



Predator MDC™ v1.1 – What's New

Latest features and benefits in v1.1

Before Installing v1.1

Microsoft Internet Explorer v5.x or later is required to be installed before installing Predator MDC v1.1.

Backup everything; especially your Oracle space or Access MDB file. Running v1.1 will upgrade the data from v1.0 to v1.1 automatically and it will no longer be compatible with v1.0. Predator MDC will always be forwards compatible with new releases but not backwards compatible with previous releases.

Why v1.1?

By design, this release was intended to be a maintenance release to v1.0. Along the way we ended up adding a lot of features. Details of the new features are explained throughout this document and within the readme.

Installing v1.1

One of the biggest changes is a new installation based on Microsoft's Install Services. This technology was introduced in Windows 2000. If you are running Windows 95, 98 or NT v4.0, and Microsoft's Install Services has never been installed, v1.1 will do this automatically at the very beginning. This will require a re-boot prior to completing the installation of Predator MDC.

By default installation occurs in the \program files\predator software\mdc 1.1\ directory. If you were running v1.0 simply proceed with the installation normally. If you were running a beta version of 1.1, please un-install it prior to installing v1.1. MDC Administrator v1.1 will upgrade your data from v1.0 or any 1.1 beta to the final release automatically.

With this release we have dropped supporting floppy drive or diskette based installs. All installations must be performed from a CD, CDR, CDRW or DVD drive.

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Network Installations of v1.1

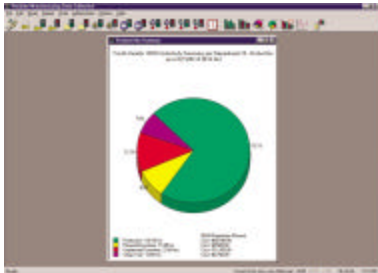
Another major installation improvement has been made with network installations. By committing to store the product installation on a server, users will enjoy automatic healing of all critical files upon running Predator MDC. For example, a user accidentally deletes pmdc.exe. Under normal circumstances he would be down and the software would fail to run. With v1.1 when the user double clicks the desktop shortcut all critical files are checked and if necessary restored from the network server and the software begins to run automatically.

The easiest way to perform a network installation is to step through the following:

1. Copy the contents of the \mdc directory on the CD to a \setup\mdc 1.1\ or similar directory.
2. Run the setup.exe from the \setup\mdc 1.1\ directory.

NOTE: Should any automatic healing be necessary, Predator MDC will be able to automatically extract the necessary files from the appropriate cab files stored in the \setup\mdc 1.1\ directory. If you install from a CD, Predator MDC will be forced to prompt for the CD.

Predator MDC



What's New in v1.1?

New! HTML based Online Help

New HTML based, context sensitive, online help is now fully integrated throughout Predator MDC. Over 160+ pages of online help can be accessed by pressing F1 at any time. Additionally, help buttons are in the lower left hand corner of every dialog box. This new help system provides a complete reference for the entire application and replaces a traditional bound and printed reference manual. Several printing options are included to print individual pages, topics, and sub-topics.

New! Part Change/Idle Time Chart

A new realtime Part Change/Idle Time chart has been added. This chart graphs the time in between cycles. This chart supports drilling down to a specific department, location, group, machine, date and time options. With this new chart lengthy part changes or extended idle times between cycles can quickly be identified.

New! Quality, Production, Efficiency, OEE Chart

A new quality, production, efficiency and OEE chart has been added. OEE stands for Overall Equipment Effectiveness and is a common performance benchmark used by many manufacturers. This chart trends the four primary performance benchmarks over time. This chart supports drilling down to a specific department, location, group, machine and date options. With this new chart overall improvements to quality and productivity can be trended over time.

New! Save Charts to Clipboard and JPEG files

All charts created by Predator MDC can now be copied to the clipboard or saved as

JPEG files. Applications such as Word and Excel can import or paste MDC charts into documents or spreadsheets as needed.

New! OEE%, Efficiency % and Projected Parts per Hour

Predator MDC can now calculate OEE % and performance efficiency % in the Shift Summary Report. OEE stands for Overall Equipment Effectiveness and is a common performance benchmark used by many manufacturers. To calculate these percentages, manufacturers must specify projected parts per hour per department, location, group and machine.

NOTE: Projected Parts per Hour can be ignored for most job shops with varying levels of production quantities.

New! View Components

Viewing components has been added to display the critical information, notes and attachments for each component. All attachments in HTML, Word, Excel, PowerPoint, PDF, DXF, DWG, Text, RTF, PCX, PSD, GIF, JPEG and other supported formats can be interactively viewed by MDC Clients and Administrator licenses. With this feature shop personnel can view part drawings, setup pictures, tool lists per Job or operator manuals per machine.

New! Number Formats

Creating and editing major component numbers has been enhanced with an option for specific number conventions and styles. Major component numbers including job numbers and part numbers. With this feature consistent job and part numbers will automatically fall within company standards.

New! Job or Work Order Tracking and Process Menu

Job or work order tracking has been added to v1.1 of Predator MDC. All new Release Job to shop floor and Finish Job commands have been added to the new Process menu. In addition, new events commands have been moved from the File menu to the Process menu. With these new features Predator MDC extends its tracking capability from machines, resources and personnel to include jobs or work orders.

New! Job or Work Order Reports

Two new Job reports have been added to track jobs by job number and part number. This report supports drilling down to a specific part type, part number, job status, job number, customer, date and time options. With this feature completed parts and jobs, inprocess parts and jobs, quantities finished per job, number of late days per job and many other critical elements are tracked and reported.

New! Command Summary Report

A new command summary report has been added to Predator MDC. This report supports drilling down to specific department, location, group, machine, command and date range.

New! Time and Attendance Report

A new time and attendance report has been added to Predator MDC. This report supports drilling down to specific department, location, group, machine, command and

date range.

New! User Security Report

All new security report by user is now included. By specifying a date range and user the security report will detail activity within MDC. If Predator Tool Crib, Gauge Crib or Travelers is installed the Security Report will also include activity in all applications.

New! Demo Version

A new demo version is now included with Predator MDC. Demo mode supports up to 50 shift history records and 500 realtime records. The Demo version can be upgraded at any time to the full release version by selecting Upgrade from the Options menu.

New! Edit Password

Every user can now modify their password with the *Change Password* command within the *Edit* menu.

New! Predator Tool Crib Compatible

Predator MDC v1.1 is compatible with Predator Tool Crib v1.1 and both products can utilize the identical database.

Enhanced! Microsoft Access Support

The Microsoft Access version of Predator MDC has been enhanced with comprehensive support for transactions with automatic rollback. This change dramatically improves database reliability and reduces the possibility for databases to become corrupted. In addition, the login dialog has been enhanced with a Browse button to select the Access MDB file.

Enhanced! Departments No Longer Required

V1.0 required the user to select a Department for most reports and graphs. This requirement has been eliminated with v1.1 and specifying a department is optional. If no department is specified the report or chart will automatically include all departments.

Enhanced! Summarize Info at Any Time

V1.0 limited the user to summarize up to two days prior to the current date. This requirement has been eliminated with v1.1 of Predator MDC.

Enhanced! Optional Model number per Part number

Part numbers have been enhanced with model numbers being optional and not required.

Enhanced Permissions Report

Improved permissions report to show the final permissions granted for users and groups.

Enhanced Zinger Example Database

Updated Zinger example database for v1.1 of Predator MDC.

For more information

For the latest information on Predator MDC, check our web site at <http://www.predator-software.com>