

Excel Link Release Notes

The “Excel Link 2.3 Release Notes” on page 1-1 summarize the changes introduced in the latest version of Excel Link. The following topics are discussed in these Release Notes.

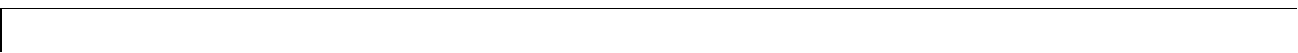
- “New Features” on page 1-2
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If you are upgrading from a release earlier than Release 14SP2, you should also see

- “Excel Link 2.2 Release Notes” on page 2-1
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Printing the Release Notes

If you would like to print the Release Notes, you can link to a PDF version.



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New Features

The following new features have been introduced into Excel Link with Version 2.3 (Release 14SP3).

MATLAB Desktop Enabled

At Version 2.3 Excel Link uses MATLAB as a COM automation server with the full desktop displayed.

New System Requirements

Excel Link requires approximately 202 kilobytes of disk space. Operating system requirements are

- Microsoft Windows XP
- Microsoft Windows 2000

Excel Link also requires one of the following versions of Excel:

- Microsoft Excel 98
- Excel 2000
- Excel 2002
- Excel 2003

and MATLAB for Windows version 5.1 or later.

Bugs Fixed in This Release

The following reported software bugs have been fixed in Excel Link Version 2.3.

MLPutMatrix Crashes MATLAB When Attempting to Transfer a Worksheet Error

When `MLPutMatrix` attempted to transfer cells containing an Excel formula error, the transfer attempt caused MATLAB to crash. With Version 2.3, cells that contain errors appear as zeros in MATLAB.

MLGetMatrix Cannot Retrieve "ans"

Excel Link now provides a warning if you try to retrieve `ans` with `MLGetMatrix`.

Known Software and Documentation Problems

At publication time, Excel Link had no significant known open bugs. The Bug Reports interface on the MathWorks Web site will be updated if any important bugs become known to the MathWorks after the publication of these release notes.

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New Features

This section summarizes the new features and enhancements introduced in Excel Link 2.2.

Transfer of Mixed Type Cell Arrays

Excel Link now supports the transfer of mixed type (numeric and character) cell arrays. See the descriptions of `MLPutMatrix` and `MLPutVar` for a discussion of the results of transferring mixed data using these functions.

Excel Link Environment

This section provides some information regarding the relationships among MATLAB, Excel, and Excel Link

Supported Versions of Excel

Excel Link requires Microsoft Excel 98, Excel 2000, or Excel 2002.

Information for International Users

The *Excel Link User's Guide* uses Excel with an **English (United States)** Windows regional setting for illustrative purposes. If you use Excel Link with a non-**English (United States)** Windows desktop environment, certain syntactical elements may not work as illustrated. For example, you may have to replace the comma (,) delimiter within the Excel Link commands with a semicolon (;) or other operator.

Please consult your Windows documentation to determine which regional setting differences exist among various international versions.

Enabling the MATLAB Desktop

Excel Link uses MATLAB as a COM automation server. Consequently, when started from Excel Link, MATLAB comes up minimized with the MATLAB desktop disabled.

To enable the MATLAB desktop, you can execute the MATLAB command `desktop` directly in the command window or execute it indirectly using the Excel Link function `MLEvalString`.

To enable the MATLAB desktop from Excel, type the following in any cell.

```
=mlevalstring("desktop")
```


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New Features

This section summarizes the new features and enhancements introduced in Excel Link 2.0.

If you are upgrading from Excel Link 1.1.3, you should see “New Features” on page 4-2.

Support for Windows 2000 Now Included

Operating system requirements are

- Microsoft Windows 98
- Microsoft Windows NT 4.0, or
- Microsoft Windows 2000

Excel Link also requires Microsoft Excel 97 or Excel 2000 and MATLAB for Windows 5.1 or later.

New Functions

Excel Link 2.0 includes two new data management functions.

matlabfcn	Evaluate MATLAB command given Excel data
matlabsub	Evaluate MATLAB command given Excel data and designate output location

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New Features

This section introduces the new features and enhancements added to Excel Link 1.1.3.

License Manager Control

As with other MATLAB related products, Excel Link installation is now under control of the FLEXlm license manager. Implementation of license manager control necessitated a change in the directory location of several files created during the installation process.

Note The notation <matlab> represents the MATLAB root directory, the directory where MATLAB is installed on your system.

File	Purpose	Previous Location	New Location
excllink.xla	Excel Link add-in	<matlab>\exlink	<matlab>/toolbox/exlink
ExliSamp.xls	Excel Link samples	<matlab>\exlink	<matlab>/toolbox/exlink

Additional Error Detection

Excel Link now produces a cell error message if your matrix exceeds the Excel limit of 256 columns or 65536 rows.