

CommonSpot™ 8.0.4

Release Notes

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About this Document

This document summarizes the following for the CommonSpot 8.0.4 release:

- Enhancements
- Notable Bug Fixes
- Important Notes

For detailed instructions for installing CommonSpot, see the current release of the *CommonSpot Installation Guide*.

For detailed instructions for upgrading from a previous version of CommonSpot, see the current release of the *CommonSpot Upgrade Guide*.

Before installing or upgrading to this release of CommonSpot, please review these [Important Notes](#).

Enhancements

Release 8.0.4 of CommonSpot includes the following enhancements.

Platform Support



Important Note: As of April 2015 Oracle has stopped support for Java 7, and as such all versions of CommonSpot no longer support ColdFusion 9, 10, or 11 running under JVM 1.7. You must upgrade to Java 8 in order to be fully supported.

This service pack release now provides support for CommonSpot 8.x running under Java 8 and ColdFusion 10, update 16.

Note that new license keys may need to be issued for this release. Email the validation code to support@paperthin.com and follow up with a phone call to 617-471-4440 opt 3.

To use Java 8, you must change the JVM.config file. Permsize and MaxPermSize are now replaced with MetaspaceSize and MaxMetaspaceSize.

Performance

- This release includes a new Java/threaded implementation to minimize waiting for subsite cache updates and improve startup performance. Sites with a large number of subsites will see a significant performance gain whenever subsite properties are changed and at startup.
- Additional changes were made to element-level caching logic eliminating some repetitive cache clears.
- Updates to subsite-level settings no longer result in delays for subsequent requests.

Left Pane Changes

You can now create custom Left Panes that call a local URL. It is no longer necessary to specify a fully qualified URL.

Image Description Field Changes

The Image Description field no longer auto-populates with image file name and disallows blank descriptions on image upload. This field is now required to promote creation of meaningful ALT tags to support accessibility.

Image Gallery

New options for Make Public and Make Private now display in the More Actions list box for images in the Image Gallery.

Microsoft Word and PowerPoint Elements

Due to operating system changes, CommonSpot could not detect Office applications or call the Office files required to perform the conversions required to run these applications. This release re-enables these applications and the elements that call them. For details see:

<http://www.paperthin.com/support/knowledgebase/articles/word-and-ppt-elements.cfm>

New Image API function

This release adds a new method `Image.Exists()` to the command API. This method tests for the existence of the specified `imageID` and returns true or false. Use this method in advance of calling the `Image.getInfo()` method to prevent a failure in the event the image does not exist.

Custom Elements

Changes to the Render Properties dialog resulted in CommonSpot returning all records for Custom Element queries in advance of applying filter criteria. A new Next button enables setting filters before rendering data selected dynamically or via the "One or More Records – Manually Selected (Content Reuse)" option.

Security

This release addressed a potential XSS vulnerability. Additionally, CommonSpot no longer outputs the escaped URL and query string into the source of the page. While this did not pose a threat, because any JavaScript entered via a URL could not be executed, security scanning software would flag this as a vulnerability.

Notable Bug Fixes

This release fixes issues for the following:

Caching

- Some page-level errors displayed with 200/OK HTTP status codes, leading to invalid content in downstream caches (proxy servers, etc.).
- With Cache Dynamic Content enabled, outdated content appeared and persisted unexpectedly, particularly when the Clear and Update Cache action was also enabled. In addition, use of old/outdated cache was reported if an element state transitioned from Static to Dynamic and back to Static.
- Cache files containing extra whitespace sometimes caused performance problems with templates and render handlers using non-standard CFOOutput usage.

CSS Class Names

Because the Rich Text Editor loaded CSS rules in all lowercase, styles entered in mixed case did not render correctly on the page. CommonSpot now preserves the case of the className loaded into the RTE.

Content Creation API

If no default category was defined, using the Content Creation API to create a page returned an error.

Custom Elements

- Custom elements whose names included the word “Container” produced unexpected results. This release updates the logic for handling elements with the word “Container” in the name.
- Custom elements with multiple tabs did not render those tabs that had a duplicate sort value. CommonSpot now includes a tabID so that all tabs display even when their sort names are the same.
- Uploading a new anonymous read document or linking to an existing one with a CS URL or Extended URL field incorrectly rendered the link as secure. CommonSpot now gets the URL correctly.
- Under certain conditions, with specific browsers, creating a link to an uploaded document using the CommonSpot Page URL field did not render as expected.
- Custom Element import operations produced unexpected results and errors.

