STAGES® | BOLD GROUP

Stages Release Notes 2.5.5

November 2015

GENERAL APPLICATION

Client Service

SGS has developed a Client Service to replace the Browser Wrapper. It is a Windows Service that needs to be installed on operator workstations in order to launch other applications such as Video software, and perform windows functions like making the Alarm Dispatch window always on top. More information is available upon request. With the client service, any browser can be used on your workstations.

The Port Number for the Client Service is entered for the Workstations in the Office setup. Default Port # is 9001 unless your environment has been reconfigured.

Redundancy

Redundancy has been updated to support use of the nextStage product (formerly called centerStage) with only data for the Site Group going to the databases in the nextStage servers.

SGS will assist with redundancy setup when nextStages are purchased.

Save as Spreadsheet

A problem with exporting a large amount of data has been resolved.

DISPATCH

Action Plans

When an Override Action Plan is chosen, the AP-O 'Choose Override' operator action will be logged into history.

Evaluation Steps

History Evaluations can now include a list of Points, Signal Statuses, Signal Formats, or Signal Codes as search criteria.

Evaluation Items can be created and assigned to either check for Agencies or Site Groups. On the Agency and Site Group setup windows, a new window has been added for Action Plan Evaluation Items. Items can be added to the list. During the Action Plan, the Agencies or Site Groups connected to the site will be searched for the Evaluation Item. If it is found, the Action Plan step will result in a 'Yes'; if not, the step will result in a 'No'.

Alarm Buffer

Dispatch Types has been added to the results list for Alarm Buffer and Alarm Buffer All.

Site Op Act message has been added to Alarm Buffer All.

Alarm Dispatch

A tab has been added to the upper right for Hours in Effect. The Hours in Effect for the Site and Site Group will be listed. When the current time is outside the Hours, the row will be italicized and grayed. Selecting a row opens the details of the Hours, with a ^ symbol indicating the current time.

For Manual Lock users, the hyperlink text to lock the account has been changed from 'Lock for Dispatch' to 'Alarm Lock' for spacing concerns.

Assistance Requested function has been added on the status bar. When the user qualifies to assist another account, the button will appear and can be pressed to open a list of alarms requesting assistance.

Status Bar

Workstation, Extension, and Auto Dial Method have been added to a flyout on the Status Bar.
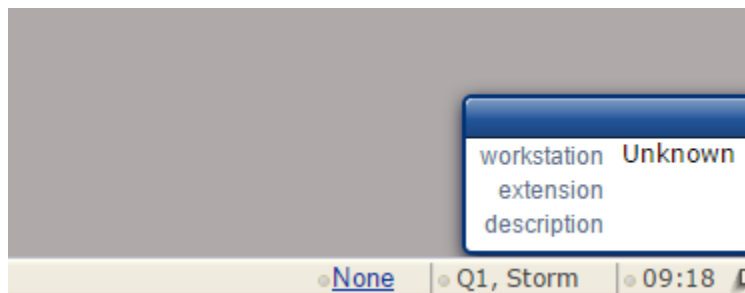
Operator Actions

Delay Hours Type added to Setup. The Alarm will delay until the Hours Type entered on the Setup.

SMS Response

If the SMS Response is from a known contact, the Contact Name will be logged in the User Name field in History.

Device Test

The Email Subject and Body of test result notifications can be edited in the Test Results Notifications setup table for both Email and SMS messages. The notifications use a limited list of variables. (Setup | Device Setup | Test Results Notification)

When a device qualifies as part of a Multi-Site, a multi-site test can be administered by a button on the right. Associated Sites are listed and can be checked to be included in the test.

Recurring Alarm

A randomizer has been added to the recurring alarm feature. Stages will add a random number between 1 and the number entered in 'Random# Minutes'. This is designed to make video guard checks less predictable.

SIGNAL PROCESSING

Stages supports the Surgard System 5 Video Receiver.

Auto Processes

Notification Description has been added to the Event Code and Operator Action setup windows. The [EventDescription] variable will use the notification description instead of the event description when it exists.   Alarm Detail variables will use the Notification Descriptions as well.

For Recurring Tests, the RecurStart and RecurEnd events are processed like any other event, enabling Auto Processes to be called when they are logged into history.

No Repeat Minutes only applies to the Same Auto Process. Previously, with multiple auto processes on the same event (for example an Email and an SMS), no repeat minutes would cancel the other auto process.

Event Rules

New Columns: Log Only Flag, Alarm Flag, Override Event Code, Schedule Option, Day Time #

There are multiple places that the Event Codes can be overridden. Event Rules have been added into the Auto Process hierarchy to determine which overrides to use. Stages uses the following rules to determine which override value to use for the Event Codes:

1. If there is an Auto Process with Overrides on the Device Configuration then use that Auto Process only.
2. If there is an Event Rule with Overrides, use the most specific Event Rule.
3. If there is an Auto Process with Overrides based on Auto Process Rules use the Auto Process.

In general, SGS recommends using Event Rules for all overrides, and for Auto Processes to be used just for notification purposes.

Primary/Secondary Devices

A new flag has been added to Secondary Devices to process all signals as if they came in on the primary.

SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION

PINs & Code Words

The eligible characters in PINs, Code Words, and Duress Codes can be limited. A list of allowable characters can be entered in stages Options on the Data Entry tab. If this list is left blank, all characters will be allowed.

Purge Control

History Purge Control has been renamed to Purge Control.

Purge Control can now purge Data Changes as well as History.

