

MYOB EXO BUSINESS 8.7

Release Notes



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Introduction

What's New in this Release?

The focus of the 8.7 release is on enhancing the functionality of the EXO Business Job Costing module. Other new features include:

- Customisable Business Alerts.
- The EXO Business Education Centre, an online documentation repository, including new online Help files.
- The EXO Email Service, a service for automating the sending of emails from the EXO Business system.
- Support for the EXO API.

Note: The necessary local components for the EXO Email Service and EXO API are installed and set up using new service installation and configuration utilities—see “Installing EXO Business Services” on page 12.

This release also addresses issues identified by users and business partners.

The purpose of this document is to provide essential information on the installation and use of this release:

- The **Installation** section provides an overview of the installation process, including pre-installation requirements and post installation steps.
- The **New Features** section describes all new features introduced in this release.
- The **Resolved Issues** section describes all issues that have been addressed by this release.
- The **Known Issues** section details any issues in this release that have been identified as requiring attention.
- The **New Profile Settings** appendix at the end of this document summarises all changes to EXO Business profile settings included in this release.

Note: This release introduces very significant changes for EXO Job Costing users; it fundamentally changes the way in which inventory and work in progress are accounted for in the balance sheet. Existing users will need to plan for these changes and follow a series of manual steps outlined in the white paper *Transitioning to the 8.7 Job Costing Work in Progress Methodology* under the guidance of a trained EXO Business partner. Even if you periodically post stock valuations and work in progress valuations, while the transition will be simpler, you will still not be able to process transaction in EXO Job Costing immediately after the upgrade until you have completed these steps.

Installation

Pre-Install Requirements

Minimum system requirements for PCs running MYOB EXO Business components are detailed below. Full details of requirements and supported operating systems for MYOB EXO Business are available on the [Minimum System Requirements page on the MYOB website](#).

The performance of the EXO Business system is not assured if these requirements are not met. Similarly, performance cannot be assured if the EXO Business system is installed on a server that is already under load from other processes, or a RDBMS that is not suitable for the organization's volume of data (see "SQL Express" on page 3).

Database Server

Any server where an MYOB EXO Business database is installed should meet the following minimum requirements:

- Windows Server 2008, Windows Server 2012
- The latest Service Pack for the Windows operating system
- Intel Pentium® 4 2.4Ghz processor (or equivalent)
- 2 GB RAM
- 20 GB of hard disk space + 10 MB per user
- Microsoft Data Access Components (MDAC) 2.8 or later
- A supported version of Microsoft SQL Server:
 - Microsoft SQL Server 2008 R2/SQL 2008 R2 Express Edition
 - Microsoft SQL Server 2012/SQL 2012 Express Edition
- The latest Service Pack for the version of SQL Server you are using

SQL Server

Microsoft SQL Server must be present on the EXO Business Database Server. If you want to use a specific edition of SQL Server, make sure it is installed before running the Installation Wizard. If SQL Server is not installed, the EXO Business Installation Wizard can install SQL Server 2008 R2 SP1 Express Edition (SQL Express) as part of the installation process (see page 7). Whichever version of SQL Server you use, it must be set up to use Mixed Mode authentication.

The blank and demo databases supplied with EXO Business have their compatibility levels set to “SQL Server 2008 (100)”. When upgrading from a previous version of EXO Business, database compatibility levels are updated automatically as follows:

- SQL Server 2008 and later databases are set to compatibility level 100.
- Older versions of SQL Server are not updated.

See the following web page for information on compatibility levels:

<http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/bb510680.aspx>

SQL Express

SQL Express may not be suitable for businesses with many users. SQL Express has limits on the amount of RAM and number of processors it can use, which affects the number of concurrent users that the EXO Business database can support. See the following MSDN article for more information:

<http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ms165672.aspx>

Client Workstation

Any client workstation running the MYOB EXO Business application modules should meet the following minimum requirements:

- Windows 7 Enterprise, Windows 7 Professional, Windows 7 Ultimate, Windows 8
- The latest Service Pack for the Windows operating system
- Intel Pentium® 4 1.3 GHz processor (or equivalent)
- Hard disk space as required for the operating system
- 16-bit colour, 1024×768 screen resolution

Other Requirements

Certain features of MYOB EXO Business require one or more of the following:

- Internet access
- Microsoft Internet Explorer 7.0 or later
- Adobe® Acrobat Reader 7.0 or later

Microsoft Office connection requires Microsoft Word/Excel 2010 to 2013.

Contact synchronisation requires Microsoft Outlook 2010 to 2013.

MYOB EXO Business 8.7 requires **ExonetLib.dll** version 8.6.0 or later. Version 8.6.0 is included with this release.

When installing manually on 64-bit operating systems, the file **RwEasyMAPI64.exe** must be copied from the **Supporting Files\RapWare** folder of the EXO Business DVD to the install directory. Register this file by running `RwEasyMAPI64.exe /regserver` from a command prompt.

Installing MYOB EXO Business

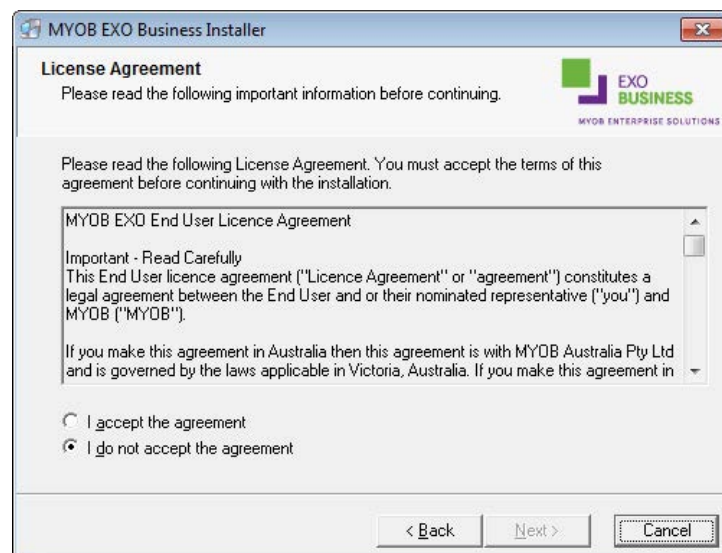
Note: Before you install this release, we recommend you take the precaution of backing up your data. Ensure there are no EXO Business modules running, locally or on your network.

To perform the installation:

1. Insert the MYOB EXO Business CD and select **Install MYOB EXO Business** on the Install tab. If the install menu does not run automatically, run the **ExoBusinessInstaller.exe** program in the **Supporting Files** directory of the CD.
2. Click **Next** on the Welcome screen.



3. Read the licence agreement, then select **I accept the agreement** and click **Next**.



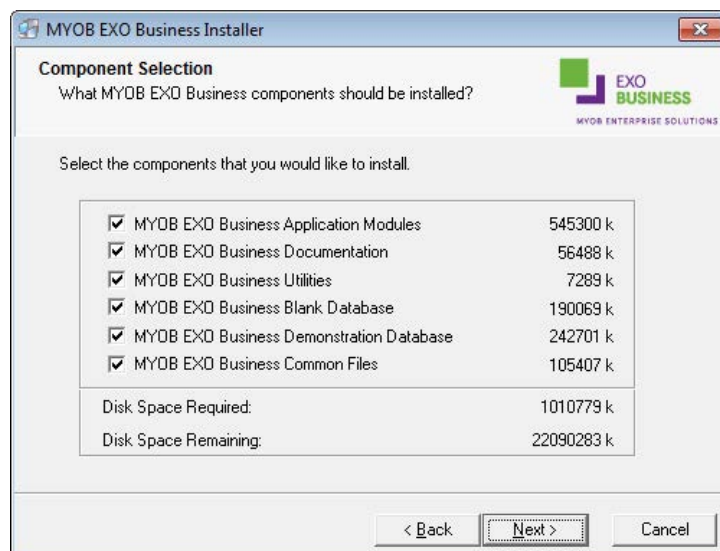
4. Select the country you are based in and click **Next**.



