


# WATS Feature Release Note - Alvea Assistant & MCP (Preview) – 26.3

# Major Feature Areas

Overview ..... 3
Alvea Assistant ..... 3
Opening Alvea Assistant ..... 3
The chat experience ..... 4
Two modes: Analyze and Help ..... 4
Answers with charts, tables and links ..... 5
Conversation history ..... 5
Rating answers ..... 5
Assistant credits ..... 5
Model Context Protocol (MCP) ..... 6
What MCP is ..... 6
Tools ..... 6
Connecting to the MCP Server ..... 7
OAuth connection ..... 7
JWT token ..... 8
Security ..... 9
Administration ..... 9
Enabling Alvea Assistant and MCP ..... 9
Control Panel pages ..... 10
Change log ..... 10
Availability and permissions ..... 10

# Overview

This release makes Alvea Assistant and the MCP Server available to all WATS customers as Preview. Until now they were available only to customers who had signed up for the Early Access Program.

WATS Alvea Assistant is an AI assistant built into WATS. Users ask questions about their production data in plain language and get answers from live WATS data, with charts, tables and links that open the matching WATS report with the filters already applied.

WATS MCP Server (Model Context Protocol) lets users connect an external AI assistant, such as Claude, ChatGPT, Microsoft Copilot Studio or VS Code, to WATS and ask it the same kinds of questions.

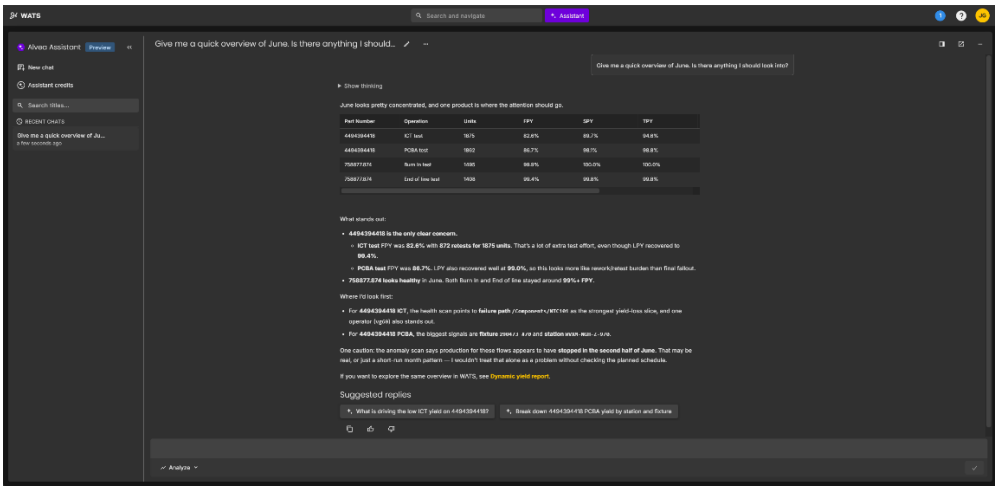
Both features use the same set of more than 60 analysis tools, and both see only the data the user can already see in WATS.

