

README.RTF

SBS-Pathfinder™

Version 3.08.0002

4/2/2025

This document contains information regarding

- Contact information
- General information
- Enhancement list (from prior versions/updates/fixes)

Contact information:

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General Information:

Please uninstall any prior release of Pathfinder with the same major and minor version numbers before installing this new release. You must stop the Pathfinder service before performing the uninstall.

Full Version (not demo):

After Pathfinder installation you must run the RegisterMySbsProduct 3.8 to activate the license that was sent to you as well as create a license key for the computer that Pathfinder will be running on. Instructions to install and register Pathfinder can be found at <https://www.sentinelbusinessservices.com/pathfinder-installation-instructions/>.

The install will examine your hard disk to see if you have the Microsoft .NET 4.0 Components installed. If you do not, you must download it from Microsoft's Website and install it.

Version 3.08.0002 (from 3.08.0001):

Enhancements:

Pathfinder:

- Changes necessary to support Android TIP Driver 3.8.2

Fixes:

- If SBS-CASE Tools and PF GUI were up the programs should coexist. However, start debugger and within 5 minutes the GUI will lose connection with the service. This has been fixed.

Version 3.08.0001 (from 3.08.0000):

Enhancements:

Pathfinder:

- Support for the new Software NiceLabel product was added. Pathfinder will now support both the Software legacy version as well as the new NiceLabel version.
- The printer's name associated with the label printer was changed from a length of 25 positions to 100 positions.

Fixes:

Version 3.08.0000 (from 3.07.0002):

Enhancements:

Pathfinder:

- Full Android support to integrate with the Android tip driver and the compiled tip from SBS-CASE Tools.

Fixes:

Pathfinder:

- Label printer name of more than 25 characters were truncated and label printing errors occurred. Printer names are now validated to not exceed 25 characters. Printer names must be less than 26 characters.

Version 3.07.0002 (from 3.07.0001):

Enhancements:

Pathfinder:

- Label Print Resource Configuration- File Dialog boxes have been added to the configuration panel to easily select the label drop and label format file folders.
- Bartender Label Drop – The product has fully supported Software's LLM label drop for many years. It now fully supports Bartender by Seagull file drop. The Windows printer name to print a label can't exceed 25 characters.

Fixes:

Pathfinder:

- Label Print Resource – The label print resource would not start up when the Pathfinder service was started. It would terminate with an error and would prevent labels from printing.
- ODBC Resource 32 bit button – The button was eliminated and is no longer supported.
- License File Issues – Fixed the passing of License information to the System CASE Tools variables.

Version 3.07.0001 (from 3.07.0000):

Enhancements:

Pathfinder:

- Kill agents. Currently if an agent were to get hung up the administrator would have to use the admin tools/Services to find and stop the process. Pathfinder was changed to reset and agent if needed.
- New Licensing and Registration procedure - Add the register me program to the start menu and move it to "program files". The new concept of registering the product has

been made much easier for the user. A new unregister function was written for customers who choose to move the licenses from one machine to another.

- Add the Toolkit File Services functions/transactions to the install. Change the install to have the file services toolkit configured and ready to go.
- Document the file services toolkit.
- New configuration file format, supporting side-by-side demo/development mode and production configuration data. Old configuration files will be automatically updated to the new format.
- Support for passing license information to the TIP Driver to allow for programmatic use and display.
- Additional license information is displayed in the Help About screen, when available.
- Additional information about terminal Auto-configuration is logged.
- Tracking of license expiration date for a new Pathfinder selling model (ex. leasing, contracted support).

Fixes:

Pathfinder:

- Corrected splash screen test alignment.
- Fixed erroneous "Current version exceeds license maximum" messages on startup.
- Improved confusing transaction import messages displayed during some multi-transaction import scenarios.

Version 3.07.0000 (from 3.05.0006):

Enhancements:

Pathfinder:

- Rebranding Pathfinder to Sentinel Business Services, LLC (SBS).
- Default the event recorder log file clean up to 30 days and being on.
- ODBC Problem using a 64 bit ODBC - need to utilize the 32 bit ODBC control panel. Added a button to the ODBC resource that launches the correct ODBC.
- Set ODBC default time outs when resource is initially added.
- Importing Transactions - YES to All option added.

Fixes:

Pathfinder:

Version 3.05.0006 (from 3.05.0005):

Fixes:

Pathfinder:

- The GetDirectoryListing transaction in the FileServices toolkit did not correctly handle getting a listing of an empty folder. It returned an error condition instead of a “no data” condition. This has been fixed.

