

What's New in PKS Reporter 1.3.1

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Summary

PKS Reporter™ 1.3.1 is a maintenance release for the previously released version 1.3 of PKS Reporter™. The main purpose of this maintenance release is to address compatibility issues with programs that were released after the release of PKS Reporter™ 1.3. See also the Release Notes document for more details on PKS Reporter™ 1.3.1.

PKS Reporter™ 1.3 is designed for compatibility with the Pharsight® Knowledgebase Server™ (PKS™) 3.0 and 3.1. It will not work with PKS versions prior to 3.0. Templates and reports from prior versions of PKS™ and PKS Reporter™ can be opened in PKS Reporter™ 1.2 (from a local disk drive or from studies migrated to a PKS™ 3.0 database), and saved to a PKS™ 3.0 or 3.1 database. In this case, report tags must be updated to point to studies and scenarios in the new database. Once updated, reports and templates cannot be used in pre-1.3 versions of PKS Reporter™.

This document summarizes the major enhancements of PKS Reporter™ 1.3 compared to previous releases. As with most releases, there are also a number of bugs fixed, that have been detected in earlier releases. See also the Release Notes document for more details on PKS Reporter™ 1.3.

What's New in PKS Reporter 1.3.1

With PKS Reporter™ 1.3.1 we enhanced the compatibility between PKS Reporter and AutoPilot and SigmaPlot. Specifically the following issues were addressed:

- Several incompatibilities between PKS Reporter™ 1.3.1 and SigmaPlot 11 have been addressed that prevented .jnb file to be loaded into PKS Reporter. Now PKS Reporter 1.3.1 and SigmaPlot 11.1 are compatible. Note that the maintenance release SigmaPlot 11.1 and an upcoming release AutoPilot 1.2.1 are required to use .jnb files in reports.
- PKS Reporter™ 1.3.1 now recognizes Extended Meta Files (.emf file extension) as generated by AutoPilot when SigmaPlot 11.1 is used.

Enhancements for PKS Reporter™ 1.3

The major enhancements for PKS Reporter™ 1.3 fall into one of the following categories

- Template and Report functionality
- Performance

- New method to insert study metadata
- New tags status (“Altered”)
- Integration with WinNonlin® AutoPilot™

Template and Report functionality

In PKS Reporter 1.3 the distinction between reports and templates has been made clearer and some functionality has been added.

- PKS Reporter now has separate dialogs for loading of reports and templates and the dialog have been improved with more information and filter options.
- PKS Reporter now supports different options when saving templates, thus making it easier to convert templates into reports.
- Some problems with the aspect ratio for graphs when using template placeholders have been corrected to make templates better transferable from one project to another.

Performance

PKS Reporter 1.3 has been tested with several benchmarks against the previous release of PKS Reporter. The performance of version 1.3 has been significantly improved in terms of absolute execution time as well as scaling with the number of tags (see graphics below for a comparison).

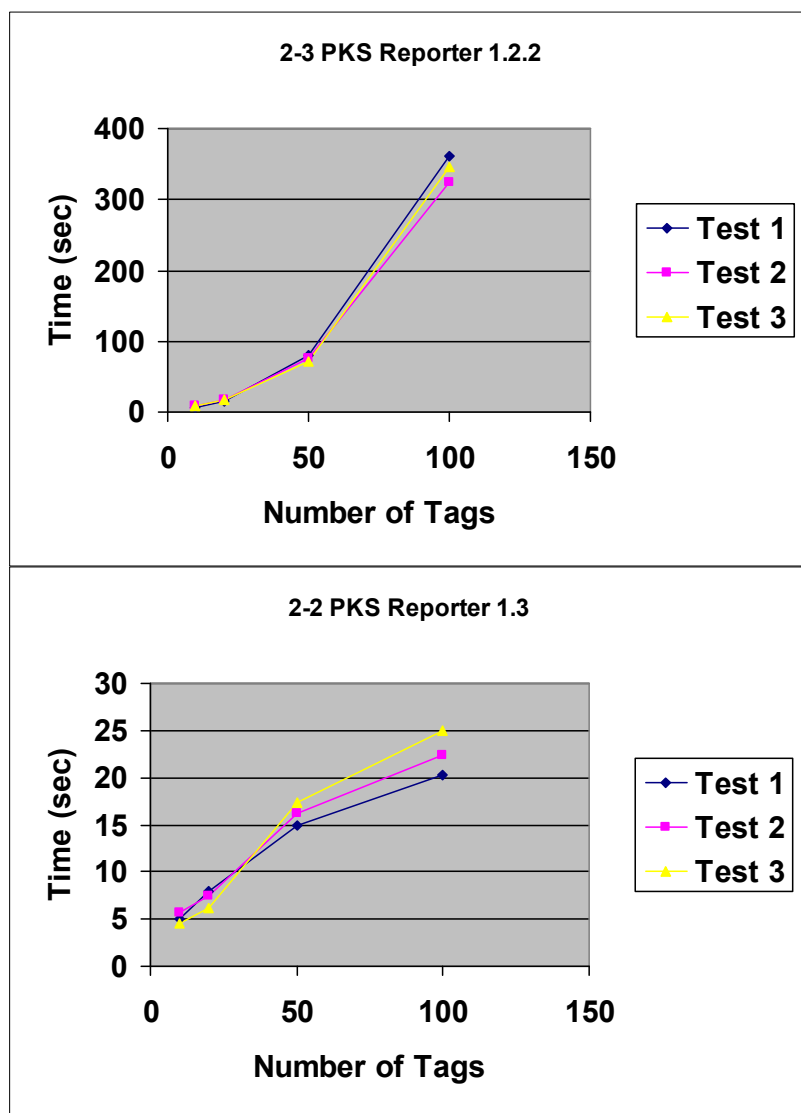


Figure 1: List Tag Benchmark comparison of PKS Reporter 1.2.2 (upper image) and PKS Reporter 1.3 (lower image)

New method to insert study metadata

PKS Reporter 1.3 provides a new method to insert small pieces of information such as the name of the study or the name of a metabolite into reports. This new method is much more efficient (“light-weight”) than the use of regular tags to extract the same information for example from WinNonlin worksheets. This method makes use of Microsoft Word’s custom document properties. It implements a flexible way for users to provide the required information in an Excel file called “Study Information.xls” which is used to populate so-called DocProperty fields. These fields are used to insert the information into the PKS Reporter report or template following and using standard Microsoft Word interactions. Because these field values are only populated once from PKS even if they are used very often throughout the report document, the use of this method will greatly improve the overall performance of PKS Reporter over the

use of multiple copies of regular tags. Additional menu items such as separate update of regular tags and document properties and the option to clean the document property fields complete this new valuable feature of PKS Reporter.

The Details on this new feature of PKS Reporter are documented in chapter 6 of the User's Guide.

New tags status ("Altered")

PKS Reporter now recognizes when tag has been edited and sets the status to "Altered".

Integration with WinNonlin® AutoPilot™

The following areas have been enhanced to allow for a better integration between PKS Reporter and WinNonlin AutoPilot:

- Files created using SigmaPlot (.jnb files) are now recognized and can be inserted into PKS Reporter reports and templates
- Additional support for the inclusion of files created using Excel (.xls files) is implemented
- PKS Reporter recognizes the suffix that is used by AutoPilot to identify split tables and can insert all split tables at once with one tag.