

Feature Preview

❖ BuildMaster 5.7

Introducing Calendars in BuildMaster

Calendars in BuildMaster help you avoid communication bottlenecks, eliminate poorly timed deployments that monopolize server resources, and bring clarity to the different stages your release moves through.

Using Calendars helps you avoid unrealistic deployment timelines, highlight issues that slide through cracks, and reduce planning time for your application releases.

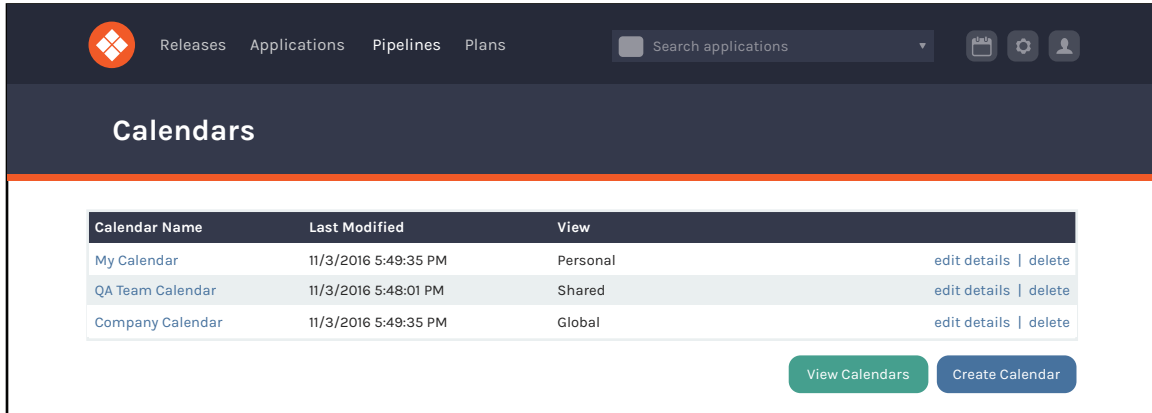
With Calendars you can create and enforce an informed system for releases. Poorly timed deployments can lead to approval delays, office connection slowdown, and even server downtime; you can avoid all of these issues by using Calendars to plan your releases.

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Calendars

Calendars allows you to better visualize, plan, and coordinate application releases and deployments.



Calendar Name	Last Modified	View	
My Calendar	11/3/2016 5:49:35 PM	Personal	edit details delete
QA Team Calendar	11/3/2016 5:48:01 PM	Shared	edit details delete
Company Calendar	11/3/2016 5:49:35 PM	Global	edit details delete

[View Calendars](#) [Create Calendar](#)

In the above example, Rick has three different calendars: *My Calendar*, *QA Team*, and *Company*. On *My Calendar*, Rick has configured three rules to display when the three apps he oversees are scheduled to be deployed to the “Ready for QA” pipeline stage. Since Rick has to perform manual approvals once the apps past testing, this is the most important stage to him personally.

Additionally, Rick is on the QA team so he has access to the *QA Team calendar*. This gives him the ability to see all applications being deployed to the QA stages, including the three he personally oversees.

The *Company Calendar* is configured to only show the deployment windows for applications to production environments. Since release date are critical to business success, this helps Rick manage when he needs to complete his approvals by.

Calendars are categorized into three different types:

- Personal – Viewed and edited by only the user who created it
- Shared – Shared among individuals, only users with permissions can edit
- Global – Configured by admins, viewable to all named users in BuildMaster

Any number of calendars can be created, but are generally used by teams (ie. QAteam, WebDev team, etc.), individuals, and organization wide.

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Creating a Rule

Defining rules for each of your calendars allows you to granularly filter and display only information vital to you.

To create a rule, specify the application, pipeline, pipeline stage, and environment for each rule, and filter by event type: release target date, scheduled deployments, build schedules, deployment windows, and past deployments. Color designation of each rule allows you to easily identify and differentiate your rules, at a glance, across all of your calendars.