Custom Field Types

Users with Manage Field Types & Masks' rights who clicked the Import Custom Field Type link reported JavaScript and dialog load error.

CS_Extended_URL Field

Under certain circumstances adding a CS Extended URL field to a custom element custom display template produced unexpected results. See “Important Notes” below for changes affecting this field.

Datasheet Element

- For certain datasheet applications (such as profiles), when explicit permissions on a field rendered the field as disabled, rendering was not updated for radio button, multi-checkbox, and email fields. Selection lists now read the correct values for hidden fields when users do not have edit permissions.
- Attempting to edit or delete data from a datasheet view sourced from a simple form returned an error.

HTML Element

Under certain circumstances, when publishing HTML from a Google docs spreadsheet graph using the HTML Element, JavaScript from the HTML interfered with CommonSpot JavaScript making the element uneditable.

Images and Image Gallery

- Saving images edited in IE or Chrome displayed a misleading error message, even though the images were created and saved.
- Uploading images that exceeded the allowable file size displayed an extraneous message.
- Authors who changed the category for an existing image could not find the image in Advanced Search.
- Uploading .PNG files displayed a warning relevant to older browsers. This warning was removed..
- Some sites reported that large images did not display and the selected sort order was reversed when the Large Image option was enabled in Find Images – Search Results.

Keywords

- Under certain circumstances, the Keyword usage reports returned unexpected results. It was incorrectly using a 'like' operator so that similar results were returned.
- Case sensitivity for keywords was not honored in all circumstances.

Link Management

Under certain conditions link addresses displayed differently in the RTE insert link dialog, when accessed from reports, and when viewed in the RTE properties inspector.

Metadata

- Some sites reported that metadata values defined on templates and not overridden on pages were not available on first request after a cache clear, returning 'undefined variable' errors or other unexpected behavior.
- Under certain specific conditions, Custom Metadata forms were incorrectly bound to CommonSpot templates.

Microsoft Word and PowerPoint Elements

Due to operating system changes, CommonSpot could not detect Office applications or call the Office files required to perform the conversions required to run these applications. This release re-enables these applications and the elements that call them. For details see:

<http://www.paperthin.com/support/knowledgebase/articles/word-and-ppt-elements.cfm>

Notes

Under certain circumstances, records for Notes marked Publish did not display in the Manage Notes dialog on first load.

Page Creation

Users deleting the default page in earlier versions of CommonSpot received a create page error when attempting to create a new page. CommonSpot no longer allows deleting the default page

Page Index Element

Under certain circumstances a metadata field populated by a custom query returned an error and the page index did not display.

Page Sets

- Previously, Tools > Page Sets did not show page sets that were not owned by you or your group. That restriction has been removed.
- Related to this issue, the ownership filter argument to the Reports.getPageSets API command did not accept any value that returned page sets for all owners and defaulted to -2, showing only those owned by your or one of your groups. It now accepts empty string for no ownership restrictions, and defaults to value.

Page URL Field

- Attempts to edit the CommonSpot Page URL field from within a Datasheet's Edit Form dialog produced an internal error.
- Custom Element Extended URL links did not work when accessed from Site Admin - Manage Elements - View Data.

Password Customization

Some sites reported unexpected results when using password-hook-custom to enforce password strength. This release resolves conflicts with change password functionality.

Pasting

Under certain circumstances pasting an element from a page that had been copied did not paste the source content, but pasted content from the copied page instead.

Performance

- Queries with long lists of numeric values were not using the CommonSpot optimized database functions for MS SQL Server databases, resulting in database errors.
- Under certain conditions PK violations were logged and/or displayed when creating a new page with multiple local custom elements defined on the base template.
- After editing custom element instances, redundant cache clears when saving changes affected performance in some cases.
- A bug in Railo 4.1 and Railo 4.2 resulted in noticeable performance problems for CommonSpot sites with moderate-to-large subsite counts. This problem does not apply to Adobe ColdFusion installations.

Popup Menus

Some Cloud site customers reported errors with popup menus.

Railo

Datasources, mappings, and other engine-level settings are now configured at the Server level for Railo installations.

Render Handlers

Under certain circumstances, saving a custom render handler after updates produced an internal error.

Replication

- Replication failures were reported for Read-only Production Servers whose collections were not indexed due to configuration issues.
- Creating a new subsite and replicating with no subsites assigned to a collection produced an unexpected condition that returned an error.
- Under certain conditions, accessing Replication Records from Site Administration on a read-only server returned a Permission Denied error.

