



WinSPC 9  
ReadMe  
(Release 9.0.2)



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## ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

This document introduces the new features and defect fixes included in WinSPC Version 9.0.2. It also summarizes the features and defect fixes included in earlier releases in the WinSPC 9 series.

For instructions on upgrading to Version 9.0.2 from an earlier version of WinSPC, see the **WinSPC 9 Upgrade Instructions** (document version 9.0.2.A). Because the upgrade procedure has changed considerably for the Version 9 series, it is highly recommended that you closely follow the documented upgrade procedure when you upgrade.

For instructions on installing and configuring this release—applicable to new WinSPC installations as opposed to upgrades—see the **WinSPC 9 Installation and Configuration Guide** (document version 9.0.2.A).

These documents are included with your WinSPC 9 materials.

If you have any questions about any information in this document, please contact WinSPC Support at (248) 447-0140 or [support@winspc.com](mailto:support@winspc.com).

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## FEATURES IN RELEASE 9.0.2

The following new features are included in this release:

1. **WinSPC Application Server Specifics Displayed for Easy Reference:** To streamline the installation and upgrade of a WinSPC application server instance, the instance's version number and instance name are now displayed within WinSPC. The number and name can be found on the **Server** tab of the **System Settings** window. (Feature Request Number: 1821.)
2. **Enhanced Installation:** The installation process for WinSPC clients as well as the WinSPC application server has been substantially enhanced. It now provides even better security and simplifies the readying of multiple instances on the same station. As part of the latter enhancement, new capability for both repairing and uninstalling instances is introduced. (Feature Request Number: 861, 1822.)
3. **Enhanced WinSPC Security Utility:** The **WinSPC Security Utility** has been modified to permit the selection of domains. This enables users of the utility to be logged into one domain and grant WinSPC permissions to users and user groups who are members of other domains. (Feature Request Number: 664.)
4. **Single-Click Access to Important Directories:** The WinSPC remote directory, also known as the shared WinSPC folder, is now accessible by clicking a link in WinSPC's **About** window (which itself is accessible from the WinSPC **Help** menu). Similar single-click access has also been added for the **WinSPC Application Directory** and the **WinSPC Data Directory**. (Feature Request Number: 734.)
5. **More Favorable Permissions for the Shared WinSPC Folder:** The requirement to grant the **Authenticated Users** group permission to the shared WinSPC folder has been dropped. When installing the WinSPC application server, all that is now required is that the application server machine itself be granted **Read** level **Security** permission to the shared WinSPC folder (assuming the shared folder is on a machine other than the application server machine). When installing WinSPC on additional WinSPC clients, permissions beyond those applied by the **WinSPC Security Utility** are no longer required. (Feature Request Number: 1847.)

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## FIXES IN RELEASE 9.0.2

Fixes for the following defect numbers are included in this release:

- **3585:** In the report designer, the *PointsPerGraph* property of the *WinSPCChart* component now works as expected.
- **3596:** A *Remote Desktop Services* client that suffers a fatal error can now successfully reload the collection plan that was active at the time of the error.
- **3599:** The access violation that sometimes occurred when exiting WinSPC no longer occurs.
- **3615:** Collection plans that contain multiple prompted network devices no longer generate an access violation when exiting Data Collection.
- **3616:** Upgrades no longer occasionally result in two or more report templates having the same name.
- **3619:** The *ReadyForLogin* property of the OLE *DataCollection* object now functions as intended.
- **3620:** The performance of data-intensive reports in environments with an active application server has been enhanced.
- **3621:** The *CollectingAsStationName* and *CollectingAsStationID* properties of the OLE *DataCollection* object now properly set the station alias.
- **3625:** Long lists of *Active Directory* user groups are now imported quickly into WinSPC.
- **3631:** Data can now be filtered by tags when running WinSPC in a Chinese Simplified Windows environment.
- **3636:** Archiving data that contains a large number of tags now takes significantly less time.
- **3647:** Data can now be collected using a virtual *Serial* device in *Remote Desktop Services* (formerly known as *Terminal Services*) environments.

