Release Notes

Axiom Enterprise Decision
Support
Version 2023.1

AXIOM

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Contents

About the Release Notes

Syntellis is pleased to announce the 2023.1 release of Axiom Enterprise Decision Support. Each product release provides new features, enhancements, and configuration options to meet your needs. Many of these features and enhancements are a direct result of your feedback and suggestions.

The purpose of these release notes is to provide you with the following:

- High-level descriptions of new features
- Information to know before upgrading
- Steps for preparing for and scheduling your upgrade
- List of fixed issues

> **TIP:** Periodically, the release notes are updated when new information is available, including patch release fixes. To view the latest release notes, we encourage you to view them in the Axiom Enterprise Decision Support online help. On the help home page, click the Release Notes link at the top of the page.

▶ Accessing current and older release notes for Axiom Healthcare and Axiom Financial Institutions products

The online help for Axiom Healthcare products includes a page with links to current and past release notes for the last several years. To access this page, open the product online help, and at the top of the menu on the left side of the page, click **Release notes > All Axiom products**.
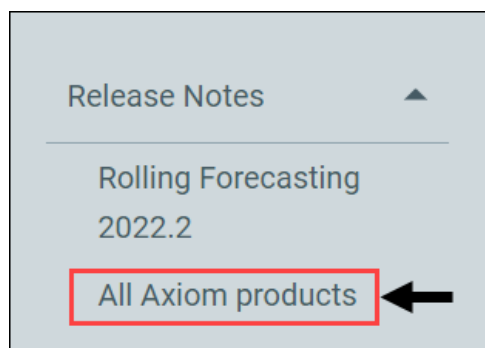
New features in 2023.1

Enterprise Decision Support delivers the following new and updated features and enhancements:

Relative Cost Unit (RCU) cost method added

The RCU cost method leverages the results of all previously-run cost method results as the basis for calculating one or multiple cost categories.

Ability to run the Relative Cost Unit (RCU) process from the Process cost advanced screen for processing in correct order

To run the RCU process from the Process cost advanced page, a new RCU checkbox was added under the Process cost column so that it can be processed in the correct order.

Add Relative Cost Unit (RCU)-related database tables for creating stories and processing RCU definitions under EDS/Cost Model/RCU folder

To find all RCU-related data, a new RCU folder was added for RCU processing under EDS/Cost Model.

To add RCU-specific tables in this folder, you can store RCU configurations and process RCU definitions when calculating RCU costing.

System processes Relative Cost Unit (RCU) if RCU version is configured in the cost model, and you select RCU for processing - Total Cost Processing

EDS processes the RCU% Allocation calculation after RCU Cost has been processed so that you can obtain the percentage of allocation.

This enhancement only includes processing of RCU type Total and does not include processing of RCU types, Fixed and Variable.

System processes Relative Cost Unit (RCU) if RCU version is configured in the Cost Model, and you select RCU for processing - Fixed and Variable Processing

EDS processes the RCU% Allocation calculation after RCU Cost has been processed so that you can obtain the percentage of allocation.

This enhancement only includes processing of RCU type Total, and does not include processing of RCU type, Total Cost.
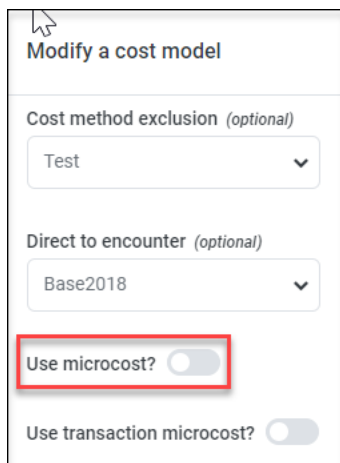
Microcosting enhanced

Microcosting provides the flexibility to load different acquisition costs by service month. This change was made possible by adding the ServiceYM to the MicroCostItem table.

