions and actions. This simplifies testing business actions and is more flexible since it eliminates the need for a bind for each business function. The static 'Business Function' bind is unchanged and remains a valid option for calling business functions.

For more information, refer to the Scripting API section of the Technical Documentation accessible at [\[system\]/sdk](#) or from the Resources section of the system's Start Page.

### New JavaScript business rule logging

JavaScript business rules log entries are now written in new JS log files, and follow the same structure as the STEP log files. These files include the same review options: main, previous, tail, view, and download. The current log file is named `js.0.log`, with older log files stored in the new `js-logs` folder and indicated by incrementing numbers (for example, `js.1.log`).

Log entry severity levels can be configured on the Logger bind. By default, the log level is SEVERE for production and preproduction environments, and INFO for all other environments. Although not set by default, the `JavaScript.Logging.LogLevel` property can be used to change the log level or turn the logging off.

JavaScript exceptions are indicated with a SEVERE setting and are recorded to both the JS log and the STEP log to ensure critical exceptions are visible from a single log source.

Additionally, the 'Test & Time Business Rule' dialog now always displays all INFO log messages when testing business rules. JavaScript log entries can be generated from multiple sources, including libraries, the default logger, the Logger bind, and triggered business actions.

For more information, refer to the Logs topic in the Administration Portal documentation, the Logging and Exception Handling topic in the Business Rules documentation, and the Logger Bind topic in the Resource Materials online help documentation.

## **OAuth available for email relay server**

OAuth 2.0 (Open Authorization) authentication is now available for connections to an email relay server or service. OAuth 2.0 provides enhanced security compared to Basic authentication, which Microsoft plans to deprecate within their Exchange Online email service in September 2025. New configuration properties enable the use of a client ID combined with a client secret or a certificate for authentication, both of which ensure access while preserving password confidentiality. The OAuth 2.0 authentication solution has been verified with the Microsoft 365 Exchange Online email service.

Customers using their own email relay server for sending emails from STEP can continue to use Basic authentication, but now also have the ability to use this new and stronger authentication method.

For more information, refer to the Email from STEP topic in the Resource Materials online help documentation.

## **New Translation Screen for Web UI**

In a significant update to the Web UI's translation capabilities, the new Translation Screen has been made available to allow business users to view language-dependent attribute values in all configured target languages and compare them to those in the approved source language. This powerful addition to the Web UI's translation offerings enables users to more easily monitor and manage data translation without leaving the Web UI.

For example, the new Translation Screen allows users to:

- view translation status for any object in translation for all relevant languages, including information related to translation relations (source and target)
- review translated object data for all language-dependent attributes and attribute groups for all relevant target languages and compare it with the approved version of the source language
- approve translations within the Web UI

## External Source Record



... Instruments de Musique/Accessoires > Instruments de Musique (Électriques) > Instruments à Cordes (Électriques)









### 1992 Ibanez George Benson

tstEXT-101279 • Partly Approved • 0.3 • Last edited by Iwona Grabowska on November 6, 2024 at 4:55:00 PM UTC-5

Information & References   All Records   Assets   Pricing & Cost   Category Attributes   Warehouse Information   Packaging   Translation Screen

## Translations

 Select source language    Select target languages    Approve translations

	English <span style="background-color: #ffc107;">Approved</span>	French (France)	German (Germany)
Name	1992 Ibanez George Benson	1992 Ibanez George Benson 	
Translation	Not Translated	Not Translated	Not Translated
Restrictions transport aérien		Au cas où ; G Manutention 	Falls; G Handhabung 
Restrictions transport terrestre		Au cas où ; G Manutention 	Falls; G Handhabung 
Description article longue	1992 Ibanez George Benson GB-10, MIJ, Cutaway, Sunburst, Wide at the nut, 24 & 3/4 inch scale, 14.5 inches wide at the lower bout, Wide at the nut, Two floating mini humbucking pickups, Spruce top, Maple back, sides & neck, Ebony fingerboard with block inlays, Smooth player! Gorgeous condition, Original hard case	1992 Ibanez George Benson GB-10, MIJ, pan coupé  Sunburst, large au sillet, échelle de 24 et 3/4 pouces, 14,5 pouces de large au bout inférieur, large au sillet, deux mini micros humbuckers flottants, table en épicéa, érable dos, éclisses et manche, touche en ébène avec incrustations de blocs, joueur fluide ! Superbe état, étui rigide d'origine	1992 Ibanez George Benson GB-10, MIJ, Cutaway, Sunburst, breit am Sattel, 24 & 3/4 Zoll Mensur, 14,5 Zoll breit am unteren Bügel, breit am Sattel, zwei schwebende Mini-Humbucker-Tonabnehmer, Fichtendecke, Ahorn Boden, Zargen und Hals, Ebenholzgriffbrett mit Blockeinlagen, geschmeidiger Spieler! Wunderschöner Zustand, Original-Hartschalenetui 

