

Release Notes

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Fedora 3.5 Release Notes

Release Date: August 18, 2011:

We are proud to announce the release of Fedora 3.5. Although a minor release, this version includes a number of exciting new features and bug fixes that make Fedora an ever more compelling repository platform.

You are encouraged to download this new release and give it a spin. Please let us have your comments and feedback via the mailing lists, and of course please let us know of any problems you discover.

Some of the important new features are:

- **Spring-based configuration.** Fedora has adopted [Spring](#) as a means of configuring its internal components. This move to a modern, enterprise-grade framework offers greater flexibility for integrating repository components, and allows Fedora to more easily adapt to challenging deployment environments. While `fedora.fcfcfg` is considered deprecated as of this release, due to time constraints some module configuration has not yet been moved out of `fedora.fcfcfg` and into native spring xml. See also [Spring Configuration](#) in the documentation.
- **Standard WAR file distribution.** Fedora runtime configuration has moved entirely outside of the WAR file, allowing a single standardized war file to be included in each release. This allows bugfix releases to be distributed and applied in a much simpler fashion than before: merely replace the old WAR file with the updated one.
- **FeSL policy enforcement improvements.** Numerous enhancements have been made to FeSL authZ. Notably, the requirement of installing `dbx.m1` has been removed. This had been a barrier to FeSL testing and adoption. With the various improvements in FeSL authZ, we consider this feature "beta" and encourage users of Fedora to give it a try and provide feedback.
- **FEDORA_HOME environment variable no longer required to run fedora server.** Outside of running commandline utilities, `FEDORA_HOME` is now ignored, and has been completely replaced with more flexible means of specifying the location of the fedora home directory.
- **JSON support for RISearch** Resource index searches now support JSON, allowing greater ease of use with javascript clients.
- **DC datastream fixes.** The DC datastream, which contains information needed for the internal functioning of Fedora, is now more robust. If a user inadvertently removes the necessary `dc:identifier` fields, this will be automatically corrected.
- **Build and testing improvements.** Numerous testing and development improvements are part of 3.5. Perhaps most notably, deployment and running of a live Fedora instance can now be managed automatically as part of a standard maven build.

Tomcat Compatibility



Tomcat 5.5 and earlier are no longer supported. This release has been extensively tested with Tomcat 6.0.x, and is also known to work with Tomcat 7.0.x

REST API



As part of ongoing cleanup efforts, REST API responses have been fixed so that they are now fully compliant with their declared schema. This means that some responses might be slightly different when compared to those from earlier releases. For more information, see the overarching [issue in Jira](#)

Tomcat memory leak detection



Starting with Tomcat 6.0.24 (the bundled version of Tomcat included in this release is 6.0.29), Tomcat logs messages to indicate potential memory leaks. You may notice a number of SEVERE messages logged when Tomcat is stopped as a consequence of this new Tomcat behavior. [FCREPO-969](#) has been logged to track these and address these where they lie within Fedora code.

For a detailed list of features and bugfixes comprising this release see the tables below.

Acknowledgments

Many thanks to all of those who contributed to this release. In particular thanks go to the University of York who provided a significant contribution by supporting the many FeSL-related issues.

Features and Improvements

type	key	summary	priority
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Bug Fixes

type	key	summary	priority
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Previous Release Notes

The release notes for older versions of Fedora can be found in the documentation for each version. You can find [the documentation for all versions here](#)