

Intella 2.7.1 Release Notes

Highlights

- Added **Intella Assist**, an AI-powered assistant that helps with formulating search queries and reviewing results. It can use OpenAI's ChatGPT, other OpenAI API-compatible models and local models.
- Added support for **file carving**; recovering deleted items from unallocated space in disk images.
- Added support for acquiring data from **Google Meet**.
- Added support for indexing **MS Visio VSDX** files.
- Added functionality for **repairing broken cases**.

General

- Redesigned Welcome tab.
- Time zones in the Time zone chooser are now sorted by taking the current daylight saving time status into account.

Intella Assist

- An AI-powered assistant called Intella Assist has been added. Based on large language models (LLMs) such as ChatGPT, this assistant lets the user enter and refine queries using natural language and across a range of facets. Examples of searches:
 - "Give me all JPEG images larger than 1 MB"
 - "Search for invoices, using both English and Spanish words related to invoicing"
 - "Find all emails sent by john.doe@gmail.com between January 15, 2019 and September 1, 2019"
- Intella Assist is also integrated in the Previewer, where users can inspect and analyze items using natural language instructions. Examples of instructions:
 - "Summarize this document"
 - "Translate this document"
 - "Do the SMTP headers of this email show any signs of data tampering?"
 - "Who are the key persons named in this document?"
 - "What personally identifiable information does this document contain?"
 - "Where there any negative sentiments expressed in this conversation?"

- To use this functionality, the user needs to specify a LLM provider, and optionally an endpoint and API key for that provider. Currently supported providers are OpenAI (ChatGPT), Azure OpenAI, and OpenAI API-compatible providers. The latter also allows for local models to be used.
- Intella Assist is only available in local cases; Viewers connected to a remote case shared with Intella Connect or Intella Investigator will not see this functionality.
- Admins should take note of several critically important caveats.
 - Depending on the chosen provider, using Intella Assist may involve submitting parts of evidence data (text and metadata) to external services. The sensitivity and confidentiality of the data may make this undesirable or even illegal.
 - All prompts sent to the chosen provider are logged and available for auditing.
 - This functionality is experimental. The provided results may be incorrect and incomplete. Asking the same query again may not yield the same results.
 - Depending on the chosen provider, processing of the data by these services may be subject to billing. All processing costs are for the owner of the API key.
 - End users will be shown warning dialogs expressing these risks. Nevertheless, users need to be educated in the proper handling of sensitive evidence data and the assessment of LLM-generated results.



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Indexing – General

- Added support for indexing MS Visio VSDX files.
- Removed support for indexing local, on-prem SharePoint sources. Cloud-based SharePoint instances are not affected by this change, as they can be retrieved using the M365 source type.
- Added logging of the used indexing options.
- Improved indexing performance when processing emails and chat conversations with very large numbers of recipients.

Indexing – Disk images

- Added support for file carving: the process of recovering deleted items from the unallocated space in a disk image. This requires the PhotoRec utility, which can be downloaded automatically. Currently, E01 and DD images are supported. Carving runs in parallel with regular indexing, to optimize speed. File carving requires the use of the Disk Image source; disk images that are indexed as part of a “File or Folder” source will not be carved.
- Improved checksum validation of AFF4 images. For AFF4 physical images, checksum validation is an optional step during disk image validation when using the Disk Image source type. For AFF4-L logical images, failed checksums are reported as exceptions in the Features facet and in the Exceptions report.
- Resolved an issue with disk images containing NTFS file systems that were decrypted by AXIOM. Incorrect NTFS data structures would cause some folders to be regarded as corrupted and subsequently skipped.
- Resolved an issue with incorrect (garbled) partition names on ext4 and FAT16 file systems.

Indexing – Cellphones

- Resolved an issue where chat messages with identical content could mistakenly be responsive to certain keyword queries.
- Resolved an issue with interrupted crawl processes when indexing very large (> 100 GB) UFDR files.
- Improved memory usage when indexing Cellebrite reports with a large number of chat messages.

