UPGRADING TO FLEXIWARE 8

TECHNOTE 016

MAY 19, 2022

OVERVIEW

PURPOSE

This document provides information and instructions on how flexiVent and inExpose® users can upgrade to the latest version of the flexiWare software. All references mentioned throughout this guide can also be accessed on the SCIREQ Website knowledge centre (https://www.scireq.com/knowledge-center/download).

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SCOPE

This document pertains to the following products & services:

Product	From Version	To Version
flexiVent FX®	flexiWare 7, 8	Current
InExpose®	flexiWare 6.1, 8.0.x	Current

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1. INTRODUCTION

This document is applicable to users upgrading from previous flexiWare software versions. At the time of publication, the most recent flexiWare version for flexiVent and inExpose is version 8.2.

1.1 COMPUTER SPECIFICATIONS

Due to the database structure of flexiWare and its many powerful features, a high-performance computer with a recent Operating System is required. See Table 1.

Specification	Recommended	Minimum
Processor	2.67 GHz quad core	2.67 GHz dual core
Memory (RAM)	8.0 GB	3.0 GB
Hard Drive	1 TB	250 GB
Operating System	64-bit, Windows 10	64-bit, Windows 10
Monitor Resolution	1280 x 1024	1280 x 1024
Video Card	4-6 GB of video RAM	2 GB of video RAM
Networking	1 Ethernet card (stand-alone); 2 Ethernet cards (networked)	1 Ethernet card (stand-alone); 2 Ethernet cards (networked)

Table 1. Minimum computer requirements for flexiWare 8

2. FLEXIWARE SOFTWARE UPGRADE

As new software versions become available, users are encouraged to upgrade as soon as possible to have access to the latest software features. To perform the update please follow the detailed steps below.

2.1 UNINSTALL FIREBIRD

It is perferred but not required to remove Firebird before proceeding with installation. Enter the *Programs and Features* section of the Control Panel to find and uninstall programs. If this step is omitted, a pop-up warning that firebird is already installed will appear during the upgrade (Figure 2-1). Select *OK* to continue.

Figure 2-1. Firebird already installed window

2.2 UPDATING SOFTWARE

The installer file for the latest versions of various editions of flexiWare may be obtained from the Downloads section of the SCIREQ website (https://www.scireq.com/knowledge-center/download/). Download and open the installer file to launch the installation wizard to update the software.

For minor updates ex. moving from flexiWare 8.0.2 to 8.0.4, the registration code is retained; no additional information or files are required beyond the installer file for these upgrades.

For major updates, distinguished from minor service pack updates by a change in the first or second digit of the flexiWare edition ex. 7.6.7 to 8.0.4; a new registration code and computer registration is required, in addition to use of the installer file. Please see Section 3 of the *flexiWare User Manual* or the *Guide – Registering a flexiWare Software Licence* for more details on registration.

2.2.1 THE INSTALLATION PROCESS

» Activate the installer file to launch the Installation Wizard automatically. Click *Next*

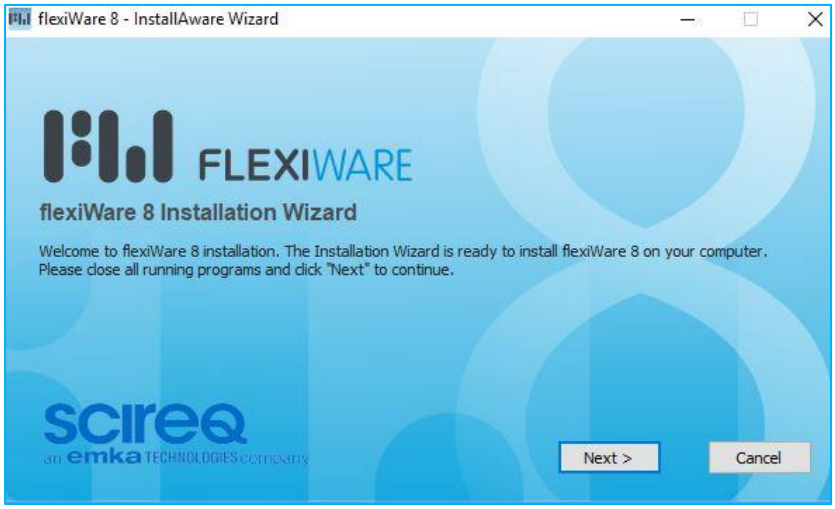

Figure 2-2. Installation Wizard Pop-up window

» Read the license on the License Agreement screen. If in agreement with its terms and conditions, check *I Accept* … and click *Next*

