

MCE TRENDSETTER NEWS CR 3.1

Readme/Release Notes

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Creo Inc.
3700 Gilmore Way
Burnaby, BC
Canada V5G 4M1
(604) 451-2700

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Revision History

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1. IMPORTANT INFORMATION

MCE Trendsetter® NEWS CR 3.1 has several new features and fixes that are important to Customer Services and Solutions (CS&S). This release is mainly targeted for production until CR 4.0 is released. You should familiarize yourself with this information before installing this Controlled Release.

1.1 PROVIDING FEEDBACK TO PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

To ensure that these Release Notes are being read so that we can continue this trend (there are a number of people involved in producing, editing, and publishing this document), please e-mail gary.theobald@creo.com upon reading this document. Feel free to suggest changes to the format and quantity/quality of material.

1.2 UPGRADING TO CR 3.1

It is *recommended* for this Controlled Release that *all components be updated* to the MCE Trendsetter NEWS Controlled Release 3.1 level. There is (as always) no guarantee that a partial install of this Controlled Release will be fully functional. A partial install of the Controlled Release constitutes a high-risk action and may result in future service visits.

1.3 DEVICE NAME CONVENTION

1.3.1 HOST CONFIGURATION

It is ***mandatory*** that the host configuration is run and the correct device type selected on the page labeled 'MCE System'. This configuration allows for Response Center gathering of version information and several other service tools to be correctly configured. For more information on how to run the Host Configuration Wizard, read the information in New Features – Host Configuration Wizard.

1.4 CONTROLLED RELEASES ON WORKSTATIONS

All MCE device servers shipped from Creo have had the controlled release contents copied to the folder **ControlledRelease** under the system drive name since 27 Feb 2004. The controlled release will be under a CR version subfolder (for example, **C:\ControlledRelease\3.1**).

When a CR is updated at a customer's site by a CSE, it is best practice to copy the new CR to this same folder under its controlled release version to ensure others (such as the Response Center or another CSE) have access to the latest versions of software and firmware.

It is also best practice to delete the old CR once ensuring that the device is running correctly. This ensures that versions of software that are not feature-licensed are not available for customers or third-party service to downgrade and bypass security features implemented in newer Controlled Release packages.

1.5 SERVICE SHELL VERSION CHECKER

Although Service Shell Version Checker has been an integral part of Controlled Releases for some time, it has likely not received the attention that it deserves. Find Version Checker in the **Tools** menu of the Service Shell client. It is *mandatory* that the CSE installing the Controlled Release run Version Checker to check before and after a Controlled Release upgrade to show which software and firmware components need to be updated and/or are currently installed. Ensure that you have upgraded Service Host and Service Shell as well as upgraded the device version configuration file provided with each Controlled Release to ensure you are checking against the latest Controlled Release version information.

1.6 ENABLING USB PORTS ON THE DEVICE WORKSTATION

There was an issue with some workstations not having all USB ports correctly enabled. To ensure that all USB ports are correctly enabled, please ensure that you follow the following procedure located in the **Release Notes** folder of the Controlled Release CD: Enabling USB Ports - 709-00208A-EN-A-PR01.pdf.

NOTE: If you are looking for ports to plug in service dongles, all GX version Dell® Workstations (for example, GX270) have two USB ports on the front of the workstation underneath the light grey molded flip-up cover.

2. CONTROLLED RELEASE PACKAGE INFORMATION

2.1 COMPONENT INFORMATION

Component	Version
Print Console	3.10.0.14
Service Shell	2.5.0.770
MCE Main firmware	1.22.09.03
MCE Slave firmware **NOTE**: News 200 Only	1.10.01
MCE Xilinx	1.79
MCE Core Firmware Bundle	1.3
Thermal Head 1.x firmware	1.97
Thermal Head 2.x firmware	1.04d
Brisque® Agent	1.00.057
Version config file	TS News 200 MCE.INI TS News MCE.INI
Copydot Toolkit (NOTE: CR SW KIT Only)	4.0

CR SW Kit: 634-00010E
CR CD Only: 651-00017G

2.2 DEVICE QUALIFICATION

The following devices have been qualified with this Controlled Release:

- Trendsetter NEWS 50/50C
- Trendsetter NEWS 70/70C
- Trendsetter NEWS 100/100C
- Trendsetter NEWS 150
- Trendsetter NEWS 200

The following heads have been qualified with this Controlled Release:

- Thermal head 1.x
- Thermal head 2.x

2.3 LIMITATIONS

- Brisque Direct: Brisque version 4.1 output update 5 and LUT patch required
- DEC® Alpha® not supported for Print Console
- DEC Alpha not supported for Service Shell
- Older Dell and Data General® workstations may have inadequate performance.
- Allegro Console not qualified for Microsoft® Windows® 2003

2.4 DEPENDENCIES

- GENINE Board 10-4227D and later only
- Power Distribution Board 10-4112G and later only
- 39160 LVD SCSI card in workstation
- Dell 2600 workstation hardware configuration fully tested
- OptiPlex® GX2*X*0 hardware configuration fully tested
- If device has UDRC, UDRC vacuum connection must be to the U67 sensor on the MCE board

2.5 WORKFLOW COMPATIBILITY

Workflow items are not part of the release, but have been tested for compatibility. The controlled release has been tested with the latest released version of workflow and it is recommended that customers are brought to this level.

