
What's New in EF Portal 2024.1



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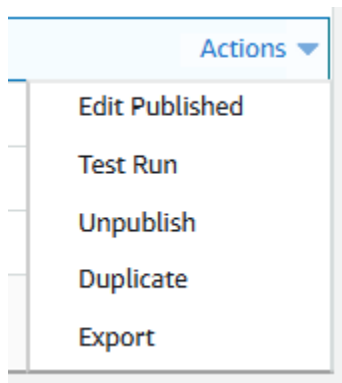
Editing Published Services

Many EF admins might have been wondering why they could not edit a published service right away. This is now possible.

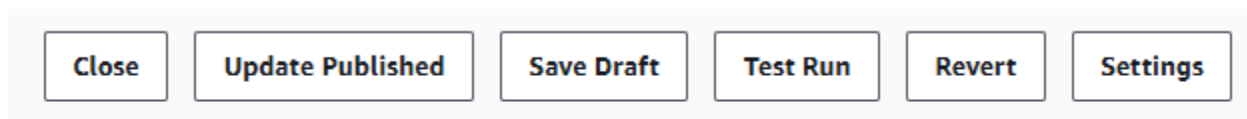
The new feature offers to update services which are published so the iteration on services can be much more efficient. Of course EF admins need to be careful not to break the published service used by their users.

Still the option to test a service is available with “Save Draft” option and to test the draft service with “Test Run”.

The new entry in the pull-down menu of a published service:



The top menu in the service while editing the service:



Please be careful - you are editing a published service!

Login / Logout Auditing feature

To enhance security and monitoring we have added auditing EF Portal logins and logouts into a dedicated audit log file. This feature is enabled by default and can be turned off via the `ef.audit.logfile.enabled` parameter in `server.conf`.

Examples of audit lines from the auditing backend:

```
2024/Dec/11 17:36.08 [LOGIN] Login performed, user: eadmin,
authority: pam, serviceUri:
//com.enginframe.interactive/list.sessions
2024/Dec/11 17:36.12 [LOGOUT] Logout performed, user: eadmin,
authority: pam
2024/Dec/11 17:36.14 [LOGIN_FAILED] Login failed, error:
Authentication Error Missing credentials, user: eadmin, authority:
pam, serviceUri: //com.enginframe.interactive/list.session
2024/Dec/11 17:36.21 [LOGIN] Login performed, user: eadmin,
authority: pam, serviceUri:
//com.enginframe.interactive/list.sessions
2024/Dec/11 17:46.23 [LOGOUT_EXPIRED] Logout performed due to session
expiration, user: eadmin, authority: pam
```

CSS Editor in EF Portal Appearance Configuration

The new CSS editor in the EF Portal Appearance Editor Admin section offers to style EF Portal according to the needs of e.g. the company with styling of colors, fonts, padding,

Custom CSS

This section allows you to add your own styles or override the default CSS theme.

```
/* Add your custom CSS here.*/
.treeview li {
  font-family: "Helvetica Neue", Roboto, Arial, sans-serif;
  font-size: 1em;
}
```

Save

EF Portal User Guide

With EF Portal 2024.1 we introduce the first EF Portal User Guide to help users understand how EF Portal works and how to use it.

Search in all columns in Job view, Host view, Spoolers, ...

Now you can search in all columns for strings as well as dates. In the past only search for the name was available e.g. in the Spooler view.

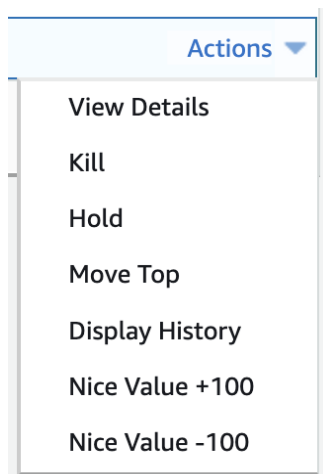
Spoolers			
<input type="text" value="Search in all columns"/>			
<input type="checkbox"/> ★ Name	Status	Project	Created on ▾
<input type="checkbox"/> ☆ OpenFOAM	Completed	P-13-11	Wed 16:10:03
<input type="checkbox"/> ☆ OpenFOAM	Completed	P-11-11	Tue 18:09:11

SLURM Integration Enhancements

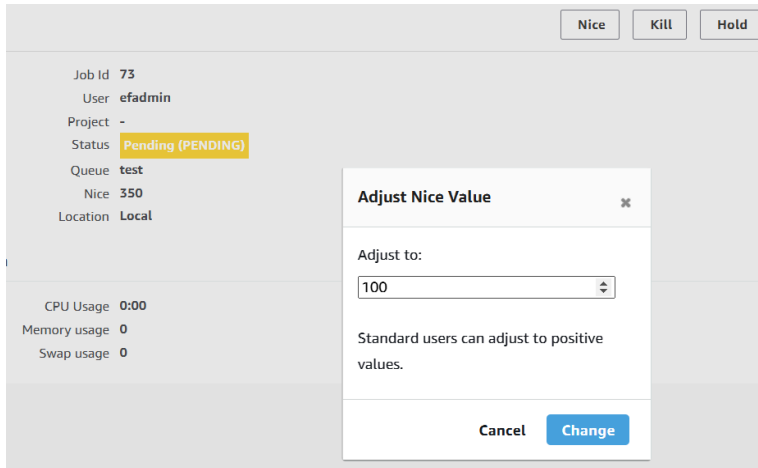
We have added a number of new features in the SLURM integration - here is the overview:

