

# *Banner Evolution: Database New FAQ*

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## **What is Database New?**

Database New is a part of a larger project, Banner Evolution which has two goals: provide Banner with a new look and feel and provide better out of the box support for Multi-Entity Processing. Database is the linchpin of Evolution in that it provides the database changes to support both goals. In using this approach, clients will only need to do one database update and clients will also be able to update their databases prior to installing the subsequent releases. This should help clients avoid one large installation which can be very disruptive.

## **What columns are being added as a part of Database New?**

Six new columns are being added as part of Database New.

Name	Type	Required?	Could Exist?	Value
*_SURROGATE_ID	NUMBER(19)	Yes	No	Populated from sequence
*_VERSION	NUMBER(19)	Yes	No	One up, start at 0 increment with each update
*_USER_ID	VARCHAR2(30)	No	Yes	User who last updated record
*_ACTIVITY_DATE	DATE	No	Yes	Date that record was last updated
*_DATA_ORIGIN	VARCHAR2(30)	No	Yes	System where data came from, if not Banner
*_VPDI_CODE	VARCHAR2(6)	Yes	No	Code of institution to which the data belongs

The 1<sup>st</sup> two columns (SURROGATE\_ID and VERSION) are required to support the new UI architecture. The next three columns (USER\_ID, ACTIVITY\_DATE, DATA\_ORIGIN) have been added complete work started as part of the API effort. All tables will now have these columns. The last column (VPDI\_CODE) is being added to support Multi-Entity Processing.

## **Which Banner products will Database New affect?**

All Banner products will be affected by these changes as these columns are being added to every table. To what extend the product will be impacted is currently being determined. Once we have completed our testing, this FAQ will be updated to specify the minimum versions, of each product, that must be installed prior to applying Database new.

## **Will all tables in my Banner database get these new columns?**

Yes. All tables, including validation tables and SPRIDEN will get these new columns.

## **If I'm not part of the formal Beta group can I still download and install the beta version of Database New?**

Yes, all Database New Development Partner Group members will have access to the beta version of Database New for their institutions. SGHE would like to have 4 to 6 clients serve as Beta sites for the Database New Project, based on SGHE's resource capacity to support those sites. All clients will be encouraged to test the changes and informally confirm the results, while the Beta sites will be involved in a much more formal testing and reporting process.

## **If I already have Multi-Entity Processing (MEP) implemented on my campus, what impact will Database New have on my environment?**

If your campus already has MEP implemented, applying Database New will not negatively impact your environment. Database New will know the VPDI\_CODE column already exists in some tables and will not add it again.

## **What is the minimum version of the database that I need to be on in order to apply Database New?**

Oracle Database 11.1.0.7

## **What are the minimum versions of Banner that I need to be at in order to apply Database New?**

We are in the process of determining the minimum requirements for Database New. This FAQ will be updated as soon as this is known.

## **Why did SunGard Higher Education choose to use a sequence for the SURROGATE\_ID verses system generated IDs?**

System generated IDs are in the form of RAW. Best practice with using an ORM tool like Hibernate is to have an ID that is of type number for how it will be generated.

## **Will there be one sequence for all tables or one sequence per table to assign the SURROGATE\_ID?**

There will be one sequence *per* table. This avoids the latch contention that may occur if multiple high volume tables share a single sequence.

## **How will the sequence numbers be preserved when doing advanced replication of databases?**

We are currently researching this issue and will update the FAQ as soon as this is known.

## **Where will the new columns be added in the table?**

New columns will be added at the end of the existing column list for the table.

## **Will the required columns be pre-populated? If yes, what are you doing to help with performance on large tables?**

Yes, all required columns will be pre-populated. Various strategies will be employed to help with performance on large tables. Some strategies under consideration are using Oracle's parallel DML functionality, as well as managing multiple update streams via DBMS Scheduler.

## **Will SunGard Higher Education address inconsistencies in column names (USERID vs. USER\_ID) as part of Database New?**

The Database New project will not address inconsistencies in column names. The migration tool will inspect the tables and add the new columns when exact column name matches are not found. Inconsistencies found as part of the Database New development process will be documented and will be addressed on a case-by-case basis by the individual product groups as part of future development.

### **What impact will the new columns have on my modifications?**

The different types of issues found in the baseline product that require changes to the code will be documented. These issues will be broken down into root cause, grouped into similar types and patterns, and included in the Database New documentation. Sample resolutions will be provided. Clients will then be able to use these materials to help identify and address issues in their custom modifications.

### **Do I need to run Database New against my custom tables? If no, are there any potential issues that I should consider?**

Clients will need to apply the Database New changes to their custom tables if these tables are used within a modified baseline form or as part of a custom form to which the new user interface will be applied. Locally developed forms and custom tables used only for data collection or for standalone processing may remain unconverted, if you do not plan on moving them to the new user interface. The changes are not required. However, if you choose to apply the changes to all of your custom tables, there should be little to no impact.

### **Can we migrate one product or schema at a time as part of Database New, or must all tables be updated at once?**

The goal is to allow clients to migrate one product or schema at a time. Once the development and testing process is further along, it will be clearer whether this is possible. When a concrete answer exists, this FAQ will be updated with the information.