

CodeCollaborator

What's New in CodeCollaborator 7.0

A getting started guide for new features and capabilities







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Introduction

SmartBear is pleased to introduce CodeCollaborator 7.0. Although this release includes a wide variety of enhancements, there are areas of focus where you will see the most significant improvements to CodeCollaborator's capabilities:

-  A streamlined user interface and workflow
-  Enhanced version control integration
-  Extensibility via new SOAP API
-  Enhanced performance

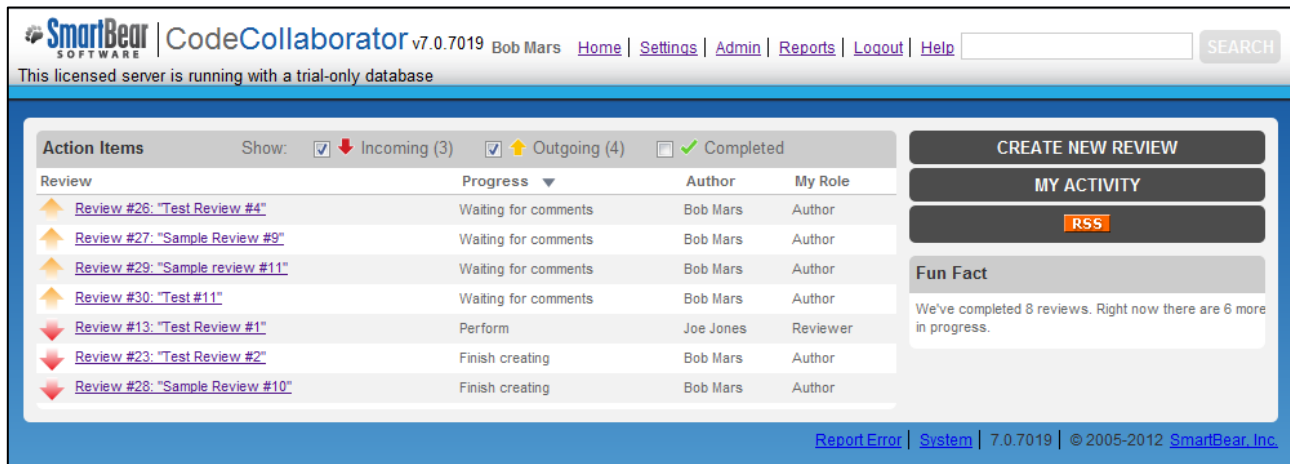
Throughout the rest of this guide you will find detailed information on these new capabilities and much more. For full documentation on CodeCollaborator's capabilities and use, please consult [CodeCollaborator on-line help](#).

Streamlined User Interface and Workflow

SmartBear invested significant effort to streamline the user interface of Release 7.0. Improvements include easier and more intuitive navigation and better performance and reduced load on the server. We are also pleased to unveil a more streamlined review workflow based on user feedback. The following sections highlight some of the more significant user interface and workflow enhancements.








Review Dashboard

The new filtering and sorting features on the dashboard makes finding reviews easy.



The screenshot shows the CodeCollaborator v7.0.7019 dashboard. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the SmartBear logo, the product name, version, and user name (Bob Mars), along with links for Home, Settings, Admin, Reports, Logout, and Help. A search box is also present. Below the navigation bar, a message states: "This licensed server is running with a trial-only database".

The main content area is titled "Action Items" and features a filter section with "Show:" and three options: "Incoming (3)" (selected), "Outgoing (4)", and "Completed". Below this is a table of reviews:

