

2017.1 Release Notes

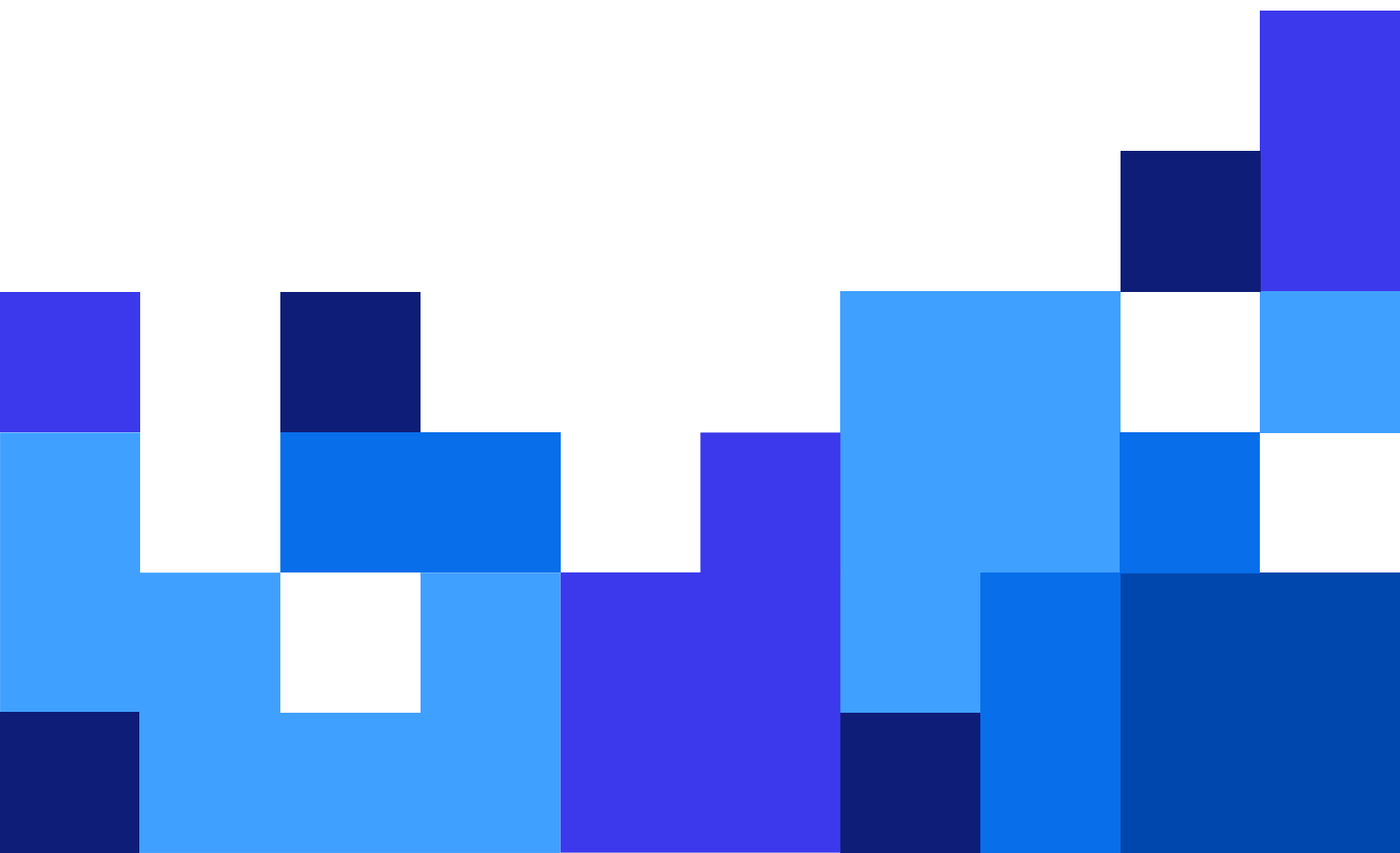


Table of Contents

1. New in Design & Print	5
1.1. Usability Improvements	5
1.1.1. Installation Supports Hardware License Keys	5
1.1.2. "Open with" Displays Both Applications (Designer and Print)	6
1.1.3. Quick Printing Shortcut	6
1.1.4. Custom Provisional Values for Data Sources	7
1.1.5. Script Editor	7
1.1.6. Improved Clipboard Support	8
1.1.7. Comments from NiceLabel v6 Label File Imported to the Description Field	9
1.1.8. Searching Within Built-in Stocks	10
1.1.9. Single Record Selection Available in Database Wizard	11
1.1.10. Improved Error Message When Office Database Driver is Not Installed	12
1.1.11. Defining an ODBC Connection Allows Setting Username and Password	13
1.2. New Functionality	13
1.2.1. USPS Intelligent Mail Barcode	13
1.2.2. Plessey, MSI, and Anker Barcodes	14
1.2.3. Text on Ellipse	15
1.2.4. Pick List Support for Text Variables	15
1.2.5. Dithering Configurable per Individual Picture Object	16
1.2.6. New Graphics Merging Options	17
1.2.7. Improved support for Epson TM-C3400/C3500 Color Printers	18
2. New in Design & Controlled Print	19
2.1. Usability Improvements	19
2.1.1. Improved Transition from Labels to Solutions	19
2.1.2. Extended Configuration Possibilities for Actions	19
2.1.3. Updated Actions Editor UI	20
2.1.4. Unified Action Editor for Forms and Automation	22
2.2. New Functionality	24
2.2.1. PDF Rendering improvements	24
2.2.2. New Action: Select Table Row	25
2.2.3. Form Debugger (BETA)	25
3. New in Managed Design & Controlled Print	27
3.1. Audit Trails	27
3.1.1. Updated Printing History	27
3.1.2. Logging of All Relevant System Events	29
3.1.3. Logging of Custom Events	30
