

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

The STT Upgrade Package for version **1.1.02.21062019** is now available for download from WebSAMS Download Site (URL: <http://www.websams.edb.gov.hk/eng/stt/index.html>).

The STT can carry out auto-update for this version if users select “Enable Auto Update” under “Setting” in the STT with access to the Internet/server for update.

Please note that the STT has upgraded from the series of Version 1.0 to Version 1.1 since November 2018 and the prerequisite version for this package is 1.1.01.15112018. For users who are using Version 1.0 (i.e. version 1.0.xx.ddmmyyyy), auto-update is not applicable and your school should re-install STT using the Installer File of this version (i.e. version 1.1.02.21062019), which supports migration of database from previous version (if any). 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. General Control and Data Set Management
 - a. The database is patched to support a new constraint for Teacher, namely Daily Consecutive Load Limit, to allow users to set the maximum number of lessons to be taught by the teacher chosen in consecutive periods per day.
 - b. Daily Consecutive Load Limit, Consecutive Load Definition, and default values of Daily Consecutive Load Limit are now included in STT data files imported to and exported from the STT starting from this version.
 - c. If the previous version of STT data file is imported, the Daily Consecutive Load Limit for all teachers will default to the number of periods per day.
 - d. If users create a new data set using the function “Add” in Manage Data Set and/or import the zip file from WebSAMS TSI, the Daily Consecutive Load Limit for all teachers will default to the number of periods per day.

2. School Data Setup
 - a. The button of “Edit Default Daily Load Limit” is now changed to “Edit Default Daily Load/Consecutive Load Limit”, which supports changing the Default Consecutive Load Limit of all/ specific day(s) for new teachers.
 - b. A new button “Edit Consecutive Load Definition” is added for users to specify what types of break (Recess, Lunch, Other) to be classified as an interval between lessons.
 - c. The tab of Teacher is updated to display the Daily Consecutive Load Limit of each teacher, which is shown in brackets next to the Daily Load Limit. Users can edit/ batch edit both daily load limit and daily consecutive load limit of teacher(s).
3. Data Validation
 - a. Information about lessons with period type over the possible daily consecutive load limit of the assigned teacher is provided.
4. Pre-assignment
 - a. The new constraint “Daily Consecutive Load Limit” is incorporated in the functions of Pre-assignment. If the new constraint is violated, the corresponding timeslot will be highlighted in yellow in Timetable Group and the details will be displayed in the Message Window. Users can select to relax the new constraint.
5. Generation and Tuning
 - a. The new constraint “Daily Consecutive Load Limit” is incorporated in the functions of Generation and Tuning. If the new constraint is violated, the corresponding timeslot will be highlighted in yellow in Timetable Group and the details will be displayed in the Message Window. Users can select to relax the new constraint..
 - b. The new constraint “Removal of teacher’s daily consecutive load limit” is added to the Constraint Relaxation Order panel in “Auto Generation”, “Resume Generation”, “Batch Generation” and “Auto Suggestion”. Users can relax the new constraint and set its relaxation order in the panel.
6. Report
 - a. Details of teachers’ Maximum Daily Consecutive Load are added in Teacher Constraint List, which is one of the data set reports.

Other Enhancements / Changes

1. Lesson Setup
 - a. The layout of the panel of Change Teacher Load is updated.
2. Pre-assignment & Generation and Tuning
 - a. The message shown in Message Window when assigning lessons which violate teacher’s daily load limit is rephrased.

3. Generation and Tuning
 - a. The constraint “Overload of teacher’s daily limit” is renamed “Removal of teacher’s daily load limit” (English version only).

Problems Resolved in This Version

1. School Data Setup
 - a. The panel of Adding Class Subject is not wide enough to display all information.
2. Pre-assignment
 - a. Lessons which exceed teacher’s daily load limit cannot be pre-assigned in particular cases.
 - b. All lesson segments of a special lesson, which include those irrelevant to the selected class, are displayed in the class timetable in Timetable Group.
3. Generation and Tuning
 - a. The panel of Constraint Relaxation Order is not wide enough to display all information.

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. 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 “Information Security in Schools – Recommended Practice” at the location of:

<https://www.edb.gov.hk/en/edu-system/primary-secondary/applicable-to-primary-secondary/it-in-edu/information-security/information-security-in-school.html>

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 accordingly.*