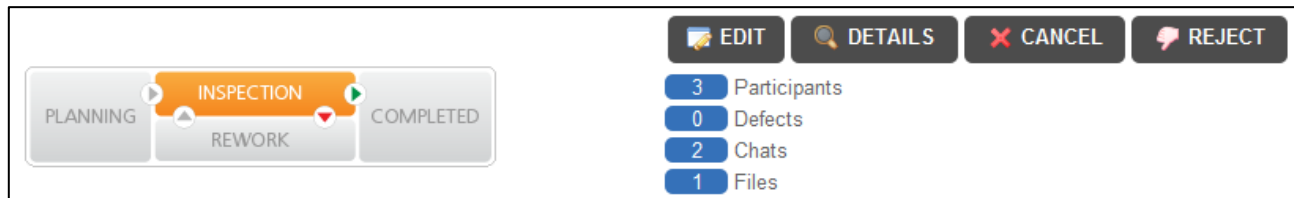
Review	Progress	Author	My Role
 Review #26: "Test Review #4"	Waiting for comments	Bob Mars	Author
 Review #27: "Sample Review #9"	Waiting for comments	Bob Mars	Author
 Review #29: "Sample review #11"	Waiting for comments	Bob Mars	Author
 Review #30: "Test #11"	Waiting for comments	Bob Mars	Author
 Review #13: "Test Review #1"	Perform	Joe Jones	Reviewer
 Review #23: "Test Review #2"	Finish creating	Bob Mars	Author
 Review #28: "Sample Review #10"	Finish creating	Bob Mars	Author

To the right of the table, there are three buttons: "CREATE NEW REVIEW", "MY ACTIVITY", and "RSS". Below these buttons is a "Fun Fact" box that reads: "We've completed 8 reviews. Right now there are 6 more in progress." At the bottom of the dashboard, there is a footer with links for "Report Error", "System", the version "7.0.7019", and copyright information "© 2005-2012 SmartBear, Inc."

Inspection Phase





Once the review has started it enters the inspection phase where Reviewers and Observers have the opportunity to make comments and note defects within the materials under review.

To improve workflow, CodeCollaborator 7.0 includes a Review Phase graphic that clearly marks the review state.



Participants

The Participants section shows all of the participants and the role they play within the review. New features include:

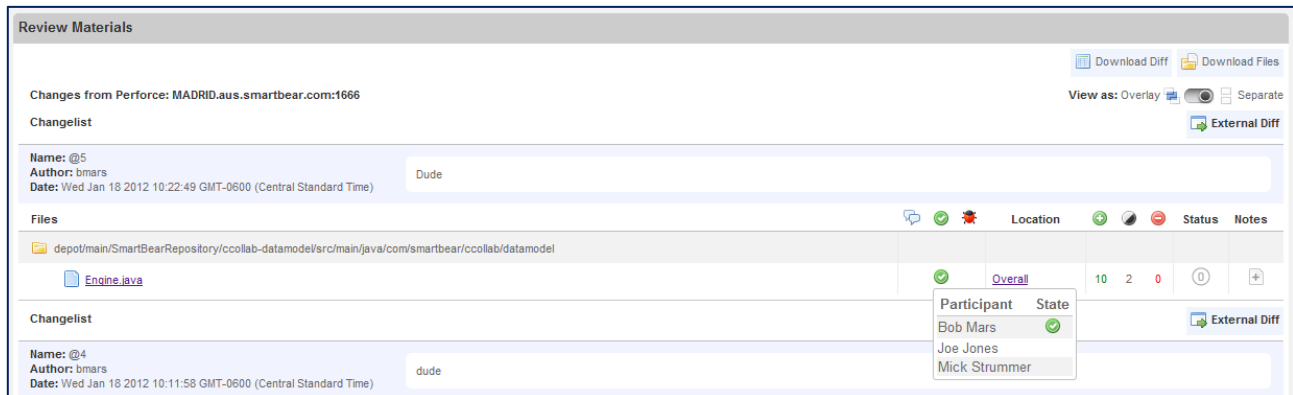
-  Sortable Columns
-  Participant grouping
-  Email Everyone
-  Poke Everyone

The Email Everyone option has been widely requested and can be used to communicate review specific information.

