

# Endeca Workbench Version 2.1 Release Announcement

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# Introduction

Endeca® Workbench is a Web-based tools suite that brings together best-in-class merchandising and content publishing capabilities with comprehensive system administration tools. With Endeca Workbench, the business user — specifically the Marketing, Merchandising, or Production professional — can quickly and easily manage the user experience that is demanded by customers and required to meet business objectives.

Page Builder is a component available with Merchandising Workbench or Publishing Workbench that enables merchandisers and production staff to create customized dynamic pages across an Endeca-powered Web site. This is possible via template-driven configuration into which content administrators can place modular pieces of functionality called cartridges. Application developers predefine cartridges, and business users choose from these cartridges to build pages with dynamic content that is contextually relevant to users. These pages can be triggered on a wide variety of criteria including search terms, navigation states, user profiles, date and time.

This release features the Page Builder Editor SDK, a library of MXML/ActionScript interfaces and classes that enables application developers to introduce new functionality into Page Builder via community editors. These editors may be implemented entirely in Flex (delivering a completely seamless user experience) or in non-Flex browser pages using common Web development frameworks and technologies such as JSP and ASP.NET. Editors may query an MDEX Engine or other data services to provide data-driven configuration capabilities.

## Endeca Workbench 2.1

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Enhancements have been made to the following areas:

**Usability** — Several aspects of the Endeca Workbench user interface have been updated to improve the end user experience:

- Pagination of rules within Rule Manager
- More descriptive error messages when uploading templates to Page Builder

**Performance** — Improvements were made to ensure that Endeca Workbench performance remains steady over time. Modifications were made to support situations in which the Workbench is accessed via a high latency connection.

**Operating System Support** — Workbench release 2.1 adds support for 64-bit Windows Server 2008 R2. VMWare ESX 3.5 is now supported as well. Support for Linux RHEL 4 and 5, SPARC Solaris, and Windows Server 2003, remains unchanged.

**Internal Infrastructure updates** — This release includes updates to the internal infrastructure of Endeca Workbench. Support for Windows Server 2008 is the primary driver for these internal infrastructure updates, and for most deployments the specific version details of these internal infrastructure components has no important significance beyond enabling OS platform support. For transparency to deployments where this level of detail may be significant, the specifics are:

- An update of the internal Java virtual machine to version 6 (1.6).
- An update of the internal Tomcat servlet container to version 6.0.

## The Page Builder Editor SDK

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The Page Builder Editor SDK enables application developers to extend the capabilities of Page Builder via community editors. This enables merchandisers and production staff to manage content in a way that makes sense to them, and takes into account their existing business processes.

**Standard editors** are included as part of the Page Builder product, and cannot be removed or modified. Additional editors developed by the Endeca community (including Endeca Professional Services, partners, or customers) using the Page Builder Editor API are called **community editors**.

The Page Builder Editor SDK can be used to create any of the following editors (and more):

- A featured records browser that content administrators can use to search and navigate for products or content to spotlight
- A menu builder that can be used to select which dimensions and search states appear in a top-level navigation bar
- An image selector that allows business users to select content directly from an existing CMS, eCommerce Platform, or Digital Asset Management System.

For more information on the Page Builder Editor SDK, please see the *Page Builder Developer's Guide*.

## Content Assembler API 2.1

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This release also includes an extension point in the Content Assembler API for building tag handlers. Tag handlers can be written by the Endeca community in order to customize or extend the Content Assembler to process custom content XML and integrate with third-party systems.

Limited support for aggregated records has been also added to standard record list cartridges without the need to write a new tag handler. When the primary query that triggers a landing page contains a rollup key, that key is applied to queries that populate dynamic record spotlight cartridges on that page.

Support for Windows Server 2008 R2 and Java 1.6 has also been added to the Content Assembler API.