# Alvea Assistant

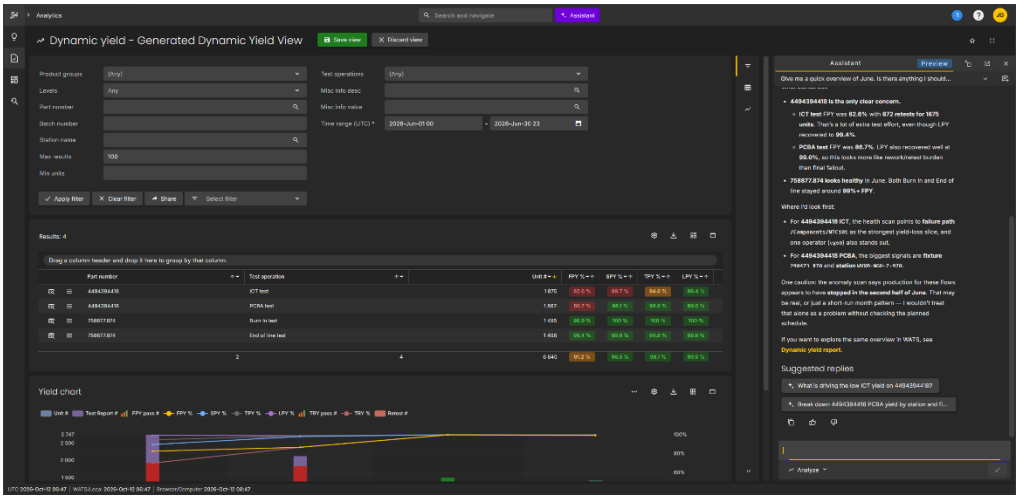
## Opening Alvea Assistant

Alvea Assistant opens from the Assistant button in the top bar, on every page in WATS. It can be shown in three ways:

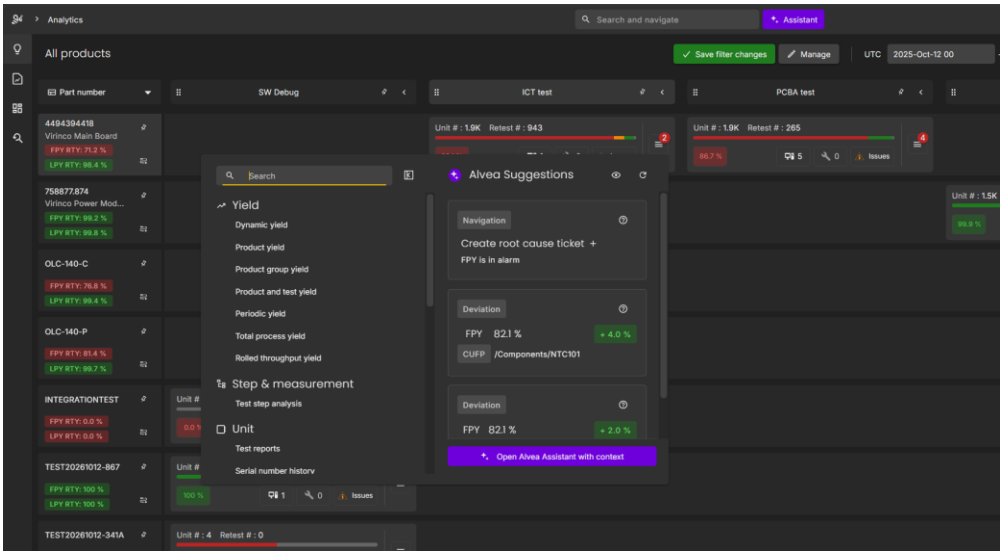
- **Popup** (default): an overlay with the chat history on the left and the chat on the right.




- **Side panel**: an Assistant tab beside the page, available on most Analytics, Control Panel and Operator Interface pages.




- **New tab**: Alvea Assistant as its own page in a separate browser tab.
- **From context:** Start Alvea Assistant with context in a cell's action menu starts a new chat about that cell




## The chat experience

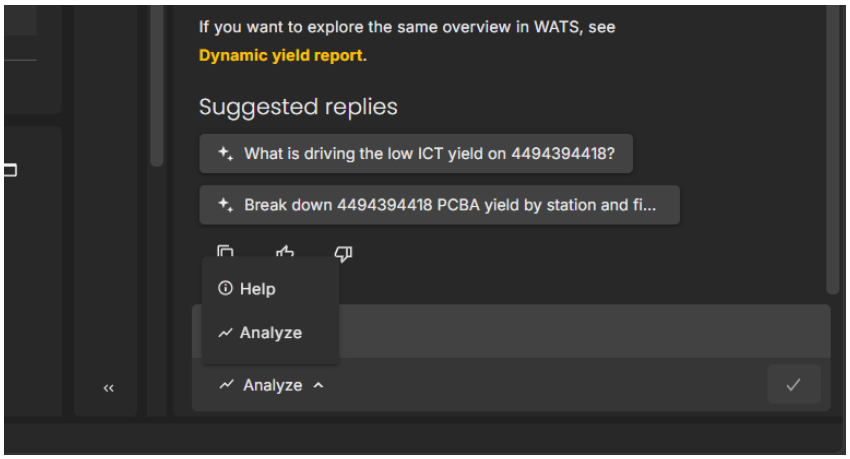
Answers stream back in real time. While Alvea Assistant works, a thinking section shows its reasoning and the tools it is calling, and collapses when the answer starts. Any answer can be copied with one click.

