GINESYS v 11.100.0

THE TECHNICAL WHITE PAPER

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Table of Contents

Introduction

GINESYS is going through a substantial change with respect to the technology stack used in this version. This document will help you understand in detail why and how changes were made, the rationales behind them and how they are going to affect your existing or new GINESYS installation. This is a techno-functional document which will in some instances link to further detailed technical documentation if required. Hope this helps you to understand the newly introduced technology stack in a better way.

Premise

With GINESYS introducing major changes in technology, we needed a new identity for the leap forward. The landmark changes in the new V 11.100.0 are:

- New GINESYS Platform
- New Oracle Database 12C is now supported
- Installation on Windows 2012 Server Edition, Windows 10 is now supported
- New flexible licensing concept is being introduced
- New integration platform via web services is being introduced
- SMTP mailer/ Notification (NFS) Application/ Planning/ Shipment tracking / Item service which were formerly separate applications will now come as part of the pack

We will talk about each of them as we go on. With so much of changes happening, a major version release was in order.

General Queries

Why not V12?

It was a tough call for the people at R&D to decide on the version of this release and debates indicated that though significant technology change is being introduced, the product still retains the flavour of the old technology stack to a great extent as many of the key functionalities are still in previous technology.

Since it preserves much of the old techno-functional aspects and has still not moved to a new platform and potential manageability issues of three major versions (V10, V11 and V12) could be difficult to tackle – it was decided to call this new installation pack **v11.100.0** .

Why v11.100.0 and not v11.51.0?

Although we are on the verge of releasing this new pack, yet it seemed prudent that we may need to make releases in between to tackle bugs and features in mid versions, therefore as a provisionary measure, we have kept a buffer of fifty major releases. So we could take care of such issues through smaller version releases, if need be.

Why existing installation cannot be 'Updated' and a new installation is required?

This new installation pack uses certain new technology and some other technologies are also being upgraded, these changes cannot be updated through a single application. Moreover, many of these technologies, like the Oracle 12c database, need to be installed separately to account for their

specific checks and balances and system needs to be reconfigured, it cannot just be executed. So we cannot use something like Auto-Update to upgrade to this version.

New technologies being introduced

Among the several new technologies introduced are -
i. IIS Web servers – to be configured by GINESYS for running web application part
ii. ODAC 12 c will allow greater flexibility of data access
iii. Windows 10 compatibility allows flexibility in terms of choice of OS. Currently supported OS like windows 7 are also open to be used.

Why my old license will not work?

The technological changes necessitated a change in our licensing policies as well as licensing process. New flexible modular licensing concept is being introduced. Now as long as you are aware of your license serial number, you can go in for a web activation of license. So even if you need to format your machine at some odd hours, there will be no delay in waiting for the license file as you need to do currently.

The concept of a POS license based on active and published sites is being implemented. The concept of floating users is also being put in practise. You can find more on these in the next sections.

As you can see a lot of changes are coming through, so naturally you will have to get a new license and your old license will not work.

I am a running a version below the cut-off V11 version, must I upgrade?

If you are running any version below 11.34.0 we request you to upgrade to prevent compatibility issues at both the technical and functional level.

The v11.100.0 is functionally based on the operational structure of 11.34.0, where GINESYS went through some very major changes. Just to name a few – i) The concept of Organizational Unit (OU); ii) Concept of Local Procurement; iii) Changes in terms and charges for S&D and Procurement iv) Change in tax concept etc. So unless you are conversant with these changes at the functional level, you won't be able to take advantage of the new pack effectively.

The functional changes that were made in the software led to certain technical changes too. This makes it imperative that a minimum cut-off version of 11.34.0 has to be updated before you can install v11.100.0

Do I need to run IIS server in my GINESYS application server?

If you already have not enabled the IIS server in your GINESYS application server, then please enable it by following the KB link.

IIS has to be mandatorily enabled for GINESYS v11.100.0 because presently, only the Retail, Web Services and Shipment tracking related operations are running through IIS. But modules which are running in D2k platform are going to be converted gradually into Web platform in near future. So, it would be safe to configure the IIS from day one.

It is important to note that ASP.NET under IIS feature is enabled in both servers and terminals.