3.2. Document Management System (DMS)	31
3.2.1. Streamlined integration of DMS with Designer environment	31
3.2.2. Improved Email Notifications for Document Approvals	32
3.2.3. Improved Label Report with Workflow Information	33
3.2.4. Better Visibility of Configured Approval Workflows	34
3.2.5. Selective Synchronization of Documents	35
3.2.6. Support for Local and Global Content Management	36

3.2.7. Configurable Access to Non-Published Files for Web Printing	37
3.2.8. Search and Indexing for Labels Stored in Solutions	38
3.2.9. Enhanced HTTP Support for Connecting to Document Storage	38
4. Programmable Integration	39
4.1. New in .NET API: SaveAs Method for ILabel Interface	39
4.2. NiceLabel SDK	39
5. Adopting NiceLabel 2017	40
5.1. Ready for Windows 10/Windows 10 Certification	40
5.2. Multi-user Licensing Enabled for Large-scale Networks	40
5.3. NiceLabel 2017 Label Converter	40
5.4. Localized NiceLabel 2017 Documents	40

Release Notes

NiceLabel 2017.1

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1. New in Design & Print

1.1. Usability Improvements

1.1.1. Installation Supports Hardware License Keys

NiceLabel 2017 installation is an all-in-one installer. It contains all of the design and integration components. It intelligently selects the correct components for installation, based on the license key that you provide during the installation procedure. If you install NiceLabel 2017 in trial mode, you can optionally select the components manually.

This release adds support for hardware license keys (dongles) in the installation. If you select the hardware key, the software will only install the modules applicable to the license that was distributed on the hardware key.

