

# Links



## LINKS Enhancements

From Versions 2.5.5 to 2.6.0  
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 **Dataline**  
GROUP

## Introduction

The LINKS 2.6.0 release is the 2004 major yearly release. The focus of the release is one of quality where we have addressed areas of system performance, automation and defect resolution.

This document has been produced to assist users of LINKS in understanding the changes in the release from our last major release being LINKS Version 2.5.5. It will also highlight all defects fixed in V2.5.5 service packs, which are included in the new release.

Within the document the reader will find the following sections:

1. Platform support
2. New Modules
3. Functional Enhancements
4. 2.6.0 Defect Fixes
5. V2.5.5 Service Packs Fixes

## Platforms

This release of LINKS is our certified release for WINDOWS Server 2003. The release has also been release has slao been certified on Windows 2000 and Windows XP.

Dataline on Windows 95, Windows 98, Windows ME and Windows Workstation 4 has not certified this release. Dataline will continue to provide support for customers on these platforms, however customers should be aware that there may be some limitations. We recommend that users migrating to LINKS V2.6.0 do so on a certified platform.

There is no change with regards to our Database support for this release and for that matter database table structures from LINKS V2.5.5.

## New Modules

Two existing modules being Bulk Insert and Scheduling will now be shipped as a part of the LINKS core module from LINKS V2.6.0

### Bulk Insert

Is a more efficient processing option for the importing of files into the LINKS system. It dramatically reduces the time taken to import files and is ideal for customers who regularly import large files into LINKS.

The bulk insert processing is executed on the sever taking the import work load off the client's PC, freeing the user PC to perform other task within LINKS.

### Scheduling

This facility enables process and reports within LINKS to be run unattended. This enables a user to schedule tasks within the system to be run at End of day, as a weekly or monthly activity.

### New e-DocSecure Module

There is one new module being release in conjunction with LINKS 2.6.0. This new module is known as the e-DocSecure module.

e-DocSecure is a web-based payment system that provides a controlled environment for requesting, approving and printing Bank cheques; corporate cheques or foreign drafts. The system is designed for many customers to use one central system via the Internet (ASP model) or installed and hosted on a corporate intranet.

There are three ways cheques or drafts requests enter the system:

- Via a manual data entry request by an authorised user
- Via a manually initiated file upload from an authorised user
- Via an automated file import.

Requests may be entered into the database through a browser based user interface, and then approved or denied by users depending on the user's authority and the document's profile. There is no complicated workflow scheme with rules and roles that route documents through the system. Rather, print requests are a queue where documents wait for approval before they are allowed to be printed. All print is "pulled" down when selected from a list (print queue) rather than "pushed" out to a waiting printer as in conventional systems. This approach enforces the need for an authorised user to log into the system before printing.

Both the automated and manually initiated file upload functionality simplify the integration of legacy accounting or loan origination systems with the distributed print architecture. Items are uploaded into the system as batch files through an HTTPS interface. All records in these files are considered to be approved for printing, and authorised users may select and print a complete batch or individual records within the batch.

Documents reside in a database in a central location. Authorised users access e-DocSecure via a web browser (Microsoft Internet Explorer). e-DocSecure's ability to manage multiple accounts allows it to be used as a document approval system for one or more companies. As a web site, it can be deployed on a company Intranet as well as on the Internet.

Security is a primary concern of the e-DocSecure system and appropriate measures are designed to minimize the potential risk of unauthorized access to, or abuse of, the system or any of its components.

To be released in conjunction with our LINKS 2.6.0 the module is tightly integrated with your current LINKS environment and uses the latest web based architectures to provide premium security in the cheque issuance process. e-DocSecure can also operate as a stand-only application.

