CommonSpot 10.9.0 Release Notes

Paper | Thin

About this Document

This document summarizes the following for the CommonSpot 10.9.0 release:
- Enhancements
- Notable Bug Fixes
- Important Notes
- Special Upgrade Offer

For detailed instructions about installing CommonSpot, see the current release of the *CommonSpot Installation Guide*.

For detailed instructions about upgrading from a previous version of CommonSpot, see the current release of the *CommonSpot Upgrade Guide*. Review carefully all Pre-Upgrade instructions.

⚠ **NOTE**: Before installing or upgrading to this release, review all other Release Notes documents from your current version of CommonSpot to this version. For example, if you are upgrading from version 10.0.2, please refer to all CommonSpot 10.5.x, 10.6.x, and 10.7.x Release Notes, as well as this document.

Notable Bug Fixes

The following issues found in earlier CommonSpot releases are resolved in this release:

Advanced Search

- Template and Page (Document) category IDs may be interpreted incorrectly, resulting in unexpected search results and incorrect usage warnings

Cache Files

- 'Stale' cache may be discarded before the configured retention time
- Errors may occur after updating or removing a metadata form, particularly if the form is bound to a page category.

Clusters

- In a shared-database configuration, authors may experience significant performance degradation after a large number of pages is updated (such as when a template is updated).

Command API

- Calls to the API method Subsite.getInfo() may fail in isolated circumstances.

Custom Element

- Users may encounter errors when attempting to revert a local custom element to a previous version.
- Inconsistent data may remain after using the 'Check Form Record Consistency' tool
- In some situations, custom element data fields with 'list' values (multi-checkbox, multi-select, etc) may become corrupted when copied, resulting in inconsistent query results (i.e. custom elements using content reuse, or page indexes using metadata fields), and may result in replication failures for installations using the 'replication' feature.

  This update also includes a new utility which can be used to fix data inconsistencies with these fields. This utility can be accessed from the 'Site Administration' page - expand the 'Utilities' section and select the 'Site Tools' option - This new utility is titled 'Fix List Data in Custom Elements and Metadata'
- When using manual selection for custom element records, the values passed to the render handler may be missing values for the 'DateAdded' and 'DateApproved' fields, as well as author metadata

Custom Script Element

- Errors in custom script elements may not be logged with adequate detail.

DashBoard

- Sites with certain combinations of pages and templates with 'broken links' may encounter a crash in the 'page tools' tab of the CommonSpot interface
- An incorrectly-handled error condition may allow arbitrary JavaScript code to be executed in a cross-site-scripting (XSS) attack.

Datasheet Element

- Sorting in a datasheet element may not work as expected
- If a default sort order is specified, users may not be able to select a different column for sorting.
- Selecting a sort order by clicking on a column header does not update the URL, so users are unable to include sorting in any bookmarks created for the datasheet page.

Exception Handling

- Error emails sent by CommonSpot may have malformed 'from' address

Hooks

- JavaScript resources loaded by a custom 'inactive page' hook may not load correctly
- pre- and post- delete hooks for custom element instances (pre-delete-formrecord-hook.cfm and post-delete-formrecord-hook.cfm) may not be called when a global custom element instance is deleted

Image Gallery

- Image uploads may fail with older ColdFusion releases

Images

- On large sites, the 'Quick Find' feature may take an excessive amount of time to return results, particularly for image searches. This may result in time-out errors.

Link Management

- Errors may occur when submitting changes or validating links on installations using Adobe ColdFusion
- 'Top of document' bookmark links may not work as expected

Login

- After a successful login, the user may be sent to the home page instead of being returned to the initially-requested page
- Errors in after--login modules may not be handled correctly
- If the 'after--logout.cfm' hook is used, an error is logged if the customized code attempts to output JavaScript to set the URL the browser should be redirected to after completion of the logout action.

  'after--logout.cfm' modules should be updated to eliminate all WriteOutput calls and CFOutput tags. The post-logout destination can now be specified by setting 'Caller.targetURL' in the after--logout module to the desired URL (using either an assignment in a CFScript block or a CFSet tag)

Other

- In search results dialogs where an 'open in new window' option is provided, the provided link may not work as expected.
- When specifying a 'date' filter in some dialogs, users may encounter an error when switching the selection back to 'none' after specifying a date.
- When editing a user account, checking the 'password change' checkbox (intended to force the user to change password at next login) may not force the user to change their password.
- A page or document which is known to be a redirect target cannot be deleted

Page Metadata

- Users cannot create content with an expiration date in the past, and cannot update certain metadata regarding expired content

Page Properties and Expiration

- Expired page handling may be bypassed if the page URL includes the parameter 'cs_forceReadMode=1', possibly resulting in unexpected availability of expired content.