The screenshot shows the 'Create Rule' dialog in BuildMaster 5.7. The dialog is titled 'Create Rule' and has a close button (X) in the top right corner. It contains the following fields and options:

- Rule Name:** A text input field containing 'Deployment Windows App QURZ in prod'.
- Application:** A dropdown menu with 'AppQURZ' selected.
- Pipeline:** An empty dropdown menu.
- Pipeline Stage:** An empty dropdown menu.
- Environment:** A dropdown menu with 'Production' selected.
- Color:** A color selection field showing a 3x3 grid of color swatches.
- Filter:** A section with five radio buttons:
 - ☒ Release Target Date
 - ☐ Scheduled Deployments
 - ☐ Deployments
 - ☐ Release Package Triggers
 - ☐ Deployment Windows

At the bottom right of the dialog are two buttons: 'Create Rule' and 'Cancel'.

The background of the screenshot shows the 'My Calendar' view. On the left, there is a sidebar with a 'Rule' list containing items like 'Deployments AbcApplicati...', 'Target Dates AbcApplicati...', 'Build Schedule Applicati...', 'Scheduled Deployments V...', 'Target Dates WebApp 1.5 in...', and 'Deployment Windows Web...'. The main area shows a calendar grid with various deployment events, each with an 'edit details' and 'delete' link. A 'Create Rule' button is visible at the bottom right of the calendar view.

Here, Rick is creating a new rule for one of his personal calendars.

For the application AppQURZ, he wants to visualize the deployment window for the production environment. By selecting the corresponding fields, Rick is able to create the desired rule. Once created, this will be visually displayed along with his six other rules across a month long calendar.

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Setting a Release Target Date

Setting a release target date helps you plan out, and visualize your entire deployment schedule. These are set on the release overview page, and can be set for any event spanning from a single day, to multiple days. In the below example, 3 release targets are set for *Target*, *Integration*, and *Testing*.

The screenshot shows the 'Release Overview' page for 'Legacy App B 2.1.5'. The page has a dark blue header with navigation tabs: Releases, Applications, Pipelines, and Plans. A search bar for applications is on the right. Below the header, a sub-header shows 'Legacy App B > Legacy App B 2.1.5'. A secondary navigation bar includes Overview, Releases, Packages, Plans, Pipelines, Issues, Assets, and Settings. The main content area is titled 'Release Overview' and contains a 'Package Stages' section with a 'Create Package' button and a box labeled 'Pkg 321'. Below this are three sections: 'Details' (showing Pipeline: Standard, Created: 2/24/2017 4:37:25 PM by Admin), 'Release Variables' (empty), and 'Change Controls' (empty). The 'Release Target' section is highlighted and contains a table with three targets:

Event	Target Date	Actions
Integration	12/14/17	[Edit] [Delete]
Testing	12/14/17 - 12/16/17	[Edit] [Delete]
Target	12/18/17	[Edit] [Delete]

The screenshot shows the 'Add Release Target' dialog box overlaid on the Release Overview page. The dialog has a title bar and three input fields:

- Name: Testing
- Target Date Start: 12/14/17
- Target Date End (optional): 12/16/17