» On the *ReadMe* Information screen, read the information provided and then click *Next*

» On the Customer Registration screen (Figure 2-3), enter the name and organization for the lab. Click *Next*

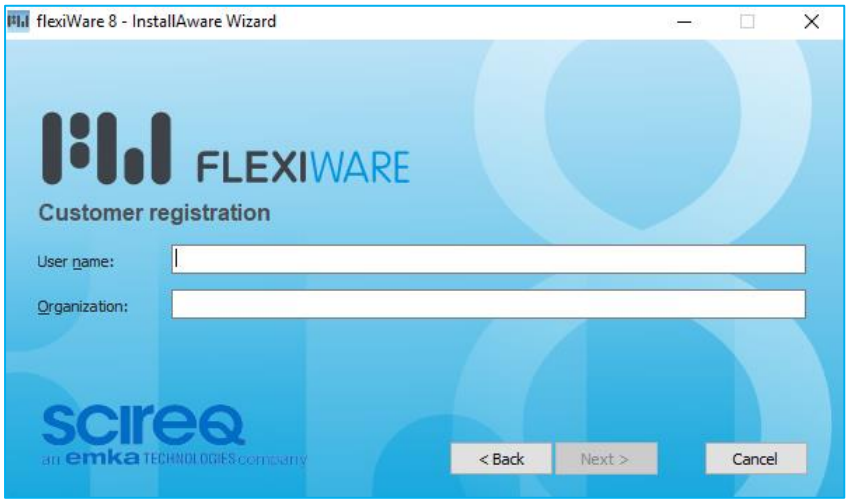

Figure 2-3. Customer information entry

» flexiWare will complete installation. A shortcut will appear on the desktop for easy access

» The software will be saved to the default location *C:\Program Files\SCIREQ\flexiWare 8*

» Assure that an experimental session can be entered without any problems prior to any planned study

3. HARDWARE UPGRADE

The instrument will require a hardware update to be compatible with the new software version.

3.1 TO UPDATE AN INSTRUMENT

To locate and update an instrument please make sure that the:

- Instrument is powered on
- Instrument is connected to the computer via ethernet, or through an ethernet hub with the appropriate cables
- Firewalls are disabled. Note that firewalls can be disables by navigating to Control Panel > System and Security > Windows Defender Firewall > Turn Windows Defender Firewall on or off

3.2 INSTRUMENT UPDATE WITH A FLEXIVENT

- If using a Negative Pressure Forced Expiration extension, ensure that all transducers such as the negative pressure controller and differential pressure transducer are connected to the instrument
- Navigate to: C:/*Program Files (x86)/SCIREQ/Utilities*
- Select *SCIREQ Instrument Updater Utility* and click *Next*
- Once the utility has scanned for all SCIREQ instruments on the network, select the appropriate instrument to update and click *Next*
- The utility will show possible updates to the instrument. Click *Upgrade to Current* to update the instrument to the latest version (Figure 3-1)