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**Earlier  
Features**

## FEATURES IN EARLIER VERSION 9 RELEASES

### VERSION 9.0.0

1. **A Contemporary New Look:** An update of WinSPC's entire look-and-feel, including every button on every tool bar.
2. **New Archiving Capability:** A reengineering of your ability to archive content and work with archives after-the-fact. The new archiving capability allows for archives to be stored in an Oracle or SQL Server database, scheduled for automatic execution, and accessed using WinSPC's standard analysis and reporting tools. (Feature Request Number: 803.)
3. **Enhanced Security Configuration Utility:** A redesign of the **WinSPC Security Configuration** utility to make applying WinSPC-specific permissions both easier and more flexible.
4. **Active Directory Integration:** Support for **Active Directory**, Microsoft's technology for managing users. This feature facilitates the automatic creation and management of WinSPC users with Active Directory and allows for automated login to WinSPC based on the current Windows user. (Feature Request Number: 248.)
5. **Report Designer Enhancements:** New ability to report on attribute and collection plan data and a comprehensive self-study guide for users to learn the **Report Designer** in depth. (Feature Request Numbers: 546, 670, 823, 856, 927, 936, 1034, 1037, 1050, 1069, 1100, 1108, 1174, 1426, 1591.)
6. **The Attribute Analyzer:** A new tool for analyzing an attribute, similar to the **Variable Analyzer** introduced in the Version 8 series for analyzing a variable. (Feature Request Numbers: 116, 168, 323, 492, 823, 1050, 1214, 1302, 1591.)
7. **New Options for Exporting Data:** New ability to export attribute data and enhanced ability to export variable data. (Feature Request Numbers: 168, 492, 1050.)
8. **Improved Procedures for Forcing Logouts:** Reorganized tools and procedures for forcing the logout of users when required. (Feature Request Number: 772, 1502.)
9. **Streamlined License Management:** Enhanced tools and options for license management tasks. (Feature Request Number: 772, 1502.)
10. **Reengineered Database Migration Procedure:** A new **Migration Wizard** that simplifies and enhances the migration of a WinSPC database.
11. **New User Permissions for the Administrator Window:** A new, more intuitive structure for managing **Administrator** window user permissions.
12. **Expanded Chart Schemes:** A significant reworking of what was previously referred to as color schemes to give users granular control over a greater number of chart types and chart elements. (Feature Request Numbers: 987, 1112, 1269, 1405, 1427, 1551, 1699.)
13. **New Easier-to-Use Administrator Window:** Two new **Administrator** window features: the ability to resize icons and enhanced cut/copy/paste functionality. (Feature Request Numbers: 87, 1268.)
14. **Compatibility with Windows 8.1 and Windows Server 2012 R2:** Internal lab certification of **Windows 8.1** and **Windows Server 2012 R2** for use with WinSPC. (Feature Request Number: 1374.)

15. **More Powerful Data Sets:** Data sets extended to attributes and collection plans. (Feature Request Number: 856.)
16. **New Password Management:** Improved procedure for managing system-wide password policies.
17. **Expanded Support for Excel Devices:** New support for *XLXS* and *CSV* file formats when capturing data user an Excel device. (Feature Request Number: 785.)
18. **Dashboards:** Dashboards are new presentation modes to display and share your data. Customizable dashboards can be used to harness the power of data sets to display a *big screen* view of your WinSPC data. Dashboard visualizations include control charts, box plots, Paretos, tables, statistics, graphical display gauges, and more. (Feature Request Numbers: 74, 1153.)
19. **Chart Drill-Down:** A new drill-down capability when working with charts, permitting you to filter your view of a chart's data with a single mouseclick. (Feature Request Number: 1214.)
20. **Translation Utility:** A new visual localization and language string editing tool enabling you to customize WinSPC for speakers of languages other than English.
21. **Additional Visual Groups:** An increase in the maximum number of visual groups that can be configured for a collection plan from 10 to 20. (Feature Request Number: 47.)
22. **Variable Analyzer Refresh Timer:** Two new **Variable Analyzer** tool bar buttons—**Refresh Now** and **Periodic Refresh**—that give users the ability to refresh the data in the **Variable Analyzer** with updates that occurred since the **Variable Analyzer** was launched. (Feature Request Numbers: 882.)
23. **New Variable Analyzer Chart Types:** A variety of new chart types, including Pareto charts and pie charts, in the **Variable Analyzer**. (Feature Request Numbers: 1302.)
24. **Variable Setup Enhancement:** An automatic default of the **Subrange Size** to **2** whenever the **Subgroup Size** in basic **Variable Setup** is set to **1**. (Feature Request Number: 1538.)
25. **Application Server Enhancement:** An alternative method of connecting a WinSPC application server to a WinSPC database that does not involve a UDP broadcast. (Feature Request Number: 1634.)