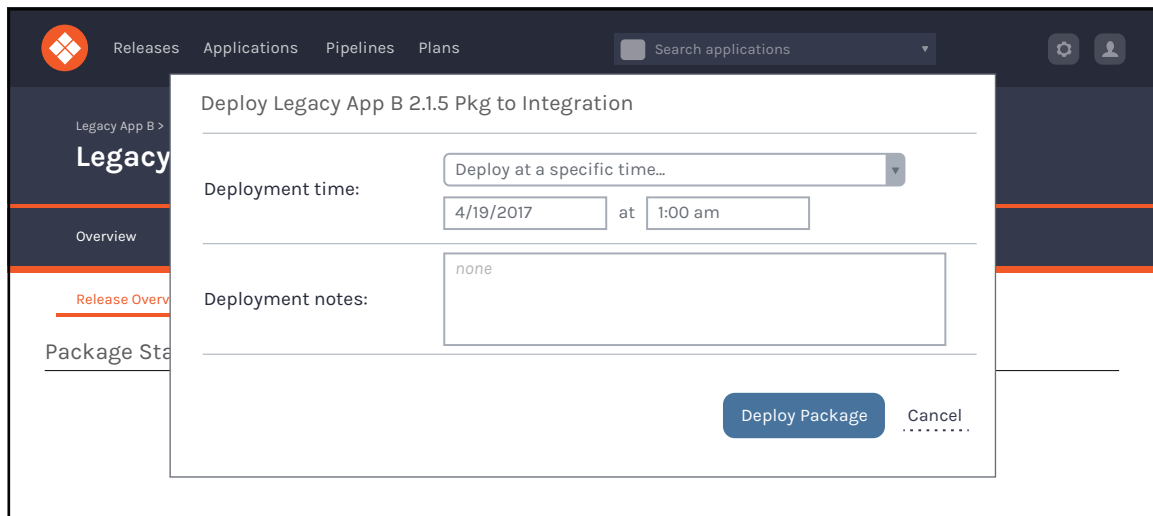
At the bottom right of the dialog are 'Save' and 'Cancel' buttons.

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Scheduled Deployments

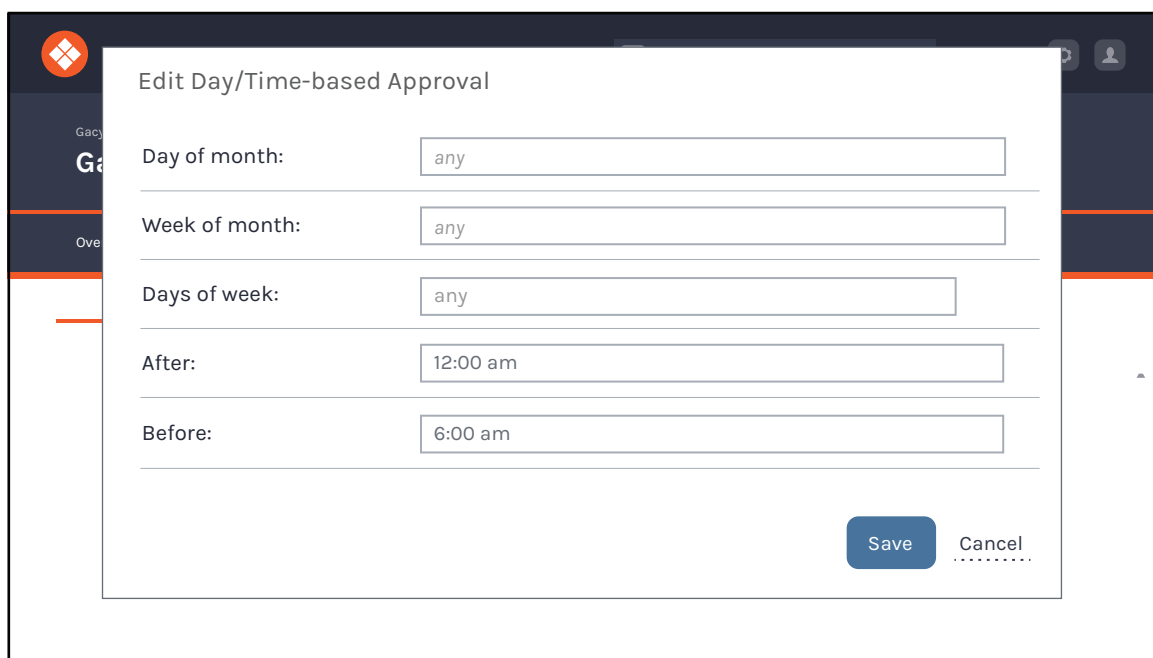
Choose to either auto deploy, or specify the deployment time to the date and time.