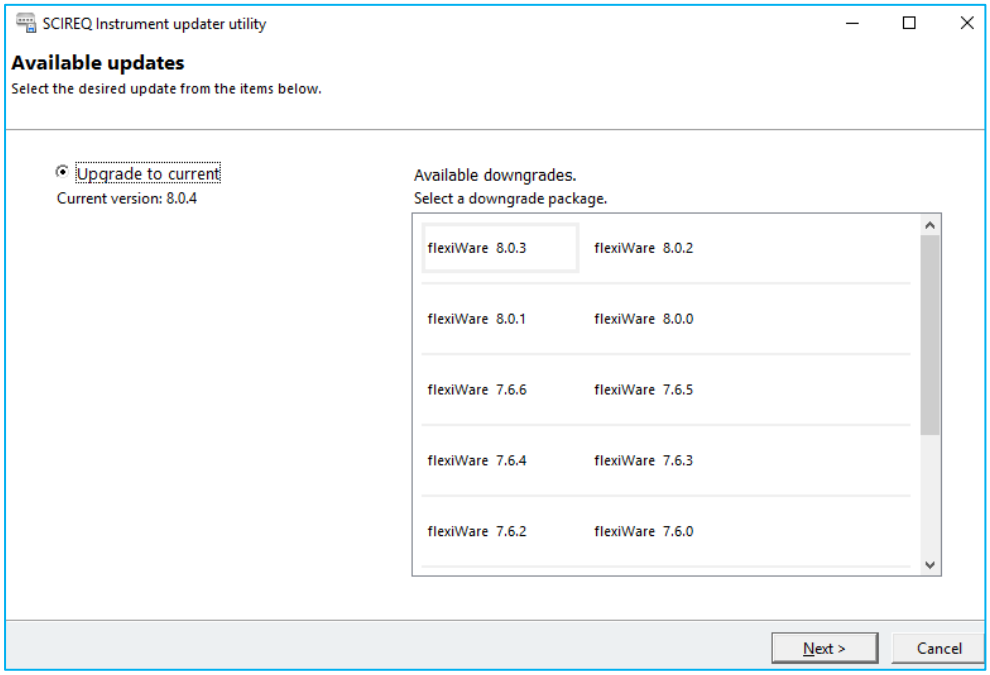

Figure 3-1. Upgrade to Current

» The Instrument updater should confirm that the update completed successfully (Figure 3-2)

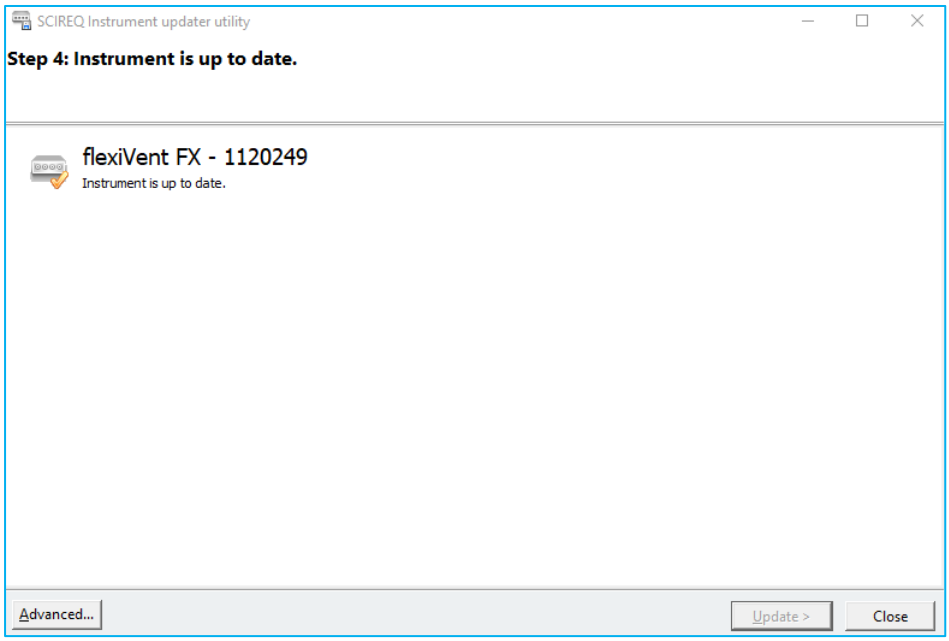

Figure 3-2. Update complete

» Please be sure to re-start the updated unit before adding it as an Instrument within the flexiWare System Settings as discussed in *TechNote 006-Troubleshooting flexiWare Instrument Connectivity* or the *flexiWare User Manual v8* section 3.3.2

3.3 INSTRUMENT UPDATE WITH AN INEXPOSE

» Navigate to: C:/*Program Files (x86)/SCIREQ/Utilities*

» Select *SCIREQ Instrument Updater Utility* and click *Next*

» Select the appropriate instrument to update and click *Next*

» The utility will show possible updates to the instrument. Select *Upgrade to Current*. The version chosen which will be the most recent version of software available on the computer

» Prior to continuing, the user is prompted to reset the instrument (Figure 3-3). Be sure to re-start the inExpose by unplugging and re-plugging the power supply before continuing

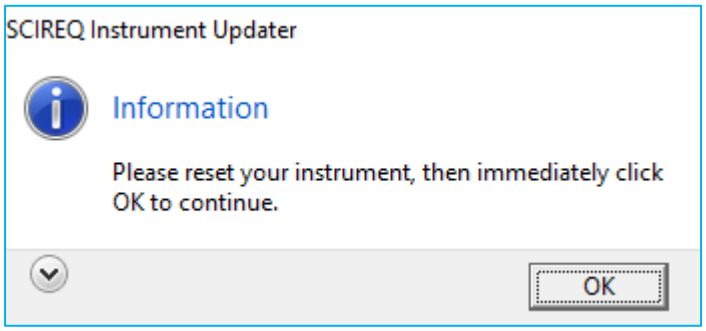

Figure 3-3. Prompt to Restart Instrument prior to Continuing

» Within 5 s of the inExpose booting up, click on the *Next* button to begin the update (Figure 3-4)