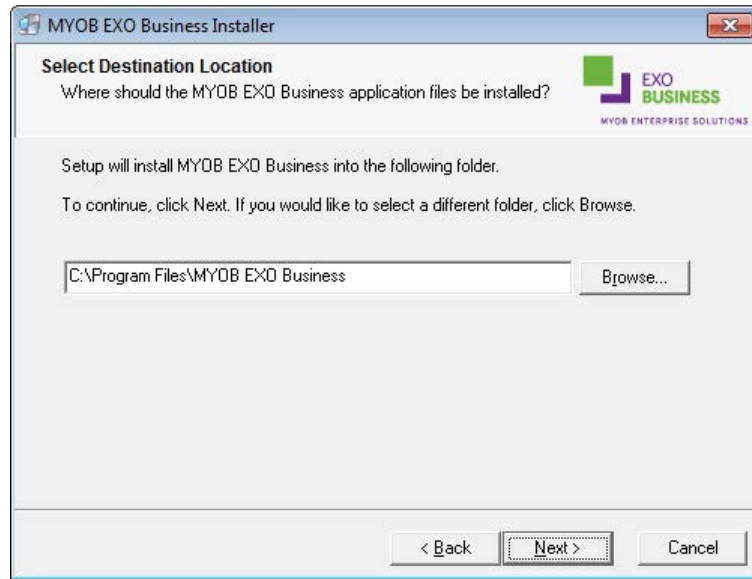
Note: Your selection here affects certain country-specific default settings that are set up during the install, e.g. tax rates and banks.

5. Select the components to install. Choose from:
- MYOB EXO Business Application Modules
 - Documentation files
 - EXO Business utilities
 - A blank “live” MYOB EXO Business Database
 - A pre-configured demonstration database
 - EXO Business Common Files

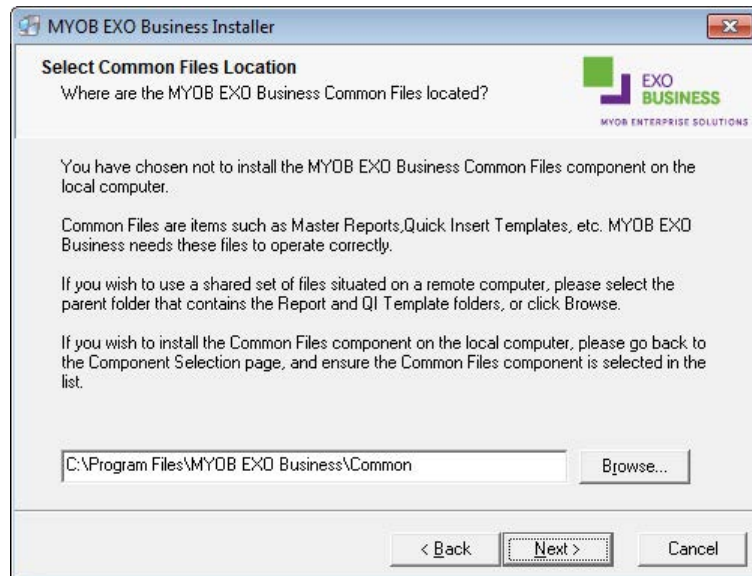
Click **Next** to continue.



6. If you chose to install the MYOB EXO Business Application Modules, click **Browse** to choose the directory where you want to install the program files, then click **Next**.



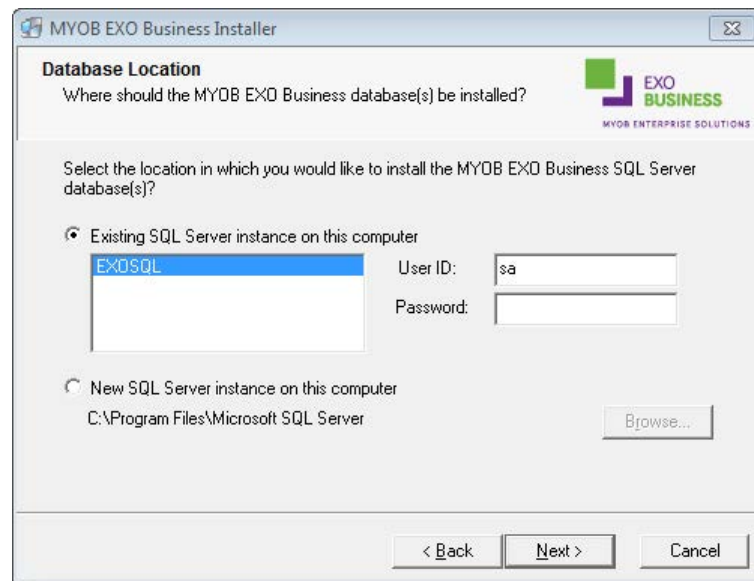
7. If the MYOB EXO Business Common Files are not installed on this PC, click **Browse** to choose the directory where the Common Files are located, then click **Next**.



8. If you chose to install the MYOB EXO Business Database components, you must specify where to install the database:
- To install on an existing SQL Server instance, select the instance and enter a user ID and password for that instance.
 - To create a new instance for the installation, select **New SQL Server instance on this computer**, then click **Browse** to choose the location of the new instance. This will install SQL Server 2008 R2 SP1 Express Edition.

Note: See the Known Issues section on page 66 for information on the install prerequisites for SQL Server 2008 R2 SP1.

Click **Next**.



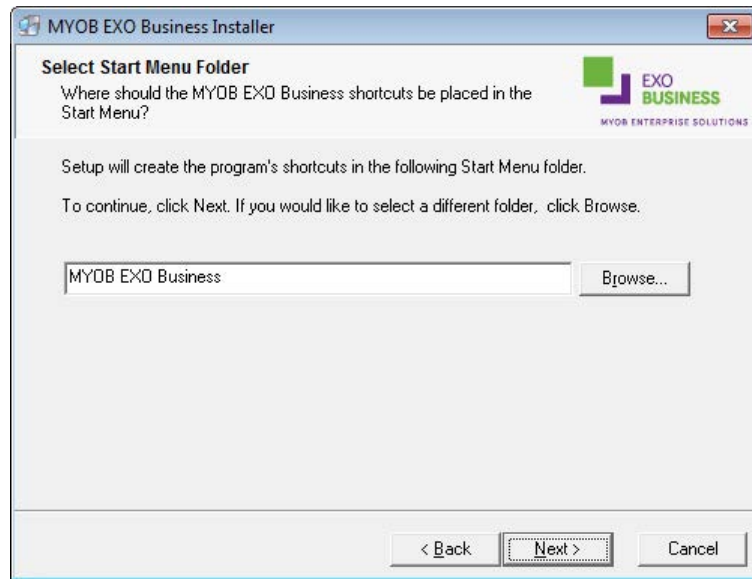
Note: The installer may appear unresponsive while it tries to detect SQL Server instances on the PC (this process may take a minute or more). Do not cancel the installer; simply wait until the detection operation is complete.

If you select to install a new instance of SQL Express, the logon details for the new instance will be:

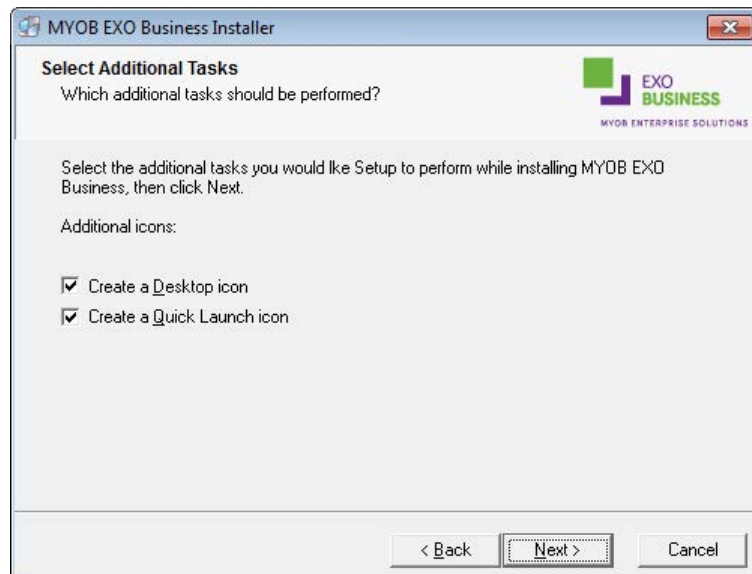
- Username: **sa**
- Password: **\$ExoAdmin7000**

You will need to supply these details when migrating data, or if you want to connect to the SQL Express instance for any other reason.