## Two modes: Analyze and Help

A mode selector on the chat input switches between two purposes:

- **Analyze** (default): answers questions about your production data using the full WATS analytics toolset, from a broad overview down to root cause. Analyze mode does not read your screen.

- **Help**: answers questions about how WATS works. It finds documentation, navigates you to features, and reads your current view together with the user manual for the page you are on. The Awareness indicator shows which page it is reading.




## Answers with charts, tables and links

Alvea Assistant can present results as tables, bar and line charts and pie charts, and can suggest up to two follow-up questions to click. Answers include links that open the matching WATS report with the filters already applied. Help answers link to the documentation and the user manual.

## Conversation history

- Chats are saved automatically and titled from the first question.
- The 20 most recent unsaved chats are kept. Save a chat to keep it indefinitely.
- Chats can be renamed, searched by title and deleted. A saved chat must be unsaved before it can be deleted.

## Rating answers

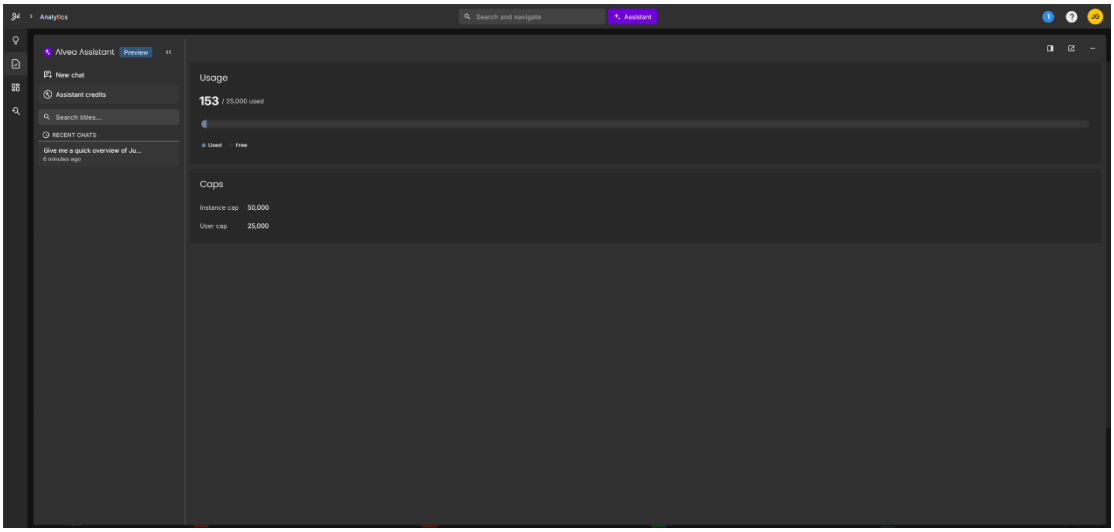
Users can Like or Dislike any answer and add an optional comment, to help WATS improve the assistant.

## Assistant credits

Alvea Assistant usage is metered in credits.

- Assistant credits in the chat menu shows the user's own usage against the user cap, and the instance cap.
- Usage resets at the start of each calendar month (UTC).
- When a cap is reached, new questions are blocked and the user is told to contact their administrator.

- One user cap applies to all users. The caps are set by WATS; contact WATS Support to change them.




