

Delphix

August/September 2020

Release

Several new features were made available in August and September 2020. These features significantly enhance performance, streamline the process of passing security reviews, and simplify management of data sources and users at scale via [Central Management](#). We also progressed against our goal of supporting customers wherever their data resides, with several new certifications.

High-Level Update

- **Users and Groups:** In Central Management, we added a new model of managing access to data. Rather than assigning each individual user ownership on a per-engine, per-data set basis, customers will create “data access groups,” defining access for groups of datasets that can span multiple engines and the set of users that can then access these groups. Access to these groups may be set on a per-user basis. This is a fundamental, simplifying change in how our customers can manage their data at scale.
- **HashiCorp and expanded CyberArk Support:** In 6.0.3, we introduced the first phase of password vaults. In 6.0.4, we expanded support by adding CyberArk for Oracle databases and HashiCorp for Oracle, SQL Server and SAP ASE. With these two password vaults, we have coverage across the vast majority of the market.

- **Masking Job Memory Improvements:** Memory management has been dramatically improved. Not only can jobs run with less memory, but the masking engine will also now ensure that jobs can only run if enough memory is available and that the engine cannot run out of memory. Delphix now will automatically schedule jobs that can run within the available memory with job queuing.
- **File Masking Performance:** The performance of file masking has been significantly improved.

Technical Update

- **New Secure Lookup Algorithm:** In 6.0.3, we introduced the masking algorithm SDK. In addition to enabling our partners and customers to write new algorithms, we also intend to use this to introduce new variants of our built-in algorithms. The first of these is a new Secure Lookup algorithm. The new Secure Lookup algorithm framework provides improved masking performance, stronger encryption, the ability to call this native algorithm from inside an extended algorithm, and options for case sensitivity.
- **Extensible Connector Permissions Change:** Our first iteration of masking extensible connectors, supporting the ability to upload and use JDBC drivers, required that the permissions for each driver be enumerated at install time. We replaced this mechanism with a fixed security policy blocking only the most dangerous permissions (specifically those that could inflict harm to the masking engine), removing the need for user management of permissions. It remains the case that the engine administrator must ensure that only trusted JDBC driver software is installed.
- **Central Management Connectivity Update:** To simplify the customer onboarding process, we made a few changes to how the engines connect to Central Management. First, an engine's cloud agent will respect any configured proxy settings. Second, the engine will automatically route all traffic through api.delphix.com if direct access to our certificate management service (GoDaddy) is unavailable.
- **Use JDBC Connections from Extensible Masking Algorithms:** In 6.0.4, we have extended the masking algorithm SDK and provided the ability to leverage a JDBC connection. This is useful for customers who want an algorithm that can access data from an external store.

Certifications

The following certifications were completed through September.

- Virtualization
 - ASE for RHEL 8.1 & 8.2 (certified on 6.0.3.0+)
 - Oracle 19 for RHEL 8.0 (certified on 5.3.9.0 and 6.0.3.0+)
 - NFSv4 support for Db2 on AIX and SuSE
 - SQL Server Instances with a Managed Service Account
 - vFile support for RHEL 8.2
- Masking
 - SQL Server 2017 and 2019

Deprecations

The following features are deprecated as of 6.0.4 and will be removed in a future release:

- Virtualization:
 - HANA 1.0 Plugin - Delphix is adjusting its HANA 1.0 support to be in line with SAP's EoM schedule (May 2021).
 - EBS 12.1 Plugin - Delphix is adjusting its EBS 12.1 support to be in line with Oracle's EoPS schedule (December 2021).
- Masking:
 - Job Scheduler - The introduction of Masking's REST API several releases ago allowed customers to schedule job executions using their preferred job scheduler. As a result, the integrated scheduler is seldom used. We plan to EOL this feature in the near future.
 - FTP, SFTP, and mount upload for XML and Cobol formats - FTP/SFTP/Mount-based format import were the original modes for XML and Cobol files. Since then, Delphix has added the ability to upload a format file, which is far simpler to set up. We've seen a dramatic shift away from the legacy import modes in favor of the simplicity of "upload".
 - Row Type Feature - Originally geared for limiting masking to subsets of rows within a column, this feature was seldomly used. Its functionality, if desired, can still be replicated via the Custom SQL feature.

- Redundant Settings for 'Edit Table' under Rule Sets - Table Suffix, Add Column, Join Table, and List
 - These settings are redundant and can be replicated with the Custom SQL setting.
- 'HAVING' clause from Masking API - Deprecating due to low use. If desired, this feature can be replicated with Custom SQL.

Upgrading to 6.0.4

Users that wish to upgrade to 6.0.4.0 can upgrade by themselves without support involvement if they are already running on 6.0.0.0 or a higher version.