Participants			
Group by Role <input type="button" value="v"/> Group by Role Group by State Group by None		<input checked="" type="button" value="Email Everyone"/> <input type="button" value="Poke Everyone"/>	
	Role	State	Action
<i>There are no participants in the Moderator role.</i>			
Author			
Name	Role	State	Action
Bob Evans	Author	Waiting	<input type="button" value="Email"/> <input type="button" value="Poke"/>
Reviewer			
Name	Role	State	Action
Justin Collier	Reviewer	Active	<input type="button" value="Email"/> <input type="button" value="Poke"/>
Observer			
Name	Role	State	Action
<i>There are no participants in the Observer role.</i>			

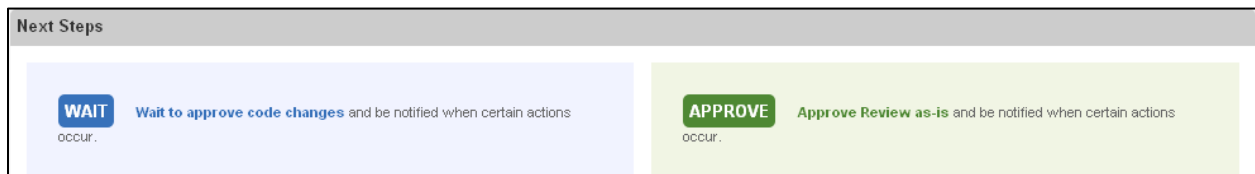
Review Materials

One of the features of the 7.0 UI is that it consumes a lot less real-estate to show important information. A great example is the Review Materials section. One change which makes the Review Materials view more compact and easy to read, is that the status of each participant is no longer displayed in a table. With reviews that had more than a few participants the display could be cumbersome to read and would force scrolling. In the new user interface, placing the mouse over one of the status icons or the **Location** link displays a pop-up with a full list of the participant status values.

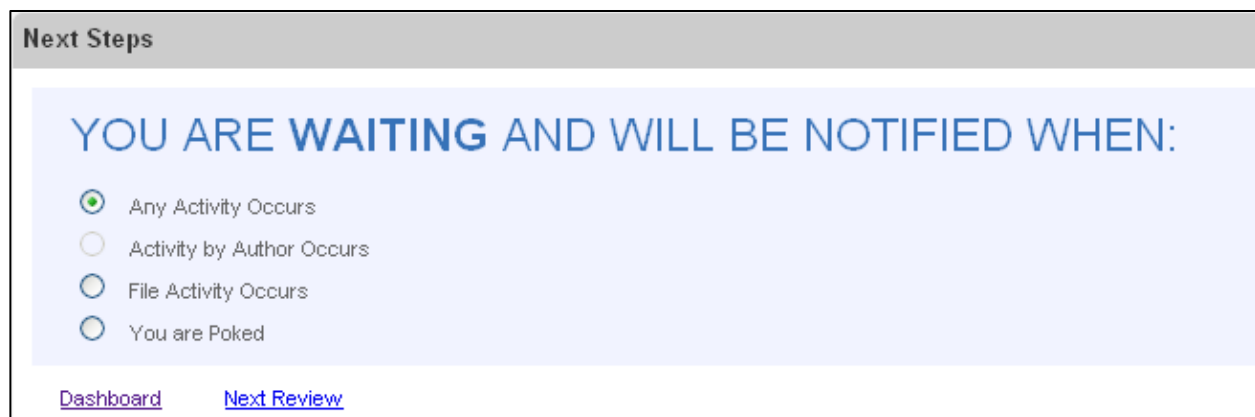


Next Steps

For the 7.0 release, Moving On has been relabeled Next Steps and has been simplified to make “Waiting” or “Approving” the review a one click procedure. This change has simplified the UI and made the Next Steps section more intuitive.