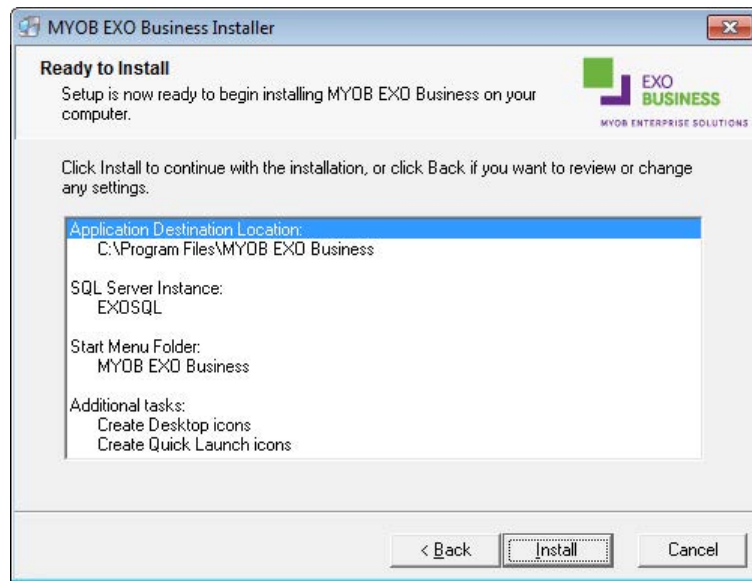
9. Click **Browse** to choose where the MYOB EXO Business shortcuts should be located in the Windows Start menu, then click **Next**.



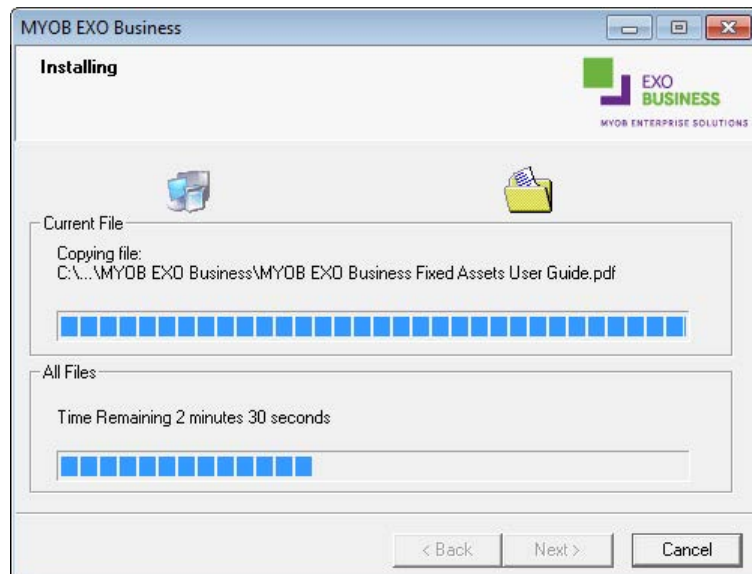
10. If you want to create a desktop icon or Quick Launch icon for MYOB EXO Business, tick the relevant box(es), then click Next.



11. The installation is ready to begin. Review the details and click **Install** to proceed. If you need to change any details, click **Back** to return to the previous screen and change your selections.



12. The installation progress is displayed.



Note: During installation, other windows may appear if SQL Express is being installed.

13. If you chose to install the application modules but not the database components on this PC, you must enter the details of the database once the installation has completed. Click **Test Connection** to check that the details you have entered work. If the test passes, click **Next**.

The screenshot shows a window titled "DB Connection page". It contains the "Database Connection" section with the question "What SQL Server database should be connected to?". Below this, it says "Enter the details of the SQL Server database to which you want MYOB EXO Business". There are input fields for "SQL Server computer name" (NZAKL005401W), "SQL Server instance name" (EXOSQL), "Database name" (EXO_LIVE), "Database username" (sa), "Database password" (empty), and "Company name" (empty). A "Test Connection..." button is located below the password field. At the bottom right, there are "Next >" and "Cancel" buttons.

Note: Once a computer successfully connects to the database, a Computer profile is created for it in EXO Business Config.

14. The installation is now complete. Choose what to do next and click **Finish**:
- Run MYOB EXO Business to explore the demonstration database.
 - Run the Configuration Assistant to set up your new MYOB EXO Business database.
 - Return to Windows.

The screenshot shows a window titled "MYOB EXO Business Installation Wizard". It has the EXO BUSINESS logo on the left. The main text says "Completing the MYOB EXO Business Setup Wizard". Below this, it states "Setup has finished installing MYOB EXO Business on your computer. The application may be launched by selecting the installed icons." and "Select an option from those below, and click Finish to exit Setup." There are three radio button options: "I want to explore the MYOB EXO Business demonstration database (Run MYOB EXO Business)" (selected), "I want to configure a new clean MYOB EXO Business database (Run Configuration Assistant)", and "I'm done for now, return to Windows". A "Finish" button is at the bottom right.

Post-Installation

Once MYOB EXO Business software is installed, it must be configured for use.

Optionally, data can be migrated into the EXO Business system from another MYOB product. The configuration and migration processes are detailed in the *MYOB EXO Business Implementation Guide*.

Logging in to EXO Business

New MYOB EXO Business databases are installed with one or more default user accounts. When logging in to EXO Business for the first time, you must supply the following login details.

For a new blank database (EXO_LIVE):

- Default admin user = ExoAdmin
- Default admin password = ExoAdmin

For the demonstration database (EXO_DEMO):

- Default admin user = ExoAdmin
- Default admin password = ExoAdmin
- Default demo user = demo
- Default demo password = DEMO

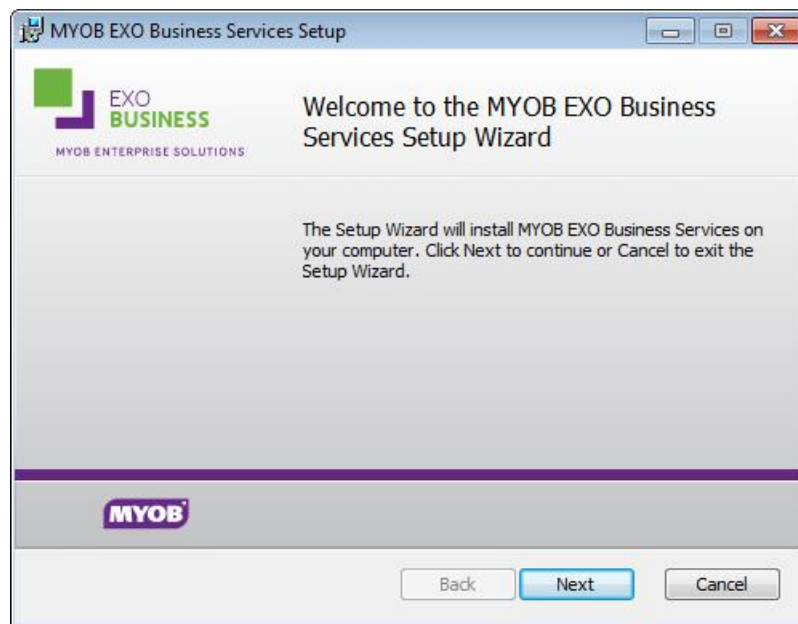
Note: Passwords are case-sensitive.

Installing EXO Business Services

Once the EXO Business system is set up, you can install supporting services for the EXO API and EXO Email Service using the EXO Business Service Setup Wizard, **EXO Business Services Installer.msi**. This installer is supplied with the main EXO Business installer. It must be run on a server that already has EXO Business installed on it, and must be run from an account with administrative permissions.