NOTE: For clients moving from prior EDS versions (2021.x – 2022.3) to 2023.1 who already have used microcosting:

- You must repopulate the MicroCostitem table, making sure each department/costitem/costcategory is represented for the appropriate service year and month (ServiceYM in table, format yyyymm) for your cost model:
  - You can choose to just replicate the values that you had in your historical MicrocostItemTable (now stored as MicroCostItemLegacy, for reference) for all Service YMs, or you may want to introduce new acquisition costs for some of those Service YMs.
  - You must manually make these changes either by cutting/pasting directly into the MicroCostItem table in the Windows client, or by modifying and rerunning your custom microcost import.

Select Microcost as an option within a cost model so that version is no longer used in the process

Created new MicroCostItem table with Service Year Month column replacing Microcost table

- You can add the effective year and month that the microcost transaction occurred, which lets you allocate the microcost entries by month.

- The **Version** column was removed from the Microcost item table.

Archived the MicroCostItem table contents MicrocostItemLegacy table

The table is located in **Table** library > **EDS** > **CostModel** > **Microcost** > **MicroCostItem**:

As part of removing the **Version** option in the Microcost feature, the table was renamed so that the historical (legacy) data is retained and available for you to review.
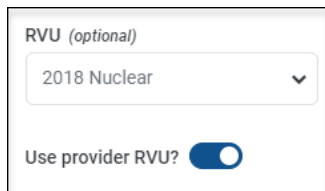
Provider Relative Value Units (pRVU) cost method added

The Provider RVU (pRVU) method allows costing calculations to look across departments to consider a provider's entire activity. It requires provider-specific general ledger departments and other considerations to implement.

Currently, this method should only be used by clients who have used pRVU in Cost Accounting/Decision Support Services (CA/DSS) and are going through their migration to Enterprise Decision Support (EDS). Additional front-end enhancements and documentation will be provided in 2023 to provide more guidance to clients looking to implement pRVU for the first time in EDS. If you are interested in implementing pRVU, contact your Customer Relationship Executive (CRE) for more information.

Added and updated Provider Relative Value Units (pRVU) version within a selected cost model so that you can allocate the appropriate pRVU updates

- On **Cost Model** page, added a new **RVU (optional)** label.

- Added a dropdown that defaults to **Optional** as the value. The behavior is identical to the **RVU** dropdown on the same page.
- The dropdown is available only when you select **Use provider RVU**.
- Enabled you to create a new version from **Cost Model** page.

Run the Provider RVU process from the Process cost advanced page for processing in the correct order

- Added new **Item Type** column to the Cost RVU table that you must populate to properly process pRVU.
- Added new **Provider RVU** check box in the **Process cost advanced** > **Process cost** column.

Other enhancements

Added additional columns and sorting functions in the Cost Cat selection page providing complete information for making proper selections

- Added the **Report Detail** column, which is populated from the **CostCat** table.
- Added the **Report Group** column, which is populated from the **CostCat** table.
- The default **Cost Categories** column is listed in alphabetical order.
- Added the ability to sort on the **Report Detail** and **Report Group** column headers on the **RCU Definitions - Cost Categories** page.

Added new columns to the cm$ CostResults table structure for Fixed Cost, Variable Cost, and Volume

Added three columns to the cm$ model that is specific to Cost Results tables to enable Relative Cost Unit (RCU) to run more efficiently and improve data presentation for more useful reporting and review.

- **Fixed Cost** (Total calculated fixed costs) is the same data type as Calculated Cost.
- **Variable Cost** (Total calculated variable costs) is the same data type as Calculated Cost.
- **Volume** is the same data type as CostDetail.

