Media Server

Software Version 12.1.0

Release Notes

Micro Focus

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Documentation updates

The title page of this document contains the following identifying information:
- Software Version number, which indicates the software version.
- Document Release Date, which changes each time the document is updated.
- Software Release Date, which indicates the release date of this version of the software.

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Many areas of the portal require you to sign in with a Software Passport. If you need a Passport, you can create one when prompted to sign in. To learn about the different access levels the portal uses, see the Access Levels descriptions.

Contents

New in this Release

This section lists the enhancements to Media Server version 12.1.0.

Media Server Core

- Training for speech-to-text (custom language models), speaker identification, and audio matching is now stored in the Media Server database, so that it can be shared between multiple Media Servers. If you are upgrading from Media Server 12.0, see the upgrade notes for additional upgrade steps.

- Macros that produce time values now support local time, in addition to UTC time. For example, you can use the macro `%currentTime.local.iso8601%`.

- Some analysis engines support a new configuration parameter, `MaxInputQueueLength`. You can use this parameter to place a limit on latency. In some cases, such as a number plate recognition system installed in a police car, it is extremely important to have low latency. However, setting this parameter means that in complex sections of video with lots of activity, Media Server might be forced to discard video frames that could otherwise have been processed. Setting this parameter can therefore reduce accuracy and reduce the number of events that are identified. Micro Focus recommends that you explore alternatives before setting this parameter. For example, if your Media Server has sufficient resources, you could configure it to process multiple video frames concurrently.

- The `[AuthorizationRoles]` section `StandardRoles` configuration parameter now accepts an asterisk (`*`) to represent all standard roles, so that you can easily set permissions for all roles.

- When importing parameters into your configuration file from another configuration file, you can use wildcards to select the parameters to include.

Ingest

- The video ingest engine has a new configuration parameter, `RTSPTransport`, so that you can choose the transport protocol to use when the source is an RTSP stream.

- When you ingest video from Milestone XProtect Corporate and the camera produces multiple streams, you can now choose which stream to ingest. Specify the camera UUID and stream ID when you set the `source` parameter in the `process` action, for example:

```
action=process&source=id:camera_uuid,streamid:stream_id
            &configname=...
```

Analysis

- You can train your own recognizers for object class recognition, in addition to importing pre-trained recognizers supplied by Micro Focus. To train your own recognizers you must have a supported GPU and enable GPU acceleration as described in the *Media Server Administration Guide*.

- Audio matching produces deterministic results, more accurate scores, and outputs results with less latency.

- When you retrain a custom language model (by running the action `TrainCustomSpeechLanguageModel`), any resources that include the custom language model are automatically reloaded. Speech-to-text tasks begin using an updated language resource automatically following a short pause and without missing any audio. This means that if you are processing live television news broadcasts, you can improve speech-to-text performance by updating the custom language model based on current events, without needing to stop and restart the processing task.

- Media Server has actions that you can use to assess whether a speech-to-text language pack, optionally combined with a custom language model, is suitable for processing your audio. You can use the information returned by these actions to decide whether to perform additional training. The actions are `AssessSpeechLanguageModel` and `QuerySpeechLanguageModel`.

- A new speech-to-text language pack is available for telephony audio: English - South African. Language packs are not included with Media Server but you can download them from the MySupport portal.

- The following speech-to-text language packs have been improved:

Broadband	
Danish	DADK
English - Generic	ENXX
Greek	ELGR
Polish	PLPL
Swedish	SVSE
Turkish	TRTR

Telephony	
English - British	ENUK-tel
English - Irish	ENIE-tel
English - US	ENUS-tel
Farsi	FAIR-tel
Greek	ELGR-tel
Hungarian	HUHU-tel
Flemish	NLBE-tel

Polish	`PLPL-tel`
Romanian	`RORO-tel`
Slovak	`SKSK-tel`
Swedish	`SVSE-tel`

- Media Server can perform transcript alignment, through the new action `AlignAudioTranscript`. Transcript alignment takes a transcript of the speech in a media file and, by processing the speech, assigns timestamps to all the words in the transcript. This is useful because it allows an application to provide search results from the transcript and open the media file at the correct position.

- The output tracks for Language ID are more consistent with other analysis engines. The Language ID engine now produces `Result` and `SegmentedResult` tracks. The `SegmentedResult` track is similar to the `Result` track in previous versions of Media Server because it contains records that represent a single audio segment. Records in the `Result` track can now span multiple audio segments, if the identified language is the same.

- Language ID can run in open-set mode, which means that it can return "unknown" if the language is not identified with sufficient confidence. To configure this set the new configuration parameter `ClosedSet` to `false`.

- Language ID and Speaker ID support the `OutputIdentities` parameter, so that you can choose which types of results appear in the output. For example, you can configure language identification to output a result only when the language is unknown, or configure speaker identification to output a result only when the speaker is recognized.

- Number plate recognition reads additional information from some Japanese number plates. In addition to the main read, Media Server now provides a plate type code, sub-read, and state (prefecture) for some plates.

Output

- Media Server can output results to an IDOL Content component or CFS that has been configured to communicate over SSL. To enable this, set the configuration parameter `SSLConfig` in the IDOL or CFS output task.

- Media Server can output results to an IDOL Content component that is deployed in an environment that uses Kerberos authentication. To enable this, set the new configuration parameter `GssServiceName` in the IDOL output task.