To perform the installation:

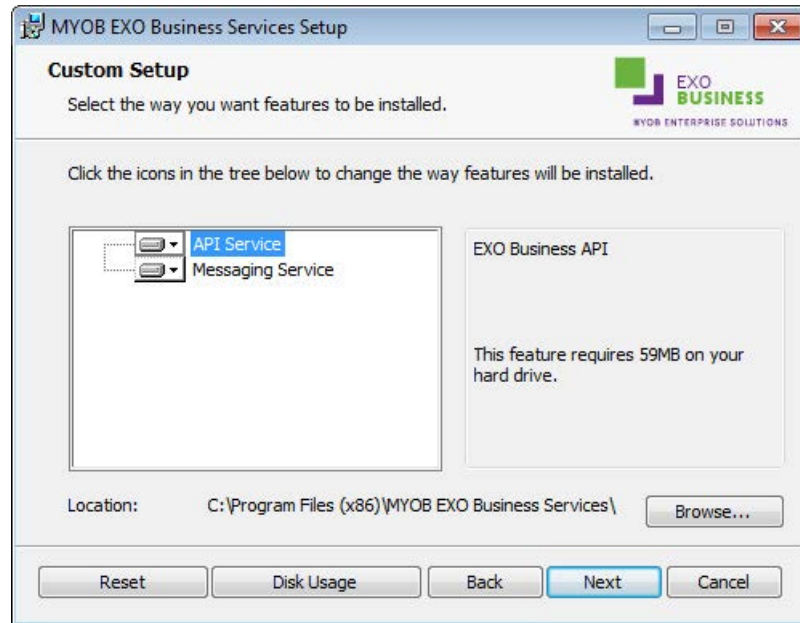
1. Double-click on the installer to run it. The welcome screen appears:



2. Click **Next**. The MYOB EXO End User Licence Agreement is displayed:



3. Tick **I accept the terms in the Licence Agreement** and click **Next** to continue.

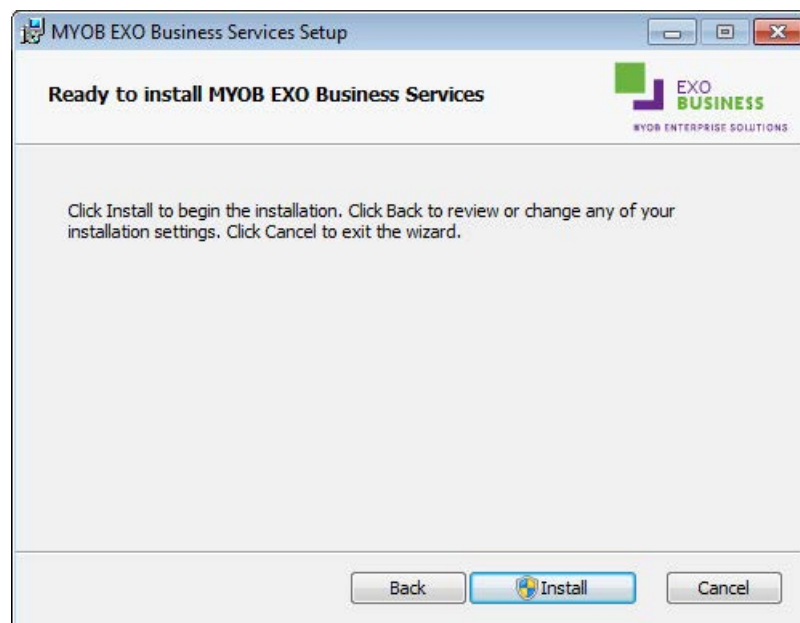


4. Select which components to install. Choose from:

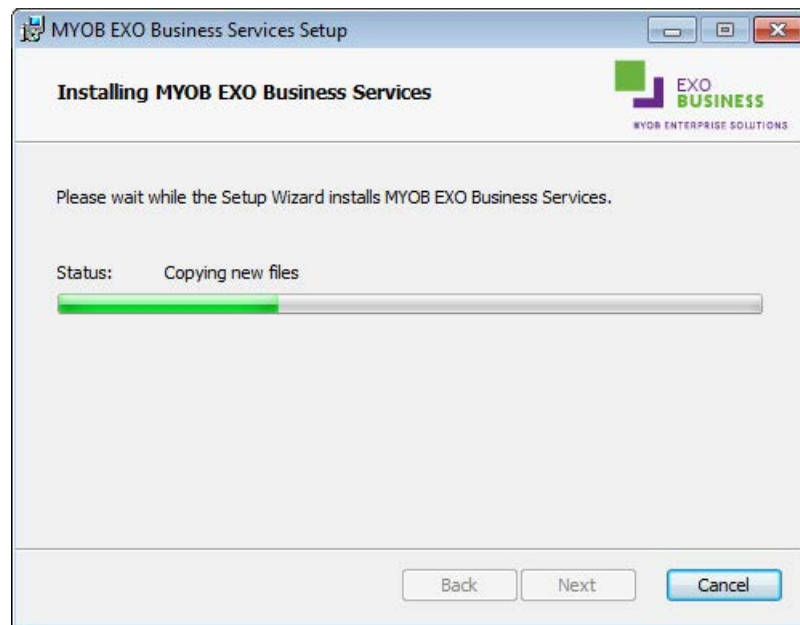
- The EXO API Service
- The EXO Messaging Service

Note: The API configuration utilities are always installed (see “Error! Reference source not found.” on page Error! Bookmark not defined.).

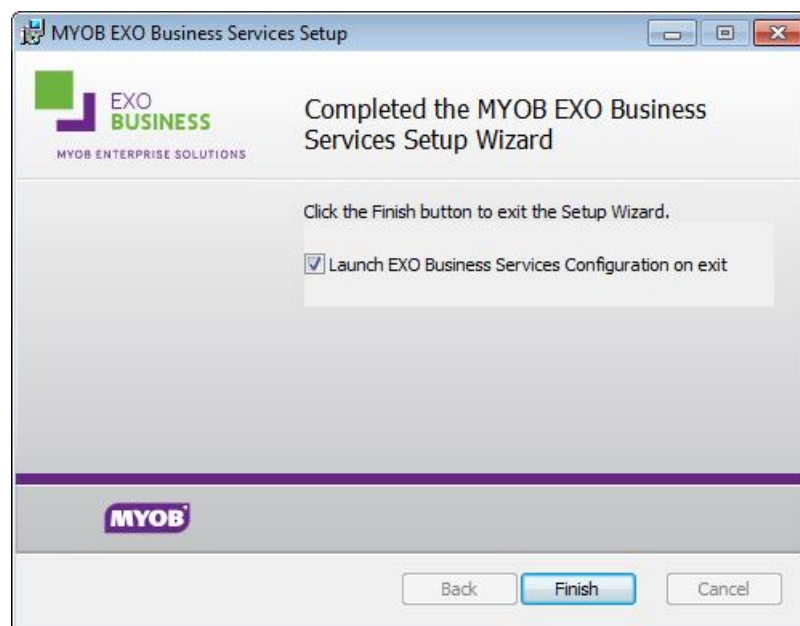
5. The install location is displayed at the bottom of the window. Click **Browse** to choose a different location if necessary.
6. Click **Next**. You are now ready to install the EXO Business services.



7. Click **Install** to begin the installation. The progress of the installation is displayed:



8. Once the installation is complete, click **Finish** to close the wizard. You can choose to open the EXO Business Service Configuration utility to set up details of the EXO API services.

