Release Notes: IBM Aspera Faspex 5.0.6

Product Released: August 28, 2023
Release Notes Updated: August 28, 2023

This release of IBM Aspera Faspex 5.0.6 provides new features, security and bug fixes. In particular, the Breaking Changes section provides important information about modifications to the product that may require you to adjust your workflow, configuration, or usage. Additional sections cover system requirements and known issues and limitations.

5.0.6

New features

New variables in the .env files allow users to enable extra debug logging in the container logs. The new variables are: FASPEX_UTILITY_LOG_LEVEL FASPEX_CORE_LOG_LEVEL FASPEX_SERVICE_LOG_LEVEL FASPEX_UI_LOG_LEVEL. (Aspera/faspex-core#3686)

A new API endpoint days_before_deleting_package_records eliminates the database records of packages after a certain amount of days since being marked as deleted. (Aspera/faspex-core#3640)

Added support for single quotes ('), ampersand (&), and backslash (/) in the database passwords. The dollar sign ($) is not a supported character. (Aspera/faspex-db#72)

Faspex notification emails now support user-specific time zone settings configuration. (Aspera/faspex5#430)

Added the ability to turn ON or OFF TLS to connect to the database. (Aspera/faspex5#542)

You can now use emojis in package titles. (Aspera/faspex-core#3369)

You can now download data tables into a CSV file. (Aspera/faspex-ui#2191)

Added the ability to show or hide columns in the packages table. (Aspera/faspex-ui#2235)

Added sorting support to the /shared_inboxes API, allowing you to sort items based on various criteria. (Aspera/faspex-core#3776)

Breaking changes

Aspera/faspex-core#4010 - If you have a network configuration that passes the requesting client's IP address through the network with the X-Forwarded-For HTTP Header, you will not be able to restrict access to Faspex via IP addresses.

Aspera/faspex-installer#357 - IBM Aspera Faspex does not support MySQL 5.7. If you are currently using MySQL you should upgrade to MySQL 8.0.

Aspera/faspex-core#3745 - The PACKAGE_NOTE variable in the email template customization does not render properly in the email.

Aspera/faspex-core#3743 - POST returns sender value as a string in the /packages endpoint.

Aspera/faspex-core#3742 - GET and POST return different responses in the /packages endpoint.

Aspera/faspex-core#3741 - The archived field is not included in the response for the /packages endpoint.

Aspera/faspex-core#3740 - Missing mailbox field in the GET/create package's response/forward API.

Aspera/faspex-core#3738 - The last_modified field is not included in the response for the /packages endpoint.

Aspera/faspex-core#3736 - Unable to see downloaders information as part of a package's details in GET /packages/{id}.

Aspera/faspex-core#3735 - The `expiration_date` field is not configurable through F5's Package API (POST).

Aspera/faspex-core#3701 - Users should have the ability to retrieve all of their packages.

Aspera/faspex-core#3695 - Allow exchanging basic authentication credentials for an authorization code (used in authorization).

Aspera/faspex-core#3698 - When set to default, the storage for the shared inbox should always return a string ("12") and not a number (12).

Issues fixed in this release

Aspera/faspex-core#4018 - Users cannot decrypt files with Encryption at Rest from packages sent before upgrading from Faspex 4 to Faspex 5.

Aspera/faspex-core#4017 - Users cannot decrypt files with Encryption at Rest from a forwarded package.

Aspera/faspex-core#3956 - The `alternate_address_client_filter` value is not respected, resulting in the secondary address not being utilized during transfers.

Aspera/faspex-core#3952 - SAML users can login to Faspex with an IP address that is not part of the allowed list of addresses.

Aspera/faspex-core#3922 - If the login announcement contains line breaks, they are not shown in the UI.

Aspera/faspex-core#3920 - Faspex database name is hardcoded in db/migrate/20221221161527_change_e_packages_charset.rb.

Aspera/faspex-core#3882 - Admins are unable to delete packages created by other users.

Aspera/faspex-core#3827 - When the shared inbox name contains an ampersand (&) or other special characters the following error is displayed: `User is not a member of this shared inbox.`

Aspera/faspex-core#3425 - If a package sender includes themselves as a package recipient, Faspex does not deliver the expected notification email to the sender.

Aspera/faspex-core#3152 - You cannot give a SAML user limited permissions to a storage location.

Aspera/faspex-ui#2272 - Files should display two decimals on the size of the package.

Aspera/faspex-ui#1965 - When a user sends a package, the To field does not allow the sender to select a shared inbox from an auto-fill list when the sender's access is Submit only. Other contacts and shared inboxes display as expected.

Aspera/faspex5#535 - When core attempts to connect to RDS during Faspex setup and a `ca-cert.pem` file is not available, the connection will fail.

Aspera/faspex-service#291 - The request headers escape ampersand (&) after webhook URL marshalling.

