SOFTWARE RELEASE UPDATE

Version 4.2.0
15th July 2020

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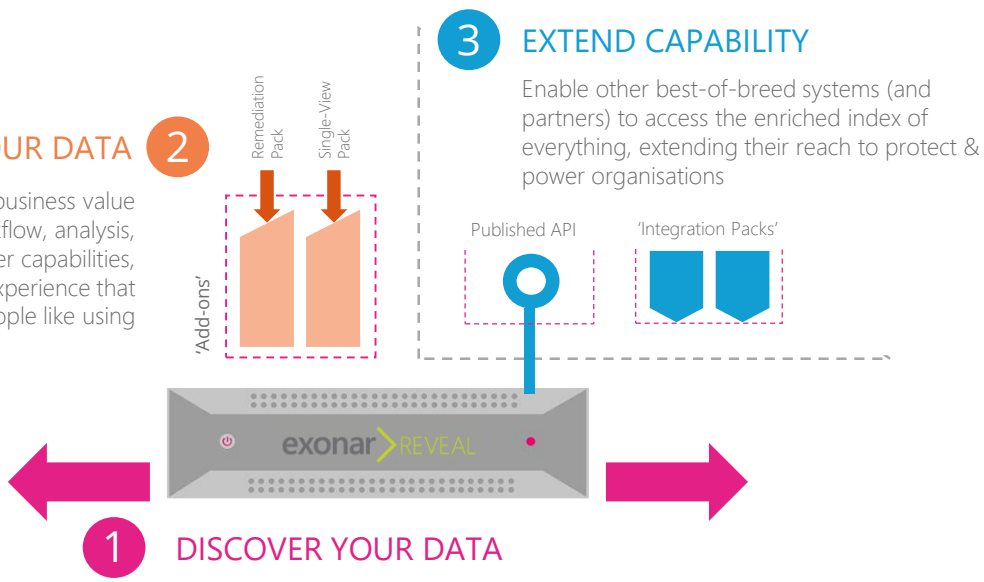
Exonar Product Strategy

This release is part of our long-term product strategy to drive business value for our customers, while focusing development resources on making maximum impact.



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NEW FEATURES IN 4.2.0

This release is all about improving our coverage into Microsoft 365, the world's most widely deployed employee productivity software, used by the majority of medium and large Enterprises, having migrated their on-prem deployments to the cloud.

Having recently re-built our Exchange 365 connector to use the Microsoft Graph API and our improved crawler, this release adds new and improved connectors for SharePoint 365 and OneDrive for Business. A connector for Microsoft Teams is in our roadmap.

1	RF-1014 Microsoft SharePoint 365 Connector	NEW FEATURE
	You can now discover data that is stored within a specific SharePoint Site, or across an Office 365 tenant, with the introduction of our new Microsoft SharePoint connector written to the Microsoft Graph API.	

2	RF-1015 Microsoft OneDrive for Business Connector	NEW FEATURE
	You can now discover data that is stored within a specific employee's OneDrive storage, or across an entire Office365 tenant, written to the Microsoft Graph API.	

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FEATURES DEPRECATED IN 4.2.0

We've been working really hard recently on profiling and benchmarking end-to-end performance of our product at scale and understand better than ever how our customers are using the product every day. As part of this, we have decided to deprecate a feature in this release

1	RF-903 Duplicate Detection	DEPRECATED
	Organisations typically hold large amounts of duplicated data, where documents and files are saved, shared and copied across data estates. Duplication Detection is a feature for accurately identifying duplicate information within data sources, viewable through the Duplicates Dashboard.	

The Duplicate Detection feature is now deprecated. It will now be turned off in the platform by default, due to the potential negative impact it may have on the speed of indexing for customers who may not be actively using it to identify duplicate data.

While we now recommend that Duplicate Detection remains switched off, this feature is still available to use within Exonar Reveal and can be re-enabled by raising an Exonar Support Ticket. Customers using duplicate detection may choose to leave the feature switched on and accept the performance impact of this feature.

The impact of Duplicate Detection on indexing is dependent on a range of factors, including type of data indexed and the volume of duplicates that exist in the dataset.

With Duplicate Detection switched off, we will still produce and store 'fingerprints' of every item we index. Duplicate items will have identical fingerprints, making it possible to detect duplicates manually within data.

We are working on an improved Duplicate Detection feature (reference RF-1116), which if implemented, would deliver a range of improvements to Duplicate Detection as well as the performance and scalability of this feature long-term.

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OTHER ENHANCEMENTS IN 4.2.0

As well as adding new features in this release, we've made a few minor enhancements to the product. These enhancements and changes improve the way existing features work.

1	Items can now be ingested via Windows File Share/SMB without having to change the `Last Accessed` date. NOTE: This enhancement has only been tested against Windows Server 2012 R2, though it may still work on earlier server versions.
2	To improve Office 365 connectivity, a new ingestion job creation wizard has been added for Exchange 365, SharePoint 356 and OneDrive for Business. This wizard assists users by checking credentials and permissions prior to the creation of each job.
3	It is now easier to identify particular Office 365 ingestion jobs with a more relevant description displayed on the Data Sources page. Jobs are now identified by Connector Type - Path/Group or User.
4	Minor changes to components within the User Interface have been made more consistent across pages.
5	Spaces can now be used in the description field on the Data Sources page.
6	Column headers within the Data Sources page can now be resized to improve readability. They can be made bigger or smaller by dragging the column markers in the header area.
7	Users can now create usernames up to 200 characters in length, although very long usernames may not be easily viewable within the User Interface.

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SUBMIT YOUR FEATURE IDEAS!

Have your say and tell us how we can enhance our data discovery strategy.

Welcoming all brilliant feature development ideas

Please share your ideas with us on exo.nr/ideas or get in touch with your contact at Exonar. Even if it is already on our list, we'd love to hear from you.

Product feature long list
We log and prioritise all viable ideas from our customers and employees into a feature longlist (Page 5).

Product feature short list
We progress top scoring ideas into a feature shortlist (Page 4). These features are considered in detail for the development pipeline.

Roadmap
We publish the committed features into our roadmap (Page 3), with an estimated timescale for development.

Evaluation against our three product strategies:

- Discover Your Data
- Act on Data
- Extend Capability

Roadmap Update

We will share our planned product roadmap with customers seasonally and in the Spring and Autumn of each year, you are welcome to our Customer Forum.

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WHAT NEXT?

PLAN YOUR UPGRADE!

We always recommend that you keep your Exonar Reveal implementation as up-to-date as possible, so you can benefit from the latest features and enhancements.

If you want more detailed release dates, need help planning your upgrades, or to get hold of the software itself, please don't hesitate to follow up with any of the following actions:

- Contact Exonar Head of Customer Success Gareth Tranter,
- Send an email to support@exonar.com.
- Download the latest version from Azure Marketplace

CHECK OUT OUR WEBINARS & REPORTS

We run regular webinars and live demos of the latest features, specifically targeted at different roles within organisations. We also publish reports on the business issues facing organisations like yours.

- For links to our webinars click here: https://exonar.com/webinars
- To listen to our podcasts click here: https://exonar.com/podcasts
- Read our blog, containing news and opinion here
- To watch previous webinars and demos in our YouTube channel click here

MEET OUR NEW HEAD OF CUSTOMER SUCCESS

Gareth Tranter joined us recently to build and deliver a 'best-in-class' Customer Success capability for Exonar customers.

Gareth would love you to get in touch today, if you haven't met already!

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