Added the following cost totals columns to the reporting tables for convenience and consistency

Tables

- EncounterTotalCostsReporting
- CostDetailCategoryCalculationReporting

Columns

- TotalDirectCost
- TotalIndirectCost
- TotalFixedDirectCost
- TotalVariableDirectCost
- TotalFixedIndirectCost
- TotalVariableIndirectCost

New features in 2023.1.5

Enterprise Decision Support delivers the following new and updated features and enhancements:

▶ Updates to standard reports

All Cost Recon and Data Reports contain minor changes to headers, views, and variables to provide an up-to-date user experience.
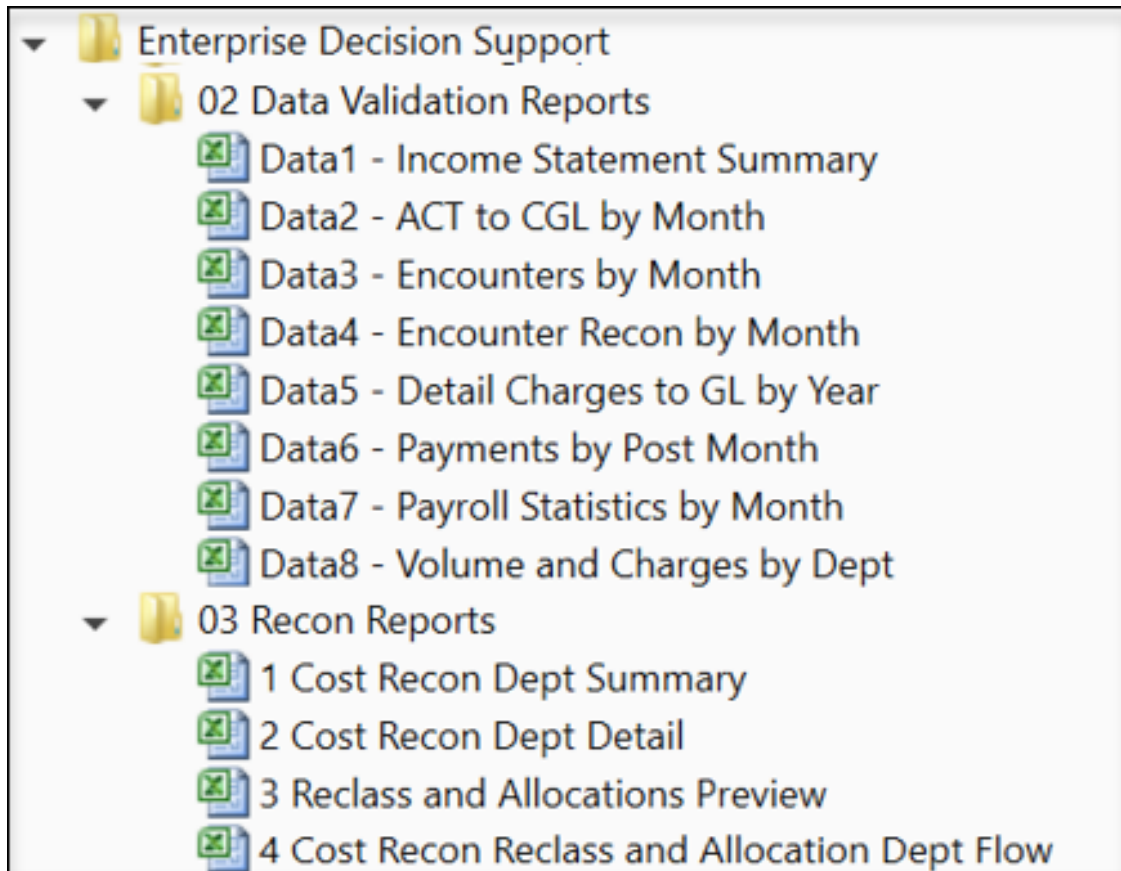
For 03 (Cost) Recon Reports that prompt for a cost model ID, cost model ID 0 (zero) was filtered out from the selection list. CGL.TOT is used where applicable, and extra data and sheets that were previously necessary were removed before that column was brought into EDS.

