



# Explore What's New in DI

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## New Features in Pentaho Data Integration 5.2

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Pentaho Data Integration 5.2 delivers many exciting and powerful features that help you quickly and securely access, blend, transform, and explore data.

### R Script Executor Step Improvements

The **R Script Executor**, **Weka Forecasting**, and **Weka Scoring** steps form the core of the Data Science Pack and transforms PDI into a powerful, predictive analytics tool. The R Script Executor step allows you to incorporate R scripts in your transformation so that you can include R-based statistical programming in your data flow. In PDI Version 5.2 you can now "plug and play" R scripts, without extra customization. Now you can pass incoming field metadata to the output field metadata, use a more intuitive user interface to run scripts by rows or by batches, and test scripts.

*Related Content:*

- [R Script Executor Step](#)
- [Weka Forecasting and Weka Scoring Steps](#)

### New DI Server Administration Features

Porting content from one environment to another and performing general DI Repository maintenance is easier with the introduction of the new Purge Utility. The Purge Utility permanently purges the repository of versions of shared objects, such as database connection information, jobs, and transformations. You can also turn DI Repository versioning and comment capturing capabilities on and off.

*Related Content:*

- [Set DI Version Control and Comment Tracking Options](#)
- [Purge Content and Shared Objects from the DI Repository](#)

### Kerberos Security Support for CDH 5.1 and HDP 2.1

If you are already using Kerberos to authenticate access to a Cloudera Distributed Hadoop 5.1 or Hortonworks Data Platform 2.1 cluster, with a little extra configuration, you can also use Kerberos to authenticate Pentaho DI users who need to access those clusters.

*Related Content:*

- [Implement Kerberos Authentication](#)

## New Marketplace Plugins

Pentaho Marketplace continues to grow with many more of your contributions. Pentaho Marketplace is a home for community-developed plugins and a place where you can contribute, learn, benefit from, and connect to others. New contributions include:

- **LookupTimeDimensionStep:** Looks up and creates an entry on a data warehouse dimension time table and returns the ID.
- **Probabilistic Row Distributions:** Contains a collection of Row Distribution plugins for PDI that use probabilistic methods for determining the distribution of rows.
- **PDI Groovy Console:** Adds a Groovy console to the Help menu that has helper methods and classes that interact with the PDI environment.
- **Gremlin Script Step:** Provides a Gremlin script step for graph pipeline processing.

*Related Content:*

- [PDI Marketplace](#)
- [Pentaho Marketplace Community Site](#)

## Improved Upgrade Experience

Upgrading PDI is easier because it is no longer a manual process. You can now upgrade from 5.1.x to 5.2 using the same upgrade utility used for patch releases.

*Related Content:*

- [Upgrade BA and DI](#)

## New Documentation

There is now only one upgrade instead of two.

*Related Content:*

- [Upgrade BA and DI](#)

## Minor Functionality Changes

To learn more about minor functionality changes that might impact your upgrade experience, see the [PDI 5.1 to 5.2 Functionality Changes](#) article.

## PDI Version 5.2 Minor Functionality Changes

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The following table describes minor functionality changes for PDI version 5.2. Provisions to preserve backward compatibility and related Jira cases are also listed.

Description	Related Jira Cases
The functionality of an export was changed for linked repository objects with the option "Specify by reference". In this case, the exported objects get replaced by "Specify by name" and the resolved path. This ensures a correct import to a different repository. To be compatible with the behavior to previous versions, set variable KETTLE_EXPORT_COMPATIBILITY_KEEP_REFERENCE to Y.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PDI-9797</li></ul>
Special characters in the DI-Repository are no longer replaced by "_". To be compatible with the behavior to previous versions, set variable KETTLE_COMPATIBILITY_PUR_OLD_NAMING_MODE to Y.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PDI-6394</li></ul>