Can I continue to use my same application server hardware?

Although there are no restrictions on using the same application hardware, it would be wise to ensure that your system has the capacity required to run the software. Please refer to the table below.

Component	Server Minimum	Workstation Minimum
Processor	Quad-core x64 architecture 2.8 GHz CPU	Dual-core x64 / x86 architecture 2.0 GHz CPU
Memory	8-GB RAM	4 GB RAM
Hard disk	200 GB or more of available hard disk space	50 GB or more available hard disk space
HDD count	Minimum 2 same capacity HDD	1 nos.
UPS	Online UPS with 30 minutes backup	Offline UPS with 15 minutes backup minimum
Operating System	Windows Server 2008 R2	Windows 7 (Service Pack 1)
Internet	2 mbps stable connection	Nil

Can I continue to use my Terminal Server installation?

Yes, you can use the same Terminal Server installation. In fact we will now provide an advanced feature which will allow the application log to be written for each user terminal logged to the system, instead of writing it at one place. This will allow you to monitor the performance of each terminal more minutely.

What changes are affected to the system through the GINESYS installer?

i. .NET framework 4.5 is installed on Windows 7, Windows 2008 R2 on server and workstations in case of Win8/Win 10/Server 2012R2 prompt will be given to install or add feature 4.5
ii. ODAC 12c will be installed on server and workstations
iii. Crystal Report 13 (version 13.0.14) will be installed on server and workstations
iv. SQL Native Client 2008 R2 will be installed on server only
v. SQL Command Line tools will be installed on server

What are the software pre-requisites for installation?

Component	Installation Process	Server / Workstation / Both
Operating Systems (OS) For Server: Windows 2008 /Windows 2008R2 / Windows 2012. For WK: Windows 7/Windows 8/ Windows10.	Manual install	Both
Microsoft Excel 2007 For running excel dependent functionalities like Replenishment Planning.	Manual install	Both
Microsoft .NET Framework 4.5	Windows 7: GINESYS Installer Windows 2008 R2: GINESYS Installer All other OS: Manual install	Both
Oracle Data Access Components (ODAC) 12c (version 12.1.0.2.1)	GINESYS Installer Manual install: from C:\GSL\GINESYS11\Shared\Dumps path.	Both
Internet Information Services (IIS) Server 7.5 or above	Manual install	Server
SAP Crystal Reports Runtime 13 version 13.0.8 or above	GINESYS Installer	Both
SQL Server 2012 Native Client	GINESYS Installer	Server
SQL Server 2012 CLR Types	GINESYS Installer	Server
SQL Server 2012 Shared Management Objects	GINESYS Installer	Server
SQL Server 2012 Command Line Utilities	GINESYS Installer	Server

Which modules need to run on Administrator login or users with admin privilege?

A Standard user does not have permission for making changes in the server administration. But a user with admin rights can do that and much more.

User Account Control (UAC) is a new technology introduced by Microsoft in Windows Vista. Its main purpose is to protect the operating system by running applications with reduced privileges even if user has administrative privilege.Most applications do not require full privileges. The application that requires administrative rights to start allows more access to the computer's resources when it runs.

Running an application as administrator means that the program provides the user more access to the computer when it runs that is it has Elevated Privileges. Admin Privilege signifies the privilege to install, run or close a service and to update files in server. Server is the machine/system where Ginesys Data Sync Service is installed.

In the following applications those which require admin privilege are said to demand Elevated Privilege when UAC is on and user has Administrative rights.

Applications	Admin privilege required	Server check required	Open from Workstation
Analytics	No	No	Yes
Ginesys Dashboard	No	No	Yes
Getting Started	Yes	Yes	No
Database Locator	Yes	Yes	No
Database Manager	Yes	No	Yes
Data Exchange Dashboard	Yes	Yes	No
Database Backup	Yes	Yes	No
HO Auto Update	Yes	Yes	No
License Manager	No	Yes	No
Log Manager	No	No	Yes
Planning	No	No	Yes
Report Layout Import	No	No	Yes
Service Manager	Yes	Yes	No
Settlement Authorization	No	No	Yes
SMS Manager	Yes	Yes	No
SMTP Mailer	Yes	Yes	No
Web Database Updater	Yes	Yes	No

Database related Queries

Why Oracle database installation is not part of GINESYS installation anymore?

