

Aspire Project Suite

Overview of Version Release 3.0.0

Last Updated: March 13, 2018



Aspire Project Suite with Windows 10 Support

A new release is available with improved features and full compliance with Microsoft Windows 10 and the latest Windows server environments.

We've updated the look to support visual styles, added more electronic forms capabilities, streamlined server and client install procedures, improved client emailing capabilities and simplified the user sign on process.

There is no learning curve required for this upgrade. We have not altered the placement of screens and menus or the method in which the application functions. Users will transition from old to new without difficulty.

Why are we making these changes?

To ensure compliance with Windows 10 and the latest Microsoft Server operating systems we needed to upgrade our development platforms. This is the way forward and enables Bedford Systems to continue enhancing and supporting Aspire Project Suite for our clients. It also helps protect your investment in the product.

We have spent 18 months and significant effort in transitioning our applications to this environment. We're pleased with what we have achieved and confident in knowing we're prepared for what the future holds.

This change now allows us to take advantage of technologies which were not previously available to us (i.e. mobile devices).

What do these changes mean for our clients? A completely new application environment must be installed and an upgraded application license is required for running in this environment.

Note: Other than the Aspire software upgrade supplied by Bedford Systems, there is **no** server or client upgrade of technology, equipment or software required.



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What are the changes in this release?

- New look and feel of visual styles while continuing to support the current classic style for those who prefer it
- Improved stability of the user interface running under Windows 10
- Single sign on screen that simplifies module access. The original method of signing in to individual modules is available for those who prefer it
- SMTP email configuration is supported by a user interface and convenient testing feature to verify setup parameters. Multiple configurations are available in this release
- A general SMTP email log is available for reviewing all emailing activity within Aspire. This is accessible from the single sign on window
- Streamlined installation process for installs and updates. The new client workstation installation eliminates the requirement for manual steps like adding icons and environment variables
- Configuration of run time environment settings now supported by a user interface and can be updated or changed at any time (for Windows Administrator only).
- Environment settings used in Aspire Project Suite can be viewed from the sign on screen. This window shows the process environment configuration for the Aspire Project Suite user session. We no longer require user or system environment variables to be set. This is now handled by the application
- Data integrity file rebuilds, performed at the command prompt in the past, are now supported by a user interface in the applicable Aspire module
- Rectified inconsistencies in the user interface when running under Windows 10



Application enhancements:

We deployed a number of updates in the January 1, 2018 release but there were still several changes in progress. Additional enhancements you'll receive with this version include:

- Improved client email capabilities by adding the option to use an SMTP client. SMTP does not require Outlook to be installed (or any email client). The existing emailing methodology using Outlook is still available. *Note to our clients using Click Yes Pro: When using SMTP this will no longer be necessary and no confirmation is required when sending emails*
- Comprehensive new functionality to handle selection, creation and emailing of T4 forms. Preprinted T4 forms no longer required as forms are produced in PDF format and emailed directly to employees
- Extended inquiries for Payroll earnings, deductions and taxable benefits to provide more information in browse windows
- Modified Payroll Processing payment detail window to show the general ledger accounts attached to earnings, deductions and taxable benefits. A great help when checking payroll information before posting

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We'll Support you all the way

To get you through this upgrade we've created installation support documents that will help. Your technical staff can review them in advance, and when you're ready we'll take you every step of the way through the process.

How long with the upgrade take?

Plan to install this upgrade at a low activity date and time. Be prepared to spend approximately 60 minutes to complete the entire installation, relicensing and set up of the run environment. Additional time is required to perform the Client workstation installs. Each client machine can be updated in just a few minutes.

Parallel run with your existing Aspire version

There is no requirement to uninstall the existing version prior to installing the new one. The new licensing allows you to optionally run both versions for 30 days after the installation date of version 3.0.0.

Note: Application data is shared between releases so there is no double entering involved in this parallel run.

Here's something to leave you with:

Wait until you see the look of joy on the faces of your technical staff when they see the ease of installation and low maintenance of Aspire Project Suite
Version Release 3.0.0

Contact us to book your upgrade or for more information

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