Indexing – Cloud sources

- Extended the Google source with support for Google Meet.
- Improved error handling in M365 sources when an invalid user ID or tenant ID is specified.
- Improved indexing and rendering of tables in iCloud Notes items.
- Resolved an issue with Find my Phone artifacts in iCloud sources.

IntellaCmd

- Added an option to rebuild the indices in a case. This operation regenerates the secondary indices that are derived from the data gathered during crawling. This can

be used to repair cases that fail to open or that show other forms of erratic behavior, especially in cases where no backup is available. As a precaution, users are still advised to run this operation on a copy of the broken case.

Previewer

- Resolved an issue with the Previewer becoming non-responsive when the Raw Data tab was holding a large amount of text.

Tagging

- Commas in tag names are no longer allowed, unless when properly escaped. This prevents issues in other subsystems that process tag data.

OCR

- The default time-out of OCR workers of the embedded OCR engine has been changed from 30 minutes to 2 hours. The previous time-out value caused too many documents to fail unnecessarily.
- Added a cap on the number of OCR workers for stability reasons.

Exporting – PDF

- Resolved an issue with certain calendar items failing to export.
- Resolved an issue with annotations such as comments in a PDF getting lost when exporting the item to a PDF.
- Resolved an issue with incorrect positioning of headers and footers in landscape-oriented PDF documents.
- Resolved an issue where Intella did not add a numbered suffix to a file name (e.g., “document(1).pdf”) when exporting multiple items with the same file name or subject to PDF.
- Resolved an issue with certain characters not rendering properly in the generated PDF, whereas they would render fine in the Previewer.

Exporting – Load files

- The PDF-related improvements listed above also apply to the exporting of load files using the PDF or TIFF file formats.
- Resolved an issue where the “Also include PDF versions of images” setting was ignored when exporting to a load file. The default “Images” folder was used instead.

Exporting – Portable case

- Resolved UI layout issues in the portable case export wizard.

Retiring functionalities

Intella Viewer – In a future release, Intella Viewer’s ability to connect to a case shared by Intella Connect or Intella Investigator will be removed. Intella Connect and Intella Investigator will be able to deliver those functionalities entirely via the browser.



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Upgrade Notes

Intella versions can be installed side-by-side. There is no requirement to uninstall old versions when installing an Intella version.

Case versions 2.6.x and 2.7 – Intella 2.7.1 can open cases made with Intella 2.6.x and 2.7. No case conversion is needed.

Due to a change in the underlying databases, results in the Image Categories and Detected Objects branches of the Image Analysis facet that were made with version 2.6 will not be visible when the case is opened with version 2.6.1 and later. This analysis will have to be repeated with the more recent version used.

Case versions 2.1.x to 2.5.x – Intella 2.7.1 can open cases made with Intella versions 2.1.x to 2.5.x, but these cases first require conversion before they can be opened. Case conversion will create a copy of the case in which all item data is converted, and all tags, comments and flags are imported. The original case will not be altered in any way and can afterwards still be opened in the older Intella version. Access to the original evidence files is not required for case conversion.

Case conversion will require sufficient disk space. As a rule of thumb, please reserve twice the amount of the evidence size for your case folder.

Other case versions – Cases made with Intella 2.0.x or older are not supported.

To open cases made with the 1.9.x and 2.0.x versions, please use Intella 2.5.1. This is the last version to support the 1.9.x and 2.0.x versions.

Cases made with beta versions are not supported and should be recreated.

Memory settings – The 2.7 version changes how case memory settings are stored. Prior to version 2.7, these settings were stored in both the case.xml and case.prefs files, for historical reasons. This is now only stored in the case.prefs file. Consequently, if the 2.7(.1) version is used to alter the memory settings of a case made with an older version, the memory setting changes may not be picked up by older versions.

Microsoft SharePoint – Version 2.7.1 no longer supports local, on-premises SharePoint servers. Version 2.7 was the last version supporting this source type.

Cloud-based SharePoint instances are not affected by this change, as they can be retrieved using the M365 source type. Existing cases with local SharePoint sources can still be opened.

Software versions – Vound will provide technical support for one major past version. For this release that will mean the 2.6.x range of products. Vound always recommends that users upgrade to the latest version.



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