NWA Quality Analyst Version 6.2
Update Notes from Version 6.1 or earlier
December 2010

NWA Quality Analyst Version 6.2 represents a significant new release of Quality Analyst, with several new features and changes in the underlying technologies. These notes discuss the issues involved in updating Quality Analyst 6.1 or older versions to this new version. A list of new features with references to the Quality Analyst Version 6.2 User's Manual is included at the end of this document.

As with previous major Quality Analyst releases, updating to Version 6.2 will, for the most part, be automatic and require little extra work by most Quality Analyst users.

NOTE: If you are installing a maintenance release of Quality Analyst Version 6.2 to replace an earlier release of Version 6.2, you should not use this document and should have received a set of notes specific to the maintenance release. Contact NWA Technical Support if you have questions or need a different document.

> *It is essential that you review the following material BEFORE updating to Version 6.2.* *Please contact Quality Analyst Technical Support if you have questions or concerns before proceeding with the update.*

NOTE: If you are updating from version 5.2 or earlier, you should also review the Quality Analyst 6.1 update notes, which may be requested by contacting your NWA Account Manager or Technical Support.

Contact NWA Quality Analyst Technical Support if you have questions (by phone at (503) 224-7727, email at 'qatech@nwasoft.com' or Fax at (503) 248-1735). Please have your Quality Analyst Serial Number handy when you call.

Activation Keys
Updating to Quality Analyst Version 6.2 requires a new "Activation Key", which was provided separately with download instructions or printed on the label on the Quality Analyst CD case. You will be prompted to enter the Activation Key when you first start Quality Analyst after installation. The activation key is different from that used for version 6.1 and earlier.

Updating Previous Versions

While much of the update process is automated, some planning will be necessary to ensure an uneventful conversion. Please review the following notes before proceeding with the update process.

Installing Version 6.2

Review the Quality Analyst 6.2 Installation Guide BEFORE installing. For best results, the following steps should be followed in order:

1. Review these update notes carefully
2. Review the Quality Analyst 6.2 **Installation Guide**
3. For a LAN installation, you will need to create a new Network Installation Point folder for QA 6.2 while retaining your existing QA 6.1 Network Installation Point to support the required uninstall. Once you have created the folder for the QA 6.2 Network Installation Point, run the LANAdmin install using that new Network Installation Point according to the instructions in the Installation Guide. Do NOT overwrite the QA 6.1 LAN Network Installation Point. Next, change the License Path in the new QA 6.2 configuration file (QAEDIT.CFG) to match the License Path in the 6.1 configuration file. You may then proceed to the QA workstation installs.
4. Uninstall your existing Quality Analyst using the Windows 'Add/Remove Programs' function. For LAN versions, uninstall each QA Workstation (you may need the Quality Analyst installation CD or the location of SETUP.MSI on your network). All existing Quality Analyst Data Sets will be retained.
5. Install the new Quality Analyst 6.2 according to the instructions in the **Installation Guide**.
6. If you are updating from a version **older than** 6.1, review your Quality Analyst Settings and change as described in the Version 6.1 Update Notes (available on request).

Icons and Start Menu entries

The install should create a Start Menu entry for Quality Analyst 6.2 and a shortcut icon on your desktop. If you have created additional shortcuts pointing to different "Start in" folders, you should remove the existing icons and create new ones.

Data Sets

Quality Analyst 6.2 will read existing Data Sets from Version 6.1 (the .DAT and .NWH files) and earlier versions (.DAT and .HED). It will automatically convert the older ".HED" format to ".NWH". Please contact NWA Technical Support if you have questions or concerns about the automatic conversion of your Data Sets.

Connections to External Databases

Data Sets that include database connectivity definitions will be automatically converted and should work without modification.

Run Files

The basic Run File syntax has not been changed, and Quality Analyst 6.2 can read and execute Run Files created for Quality Analyst Version 6.1 and earlier. However, there were minor syntax changes between Version 5.2 and 6.1 and although the newer versions of Quality Analyst read the older syntax, we recommend updating older Run Files to match the new syntax. If you are updating from Version 5.2 or older, request the Version 6.1 update notes from NWA.

