HYDAT.mdb & Hydat.sqlite3 Release note – January 18, 2020

The twenty-second release of the **HYDAT.mdb** and the seventeenth release of **Hydat.sqlite3** dated on January 18, 2020 are now available.

Both HYDAT.mdb & Hydat.sqlite3 can be used as a standalone product or navigated via the **E**nvironment **C**anada **D**ata **E**xplorer (**ECDE**) application.

The ECDE installation package (V2.1.8) works with both the Access and SQlite versions. To change which database is read by ECDE, modify the ECDataExplorer.cfg file and look for the keyword, Database. This file is found in the ECDE install directory (default: C:\Program Files(x86)\ECCC\ECDataExplorer).

The ECDE installation package (V2.1.8) includes the database release on October 17, 2016. To access the latest database via the ECDE in the future, replace the database files under C:\Program Files(x86)\ECCC\ECDataExplorer\Database.

Background information of HYDAT and ECDE:

Historically, the Water Survey of Canada (WSC) disseminated archived hydrometric data via the HYDAT CD-ROM. To provide better accessibility and usability of the HYDAT products, WSC now offers hydrometric data and station information in downloadable Microsoft Access database file and sqlite3 file, which are updated on a quarterly basis. HYDAT.mdb and Hydat.sqlite3 cover information such as meta data of the stations, daily and monthly means of flow, water levels and sediment concentrations (for sediment sites). For some sites, peaks and extremes are also available.

To allow users easily browse and extract hydrometric information right from their own desktop, the ECDE application was developed to provide a user-friendly interface to the **HYDAT**. The ECDE was a joint effort between Environment Canada and the National Research Council Canada.

The ECDE is a Windows-based application which features all the capabilities of the old HYDAT CD-ROM software as well as:

- Loading and visualizing map layers to facilitate the interactive graphical selection of stations over Canadian hydrometric network;
- Advanced filtering of station information by search criteria such as: station number/name, type of data available, operating schedule, years of data, drainage area etc.;
- Creating user's favourite station list for quick loading of frequently viewed stations;
- Presenting graphical and tabular views of water level, discharge and sediment data;
- Copying and pasting of maps and graphs for insertion into reports and presentations;
- Exporting station information and hydrometric data to a variety of file formats;
- Bulk exporting of hydrometric data for multiple stations with a single click;

To download the HYDAT database and the ECDE, please visit the Water Survey of Canada web site: http://www.ec.gc.ca/rhc-wsc and follow the **Data Products and Services** link.