

Release Notes 2026

MIKE SHE

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Introduction

Welcome to Release 2026.

In this Release Note you will find information about new features, improvements and fixes, and what you need to know to install and get started with Release 2026.

MIKE SHE is a modelling system for integrated catchment hydrology. MIKE SHE covers all aspects of the entire land phase of the hydrological cycle with specific strength in the dynamic interaction between surface water and sub-surface water (groundwater).

System requirements

Supported Operating Systems

The supported operating systems listed below have been tested in accordance with MIKE's Quality Assurance procedures. DHI's warranty, as set out in the General Terms and Conditions ([Schedule 1](#)) for MIKE software and Software Maintenance Agreement ([Schedule 4](#)) only apply when MIKE software is installed and used on these supported systems:

- Windows: Win 10 Pro V22H2, Win 11 Pro V24H2 & V23H2, WinServ 2022 V21H
- Linux: not supported

Any operating system **not listed** is considered **unsupported**. Installing or using MIKE software on an unsupported system is at Licensee's own risk and DHI provides **no warranty**, **no maintenance coverage**, and is **not obligated** to offer support or troubleshooting.

The supported Linux distributions are those that have been tested and verified by DHI for MIKE 2026. Other distributions may, or may not, work and are not recommended. However, past versions of MIKE Software have been successfully installed on other Linux distributions, including CentOS, Ubuntu Kylin, Galaxy Kylin (V10), AlmaLinux and Debian (all 64-bit).

Please note: Even if an operating system is listed as supported, it will be considered **unsupported** if MIKE software is run in a virtualized environment, e.g., a guest operating system or a Docker container.

Minimum hardware/software requirements

Processor	Compatible with x64 instruction set architecture, 2.2 GHz or higher
Memory (RAM)	4 GB or higher*
Storage	64 GB or higher*
Display	Resolution 1024 x 720 (High-Definition) or higher, 24-bit color (true color)
Graphics adapter	64 MB RAM (256 MB RAM or higher recommended), 32-bit true color

Software requirements	Microsoft .NET Framework 4.7.2 or higher
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* The actual required amount of memory and disk space depends on the usage (application, model setup, size of data files etc.)

Installation

To install MIKE SHE, please go to the MIKE Zero product folder and execute the setup.exe file from the downloaded, unzipped installation files. Press the 'Install' button to begin installation.

The setup program will automatically install all necessary files and folders onto your computer. Additionally, an entry is created in the Start Menu for MIKE Software.

Please note that a separate installation guide, including system requirements, for MIKE Software for Linux is available [here](#).

Licensing

With Release 2026, we are introducing a new licensing system for MIKE software.

For on-line users, the new Internet License Server is more secure and robust, and less dependent on a stable internet connection. This should significantly increase the overall reliability of the Internet License Server.

For off-line users, the main difference is that dongles and license files are replaced by a Network License Server that is locked to specific computer. Just like the old dongles, a Network License Server can distribute licenses across a local network.

The existing Internet License Server will be phased out by the end of 2026. We will communicate more details of this phase-out to users of the existing system in Q2 2026.

In the new system,

- Every company needs an Administrator to manage Entitlements. This person will be created automatically by Customer Care.
- The Administrator can add Users in their company's Webportal.
- The Administrator can set up Local License Servers for off-line usage.
- Users can configure their connection to the Internet License Server or a Local License Server from the new desktop DHI License Manager.

All the required files will be installed during the MIKE Software installation. The details of the installation, configuration and connecting to your License Server are described in the documentation for the DHI License Manager.

Note: Starting any MIKE Software without a valid license will cause the program to run in demo mode. When running in demo mode, the software has access to all editors, computational engines and editing facilities. The restrictions that apply to saving set ups and executing simulations are product specific.

Starting your MIKE Software

Launch 'MIKE Zero' from the Windows Start menu. Then you can select MIKE SHE from within the MIKE Zero Shell.

Support

For general support, please refer to our [Customer Care Portal](#).

If you experience any difficulties, or if you have questions, please contact our Customer Care team at mike@dhigroup.com.

You can also contact your local Customer Care team for support in your local language. A list can be accessed from [here](#).

New features and fixed issues in Release 2026

Every new release of MIKE Software consists of new modules, new features and/or corrections to problems or significant inconsistencies discovered in previous releases. Please find below short descriptions of the most significant news.

