

What's New In RAS 2.0

4/23/03

RAS 2.0 can be installed on a partitioned drive:

Unlike the previous version of RAS, which could only be installed on the C: drive, RAS 2.0 can be installed on another partition. (If you choose this option, when installing, specify the drive letter ONLY. The installer knows to install in the Program Files folder.)

Word and RAS can both be open:

You no longer have to close Word to open RAS. Separate sessions of Word and RAS can be open at the same time. In addition, if you use Word as your Outlook email editor, you can now have Outlook and RAS open at the same time.

S4 Guide/Assistant is gone (no more "Clippy!"):

The S4Guide, or Clippy, has been removed. All options formerly selected via Clippy can be found in the toolbar, icons (buttons), or the shortcut menu when right-clicking on your mouse.

Cannot edit a rule number in an existing rule:

The "Edit Rule Number" option, located in the Tools menu, is only available in a new rule. In an existing rule (rule downloaded from the Rule Repository) the "Edit Rule Number" option has been disabled. If you need to edit the rule number for an existing rule, please contact LSC.

Table column widths can be changed:

As in Microsoft Word, you can now drag the column border of new and existing tables to change column width. (Be sure to click inside the table prior to dragging the column borders.)

Cannot strike part of a word:

To support the LSC Rule Drafting Manual requirement, you can no longer strike part of word. Not permitted: ~~Existed~~ing. Permitted: ~~Existed~~ Existing

Cannot type in the middle of a word:

To support the LSC Rule Drafting Manual requirement, you can no longer type in the middle of word. Not permitted: Preventative. Permitted: ~~Prevent~~ive Preventative.

Promote/Demote/Merge/Split:

RAS now has four functions designed to support the LSC Rule Drafting Manual instruction to change as little existing text as possible. These are:

Promote - Increase the level (rank) of the selected level. Example: If you promote (A)(1), it becomes level (B). (New and existing text can be promoted.)

From this: (A) This is an existing level called A.
(1) This is an existing level called (A)(1).

To this: (A) This is an existing level called A.
(B) This is an existing level called (A)(1).

Demote - Decrease the level (rank) of the selected level. Example: If you demote (B), it becomes level (A)(1). (New and existing text can be demoted.)

From this: (A) This is an existing level called A.
(B) This is an existing level called B.

To this: (A) This is an existing level called A.
(1) This is an existing level called B.

Merge - A "move up" of existing text. Combine part or all of text from two levels or paragraphs into one level or paragraph. Only existing text can be merged. Example: Move text from (B) up to (A) so all text is now in (A).

From this: (A) This is an existing level called A.
(B) This is an existing level called B.

To this: (A) This is an existing level called A. This is an existing level called B.

Split - A "move down" of existing text. Create two paragraphs or levels from one level. Only existing text can be split. Example: Move part of (A) down to create a new (B).

From this: (A) This is an existing level called A. This is the second sentence in level A.

To this: (A) This is an existing level called A.
(B) This is the second sentence in level A.

Page breaks can be inserted:

A Page Break command has been added to the Insert menu. This function allows you to modify the pagination of a rule. (Most common use for insert page break will be to keep tables on a single page.)

NOTE: To determine whether a page break should be inserted or not, we recommend uploading the document to the ERF Website and selecting "print/view" to see where existing page breaks fall.

Tools are grayed out when not applicable:

Tools (such as "insert level" or "strike") will be grayed out when cursor is in a position where that tool should not be available.

View paragraph markers option has been disabled in RAS.

Word "Smart quotes" and other auto-formatted characters are now compatible with the ERF

Website: In RAS 1.409, Word "smart quotes," "smart apostrophes," and other characters pasted into a RAS document would appear as pound signs (#) or ampersands (&). In RAS 2.0, auto-formatted characters will appear as an orange entity (symbol) and are accepted by the ERF Website. (You no longer have to remove and re-enter quotes.)

"Transform to new" function has been added:

This option creates a new RAS document from an existing (amended) RAS document by turning the existing (current) text into new text. This is a one-time conversion. Any new text inserted into the amended document is also inserted into the new document. Any stricken text in the amended document is omitted from the new document. Use the "Transform to New" command when you need to rescind an existing rule in order edit the rule number. Another use is when you have to rescind a rule and file as new due to modifying more than 50% of the rule.

PHN and RSFA part A have been removed:

The option to create or open a PHN (Public Hearing Notice) or RSFA (Rule Summary and Fiscal Analysis) Part A have been removed. All PHNs must be created in PDF format. The option to create an RSFA Part A has been removed since the RSFA Part A is now filled out through the ERF Website.

Appendix format has been changed:

The format for creating an Appendix has changed significantly. An appendix created in RAS 1.409 cannot be opened in RAS 2.0. In general, an appendix should be created as a PDF document, not in RAS. Please contact the help desk if you have questions.

XML is now the recommended file format, not S4W:

Limitations in RAS 1.409 made it necessary to work with your rules in both the S4W and XML file formats. In RAS 2.0, you can now save and edit files in the XML format, eliminating the need to save and edit the S4W as well.

Fields for entering new text are now identified by braces { } :

Auto-select fields where text is to be entered, such as "Enter Tagline here," are now identified with braces { } instead of brackets [] .

Symbols (entities) that can be inserted into a RAS document are now limited to those accepted by the ERF Website:

All symbols (entities) available on the Insert, Symbol menu in RAS can be properly viewed on the ERF Website. Symbols that do not work with the ERF Website have been removed. NOTE: Symbols that are pasted into a RAS document from a Word or Word Perfect document, and are not on the RAS Symbol menus, may not work with the ERF Website.

Options available based on cursor position have been enhanced:

The options available based on your cursor position (location within the RAS document) have been expanded or limited depending upon the location. In many cases, you no longer have to place your cursor in a specific spot (between tags) to enable an option. In other cases, placing your cursor in a location may be blocked in order to prevent improper insertion of levels, paragraphs, new text, etc.