Other Issues

Exchanging Data Sets with older versions

While Quality Analyst 6.2 will read Data Sets created by earlier versions, Version 5.2 and earlier will not be able to read Data Sets as created by Quality Analyst 6.2. However, 6.2 users can "Save as…" complete Data Sets in Quality Analyst 5.2 format. Select "**Save as Quality Analyst 5.2 HED file…**" from the **File** menu. Note that this may not work for Version 5.1 if parameters have been set that were new in Version 5.2. In this case and for earlier versions, the DAT portion of the Data Set can be read by any version of Quality Analyst.

Using Quality Analyst 6.2 with Quality Monitor Version 2.4

Quality Analyst Version 6.2 can be used with all releases of Quality Monitor Version 2.4. Users with earlier Quality Monitor Versions should update to the newest version before using Quality Analyst 6.2 to create or modify Data Sets. Note: If you are installing Quality Monitor 2.4 on a system that you plan to use Quality Analyst 6.2 on, install Quality Monitor before installing Quality Analyst 6.2.

Using Quality Analyst 6.2 with the Quality Analytics Server

Quality Analyst Version 6.2 is compatible with older releases of NWA Quality Analytics Server. The currently shipping release of NWA Quality Analytics Server uses Quality Analyst Version 6.2, but updating is not necessary.

Using Quality Analyst 6.2 with Quality Analyst Web Server

Quality Analyst Version 6.2 is compatible with older releases of NWA Quality Analyst Web Server. The currently shipping release of NWA Quality Analyst Web Server uses Quality Analyst Version 6.2, but updating is not necessary.

Running Version 6.2 and earlier versions of Quality Analyst on the same system

We do not recommend attempting to run Version 6.2 and older versions on the same system. Although it is possible to run both on the same system, you may experience unpredictable behavior.

License and User Count Paths
The QA configuration files are not modified by the install (or uninstall) procedure. For a LAN install updating from 6.1, if you are also going to change the license path or user count path for some reason, you will need to modify the configuration files on each workstation. The decision to change these paths is separate from moving to a newer version of QA; while you may choose to do both at the same time, it is certainly simpler to leave the configuration alone. (See "Specifying a License Path" in the **Installation Guide** for more details.)

Quality Analyst 6.2 New Features

NWA Quality Analyst Version 6.2 includes two new Analytics modules and several new and improved features. The following notes describe what is new and changed in Version 6.2. If you are on Maintenance, you will receive this update at no charge. Note that the new Analytics modules are "add-ons" and must be purchased. More information on this new version is available on the NWA website (www.nwasoft.com) or by contacting NWA Technical Support or your Account Manager. References to the User's Manual are in *italics*.

New Analytics Modules
Two new Analytics modules are now available. Both are purchased as add-ons to Quality Analyst Version 6.2. Contact your NWA Account Manager for purchasing information.

Multivariate SPC
The new Multivariate SPC module (MvSPC) provides an integrated approach to model building and routine creation of multivariate SPC charts. The module was developed in cooperation with Infometrix, and requires the use of their Pirouette ® software to create the models used by Quality Analyst. The model-building process uses standard Quality Analyst Data Sets, and Pirouette is only required for individuals involved in model development. Any Quality Analyst user licensed for MvSPC can create multivariate SPC charts (T-Squared and SPE) in the same way as other SPC charts are created *(see the section starting at page 154)*.

Stability/Shelf-life Analysis and Prediction
The new Stability Analytics module provides ANCOVA-based Stability and Shelf-life analysis and prediction that meets the published FDA/ICH guidelines for Shelf Life prediction in Pharmaceuticals/Life Sciences. The new component is fully integrated with Quality Analyst, providing users with the full range of database connectivity, analysis, and reporting capabilities *(see the section starting at page 429)*.

New Technology

Quality Analyst 6.2 now incorporates a new, fully validated 32-bit calculation engine for SPC charting and analysis. This new component improves performance, especially for large data sets and repeated use of the same data, and allows us to add capabilities not possible with the older SPC engine used in previous versions. The new components also run directly on 64-bit Windows (Vista, Windows 7) without using "XP Mode" as required by previous releases.