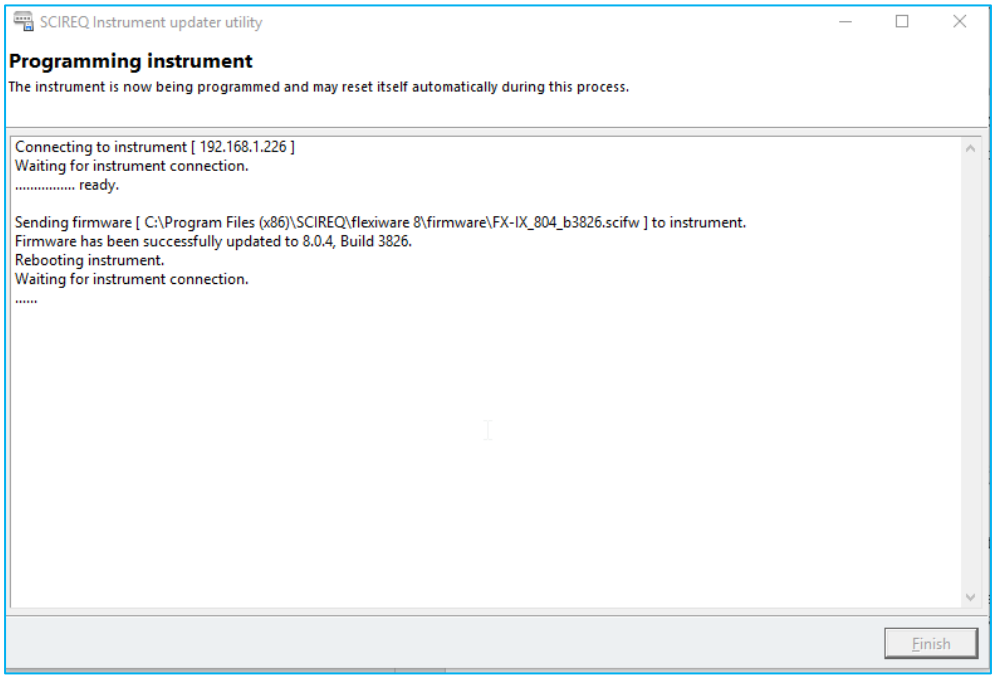

Figure 3-4. Active Update Window

» Once the update is complete, the Instrument updater should confirm that the update completed successfully (Figure 3-5)

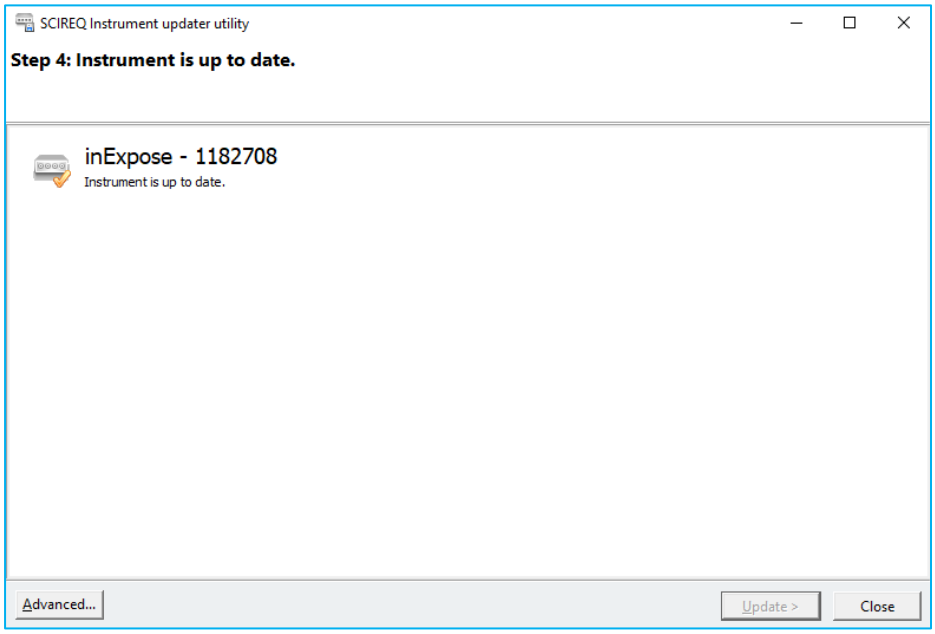

Figure 3-5. Update complete

- Repeat the update process with the CSR/CSRi if applicable before entering an experimental session to avoid system communication errors
- If unsure if the update completed successfully, please repeat the steps above a second time. Ensuring that the inExpose or CSR is rebooted within 5 seconds of pressing *OK* to the prompt in Figure 3-3
- Please be sure to re-start the updated unit before adding it as an Instrument within the flexiWare System Settings as discussed in *TechNote 006b-Troubleshooting inExpose Connectivity* or the *flexiWare User Manual v8* section 3.3.2