# Model Context Protocol (MCP)

## What MCP is

MCP is an open standard that lets AI assistants connect to a data source and use its tools. An MCP client connects to WATS, signs in as a WATS user, and calls WATS analysis tools on that user's behalf. Every tool runs with the user's permissions and product group and level restrictions, and tools the user lacks permission for are not listed.

## Tools

More than 60 tools, the same that power Alvea Assistant, organised as a drill-down from overview to single unit:

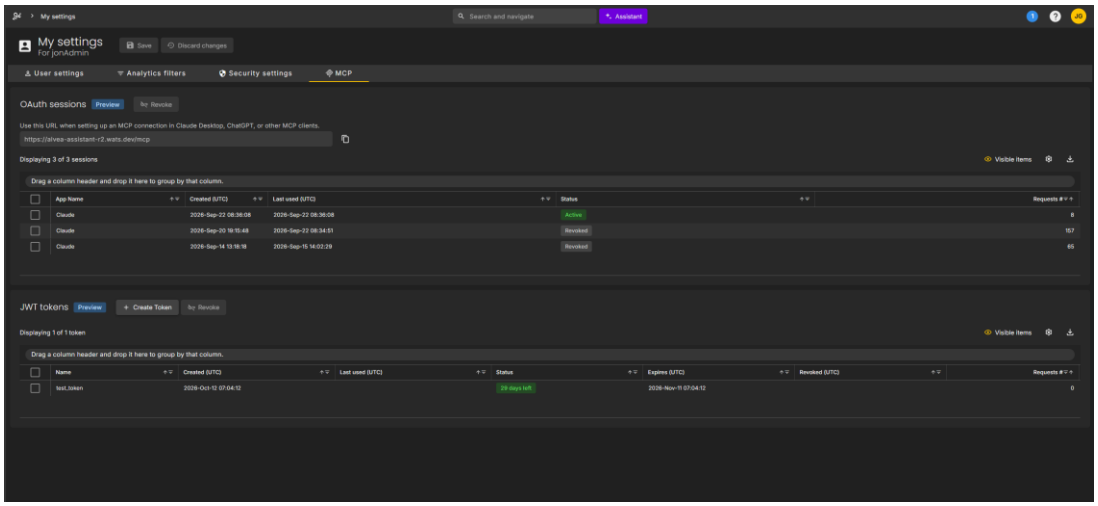
- **Overview and health.** Where production stands right now and what needs attention first: volume and yield overview, production health scan, investigation priorities and anomaly detection.
- **Exploration.** Slice yield, repairs and unit flow by any report dimension to find where problems concentrate; rolled throughput yield, total process yield, WIP status and root cause tickets.
- **Scoped analysis.** Analyse the test steps of one product and test operation: failures, trends, retests, sequence efficiency, revision comparison, cost of retesting, repair time, OEE and Gage R&R.
- **Deep dive.** Examine one step, component, report, root cause ticket or asset in detail, including report attachments.

- **Single unit.** Follow one serial number through its history, sub-units, BOM deviations and alerts.
- **Utilities.** Look up valid filter values, products and systems, search WATS documentation, and create links that open the matching WATS report with the filter already applied.

The full list with descriptions is in Control Panel > Alvea & connectivity > MCP tools. When a client connects, WATS tells it about the instance, the user's role and data restrictions, the valid filter values and how the tools work together.

## Connecting to the MCP Server

The MCP address is your WATS URL plus `/mcp`, shown with a copy button under My Settings > MCP to users with the MCP Access permission. There are two ways to sign in. Both act as the connected user, with that user's permissions and restrictions.

