



What's New in Release 7.5

At ADERANT, we are committed to helping our clients get the most out of our solutions. That's why we continually invest in our products—enhancing existing capabilities, adding new functionality, and leveraging new technologies.

ADERANT Expert Release 7.5 represents a major update to our leading solution. The release includes new global accounting and reporting capabilities, expanded support for e-billing, a new user interface, and various ADERANT Expert User Community requested enhancements.

Release 7.5 will help firms manage their global finances more effectively, support new client service requirements, and improve information visibility and user productivity.

Key Enhancements

New Expert Global Accounting Capabilities

ADERANT Expert Release 7.5 includes new functionality for Expert Global Accounting that significantly augments the application's existing capabilities. ADERANT worked closely with several leading international firms to develop the new functionality, which includes:

- Support for multiple chart of account structures and books
- Multiple map and book associations
- Flexible period support in books
- Multi-book transaction support
- Separate adjustment period for year end accrual

Enhanced Credit Notes Capabilities

Global firms face statutory requirements in many regions that call for the ability to create, report, and track documented credits that are applied to a client invoice. As such, the credit notes functionality of Expert Billing has been significantly enhanced in Release 7.5 to allow for the robust accounting and reporting of these transactions, including:

- Prepare, draft, post, and cancel both full and partial credit notes
- Manually allocate credits to specific time and disbursement entries
- Prorate on hours or rates
- Determine whether or not credits will affect timekeeper realization
- Track credit notes and link them to the original bill

Streamlined E-Billing Support

Clients are increasingly pressuring firms to adopt e-billing, which is not merely an electronic bill format, but rather an end-to-end process of data setup, data validation, document creation, document transmission, and transaction confirmation. ADERANT understands the challenges firms face in creating a reliable, effective, and lowcost e-billing process and includes support for each step of the e-billing process as well as full support of the LEDES XML E-Billing Version 2 standard in ADERANT Expert Release 7.5.

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For data set up, Release 7.5 separates the storage of common operational and transaction e-billing information in the database schema. ADERANT Expert has been extended to handle the creation and maintenance of these data storage categories utilizing various approaches.

For data validation, a new rules framework allows for the early detection and correction of errors in the billing cycle. The framework validates payment terms before an invoice is created and users can create unique validation rules at the client matter levels to check invoices before they are sent out.

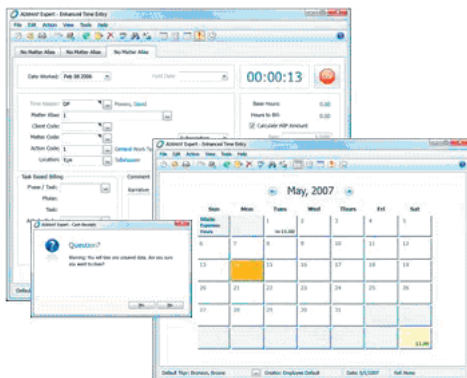
For document creation, the DocuDraft document assembly engine is used to create both the client facing invoice document as well as the e-billing document. A number of extensions have been made to DocuDraft to support accessing client-specific information and XML file generation.

Finally, ADERANT Expert Release 7.5 allows firms to optionally hold the releasing and posting of an invoice until the e-bill has been accepted. This reduces the number of instances where an invoice must be reversed because it has been rejected.

New User Interface

Release 7.5 includes a major refresh of ADERANT Expert's graphical user interface (UI). The new UI makes every ADERANT Expert applications more visually consistent and improves their overall usability. The updated interface includes:

- Better use of contrast to highlight important information (e.g., edit control text is a different and more noticeable color than the edit control prompts)
- New visual artifacts to indicate required fields
- New, more intuitive toolbar icons
- New fonts to increase legibility of content and make it easier for users to quickly scan a page
- Greater use of gradients to reduce eye strain
- New intuitive button design and placement
- New color palette consistent with Microsoft Vista and Office 2007



ADERANT Expert User Community

ADERANT works to maintain a close relationship with its clients to better understand and meet their needs. Release 7.5 includes the following enhancements requested by the ADERANT Expert User Community:

Names Involved with Clients

Firms can identify client-level parties for conflicts checking without having to enter duplicate party names at the matter level.

Invoice Document Security in Expert Billing

A new security attribute provides edit rights for a user/group when viewing documents in Expert Billing.

Matter Billing Timekeeper in Collections

Matter-level timekeepers are set as the default collection timekeepers assigned to transactions after the bill selection process.

Select Bill Event in Collections

The bill selection event has been expanded to include additional filters for the automatic selection of bills with the Event Server.

Mass Edit Bill Status Code in Collections

Bill status can be mass edited when more than one bill is selected.

Billing Release Status

Firms can require users to un-release a prebill to perform additional work after it has been released.

Audit Log Entry of Gather WIP Action

Expert Billing now records the gather WIP action into an audit log to provide additional details about who did what to a prebill and when.

Progress Billing Transfers

Progress credits are transferable between holding matters and destination matters within the Billing Desktop.