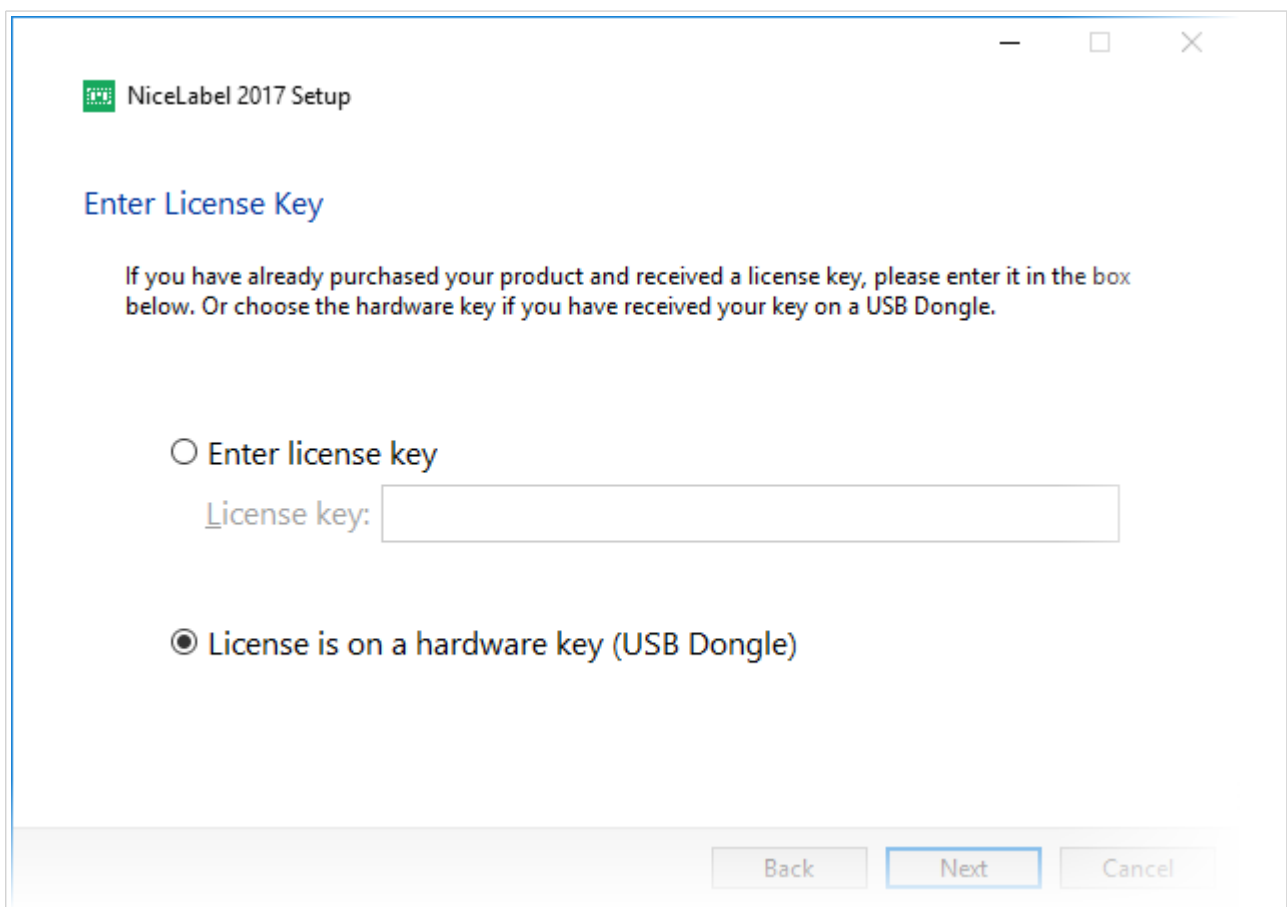


Figure 1: Installer will read the license from the USB hardware key

Hardware keys are only available for single-user NiceLabel products.

1.1.2. “Open with” Displays Both Applications (Designer and Print)

NiceLabel Designer and NiceLabel Print applications are both registered for NiceLabel 2017 .NLBL and .NSLN file extensions. Both applications are visible under **Open With** command in the context menu when right-clicking the document in the File Explorer. Upon the first execution of a certain document type, the operating system asks which application should be opened by default for the selected file type.