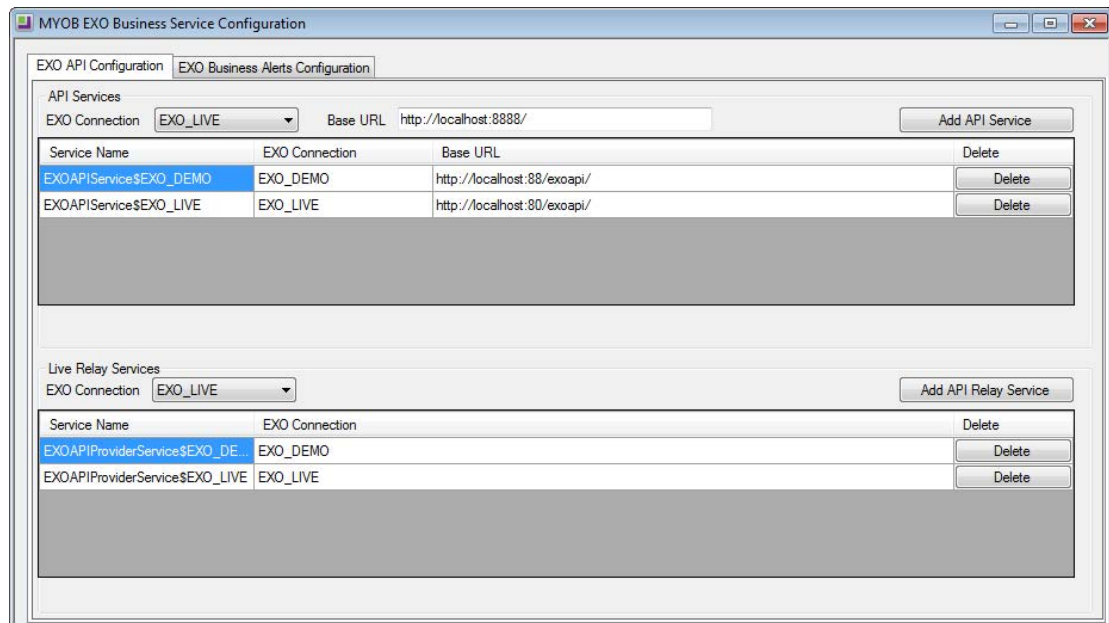


Note: The EXO Business Service Configuration utility is installed in the same location as the EXO API services. You can run the utility (MYOB.ED.EXO.Cloud.ServiceConfig.exe) from this location at any time.

Setting up the Services

The EXO Business services must be set up for each EXO Business database connection, using the MYOB EXO Business Service Configuration utility. This utility, **MYOB.ED.EXO.Cloud.ServiceConfig.exe**, can be run immediately after installation, or you can open it from the EXO services install directory at any time.

Note: All setup must be performed on the server that the EXO Business services are installed on, using an account with administrator privileges.



The utility displays configuration settings for the following services:

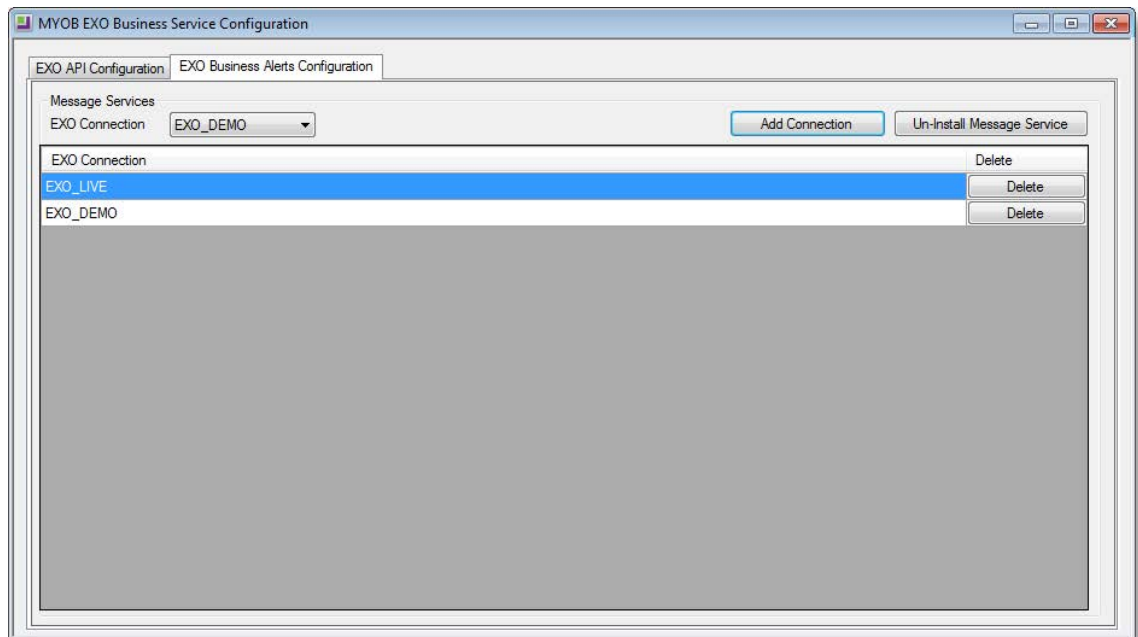
- EXO API Configuration
 - API Services – this is the main EXO API service.
 - API Provider Services – this service connects the EXO API to the online relay. This service is only needed this if you want to communicate with the EXO API remotely.
- EXO Business Alerts Configuration
 - Message Services – this is the EXO Business messaging (email) service.

To configure an API service, select an EXO Business database connection, then click the relevant **Add Service** button. For the API Service, you must also enter a **Base URL**, which is the location and port the API is accessible on (the default should be suitable in most cases, unless you want to use a different directory and/or port).

Note: For local API access, ensure that your firewall is configured to allow the relevant ports, services and/or applications.

To validate that the EXO API has been successfully installed and set up, navigate to the Base URL in a web browser or REST client to see a list of available endpoints.

The configuration process for the messaging service is slightly different; where the API services create a separate instance for each EXO Business database connection, the messaging service has a single instance, which can have multiple connections to it.



To install the messaging service instance, select a database connection and click **Add Connection**. This adds the service and sets up a connection to the selected database. To add new connections, select them from the **EXO Connection** dropdown and click **Add Connection**.

New Features

Changes to Supported Platforms

Office 2013 Support

MYOB EXO Business now supports use with Microsoft Office 2013, including Outlook 2013. 64-bit and 32-bit editions are supported.

This feature was introduced in MYOB EXO Business 8.6 Service Pack 2.

Changes to Job Costing

Support for Perpetual Inventory in Job Costing

In previous versions, perpetual inventory integration was not recommended and not officially supported in EXO Job Costing. This release includes process changes that allow EXO Job Costing to fully support a perpetual inventory system.

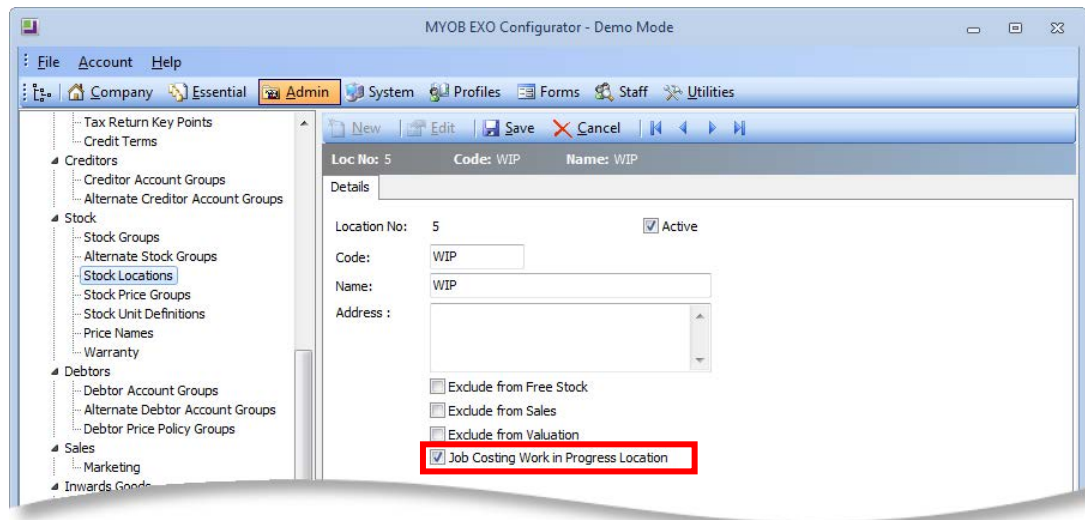
Note: When EXO Job Costing is installed, the “Stock” option on the Post Ledgers to GL window now becomes “Stock and Work in Progress”.

Work In Progress Changes

A new **Work in Progress** control account has been added to the General Ledger Control Accounts. The new account can be configured in the EXO Business Configurator at **Business Essentials > GL Control Accounts > Custom tab**. By default the Work in Progress account is set to the Stock on Hand Account; you may need to edit the chart of accounts to add a Work in Progress account to set the new control account to.

Note: If the Work in Progress control account remains set to the Stock on Hand account, the system will behave as it did in previous versions.

