

Blue Prism Cloud 2022.1 to Blue Prism Cloud 2023.1 comparison overview

Blue Prism Cloud 2023.1 includes all the changes detailed in the Blue Prism Cloud Evolution Edition and Blue Prism Cloud 2021 Comparison Overview and Blue Prism Cloud 2021 to Blue Prism Cloud 2022.1 comparison overview. Since Blue Prism Cloud 2021, the advancement of the SS&C Blue Prism products has introduced new and improved features, along with additional supported authentication configurations. An overview of these changes is provided in the sections below:

- Blue Prism 7.1
- SS&C Blue Prism Hub 5.0
- SS&C Blue Prism Interact 5.0
- SS&C Blue Prism Automated Lifecycle Management 5.0
- SS&C Blue Prism Decision 5.0
- SS&C Blue Prism Director 1.0

V TOTATAIT

For a full list of features and updates, see the release notes.

Blue Prism 7.1

Blue Prism® version 7 drives towards the belief that the Enterprise of the future requires a seamless blend of human workers, digital workers, and systems, all interconnected and operating in an agile and innovative way. Blue Prism 7 introduces new features and improved functionality to help organizations automate more effectively and efficiently. This is an evolution on our core version 6 platform and as part of this we've changed how we communicate with digital workers, allowing a significant increase in scale.

The following changes are available in Blue Prism 7.1 compared with Blue Prism 6.10. For more information on these features, see the Blue Prism documentation.

Application Server Controlled Resources (ASCR)

The new Application Server Controlled Resources (ASCR) feature increases the number of runtime resources that Blue Prism can interact with. With ASCR, interactive clients communicate with available runtime resources via the application server, meaning that individual connections don't need to be made. This increases efficiency and enhances the potential for greater scale allowing users to deploy more than double the number of digital workers into a single Blue Prism environment compared to Blue Prism version 6.

Blue Prism API

The Blue Prism API provides a common interface for components to connect with the Blue Prism database. It also provides a series of predefined capabilities that can be used by custom solutions to interact with Blue Prism programmatically using a RESTful API.



Authentication Server

Authentication Server provides a centralized way of providing common authentication for users across three key components of the Blue Prism platform: Blue Prism Enterprise, RESTful API, and Hub, with other new services planned in the future.



The external authentication capability using Authentication Gateway introduced in Blue Prism 6.10 is not supported in the currently available versions of Blue Prism version 7.

Native messaging host for browser extensions

Blue Prism now uses a native messaging host application to communicate with each of the browser extensions (Chrome, Edge, and Firefox). A native messaging host application is started behind the scenes when a Chrome, Edge, or Firefox browser is launched from Blue Prism and then listens for any incoming messages from Blue Prism to send them to the browser extension.

Supported transition from Internet Explorer 11 to modern browsers

- Addition of Internet Explorer HTML elements for use with Chrome, Edge, and Firefox.
- Updated Blue Prism Application Modeller Conversion Tool and IE Mode Conversion Tool available on the Digital Exchange.
- Microsoft Edge IE mode Existing IE based-automation with minor modifications can now be run
 in Microsoft Edge IE Mode. This is targeted at websites that do not currently support a modern
 browser.

Support for Manifest V3

Due to changes in Google's extensions platform and the move to Manifest V3, the previously available functionality to insert or invoke JavaScript on web pages via the Chrome or Edge browser extension is no longer available. This is a limitation enforced by Manifest V3 for security reasons. Firefox browser extensions still use Manifest V2 so are not currently affected. Where existing processes or objects are making use of the insert or invoke JavaScript functionality, we recommend that the design be amended following an upgrade to replace this functionality using standard in-built features instead. For more details, see the Google documentation.



SS&C Blue Prism Hub 5.0

The following changes are available in SS&C Blue Prism Hub 5.0 compared to version 4.6.

Removal of the dependency between Hub and its plugins

Version 5.0 brings a fundamental change to the relationship between the individual plugins and Blue Prism Hub. Although Blue Prism Hub will continue to host the plugins, changes have been made to remove or reduce the level of dependency, with the view to enable installing and upgrading of future plugins without the need to upgrade the whole of Hub 5.0 and the other plugins.

As part of this change, there have been infrastructure changes to the way user permissions are handled. As a result, if a change is made to a user's access level or permissions in Hub, the impact will no longer be immediate if the user is currently logged in. Logged in users will see their permissions change the next time the user permissions refresh, which occurs every five minutes.

For more information, see the Blue Prism Hub release notes.

Control Room plugin

Hub includes the freely available Control Room plugin, which provides Blue Prism users with the ability to monitor and reallocate the digital workforce. The Control Room plugin utilizes the Blue Prism API. For more information, see the Control Room documentation.



SS&C Blue Prism Interact 5.0

The following changes are available in SS&C Blue Prism Interact 5.0 compared to version 4.6.

Customization

The ability to customize Interact has been moved out of the Hub Settings and into the Interact plugin. However, Hub administrator privileges are still required to access this component.

Form basic information enhancements

The following changes have been made to the basic information for forms:

- Business process is new a free text field on the form following the removal of Business processes from ALM.
- Members of the form are now added to the form. This controls who can see and edit the form in the Interact plugin. The ability to use the form through the Interact web application is still controlled by roles.
- The **Single approver** option has been replaced by the **Selected approver(s)** option. This allows multiple name users to be entered as approvers for the form. The form will only require one of these users to approve the submission through the Interact web application.

Paragraph

The character limit for the paragraph capture type has been increased to 5000 and it now accepts line breaks with the text, enabling multiple paragraphs of text to be displayed without the need for multiple paragraph fields. In addition, the paragraph can be displayed as an alert, warning, or as information – these options apply a colored border and icon.

Table

A data type can now be defined for the table cells. This restricts the data that a user can enter to the type defined, such as text, number, time, or date.

Additional audit events

The following audit event is now tracked and logged in the Audit section of Hub:

Form status changed (via API)



SS&C Blue Prism Automation Lifecycle Management 5.0

The following changes are available in SS&C Blue Prism Automation Lifecycle Management 5.0 compared to version 4.6.

Business processes component removed

The Business processes component has been removed from the Automation Lifecycle Management plugin. Any components that were dependent on this have had the dependency removed.

Applications component updated

The Access and permissions page has been removed. This page was not functioning in version 4.6 and so has now been removed completely.

SS&C Blue Prism Decision 5.0

Blue Prism Cloud now includes SS&C Blue Prism Decision. For more information, see the Decision documentation.

SS&C Blue Prism Director 1.0

SS&C Blue Prism Director 1.0 is an upgrade to IADA Orchestration. For more information, see the Director documentation.

Product roadmap

For more information on further planned features, see the product roadmap on the Blue Prism portal.