

Taking Advantage of Enterprise PeopleTools Lifecycle Management Features

This document provides an overview and briefly describes these PeopleSoft Enterprise Lifecycle Management features:

- < Application Designer's compare features.
- < Change Assistant.
- < Change Impact Analyzer.

Understanding Lifecycle Management Features

Enterprise PeopleTools provides a variety of tools and utilities to aid in maintaining your PeopleSoft application. These tools are designed to enhance installation, upgrade, and the application of software. By providing a rich user interface and by automating many of the steps, the administrative tasks of installation, upgrade, or update require less time and effort, all while reducing potential errors.

The features discussed in this document focus on the tools and features that would be used during a PeopleSoft application update, or bundle.

Note. The features described in this document have become available in different, incremental releases. Whether you can use a feature described in this document depends on your Enterprise PeopleTools release.

Application Designer's Compare Features

PeopleSoft Application Designer enables you to compare the contents between two data sources and a file. Viewing the status of each definition in each location gives you the information to keep during an application update. The following table describes some of the key features for performing definition comparisons.

Feature	Description
Generate compare and reports.	These reports appear in the PeopleSoft Application Designer workspace immediately after the compare process completes, highlighting differences between two data sources.
Generate browser reports.	These reports are written to HTML and XML files enabling you to open the report in a browser, share the report with coworkers easily, and store report data in an industry-standard format.
Visually compare page definitions	Enables you to view source and target page definitions side-by-side, with differences clearly marked.
Visually compare and merge page definitions	Adds to the visual page compare by providing the merge feature.

Visually compare and merge text definitions.	This feature enables you to view PeopleCode, HTML, SQL, and XSLT definitions side-by-side, with differences clearly marked. It also enables you to merge source PeopleCode with target PeopleCode.
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See Also

Enterprise PeopleTools 8.46 (and later) PeopleBook: PeopleSoft Application Designer, Comparing Definitions, “Working with Browser Reports”

Enterprise PeopleTools 8.46 PeopleBook: PeopleSoft Application Designer, Comparing Definitions, “Comparing Page Definitions Visually”

Enterprise PeopleTools 8.48 (and later) PeopleBook: PeopleSoft Application Designer, Comparing Definitions, “Comparing and Merging Page Definitions”

Enterprise PeopleTools 8.46 (and later) PeopleBook: PeopleSoft Application Designer, Managing Upgrades During Upgrades

Change Assistant

Enterprise PeopleTools 8.44 introduced PeopleSoft Change Assistant to improve the process of downloading, and installing application patches and updates. The Environment Manager provides information about your environment (including licensed products, maintenance history, and so on) and links to the PeopleSoft product support website. Based on your specific environment information, Change Assistant:

- ⟨ recommends only the necessary software updates.
- ⟨ verifies prerequisites and post-requisites and determines the order to apply software updates.
- ⟨ applies software updates with minimal user intervention.
- ⟨ maintains a complete history of all software updates applied to each environment.

See Also

Enterprise PeopleTools 8.44 (and later) PeopleBook: PeopleSoft Change Assistant

Enterprise PeopleTools 8.46 (and later) PeopleBook: PeopleSoft Software Updates

Change Impact Analyzer

Enterprise PeopleTools 8.48 introduced Change Impact Analyzer, a change analysis tool that helps you understand the downstream effects of taking patches or making changes to an application or making the change. Change Impact Analyzer can be leveraged in conjunction with Change Assistant to estimate the time required to analyze and implement changes to your system.

Change Impact Analyzer is an interactive utility through which you can view the relationships (such as fields, records, or pages) in a hierarchical view. Based on a set of configurable rules, Change Impact Analyzer determines the relationships between definitions so that you can assess various types of impact, such as those described in the following table, with a quicker, more comprehensive analysis.

Impact Type	Description
Structural	These could be impacts such as how a change to a field type or its properties could affect the structure of a record. Making changes to a field without considering its effect on associated records may cause runtime errors.

Behavioral	These could be impacts such as changing a common library PeopleCode program that is called by numerous other PeopleCode programs. This can affect the behavior of the calling program. Or, suppose a PeopleCode program that writes to fields has changed. This can affect the behavior of the fields. In these cases, Change Impact Analyzer lists all the affected programs or fields for your analysis.
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Being aware of all the relationships between definitions and the potential structural or behavioral impacts of a change helps you determine what other modifications need to be made and helps you develop a change strategy.

See Also

Enterprise PeopleTools 8.48 (and later) PeopleBook: Change Impact Analyzer

PeopleTools features:



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PeopleTools Release
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8.48

Comparing Source and Target

Source and Target

Comparing Source and Target

Working With Text Definitions

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