## Enhancements

Module/Process Name	Enhancement Type	Details
Database Import	Automation	The database import process can now be Automated via polling to move data from temp tables to the LINKS tables.
Archiving	Automation	Archiving via Scheduling to start/stop at a certain time. The archiving process will now also allow you to create an archiving Window in your processing day. It will regularly check the stop time and commit transactions to the database.
Database Import	Performance	Performance Improvement for Database Import.
Batch Process	Performance	Improvement to speed of purging of batches
Reconciliation	Performance	Improved capacity to Many to Many Matching. When there are more than 4,500 items to be match in one group, the system cannot handle it.
Recompilation	Performance	Improved performance of Many to Many matching process
Archiving	Performance	Performance Improvement to archiving.
Access Security	System Administration	<p>Allow for user access privilege settings in the reconciliation module. An administrator can now limit access to reconciliation data entry screens and reports by Account.</p> <p>The user will be able to see only accounts, which are enabled from Security -&gt; Profile Access -&gt; Maintenance System -&gt; Accounts. The user will be able to see only transactions that are using these accounts. At start up, LINKS will read the list of account id's and account numbers available for the user. All dropdowns should be filtered to display only these accounts.</p>
Error logging	System Support	<p>Improved error handling for support purposes. LINKS can (in addition to screen output) capture all application Error and Warning messages to an Error log file or the Event log on the Windows Server.</p> <p>This option is configurable by activating the appropriate setting in Maintenance parameters.</p>
Command Line Interface	Automation	To allow for greater integration with other applications LINKS can now be started and

Module/Process Name	Enhancement Type	Details
		<p>process executed from a third party application without the need for user intervention.</p> <p>LINKS will also be able to run as a Windows Service, which enables it to be automatically restarted in the event of system failure.</p> <p>In this mode LINKS assumes that no user will log on to this session and current screen features i.e. error and warning message will be only accessible via the error log file, removing the need for operator intervention.</p>
Main Menu	System Support	<p>Status bar to display connection details: Stats bar will display databasename, servename or the ODBC name. e.g. <a href="#">Linkspod@XYZServer</a></p> <p>This feature is to help users who connect to multiple LINKS environments. Ideal if you are working in both test and production system.</p>
Manual Reconciliation Screen	User Interface	<p>Improved selection criteria, to include, Ref Number, Amount and Trans Type.</p> <p>To allow users be able to find matched items (with the view to unmatching them) in other ways other than the match date.</p>
Manual Reconciliation Screen	User Interface	<p>The ability to filter the bank side in the manual rec screen in the same way you can filter the LINKS side</p>
Scheduling	Automation	<p>LINKS will now enable most reports to be scheduled or selected for execution after another process.</p> <p>The process will be able to maintain parameters for each individual report run automatically. The parameters can be values or key words:</p> <p>EOPM (End of Previous Month) BOPM (Beginning of Previous Month) TODAY (today's date) LOB (List of Batches) LOI (List of Items)</p>
Manual Reconciliation Screen	User Interface	<p>Allow total amount display on manual rec. screen "Total amount selected" figure to be visible on the manual recscreen at all times.</p>
Activity Log	Audit Trail	<p>Prior field value required when a change is made to any field during Create and Modify processes.</p>

Module/Process Name	Enhancement Type	Details
		A new option has been added to process maintenance screen: "Audit Changes". If enabled, it will enter into Activity Log the changes to all modified fields.
Modify & Create Process	System Validation	Modify and Create processes access by users via the data entry screen can now limited entry and update of certain fields.  This is controlled in the data windows settings
E-mail Alerts	Attachments	Email Alerts to be able to accept attachments.  Email Alerts process can be modified to accept attachments. A new field will be added to process maintenance screen to allow entering of a location with file mask or a single file.

## Defects Fixed in 2.6.0

The following table lists all the defects resolved by the 2.6.0 release:

Module/Process Name	Details of Defect
Maintenance -> Parameters -> 'Config.' Button	Pressing the button creates file containing LINKS configuration. New modules like 'Scheduling' and 'E-mail Alerts' were not included, this has now been fixed.
Archiving Module. Enquiry Screen ->	-> Right click pop up menu used to select process, unprocess, etc... At the end it results in DB error but it should not allow a user to select a process in a first place. Fixed. 'Unprocess', 'process' will be visible from the pop up menu but disabled.
Batch Processing Screen	Item tab and Enquiry screen for Payment and PO modules. The datawindows on these screens have Automatic Signature field. It displays a number of signatures that print process would create if a document gets printed. The field was displaying wrong number for fund threshold amounts.
Archiving Module	Function of _archive_rec_data(). Change the system to allow more than 32,000 records to be archived at the same time.
LINKS Processing	Database Schema for Links_Schedule table for MSSQL had wrong data type for "processes" and "funds" columns.
Administration	Cloning of transactions type. When cloning a transaction type, the details for the forms were not copied in full.
Access Security	Creating a new user profile does not add profile access settings for funds, accounts and tran types.
Reconciliation	Many to Many Matching. Clicking on Apply and then on OK buttons when creating a new record and trigger a db error

