CHANGES IN GECS 3.50 PACKAGES

GECS version 3.50 started shipping January 20th, 2005.

You can find the date of the last GECS package installed by looking in the file named PKGDATE.TXT located in your GECS program directory.

Changes in February 5th, 2008 Package

The DBMS (GECSDBMS.EXE) now allows WRK files with a date of 02/29/*nnnn*.

Changes in July 20th, 2006 Package

Changes were made to alleviate an issue where, in very rare circumstances, a remote client running the Batches module could cause issues with the DBMS communications.

Changes in June 22nd, 2006 Package

An enhancement was made to the Batches module to allow you to select where to add new batch jobs, instead of the new jobs always being added to the end of the list. You can now add new batch jobs above or below the selected batch job or to the end.

The Web Client was updated to correct a problem with viewing the Calendar module and the screen locking up when adding non business days.

Job Notes are now copied over when using the Batch Export (GECSBATE) and Batch Import (GECSBATI) command line utilities.

An enhancement was added to allow the use of %NAME% as a substitution variable for Event 50 - Late Job. %NAME% will be changed to the first agent the job is assigned to or the agent group the job is assigned to or (none) if the job is unassigned.

The previous schedule information on the Job Statistics page no longer is cleared out when you rerun a completed job.

Web site links from the Web Client programs have been updated to point to the new vinzantsoftware.com site.

An enhancement was made to the GECSTRIM command line utility to keep jobs that are marked "keep when complete". The new option is /KEEPKEEP.

Miscellaneous updates were made to the GECS on line manual GECSMAN.PDF.

Changes in April 26th, 2006 Package

The Copy option within Batches now properly copies batch jobs and/or scheduled jobs.

The events list now properly displays the word loading only when the list is loading.

The GECSEVNT utility now works on Unix agents.

The GECS.INI file option, MessageAsKill=1, now runs the program defined in the job's Execute Message field without also terminating the job.

A change has been made where Unix agents no longer terminate jobs. When a Unix job is terminated using GECS, the job is marked complete but the actual job running on the agent is not stopped.

An enhancement has been added to the batches section. When batch detail records are added or copied from the list of batch job details, a new field allows you to add the new job just above, below or at the end of the job that is highlighted, rather than always at the end.

You can now successfully GECSPING from a Linux or Solaris machine to the DBMS.

The GECS.INI setting SMTPAuth=0 or 1 now works appropriately.

Changes in April 10th, 2006 Package

The web client job priority now accurately reflect the default priority.

Batch instance numbers now correctly increment when scheduled in the background.

The DBMS browse feature now works correctly.

Enhancements were made to SMTP mail to support no authentication and users with no passwords.

Events generated for database errors now include the associated record key.

Agent time synchronization has been disabled.
An enhancement has been made to allow the DBMS and Controller components to write a log file when run as a service. This is accomplished by adding LOGFILE=DRIVE\PATH\FILENAME in either the [DBMS] or [Controller] section of the GECS.INI configuration file.

New LOG ON and LOG OFF commands have been added to the DBMS, Controller and Agent components when run on the desktop.

Changes in March 9th, 2006 Package

A change was made to deal with an issue of agent's status not being updated appropriately. This may have caused jobs to be sent to agents that were not running and cause the job to look like it was stuck running.

When using GECSBSCH command line utility, GECS now substitutes the job title, resources0-9 and users to notify1-5 fields appropriately.

The DBMS will now create a backup subdirectory, if one does not exist, when there are spaces in the directory name.

GECS now deletes alerts from user records in the background. This makes deleting user records faster when there are a lot of alerts on file.

When you copy scheduled jobs from the Batches folder, the capture output and mail tab information now is copied correctly.

Internal changes were made to resolve an issue of jobs being unknowingly or intermittently deleted.

The DBMS no longer generates 10031 errors when users are deleting job records.

Batches now schedule in the foreground and background appropriately.

When configured, events 40 and 41 (scheduled batch and removed batch) are now created when the batch is scheduled in the background.

The Administrator program has been modified to deal with deleting records when views are not refreshed.

The arrow place marker is now displayed correctly on the list to show you what record you are on after you have viewed the detail of an event.