New features and improvements

Module/type	New feature
Soil-Vegetation-Atmosphere Transfer (SVAT)	A new user interface enables setup and execution of the Soil-Vegetation-Atmosphere Transfer (SVAT) model, which calculates evapotranspiration using the Shuttleworth–Wallace method. This advanced approach captures detailed energy balance and vegetation interactions. Ideal for sub-daily simulations, it supports in-depth analysis of evapotranspiration in vegetated landscapes and dynamic surface hydrology.
Parallel Water Movement and Water Quality Simulation	Water Movement and Water Quality modules now can be run in parallel, allowing dynamic interaction between the two. Changes from MIKE ECO Lab templates, such as adjustments to Leaf Area Index or Rooting Depth, now influence evapotranspiration and unsaturated zone water content. This enhancement supports more realistic assessments of agricultural water management and fertiliser impacts on the water balance.
Saturated Zone Dryness Notification	A new notification in the log file alerts users when the first Saturated Zone layer becomes partially or temporarily dry, helping to identify potential water balance or model stability issues. This visible warning guides users to adjust their settings proactively, ensuring more stable simulations and reliable groundwater–surface water interactions within the Saturated Zone module.
Reduced Calculation Times in Particle Tracking	Simulation performance has been improved for the Particle Tracking module, resulting in shorter calculation times across all applications. Users can now complete particle transport analyses more efficiently, allowing faster scenario testing and improved workflow productivity.
Storage Time Step Consistency Warning	During the Preprocessing of the Water Movement module, a new warning notifies users when storage time steps are inconsistent with the total simulation length, which could cause incomplete water balance results. This alert ensures users adjust their settings before postprocessing, helping to maintain accurate and consistent outputs in the Water Balance tool.
GitHub library	The MIKE SHE GitHub repository was improved. Several scripts were created to extend the capabilities of MIKE SHE (borehole, pathlines to shape file, etc.).
New online documentation	A new online documentation website was created based on the original help, new best practices chapters were created and several chapters were improved based on internal investigation and clients' feedbacks.

Fixed issues

Module/type	Error/Inconvenience
GUI	Pressing DEL behaves unexpectedly in file path textbox
GUI	Irrigation demand 'Max allowed deficit' option is switching to the 'User specified' option after renaming Global ID
GUI	The Result data item are named "MIKE 11" instead of "MIKE+"
GUI	The WBL config file terms "mouse" and "MIKE URBAN" are written instead of "MIKE+"

GUI	Renamed "ponded drainage" to "overland drainage"
GUI	Map display is skewed
GUI	Validation of non-existent shp-overlay does not fail
GUI	Polygons shapefile doughnut issue of overlapping items when applying the distributed polygons (.shp) option
GUI	No re-validation for specification of wbl output dfs file after file select dlg
GUI	In any grid pressing Ctrl+Z makes all table rows invisible
GUI	WBL cannot be cancelled
GUI	Runing model with Alt-R E keys does not work
GUI	Missing validation .wel file exists
GUI	Create dfs0 dialog always uses "instantaneous" item value type
GUI	GUI lets users set up unsupported sources (e.g. sorbed)
GUI	GUI crash after trying to load a bmp image in Foreground Display
GUI	No plot for Step Accumulated data item
GUI	Results tab: redundant sub-dialog for water balance files in Results tab
GUI	MIKE SHE Toolbox \ Data analysis: Probability curves(*.dfs0): no response when the setup goes to the Status page and click 'Execute' button.
GUI	SZ Boundary plot does not work with boundary more than one cell wide
GUI	WQ selection in model components dlg cut off
GUI	Detailed TS: layer selection combo box only has number of geo layers, should be comp layers
GUI	MIKE SHE Toolbox (.mst) does not register as modified when changed
WM	Error related to overland water elevation WM Time Series Output and WQ component
WM	Input parameters of UZ profiles are not checked with preprocessor when individually defined vegetation parameters are used
WM	F0R6F0 MIKE SHE crash
WM	Issue with computational model extending below the geological model and calculation of the depth to phreatic surface
WM	Crash when switching to DST
WM	Time-varying Manning file prevents overland flow
WM	WM hangs when setting precipitation values through API
WM	UZ logging print/crash (race condition for indentation)

WM	When file name is longer than allowed don't print more than allowed length
WM	OL leakage factor only prevents downwards directed infiltration. But there is still water extracted by ET from top soils, even if the surface is supposed to be sealed.
WM	2-layer UZ: Warn when roots extend below top SZ layer
MIKE+	MIKE+ Rivers unclear coupling error
MIKE+	MIKE+ CS unclear coupling error
MIKE+	Static MIKE+ CS coupling is not possible (stop with error message)
PT	Performance improvement
PT	PT text output file: Include simulation start
WQ	Flooded areas crash (Indexing error)
WQ	MIKE SHE-M1D-MIKE ECO Lab model crash
WQ	When flooding is included in WM you cannot run an SZ-only WQ
WBL	WBL seems off when simulation end does not align with storing time step
MShePy	Logging of "openmi" parameters at start of W is done several times
MShePy	FP control word issue with python plugin
MShePy	WM stops when empty python plugin file is used
MShePy	Running MIKE SHE from python (or any external code): Path to .she file is not validated
MShePy	Cannot initialize a model with forward slashes in the path from python
MShePy	Model stops when not using "import MShePy"