Reports

- The Action icons did not work for uploaded documents or pages whose title contained an apostrophe (single quote).
- Clicking the link for an expired uploaded PDF document in the Report of Pages, Templates, and Uploaded Documents produced a 404 error.

Rich Text Editor

- With certain browsers and user-created styles, assigning a CSS class to a link produced unexpected results in the RTE.
- Limitations in Chrome and Safari disallowed using the mouse to select images while in the Rich Text Editor. A work-around specific to these browsers addresses this issue.
- Under certain conditions links created in the RTE with an "Open in new window" setting produced unexpected results.

Schedules Jobs

Some sites reported issues for background jobs scheduled through the CommonSpot interface on Railo 4.1 instances.

Search

- Advanced search by category did not return images whose category was changed.
- Under certain circumstances, CommonSpot double-escaped special characters included in the description field of the Search Results Element, resulting in the display of special characters.
- Reindexing a search collection failed under certain conditions.
- Elements (such as page index) marked as 'do not include in full-text search' were incorrectly indexed.
- For sites formerly running under Verity, attempts to optimize search collections from the Manage Full-Text Search Collections dialog produced an error.

- When the Disable Automatic Indexing option was enabled in Subsite Admin, uploaded documents did not show up in search results even after the search collection was reindexed.

Security

- In certain situations (for example, after restoring a backup of a Site database), permission records for deleted users and/or groups could not be deleted. Sites can now remove orphan security records for deleted users or groups.
- Certain permission types (custom element, file format, etc.) did not take effect as expected, at times requiring a ColdFusion restart.

Shared Database

- When deleting a Read-only server from a Shared-Database cluster, scheduled job records associated with the deleted server were not removed, resulting in errors when using the Server Administration pages.
- When a shared-database ROPS was deleted, some special-case values caused scheduled jobs to be incorrectly removed from the authoring server.

Site Administration

Mal-formed URLs encountered on application startup sometimes resulted in an exception error.

Simple Form Usage

Under certain circumstances, clicking a Usage link in the Simple Forms administrative dialog returned an error.

Social Media

Site Administrators and other users attempting to save or reschedule a social media post may have encountered the Dashboard command "error Element ID is undefined in UserInfo."

Template Security

Some sites observed that changes to default permissions in Element Inheritance Security did not take effect (and were not visible) without restarting ColdFusion.

Template Variables

When template variables contained no value (empty string) they could not be saved. Template variables no longer require that each line contain a single equal sign (=) followed by text. If there is no equal sign, or if the equal sign is the last character in the line, the variable's value is set to empty string. This change also allows template variable values to contain equal (=) signs. At the API level, these changes apply to the templateVariables argument to SubsiteSettings.saveMisc.

Upgrade

- Some installations reported errors on upgrade when creating the first full-text search collection.
- After upgrade from 6.0.2 to a pre-release version of CommonSpot some sites experienced issues with Datasheet elements.
- Some sites upgrading from CommonSpot versions earlier than 6.0 reported upgrade interrupts when upgrading permissions assignments.

Uploaded Documents

- Links to uploaded documents with anonymous access disabled and future publication dates produced a “problem loading a dialog” error. This release includes more descriptive and accurate messaging.
- If no default document category was defined and the category field was "Hidden" in the Content Creation Settings for uploaded documents, CommonSpot returned an error. Site Administration – Page Creation/Properties UI now requires a default document category before you can hide categories. See “Important Notes” below.
- Some installations running older versions of CommonSpot reported that contributors were allowed to move documents to a subsite when they had upload rights but not page creation rights for that subsite.
- Uploaded documents whose file names for previous version were different from the latest version were orphaned in the subsite/upload folder.
- Under certain circumstances, moving multiple uploaded documents between subsites returned an exception error, with Move Status reporting transfer for only half of the documents selected.
- Editing properties after setting an expiration date for an uploaded PDF document returned a 404 error.

User Administration

- Deleting a user who owns content with a status of non-contributor returned an “invalid argument” error.
- Under certain conditions for users with a large number of indirect memberships, the group membership list did not display a scrollbar when sorted by a column other than the default.
- Some sites reported that the Password Change checkbox in the Edit User Information dialog was checked when it was not explicitly selected.

URL Parameters

For pages using URL parameters to display custom content, parameters were removed when switching views in CommonSpot, resulting in page errors. Now these URL parameters are maintained.