4. DATABASE UPDATE

If updating to flexiWare 8.2 and later, the user will be prompted as to whether they wish to use the new Default Database location and move all existing databases to this same location (Figure 4-1). Clicking *Yes* and allowing the process to complete fully is recommended prior to any planned studies.

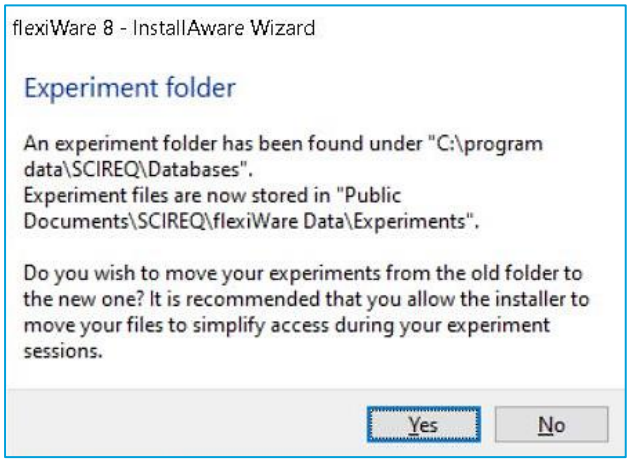

Figure 4-1. Prompt to move database upon first launch of flexiWare 8.2 and later

After starting the flexiWare 8 software and attempting to connect to a database, a prompted to Create a New Database, Update the selected database or to Select a different database will appear as per the message dialog in Figure 44-12.

When starting experiments, it is best to use a new database.

To review previously collected data, SCIREQ recommends updating older databases to access the flexiWare 8 features, including faster data loading in review mode. Following a successful update, it is possible to review previously collected data and add new experimentation sessions.

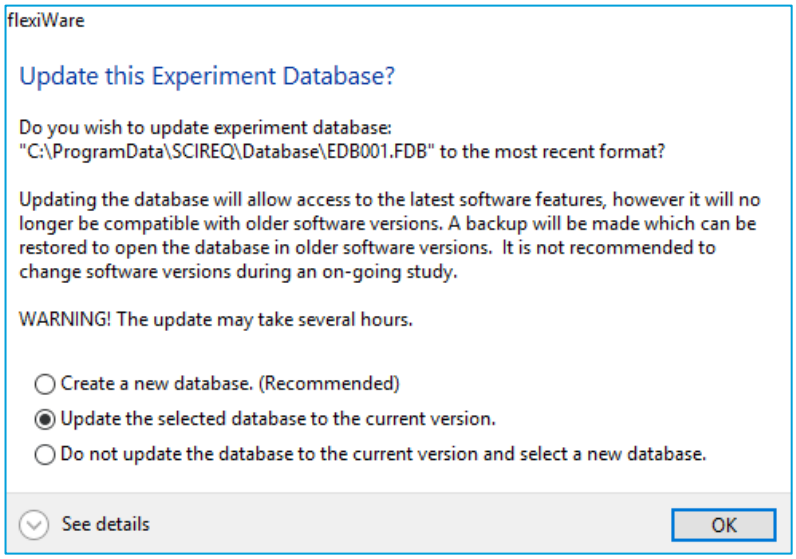

Figure 44-1. Prompt for database update

» Select *Update the selected database to the current version* click *OK*. A confirmation dialog will appear as shown in Figure 4-3.

