



# DATA STANDARDS

## Release Notes

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## Introduction

The Data Standards release notes provide insight into current and future changes to the Data Standards (ACES®, PIES™, IPO™ and iShop™) and their supporting databases (VCdb, Qdb, PCdb, PAdb and Brand table). Release notes are made available for each Data Standards publication.

## Data Standards

Looking for more information on the Auto Care Association's data standards? Please visit our [website](#) for details!

## Subscriptions

Looking for more information on data standards subscriptions? Please visit our [subscriptions page](#) for details!

## Documentation

Looking for the data standards technical documentation? Visit the [Auto Care Digital Hub](#)!

## Data Standards Change Notification Policy

[Notification Policy](#)

## Support

Data Standards Subscription & Billing Questions	<a href="mailto:techbilling@autocare.org">techbilling@autocare.org</a>
Data Standards & Vehicle Information Portal (VIP) Questions	<a href="mailto:technology@autocare.org">technology@autocare.org</a> <a href="#">Contact Us</a> (within VIP)

Having trouble accessing Autocarevip.com? Contact [technology@autocare.org](mailto:technology@autocare.org).

## Reference Database Publication Schedule (2023)

The Data Standards reference databases are published weekly\* on Thursdays. The Vehicle Configuration database (VCdb) is only published once a month. Publication will not occur on days the Auto Care Association's office is closed due to a holiday or select company sanctioned events. Publication dates are subject to change. You can access the complete publication schedule on the Events page within Autocarevip.com [here](#).

## General Notifications

### File Name Changes - Data Standards Reference Databases

In an effort to clean up the file names of the of the ACES® and PIES™ supporting reference databases (VCdb, Qdb, PCdb, PAdb, and Brand Table) and to better describe what the database package download is, the Auto Care Association is renaming all database package filenames.

Below is a schedule of when changes will be implemented.

#### **Brand Table, Qdb, PCdb, PAdb**

**Notification Type:** 60-Day

**Notification Date:** June 29, 2023

**Implementation Date:** August 31, 2023

#### **VCdb**

**Notification Type:** 90-Day

**Notification Date:** June 29, 2023

**Implementation Date:** September 28, 2023

Please see attached excel document for exact file name changes (before and after).

## Communifire Sunset

The Auto Care Association's platform "**Communifire**" has closed and content was moved into the Auto Care Vehicle Information Portal (VIP) on **April 28, 2023!**

Autocarevip.com has become the single platform for all things Data Standards, including:

- **Maintenance and Downloads** of the Data Standards supporting relational databases (VCdb, Qdb, PCdb, PAdb and Brand Table).
- **Documentation** for the Data Standards and their supporting databases.
- **Events** related to the Data Standards user community, including database publication dates, workgroups, trainings, webinars, conferences and more!
- **Discussions and Workgroup Cases** around the Data Standards.

**What do I need to do?** If you already have an autocare.org account, you do not need to do anything, as your autocare.org login provides single sign-on to AutoCareVIP.com, TrendLens, Auto Care Digital Hub and elearning.

## Data Standards Notifications

### **ACES®**

*No Notifications*

### **PIES™**

*No Notifications*

### **IPO™**

*No Notifications*

### **iShop™**

*No Notifications*

## Supporting Database Notifications

### Vehicle Configuration database (VCdb)

#### **Notifications**

*The changes listed for the VCdb in these release notes only contain changes that require a 60 or 90-day notification per the [Data Standards Change Notification Policy](#). For complete details on what content has changed in the VCdb, please utilize the VCdb change log tables in each published version of the VCdb.*

#### **Database/Structure Changes**

##### **File Name Changes - Data Standards Reference Databases**

Please refer to the file name change notification in the “General Notifications” section of this document above for details.



## Qualifier database (Qdb)

### **Notifications**

*The changes listed for the Qdb in these release notes only contain changes that require a 60 or 90-day notification per the [Data Standards Change Notification Policy](#). For complete details on what content has changed in the Qdb, please utilize the Qdb change log tables in each published version of the Qdb.*

### **Content Changes**

*No Notifications*

### Qdb change notices (ON HOLD)

The following list of deletions have been placed on hold till the Qdb workgroup discussions are completed

- Export (4204) will be deleted pending review by Qdb workgroup
- Export for Mexico (4211) will be deleted pending review by Qdb workgroup
- Export Model (22691) will be deleted pending review by Qdb workgroup
- Export Only (19461) will be deleted pending review by Qdb workgroup
- Up to Chassis # <p1 type="idlist"/> (10100) will be deleted, please use Before Chassis # <p1 type="idlist"/> (1496)
- From Chassis #(s) <p1 type="idlist"/> (4650) will be deleted, please use After Chassis # <p1 type="idlist"/> (1154)
- To <p1 type="date"/> (9775) will be deleted, please use Before <p1 type="date"/> (1494)

### **Database/Structure Changes**

#### File Name Changes - Data Standards Reference Databases

Please refer to the file name change notification in the “General Notifications” section of this document above for details.

## Product Classification database (PCdb)

### **Notifications**

*The changes listed for the PCdb in these release notes only contain changes that require a 60 or 90-day notification per the [Data Standards Change Notification Policy](#). For complete details on what content has changed in the PCdb, please utilize the PCdb change log tables in each published version of the PCdb.*

### **Content Changes**

*No Notifications*

### **Database/Structure Changes**

#### **File Name Changes - Data Standards Reference Databases**

Please refer to the file name change notification in the “General Notifications” section of this document above for details.

#### **Part Terminology Name Field Character Limit Increase**

**Notification Type:** 60-Day

**Notification Date:** July 13, 2023

**Implementation Date:** September 14, 2023

There is currently a part terminology name, located located in the field “PartTerminologyName” of the PCdb, that is being cut-off when published. To correct this issue, this field is being increased from 100 characters to 256 characters.

## Product Attribute database (PAdb)

### **Notifications**

*The changes listed for the PAdb in these release notes only contain changes that require a 60 or 90-day notification.*

### **Content Changes**

*No Notifications*

### **Database/Structure Changes**

#### File Name Changes - Data Standards Reference Databases

Please refer to the file name change notification in the “General Notifications” section of this document above for details.

## Brand Table

### **Notifications**

*The changes listed for the Brand Table in these release notes only contain changes that require a 60 or 90-day notification.*

### Brand Table Download Option Changes

**Notification Type:** 60-Day

**Notification Date:** April 20, 2023

**Implementation Date:** July 6, 2023

To streamline the brand table to one file. The following file downloads will no longer be provided after July 6, 2023:

- *Download brand table in original format*
- *Download brand table with revision date*
- *Download brand table with sub-brands and revision date*
- *Download brand table in original format(with OEM)*
- *Download brand table with revision date(with OEM)*

There will now only be one consolidated download option.