Important Notes

The following describes issues that may affect the performance of your CommonSpot site. Please review these notes before installing or upgrading to this release.

Run Upgrade

All releases require running `/commonspot/upgrade/` to reset factory data, database indexes, and database functions and restarting Railo or ColdFusion.

PaperThin also recommends the following:

1. Run the stub files update utility. See Site Administration – Utilities – Rebuild Stub Files.
2. This update may result in outdated cache files. For best results, schedule a Rebuild Cache job to run periodically to make sure that even the oldest cache files are reasonably current. See Server Administration – Utilities – Server Scheduled Jobs.
3.  **NOTE: Instruct all users to clear browser cache.** This step is required for using the Rich Text Editor in CommonSpot.

 **Important Note:** Do not directly modify native CommonSpot structures. Structures to be treated as read-only include (but may not be limited to):

- Request.CP
- Request.Subsite
- Request.SubsiteCache
- Server.CommonSpot
- Request.CGIVars

Also use caution when updating the following. These are not currently shared, but may be in the future, so any updates may cause future problems:

- Request.Page
- Request.Params (built by merging 'form' and 'url') may be modified, but modifications could have unintended consequences
- Request.User
- Request.CustomerInfo

Read All Interim Release Notes and Relevant KB Articles

If you are upgrading from a release earlier than 6.0, read *all* interim release notes. These document important changes to system and configuration requirements, browser and server cache handling, scheduled jobs, text handling, and performance considerations. Make sure to read the 6.0, 6.1, 6.2.1 and Winter 2012 (v.7) and Summer 2012 (v.8) Release Notes, available from:

<http://www.paperthin.com/support/knowledgebase/doclibrary/index.cfm>

Also read all Support Knowledgebase articles relevant to your upgrade path.

Review Updates to Deprecated Values

For all releases, review updates to deprecated values on the PaperThin Support site. See: <http://www.paperthin.com/support/knowledgebase/deprecated-variables.cfm> (requires login)

Note that as of release 9.0, deprecated values (including Icon_ElementProps struct) are no longer included in CommonSpot and will generate errors when used in custom code.

Static Content Generation Removed

Static Content Generation is deprecated in this release of CommonSpot, affecting related utilities and scheduled jobs. For any sites using Static Content Generation, go to Site Administration – Utilities – Scheduled Jobs, and manually delete all Generate Static Content jobs. Failure to do this may result in very large log files.

Default Category Required

Setting the category field to Hidden in Page Creation/Properties UI now requires a predefined default category for documents at your site. Set the default through Site Administration – Content Classification – Content Categories. Sites currently using this inconsistent configuration may encounter errors saving new pages, uploaded documents, or registered URLs. Contact PaperThin Support for help diagnosing and resolving any issues.

Escaped Characters in Search Results Descriptions

This release corrects an issue of double-escaping special characters entered in the Description field of the Search Results element. Note that any render handlers that coded around this will display search results data without any HTML escaping. Modify render handlers accordingly.

Updates Affecting CommonSpot Page URL and Extended URL Fields

Release 8.0.1 of CommonSpot included the addition of the CommonSpot Extended URL field. This new field stores links internally in a format that is compatible with CommonSpot's core link management functionality, which the CommonSpot Page URL (cs_url) field did not. For this reason the CommonSpot Page URL (cs_url) field was deprecated in release 9.0.1 in favor of the CommonSpot Extended URL field (cs_extended_url) and a conversion utility was made available to support this change in 9.0.1. After 9.0.1, any forms using the CommonSpot Page URL (cs_url) field will not properly update links when referring pages move. Sites should use the new extended URL field type whenever possible and run the "Convert CommonSpot Page URL Field Type to CommonSpot Extended URL Field Type" utility after upgrade to 9.0.2 or later.

Also note that because some system tables in interim releases did not contain default values for the CommonSpot Extended URL field type, running the conversion tool resulted in loss of data in certain cases. The following updates address this issue for the extended URL field type:

- The field type is now consistently implemented as 'csextendedurl' in CommonSpot. Previous custom implementations of 'cs_extended_url' will work, but CommonSpot no longer saves data this way.
- This release adds insert queries for the populate-system-data module. Running a schema update, as recommended for all upgrades, will take care of this.
- CommonSpot now uses a default output mask for the csextendedurl field type. This mask will parse the value stored in the cp____pageid=xxx format and display the parsed URL value