 Earlier  
Fixes

## FIXES IN EARLIER VERSION 9 RELEASES

### VERSION 9.0.1

- **2835:** Capability parameters in the Variable Analyzer are now consistent with those in legacy report books.
- **3516:** Excel devices will now collect data from an Excel spreadsheet regardless of whether or not that spreadsheet contains hyperlinks.
- **3529:** WinSPC databases created in *SQL Server* that contain one or more tables with a schema that differs from the schema for the primary WinSPC tables can now be upgraded.
- **3531:** Tag values can now be collected from an ODBC device regardless of whether or not that device uses channels.
- **3533:** The format of data in an Excel file is now retained when that data is collected into WinSPC using an Excel device.
- **3541:** *Text File* devices in use prior to an upgrade to WinSPC 9 now continue to function properly following the upgrade.
- **3571:** A collection plan that is configured to collect its data under a station alias now retains that configuration when that collection plan's properties are viewed or edited. (Configuring a collection plan to use a station alias is done in the *Station Selection* pane of the *Collection Plan Setup* window's *Collection Plan Options* tab.)
- **3579:** Semicolons can now be used to separate email addresses when configuring an *E-mail* trigger.
- **3581:** The unique condition that prevented a Version 9 upgrade from adding dashboards and upgrading report templates and data sets no longer causes these effects.
- **3584:** Reports now run considerably faster.
- **3594:** WinSPC installations that contain one or more custom color schemes can now be upgraded.
- **3595:** WinSPC no longer hangs when a network device is prompted for data.

### VERSION 9.0.0

- **1303:** *Data points on a Pre-Control chart in the Data Collection window can now be edited without generating an Access Violation.*
- **2153:** The *Lifetime* notification setting on the *Timed Data Collection* subtab of the *Collection Plan Setup* window's *Step Options* tab can now be configured when variables and attributes are multi-selected on the *Step Options* tab.
- **2229:** Archiving an attribute now results in a *Historical* marker being added to charts for that attribute.
- **2304:** Adding one or more additional defect types to a previously configured attribute but clicking Cancel before those additional types are saved now discards those types as expected.
- **2306:** When collecting attribute data, clicking in the *New Value* field no longer occasionally submits the data to the WinSPC database.
- **2308:** When collecting attribute data, clicking *Done* no longer occasionally generates an *Out of Order Reading Rejected* message.
- **2310:** When collecting attribute data, clicking *Done* no longer occasionally records the data incorrectly.
- **2334:** The drop-down list of characteristics now expands as expected, even when one of the characteristics in that list is an attribute for which keyboard data entry is not allowed.
- **2342:** The *Automatically prompt device* option on the *Timed Data Collection* subtab of the *Collection Plan Setup* window's *Step Options* tab is now properly disabled for attributes.
- **2446:** The list of users and user groups in *WinSPC Security Utility* now properly and efficiently populates, even when the domain contains an unusually high number of users and user groups.