The screenshot shows the BuildMaster web interface with a modal window titled "Deploy Legacy App B 2.1.5 Pkg to Integration". The modal has a "Deployment time:" section with a dropdown menu set to "Deploy at a specific time...", a date field containing "4/19/2017", and a time field containing "1:00 am". Below this is a "Deployment notes:" section with a text area containing the word "none". At the bottom right of the modal are two buttons: "Deploy Package" and "Cancel". The background interface shows a sidebar with "Legacy App B" and "Overview" selected, and a top navigation bar with "Releases", "Applications", "Pipelines", and "Plans".

Deployment Windows

This corresponds to Day/Time-based automatic approval gates, and can be defined as granularly as needed - specific to the exact time and date, or more broad ie. Promotion must occur on Monday.




The screenshot shows the BuildMaster web interface with a modal window titled "Edit Day/Time-based Approval". The modal contains five input fields: "Day of month:" with the value "any", "Week of month:" with the value "any", "Days of week:" with the value "any", "After:" with the value "12:00 am", and "Before:" with the value "6:00 am". At the bottom right of the modal are two buttons: "Save" and "Cancel". The background interface shows a sidebar with "Legacy App B" and "Overview" selected, and a top navigation bar with "Releases", "Applications", "Pipelines", and "Plans".

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Release Package Triggers

Set a Release Package Trigger under the settings tab within a release.



Create New Recurring Release Package Trigger



 A recurring release package will be created and deployed to its first stage at a specified regular interval daily, weekly, or monthly.

Pipeline Filter:

(any pipeline) ▾

Name:

Build frequency:

Daily ▾

Daily build:

Every

1 ▾

 days

Daily frequency:

☐ Occurs once per day

☐ Occurs multiple times per day

Variables:

Visual

Text

Release filter:

All Active Releases ▾

Active:

☒ This release package trigger will execute

Save Release Package Trigger

Cancel

Deployments

This filter displays deployments that have already occurred.

