

Falcon Automation 2.0 for Hansen

Release Notes

Release 620 (Released: July 7, 2009)

- MobileServer
 - Modified Tools menu to maintain solution consistency
 - Added more robust handling of Hansen-Offline issues
 - Added more robust handling of Network-Unavailable issues
 - Fix: Null Reference exception found in DB connections (rare)
 - Decimal values passed through to Hansen (tested as working)
 - Addition of initial Audit capabilities (not fully released/licensed)
 - Loads audits from Hansen per stockarea, location and part criteria
 - Real-time display of audits in Audit Monitor window
 - Accepts audit counts from MobileClients
 - Allow release of audits from MobileClients
 - Audits posted successfully to Hansen
 - Display number of Audits posted to server
- PrintConsole
 - Enabled licensing
 - Fix: Now remembers last printed to printer
 - Now remembers the last label format printed to

Release 564 (Released: June 16, 2009)

- Beta branding removed
- MobileBridge capabilities added:
 - Added user-configurable settings
 - Set a MobileServer up as a MobileBridge host
 - Assign a host MobileServer to a MobileBridge
 - Configurable port and host IP (sockets) setting
 - Enabled editors to operate in bridge mode
- Added additional logging for improved customer support
- Added columns to the Transaction Monitor:
 - Quantity
 - Order Numbers for Issue transactions (Work Order, Service Request, Group Project)
- User Interface enhancements for improved usability / readability
- Robust connection handling
 - Bridge/Server connection scenario handling - ie:
 - Server taken down while server is running
 - Hansen down while bridge or server is running
- Enhancement to batch transaction handling:
 - Minor improvements to transaction editors
 - Trim whitespace from field values
 - Improved error handling
 - Improvements to auto-processor handling of batch transactions
- Hansen 8 compatibility improvements

Falcon Automation 2.0 for Hansen (Beta)

Beta368 (Released April 18, 2009)

- Added a method to filter out all Completed transactions, showing only Processing, Waiting and Error transactions.
- Fixed a bug in the editor where quantities were not being saved following an edit.
- Fixed a bug where Adjustment editor crashes if current Reason Code previously deleted from Hansen.
- Modified various error messages sent to the MobileClient for clarity.
- Added Tools menu to more easily open Log and Config files.
- Change in locking model of Logging framework.
- Fixed issue with Part Lookup (Hansen8) – added code per InforPS suggestion.
- Fixed bug where Transfer transaction hangs on Invalid Receiving Employee.
- Setup port listener value as configurable via Tools menu.
- Falcon supplemental database changed from Microsoft SQL Lite to Firebird RDMS.

Notes:

- This install will replace the SQL Lite database – since this is a beta solution, we did not create migrations scripts to move the current transactions stored in the SQL Lite database over to Firebird. **Be sure that all transactions are processed into Hansen before performing this upgrade.** When you start the new version, older transactions will not display. In the future, post-beta, we provide migration scripts to move data from one version to the next.

Beta 183 (Supplement to Beta170, Released March 11, 2009)

The Falcon Automation interface has changed subtly over the years, and the product has been working rather consistently since its inception in 1999. Having experienced eight great years selling and supporting this system, we decided the time had come to spend time revisiting the MobileServer.

Every software product comes of age where its best reviewed from new angles. There have been some items that were in need of improvement and others that could benefit from the latest technologies available. Our goal, as always, is to design software so easy to use that documentation isn't necessarily required. We hope this release gets us even closer to that goal.

Changes you will see

- Simplified user interface
- Real-time data monitor –
 - See transactions come in live from the scanners
 - Watch their status change as they are processed into Hansen
- Editor forms for editing and viewing transactions displayed in the monitor window

Changes you cannot 'see', but will appreciate

- Robust and improved interface to Hansen
- Increased efficiency in processing Hansen transactions
- Improved communications and data handling
- Enhanced support services logging
- Hansen8 compatibility (requires a new license)

Providing Feedback

Being part of a beta program can be rewarding – the input you provide goes toward building a product for the user community. Your feedback is important to everyone so that we can build a reliable and usable product for the whole community.