User Role

A new option has been added for Buffer Dispatch Lock. Users with this enabled will only be able to open the Alarm Dispatch window from the Alarm Buffer window if the account is not locked.

Message Center

An option has been added in stages Options for '# Days Message Center Accounts'. After the days entered here, the account will be deleted. A minimum of 30 days is required.

Xmit Code Control

When Creating Xmits from the Xmit Code Assignments, a Multi-select has been added for Additional Site Groups. All Site Groups selected will be added when a new Site is created for the Xmit.

SETUP

Out of Service

In Site Search, Out of Service Accounts will appear italicized and grayed.

In Data Entry, OOS Categories can be flagged to display more prominently in the device list. A new column has been added to the OOS Category setup for 'Warning on Data Entry'.

Device Types

A new option has been added to 'Always Display Device Type Commands'. When this option is enabled, the Listen In commands for two-way voice will display even when there is no Listen In alarm.

Device Copy

An option to include User IDs has been added to the utility.
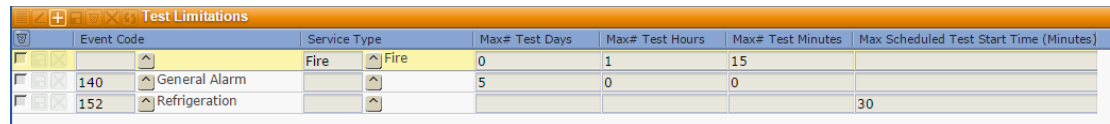
Site Group

In Site Group Copy, an option to include Auto Process Rules has been added.

HTML Templates can be created on a Site Group level.

Site Group Test Limitations

A Test Limitations feature has been added to the Site Group under the Detail tab. When Sites belonging to the Site Group have tests entered, stages will attempt to follow the limitations entered here. If the test includes items not limited, the limit will not restrict the test.

	Event Code		Service Type		Max# Test Days	Max# Test Hours	Max# Test Minutes	Max Scheduled Test Start Time (Minutes)
			Fire	Fire	0	1	15	
	140	General Alarm			5	0	0	
	152	Refrigeration						30

DATA WINDOWS

New Data Windows

On Test Authorized By Site Group (Data | Site Group)

Returns a list of accounts put on test by the central station that were authorized by a Site Group contact. Site Group and Site Group Contact are listed in the results.

Account Replace Usage (Data | stages)

Lists all Account Replace References not used within the threshold hours entered. The list includes the last signal. If no signal has been received, 'Never' will be displayed.

Site Level Auto Process Usage (Data | Site/Device)

Lists Auto Processes applied on a Site or Site Device Config level.

Bad Email Addresses (Data | stages)

Lists emails that fail format validation.

Contact List Usage (Data | Site/Device)

A list is returned for Sites using Contact List Types.

Notes on improvements to various Data windows:

On the Active Site Note List, an option has been added to include OOS accounts. By default, OOS will be excluded.

On the Short Site window, Site Groups and Dispatch Types have been added to the results. *The Report has not changed.*

On the Devices with Timer Test list, Sites Groups and Dispatch Types have been added.

The Operator Changes list timeframe has been extended to 31 days. The processing for the window will be executed on the Report Server if designated.

The processing for Permit Reference has been moved to the Report Server if designated. Site Group and Include OOS have been added to the filters for the search.

The results for Usage By Site Group now include seconds in the usage time.

A Site Group filter has been added to Alarm Count By Report Code. The results will also include the # of Aborted Alarms in the results.

In Alarm Factor, a Details window has been added with the Top 50 "offender" sites for the highlighted site group.

On Excessive Activity, an option to Include Rollup Site Groups has been added to the filters for the search.

Task Command Processed to indicate number of rows returned.

Site Group Xmit Assign List - an update was made to correct inaccurate counts.

Bad Phone Numbers to display Xmit# for Site-related bad phones.

Group Test – added list of all events covered in the Mass On Test.

In/Out Service By Date has been improved for performance.

Notification Counts has been improved for performance.

EXTERNAL APPLICATIONS

Auto Process Rules

Auto Process Rules can be edited for the Site Group.

A Setup window has been added in the main application to restrict the Auto Processes allowed in the External Application. (Setup | External App Setup | External Auto Processes)

A new Site Group Permission has been added to administer rules in the External App, only available in the External User Groups.

Action Plan Rules

Site Group level Action Plan Rules can be edited in the external application. Restrictions to Action Plans for the External Application will be followed.

Site Counts accuracy has been improved.

Dispatching in the External Application has been updated for performance and various bug fixes.

Device Information has been added to the Site Device flyout.
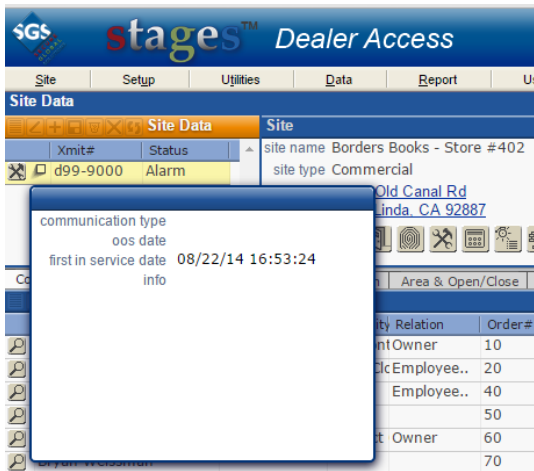
Added Alarm Factor to the Data menu. The Site Group or a Sub Group can be searched and the top 50 "offender" sites listed.

MOBILE APP

Site Search returns OOS accounts.