

## Gemcom GEMS™ SQL Server

### People and Information

At Gemcom, we approach problems a little differently. By focusing on the relationship between people and information, we are able to provide mining solutions that maximise productivity so that your projects are completed on time and on budget. That's why we utilise Microsoft's industry-standard SQL Server technology to provide support for collaboration: It makes data accessible to those who need it, and ensures that the information it stores is always secure.

With its ability to scale up to support large mining operations, SQL Server is Gemcom's preferred platform for delivering production tools. It's also the perfect system for small and medium mining operations with its ability to integrate with third-party systems like LIMS and fleet management.

### How does GEMS differ from GEMS Desktop?

Just like its Desktop counterpart, GEMS is an integrated mining platform that includes more than 50 integrated applications and tools used in the evaluation of mineral reserves, and in planning. If you are already using GEMS Desktop, you will feel right at home using GEMS because both systems share the same user interface.

As its name implies, GEMS Desktop is a single-user system. It incorporates a Microsoft Access database, which is designed to run on stand-alone computers. GEMS is server-based, offering multiple users concurrent, managed access to the same source of data.

GEMS' architecture offers the following capabilities not available in GEMS Desktop:

- Collaborative workflows and data sharing make data available faster where and when it is needed.
- Single-source data repository eliminates data duplication and promotes data integrity.
- Microsoft's SQL Server has a virtually unlimited data storage capacity, whereas Microsoft's Access databases are limited to 2GB.
- Permission-based security restricts access to specific data.
- Exclusive production tools like Production Scheduler have been developed for GEMS.
- Support for best-practice workflows helps to reduce time to complete tasks.
- Automatic event notifications alert users when data relevant to their tasks has been added to, or updated in the system.
- GEMS can acquire data from other mining systems in real, and near real, time.

Gemcom GEMS – Collaborative geology and mine planning supporting cross-functional teams.

### Quick Facts

- GEMS utilises Microsoft SQL Server technology to enable collaborative workflows that ensure data is always available where and when it is needed.
- With its ability to support seamless data transfer between geology and production scheduling, GEMS is the preferred platform to support mining operations.
- Automatic event notifications can be configured to alert specific users and roles when information relevant to them has been added to or modified in the database.
- Production Scheduler is exclusively available on GEMS.
- Pack-and-Go™ data portability feature allows users to take project data away from the central database and synchronize their changes when they return.
- Security features allow specific data types to be locked down according to person or role.
- Central database eliminates data duplication, ensuring only up-to-date data is used in projects.

## **Does GEMS offer data portability so users can work from home or in the field?**

Yes. Gemcom's unique Pack-and-Go™ feature allows users to take their work with them when they disconnect from the server. The changes that they make are automatically synchronized with the central database when they return.

## **Will users still be able to use Access databases?**

Yes. Please contact your local Gemcom office for more information.

## **Why is SQL Server Gemcom's Preferred Platform to Support Mine Operations?**

Our depth of experience in working with large mining companies has taught us that because mining functions like survey and production scheduling are closely linked, it is critical that decisions are made with up-to-date and accurate data.

## **What advantages does the GEMS database offer compared to other products?**

With GEMS, Gemcom has developed a system architecture that truly leverages server-based technology. Unlike other mining systems, GEMS does not simply store just some of its data in its database. Gemcom recognizes that operational data is a valuable resource that must be protected – ever stricter regulatory reporting standards require it to be accurate and auditable. In fact, some products that offer tools found in both GEMS and GEMS Desktop offer no database at all, leaving the information they house vulnerable to corruption and loss.

## **Will staff require additional training to use GEMS?**

Gemcom recommends that personnel who will be administering the system take a GEMS administration course from Gemcom. The average user will not require additional training, if they are use the same features they did in GEMS Desktop.

## **Why does GEMS utilise Microsoft SQL Server?**

- SQL Server integrates seamlessly with Windows-based environments.
- SQL Server has excellent data transformation, import and export services to move data to and from other applications.
- Microsoft support services are readily available worldwide.
- SQL Server is the fastest growing database on the market.
- It offers a user-friendly working environment that is easy to learn and administer.
- World-class security–SQL Server has attained a C2 Rating from the National Security Agency (USA).

## **Recommended Software and Hardware Requirements for GEMS**

- Software: Windows Server 2003, Microsoft SQL Server 2000 or later.
- Hardware: Dual Pentium 4 or Xeon 3.2 GHz with Ultra3 SCSI Hot Swap RAID 5.

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