For feedback on the Falcon system, we have created a UserVoice page. This site will allow you to add enhancement requests and report bugs should they arise. You and others can add weight to your entry, moving it up on the priority list, by voting for them.

Please visit this site (<http://falconforhansen.uservoice.com/>) and create a user account. Bookmark this page too so you can continue to view the entries and to add your input, and the input of your users.

Please check with your users often to gain and document their valuable feedback.

Installation

- Download **Falcon 2.0 Beta.zip** from our website (link to be provided)
- Unzip the file contents (2 files) into a temporary folder accessible by the MobileServer PC
- Run Setup.exe and follow the onscreen instructions
- Upon completion, a new desktop icon will be available: **Falcon MobileServer Beta**

Configuration

- Run the Falcon MobileServer Beta
 - Double click the **Falcon MobileServer Beta** desktop icon
- *Important* Configure the Hansen database
 - Click Tools / Options
 - Fill in the Hansen database credentials (contact your Hansen database administrator)
 - Click the Test button to verify a successful connection
 - Click Ok
 - The Falcon MobileServer will need to be restarted to enable the database settings
 - Click Yes to exit the MobileServer
- Complete!

Usage

Starting the MobileServer

- Run Hansen and login as the Falcon user
- Run the **Falcon MobileServer Beta** icon from the desktop
- Click the Start button to start the server
 - 'Server Status' should display On
- The server is ready to accept scanner transactions

Real-Time Transactions

Transactions received from the scanners immediately upon the user tapping save are defined as real-time transactions. The MobileServer will process the real-time transactions into Hansen immediately upon receiving them.

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Transactions that are received by the MobileServer will display with a status of *Processing* (Example 2), and once accepted by Hansen the status will display *Completed* (Example 3).

For Real-time transactions that are rejected by Hansen (i.e. Invalid work order), the MobileServer will notify the scanner user and the transaction will be immediately cleared from the transaction monitor.

Batch Transactions

Transactions which were saved on the scanners are defined as Batch transactions. These transactions may have been saved on the device due to no wireless network being present, a scanner that had collected transactions while out of wireless range, a problematic wireless network or if the MobileServer was not ON when a scanner processed the transaction.

The following steps explain how to edit and then process those transactions into Hansen.

Transferring batch transactions

- If you wish that the server automatically processes batch transactions as they are received,
 - Enable Automatic batch processing by applying a check to the Automatic checkbox
- Make sure the scanner is connected to the server
 - Either place it in the docking station or have it within access of the wireless network
- Send the batched scanner data
 - On the scanner, visit the Utilities tab and tap the 'Send Data' button
- The transactions should now be displayed in a *Waiting* or *Processing* state on the MobileServer's transaction monitor (Example 1 and Example 2)

Processing batch transactions

If the Automatic Batch Processing checkbox has a checkmark in it, transactions will be automatically processed into Hansen as they are received from the scanners.

However, if Automatic is not checked, you will simply click the 'Process Waiting' button to process all Waiting transactions into Hansen.

- Click the 'Process Waiting' button (Example 1)
- Each transaction will be processed in chronological order, per the transaction's timestamp.

Error transactions

Transactions that display with an Error status were rejected by Hansen when the MobileServer posted it. The reason for the rejection will be displayed in the 'System Message' column of the transaction monitor. These transactions may be edited and resubmitted to Hansen; or they may be deleted entirely.

Viewing and editing transactions

You may view details on any transaction that displays in the monitor window so long as its status displays as *Waiting*, *Completed* or *Error*. You may only edit and save transactions with a status of *Waiting* or *Error*.