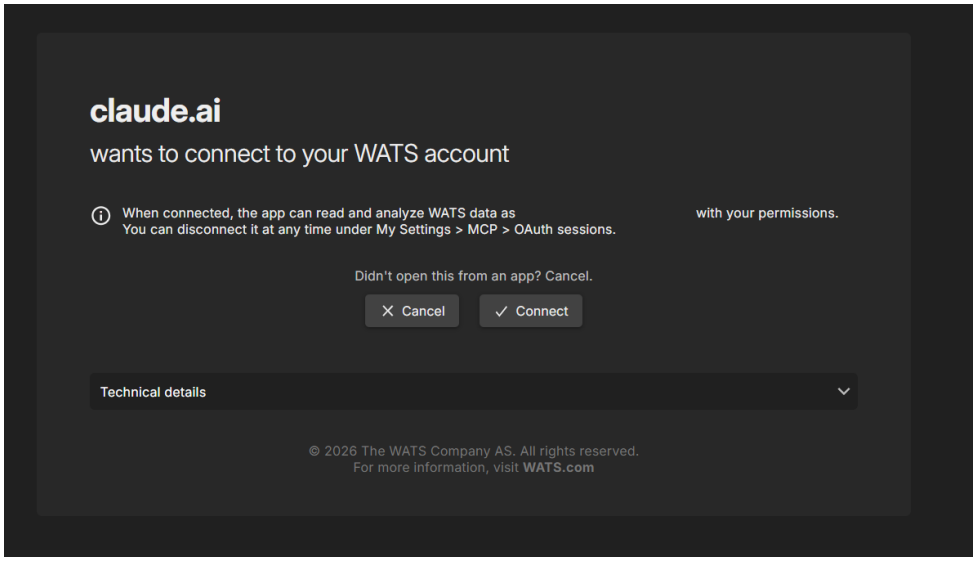



## OAuth connection

Recommended for clients that support it. Add the MCP URL in the assistant. It opens WATS in the browser, where you log in if needed and approve the connection.

The consent page shows the app's verified domain, for example *“claude.ai wants to connect to your WATS account”*, and the WATS user the app will act as. It warns the first time an app

connects to your instance, and if the app sends the access to a different domain than its own. Nothing is granted until you click Connect.



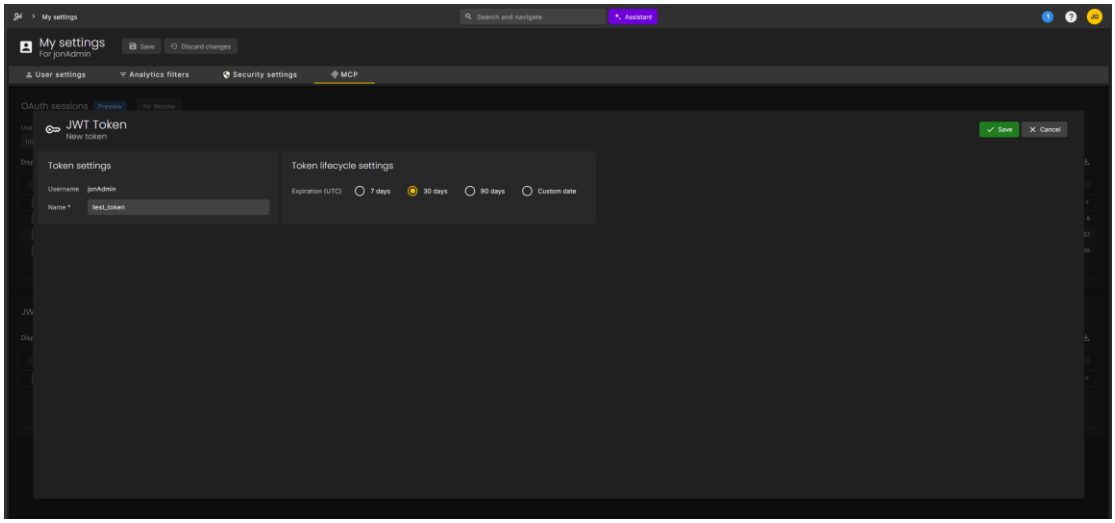

WATS uses OAuth 2.1 with PKCE and identifies apps with Client ID Metadata Documents (CIMD), so no client registration is needed. Most clients pick this automatically; if asked, choose Client ID Metadata Document.