Number of items: 3

 Add to basket    Save    Save & Approve    Reset    Collaboration

Previously, the Web UI offered limited translation review and approval process, forcing users to rely on the workbench to proofread and approve translations. These capabilities did not allow users to compare approved and unapproved values in a single view, which is central to managing translated object data.

For more information, review the Translation Screen topic in the Web User Interfaces documentation.

# Platform and Software Support Changes

This section lists current and future planned changes to platform and software support. The complete list of platform and software support is available in the 2024.4 Platform and Software Support section of the System Update and Patch Notes documentation within online help.

The changes in platform and software support from version 2024.2 to 2024.3 are listed below. **Customer action may be required.** Users should also read the 2024.4 Update Guide along with this topic prior to updating.

## Current Updates

Support has been added for:

- Java 21 (refer to the 2024.4 Update Guide for additional details)

Support has ended for:

- macOS 12 (Monterey) for Mac clients

## Deprecated functionality

Refer to the 2024.4 Update Guide for more information.

- e-Signature

## Future Updates and End-of-Life (EOL) Notifications

The support for the items below will begin / end as indicated.

### Baseline EOL

As part of our commitment to our customers' long-term success, we have made a strategic decision that we believe will benefit our entire customer community in the long term.

The 2024.4 update is the final update for on-premises systems and other non-SaaS v2 environments. Support of these deployments will continue until December 31, 2027. During this transition period, we will continue to provide security updates and critical fixes as needed. All subsequent feature updates will be exclusive to SaaS v2 customers.

Our focus remains on ensuring sustainable success for all our customers as we move forward on this SaaS journey together. Cloud-based SaaS v2 solutions have the benefits of new capabilities and continuous innovation—all while benefiting from predictable costs and scalable infrastructure.

Our goal is to support your long-term success by providing a platform that evolves with your business, and we want to ensure that your organization can experience these advantages as well. Impacted customers have been contact by Stibo Systems prior to this release, and any questions should be directed to the contact listed within those communications.



This information is also included in the 2024.4 Update Guide.

Below is a table outlining the end-of-life schedule for currently supported STEP updates:

Update	Update Available to Customers	EOL for on-prem and other non-SaaS v2 systems	EOL for SaaS v2 systems not enrolled in continuous updates	EOL for SaaS v2 systems enrolled in continuous updates
11.0	June 8, 2022	June 8, 2025	June 8, 2025	N/A
11.1	November 30, 2022	November 30, 2025	November 30, 2025	N/A
11.2	June 7, 2023	March 7, 2026	March 7, 2026	N/A
2023.3	September 27, 2023	September 30, 2024	September 30, 2024	N/A
2023.4	December 13, 2023	June 13, 2026	June 13, 2026	N/A
2024.1	March 27, 2024	March 31, 2025	March 31, 2025	September 30, 2024
2024.2	June 12, 2024	September 30, 2026	September 30, 2026	December 31, 2024
2024.3	September 16, 2024	September 30, 2025	September 30, 2025	March 31, 2025
2024.4	December 11, 2024	December 31, 2027	December 31, 2026	June 30, 2025

Refer to the updated STEP Update and End-of-Life Information topic for more information about quarterly updates and support end dates.

Customers should update as soon as possible to the latest version of the Stibo Systems Enterprise Platform (STEP). Contact Stibo Systems Support if you have questions and/or to receive help and guidance on how to update to a supported version.

Software errors reported for the versions shown above may be rejected after the listed effective dates. Application support issues in progress for the updates being desupported will be closed on the desupport date. It is not possible to extend the support services for desupported versions.

# Miscellaneous Bugfixes

Change Logs are accessible from within the Stibo Systems Service Portal. To view the logs, log in and go to the 'Update Information' dashboard. Change Logs are linked under each update version (for all supported versions of STEP). SaaS users will also be able to access these Change Logs via the STEP Documentation that is accessible from their system's Start Page or from within workbench.