Viewing and editing transaction details

- Click on the transaction of choice displayed in the transaction monitor
- Click the Edit button
- The appropriate transaction editor will display (Example 4)
- If Hansen had rejected the transaction, an error message will displayed in the status bar (Example 4, red arrow)
- Modify the transaction as necessary (only *Error* or *Waiting* transactions may be edited)
- Click Save

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- Notice that the 'System Message' will clear and the transaction Status will change to *Waiting* (Example 5)
- The transaction can now be individually posted to Hansen by highlighting the transaction in the transaction monitor and pressing the Send button (Example 6)

Deleting transactions

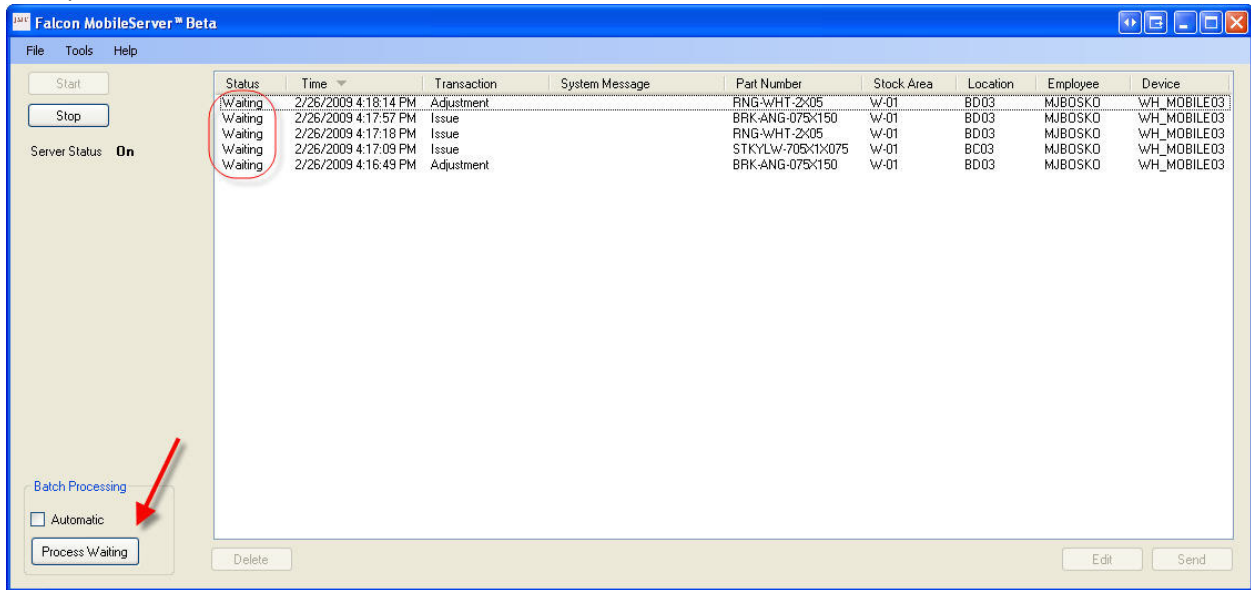
You may wish to delete a transaction denoted with a status of *Error* or *Completed*. Be aware that transactions deleted from the monitor window are removed permanently! You will be given one warning message prompt.