General Improvements

Breakdown Function

A new "breakdown" function allows users to quickly and easily compare analyses for different sources of data (shifts, machines, vendors, lots of material, etc.) or timeframes (days, weeks, months, quarters, years). Quality Analyst produces the requested analysis for each distinct item found in the "breakdown" variable. The charts are set to a common scale and arranged in a graphics group to aid comparisons *(see the section starting at page 104)*.

Automatic Min/Max Tag Function

This new function allows users to set fixed Minimum and Maximum values for each variable. QA will automatically tag values above the Max and below the Min when opening Data Sets. This is particularly useful for Data Sets connected to external data sources that can contain "bad" values, eliminating the need to tag them manually *(see page 60)*.

Graphics Viewer Improvements

The right-click menu of functions has been expanded. Users can now launch external documents when clicking on a point in an SPC chart. This allows QA to be configured to deliver SOP or similar documents for users to review when evaluating out-of-control points or pattern rule violations *(see pages 64 and 250)*. Users can also click on a point on a chart and "jump" to the corresponding row in the Data Editor *(see the section starting at page 249)*.

Run File Wizard Improvements

The Run File Wizard now offers the user the option of displaying the current Run File in Notepad for direct editing. This allows creation and modification of more complex Run Files within the Wizard, simplifying the addition of functions such as "Ask" not offered by the Wizard. A new "Test" button executes the Run File without requiring the user to leave the Wizard, simplifying and speeding up Run File testing and debugging.

Updated Connectivity to MS Office

Quality Analyst 6.2 can connect directly to Office 2007 files. Due to changes in how Microsoft implemented direct connections for Office 2007, previous versions of Quality Analyst could not connect directly to Excel and Access files created in Office 2007.

Expanded Mouse Function Support

Quality Analyst 6.2 provides more support for mouse functions such as right-click functions and use of the mouse wheel for scrolling in the Data Editor and most forms. Previous versions did not support the mouse wheel and had limited right-click options. Also, editor functions such as tag, untag, cut, copy, and paste can now be performed on selected groups of cells using right-click options.

Improved AC/CA List Management

The Settings editor used to create master lists of Assignable Causes and Corrective Actions has been improved to allow direct editing and copy/paste for entries and easier list organization *(see the section starting at page 62).*

Problems Resolved

The following problems have been resolved in Version 6.2. Please contact NWA Technical Support if you have questions.

Charting
Westgard Pattern Rules W44s & R4s now correctly trigger for data below the centerline.

Problems creating Attribute charts when no data is present have been resolved.

Data Handling / Utilities
Non-ASCII characters are now handled properly when exporting to CSV format.

Text with commas is now handled properly when exporting to CSV format.

Database Connectivity
Quality Analyst can now directly connect to Microsoft Office 2007 files (Excel) and databases (Access). Previous versions could not connect to the Office 2007 default file formats.

A problem that could cause different behavior between connections from Quality Analyst and QA Run Files when using a File DSN to connect with specification databases has been corrected.

The special interface form for creating connections to Wonderware Industrial SQL Server (Historian) no longer loses focus while in use.

Data Editor
The **File, Print…** function now supports both Landscape and Portrait modes. The previous version only printed in Portrait.

Changing Variables when setting Cusum V-mask parameters could occasionally blank out values. This has been corrected.

Exception Reports
"Rainbow" zone colors are now retained on repeated viewings of a chart from Exception Reports. The previous version only included the Rainbow colors when the chart was first displayed.

The Exception Report routine (QAEXCEPT.EXE) now accepts the "$DATA=" command line argument.

Graphics
Long comments are no longer truncated in the Graphics Viewer "Detail" window.

Charts with "call-outs" can now be dropped into Groups.

Run Files
$NODISPLAY now suppresses all screen activity, including error messages and progress bars.

The Run File Wizard now accommodates lines longer than 1024 characters.

MR Charts with insufficient data no longer generate an error.

Statistics
Problems with Boxplot statistics labeling have been corrected.

The "% above/below Specifications" values will no longer occasionally be displayed in Scientific Notation.

System Issues
Regional date settings with "non-slash" separators now work correctly with the "Last 'n' Days" and "Last 'n' Months" connectivity filters.

In Version 6.1, using a system with a default printer set to a network printer could slow down program loading if the printer's network was not available. This has been corrected.