Pubtools

- The 'fix spaces in filenames' utility may result in data corruption if one or more renamed objects are referenced by fields in a custom element or metadata form

Rich Text Editor

- Flash object support is now fully removed in the rich-text editor.
- The rich-text editor 'CKEditor' may not be loaded from the expected location, possibly resulting in errors when editing formatted textblock elements and formatted text fields in custom elements.

Replication

- Email notifications for errors which occur on a read-only server while applying a replication packet may not be sent correctly, so administrators may not be notified.
- Errors may be encountered with replication packets containing user contact updates.

Responsive Design

- Users may encounter a JavaScript error when attempting to updated classes applied to a grid row
- Additional styles applied to rows in a grid layout may not render correctly

Scheduled Jobs

- The 'Reindex Subsites' scheduled job may pause and fail to resume when used with large collections
- No warning is given if the server's IP address (or alias) does not resolve to the correct instance. This is a common cause of background task failures

Schema Update

- String fields in MySQL databases may have inconsistent 'collation' attributes, which may interfere with view creation

Search Results Element

- In 'Featured Search Results', the 'Filename' field may be displayed even when it is not selected for display.

Security

- In certain error situations, anonymous users may see debugging information which should be restricted to developers only
- Mitigated 'spell-jacking' exposure for sensitive input fields such as passwords and user IDs.

Server Administration

- In a 'hosting customer' configuration (with two or more 'customer' or 'users' databases), certain customer-level updates may corrupt the in-memory cache of customer-level configuration data, requiring a restart of the ColdFusion (or Lucee) service.
- Administrators attempting to disable authoring for an entire server (from Server Administration page) may encounter an error.

Spell Check

- Spell check option is unavailable for several element types.

Stub Files

- Template stub files may not be updated after a template change is published, possibly requiring manual action (cache clears and/or stub rebuilds) for all template updates to be visible on all derived pages.
- In rare cases, one or more pages may error out after being updated, requiring a manual rebuild of 'stub' files.
- Error may occur when rebuilding stub files for 'soft' templates
- A shared-database read-only server may occasionally become unresponsive when a certain combination of load and stub file updates from the authoring server is encountered.

Template Management

- If a site has more than 50 templates, users may have trouble locating the correct template when creating a new page.

Transaction Logging

- After upgrading CommonSpot, transaction log data for pre-upgrade events may be corrupted

Version History

- When reviewing version history for a page, users may be unable to select the first version of an element, particularly if the element exists on a template

Enhancements

Release 10.9.0 includes the following enhancements:

Cache Files

- Several types of cache operations have been optimized for improved performance. For example, in earlier CommonSpot releases, a change to a template required updates to status records for all affected pages. With this release, those individual record updates are no longer required.

Custom Element

- When using the data browser to view Local Custom Element data, users now have links to the pages where the elements are defined.
- A new API is now available for adding and updating global custom elements.

Customizing CommonSpot

- Added capability for customers to extend various commands in order to implement custom before/after logic. Additional information is available in the 'Customizing Commands' section of the Developer's Guide
- Added the ability to extend certain permissions (via temporary group membership) to users of specific scripts. This allows (for example) a script to add a global custom element record even if the user running the script would otherwise not have rights to do so.

Full-Text Search (Featured Search Terms)

- Page authors have a new option 'Featured Search Terms...' under the 'Manage' menu. This allows users to see which (if any) search results pages refer to the current page as a 'featured' result.

Infrastructure

- Data storage for previous (or 'history') data has been separated from the 'main' data store, resulting in improved performance (particularly on large sites) for page index elements, custom metadata searches, and various custom element operations. Ad hoc deletion of 'history' data will now have no effect on performance for viewing current or work-in-progress content.

Scheduled Jobs

- Scheduled Jobs dialogs now show the name of the job owner.

User Administration

- Administrators are now able to specify parameters which user passwords must satisfy (minimum length, special characters, digits, etc).
- A new API is also available for customizing password rules, password encryption, user authentication, and account validation.

Version History

- Changes listed in version history for a page now indicate if the change was made on the page itself or on a template the page derives from.

Important Notes

The following describes issues that may affect the operation of your CommonSpot site. Please review these notes before installing or upgrading to this release.