Any Stock Location can now be flagged as a Work in Progress (WIP) location, by ticking the new **Job Costing Work in Progress Location** flag on the Stock Locations setup screen:



The ability to specify locations as WIP locations allows restrictions to be placed on various location selection fields in the EXO Business system:

- When selecting a Stock Location for WIP, only locations that are marked as WIP locations can be selected.
- When selecting a location elsewhere in the system, in most cases Stock Locations that are marked as WIP locations are excluded from the choices. (On some screens, e.g. Stock transactions, any location can be selected.)
- The **Default job work in progress stock location** profile setting only displays Stock Locations that are marked as WIP locations.
- All other profile settings that set a default location only display Stock Locations that are not marked as WIP locations.

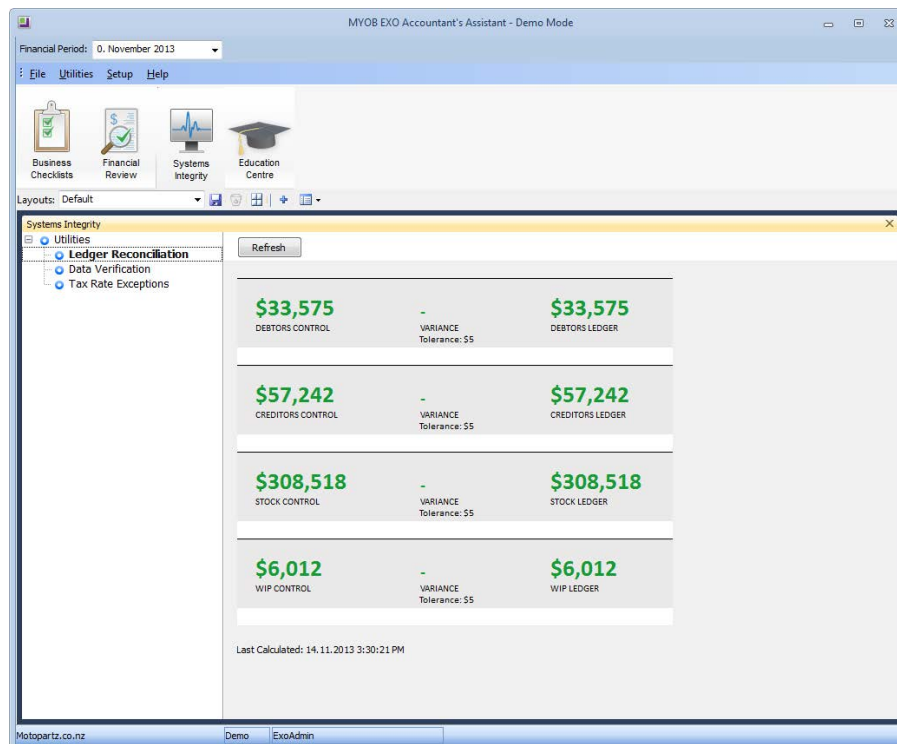
Note: Average costs are now affected by Stock on Hand levels only, not Work in Progress levels.

Negative stock warnings appear as normal when moving stock into Work in Progress from Stock on Hand, but no longer apply when moving stock out of WIP.

Note: At this time, the Recalculate Weighted Average utility can only be run in EXO Business 8.7 if EXO Job Costing is not installed, due to the complications of working through the transition to the new stock movement handling with WIP. Going forward, it will only be possible to execute the recalculation from the point of transition onwards, based on a snapshot valuation taken as part of the transition process. There is no effect on users without EXO Job Costing users (although internally the recalculation process is now converted to a viewable stored procedure in the database).

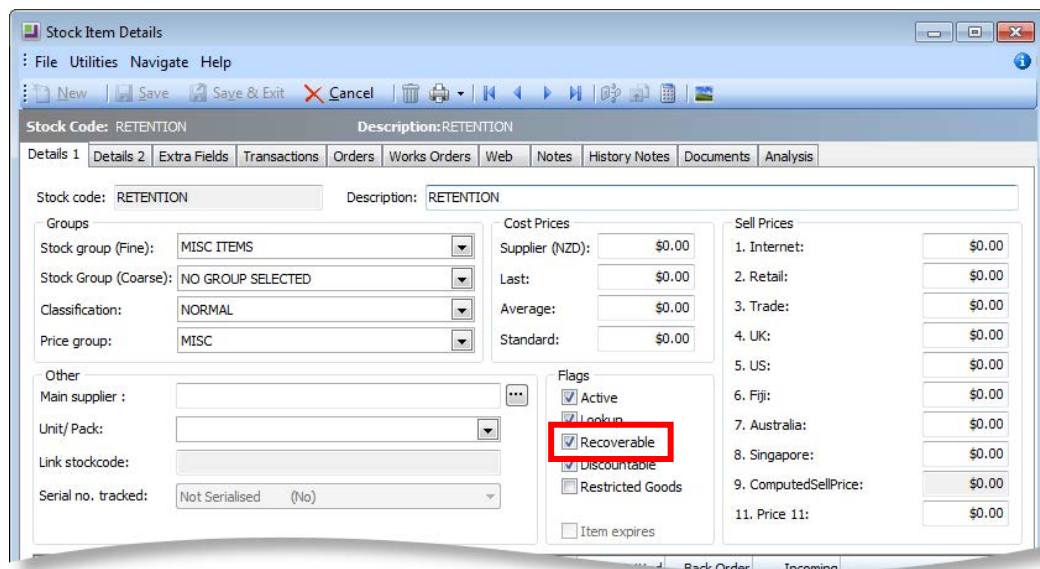
The **Only Move stock when invoicing** and **Stock on jobs is moved out of stock on hand** settings have been removed from the Business Essentials > EXO Job Costing section of EXO Config, as they no longer apply.

The Ledger Reconciliation widget on the EXO Accountant's Assistant now includes a WIP Control section when EXO Job Costing is installed:



New Recoverable Flag for Stock Items

When EXO Job Costing is installed, a new **Recoverable** flag is available on the Stock Item Details window:

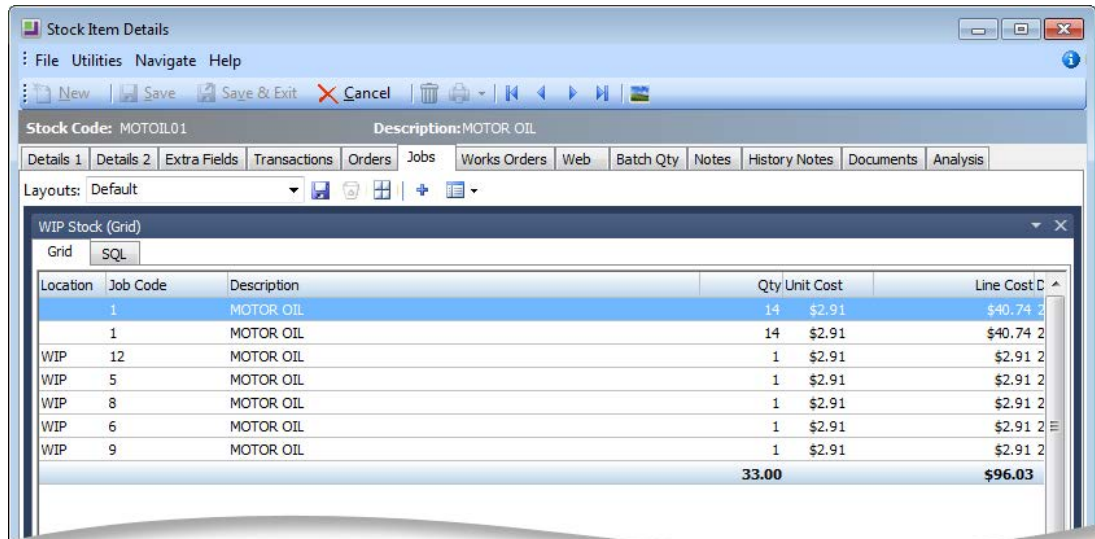


This flag is only enabled if the item is a lookup item. When ticked, it designates the stock item as a recoverable expense for Job Costing, meaning that transactions relating to it will generate General Ledger WIP journals. Non-recoverable lookup items do not affect the General Ledger.

