

# Viz Weather Release Notes

## Version 2.1

Viz Weather 2.1 is a major release. Starting from version 2.0, Viz Weather is using an Oracle database for saving weather point information. Pre releases of version 2.0 and 2.1 are already in use by some customers.

### Installation Notes

This release includes the Viz Weather SW and several auxiliary tools. WD\_Wizard is a tool for configuring the Oracle database; WD\_Admin is a tool for managing weather related database content; and a conversion tool for migrating existing customer systems from Viz Weather 1 to Viz Weather 2.

In many cases of a moderate installation, using an Oracle Express Edition (XE) as a database server will be enough. Every machine running Viz Weather should be installed with the Oracle Data Access Component (ODAC). On XP machines the ODAC version should be 10.2 or higher, and on Windows 7 / 64 bits machines the version should be 11.0 or higher.

Please consult your Vizrt representative before upgrading from previous versions.

Viz Weather 2.X is installed to a new folder (VizWeather2) and it is possible to have Viz Weather 1 and Viz Weather 2 on the same machine (not running simultaneously).

### Major New Features

- Oracle database is used for storing all point information. This includes configuration data like name, longitude, latitude and weather data like temperature, wind speed, etc. Using a database makes the number of weather points practically unlimited and increases performance.
- Support for multiple point types using different attributes. For example one point type can be a general weather point with the usual data fields, like temperature and wind speed, another point type can be ski resorts with data fields describing ski conditions, like snow height, and another point type can be airports with data fields describing aerial traffic related data like delay information.
- Viz Weather Fetch Application is able to push DataPool weather data updates to registered Viz Engine machines. This option can be used to show weather data in a Viz 3D Ticker.
- More options of displaying various data using particles. The data format can be grid data or images data.
- Display of all weather data types over a globe. This includes fronts, H & L, iso-grid graphics, different tropical storm displays, different particles display and more. Direct interactivity on globe is supported (for some object). To enable particles display on globe, significant extensions of the RealFx plugin were implemented.
- Extended integration with Viz World Server and Viz World Client. Added an option to create a multi-hops data element, including (manual or automatic) assignment of weather points to the hops. The ability to browse and draw KML files, defined on the Viz World server, was added to Viz Weather.
- A new data type visualization - animating wind arrows flow.
- Integration with the Graffiti set of plugins. This includes improvements in the existing plugins, adding a new plugin (GeoGraffiti), working in maps environment, both on flat and globe, and Viz Weather control of drawing parameters like color, width, and more.
- A new data visualizations of tropical storms according to USA and Japan conventions.
- A new option to add a weather point from Yahoo cities database, using web search window.
- Improved user interface functionality and usability:
  - Added drag & drop options

- Improved multiple selection
- Improved filter panel for search
- Display scene container names in Viz Weather, for easier recognition of objects in Viz
- Sort of forecast times
- Default forecast time value
- Editors panel buttons are based on scene design, displaying only the exposed editor buttons
- And many more

## Minor New Features

- Added support of different tropical storm data using XSLT.
- Added the option to run a python script as part of the fetch data procedure, to enable pre massaging of the data.
- Improved integration with Viz Video Hub to support version 2.0.
- Added playlist folders, similar to data element concepts (for filtering data elements).
- Additional sorting options for weather points by countries, regions, and sub regions (while the categories of Viz Weather 1 were maintained).
- Supporting the option to assign a time length to a data element according to a sound clip which is attached to it. Also manual time setting is possible.
- Improved user interface of the WInterface plugin.
- Post rendering of data elements and playlists in Viz 3.X.
- Improved interactive creation and editing of animation for multiple objects like fronts, H & L, flows, etc.
- Added a silent install option.
- Viz Weather user manual is available in an HTML version (web help) and as a PDF file.
- Added an editor to define scheduling for automatic fetch profiles. (The scheduling is based on the timematch handler of the MSE).
- Displaying weather information on the OmniGlobe is supported.
- Various options for import and export are supported in the WD\_Admin. For example importing a CSV file to add points to the database, and exporting a DataPool configuration file.
- More TCP commands are supported by the Viz Weather, like fetching a profile, post rendering of a playlist, and more.

## Bug Fixes

The big change, of using an Oracle database for saving the points data, caused a significant rewrite of the Viz Weather application. During this rewrite many bugs were fixed and new features were implemented, and they will not be listed below.

## Known Issues

- After changing a name of a weather point, in order to get the right name in the Viz Weather editor, it is necessary to re select it, and save again the data element. (The name on the Viz side will be the right one, regardless of the above.)
- Viz Weather Gateway does not support rendering of clips.
- Import and export of a data element or a playlist requires a 2 steps procedure. One step is import/export of the information stored in the database via Oracle dmp file, and another step of import/export the data stored in the Viz Weather XML (like in Viz Weather 1).
- Some of the plugins (IsoGrid, the WStorm plugins) can cause a Viz crash in the case that the data files are missing.

- This version is working on a Windows 7 / 64 bits, but it was not tested (specifically the installation) in this environment.