



Gentran Integration Suite 4.2

B2B for Multi-Enterprise Collaboration Guide to What's New

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Introduction

Security is not a destination, it is a journey.

In IT implementations, there is no such thing as a secure environment, only an environment that stays one step ahead of the threats from the outside world.

Because of its role as the primary conduit between you and the outside world in the exchange of business documents, Gentran Integration Suite has incorporated many leading edge technologies into its core capability. We are glad to make these available to our customers.

The following short paragraphs give a quick window into the updates that are available in Gentran Integration Suite. We hope you find them helpful to your business.

About Gentran Integration Suite:

Gentran Integration Suite is designed to enable enterprise agility. For enterprises, agility facilitates synchronization between business partners, suppliers, vendors, service organizations, and even customers. Whether global or local, we need to supply each of our customers what they need when they need it.

Collaboration between businesses is a key component of this success. The business owners demand tight relationships to exact maximum value from a partnership. The underlying B2B infrastructure needs to support and even enhance the needs of this relationship.

In the past we have primarily used B2B as a way to decrease costs by automating or eliminating manual processes. Now, many forward-looking companies are deploying B2B technologies that give them greater visibility and insight into their business, and then they are exploiting that visibility to create a sustainable competitive advantage and grow earnings.

Gentran Integration Suite 4.2 is a continuation of Sterling Commerce's efforts to assist customers in gaining greater visibility into their business and that of their business partners.

Note: Gentran Integration Suite version 4.2 for B2B multi-enterprise collaboration is referred to in this document as "GIS B2B Suite".

Advanced File Transfer

Gentran Integration Suite AFT (Advanced File Transfer) is enhanced with several usability and security capabilities. The AFT Router application is designed to address two major customer scenarios:

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- Large scale “door to door” file exchange, in a multi-enterprise context and within a large global organization. With a partner network comprised of multiple, perhaps thousands, of globally dispersed partners, feeding multiple business units within your own organization, requires “next generation” file transfer solution, with enhanced functionality for rapid partner on-boarding, change management, and broader file transfer protocol coverage.
- Small business (SMB) enablement for very large scale electronic document exchange “hubs”. The typical “spoke” community member is an occasionally connected user with a lightweight data exchange requirement. An example could be a major manufacturer with a large retailer network requiring periodic secure and reliable file exchange.

Gentran Integration Suite AFT enhancements include:

- Limited Content-based Routing
You can use a map to determine the Consumer ID (file destination) from within the contents of a file. With this facility, better routing decisions can be made based on information contained within the document itself.
- The MyAFT visibility window now has embedded within it the Mailbox Interface (MBI), giving a single portal for your partner to access and review file transfers with you.
- External Users can be forced to be authenticated via LDAP (with LDAP adapter), rather than using possibly available GIS authentication data. This ensures one repository for external authentication is in use.
- Login limits per user. Using the SFTP adapter, a limited number of logins by a single user can be maintained, for both security and performance considerations.
- Ability to force multiple authentication mechanisms. Using the SFTP adapter, users can be required to provide both password information as well as certificate data.

Reporting Services

Reporting Services is a set of Gentran Integration Suite tools that enable you to define and see your data in ways that support your business. Reporting Services allows you to offload your reporting to a secondary database, freeing the Gentran Integration Suite server to continue operational processing while your visibility and reporting can be worked on separately.

Using Reporting Services consists of four parts: Getting Started, which includes planning and installation; defining and building your data set and fact model; extracting data; and viewing data.

As data is extracted into the fact repository, you can begin reviewing the default reports that are created automatically for your fact model in Gentran Integration Suite, to edit those reports, or use them as templates for new reports. If you use a third party OLAP (Online Analytical Processing) tool that allows multidimensional views into large amounts of data, you can export the schema that is automatically created for your fact model in Gentran Integration Suite and view your data as a multi-dimensional cube.

Sterling Control Center Integration

Sterling Control Center has already added the capability to monitor and manage Gentran Integration Suite as a part of its umbrella network. With Gentran Integration Suite 4.2, the capabilities are available for GIS to participate fully within this network.

Use Sterling Control Center to monitor Gentran Integration Suite and its Connect:Direct traffic with your other Connect:Direct nodes. Or, monitor the internal processes that Gentran Integration Suite is executing, be notified of failed processing, or of other events, using the Sterling Control Center management capabilities.

Hardware Security Module (HSM) attachment

A *Hardware Security Module* (HSM) is a hardware-based security device that generates, stores, and protects cryptographic keys. Using this mechanism, customers can ensure tighter control of cryptographic keys, keeping them managed by hardware rather than software mechanisms. Gentran Integration Suite supports attachment to the SafeNet Eracom ProtectServer Orange External and ProtectServer Gold.

Encrypting System Data

Gentran Integration Suite offers the option to automatically encrypt and store data securely in the file system and automatically decrypt them when the files are accessed for transfer or translation.

Keeping the files under system encryption closes a potential security gap for those with concerns with temporary storage of data awaiting processing. When needed for processing, Gentran Integration Suite will decrypt the awaiting document and access it as a working document forward.

Odette FTP Adapter

The Odette FTP Adapter is a new adapter that natively supports OFTP with GIS, on all GIS platforms. It supports point-to-point communication between trading partners using the OFTP 1.2 protocol over ISDN as an underlying communication protocol. The Odette FTP adapter implements the complete OFTP and CAPI protocol stack.

Customers with the current OFTP adapter gain access to this native Odette FTP adapter free of charge.

JVM Daylight Savings Time

The Energy Policy Act of 2005 revised the effective dates for Daylight Savings Time. Starting in 2007, U.S. Daylight Savings Time will begin on the second Sunday of March and end the first Sunday of November. Under the old schedule, Daylight Savings Time ran the first Sunday in April through the last Sunday in October.

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As a result of the Daylight Savings Time change, software products using time or time zone functionality in older operating systems and Java platforms may report incorrect time during the last three weeks of March and the first week of November. This change affects many software products, including those from Sterling Commerce.

The issue will have the greatest impact on customers in the U.S., but could affect customers outside the U.S. who have configured their software deployments for U.S. time zones.

Gentran Integration Suite 4.2 is validated against Java Virtual Machines (JVMs) that are aware of the Policy Act changes. Customers will want to install and migrate to Gentran Integration Suite 4.2 prior to the March DST changeover.

System Environmentals

Gentran Integration Suite includes support for Solaris 10.