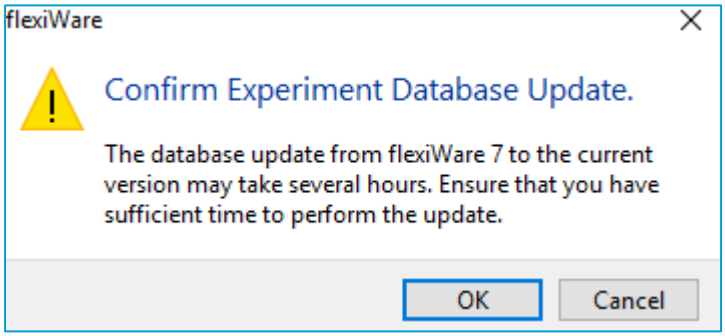

Figure 4-3. Prompt for database update

IMPORTANT: It is normal that this process may take up to several hours, depending on how much data is within the database. Please do not close or manipulate the program while it is running and leave enough time to update the database before an experiment. It may be worth considering upgrading the database the night before a planned experiment.

» A prompt to create a backup of the database as shown in **Error! Reference source not found.**4. Once a location and name is decided, click *Backup*

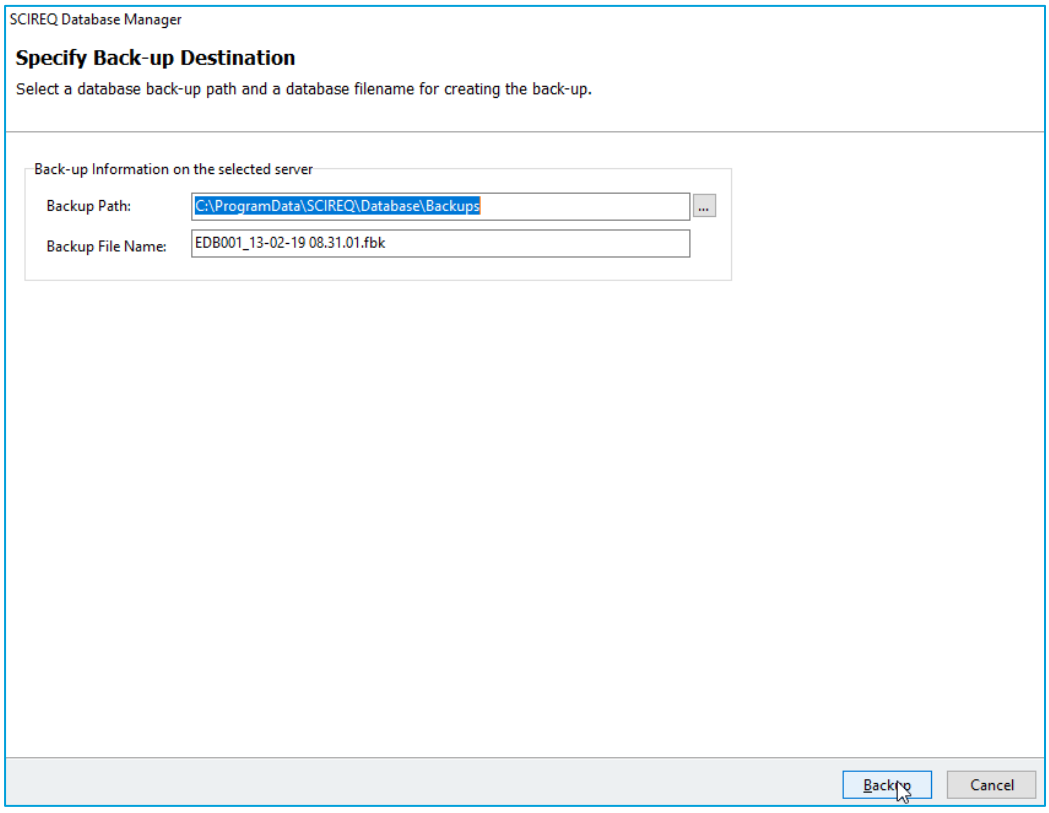

Figure 4-4. Prompt for database backup

» Once the update is finished, a summary notification will appear (Figure 4-5) confirming that the database was renamed to a *.FDB8 file

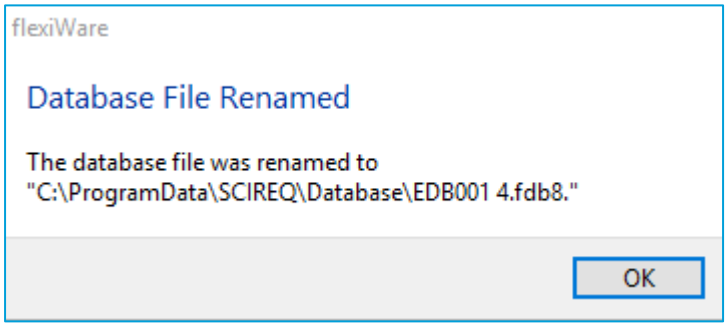

Figure 4-5. Database renamed

» Click *Ok* and then *Finish* once the update has completed (Figure 4-6) to return to the welcome dialog for flexiWare