- The *1 Cost Recon Dept Summary* included additional changes:

    ◦ The data filter for the ReclassDetail restricts results to just expense and prevents statistics from contaminating the results.

    ◦ Column AI (formerly titled, "Exclusions (CostCat Is Costed = False)") was renamed "Costcats not included in costing" to avoid any confusion with method exclusions.

    ◦ The restriction on this column that only provided data for direct and indirect columns was removed so that all sections provide data, if applicable.

- The *2 Cost Recon Dept Detail* changed actual quantity (AQ) changed to restrict results to expense.

▶ New unit cost report

Use the *5 Unit Cost Review* report to review unit cost reports before publishing reporting tables. This report resides under Reports Library\Enterprise Decision Support\03 Recon Reports\5 Unit Cost Review.

The report leverages CostDetailCategoryCalculation (CDCC) and Cost Detail tables (along with their Direct to Encounter counterparts), enabling you to review cost per unit results for one entity after all cost methods are processed.

What to know before upgrading

> **IMPORTANT: You must apply the Axiom 2022.4 upgrade before applying any 2023.1 Axiom product upgrades.** Axiom Software upgrades are backwards compatible so you can upgrade different products at different times, but you must upgrade to the Axiom 2022.4 *before* the first product upgrade. Refer to the Axiom Release Notes and Axiom Healthcare Suite Release Notes for considerations before upgrading. Apply this update ONLY if you have already applied the release and completed all the manual setup steps from the corresponding release notes.

When upgrading to the 2023.1 version of Axiom Enterprise Decision Support, keep in mind the following:

- Along with upgrading to Axiom 2022.4, you will also need to upgrade to Axiom Comparative Analytics 2023.1.
- This product upgrade may contain updated templates, calculation methods, and remediated defects.
- You can replace Syntellis reports. Any report that you created or saved under a different name remains unchanged. Revised reports are available in Document History.
- Any Syntellis report that was moved to a new location is automatically moved back to its original location.
- Syntellis product templates and calculation method libraries are replaced.
- Product task panes are replaced.
- Process definitions are not replaced. Process Manager will not currently work with the new system tables and web-based pages and utilities. Consequently, please plan on reviewing and potentially revising any Cost Accounting Process Definitions depending on the scope and what tasks have been created and are in use.
- Driver files are replaced.
- Security roles and subsystems are reset to their configured settings. Your user security exceptions remain intact.
- Specific items that are configured as part of your company or organization's implementation such as imports, exports, driver files, and process management files, remain unchanged. Any required modifications to these areas are covered in the release notes. For example, Process Manager-defined processes for Cost Accounting must be modified by Client Success and has limitations with accessing web-based tasks.
- Shared tables might have any of the following changes:
  - Columns reordered
  - New columns added
  - Old columns removed (rare)

    If you copy and paste into or from Axiom tables, review the column order of those tables after upgrading to assess the impact to your internal processes.

Preparing and scheduling upgrades

Summary of the upgrade process:

1. **Review product release notes** – Review this document to familiarize yourself with the new features and functionality.

2. **Schedule an installation date** – Submit a request to your organization's Axiom System Administrator to contact support by creating a support ticket to schedule an installation date and time with at least three days of advance notice. The request should include the following information:
   - Desired Axiom platform version.
   - Desired Axiom for Healthcare product and version.
   - Indicate whether to first refresh the Axiom test sandbox with a copy of the production instance of Axiom and apply update(s) to it. If so, provide the soonest that Syntellis can do this.
   - Propose an approximate two-hour downtime window when Syntellis can apply update(s) to the production instance of Axiom during regular business hours, Monday through Friday 7 AM to 7 PM Central (except holidays recognized by Syntellis).

3. **Complete manual configuration updates** – After installing the upgrade, review any manual setup steps needed to enable features for this version.