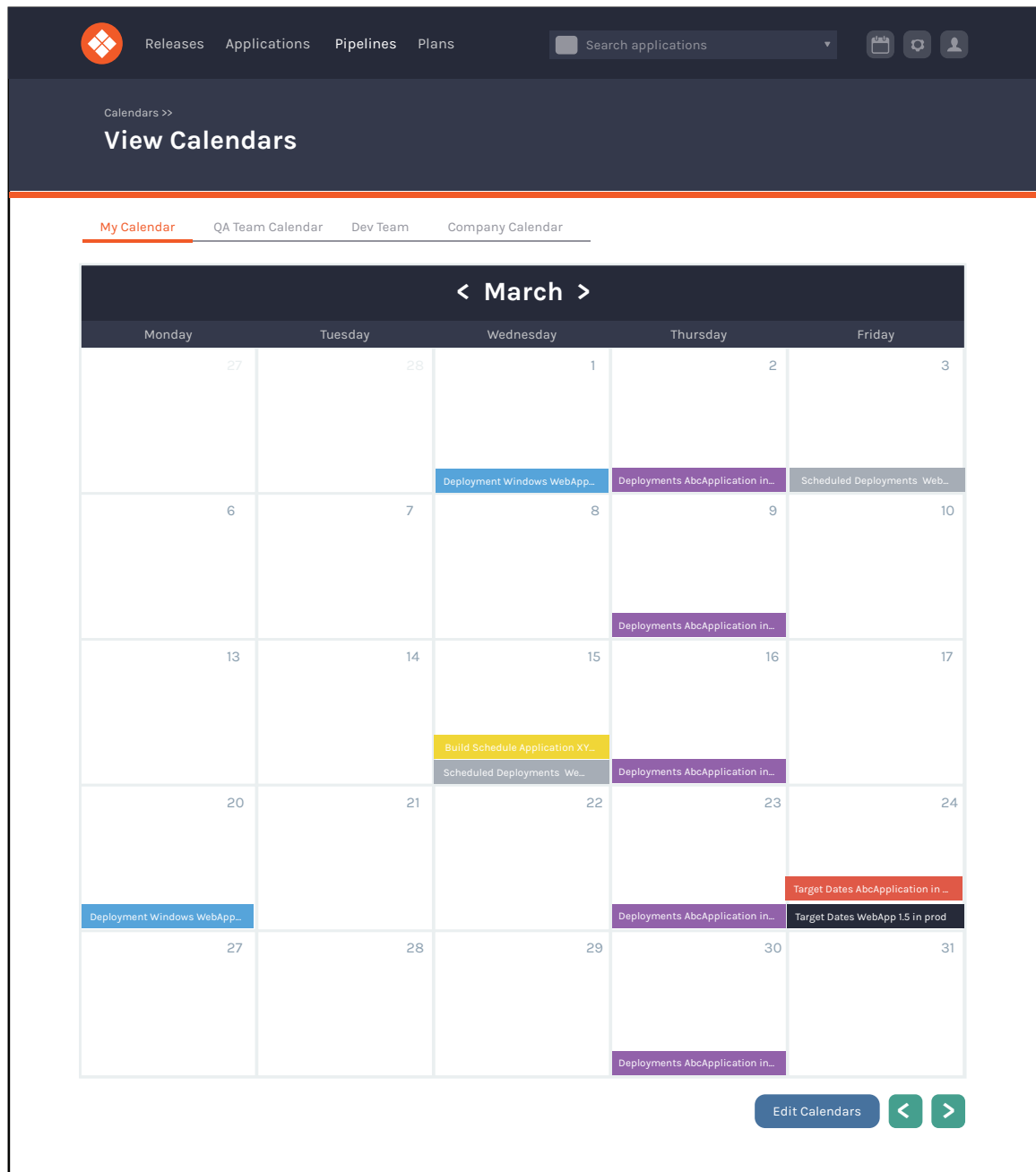
Latest 25 Releases					
Application	Release	Latest Package	Pipeline	Furthest Stage	Latest Deployment
Legacy PowerShell	① 0.0.1	#1	Legacy PowerShell	Integration	✓ 4/6/2017 4:00:00 PM
Rubbish	① 0.0.0	#2	Rubbish	Integration	✓ 3/29/2017 3:28:11 PM
Testing App	① 0.0.1	#1	Testing App	Integration	✓ 3/28/2017 3:59:31 PM
Testing App	✓ 0.0.0	#1	Testing App	Production	✓ 3/28/2017 3:59:05 PM
Legacy PowerShell	① 0.0.0	#13	adfd	Testing	❌ 3/27/2017 12:45:45 PM
SleepTesting	① 0.0.0	#3	SleepTesting	Testing	✓ 12/29/2016 4:22:47 PM
EnsureAppPoolTest	① 0.0.0	#1	EnsureAppPoolTest	Integration	❌ 3/3/2017 11:26:38 PM

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The Calendar Dashboard

The Calendar dashboard allows you to easily toggle through your personal, team, and company-wide calendars. You can quickly browse through release target dates, scheduled deployments, releases, and more, easily identifying each by their specific color designation.



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Simply select the rule on your Calendar Dashboard, and a small details box will pop up with all the specifications. Never forget the details of a rule you created, and gain insight into rules created by someone else in a shared calendar.

The screenshot displays the BuildMaster 5.7 interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with tabs for Releases, Applications, Pipelines, and Plans. A search bar labeled 'Search applications' is also present. Below this, the 'View Calendars' section is active, showing a calendar for March. The calendar has columns for Monday through Friday. A modal window titled 'Rule Details' is open, displaying the following information:

- Rule Name: Deployment Windows WebApp QURZ in prod
- Application: AppQURZ
- Environment: Production
- Color: (Blue square)
- Filter: Deployment Windows

The calendar also shows various deployment events as colored blocks, such as 'Deployment Windows WebApp...', 'Deployments AbcApplication in...', and 'Scheduled Deployments Web...'. At the bottom right, there are buttons for 'Edit Calendars' and navigation arrows.

Calendars was a requested feature from one of our current users. User requests are important to us, and if you have a feature you'd like us to add, don't hesitate to contact us via the support Q&A forum!