



July 3, 2007

## **Office of Water Quality Water-Quality Information Note 2007.12**

**Subject: National Water Information System (NWIS)—announcement of updated version of QW-data Transfer System (QWDX) – Version 1.1**

### **Summary**

An updated version of the QW-data Transfer System (QWDX) is now available for use by personnel from internal USGS laboratories and Water Science Centers (WSCs). Since the system was originally announced on April 27, 2007 (WAQI Note 2007.08), several updates to the software, including the addition of the ability to use a cron job to download data automatically to a WSC NWIS system, have been made.

### **What updates are included in Version 1.1 of QWDX?**

#### **Cron job to download data**

All LocalDBA users for the QWDX will find a new menu option that provides instructions to setup an automated download job to move data from the QWDX server to your NWIS server. The cron job is controlled by a Unix script that can be executed either 1) regularly (such as daily or weekly) via the Unix “cron” scheduler or 2) intermittently from the Unix prompt by the LocalDBA user.

A few steps are required to use this new feature and will require communication with the QWDX Administrator to ensure connection through the limited secure shell (SSH) technology. This SSH connection will allow only for downloading data using this new feature. All previous capabilities of the LocalDBA user using the web-browser interface to QWDX will be retained.

#### **Additional security to limit data display**

Due to some concerns expressed during the initial release of QWDX, updates to the system were made to limit the viewing of data in QWDX reports. This change will restrict LAB users to only view/select data from their own lab and LocalDBA or Field to only view/select data for their own customer codes.

#### **Limiting retrieval by station ID**

A problem was found in the initial release of the software that the limiting downloads by station IDs was not functioning properly. A fix was made to the program to address this problem.

#### **Documentation Updates**

Online documentation for the QWDX (<https://qwdx.cr.usgs.gov/>) has been updated to describe these changes in detail. [NOTE- you may have to copy and paste this QWDX link into your browser.]

### **Where is the QWDX and How are Accounts Established?**

The QWDX continues to be hosted and maintained by the National Water Quality Laboratory (NWQL) and is located at: <https://qwdx.cr.usgs.gov/>. [NOTE- you may have to copy and paste this QWDX link into your browser.]

To use the QWDX, a userid will need to be registered with the system. NWIS QW-database administrators (DBA) and laboratory users must register by sending an e-mail request to the QWDX Administrator (GS-W QWDX Admin). After the NWIS QW DBA has been registered, field users can be registered by their local NWIS QW DBA.

If additional help is required or questions arise, please send email to **GS-W Help QWDX**. A group of individuals is available to answer questions and provide help with the QWDX.

*If this Note was forwarded to you and you'd like to have your name placed on the WaQI Notes distribution, please send email to [nlsnow@usgs.gov](mailto:nlsnow@usgs.gov).*

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