Btrieve 12

What's New in Btrieve 12

An Overview of New Features and Changed Behavior

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December 2015

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About This Document

This document contains information about the features and enhancements in this release of Btrieve 12. It does not provide comprehensive usage instructions for the software. Its purpose is to summarize what is new and different from the previous release.

We would appreciate your feedback about this document. Your comments and suggestions can determine what we write about the use of our products and how we deliver information to you. Please post your feedback at the community support forum on the Actian PSQL website.

chapter

1

What's New in Btrieve 12

A Comparison of Btrieve 12 and Btrieve 6.15

Btrieve 12 is an update of Btrieve 6.15. The new Btrieve is designed to enable you to switch your applications and data files to the new version without changing file format or recompiling executables. As in 6.15, version 12 is a 32-bit engine, and it does everything the 6.15 engine does. However, Btrieve 12 differs in the following ways:

- Windows Platform Support
- Modern Installer
- Licensing Model
- Gateway Locator
- Cache Engine
- Support for File Formats
- Centralized Logging
- Wire Encryption
- Auto Reconnect
- IPv4/IPv6 support
- 6.15 Settings No Longer Needed in Btrieve 12

None of these differences are expected to change the behavior of your Btrieve 6.15 applications or their use of 6.x data files.

Windows Platform Support

Btrieve 12 runs on all of the Windows 32- and 64-bit operating systems currently supported by Microsoft, from Vista to Windows 10.

Modern Installer

Btrieve 12 uses a modern installer that can be run either interactively or silently to automate embedding within an application. It is no longer possible to select and add individual DLLs to your application. For detailed installation instructions, see Installing Btrieve in *Getting Started with Btrieve*.

Many users will install Btrieve 12 on a fresh Windows system. However, if you need to replace an existing Btrieve 6.15 installation with Btrieve 12 on the same system, then you must remove the 6.15 components. Btrieve 12 provides a utility called PSA Clean to simplify removal. For information, see Using PSA Clean in *Advanced Operations Guide*.

Licensing Model

Btrieve 12 engines that open files require a license. The licenses are based on user count. You can apply additional license keys to a system to increase the count.

A license may be applied during or after installation. The most convenient method requires an Internet connection, but you can also use offline methods such as remote and phone authorization. For all options, see License Administration in *Btrieve User's Guide*.

Gateway Locator

Btrieve 12 handles concurrent file use by directing all requests to a single engine, which reduces risk of data corruption compared to using Multi Engine File Sharing (MEFS) in 6.15. For information on using a Gateway Locator, see Configuring the Btrieve Engine in *Getting Started with Btrieve*.

Cache Engine

The local data aspect of MEFS in Btrieve 6.15 is preserved in the Btrieve 12 Cache Engine feature. In a fresh installation, the Use Cache Engine setting is off by default because Btrieve 12 performance is usually sufficient. For more information, see Use Cache Engine in the properties for Btrieve local client configuration in *Advanced Operations Guide*.

Support for File Formats

Btrieve 12 can read and write Btrieve 6.x files and read 5.x files. You can convert 5.x files to 6.x with the Rebuild utility. See Converting Data Files in *Advanced Operations Guide*.

Centralized Logging

Btrieve 12 uses a centralized event log file called pvsw.log for status logging and error messages. For details, see Btrieve Event Log (pvsw.log) in the logging topics in *Advanced Operations Guide*.

Wire Encryption

Btrieve 12 can encrypt remote connections to protect data. See Wire Encryption in *Advanced Operations Guide*.

Auto Reconnect

Btrieve 12 can automatically reestablish remote sessions when intermittent network problems would otherwise break the connection. For more information, see Btrieve Auto Reconnect in *Advanced Operations Guide*.

IPv4/IPv6 support

Btrieve 12 supports both IPv4 and IPv6 networks. For information about configuration, see IPv6 in *Getting Started with Btrieve*.

6.15 Settings No Longer Needed in Btrieve 12

Btrieve 6.15 provided many settings to handle restrictions on memory and other system resources that were common at the time of its release. Btrieve 12 takes advantage of the increased capacity of current operating systems and hardware, so the older settings are no longer needed and have been removed. You no longer need to be concerned with the following properties:

- Open Files, Handles, Record Locks per Client
- Delete Lock File, Delete Share Files on Local/Remote Disks, Enable Bias on File Opens, System Transaction Hold Limit

- Communication Buffer Size, Largest Compressed Buffer Size, Extended Operation Buffer Size
- Transactions, Disk I/O Wait Limit, Page Write Group Size, Active Clients, Sessions, Remote Read Buffer Size