Deleting transactions

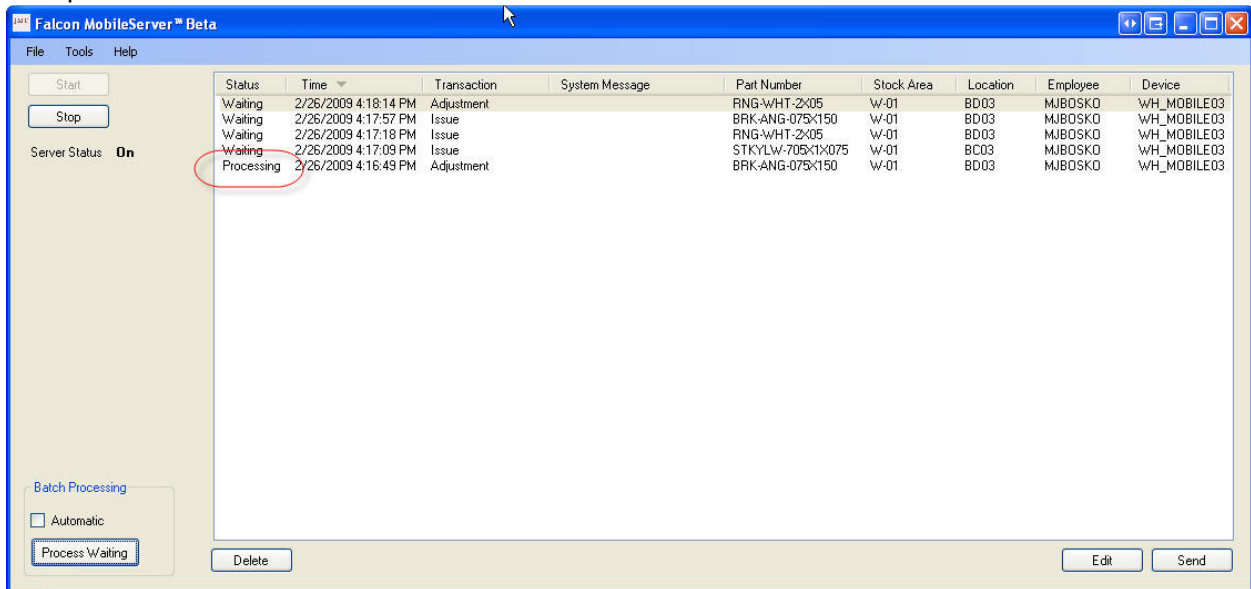
- Select one or more transactions that you wish to delete from the transaction monitor
- Click the Delete button
- You will be prompted, "Do you really want to delete the selected transactions?"
- Choose Yes to permanently delete the transaction/s