By default, the flag is ticked for all stock items, except for linked stockcodes.


New Jobs Tab on Stock Items

A new Jobs tab is available on the Stock Item Details window when EXO Job Costing is installed. This tab displays any in progress jobs that are using the stock item:



The tab consists of a dashboard interface, with two widgets available to display the job details:

- WIP Stock (Grid) – displays job details on an ExoGrid.
- WIP Stock (Report) – displays job details on a Clarity report.

By default, only the grid version of the WIP Stock widget is displayed on the Jobs tab. The Clarity report version is available, but must be added to the dashboard using the Add Widget button on the dashboard ().

Written Off Lines

When job lines are written off, costs of those lines are now stored in the new `LINECHARGE_WRITEOFF` fields in the `JOB_COST_HDR` and `JOB_TRANSACTIONS` tables. This means that lost sales can be now reported on, and WIP write-offs can potentially be posted to a separate General Ledger account from stock adjustments.

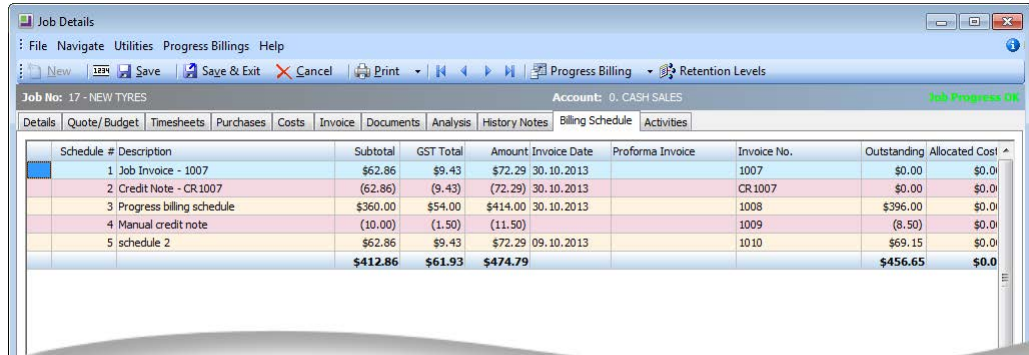
Write-off journals are now recorded differently; a new **Non-Stock Write-offs** GL Control Account is available, which is used as follows:

- Written off stock item lines credit Work in Progress and debit Stock Adjustments.
- Written off lookup item lines credit Work in Progress and debit Non-Stock Write-offs.

Note: The ability to un-write off lines has been removed in this release, as it resulted in incorrect journals due to the changes in this release. This feature may be reactivated in a future release.

Changes to Progress Billing and Job Invoicing

As of EXO Business 8.7, the progress billing feature is enabled by default (in an upgrade to 8.7, this feature is turned on). This means that the Billing Schedule tab is now always visible on all jobs. This tab has been updated to display all invoices relating to the job, not just progress billing invoices. In an upgrade, the tab is populated for each job with any existing invoices for that job.



Schedule #	Description	Subtotal	GST Total	Amount	Invoice Date	Proforma Invoice	Invoice No.	Outstanding	Allocated Cost
1	Job Invoice - 1007	\$62.86	\$9.43	\$72.29	30.10.2013		1007	\$0.00	\$0.00
2	Credit Note - CR 1007	(62.86)	(9.43)	(72.29)	30.10.2013		CR 1007	\$0.00	\$0.00
3	Progress billing schedule	\$360.00	\$54.00	\$414.00	30.10.2013		1008	\$396.00	\$0.00
4	Manual credit note	(10.00)	(1.50)	(11.50)			1009	(8.50)	\$0.00
5	schedule 2	\$62.86	\$9.43	\$72.29	09.10.2013		1010	\$69.15	\$0.00
		\$412.86	\$61.93	\$474.79				\$456.65	\$0.00

Invoices and credit notes can also be entered into the grid manually.

Note: The Billing Schedule tab can now be hidden by entering “B” into the **Hide tabs in Job management screen** profile setting.

Crediting Job Invoices

Invoices created from EXO Job Costing cannot be edited; however, they can be reversed/credited. Credit notes can be created for job invoices by right-clicking on the on the Billing Schedule tab and selecting **Generate Credit Note**. Credit notes for job-related invoices can also be generated from the Transactions tab on the Debtor Account Details window—when right-clicking on a job invoice, the existing **Generate Credit Note** option becomes **Generate Credit for Job Invoice**. Once generated, credit notes also appear on the Billing Schedule tab.

Crediting a job invoice completely reverses the transaction, including all stock movements and progress invoice allocations. Credited invoice lines appear on the Invoice tab, where they can be cancelled or written off as required. A **Select Lines From Credit Note** right-click option on the Billing Schedule tab takes you to the Invoice tab, filtered to show only the credited lines.

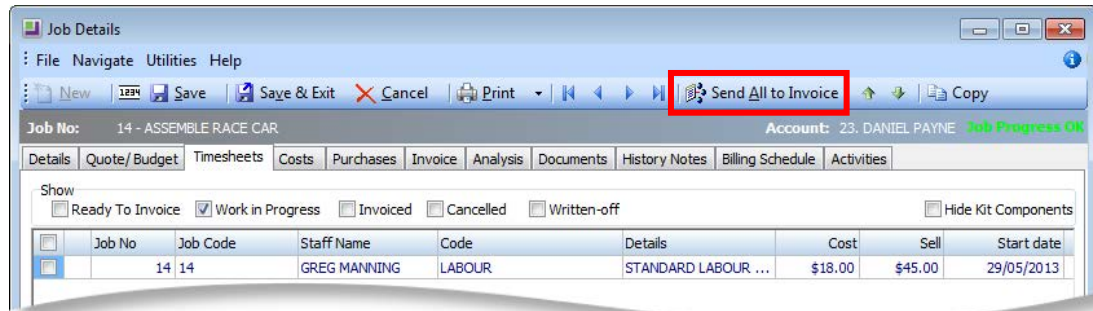
Read-Only Debtor Invoice Window

The Debtor Invoice window now opens in a read-only mode when opened from an `exo://` URL or when opening a Progress Billing Invoice (see page 22).

When in read-only mode, the Debtor Invoice window includes a new **Print** button in the toolbar.

New Send All to Invoice Button

This release adds a **Send All to Invoice** button to the Timesheets tab of the Job Details window:

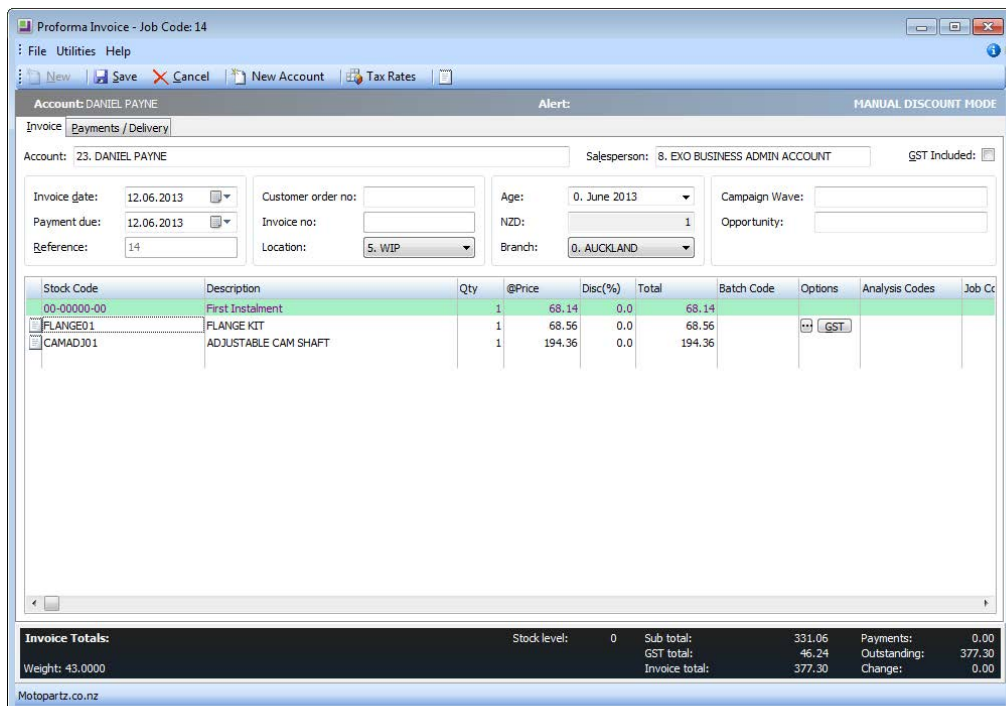


Clicking this button sends all lines on this tab to the Invoice tab.

