

# Google Workspace

## Updates

This official feed from the Google Workspace team provides essential information about new features and improvements for Google Workspace customers.

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# Google Vault support for Hangouts Chat

Wednesday, February 28, 2018

We [just announced](#) some new G Suite products and features to help your organization collaborate more effectively and efficiently. As part of that announcement, we introduced Google Vault support for Hangouts Chat. Below are some admin-specific details to help you get started.

The [newly launched](#) Hangouts Chat is an intelligent and secure tool that makes team collaboration easy. An enterprise-ready solution, Hangouts Chat gives G Suite admins the governance controls they need to manage and secure their organization's data, including full support in Google Vault—a tool that can help with their eDiscovery and compliance needs.

## **Set retention policies for Hangouts Chat messages**

As a G Suite admin, you can now set retention policies that apply to all Hangouts Chat messages, including those sent directly and those sent in rooms.

You can set a default rule that applies to all users in your domain. This can be an indefinite retention policy (such that messages are never expunged), or one that expunges messages at the end of a specific time period. The default rule applies to *all* direct messages and rooms in your domain.

You can also set *custom* retention rules for specific organizational units (OUs), which apply to direct messages only, and/or for all rooms, which apply to room conversations only. This allows you to manage the lifecycle of direct and room messages separately. Custom rules override the default rule and, if multiple custom rules apply to a message, the rule with the longest retention coverage period takes precedence.

Create a custom retention rule

Hangouts Chat ▾

**Entity**  
Apply your rule to DMs with users from an organizational unit or to all Rooms

Organizational unit ▾

SpecialOrg ▾

Does not apply to Rooms ⓘ

**Duration**  
Choose how long to keep messages

Indefinitely

days from when the message was sent.


## Place legal holds on Hangouts Chat messages

In addition to setting retention policies, you can now place legal holds on your employees' Hangouts Chat conversations, whether they take place via direct message or in rooms.

Doing so will preserve room conversations in which a held user is a participant (i.e. they've sent a message) and direct messages in which a held user is a member (i.e. they've sent or received a message), regardless of whether that user deletes those messages. If a user on hold deletes a message, it will appear deleted to them—but it will be available in Vault until the hold is removed. Remember that holds always take precedence over retention rules.

## Type

Choose where to apply your hold


 Hangouts Chat ▼

## User

Apply your hold to accounts or organizational units

Organization ▼

OU3 ▼

Also include associated conversations in Rooms 

## Search, preview and export chat content

Finally, you can now search, preview, and export your employees' Hangouts Chat messages. This enables you to apply the same eDiscovery programs you use for other G Suite services (like Gmail and Drive) to content stored in Hangouts Chat direct messages and rooms.

Legal Case 123

Hangouts Chat ▾ All Data ▾ Accounts ▾

Accounts:  
custodian@altostrat.com

Include results from Rooms ⓘ

Sent date:  
[ ] to [ ]

Time zone for this search: ⓘ  
GMT+00:00

Terms: ⓘ  
Terms

Accounts  
Organization  
Rooms

To learn more about how Vault's support for Hangouts Chat can help your organization meet its legal obligations and archiving needs, check out the [Vault Help Center](#).

## Launch Details

### *Release track:*

Launching to both Rapid Release and Scheduled Release

### *Editions:*

Available to G Suite Business, Enterprise, and Education editions only

### *Rollout pace:*

Gradual rollout (up to 15 days for feature visibility)

### *Impact:*

Admins only

Action:

Admin action suggested/FYI

## More Information

[Help Center: Google Vault](#)

[Help Center: Supported data types](#)

[The Keyword: New ways to help teams work faster and smarter with G Suite](#)

[The Keyword: Move projects forward from one place—Hangouts Chat now available](#)

[G Suite Updates: Hangouts Chat now generally available](#)

[Launch release calendar](#)

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Labels: [Google Chat](#) , [Google Vault](#) , [Rapid Release](#) , [Scheduled Release](#)