Getting help and training

Syntellis provides world-class resources directly within the Axiom system. Axiom Help provides topics, knowledge base articles, documents, webinar/training announcements, and videos to guide you through managing your system. To access these resources, do any of the following:

- **Windows and Excel Clients** – From the Main or Admin ribbon tab, click **Online Help**, and then select the product. Axiom Help opens in a new browser window.

  > **NOTE:** The online help opens only for products you are licensed to use.

- **Contextual help** – Form/web-enabled features and products include contextual help directly within the user interface. This information provides a quick summary and instructions specifically related to the page you are using. You can access this information by clicking the question mark in the upper right corner of the page. To access the full Axiom Help system, click **Open Help** at the top of the contextual help dialog.

▶ Syntellis Central

Syntellis Central provides centralized self-service content and resources for the Axiom Enterprise Decision Support platform and suite of products. Using Syntellis Central, you can:

- Search help across all Axiom products.

- Access tips, tricks, and best practices in our knowledge base.

- Find training and certification content including on-demand, video, webinars, labs, and instructor-led courses.

- Submit a Support issue, find suggested content, and manage any outstanding issues directly with Support.

- Review open Software Service project status and details.

Issues fixed in 2023.1

The following table lists resolutions for issues addressed in 2023.1, released on February 13, 2023:

Issue	Description
Volumes and amounts do not reconcile between Cost Item Usage (CIU) and Cost Detail (CD) in some systems [158759]	**Summary:** The volumes and amounts did not synchronize between Cost Item Usage (CIU) and Cost Detail (CD) as expected for clients populating the time component of Service Date. **Resolution:** Changes include the entire last day of the cost model costing period as part of the costing calculations. Previously, the last day was using 12:00 AM as the time portion of the date parameters.
Calculator issues causing small dollar over-costing in some departments when both Relative Value Units (RVU) and Ratio of Costs-to-Charges (RCC) cost methods have been run [158762] [161711]	**Summary:** Some departments leveraging both RVU and RCC methods were calculating final results leaving small dollar variances from expected amounts. **Resolution:** Increased the scale of some RVU calculation columns in working tables from 4 to 8 decimals to improve result accuracy and eliminate costing variance issues when using the RVU method.
Cost Variance between Cost Detail Category Calculation (CDCC) and Cost Results [161631]	**Summary:** Total costs were not reconciling for some clients when comparing cost detail category calculation (CDCC) and cost results. **Resolution:** Costing Exclusions were not always being appropriately applied to the summarization process. Amended the summarization process to exclude data as appropriate from RVU and RCC costing methods consistently. This outcome can be checked using the Multiple Table Comparison report.
Encounter from EncounterStaging - Update field in AdmitType Transform [155559]	**Summary:** In **Encounter from EncounterStaging** > **Edit Transform** page, the **Description** column for the Alternate key in the AdmitType table was causing issues when importing data. **Resolution:** The **Description** column with entries up to 50 was changed to **AdmitType** column with entries up to 25. With this change, you may need to adjust your data import entries accordingly.

Issues fixed in 2023.1.1

The following table lists resolutions for issues addressed in 2023.1.1, released on March 31, 2023:

Issue	Description
Publish reporting tables Scheduler errors for some clients when publishing reporting tables [167391] [167010] [166873]	**Summary:** The inclusion of newly imported and uncosted data prevented clients from successfully completing the Publish Reporting Tables job. **Resolution:** Added logic to include this data in the tables for reporting.
Scheduler error for client with 100+ costcats when publishing reporting tables [167571]	**Summary:** A SQL overflow error occurred when an extreme number of cost categories were configured in client system. **Resolution:** Modified the SQL logic to accommodate the maximum length dynamic string.
Reverse Markup Reverse Markup method is not calculating results on transactions with negative values [166959]	**Summary:** Because markup schedule tiers were defined as strictly positive numbers, transactions with negative values did not calculate results. **Resolution:** Revised the calculation logic to include negative values based on their absolute value when performing the calculation.
Reverse Markup method producing results outside the cost processing timeframe [167303]	**Summary:** The reverse markup method used the cost model end date instead of the cost period end date when selecting transactions for calculation. **Resolution:** Updated the markup to use the intended cost period end date instead of the cost model end date.
Data imports Standard Staging to Production imports occasionally experiencing excessive processing times on the delete transform [166190] [166189] [166191] [166192] [166193]	**Summary:** Clients experienced inconsistent performance times when running standard staging to production imports, specifically in the delete transform. **Resolution:** Updated SQL in the transform to improve performance efficiency for the following standard imports: • Encounter CPT from Staging • Encounter Diagnosis from Staging • Encounter Payer from Staging • Encounter Procedure from Staging • Encounter Provider from Staging
PM EDS hierarchical file parser truncating PMPrep staging tables between files [166457]	**Summary:** For clients using the Multiple Files option, the parser utility truncated the staging tables between files.

Issue	Description
	Resolution: The parser utility was updated to truncate only once per job rather than once per file.
PM EDS hierarchical file parser causing client system performance issues for other users when processing [165797]	**Summary:** Clients experienced general performance issues when they ran the parser utility.
	Resolution: Modified the parser utility to update the status of the scheduler task at task completion rather than during processing.
Other	**Summary:** For encounters with cost detail spanning multiple models, when the Summarize to Encounter model was processed from the web UI, only the current active model was included, which produced incomplete results on the encounter.
Running Summarize to Encounter from the web UI is not properly summarizing data to encounters that span multiple cost models [167684]	
	Resolution: The Summarize to Encounter model now includes results from all models in which the Summarize to Encounter model is configured.
Navigation between cost models not consistent in web UI [167012]	**Summary:** Clients were unable to change cost models in the web UI when any model was missing a valid begin date.
	Resolution: Modified the UI to function correctly for navigation, even when a date configuration might be incomplete.
Costing General Ledger (CGL) offsets for microcost inadvertently deleted upon processing [168184]	**Summary:** When processing some subsequent costing tasks, microcost offsets in the Costing General Ledger (CGL) were deleted.
	Resolution: Modified logic that previously searched for a valid configured "version" of microcost, which became obsolete with the update for microcost to be Year Month (YRMO)-specific.
Transaction Detail Category Calculation virtual table displaying incorrect costcat names in reporting for some clients [167830]	**Summary:** The Transaction Detail Category Calculation (TDCC) virtual table was incorrectly configured to link the CostcatID column to the CostCat table.
	Resolution: Updated the linking in this virtual table to use the CostcatVersionConfig table.

Issues fixed in 2023.1.3

The following table lists resolutions for issues addressed in 2023.1.3, released on May 26, 2023:

Issue	Description
Publish Reporting Tables – subtotal columns not calculating appropriately [54160] [51935] [51869]	**Summary:** For some clients, total and subtotal columns were not calculating appropriately. **Resolution:** Modified the Publish Reporting Tables job for using underscores in costcat names and various costcat configurations.
Encounter Dirty Transform missing on CostDetail from Staging table [53947]	**Summary:** Encounter Dirty Transform was missing from the Staging table on CostDetail. **Resolution:** A new transform was added to the transform list for the CostDetail from the Staging table.
Variance exists when summarizing EncounterTotalCosts to Encounter [53802]	**Summary:** In certain circumstances, previous costing data was left in Encounter tables and not getting cleared when costing was re-processed. **Resolution:** Implemented code changes to clear out all Encounter Costing columns prior to running the Summarized to Encounter process.

Issues fixed in 2023.1.4

No client-facing issues were addressed in 2023.1.4, released on July 17, 2023.

Issues fixed in 2023.1.5

No client-facing issues were addressed in 2023.1.5, released on October 9, 2023.

Technical considerations

No technical considerations or instructions needed for this release.