A connected app renews its access automatically. The connection expires after 90 days without use and can be revoked at any time under My Settings > MCP > OAuth sessions or Control Panel > OAuth sessions.

## JWT token

For clients that cannot use OAuth, such as Copilot Studio. Create a token under My Settings > MCP > JWT tokens: name it and choose 7, 30 or 90 days or a custom date up to 365 days

ahead. The token is shown once, so copy it immediately; WATS does not store it. Paste it into the client as a bearer token.




A JWT token works only for MCP and acts as you, so treat it like a password: one token per client, short lifetimes, revoke on suspected leak. Users revoke their own tokens under My Settings, administrators any token under Control Panel > JWT tokens.

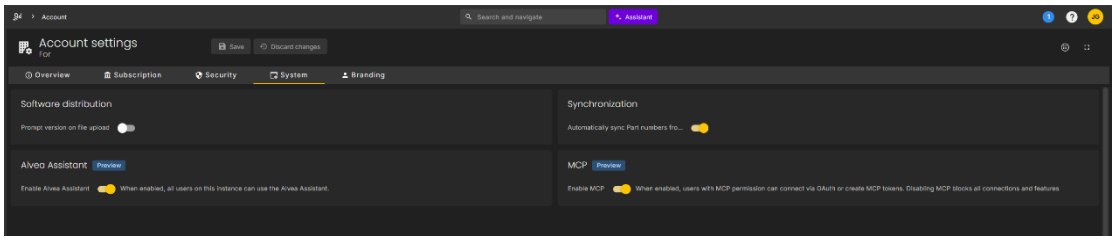
### Security

- Every MCP request checks that MCP is enabled, that the token is valid and not revoked, and that the user is active and still has MCP Access.
- Administrators can turn MCP off for the whole instance at once.
- Each connection and token records when it was last used and how many requests it has made.

# Administration

## Enabling Alvea Assistant and MCP

Both features are switched on per instance in Control Panel > Account, on the System tab, by the account owner or a user with the Account permission:



Either switch takes effect immediately for the whole instance. Turning MCP off blocks every connection and token; they work again when MCP is turned back on, unless they have expired. Turning Alvea Assistant off stops all new questions.

### Control Panel pages

Under Control Panel > Alvea & connectivity, the MCP pages require the MCP Administration permission:

- **OAuth sessions.** All users' connected apps with user, app name, created, last used, status and request count. Revoke one or more.
- **JWT tokens.** All users' tokens with user, name, created, last used, status, expiry and request count. Revoke one or more.
- **MCP tools.** Every MCP tool with description and an Enabled switch for the whole instance.

The Alvea Assistant pages require the Alvea Administration permission:

- **Assistant credits.** This month's credit usage for the instance, broken down by user, with the instance cap and user cap.
- **Assistant tools.** The same tool list and switches as MCP tools, for Alvea Assistant.

MCP tools and Assistant tools are switched independently. Tools that belong together switch as one, for example the two Gage R&R tools, or a report viewer and its attachment reader.

### Change log

The change log records creation and revocation of MCP tokens and OAuth connections, tool switches, and changes to the Enable Alvea Assistant and Enable MCP switches.

## Availability and permissions

- Both features are Preview and available to all customers.
- All AI access is limited to the data the user can already see in WATS.

| Permission | Allows | Granted by default to |
|---|---|---|
| Alvea Assistant | Use Alvea Assistant | Administrator, Manager, Analyzer, Operator, Viewer, SharedOperator |
| Alvea Administration | Assistant credits and Assistant tools pages | Administrator, Manager |
| MCP Access | Connect MCP clients and create JWT tokens | Administrator, Manager, Analyzer |

| Permission | Allows | Granted by default to |
|---|---|---|
| MCP Administration | OAuth sessions, JWT tokens and MCP tools pages | Administrator, Manager |
| Alvea & connectivity | The Alvea & connectivity section in Control Panel | Administrator, Manager |
| Account | Enable Alvea Assistant and Enable MCP switches | Administrator, Manager |