Screen shots

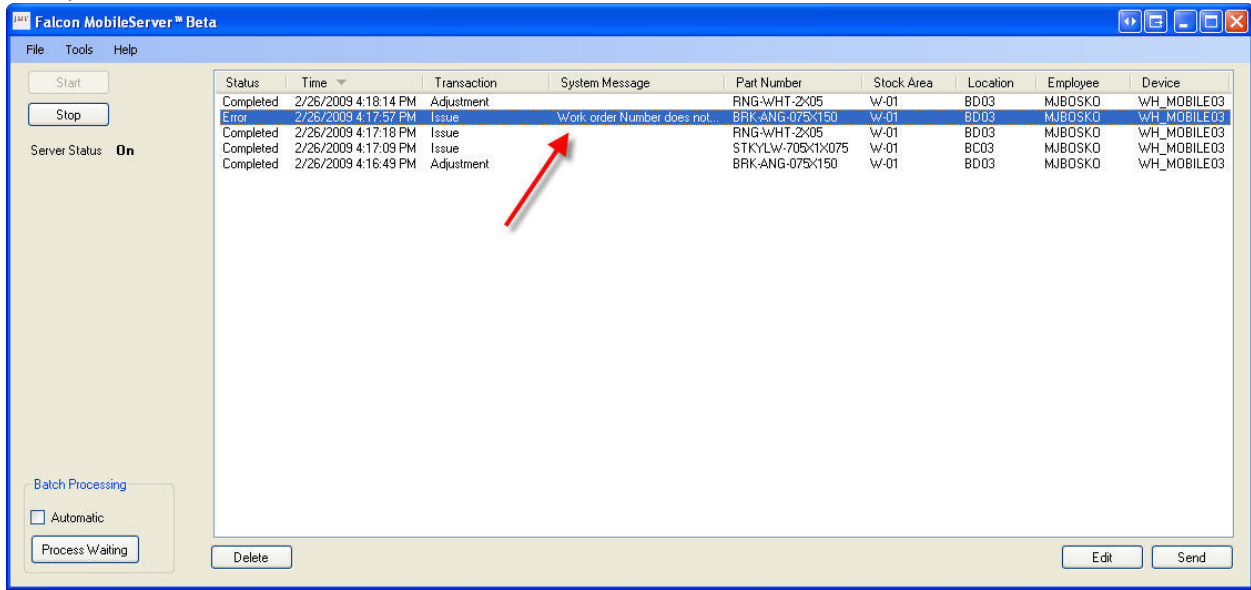
Example 1



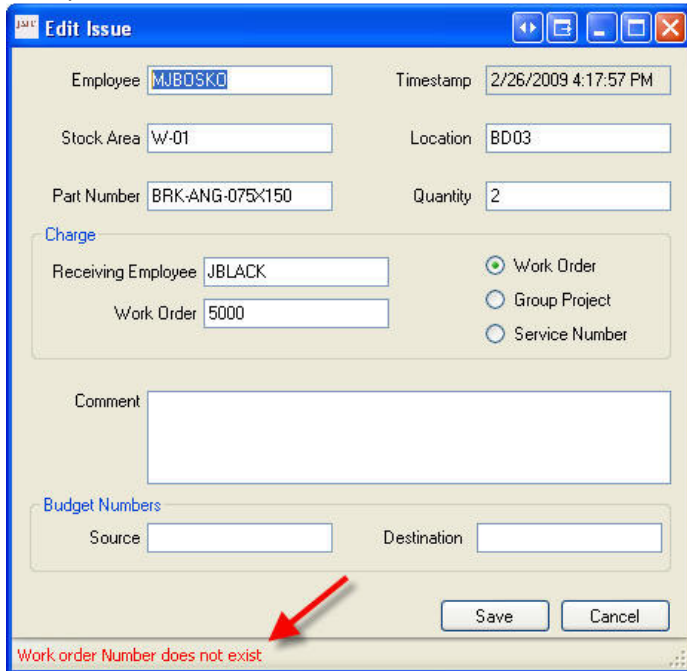
Example 2



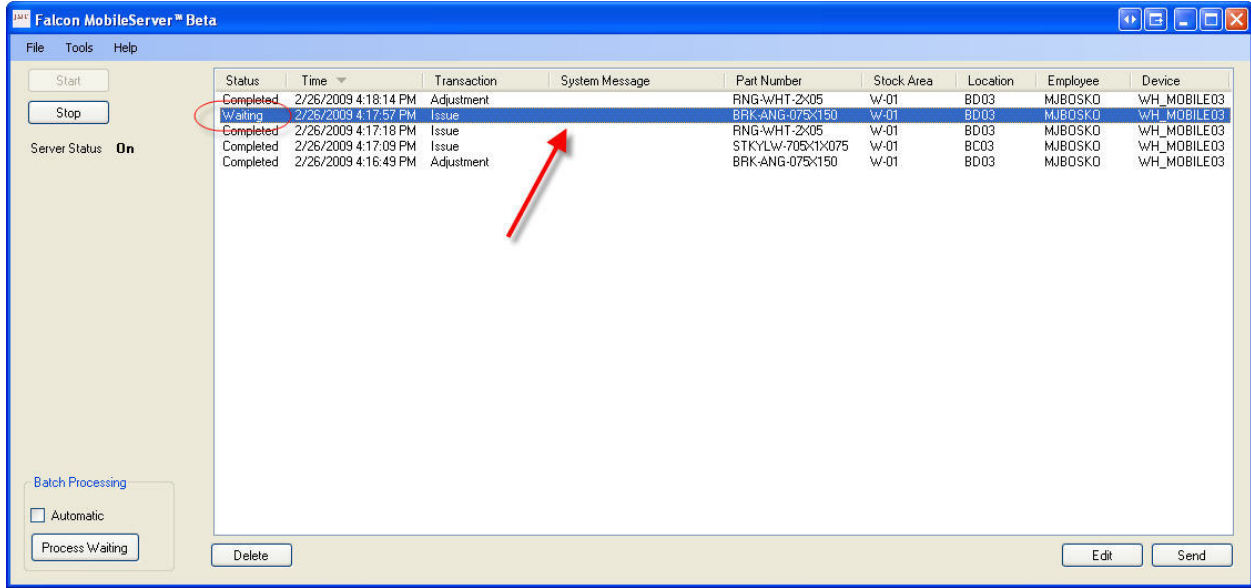
Example 3



Example 4



Example 5



Example 6