Version 3.05.0005 (from 3.05.0004):

Enhancements:

Pathfinder:

- The FileServices toolkit is now included as part of the install, and the runtime component is automatically registered.

Fixes:

Pathfinder:

- When importing large numbers of transaction or label definitions into Pathfinder, some of the files silently failed to import. Also, the file browser did not display in long file name mode. This has been fixed.
- The connection from the graphical console to the Pathfinder service utilized a DNS lookup on the host machine name. In some network configurations this would fail, causing the service to start and then stop. This behavior is now configurable, with the default behavior bypassing the lookup.

Version 3.05.0004 (from 3.05.0003):

Fixes:

Pathfinder:

- On systems with a large amount of services running under the same account as the Pathfinder service, desktop heap memory exhaustion could occur. This was particularly true for Pathfinder systems running with a large number of seats. Symptoms could include clients being able to connect to Pathfinder, but no TCP/IP traffic being reported and other unpredictable behaviors in Pathfinder or other software on the system. The memory allocation strategy used by Pathfinder has been changed to minimize the use of this shared type of system memory.

Version 3.05.0003 (from 3.05.0002):

Fixes:

Pathfinder:

- At shutdown, the configuration file was being rewritten once for each object that saved its state. This caused performance and other problems at shutdown. Configuration file writes during shutdown are now cached.
- Configuration file I/O was susceptible to interference from anti-virus software. This has been fixed.

Version 3.05.0002 (from 3.05.0001):

Fixes:

Pathfinder:

- Toolkit configuration screen disallowed more than 10 characters of data per parameter to be entered. This has been fixed.

Version 3.05.0001 (from 3.05.0000):

Fixes:

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Pathfinder:

- Device/terminal name was being treated as case-sensitive in some cases. This has been fixed.
- Limitation on maximum number of devices in the license file has been improved.

Version 3.05.0000 (from 3.04.0002):

Enhancements:

SBS-Pathfinder:

- Added Label Resource printing options: Bartender File Drop and Software File Drop

Version 3.04.0002 (from 3.04.0001):

Enhancements:

SBS-Pathfinder:

- Updates to Pathfinder Console
- More configuration options are exposed for Resources and other Pathfinder objects.
- Configuration files are now snapshotted to aid in system recovery.
- Support for connection-per-request style in Socket resource

Version 3.04.0001 (from 3.04.0000):

Enhancements:

SBS-Pathfinder:

- Vista and MS Server 2008 now supported.
- TCI/IP port numbers in excess of 32767 now supported.
- Memory access bug in TCP/IP fixed.
- Log Explorer supports ODBC queries.
- Improvement in Transaction Processing.
- Increased allowable Agents from 4 to 8.
- Implemented an idle connection timeout to free resource associated with quiescent devices.
- Added support for advanced TCP/IP logging.
- Implemented a new queue traversal mechanism to improve performance in multi-agent scenarios.

Fixes:

SBS-Pathfinder:

- Socket resource could erroneously report an error if the XML message were fragmented by TCP/IP in the message end tag
- Fixed a problem where licenses with zero Resource, Terminal, or Comm. Module seats would cause a crash.
- Fixed a TCP/IP memory leak relating to improper object pooling.

Version 3.04.0000 (from 3.03.0000):

Version 3.03.0000 (from 3.02.0000):

Enhancement list:

Pathfinder and Mobile Tag:

- Display Transaction Project Name and Version information.

Version 3.02.0000 (from 3.01.0001):

Enhancement list:

Pathfinder and Mobile Tag:

- Various GUI enhancements including larger font point size.
- GUI Spies may be “Paused” by pressing the Pause/Break Key.
- GUI Spy data can be examined in a separate window by double-clicking the cell.
- Support for a Microsoft ActiveSync communications module has been added.
- “Event Recorder” has been added to the GUI.
- Purging of old files has been added.
- Support for software-based licensing (i.e. no hardware dongle) has been added.
- Auto-configuration of the server Terminals to match newly configured devices.

Log Explorer:

- Display font point size has been increased.
- Views used to default to the current date and now default to having no filters on.

Fixes:

Pathfinder and Mobile Tag:

- If an Agent received an execution error while a Deactivate was pending against it, it could fail or reactivate later.
- Under some circumstances, a queue file could be lost on system startup.
- When running as a service, stopping the service did not cleanly shutdown all subsystems.
- With the server software running as a Windows Service, when the GUI was brought up an enabled/activated Resource could appear with an incorrect icon

in the tree. This would appear as if the Resource was not active. (If the tree were expanded, the Agents under that Resource would have the correct status icon displayed).

