

### **Release 7 - Skill Mastery and Prescription Error**

Although we have taken great pains and made significant investments to improve the quality of our delivered product, occasionally there are combinations of variables we are not able to test in the Quality Assurance process. Last week, we had this situation occur in Release 7. Specifically, there are situations in which A+LS® will inaccurately determine that an ALS Skill is not mastered and prescribe unneeded remediation.

#### **Problem Description**

This problem will occur under the combination of the following circumstances **only**:

- 1) The customer is running Release 7;
- 2) The bookmarking feature is turned on for the test;
- 3) The test is an Adaptive Assessment test; **and**,
- 4) Mastery of the ALS Skill requires that the student answers the last question for the ALS Skill correctly, and the student did in fact answer it correctly.

Since the mastery standard for most ALS Skills is 2 out of 3, a student taking a bookmarked Adaptive Assessment will receive an inappropriate prescription when:

- 1) The student answered question #1 and question #3 correctly, but question #2 incorrectly; or,
- 2) The student answered question #2 and question #3 correctly, but question #1 incorrectly.

In this combination of circumstances, A+LS will mark the skill as unmastered and make the prescriptions for it.

This problem will **not** occur:

- 1) For any customers who have not upgraded to Release 7;
- 2) If the test is not being bookmarked;
- 3) On Course Assessments, Practice Tests, Mastery Tests, or Review Tests; **or**,
- 4) If the student's pattern of answers is different that the two cases described above.

#### **Fixes**

Service Packs that fix this problem have already been posted to the AEC Update Server, so any customers who routinely check the AEC Update Server for updates will already have the fix on their. These fixes will be automatically passed on to the customer's client installations, provided the customer has not installed security software to prevent that.

#### **Any customers that do not routinely check AEC's Update Server for updates should be.**

There is a no-risk way to do this; further information about this can be obtained from AEC's Customer Support staff.

Despite the compelling logic for "being connected," in this case updates for this problem can be obtained from <http://www.alsdlp.com/SPDownloader>. Customers can access this link and follow the instructions at the site for the service pack.

We regret the inconvenience that this error has caused. If you have any questions or require further assistance, please contact [support@amered.com](mailto:support@amered.com).