You can now turn the log file on and off in the DBMS, controller, agent and web manager programs when they are run as desktop icons using the LOG ON and LOG OFF features.

Internal lock calls were added before delete calls in the DBMS, controller and web manager programs.

Aborting a view from the Administrator program now returns meaningful information.

Many internal functions now use server access instead of local access.

When you add a job from the web client, the defult value is no longer to "Keep when complete". This is now consistent with the Windows client Administrator program.

The GECSBATS command line utility is no longer case sensitive for the batch name.

Changes in March 1st, 2006 Package

The GECSBATS.EXE command line utility now works with batch variables and from a job when the agent is run as a service.

An update was made to the GECSBSCH section of the GECS on line manual.

The GECSFILE utility now works with the GETFILE option on the FreeBSD agent.

The Controller Defaults tab fields now sets the default values for jobs created using the web based client programs just as it always did for the Windows Administrator client.

Key stuffing with an AIX agent now works correctly. Also, key stuffing combined with capture output no longer errors with an AIX agent.

Changes were made to improve the process and speed of the Controller launching jobs.

An internal change was made dealing with the way jobs are added and deleted.

When using a wildcard (-*) for instance numbers in a multiple job WRK file, instance numbers are now

incremented correctly.

The GECS on line manual now describes GECS.INI default values correctly.

GECSDBnn.DLL files are no longer shipped with the GECS programs.

 A Linux x86-64 (AMD64) agent is now available.

Changes in January 31st, 2006 Package

A change was made to the on line manual pertaining to the GECSBSCH command line utility.

The FreeBSD agent was updated to to fix an issue with the GECSFILE command line utility when using the GETFILE option.

A change was made to the AIX agent to correct a problem with key stuffing and capture standard output.

Changes in January 10th, 2006 Package

The GECSFILE command line utility was fixed so that it can now copy from the DBMS.

The web client program was updated to resolve an issue with filtering a view when the view was added by an administrator user but viewed by an operator user.

An enhancement was made to speed up file transfers when using the GECSFILE command line utility.

A new entry was made to the DBMS section of the GECS.INI configuration file. [DBMS] ErrorRefreshTime=86400 causes the DBMS program to avoid repeating events for at least 24 hours (86400 sec). This entry was added to address an issue when a job to active on lateness does not exist, the DBMS would get real busy constantly generating event 91 and caused timeout connecting to host 2002 errors. In the past the only solution was to add the missing job. The new GECS.INI file entry applies to all events, not just 91.

After installing the HPUX-IA64 agent, attributes are now properly set.

A new utility was added called GECSMAIL to allow sending SMTP mail from a command line.

Changes in December 21st, 2005 Package

The uninstall was fixed to remove GECS.IN and handle SNMP.

When jobs that have been retried are copied, the retry information is now reset.

When batches are submitted in the background, the batch variables are properly substituted.

Event views now properly sort by job number.

The Controller information field for time sync server name no longer forces uppercase.

When agents are copied, the IP number is now properly set.

This Jobs Schedule now properly handles day of the week scheduling.

The Linux agent will now install on version 7.1 and after of Red Hat.

When batches are submitted in the background, job dependencies are handled properly.

Changes in December 6th, 2005 Package

A change was made the the GECS Workstation setup program to correct a problem of remote clients changing the IP information on the DBMS machine.

The GECS Controller will no longer dispatch the same job multiple times.

Improvements were made to IP performance and stability.

Overall general speed improvements were made.

A new GECS.INI entry has been added that causes the controller to launch jobs faster when jobs are assigned to specific agents. [Controller] JobsAssignedToAgents=1

The default value for finding missing agents is now 30 seconds for new installations.

Improvements were made to speed up the time it takes to populate job views when not using direct data access.

An enhancement has been made to allow two new substitution variables, @PMOLBDL and @PMOLBD, for the Last business day of the previous month.

HPUX IA64 Agents are now supported.

A new command line utility has been added called GECSBATS.EXE to improve the speed of scheduling batches from a command line utility.

A change was made to the on line manual to correct a missing field in the CSV job layout information.