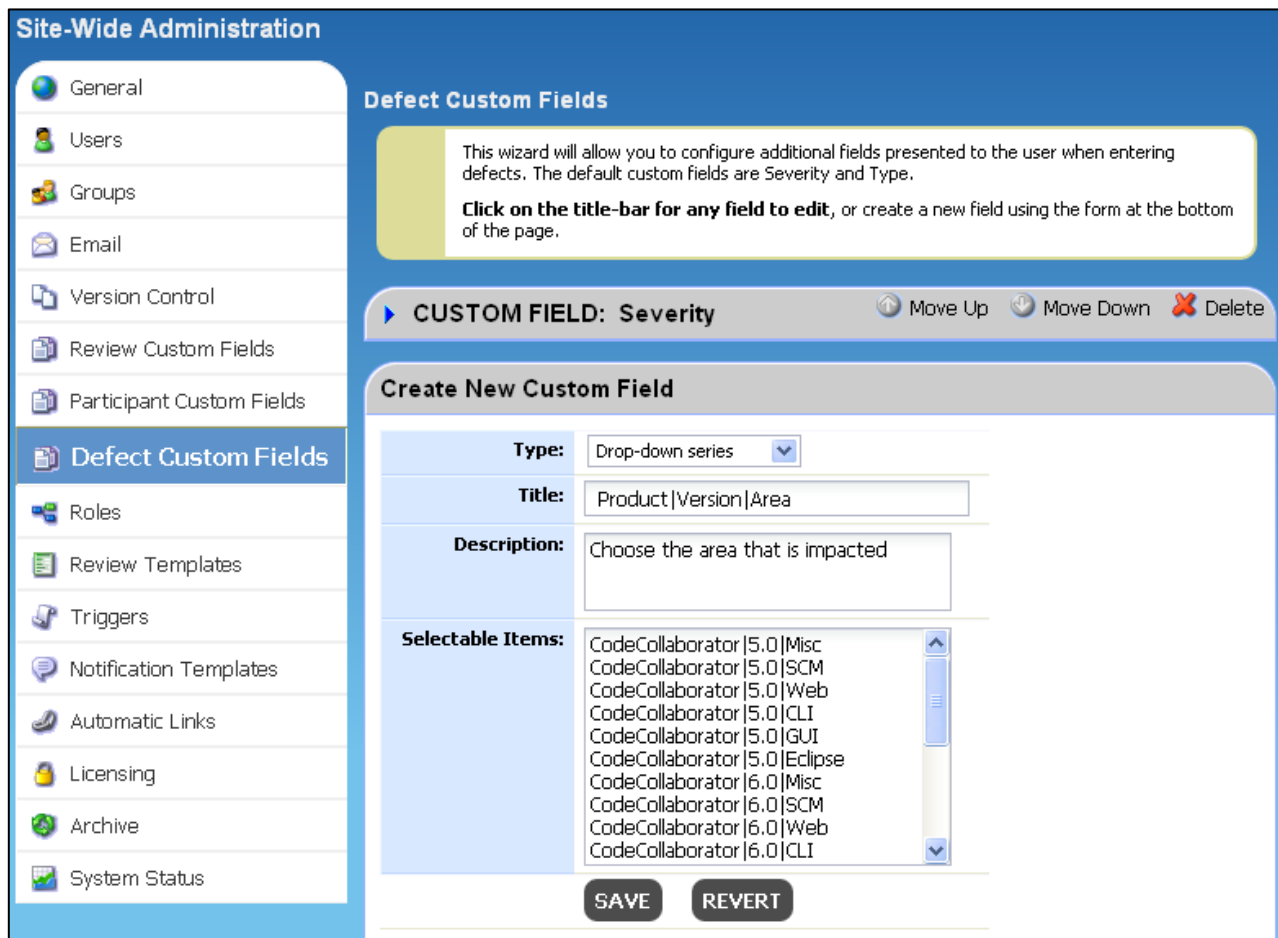


Only after you have selected Wait or Approve are you provided with Notification options. Also notice the Dashboard and Next Review links that provide quick access to your desired screen.