Aspera/faspex-installer#277 - Containers should all follow kubernetes naming conventions.

Aspera/faspex-installer#239 - The process `faspexctl install_letsencrypt` fails on Amazon Linux 2 systems.

Aspera/faspex-db#78 - Exceeding the 80 character limit for all passwords defined in /opt/aspera/faspex/conf/docker may cause issues during setup or when performing migrations.

Aspera/faspex-router#76 - Modifying FASPEX_ROUTER_HTTPS_PORT in `router.env` does not allow the use of custom ports.

Other changes

Aspera/faspex-core#3761 - `DisablePostProcessing` value should be ignored as webhooks have individual Active (ON/OFF) settings.

Aspera/faspex-core#3663 - Searching for files in "Import from shared folders" is case sensitive.

Aspera/faspex-core#3482 - e_session ID data type was changed to `bigint`.

Aspera/faspex-ui#2233 - Users can resize packages and all packages table columns and the custom size will remain even after refreshing the page and/or the session expires.

Aspera/faspex5#455 - A security improvement was implemented in relation to the `zlib` compression library.

Aspera/faspex5#431 - Updated SSL 3.0.1 builds from the Red Hat Yum repositories to address several SSL bugs.

Aspera/faspex-service#279 - The LOG_LEVEL variable has been replaced with FASPEX_SERVICE_LOG_LEVEL.

Known issues and limitations

Aspera/faspex-core#3883 - When updating an existing Webhook the `package_name_exact` parameter can be set to `true` even when the parent element is blank. Users should see the following error instead: `Value required for <parameter> parameter when <parameter_exact> is set to true.`

Aspera/faspex-core#3606 - Package contents are not automatically deleted after any / all recipients have downloaded all package files.

Aspera/faspex-core#3763 - When logged in as a SAML user the log out options do not redirect the user back to the Faspex login page. **Workaround**: Perform a Faspex logout and delete the browser cookies to force logging out of both IdP and Faspex.

Aspera/faspex-core#3046 - The job `/monitor` endpoint shows packages that fail to upload as `backlogged` when it should show them as `failed` instead.

Aspera/faspex-core#2978 - Relays to file storage with cloud referencing enabled should create a link file on the cloud storage, but instead the actual file is transferred.

Aspera/faspex-core#2893 - Date files in metadata profile should not accept letters and specials characters.

Aspera/faspex-core#1765 - Deleting a user does not remove that user from distribution lists. If a user sends a package to a distribution list containing a deleted user, Faspex sends the package to the user's email address as a new external user. If the sender is not allowed to send to external users, sending the package fails.

Aspera/faspex-ui#1902 - When downloading encrypted packages sent using HTTP Gateway, Faspex UI should ask for the passphrase to decrypt the package contents before downloading. **Workaround:** Download the encrypted files and use Connect to decrypt the downloaded encrypted files.

Aspera/faspex-ui#1996 - Invitations created with **Prevent HTTP upload** enabled do not prevent users from uploading using HTTP Gateway.

Aspera/faspex-ui#1973 - A workgroup listing should have the same overflow menu options as a shared inbox listing; instead, the overflow menu is missing from the user interface. **Workaround**: Right-click the workgroup row to display the options. (Also listed as Aspera/faspex-design#286)

Aspera/faspex-ui#1682 - The Admin Sender Quota page does not allow setting no-quota by default for admin-defined quotas per user.

System Requirements
Server requirements

Use a server with at least 16GB of available RAM with at least 8 CPU cores.

Operating system requirements

Supported OS	Runtime Supported
CentOS 7	Docker-CE Only
RHEL 7, 8, and 9.2	• Docker-CE s390x Only, SELinux Disabled

Supported OS	Runtime Supported
	• Podman with Skopeo
Rocky 8.7 and 9.1	• Docker-CE • Podman with Skopeo • SELinux Disabled
Amazon Linux 2 and 2023	Docker-CE Only

Database requirements

Faspex 5 requires one of these databases:

⚠️ **Attention:** Faspex 5.0.6 does not support MySQL 5.7.

• MariaDB 10.9.3
• RDS MariaDB 10.6.14

If you are running an older or different database, you must migrate your database before upgrading.

Node requirements

IBM Aspera High-Speed Transfer Server: 4.3.1 and later with Connect Server license

Client requirements

IBM Aspera Connect 4.1.3 and later (unless defaulting to HTTP Gateway)

Browser requirements

• Microsoft Edge latest
• Firefox latest
• Safari latest
• Google Chrome latest

(Faspex users can successfully access Faspex from any of these browsers on any OS, as long as the browser and OS are also supported by Connect and HTTP Gateway)

Product support

For online support, go to the IBM Aspera Support site at https://www.ibm.com/mysupport/. To open a support case, log in with your IBMid or set up a new IBMid account.