Job views no longer automatically pulse on new installations.

When batches are submitted in the background batch variables are now substituted correctly.

Changes in October 31st, 2005 Package

Changes were made to decrease the display of tcp/ip errors 10053 and 10054.

GECS can now do both plain and login authentication when configured for SMTP email notification.

An update was made to the way tcp/ip conversations happen between the DBMS/Controller and agents.

The GECS online manual was updated to correct a few misspelled words.

Changes in September 23rd, 2005 Package

GECS now correctly reschedules jobs that repeat the next non-business day after the last schedule time using the day of the week schedule when there is only one non-business day per month.

Changes were made to decrease tcp/ip errors that can occur when fast computers are attached to slow or busy networks.

By default, the GECS Administrator program will now timeout after 4 hours of having no communications with the GECS data or DBMS.

Changes in August 4th, 2005 Package

The problem in earlier versions that caused jobs not to run when logging in as submitting user and capturing output on unix/linux agents has been fixed.

Changes in June 16th, 2005 Package

The data communications scheme used between agents, controller, dbms, web manager, administrator and utilities has been changed to avoid certain TCP/IP problems which have appeared recently. This causes the programs in this and subsequent packages to be incompatible with programs in all previous packages.

An enhancement has been made to the SDK to include 2 new API's to read the Job Notes and Captured Output from Jobs. A further description is included in the SDK documentation under ECSGetJobNote() and ECSGetJobOutput().

An enhancement has been made to deal with the possibility that a job might finish at exactly midnight.

SMTP Error Events will now be generated if the DBMS is unable to include a specified file attachment with an SMTP email because the file attachment cannot be opened or read.

Changes in April 12th, 2005 Package

An enhancement was made to WRK files to allow new jobs to be added using a wild card for the instance number. Now, jobs that already exist with the same BATCHNAME.JOBNAME can be added with a -* and will be created with the next available instance number (For example, 7:BATCH1.JOBA-*).

When upgrading from a GECS v3.50 package on a machine containing no older versions, GECS now prompts to upgrade and handles upgrading correctly when components are running as services.

Priority is now set appropriately on rescheduled jobs whose priority was escalated because of lateness.

Changes in April 7th, 2005 Package

Job and Batch dependencies now work correctly when scheduling daily jobs dependent on weekly jobs.

A new GECS.INI file setting was added ([Controller] LaunchIndefinately=1) to cause the GECS Controller to keep launching jobs even after the pulse rate is over. For example, when the Controller pulse rate is 15 seconds, keep looking for pending jobs even after 15 seconds.

Changes in March 18th, 2005 Package

The 'start in directory' now works on unix when used in conjunction with the 'login as the submitting user' field.

The VCR buttons toolbar buttons to move to the first, next, previous and last record, on the Scheduled Batch Jobs screen now work appropriately.

This job's history option now displays much faster.

Helplines now display consistently on the bottom of the Administrator screens when going from applications such as Resources to Users or Vacations.

Tab keys now navigate appropriately on all windows when run detached.

Changes in March 17th, 2005 Package

The Workstation setup program has been modified to correct an issue when configuring and pointing to a different DBMS program on a different machine. The Workstation setup program no longer displays a blank DBMS name and icon.

The GECSFILE.EXE command line utility program has been modified. It no longer displays success for certain copies that actually failed.

The GECS License program, GECSNEWL.EXE has been modified to correct an issue of displaying an invalid expiration year.

The HPUX agent no longer shuts down if you type `Address` into the screen.

The web client program has been modified. It no longer generates a [JavaScript - Application] Error `You are only licensed for Windows NT Agents` click ok - when you add a new Agent with a Linux job type.

When batches are submitted from web manager, the event dependencies, good event, bad event, create event and unscheduled information is now copied from the detail to the job.

When upgrading from GECS v3.0x, Agent record Job Types are now converted.

The "Should this job create events" field is now enabled on all batch detail jobs after upgrading from GECS v3.0x.

Internet email attachment no longer contain a second, empty file attachment when using certain email clients.

When scheduling batches after upgrading, GECS no longer displays the false warning message "Batch dependency conflict in batch job x" for each batch job scheduled.