Log Explorer:

- Double-clicking cells in some of the views displayed the wrong content.
- The term “Request ID” and “Transaction ID” were both used to refer to the same piece of data. They have been consolidated under the term “Request ID”.

Version 3.01.0001 (from 3.01.0000):

Enhancement list:

- Ability to run Pathfinder/Mobile Tag as a Service.
- Ability to bind to a local IP address other than the system default.

Version 3.01.0000 (from 3.00.0000):

Enhancement list:

Pathfinder and Mobile Tag:

- Record blocking on batch/text file downloads has been improved (ie. better performance).
- Uploads/Downloads are now logged in the transaction log.
- Provides for multiple Transaction Definitions to be imported.

Fixes:

Pathfinder and Mobile Tag:

- Socket Host failed to reset the rows requested on subsequent transactions.
- Local File Transfer from the client to the server (upload) could fail on the last record, depending on the file size.
- Title bar of Data Spy did not get updated if the object being viewed was renamed.
- Socket Host Resource defaulted to an invalid timeout if an out-of-range timeout was specified during configuration.
- File I/O errors during a file commit are handled better.

Version 3.00.0000 (from 2.03.0000):

Enhancement list:

General:

- Product Line split into 2 versions, Case Tools & Pathfinder Gold and Mobile Developer & Mobile Tag

Pathfinder & Mobile Tag:

- Logging system enhancement including allowing the active log to be opened (read only) while the server is running.
- Spy window can now be opened for an object while it is inactive.
- Multiple Transaction or Label Definition files can be imported at once.

Version 2.03.0000 (from 2.02.0000):

Enhancement list:

Pathfinder:

- File Downloads and Transaction Downloads are now transmitted in blocks to increase efficiency over slow connections.

Fixes:

Pathfinder:

- On File Downloads or Transaction Downloads of more than 10,000 records, an failure could occur.
- The tab order has been corrected on the Toolkit Resource configuration screen.
- Previously, some configuration changes were not getting flushed to disk until shutdown.

Version 2.02.0000 (from 2.01.0001):

Enhancement list:

Pathfinder:

- Send Email on Error – user can configure Pathfinder to send an email automatically if an error condition occurs.
- Enhanced TCP/IP Communications.
- Implemented ASCII/EBCDIC translation for Toolkit Interfaces.

- Certain underlying ODBC option settings were being carried over from statement to statement. This typically manifested itself when a Select of a single row was to be followed by an Update or Delete that affected many rows.

Fixes:

ICE and Pathfinder:

- In both the SQL Tester and in the ODBC non-Select SQL statements that used nested Select statements could affect too few rows than they otherwise should have. (Note – The problem described applied to MS SQL Server and did not occur when using stored procedures).

Version 2.01.0001 (from 2.01.0000):

Fixes:

Pathfinder:

- Small change to default resource configuration data.
- If a resource returned an error condition from processing a transaction, under some circumstances the terminal would report a comm error/handshake error instead of a transaction failed error.

Other:

- PfConfigFileUpgrade utility has been updated to version 2.1.

Version 2.01.0000 (from 2.00.0000):

Enhancement list:

Pathfinder:

- Now detects conflicts between license files and hardware keys.
- Socket Resource can now optionally generate a log file in the User Files directory.
- Requests to upload a zero row file were previously ignored, but are now allowed.
- Pathfinder now plays an error tone when the system becomes “red”.
- Now handles fatal exceptions better in Resource Agents.

Fixes:

Pathfinder:

- In some cases, a trailing character was stripped from some transaction templates such as SQL statement.

Log Explorer:

- Views were off by one hour during Daylight Saving Time.

Version 2.00.0000 (from 1.04.0003):

Fixes:

Pathfinder:

- Serial Comm module will now correctly report on error status if it fails to open the COM Port.
- Startup and Shutdown performance has been greatly improved.
- Default terminal names no longer use the underscore (_) character as this was difficult to produce on some devices.
- Configuration files use a faster and more compact format.

Version 1.04.0003 (from 1.04.0002):

Fixes:

Pathfinder:

- Under certain circumstances involving negative numbers and fixed decimals, floating point arithmetic could yield erroneous results.

Version 1.04.0002 (from 1.04.0001):

Enhancement list:

Pathfinder:

- New virtual terminal transmit queue.
- Additional logging and error reporting from agent errors.
- Configuration information is saved on update and shutdown.
- Extra logging functions added.
- Log files are now locked.

Fixes:

Pathfinder:

- ODBC bug relating to MS SQL Server and its implementation of SQL_MAX_ROWS option.
- If transaction imported into Pathfinder has no result buffer defined, but a request was made that returned a result, the servicing agent would hang.
- Duplicate records sent by a terminal are now filtered even if Pathfinder is shutdown between them. Previously, you could see a duplicate if you brought Pathfinder down and up while the terminal program was running.

