



TREATMENT AND RECOVERY PLAN FOR EXCEL® LIMITATIONS

SYMPTOMS



Version Control Issues

Excel collaboration typically happens via email, with users retaining duplicate files with conflicting data and formats.



Lack of Data Integrity

Excel can be altered so easily. Human involvement introduces error and as time passes, spreadsheets can become error prone and original data sources may or may not be identified.



Maintenance Issues

Spreadsheets can be difficult to maintain if the data is gathered from multiple sources. New source data imports add time, cost and potential human error. While Visual Basic scripts can help, programming skills are required, creating a need to involve 'spreadsheet jockeys' or IT departments.



Function Fatigue

Excel has a multitude of functions available – many of which users either aren't aware of or know how to use.



Limited Accessibility

Access to spreadsheets is generally limited to individuals. Windows file sharing is cumbersome at best. Online solutions help overcome these limitations but introduce security concerns.



Lack of Data Security

Locally stored spreadsheets are prone to theft and data loss. There is no notion of controlling access privileges among various users – only a "one size fits all" policy which can only be managed on the honor system.



Reduced Querying Capability

Analyzing data spanning multiple sources is complex and very difficult to maintain.

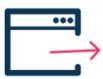


Less Scalability

Enterprise analytics require queries run over data sets exceeding maximum spreadsheet file size limits. Auditors resort to testing data subsets which reduces accuracy and increases risk that anomalies or trends will be missed.

TREATMENT AND RECOVERY PLAN

Self-Service Data Preparation with Datawatch Monarch



Extract data from across the organization, including unstructured and semi-structured formats



A "portal" brings together access to select data sets from PDF, web pages, delimited ASCII text, EDI streams, plain text, HTML, XPS, database tables, queries and more



Reports are compiled on the fly, any time



Repetitive work, sorting, grouping and sub-totaling are all automated, saving time and money and increasing accuracy and trustworthiness

ANTICIPATED OUTCOME POST-TREATMENT

Monarch's data preparation fills Excel's 'data integrity gap' by becoming the 'single version of the truth' for files it exports to Excel by handling versions and tracking data back to its original sources.



Timely access to data in the right form



Increased trust in data



Continuous detection of anomalies, fraud and trends across comprehensive data sets



Minimal IT involvement

Want to take Excel to the next level?

[Try self-service data prep from Datawatch for free >](#)