Module/Process Name	Details of Defect
Reconciliation	Reconciliation Export Maintenance screen. The system wasn't applying the changes on update correctly.
Export Process	Print, Fax, Email, Export processes. If a column has been selected for processing and subsequently removed from the display settings, the system crashes
Batch Process Screen	Branch Code and Account Number not refreshing in item tab: When a new item is entered manually and a user returns to the 'Item' tab it (the tab) does not show data for the Branch Code and Account No for the item. A user had to press 'Refresh' button to make it visible. Now the Branch Code and Account No data, will be visible, straight after a user enters an item.
Reconciliation Enquiry Screen	Bank side reconciliation Enquiry showing items outside the date or match type range: When doing a reconciliation enquiry on the bank side. It appears that other transactions are also returned that are not for the matched date or match type (they are showing as blanks in the output).
Reconciliation	Error fixed that occurred when creating new autorec rules and adding transaction types & creating new Many-to-Many rule.
Scheduling Process	Will start as per the Start at Value. Was previously ignoring and starting immediately
Reconciliation	When running Many to Many Matching on MSSQL, the system creates a view with a name, the name of the user currently logged in. In case of system error, the view remains in the database and any subsequent processing was not allowed.
Import / Polling	When polling process moves files into backup folder, it updates the file counter of the import process correctly.
Access Security	Fixed issue where a new user profile was created after the creation of an account /fund and access was restricted. This profile will now be able to see the fund/ account created
Auto stale process	When there is only one item to process, the sequence process/unprocess does not work properly.

## V2.5.5 Service Pack Fixes Included in V2.6.0

The following table lists and details all the defects resolved by released Service Packs on the V2.5.5 release stream. The information is provided for those users not on the latest service pack being LINKS 2.5.5 SP 7:

Module/Process Name	Introduced in SP	Details of Defect
Reconciliation	2.5.5 SP1	When the user unmatched transactions with adjustments, the system should examine the status of the adjustments and apply logic as discussed. 1. If the second adjustment is not reconciled, the system unreconciles the transactions and deletes both (all) adjustments. 2. If the second adjustment is reconciled, the system unreconciled the transactions and leaves the adjustments in the database, eg. LINKS doesn't delete any adjustments.
Reconciliation	2.5.5 SP1	The transfer to reconciliation was not updating sub account balances correctly
Fund Maintenance	2.5.5 SP1	The system was allowing a change of the FUND Id of a FUND to which had active items, even though the system was generating an error message.
MICR/OCR Account Format Maintenance	2.5.5SP1	A datawindow was being corrupted when an attempt was made to delete an entry.
Batch Processing	2.5.5SP2	Branch Code and Account number not refreshing: When a new item is entered manually and a user returns to the 'Item' tab it (the tab) does not show data for the Branch Code and Account No for the item. A user had to press 'Refresh' button to make it visible. Now the Branch Code and Account No data will be visible straight after user enters an item.
Access Security	2.5.5SP3	When the user enters wrong password the number of times specified in the user maintenance screen the system would disable this user.
Ancillary Process	2.5.5SP3	When un-processing an item put into reconciliation with opposite sign, the system did not update the cashbook balance correctly
Print Process	2.5.5SP3	Remove the hard space from Jetform output file. This was causing an X to appear in the amount in words, after the word cents, in some cases, when printing.
Print Process	2.5.5SP4	The import of configuration details did not work properly.

Module/Process Name	Introduced in SP	Details of Defect
Fund Maintenance	2.5.5SP4	Fund maintenance screen crashes when selecting an account from the drop down list. Windows XP issue.
Print Process	2.5.5SP4	In case, there are 0 number of lines on first or spill over pages, the system did not calculate the total number of pages correctly. e.g. you would have had page 8 of 7 pages.
Automatic Reconciliation	2.5.5SP5	Automatic Reconciliation with Tolerance reference date. The system did not enter Ref Date into LINKS Adjustment table.
Automatic Reconciliation	2.5.5SP5	Automatic Reconciliation with Tolerance bank tran date. The system did not enter Bank Transaction Date into GL Export Data table.
Import Process	2.5.5SP6	Import Process restored functionality for gen flag: The system will flag an item with GEN='Y' if there is a reference number in the file.
Batch Processing	2.5.5SP7	Batch Processing --> Errors when modifying or creating items with sub-details: When deleting or changing a sub-detail line, the user cannot save the changes, because of a database error: "Rows changed between retrieve and update".