**Note:** Customers may want to search Stibo Systems Service Portal for their Issue Numbers (if shown). To do so, while in the Stibo Systems Service Portal, navigate to Issues (in the header bar) and then select 'Search for Issues.' Click on the 'Advanced' option on the filtering bar, and then type in 'issue=' and the issue number. Press Enter or click the magnifying glass icon to run the query. **Users can only view Stibo Systems Service Portal issues for issue numbers that they have privileges to access. If the issue is not applicable to the user searching, then a 'No issues were found to match your search' message displays.**



## COMPONENT AND OTHER FIXES

This list covers fixes that were made outside of regular projects / customer issues and components that were updated after 2024.3 was originally made available and prior to or with the 2024.4 update. Refer to the 2024.3 Change Log for fixes that went into the 2024.4 update. Also, refer to the 2024.4 Change Log for fixes that go into 2024.4 after the original update is made available.

### ■ Font change on Web UI Homepage

The title on the Web UI Homepage is now san serif and consistent with the other headers throughout the UI.

### ■ Fix for special character tag error on ECA editor

Fixed displaying of STEP tags in the eclass-advanced editor component. (component: eclass-advanced)

### ■ Fix for Async Translation is not working after upgrade to latest 2024.2

Fixed with HOTFIX-7805; Making sure there is no error when missing information about pending file count, or when this information is wrongly set to null. (component: async-translation)

### ■ Fix for search not working post upgrade to 2024.2

After the fix, upgrade of Elasticsearch configurations when migrating from STEP 11.0 or lower should pass without any errors and the upgraded Elasticsearch indices should behave as expected. (component: elasticsearch-integration)

When deduplication of events was enabled and an event was read by a business rule, future similar events could get removed, even though the associated data change had not been seen. This has been fixed. (components: local-loqate, inmemory, and elasticsearch-integration)

■ **Fix for issue with PDX Channel Publish in pre-prod environments**

Error handling of PDX channel configuration creation has been improved when STEP does not have an XML asset object type configured. (component: pdx-channel)

■ **Fix for STEP Upgrade: PLM Compare function - missing values of supplier**

Fixed an issue with the PLM Compare function in that some supplier values were not being displayed. (component: private-label-food)

■ **Fix for attribute-based Advanced Search is case sensitive for multiple entries**

Now, In-Memory List Search will respect the case sensitivity search options. It means that the multiple values search on Web UI's Advanced Search screen (which is treated as a list search) will be case insensitive with both In-Memory enabled or disabled. (component: inmemory)

■ **Fix for when passing a data element business function to the organisation data element results in error**

Fixed a ClassCastException that occurred when the user attempted to pass a Business Function Normalizer, which returns a Set<OrganizationName> to another Organization Name Normalizer of a Matching Algorithm Decision table. (component: partydatamatching)

■ **Fix for when the getOrganizationName() method is not recognized when getting an Organisation Name object**

Fixed a problem in which it was not possible to call getOrganizationName() of the Organization Name Normalizer result in the Matching Algorithm Decision table. (components: partydatamatching and dnb-integration)

■ **Fix for Asynchronous Translation Service – multiple target languages**

Created a new HOTFIX-7898 that fixes the way translation files are sent to SDL translation service when a customer configures async translation with multiple targets on a single configuration. (component: sdl)

■ **Fix for match tuning score not matching scores given when comparing two records on algorithm**

Fixed a transitivity problem that occurred when records compared via the Organization Name Matcher could return different results depending on a comparison order. The error was caused by a bug in the

multi-token comparator, which incorrectly processed a missing token factor as a PAIRED result, even though it had not been paired at all. Additionally, this bug appeared only in the reverse direction, which also broke transitivity. (component: partydatamatching)

#### ■ **Fix for Asynchronous Job process**

An error occurred in which the Asynchronous Translation Processor was exporting reference nodes with approved changes along with specified nodes that also had approved changes. However, the event processor trigger configuration directed that the event processor should only start when a specific type of node and specific type of attribute on that node is changed. Therefore, the expectation was to export only the specified nodes.

To correct the issue, on the translation configuration there is a code flag called `immediateNodesOnly` that controls which nodes should be retrieved for export. It was `false`, but now it is reverted to `true`. On `false`, the specified nodes and their references nodes are selected. On `true`, only the specified nodes are selected. (Component: `async-translation`)



## PERFORMANCE ENHANCEMENTS

#### ■ **Fix for Workflow Profiles extremely slow**

Performance improvement for Workflow Profiles. It will have an impact for profiles with a lot of node states where the nodes have a large number of revisions. (component: `inmemory`)