Hierarchical Custom Fields

To configure Hierarchical Custom Fields (HCF), navigate to the Site-Wide Administration page. Any of the three Custom Fields options can be chosen for HCF. Select one and Create a new Custom Field. Set the Type to 'Drop-down Series' and provide a Title in the Product|Version|Area|etc. format (the title must include the vertical bars). The format for the selectable items is 'Level 1|Level 2|Level 3'|etc. The only limitation to how many levels that can be used is that the number of characters cannot exceed 255. Once finished, click Save and navigate to the Review Templates menu item. Edit the Template, and set the newly created HCF to Yes so that it is visible in reviews.



The screenshot displays the 'Site-Wide Administration' interface. On the left is a navigation menu with items like General, Users, Groups, Email, Version Control, Review Custom Fields, Participant Custom Fields, Defect Custom Fields (highlighted), Roles, Review Templates, Triggers, Notification Templates, Automatic Links, Licensing, Archive, and System Status. The main content area is titled 'Defect Custom Fields' and contains a yellow informational box stating: 'This wizard will allow you to configure additional fields presented to the user when entering defects. The default custom fields are Severity and Type. Click on the title-bar for any field to edit, or create a new field using the form at the bottom of the page.' Below this is a list of custom fields, with 'CUSTOM FIELD: Severity' selected. Action buttons for 'Move Up', 'Move Down', and 'Delete' are visible. A 'Create New Custom Field' form is open, showing the following fields: 'Type' set to 'Drop-down series', 'Title' set to 'Product|Version|Area', and 'Description' set to 'Choose the area that is impacted'. The 'Selectable Items' list contains ten entries: 'CodeCollaborator |5.0|Misc', 'CodeCollaborator |5.0|SCM', 'CodeCollaborator |5.0|Web', 'CodeCollaborator |5.0|CLI', 'CodeCollaborator |5.0|GUI', 'CodeCollaborator |5.0|Eclipse', 'CodeCollaborator |6.0|Misc', 'CodeCollaborator |6.0|SCM', 'CodeCollaborator |6.0|Web', and 'CodeCollaborator |6.0|CLI'. At the bottom of the form are 'SAVE' and 'REVERT' buttons.

Reject Review

If the administrator enables Reject Review in the administration pages, users will have access to a **Reject Review** button on the Review Summary screen. If a user chooses to reject a review, the user can be required to select a reason for the rejection and that value can be tracked and reported. The primary use of Reject Review is in circumstances where an organization wants to allow users to stop a review that is not in a planning or completed state and have the reason recorded and available in reports.

Enhanced Version Control Integration

Perforce Shelvesets

CodeCollaborator now supports adding shelved files to a review from the command-line client, the gui client, or the p4v integration tool. To use it, simply add the changelist that contains the shelved files.

If changelist 5 contains the shelved set, the command is:

```
ccollab addchangelist new 5
```

This will add all the shelved files to a new review.

Note: Perforce allows users to have both local files and shelved files in the same changelist. It even allows users to have the same file in both lists (local and shelved). Since Perforce does not allow users to commit a changelist with shelved files in it (you must either delete the shelved files or “unshelve” them before submitting them to the server) CodeCollaborator will upload the version in the local changelist rather than the shelved one in this case.

Git Changelists

Code Collaborator 7 now has support for post commit reviews using Git both in our GUI and via the [ccollab addchangelist](#) command. To add the change you just committed to your local repository to a new review, you will be able to select “Add Commits..” in the CodeCollaborator GUI, or run the command: `ccollab addchangelist new HEAD`

New Soap API

CodeCollaborator now includes SOAP web services you can use with any programming language which has a SOAP client library. The SOAP API is ideal for writing integrations to external systems, specialized client interfaces and custom reporting tools. In this release the CodeCollaborator team has focused on exposing a core set of functionality which will be expanded in future releases. The most current documentation for the API can be found here: <http://codecollaborator.smartbear.com/docs/javadoc/SOAP/>.

Enhanced Performance

The architectural changes implemented for the SOAP API and the new user interface have resulted in significant performance enhancements in both the web client and the Eclipse plugin. The dashboard and review pages load significantly faster, loading of large reviews has been optimized, and use of the SOAP API has increased performance for the Eclipse plug-in.