- Support for SLURM Version 24
- Improved formatting for Cloud and Powering starting up and shutting down states
- Move Top feature for pending jobs
- Display and Set Nice values of Jobs

Display of Nice value in the Job list and pulldown-menu in job list to increase or decrease Nice value - also move top feature is available:

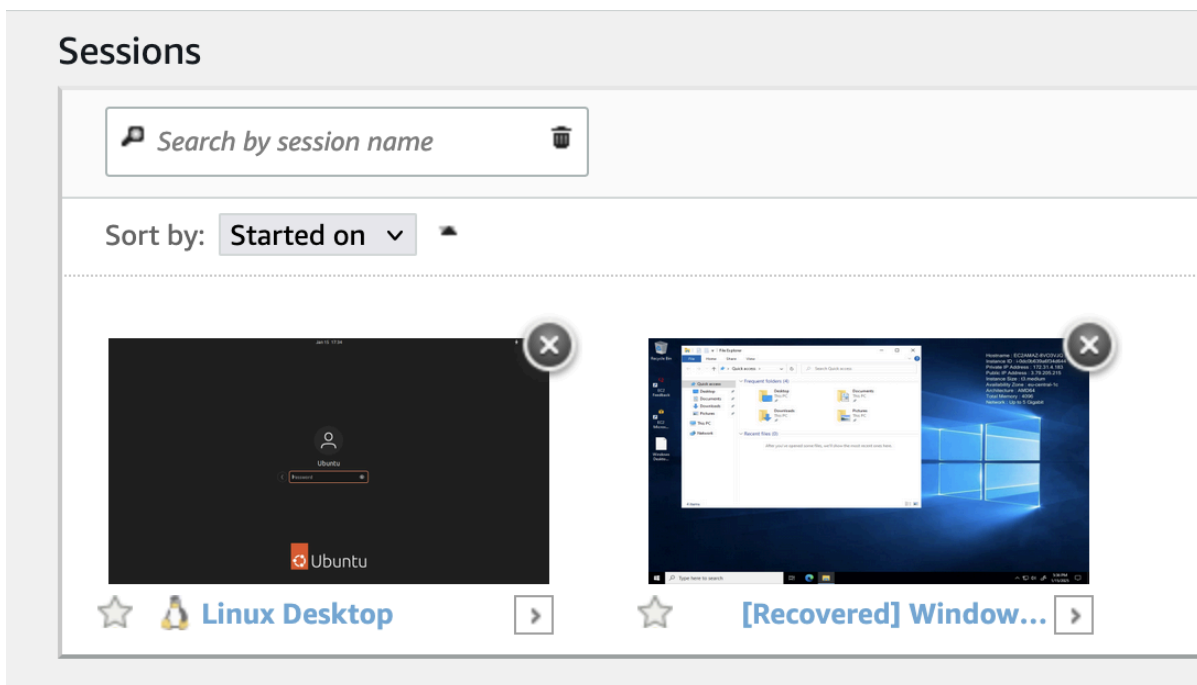


Display of Nice value in the Detailed Job View and Dedicated Nice value user interface to set Nice value:



Automatic recovery of sessions available in DCV Session Manager not visible in EF Portal

In certain situations (disk space full, user id changes, ...) it can happen that EF Portal is missing information about sessions available in the DCV Session Manager. We have added automatic recovery of running sessions available in the DCV Session Manager Broker to EF Portal to mitigate such typically rare situations.



EF Portal Plugin Example

To offer customers the option to develop their own plugin we have created an EF Portal Plugin example as base for own plugin development.

SKELETON

Menu ✕

Welcome

Welcome To The Skeleton Plugin!

This is a super simple plugin to show the basic structure of an EF Portal plugin.

You will find some example services on the left menu, including this one. Remember that you can always call a service defined into this plugin from another plugin! You only need to:

- Include this Service Definition File (SDF) into another plugin SDF, like:
`<ef:include xml="${EF_ROOT}/plugins/skeleton/WEBAPP/skeleton.xml"/>`
- Call the service in the included plugin using `_uri=/sdf_name/service_name` query parameter, like:
`https://efhost:port/engineframe/myplugin/myplugin.xml?_uri=/skeleton/html.js.scripted`

Note that this will execute only the `<ef:action>` defined in the service! If you want to generate the UI within a service, use the scripted UI approach as shown in the corresponding example services.

All plugin code is commented to ease the understanding of a plugin structure, so just **dive into each file** to learn more. Strip out comments and start writing your code.