Progress Billing Invoicing

In previous versions, each line of a Billing Schedule could be invoiced individually and would generate a one-line invoice in EXO Business; this has been extended to now allow users to create and manage a “proforma invoice” for each line in the Billing Schedule, which forms the body of the invoice created.

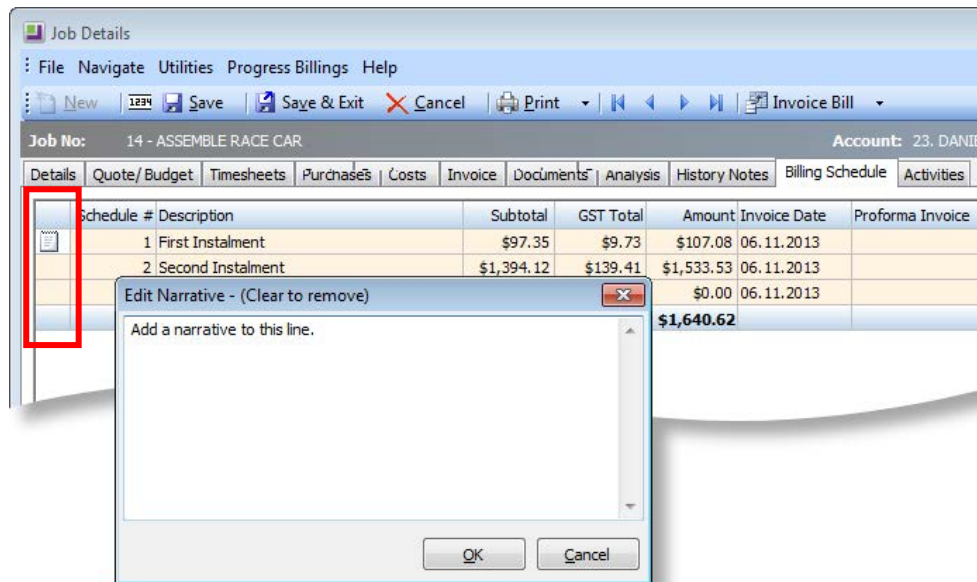
Proforma invoices allow users to record multiple invoice lines against a single Billing Schedule line, allowing for extensive detail to be recorded and invoiced:



Note: Proforma invoices are stored in the tables DR_TRANS_PARK and DR_INVLINES_PARK. (These tables are also used to store parked transactions for the EXO POS module.)

When invoicing a Billing Schedule line, the invoice form is now populated based on the related proforma invoice line, if it exists. If no proforma lines exist for the schedule, the invoice is created as normal, i.e. based on a single default general revenue line.

Proforma invoices support both line and header narratives. Header narratives are also displayed in the Billing Schedule tab of the Job Details window, against the relevant Billing Schedule line:



These new narratives replace the **Notes** field that existed previously for Billing Schedule lines; all notes data is migrated to narratives during the upgrade to 8.7. When a schedule is invoiced, narratives are copied to the invoice as appropriate.

The Billing Schedule Proforma Invoice form (**JobProforma.CLF**) has been updated to display line-level information. The Job Quotation form (**JobQuote.clf**) has been updated to use the DR_TRANS_PARK and DR_INVLINES_PARK tables where appropriate. New form profiles are available for Billing Schedule quotes and Proforma invoices (see page 68).

Note: In previous versions, it was possible to allocate costs to an un-invoiced Billing Schedule—in this case, the system would delay posting Cost of Sale until the invoice was generated with Work in Progress. This workflow has been changed: Billing Schedules must be invoiced before any allocations can be made, and the appropriate journal for the allocation occurs immediately.

Billing Schedule Stock Codes

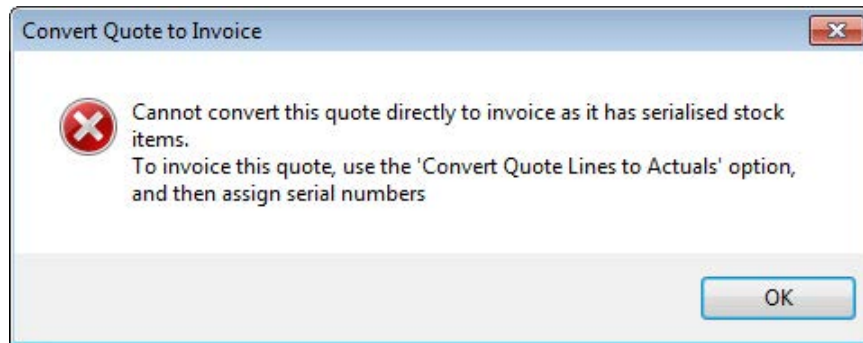
Billing schedules now always default to the stock code “@”—the **Code** field has been removed from the Billing Schedule window when creating a billing schedule, and the Code column has been removed from the Billing Schedule tab.

Note: See “GL Codes on Debtor Invoices” on page 33 for more information on the “@” stock code.

The profile setting **SQL statement to refine stock item search for Progress Invoice** has been removed, as it is no longer relevant.

Converting Quotes to Invoices

When selecting the **Convert Quote to Invoice** option on the Quote tab toolbar, the system now displays warning messages if any of the lines to be invoiced contain serialised or batch-tracked stock items:

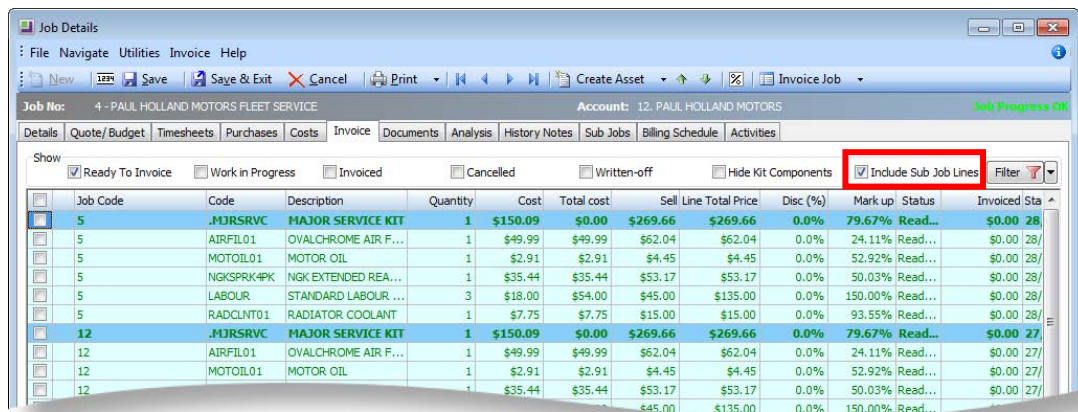


Freight on Job Invoices

Users are no longer automatically prompted to add freight to invoices created from EXO Job Costing, regardless of whether or not freight is automatically added to invoices elsewhere in the EXO Business system.

Sub Job Roll-up

It is now possible to display the sub jobs of master jobs on job grids. A new **Include Sub Job Lines** option is available on the Quote, Timesheets, Costs and Invoice tabs of the Job Details window when viewing a master job—when this option is ticked, the lines of all of the job's sub jobs are displayed:



In addition, the **Job Code** column on the Quote, Timesheets and Costs tabs is now a dropdown that allows you to select the master job or any of its sub jobs, allowing users to quickly switch lines between jobs.

The addition of these features makes it possible to perform bulk actions on all sub-jobs of a master job, e.g. converting all quote lines to actuals or invoicing all lines, giving you more freedom to manage jobs by splitting them into sub-jobs.

When choosing to **Invoice Job with Sub Jobs** from the **Invoice Job** dropdown on the Invoice tab, the generated invoice has the correct Job Code for each sub job on the