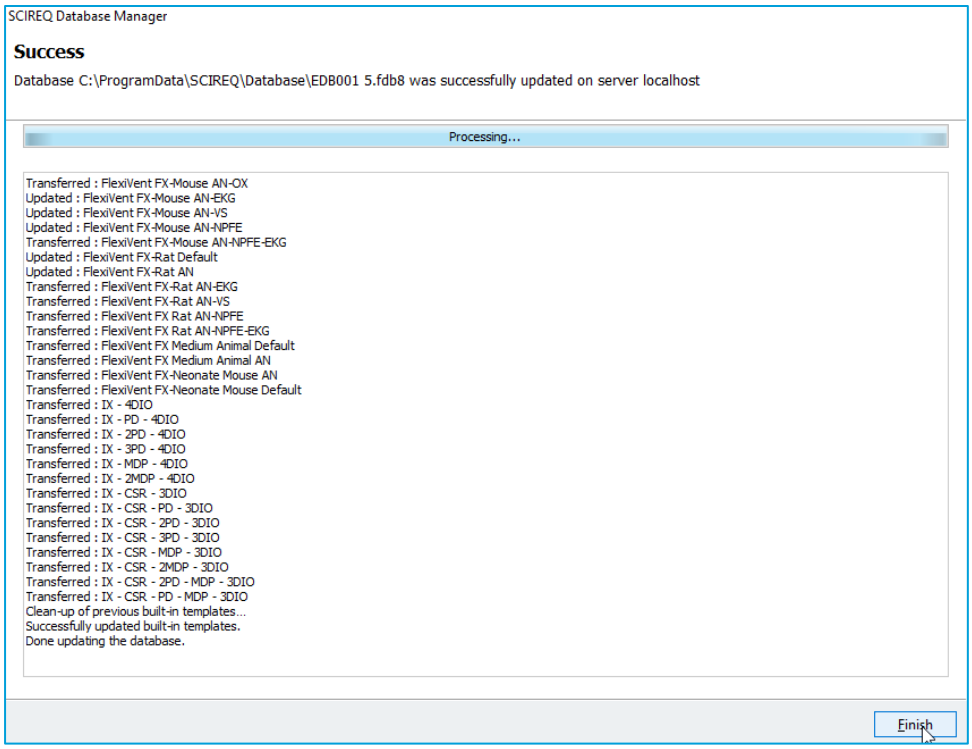

Figure 4-6. Database Update Successful

5. TEMPLATES

5.1 WORKING FROM THE NEW DATABASE

The default location of new databases is *C:\ProgramData\SCIREQ\Database* (flexiWare 8.1.3 and earlier) or *C:\Users\Public\Documents\SCIREQ\flexiWare Data\Experiments* (flexiWare 8.2 and newer). To automatically connect to the new database, simply check the option to *Always connect to this database* (Figure 5-1).

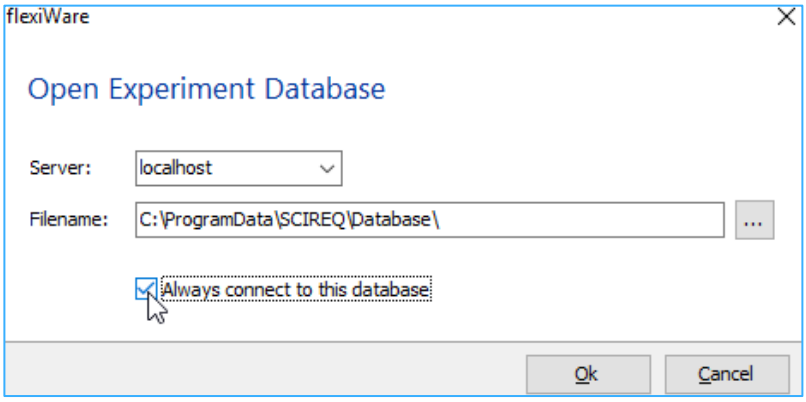

Figure 5-1. Always connect to this database

Should there be multiple users working on different studies using the same computer to acquire flexiVent data, it is recommended to uncheck *Automatically connect to default EDB*. Each user should be working from a unique database. Please contact SCIREQ Technical Support if assistance is required in creating new databases.