- Prinergy 2.1: GDAPI connection tested-not applicable for NEWS 200/200C
- Brisque 4.0.5 and 4.1 GDAPI connection tested-not applicable for NEWS 200/200C
- Allegro Console 5.5-required for PostScript® workflow
- TIFF workflows-tested with a range of test files from various systems (including Prinergy® TIFF/Brisque S2G)
- CRI workflows-not available. CRI is no longer supported with Print Console 2.1 and later

3. INSTALLATION / UPGRADING

3.1 UPGRADEABILITY

This Controlled Release has only been tested with upgrades from MCE Trendsetter NEWS Controlled Release 3.x. It is likely that upgrades from previous versions are possible, but they have some risk level.

3.2 INSTALL / UPGRADE PROCEDURE

Total time: 3 hours (minimum).

Task	Time
Dependencies Review the Dependencies before beginning.	
Patches Check the **patches** folder and apply any patches as documented in the readme files.	
Service Shell Install/upgrade Service Shell-needed for checking head/MCE firmware versions and for downloading the new firmware. Ensure that the COM ports are configured correctly.	0.25 hour
Configure Host Device Run host configuration from Service Host and configure to correct device model.	0.10 hour
Version Check After installing the Service Shell client, start the version checker applet. Click **Configure**. A dialog box prompts you for the controlled release config file. Browse to the VersionConfig folder on the controlled release CD, select the version config file, click **Finish**, and then click **Yes** to evaluate the configuration. If a dialog box indicates that the device is not yet configured with controlled release version information, select **Configure System > Next**. Locate the **VersionConfig** folder on the controlled release CD, select the version config file, and click **Finish**. For more info on Service Shell, see the Service Shell support site on TechPlanet.	0.25 hour
Firmware Use the Firmware Upgrade script in Service Shell to backup parameters and download all new MCE Main/Slave, PDB, and GENINE firmware.	0.5 hour
Print Console Install/Upgrade Print Console.	0.25 hour
Workflow Brisque: No update necessary Prinergy: No update necessary Prinergy Evo: No update necessary	
Version Check After all firmware and software have been upgraded, use the Version Checker applet in Service Shell to evaluate all system versions. Ensure that there are no errors reported by the version checker.	0.25 hour

Functionality Check Check that device and all applications are functional, including load/unload of small/medium/large size media.	1.0 hours

4. IMPORTANT FEATURES AND FIXES

4.1 FIRMWARE FUNCTIONALITY

4.1.1 INPUT RASTER CHECKING

Several sites in pre-CR 3.1 sites noticed shifting of pieces of the image in the mainscan direction. Input Raster Checking (CRC) was implemented to ensure that if there was discrepancy between workstation sent raster and firmware received raster that the operator would be properly notified.

The device will suspend on detecting a CRC mismatch. This way the defective plate is prevented from being processed further.

To enable the CRC checking make sure that the following registry value for Print Console is enabled:

```
HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Creo\PrintConsole\V2.0\ScsiConfig\
PerformCRC16Check == 1
```

4.1.2 2L1W SUPPORT

The mainscan minimum size for 2L1W is 395 mm (2L1W Japan).

4.1.3 NEW STATUS LIGHTS SUPPORT

The firmware in CR 3.1 controls the new diode status lights on TS NEWS. To query the status lights, the following commands can be used:

```
NEWS>> statuslights
```

To control the status lights, use the following commands:

```
NEWS>> statuslights <blue|bluef|green|greenf|yellowf|off>
```

4.2 THERMAL HEAD FIRMWARE

4.2.1 THERMAL HEAD 1.X BANDING DUE TO CORRUPTED STROKE TABLES

Thermal 1.x heads with head firmware version 1.93, 1.95, or 1.96 *and* LVD hardware version 4 or later may see stroke corruption when switching media. In these cases, the stroke table on one or more media is set to all 33s. This can cause image artifacts or banding.

Thermal 1.x head firmware version 1.97 has been released to fix this problem. All heads running firmware versions 1.93, 1.95, or 1.96 must be upgraded to firmware 1.97 as soon as possible.

Following the firmware upgrade, reset the device. The 33s in the stroke tables are active and have not been saved, so resetting the device will clear them. After resetting the device, the head will perform a stroke cal automatically on the first plot as each media is selected.

5. MINOR FEATURES AND FIXES

Minor features and fixes are documented in component release notes which are both available in the **Release Notes** folder and on the component install folder on the Controlled Release CD.