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1. Release Notes

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Version 1.1.0-beta Release Notes

The [Data Conservancy](#) is pleased to announce the second release of the Data Conservancy Software Archive (DCS Archive, formerly DCS) and the Data Conservancy Software Frontend (DCS Frontend, formerly DCS Reference UI), as well as the first release of the Data Conservancy Software Package Tools (DCS Package Tools). This is a **beta** release, still focused on core functionality. Future releases will include additional functionality and enhancements.

For more information about the Data Conservancy, its purposes, and goals, please visit the [Data Conservancy website](#) and read the [Data Conservancy Blueprint for Data Management](#)

Data Conservancy Software Archive (DCS Archive)

The DCS Archive is software designed with explicit support for storing, archiving, preserving, and curating scientific research data. Based on [service-oriented architecture \(SOA\)](#) principles, and comporting with the [Open Archival Information System \(OAIS\) Reference Model](#), the DCS Archive aims to provide a technology platform supporting data preservation, integration, and reuse.

Data Conservancy Software Frontend (DCS Frontend)

The DCS Frontend is a web-based application designed to meet the needs of data managers at [Johns Hopkins](#) and [partner Data Conservancy institutions](#). The Frontend supports basic features pertaining to data management, leveraging the capabilities of the DCS Archive to support data archiving and preservation.

Data Conservancy Software Package Tools (DCS Package Tools)

The DCS Package Tools are a set of standalone desktop applications designed to reduce the burden on data producers to organize, describe and deposit data one entity at a time via the DCS Frontend. The DCS Package Tools GUI allows data producers to interact with data in a more natural manner, using the familiar file and directory semantics.

Documentation

Documentation for this release is found [online](#). Users are encouraged to read the documentation, in order to understand the capabilities and limitations of this release.

There are four primary documents:

- The [System Administration Guide](#), targeted at systems administrators responsible for installing the DCS stack
- The [DCS Business Object Ontology](#), targeted at users of DCS Frontend and DCS Package Tools GUI.
- The [DCS Frontend](#), which includes Administration Guide and User Guide targeted at administrators and users of the DCS Frontend
- The [DCS Package Tools](#), which includes Administration Guide and User Guide targeted at users of the DCS Package Tools

The online documentation will be continually updated as errors are corrected and language is clarified. PDF versions of the documentation are also found [here](#) on the Data Conservancy website.

Developer documentation will be forthcoming in the form of maven sites.

Download

For current and past releases of the Data Conservancy Software please see the [Downloads](#) page.

Features and Limitations

DCS Archive

Under development since 2009, the DCS Archive provides a robust ingest framework, query interface, and an archival store abstraction over the [Fedora Repository](#). Events generated upon ingest provide a preservation-ready environment for data, facilitating future preservation activities. The Feature Extraction Framework provides an API for atomizing data, allowing its properties to be surfaced in novel ways. HTTP APIs provide entry points to the system, allowing developers and advanced users of the DCS Archive to perform ingests, queries of the DCS data model, and retrieval of system entities and data streams.

DCS Frontend

Under development since 2011, the Frontend provides a functional, browser-based, interface making interaction with the DCS Archive practical for data managers. The features for this release are still focused on functionality enabling deposit and retrieval of data with the addition of [package ingest](#) capability and a set of HTTP APIs which makes some functions of data deposit and retrieval machine actionable. There is minimal support for business concerns such as authentication and user management; robust support will be provided in future releases.

DCS Package Tools

Under development since 2013, the Package Tools provides a functional desktop based interface making organizing, describing and preparing data for deposit into the DCS Archive more feasible on a larger scale. The features for this release are focused on building and validating data package in a particular format (Bagit + ORE-ReM, detailed [here](#)). More user friendly features are anticipated to be included in future releases.

Limitations

This is a beta release, which means there are limitations with the system, including no guarantees of compatibility with future releases. The most severe manifestations of this limitation could be incompatibility of future APIs and data models, and the inability to migrate data deposited into the DCS from this release to the next.

Known Issues

Please see the [Known Issues](#) page.

1.1. Change Log

1.1.0-Beta

- Initial release of the Data Conservancy Packaging Tools
- The Data Conservancy Frontend now supports the ability to ingest packages of data, see the [DCS Packaging Specification](#) for more details.
- The Data Conservancy Frontend now supports anonymous collection browsing right from the home page of an instance.
- The Data Conservancy Frontend now supports the extraction of metadata from FGDC, TIFF, and JPEG metadata files.
- The Data Conservancy Frontend has added support for instance administrators to add new xml based metadata formats which metadata files can be validated against.
- The Data Conservancy Frontend now supports metadata file validation.
 - Instance administrators can add new metadata formats as well as test files against known formats in the instance administrator page.
 - All metadata files that assert to conform to a known metadata format will be validated against the format before being ingested into the system.
- The Data Conservancy Frontend has updated support for sub collections (currently sub collections can only be deposited through package ingest).
- The Data Conservancy Frontend has updated Data Items to support multiple Data Files (currently multi-file Data Items can only be deposited through package ingest).
- The Data Conservancy Frontend has added the ability to specify Metadata Files for all Data Items, Data Files, and Metadata Files

- (currently only available through package ingest).
- The Data Conservancy Frontend now has the ability to reset forgotten passwords.
- Various Bug Fixes and Enhancements

1.1.0-Alpha

- Initial release of the Data Conservancy Frontend and Data Conservancy Archive
- See documentation for detailed description of usage

3. Known Issues

There are a few known issues with the current release of DCS Software. This list represents the ones likely to be seen by administrators or end users of the software.

DCS Frontend

- Email notification is currently not sent to the depositor when files are deposited to a collection.
- On the package ingest page: if the session logs out while on the page, clicking ingest results in a Null Pointer Exception
- All dates should be entered with a four digit year, two digit years will be prefixed with 20.
- Metadata files don't have any metadata extraction performed when ingested as a package.
- Metadata files in a package that specify more than one metadata format (dcterms:format, dcterms:conformsTo) will not have their additional formats used by the reference UI.
- Subcollections currently can only be added through package ingest, however they can be viewed in the Frontend UI.
- Projects can not be added via package ingest.
- All top level Collections supplied in the package must belong to a Project that already exists in the system.
- When updating a file in a multi-file data item through the UI, the new version of the data item will have only that file in it (the other files in the original data file will not persist to the new version of the data item).

Package Tool GUI

- We do not handle all possible isPartOf or isMetadataFor relationships.
- The package tool GUI window can be made arbitrarily small.
- There can be a delay of a few seconds when generating package descriptions, or packages, for very large packages. The GUI does not yet indicate that it is busy working, and not frozen.
- The error message "Package does not include any or all required attribute(s) of name 'Manifest-Entry'" is a cryptic way of indicating that an expected file's checksum is missing from the BagIt manifest files.
- When Package Artifact is changed from one type to another, properties of the old types which are not valid on the new types get silently trimmed from the Package Description when Package Description is saved to file.
- When browsing a package description, sometimes rows disappear then reappear later

Technical Issues (Archive)

- There are SOLR warnings in the startup log.
- DROID signature files are not the most recent available.