Whether working with a single database or multiple databases, it is simple to access information about the database which is currently connected. When the Welcome Dialogue is displayed, the name and path of the database is shown at the bottom center, per Figure 55-2. Clicking on the link will open a similar dialog box to **Error! Reference source not found.**1. It is possible to browse to the location of a different database by clicking on the … box following the Filename line as shown in Figure 5-1.

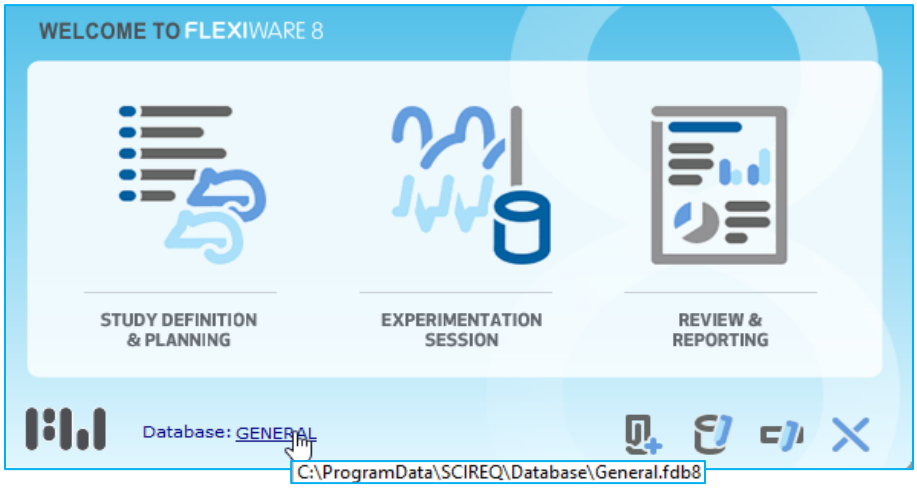

Figure 55-2. Database name and location on welcome dialogue

5.2 TEMPLATE TRANSFER

All default templates provided by SCIREQ will be updated during the software upgrade to reflect current recommendations for perturbations, scripts, ventilation, flow profiles, options, data acquisition and controller settings.

To transfer Templates from one database to another, simply select *Transfer Template* within the Database Manager (Figure 5-3) as detailed in the *Tech Guide- Transferring Templates Between Databases*.

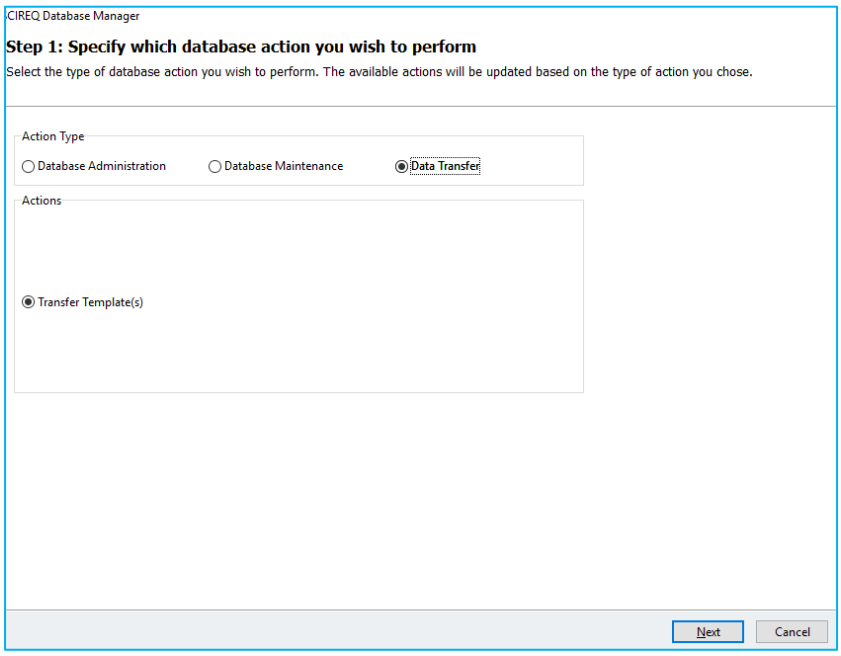

Figure 5-3. Transferring Templates between Databases

5.3 EXISTING TEMPLATES

SCIREQ default templates are included in databases that cover most experimental conditions and can be further customized with scripts, flow profiles etc. once inside the experimentation session.

If upgrading from flexiWare 7.2 and above, custom templates which were based on the default SCIREQ templates, should retain most properties except data acquisition and controller settings. Careful review directly following the update is recommended for custom templates.