- The HTTP POST output engine can now send data over SSL, supports various types of authentication (Basic, Digest, NTLM, and Kerberos), and can send data through a proxy server.

Resolved Issues

This section lists the resolved issues in Media Server version 12.1.0.

- The action `LoadSpeechLanguageResource` could return an error even when the resource was loaded correctly.

- The final result from speaker identification could have an end time before the end of the audio.

- An issue with the calculation of speaker ID scores could lead to poor estimates for speaker thresholds. This issue has been resolved and Micro Focus recommends re-estimating the thresholds for your existing speaker ID models. You can do this with the action `EstimateAllSpeakerThresholds`.

- Speaker identification could use invalid thresholds when the thresholds were set manually.

- Temporary files created by speech-to-text, speaker identification, language identification, audio matching, and audio categorization were not deleted until Media Server was stopped.

- Audio categorization could fail with the error "Error encountered while waiting for engines to finish".

- Media Server could terminate unexpectedly when processing some bitmap (.bmp) files.

- JavaScript could be injected into the `GetRequestLog` response by sending actions to the server.

The following issues were resolved in Media Server version 12.0.1 and are also resolved in Media Server 12.1.0:

- Media Server could terminate unexpectedly when processing asynchronous actions.

Supported Operating System Platforms

The following operating system platforms are supported by Media Server 12.1.0.

- Windows x86 64

- Linux x86 64

The documented platforms are the recommended and most fully tested platforms for Media Server. The following sections provide more information about the most fully tested versions of these platforms.

Windows

- Windows Server 2016

- Windows Server 2012

- Windows Server 2008

- Windows 7

Linux

The minimum recommended versions of particular distributions are:

- CentOS 6

- Ubuntu 14.04

Supported Platforms with GPU support

The following operating system platforms are supported by Media Server 12.1.0 with GPU support.

- Windows x86 64

- Linux x86 64

The most fully tested versions of these platforms are:

Windows

- Windows Server 2012 R2

Linux

- Ubuntu 16.04

- Ubuntu 14.04

Notes

This section contains information that is important if you are upgrading from an earlier version of Media Server.

- Training for speech-to-text (custom language models), speaker identification, and audio matching is now stored in the Media Server database. If you have trained Media Server 12.0 and want to use the training with Media Server 12.1, additional steps are required before and after you upgrade:

  - **Speech-to-text custom language models**. Before you upgrade Media Server, export each of your custom language models using the action `ExportCustomSpeechLanguageModel`. After upgrading to Media Server 12.1, import each model using the action `ImportCustomSpeechLanguageModel`.

  - **Speaker Identification**. Before you upgrade Media Server, export each of your speaker databases using the action `ExportSpeakerDatabase` with the action parameter `ExportData=TRUE`. After upgrading to Media Server 12.1, import each database using the action `ImportSpeakerDatabase`.

  - **Audio matching**. Before you upgrade Media Server, export each of your audio match databases using the action `ExportAudioMatchDatabase`. After upgrading to Media Server 12.1, import each database using the action `ImportAudioMatchDatabase`.

- Setting the OCR configuration parameter `ContextCheck` to `false` no longer disables custom dictionaries specified by the parameter `UserDictonary`.

- All accented letters have been removed from the default English OCR character set. If you expect your media to include these characters you can enable them by setting the `Whitelist` configuration parameter.

New Database Schema

- The Media Server database schema has changed. If you are using an internal database, the schema upgrade is performed automatically when you start the new version of Media Server. If you are using an external PostgreSQL or MySQL database you must run an upgrade script, which is included in the Media Server 12.1.0 installation. For more information about upgrading the database schema, refer to the *Media Server Administration Guide*.

Deprecated Features

Category	Deprecated Feature	Deprecated Since
Analysis engines	Event tracks. The analysis engines that produce event tracks now have `Start` and `End` tracks. The `Start` and `End` tracks are the same as the `Data` track, but they only contain the first or last record for each event. This means that the records describing	12.0.0

	the start and end of events now have the same schema as records that provide the analysis results.	
Scene Analysis	The configuration parameters `IsasTrainingDirectory` and `IsasAlarmDirectory`. Micro Focus recommends that you use the parameters `SceneAnalysisTrainingDirectory` and `SceneAnalysisAlarmDirectory` instead.	12.0.0
Server / Service	The `AdminClients`, `QueryClients`, `ServiceControlClients`, and `ServiceStatusClients` configuration parameters. Micro Focus recommends that you use authorization roles instead.	11.5.0
Rolling buffer	The action parameter `name`, available on the actions `AddStream`, `EditStream`, `GetStreamInfo`, `PreAllocateStorage`, and `RemoveStream`. Micro Focus recommends that you use the parameter `stream`, instead. The action parameters `OldName` and `NewName`, on the action `RenameStream`. Micro Focus recommends that you use the parameters `Stream` and `NewStream` instead.	11.4.0

Removed Features

The following features have been removed:

- The actions `ExportCustomSpeechLanguageModel`, `ExportSpeakerDatabase`, and `ExportAudioMatchDatabase`. Training for audio analysis is now stored in the Media Server database, which can be shared between multiple servers.

Documentation

The following documentation was updated for this release.

- *Media Server Administration Guide*

- *Media Server Reference*

- *Media Server Scene Analysis Training Technical Note*