Release Notes 2026

WEST

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Introduction

Welcome to WEST 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 WEST 2026.

WEST 2026 is a powerful and user-friendly tool for dynamic modelling and simulation of municipal Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF) and Integrated Urban Water System (IUWS). The extensive state-of-the art model library of WEST enables one to model and evaluate almost any kind of modern WRRF and a variety of IUWS systems.

WEST 2026 comes in five different flavors:

- **WEST Basic**: Entry-level product: allows for the construction of a plant layout (limited in size) and for the execution simulations, using a reduced block library
- **WEST**: Construction of plant models using standard blocks, simulation, output visualization, and computation of user-specified objective functions, and execution of advanced experiments
- **WEST +**: Construction of plant models using standard and custom blocks, simulation, output visualization, computation of user-specified objective functions, and execution of advanced experiments
- **WEST Player**: Simulation, output visualization, and computation of user-specified objective functions on the basis of a fixed executable plant model, previously prepared by WEST or WEST +
- **WEST SDK**: Software Development Kit for the integration of the WEST engine (i.e. Tornado) in custom applications

WEST 2026 deprecates the **MSL** library (that uses MSL as modelling language) and only supports the **Modelica** library (that uses Modelica as modelling language).

Important: the MSL library has now been officially discontinued.

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 (engine only): Ubuntu: 20.04 LTS, 22.04 LTS, Red Hat Enterprise 8 and 9

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

** The actual required amount of memory and disk space depends on the usage (application, model setup, size of data files etc.)

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, is available online.

Licensing

With WEST 2026, we are introducing a new licensing system for all 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 WEST from the Windows Start menu.

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 WEST 2026

Every new release of WEST 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
Engine	New and improved DHI License tool added.
Engine	Metrics tool added.
GUI	The Mass Balance tool now supports bar graph plotting of user-selected quantities for any unit in the plant layout. This enhancement enables users to visually track key variables shared across multiple process units in a single, dynamically updating chart. It provides instant insight into mass distribution and highlights imbalances or errors as simulations progress.
GUI	Designer Tool interface updated, and models revised to latest standards: • A2O ATV • A2O Metcalf and Eddy • MLE ATV • MLE Metcalf and Eddy
GUI	Spanish-speaking users now enjoy a more native and seamless experience when using WEST.
Modelica Library	Updated Models Guide: • Updated NDHA model description • Added documentation of Fe2(SO4)3 dosing unit • Correction in Dosing Units: MW and MW_ref are now swapped, in line with the model code • Time stamp (‘last updated’) now added to each model documentation for easier versioning

Modelica Library	Thorough revision of NDHA: • updated default parameter set for more realistic calculated N_2O emissions • corrections to Bio P model to better align with ASM2dMod and prevent negative X_PHA accumulation (which could previously occur under a limited set of conditions) • addition of "competition variables" to track the relative amounts of HNO_2, N_2O, NO_3 and VFA consumed by competing processes
Modelica Library	Modified rate expression for X_PP storage in aerobic conditions, in ASM2dMod and ASM2dISS, based on K_MAX and concentration of X_PAO, to prevent numerical instability
Modelica Library	VSS (via the non-primary components, cVSS) has been added to the component vectors, to be exposed through the Mass Balance output
Modelica Library	All fractionation models have been updated to include (and correctly calculate) all non-primary components

Fixed issues

Module/type	Error/Inconvenience
Engine	All WEST license flavors are now correctly initialized.
GUI	Long loading times for Gujer matrix in model editor fixed.
GUI	Double-click on WEST app symbol does not close software anymore.
GUI	Window size and position persisted after application is closed.
Modelica Library	Solids concentration in biofilm models is correctly calculated (with reference to the reactor volume rather than the bulk volume)
Modelica Library	Interface variables Outflow and Outflow2 have been added to the dewatering block for the PFAS instance. The block can now be connected to other blocks in a WEST layout
Modelica Library	In the scope of an ADM1 anaerobic digester, GasFlow components used to be incorrectly mapped. The issue could go mostly unnoticed, except in the case of two digesters in series. The mapping has now been corrected.
Modelica Library	MBR and Storm tank models would result in a compilation error, due to an incorrect formulation of the outflow terminals, in relation to the non-primary components. The issue has now been corrected.
Modelica Library	The mass vector (M) used to be incorrectly initialized, in all categories, due to one missing element. The issue has now been corrected.
Modelica Library	Correction to ADM1 transformers (in and out) for ASM2dModPFAS to correctly account for phosphorous.
Modelica Library	Correction to ADM1 outgoing transformer for ASM2dModNDHA to correctly account for total phosphorous.
Modelica Library	For all instances, the Base_SolidSeparator class that is used for settling models such as the point-settler or the Takacs models, calculated the total phosphorous (via the non-primary component, cTP) incorrectly due to a spelling mistake. Issue now fixed.
Modelica Library	Updated units for heat transfer coefficients (UA parameters) in anaerobic digester models: kW/m2/K.

Known defects and workarounds

Module/type	Error/Inconvenience	Work-around
Modelica Library	Automatic initialization of biofilm masses fails in certain situations, particularly when geometry (i.e., combination of reactor size and filling ratio with carriers and biofilm thickness) leaves very small volume to water.	Reach out to technical support, mike@dhigroup.com
Modelica Library	With no inflow to an anaerobic digestion model in PWM_SA, the outflow becomes negative because of water leaving in the gas stream.	Do not use PWM_SA digester in batch mode.
Samples	Python Extensions only works after executing steady-state and dynamic simulation	Follow instructions provided in the Notes to the sample
Tutorials	Initial conditions for dynamic simulation of the TwoASU_IUWS tutorial are not properly stored.	Run a steady-state simulation and re-initialize the dynamic simulation, before launching the dynamic simulation.