Version 1.04.0001 (from 1.04.0000):

Enhancement list:

Pathfinder:

- Enhanced graphics for TIP Driver and TIP Program states in the Pathfinder GUI.
- Improved TIP Driver and TIP Program file cache validations.
- Added log entries for the following events: Pathfinder startup and shutdown; Add/remove transaction or label definitions; Add/remove TIP Driver or Program; Configuration changes.
- Log files are archived hourly, and the current log file is locked to prevent external access.
- Improved fault tolerance and exception logging.
- Configuration changes are no longer cached until Pathfinder shutdown.

Fixes:

Pathfinder:

- AUTOBANT.BIN – Under rare conditions the .TIS\$ would not be renamed properly.

Version 1.04.0000 (from 1.03.0000):

Enhancement list:

Pathfinder:

- Pathfinder now supports the import of TIP Programs (.tip) and TIP Drivers (.bin; .exe).

- Virtual Terminals now display program/driver information (if known) in Pathfinder.
- Pathfinder now protects against being started more than once.

Fixes:

Pathfinder:

- Serial Comm module now correctly displays sent/received message statistics.

Log Explorer:

- The errors view defaulted to yesterday's date instead of today's date.

Version 1.03.0000 (from 1.02.0001):

Enhancement list::

Pathfinder:

- New Demonstration Mode – See README_DEMO.RTF. Additional functionality has been added to demo mode. In ICE you can now compile programs in demo mode with the only restriction being the compilation of External Function Instructions. In Pathfinder, you can now activate the communications modules in demo mode.
- The entire SBS-CASE Tools Enterprise Suite now places itself on the Start Menu/Programs Panel as SBS-CASE Tools Enterprise Suite v1.3. This is different from its last placement within Sentinel Business Solutions. We have done this to facilitate keeping multiple versions of our product on the same machine.

Fixes:

PATHFINDER:

- During binary file download (such as downloading a .TIP) Pathfinder was incorrectly removing trailing spaces in certain cases.
- The EOF indicator, normally received at the end of a transaction execution, was being lost if the amount of returned data fell approximately on a 4k boundary.

LOG EXPLORER:

- Date range selection was defaulting to the most recent full day, which is always "yesterday". The default behavior has been changed to the current day ("today").

Version 1.02.0001 (from 1.02.0000):

Enhancement list:

ICE / Pathfinder:

- No new enhancements.

Fixes:

- In the debugger, execution of an Execute Transaction Instruction with a result type of Multiple caused an error when reading the debug data file.
- Pathfinder agents were referencing an older release v1.1 dll.
- Label Print agent referenced an older release v1.1 dll.
- Transaction processing by Pathfinder was incorrectly returning empty data in response to single and multiple type transactions.
- Debugger would not display the Time Display Instruction if only the month was enabled.

Version 1.02.0000 (from 1.01.0002):

Enhancement list:

Pathfinder:

- Pathfinder now supports binary file upload in addition to download.
- Pathfinder now supports data blocking during upload/download of multiple records (increased speed).

Log Explorer

- Log Explorer now displays all date/times in the local time zone (instead of UTC).

Fixes:

Pathfinder:

- Reconnect attempt delay did not work causing Pathfinder to try to restart agents repetitively. Pathfinder now uses 10-second delay.

Log Explorer:

- Large data fields (greater than 255 characters) could cause a crash in Log Explorer.
- The default for all date ranges has been set to a single day.

Version 1.01.0002 (from 1.01.0001):

Fixes:

Pathfinder:

- Transaction requests could be “orphaned” in the queue if corresponding transaction definition was deleted. These are now placed in the error log.
- The statistical information on transactions (such as queue count or total processed) was not always being refreshed to the screen.
- Under rare conditions transactions with type of No Response, and with local queuing enabled, were being sent twice to Pathfinder. These records are now being filtered out.

Version 1.01.0001 (from 1.01.0000):

Enhancement list:

Pathfinder:

- Pathfinder Host Agent timeouts Connection, Transaction, Ping Freq. can be fully configured or set to 0

Fixes:

Pathfinder:

- Pathfinder demo mode and pre-existent transactions.

Log Explorer:

- Pathfinder log explorer window display fixes.

Version 1.01.0000 (from 1.00.0000):

Enhancement list:

Pathfinder:

- Socket Host – to send/receive transactional/file information with a TCP/IP Host via socket.
- Label Printing – to permit label printing via Software Label Printer Server.

Log Explorer:

- Enhance Log File with inquiry