For additional info on what you can do with EF Portal services, please refer to the **Technology Showcase** provided by the *EF Portal Developer's Documentation* at installation time.

Happy coding!

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The EF Portal Plugin example is available on request.

Other Updates

EF Installer treats DCV Session Manager as a Grid Manager

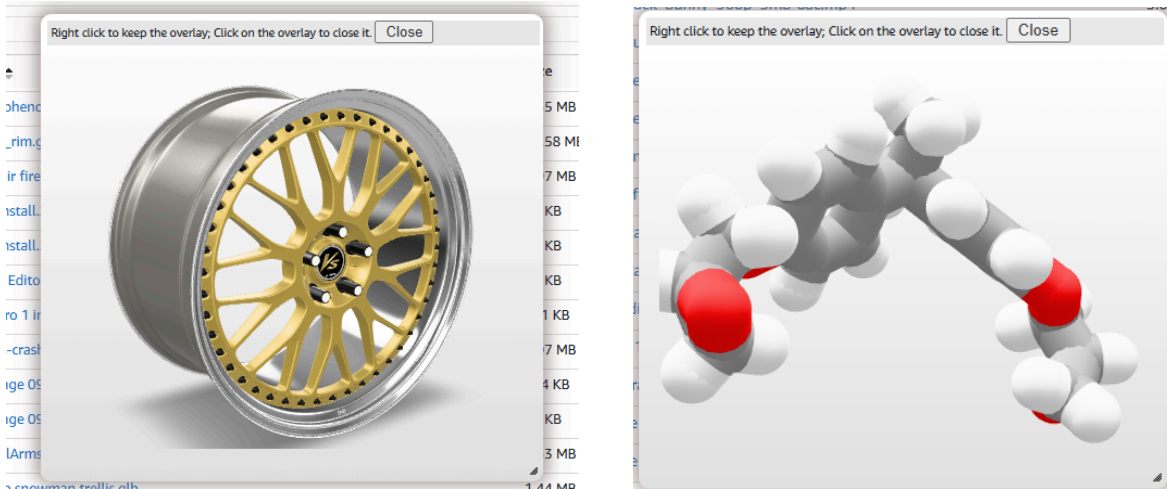
Removed the dependency to configure a scheduler in case you want to use DCV Session Manager only

LSF

Improved Job History with MySQL backend integration and paging from DB to work with large number of jobs and GBs of data (Available on request)

Preview of Videos and 3D Models in File Manager

For swift access of results for engineers and researches we added preview of video files and glb and glTF 3D models



Other Improvements

- VDI: improved Views quick connection user interface (DCV URI, DCV connection file, web browser) including improved user experience when waiting to connect to a session
- VDI: offer to save using DCV URI for the DCV connection as default
- VDI: updated action script in-file guide and comments
- DCV SM Integration: Add more data to Delegate Session session information section in detailed session info and set enqueue create session parameter default value to false
- File Manager: administrators can define custom places for all users using a global ef.places file
- File Manager: custom places defined by users outside their home directory must be allowlisted by administrators to be used
- File Manager: added the ability to define custom extensions for text and image mime types which will be recognized as such by the File Manager
- File Manager: automatically scroll logfiles to the bottom in File Manager Preview
- File Manager: added file size limit for preview and edit of 5 MB
- Logs: ef.log, agent.remote.log and dcvsml.log do not show error stack traces for better readability. Logs with full stack traces are now collected into corresponding .withtrace.log files
- Logs: Tomcat logging strategy has been revised to control growth of the Tomcat logs directory
- Logs: cleaned up misleading Hazelcast warnings
- Installer: calculate EF Server and Agent heap memory based on available memory to optimize heap

- Installer: altered installer logic to not use javascript which removes the message during installation that javascript support will be deprecated in future Java versions
- Installer: improved behavior during EF Portal updates
- SGE, Gridware: enhanced look 'n feel of the history display
- UI: added configurable logout behavior
- UI: hide GPU related columns in list hosts if GPU data is not available
- UI: fixed bar charts display
- Appearance Editor: improved layout and behavior
- Login: fixed 'Access not authorized' bug happening sometimes after session expiration or EF Portal restart
- Server: Check for tomcat user home directory existence before starting EF Portal

Outlook

Launching in Q1 2025: The new EF Portal REST API

Transform your EF Portal experience with our upcoming comprehensive REST API release. This modern API architecture expands beyond traditional Web Services, opening new possibilities for seamless integration and development.

Powered by [OpenAPI/Swagger](#) technology, our REST interface empowers developers to create custom EF Portal clients across an extensive range of programming languages. Whether your team works with C#, PHP, Node.js, Ruby, Go, or our new customizable Python-based EF Client, you'll have the flexibility to build solutions that match your exact needs.

Get an exclusive preview of the EF Portal REST API in February 2025. The next major release will also introduce powerful new features, including an intuitive Configuration Editor and numerous enhancements designed to streamline and optimize usage and administration of EF Portal.