- **2534:** Excel devices now correctly process data from an Excel file that contains merged cells.
- **2616:** Querying an archive that has been converted from **Paradox** (used prior to the WinSPC 8 series) to **Advantage** (used in the WinSPC 8 series) no longer occasionally results in an **Access Violation**.
- **2644:** Custom queries in the **Report Designer** can now be edited when parameters are employed for a report template without generating a **List Index Out of Bounds** error.
- **2784:** Archiving is now considerably faster.
- **2823:** Report templates created using the **Report Designer** wizards now function as expected.
- **2927:** The **Data Listing** report template can now be used with WinSPC databases created in **Oracle 9i** and **Oracle 10g**.
- **2928:** Custom queries in the **Report Designer** can now be created when parameters are employed for a report template without generating an error.
- **2954:** The presence of a **Timed Data Collection Prompt** window indicating time has expired for the collection of attribute data no longer generates an error when **Done** is clicked in the **Data Collection** window.
- **2970:** When creating a new user, the **Inherited** check boxes for **Screen Display** and **Printed Reports** are now checked by default on the **User Setup** window's **Defaults** tab.
- **2994:** The axis labels on **Pareto** charts are now properly aligned.
- **2996:** When working in the **Chart Properties** window from within the **Report Designer**, modifications to the following **Element Visibility** settings on the **General** subtab of the **Line Charts** tab are now saved as expected: **Upper Chart Visible**, **Middle Chart Visible**, and **Lower Chart Visible**.
- **3023:** A user can now change the password of another user only when the following two conditions are met: the user changing the password has been granted the **Edit Users and User Groups** permission; and the user whose password is being changed belongs to a user group that descends from the user group to which the user changing the password belongs.
- **3036:** A user who is authorized to change the password of another user is now also authorized to set the **User must change password at next login** setting for that other user.
- **3038:** Collecting data for an attribute that counts defective units and is configured with a fixed lot size of 1 no longer causes an error when the following sequence of actions is taken: enter **1** in the **New Value** field; left-click in the **Total** field; and click **Done**.
- **3138:** Character limits for the **TEST.TESTNAME** and **TESTFLDR.FOLDERNAME** database fields are now 250 characters, regardless of previous upgrades performed.
- **3203:** A scripting property for the **Historical Control Limits Visible** chart option is now available in the Report Designer.
- **3209:** The savings-related columns in the **Process Improvement Savings** report are now properly highlighted.
- **3222:** Exporting from the **Variable Analyzer to CWR** when one or more tag values are blank now results in the data being properly exported.
- **3319:** When data is being collected by an OLE application, the unique sequence of actions that unloaded a collection plan before displaying a **Prompt For Notes** and **Message Box** trigger when such a trigger should have been displayed no longer has this effect.
- **3395:** In multi-select mode, with a variable and attribute selected, the **Automatically prompt device** check box on the **Timed Data Collection** tab is enabled and should be disabled.
- **3404:** When collecting attribute data, pausing the ribbon by clicking in the **Total** field, editing the data, and then clicking **Done** now results in the edited data being saved to the database as expected.
- **3409:** When collecting attribute data, the following sequence of actions no longer generates an error: enter a **Lot Size** value; press **Enter**; click in the **Total** field and enter a value; click **Done**.
- **3429:** WinSPC can now be run on a Windows 8.1 client.
- **3440:** The specific circumstances that resulted in an **Out of Memory** error in the app server log when caching a large volume of data no longer cause that error.
- **3447:** When a user in **Data Collection** is logged out as a result of the **Automatic logout due to inactivity** interval specified on the **General** tab of the **System Settings** window in the **Administrator** window being exceeded, that user's session is now cleanly and fully terminated.

- **3487:** Device overrides configured on the *Station Setup* window's *Device Overrides* tab are no longer removed by a running of the *DBSweep* utility.
- **3488:** User-defined sample level control tests that involve an evaluation of spec limits (*Self.USL*, *Self.Target*, *Self.USL*) now properly evaluate those limits.