

Release Note of Standalone Timetabling Tool (STT) Version Upgrade (Version 1.1)

The STT Upgrade Package for version **1.1.01.15112018** is now available for download from WebSAMS Download Site (URL: <http://www.websams.edb.gov.hk/eng/stt/index.html>).

Please note that this is **an important version upgrade** containing update of an essential program component. Your school should install this version as soon as possible and uninstall the old version **on or before 10 December 2018**.

STT is now upgraded from the series of Version 1.0 to Version 1.1. This version is not compatible with any previous versions of STT (i.e. version 1.0.xx.ddmmYYYY) and therefore only Installer File is available. For users' convenience, it supports **migration of database from previous version (if any)**. Please **install this version** in a separate installation directory **BEFORE uninstalling the previous version** and **choose data migration** during installation. For details, please refer to the installation guide from WebSAMS Download Site mentioned above.

*** For prevention of data loss, users are reminded to back up the STT_EDB.DB located at the db folder under the installation directory to another location if the users choose to **uninstall** or **reinstall** the STT.*

1. Application

Major Enhancements / Changes

1. Program Component and Installer
 - a. One of the essential program components is changed and therefore it requires a clean installation to the new STT installation directory. The installer has been enhanced to support preservation of existing database and migration of data from previous STT versions. License key is not required if users choose data migration.
2. Generation and Tuning
 - a. The functions of "Change Room", "Change Room to Not Specified", and "Change Teacher" are now extended to Timetable Group and the corresponding buttons are newly added under "Action" in Timetable Group.

- b. Multiple choices for room(s) and teacher(s) are allowed when users select “Change Room” and “Change Teacher” for more than one lesson segment.
- c. Changing Room/Teacher for multiple lesson segments within the same special lesson is now supported.
- d. Checking of duplicated room/teacher in same timeslot is added when changing Room/Teacher.
- e. A brief summary of relaxed soft constraint(s) and lesson(s) affected is now shown after Auto Generation, Partial Generation, and Batch Generation.

Other Enhancements / Changes

- 1. Layout Design
 - a. The name of the STT is revised to “Standalone Timetabling Tool (2018)” in the pop-up windows of “Connect to the Database” and “About”.
 - b. The color of the background is changed in the pop-up windows of “Connect to the Database” and “About”.
- 2. School Data Setup
 - a. English, special and numeric characters for the English name of Virtual Teacher are allowed when the staff code begins with “#”.
- 3. Lesson Setup
 - a. The warning message shown when teachers are duplicated in multiple segments of a special lesson has been revised.
- 4. Pre-assignment & Generation and Tuning
 - a. The messages shown in Message Window when starting Pre-assignment and Interactive Tuning are rephrased.

Problems Resolved in This Version

- 1. Structure Setup
 - a. The break of the timetable with particular break structure is not displayed in View Timetable.
- 2. School Data Setup
 - a. “0” could not be checked when editing the number of periods for Class Subjects by batch.
- 3. Report
 - a. Result set reports for timetable with particular break structure could not be generated.
- 4. Interactive Tuning
 - a. Room could not be changed after changing teacher for some lessons in Interactive Tuning.

Known Issues

1. If Adobe Reader DC is used to open user manual, it may not be possible to open other PDF files until the user manual is closed. It is known that previous version XI of Adobe Reader is not affected.

Remarks

1. There is no change in the database schema.
2. User Manual (Chinese & English versions) is updated.

2. Housekeeping on Major / Minor upgrade

The minimum hard disk spaces required to run major / minor upgrade are:

Installation Drive: 100MB

Each Major / Minor Upgrade will download major / minor package in the STT installation folder.

Should you have any queries or need any assistance, please contact your School Liaison Officer of WebSAMS Team or STT Hotline at 3464 0579.

Gentle Reminder to STT Users

With an aim to safeguarding the security of STT, schools are recommended to follow the guidelines of "IT Security in Schools – Recommended Practice" (ITSS) at the location of:

http://www.edb.gov.hk/attachment/en/edu-system/primary-secondary/applicable-to-primary-secondary/it-in-edu/WiFi900/IT_SecurityinSchools_RecommendedPractice_Aug2016.pdf

Every item included in the IT Security in Schools – Recommended Practice (ITSS) is applicable to STT and essential for the establishment and maintenance of the IT Security Policy defined by every school.

Besides, STT users are recommended to regularly visit the Information Security website of HKSAR (<http://www.infosec.gov.hk>) for updated information of IT security.

In particular to the areas of password management and incident handling procedures, the followings are highlighted in order to assist schools to review their definition and enforcement:

- a) *All STT users are recommended to set password for the reports exported from STT. Passwords should not be shared or divulged unless necessary. The risk of sharing passwords is that it would increase the probability of security being compromised.*
- b) *Schools should well define their own Security Incident Handling Procedures for IT Systems including STT and notify the right people timely for procedures.*