DATRAN Reporting

Product Release Notice
Version 6.05

December 2020

QTECH DATA SYSTEMS

Introduction

DATRAN Reporting version 6.05 is now available and is provided to all software maintenance agreement (SMA) holders. Please log in to the Members section of the QTech website to download this software.

DATRAN Reporting provides the ability to create and schedule operational and regulatory reports from the SQL database of the DATRAN VI SCADA system.

DATRAN Reporting comprises two software packages:

DATRAN Reporting – Server Install

This includes the Windows Service that handles the timed scheduling of report creation and distribution via email, FTP etc. The Server installation should be used on a machine that is running 24/7, often the DATRAN VI server.

DATRAN Reporting – Client Install

The Client installation includes the Report Designer and is intended to be installed on workstations/computers from which these features will be utilised.

Reports can be designed, edited, viewed, manually processed, and scheduled using the Client Application. It does not include the DATRAN Reporting Service.

This release comes on a user-friendly installer to help simplify installation and will upgrade any existing version. Please forward a copy of this document to your IT/IS Supervisor.

Your feedback on the product and possible future enhancements is always appreciated, so please do not hesitate to contact QTech on +64 3 366 3713 or email it to techsupport@qtech.co.nz.

The following sections detail the new features and user requested enhancements in this version of DATRAN Reporting.

This Release

This release provides essential maintenance updates for systems that connect and report via email using servers provided by Google and Microsoft, including Office365 mail.

This year these email providers changed the required security levels needed to authenticate connections to the mail server and now use TLS V1.2 authentication often explicitly on port 587. DATRAN Reporting has been enhanced and brought into line with this industry requirement.

Improvements have also been made to the way DATRAN Reporting detects and re-establishes connection to SQL servers if they become temporarily unavailable.

Previously, if the Reporting application was in the middle of producing a set of scheduled reports, most notably those which FTP the results to another server, then the Reporting application would sometimes hang or crash if the SQL database was disconnected. Preventing the SQL server outage is out of our control, but we have taken a robust approach to attempt to detect the outage and re-establish the connection. Additional diagnostic logging has also been added to the log files produced

by the application to make it easier to see that a disconnect from SQL server has occurred, which should help IT personnel to identify problems.

This release includes updates for both the DATRAN Reporting Server and Client packages.

Summary of New Features and Modifications

Other changes in this version:

- Administrative privileges prompt
  The software installer now prompts a warning that you must have (domain) administrative privileges. These privileges are required to install the service, your IT provider may need to be involved.
- Longer usernames
  Longer usernames are now accepted. The previous limit of 20 characters has been removed to allow for more complex usernames.

The Benefits of Upgrading

QTech's software and hardware are continually evolving. Many of our customers have been using DATRAN for over 25 years, and it has remained a stable product on a variety of platforms and Operating Systems.

DATRAN VI is a major evolution of our early products and we feel that it combines the best of the features from all these products, along with a quality control program used to manage its development and release that is essential for software being used in the roles that DATRAN is used.

We strongly recommend that all systems are updated to the current release and suggest to DATRAN VI users without Software Maintenance Agreements (SMA) that they consider this significant upgrade, as this release will be where QTech is able to focus its direct support.

Prerequisites for Upgrade

Compatibility and Installation
This version is fully compatible with Reports designed in earlier versions.

The installation needs to be completed by someone with administrative (domain) privileges on a machine that has a DATRAN service account for connecting to DATRAN VI. The upgrade is for DATRAN VI Reporting Service and Client. There is no specific order in which to do the installation.

Licencing
No additional licensing is required for registered users, multiple user licenses are available as required.

Close Applications
Before installing it is recommended that you close all applications running on the target machine.

Computer Reboot
No rebooting of the Server or Client machines is required after the installation.

New Installation

To enquire about the requirements for doing a new installation of DATRAN Reporting, please contact QTech on +64 3 366 3713 or email your enquiry to techsupport@qtech.co.nz.

Disclaimer

While every endeavour has been made to ensure that the product description is accurate, details are subject to change. QTech Data Systems Ltd reserves the right to alter the system specifications if required. It is our intention to continue to develop the features of the DATRAN VI product range and add additional modules.

QTech Data Systems Ltd does not warrant the suitability of this product for any particular application as the conditions in which it is used are beyond our control. This is not withstanding warranty of merchantability.

Increasingly, systems are being connected to the Internet. QTech Data Systems Ltd cannot guarantee these services will be available or functional 100% of the time, because the integrity of network connections is beyond our control.

Ongoing Support

QTech Data Systems Ltd encourages clients to configure their systems to allow remote access via a directly connected modem or internet-based VPN. This allows for off-site support from either QTech Data Systems Ltd staff, or in-house staff outside of work hours.

Contact QTech

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