

What's New ?

This document describes the new features, enhancements and corrections that apply to the release of Version II of Natural Single Point of Development (SPoD).

The following topics are covered:

- New Features
 - Enhancements
 - Support of Object Type Function in SPoD Environments
 - Documentation
 - End of Maintenance
 - Information on Upcoming Releases
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New Features

Version II of Natural Single Point of Development provides various new features:

- New Features in Natural Studio (Development Client)
- New Plug-ins for the Development Client
- New Remote Development Servers

New Features in Natural Studio (Development Client)

A new version of Natural Studio as part of Natural Version 6 for Windows is released simultaneously with SPoD Version II. It features various new functions to further enhance the remote access to the character-based Natural application development environments.

For detailed information, refer to the Natural Version 6 Release Notes for Windows.

New Plug-ins for the Development Client

In addition to the Natural X-Ref Evaluation plug-in (former XRef GUI Client), the following pluggable extras integrating the functionality of the products Predict, Natural Construct and Natural ISPF are available:

- **Object Description plug-in**
Using Object Description you can manipulate and retrieve data stored by Predict on the server. Object Description is available as an optional plug-in unit for Natural Studio. Predict must be installed in the remote development environment.
- **Schema Generation plug-in**
External objects can be generated with Predict on the server or with Schema Generation in Windows. Both have access to the same data. Schema Generation is available as an optional plug-in unit for Natural Studio. A wizard is provided which enables you to easily generate DDMs as well as schema definitions for Adabas and DB2. The generation of Adabas and (on mainframe platforms) DB2 structures is supported. This includes generation of the following: Adabas files, DB2 storage groups, DB2 databases, DB2 tablespaces, DB2 tables/views, DDMs for Natural, and activation of automatic processing rules. Predict must be installed in the remote development environment.
- **Construct Program Generation plug-in**
Natural programs can be generated with Natural Construct on the server or with Program Generation in Windows. Both have access to the same data. Program Generation is available as an optional plug-in unit for Natural Studio. A wizard is provided which enables you to easily generate Natural programs. Natural Construct must be installed in the remote development environment.
- **Mainframe System Navigation plug-in**

Mainframe Navigation allows you to access and manipulate objects which are stored on a mainframe. These objects include PDS libraries and members, load modules, sequential datasets, as well as system objects such as active jobs, the console, etc. under the OS390, z/OS, BS2000/OSD or VSE/ESA operating system. Mainframe objects are displayed in a tree structure and can be listed, browsed and edited with a Windows-like user interface. In order to use this plug-in, ISPF must be installed on the mainframe.

- **Metrics and XRef Viewing**

Metrics and XREF Viewing is a new plug-in which allows you to display industry standard metric information (e.g. Halstead and McCabe) about your Natural Objects. In addition, you can see all referenced objects for a particular Natural object and optionally all data items used by the object. This data is presented in a recursive fashion. The Natural objects are displayed in a tree structure. Natural Engineer (Version 4.4.2 or above) repository which may reside on a mainframe or a PC is required.

For detailed information, refer to the corresponding plug-in documentation.

New Remote Development Servers

In addition to the Natural Development Server (NDV) for OS/390, the following new remote development server products are available:

- Natural Development Server for VSE/ESA
- Natural Development Server CICS Adapter for OS/390 and VSE/ESA
- Natural Development Server for UNIX

For detailed information, refer to the corresponding Natural Development Server documentation.

Enhancements

- XRef Evaluation
- Application Wizard

XRef Evaluation

In order to use this plug-in, Predict must be installed on the Natural Development Server.

The XRef Evaluation plug-in (former XRef GUI Client) now features additional functionality:

- cancel by <ESC> key;
- filter support;
- support of application;
- scope in result view;
- support of object type function;
- configuration node;
- options dialog;
- support of library structure;
- support of language code;
- refresh of XRef views;
- earlier recognition of recursion;
- optional expansion of recursion;
- remember toolbar position;
- online help

XRef Evaluation is available as an optional plug-in unit for Natural Studio. When the generation of cross-reference data is activated, the Natural compiler provides cross-reference (XRef) data created during CAT or STOW commands in the development server file.

XRef Evaluation evaluates this data with respect to your environmental settings, for example your logon library. It enables you to retrieve and display this essential development and maintenance information conveniently in Natural Studio. You can easily navigate through the analysis result output in tree views or list views.

See the XRef Evaluation and the SPoD documentation for further details.

Application Wizard

The application wizard is a tool to handle applications as a simple alternative to the application workspace. The application wizard can be used to add, copy, rename and modify applications. Linking and unlinking Natural objects to/from an application is also possible.

Support of Object Type Function in SPoD Environments

Natural Version 6.1 for Windows and UNIX enables the creation and execution of Natural objects of type Function. The source objects of type Function can be stored in a Natural system file on mainframe computers, but execution of such objects is not possible. Similar to source objects of type Dialog, the following functionality is supported:

- Sources of object type Function can be moved or copied to a remote mainframe environment by using copy-and-paste or drag-and-drop functionality.
- Objects of type Function existing in a remote mainframe environment are displayed in the tree view of the mapped environment.
- Remote editing and saving of objects of type Function is allowed.
- It is not possible to check, catalog and stow objects of type Function in a remote mainframe environment.

With Natural Development Server Version 1.1.5 or below, source objects of type Function existing in a remote mainframe environment are not displayed in the tree view of the mapped environment. Such objects cannot be moved or copied to a remote mainframe environment by using copy-and-paste or drag-and-drop functionality.

Documentation

The following changes and enhancement have been made to the documentation:

- The Natural Single Point of Development documentation has been revised and updated.
- The documentation of the plug-ins has been made available as online help.
- The Natural Development Server documentation has been restructured and updated.

End of Maintenance

The end of maintenance for SPoD is connected to the end of maintenance of the following related products:

- Natural for Mainframes Version 3.1.6
- Natural for Windows Version 5.1.1
- Predict Version 4.2.2
- Natural Development Server Version 1.1.3 ends on December 31, 2003.
- Natural Development Server Version 1.1.4 ends on March 31, 2004.
- Natural Development Server Version 1.1.5 ends on November 31, 2004.

Extensions of the maintenance, if any, will be published via ServLine24 (<http://servline24.softwareag.com>).

Software AG strongly recommends, that you migrate to the current versions of the related products as soon as possible.

Information on Upcoming Releases

The Natural Development Server for BS2000/OSD is scheduled to be released in the first quarter of the year 2004.