One of the reasons, of discarding the concept of Wrapped installations [i.e. running Oracle installations through the GINESYS installations], are the growth in size and complexity of both Oracle and GINESYS installations.

Moreover, such reduced UI mode installations suppress Oracle's own validations and configurations which cater to different scenarios in the software operations.

Can I continue to use my existing Oracle database 10g?

Yes, you can continue to use your existing Oracle Database 10g as usual. However, you must be aware of the fact that in your case Back-up and restoration must also happen from a 10g Database.

When do we need Oracle 12c database for v11.100.0?

If you are using Windows 8 / Windows 10 / Windows Server 2012 R2 then the old Oracle 10g database will not be compatible and you would need Oracle 12c database.

Why do we need ODAC 12c even with my 10g database?

The new Retail Management is now on the web and requires the use of ODAC 12c. So we converted all the components of our software to ODAC 12c compatibility.

Are there any concerns of compatibility between a 10g database and ODAC 12c?

It is known that a back up taken from ODAC 12c cannot be ported to a 10g database. However, if you have a separate 10g Database Server for GINESYS but your Application Server happens to be Windows 2012 R2 Standard then Oracle 10g has to be installed separately and back-up has to be taken manually through a batch file provided by GINESYS. We will not be able to provide a back-up utility for such a scenario. Technically it is not possible for the 12c OS to take back-up from a 10g Database.

Update related Queries

I am an existing user of GINESYS. How can I get the new GINESYS v11.100.1?

Our existing users will definitely be able to experience the new GINESYS 11.100.1. But there are a few checks before the upgrade is done.

Why is my existing auto-update showing version till 11.50.x?

Due to the change in technology, the v11.100.0 is an installation pack and not another Update. Therefore it needs to be separately installed along with the separate installations for .Net framework and ASP.Net, Oracle database etc.

Why internet is mandatory for updating HO from v11.100.0 onwards?

We have not provided a local path for the files to provide more security to the software. So you will need to have a mandatory stable internet connection for updating the GINESYS HO.

Why does the new HO Update look different?

The new HO update application not only looks different, it works differently too. Earlier it was possible to update by locally replacing the file sets. However, from v11.100.0 it will not be possible to update the software through local patches. It has to be downloaded from our available FTP and through our new HO Auto-Update. You must be conversant with our POS Auto-Update already. The new HO Auto-Update looks and behaves similarly. But there are a few differences.

Firstly since there is a migration scenario involved, it will check which version you are currently at in the two-digit series and automatically detect the patch to migrate you to the compatible three-digit series. In case, you are at a version lower than our cut-off version, it will stop and not allow you to update unless you go back and update till our cut-off version through the old HO update. Once the migration patch is detected your database will be updated till the v11.100.0 and then it will check for latest patches for further updates.

Application Related Queries

Why can't I see the old logs of GINESYS Back-office Application with the new log viewer?

Earlier the GINESYS Back-office Application logs except for Retail Management module could be accessed through the following path:

32 bit machine: C:\Program Files\GSL\GINESYS11\Runtime \Logs\..

64 bit machine: C:\GSL\GINESYS11\Runtime \Logs\..

Currently the path has been changed to:

C:\Program Data\GSL\GINESYS11\Logs\[Application name]\[Terminal name]\Log\..

In fact all logs will now be written at this default location. So it will not be possible to locate the log files at the earlier location.

Where are my GINESYS temporary files?

Originally all temporary files were written at the shared Application folder under Program Files but now it will be written in the Users folder in the Logged Users' name under the root directory. (**C:\Program Files\GSL\GINESYS11\Application\Bin\utilities\Temp >> C:\Users\<logged user name>**)

Conclusion

So with v11.100.0, GINESYS is offering you a more comprehensive package of Retail software incorporating the best and latest of technologies and functionalities that will make your life smooth and allow you to concentrate on earning more happy customers. The v11.100.0 Installation pack is a symbol of our commitment to serving you to the best of our abilities.

Happy Retailing!