JVM Settings for ColdFusion

The following should be added to the 'java.args' assignment in the 'jvm.config' settings file (located in the {cf_root_dir}/cfusion/bin directory):

```
-Dlog4j.ignoreTCL=true
```

This will eliminate a large number of 'log4j' errors in the 'coldfusion-out.log' error log.

Update SOLR Instance(s) to 8.11.2

Due to reported vulnerabilities in the log4j utility libraries, Use of Solr 8.11.0 or earlier is not recommended for production environments. The latest Solr installer can be downloaded from https://solr.apache.org. Please note that Solr 9.0 is NOT supported with this CommonSpot release

Other Upgrades Required for this CommonSpot Release

- The minimum JVM version for all installations is 11.0.16
- If your instance is using ColdFusion 2021, Updater 5 (or later) is required
- If your instance is using ColdFusion 2018, Updater 15 (or later) is required
- Lucee installations must upgrade to Lucee 5.3.9.160

Review Uses of 'Duplicate()' and 'clone()' in Custom Code

Objects returned by CommonSpot command methods should not be passed to the CFML 'Duplicate()' method. In previous CommonSpot releases, the recommended replacement for 'Duplicate()' was to use the underlying 'clone()' method instead - For example, replace

       objCopy = Duplicate(sourceObj);

with

       objCopy = sourceObj.clone();

As of the January, 2022 releases of CommonSpot (10.8.1, 10.7.2, and 10.6.4), the implementation of clone() for CommonSpot objects has been updated to return a 'shallow' copy instead (more like the CFML StructCopy() method), so these calls should be updated to use a new method provided by CommonSpot:

       objCopy = Server.CommonSpot.deepCopy(sourceObj);

This new method is more robust against crashes caused by circular references, and has more consistent results when the source object contains multiple references to one or more members.

ADF Updates

The Application Development Framework (ADF) has been updated to version 2.6.3. This update can be downloaded from https://community.paperthin.com/projects/ADF/index.cfm. Please be sure to review the release notes (https://community.paperthin.com/projects/ADF/docs/release-notes/Release-Notes-v2-6-3.cfm)

Also, the PT Blog and PT Social Media apps have been updated since the last CommonSpot releases. Upgrade instructions and release notes are here:
Blogs App: https://community.paperthin.com/adf-docs/index.php/Blogs
Social Media App: https://community.paperthin.com/adf-docs/index.php/PT_Social_Media

If you are upgrading from an earlier CommonSpot release (10.8.0, for example), you should also review the ADF projects page https://community.paperthin.com/adf-docs/index.php/View_All and verify that you have the latest versions of any ADF applications you are using.

Run Upgrade & Other Utilities

All releases require running /commonspot/upgrade/ to reset factory data, database indexes, and database functions. Then restart ColdFusion/Lucee.

PaperThin also recommends the following:
- Clear Browser Cache
  - Instruct all users to clear browser cache. This step is required for using the Rich Text Editor in CommonSpot as well as native dialogs.
- Rebuild Stub Files
  - You should run the Rebuild Stub Files update utility. See Site Administration - Utilities - Rebuild Stub Files.
- Rebuild Cache
  - This update may result in outdated cache files. For best results, schedule a Rebuild Cache job to run periodically to make sure that even the oldest cache files are reasonably current. See Server Administration - Utilities - Server Scheduled Jobs.

Other Notes

Read *all* interim release notes. This is particularly important if you are upgrading from a release earlier than 9.0.5. Interim release notes document important changes to system and configuration requirements, browser and server cache handling, scheduled jobs, text handling, and performance considerations. Read all Release Notes starting with versions greater than your current version including 9.0.5, 10.0.x, 10.5.x, 10.6.x, 10.7.x and 10.8.x which are available from:
http://www.paperthin.com/support/knowledgebase/doclibrary/index.cfm

Note that all issues noted as resolved in the 10.8.2 release notes are also resolved in the 10.9 release.

Recommendations and requirements for ColdFusion, Lucee, and MySQL settings can be found here:
https://www.paperthin.com/support/knowledgebase/articles/configuration-settings.cfm
https://www.paperthin.com/support/knowledgebase/articles/lucee-requirements.cfm
https://www.paperthin.com/support/knowledgebase/articles/Supported-MySQL-Versions.cfm

If you have custom code using CommonSpot variables, review updates to deprecated values on the PaperThin Support site for all releases. Please visit:
https://www.paperthin.com/support/knowledgebase/deprecated-variables.cfm