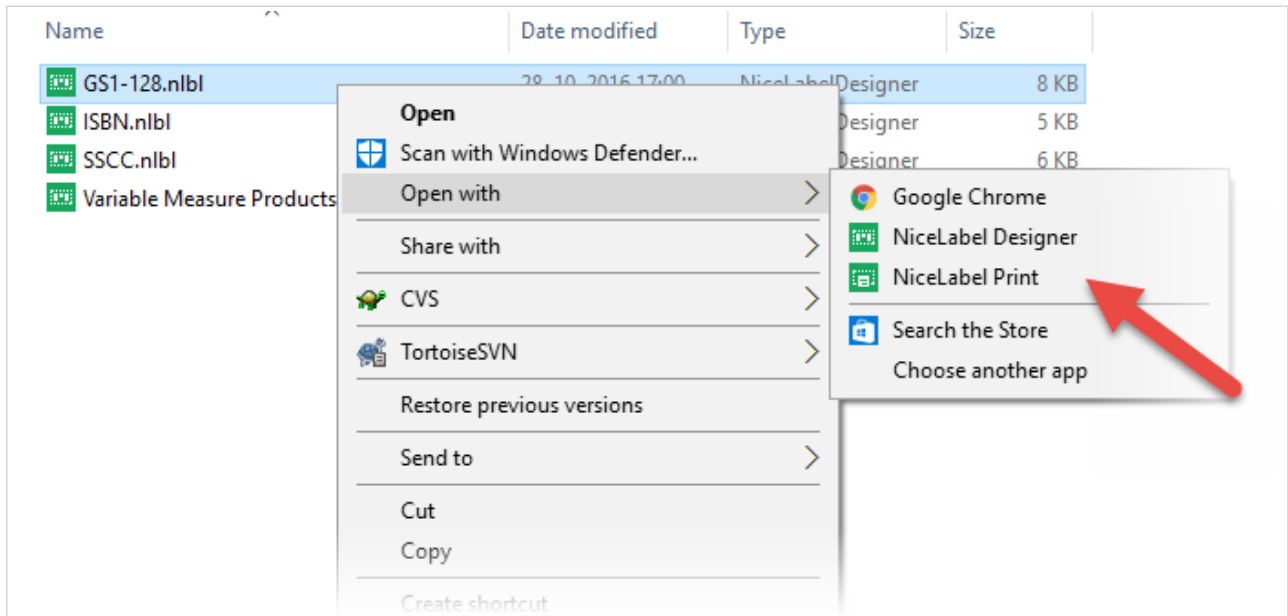


Figure 2: Easy application selection for NiceLabel documents

1.1.3. Quick Printing Shortcut

A new command that creates a print shortcut to the currently opened document is available in the **Home** ribbon. This streamlines Designer with the best practice approach, which suggests that print operators should be able to directly launch a printing solution using a shortcut and without opening the design software.

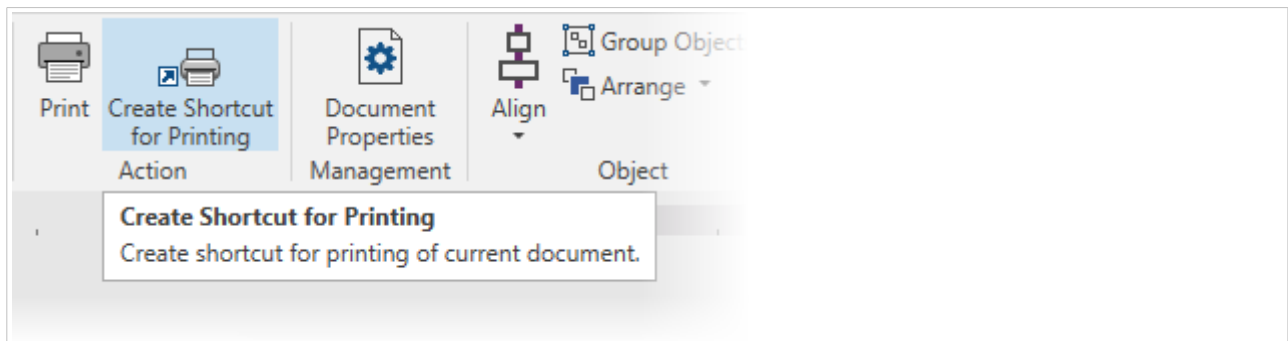


Figure 3: A quick method to create a shortcut for the printing solution

1.1.4. Custom Provisional Values for Data Sources

When working with variable label templates, NiceLabel displays a sequence of question mark characters in label objects. These question marks indicate that the object contains variable content. Let it be a Text object, Barcode object, or any other type of object, it is always convenient to be able to see how the data will really be displayed in the object.

This release of NiceLabel 2017 provides custom design values for dynamic data sources. For some data sources, such as variables, it was already possible to set the initial (default) value which was also used for label printing. Now, you can also define a “provisional value”. This is a value the data source uses only during the label design phase, and not for printing. You can change its value on the fly in the design environment and see how the label template responds to different values. You do not even have to execute the actual print preview.

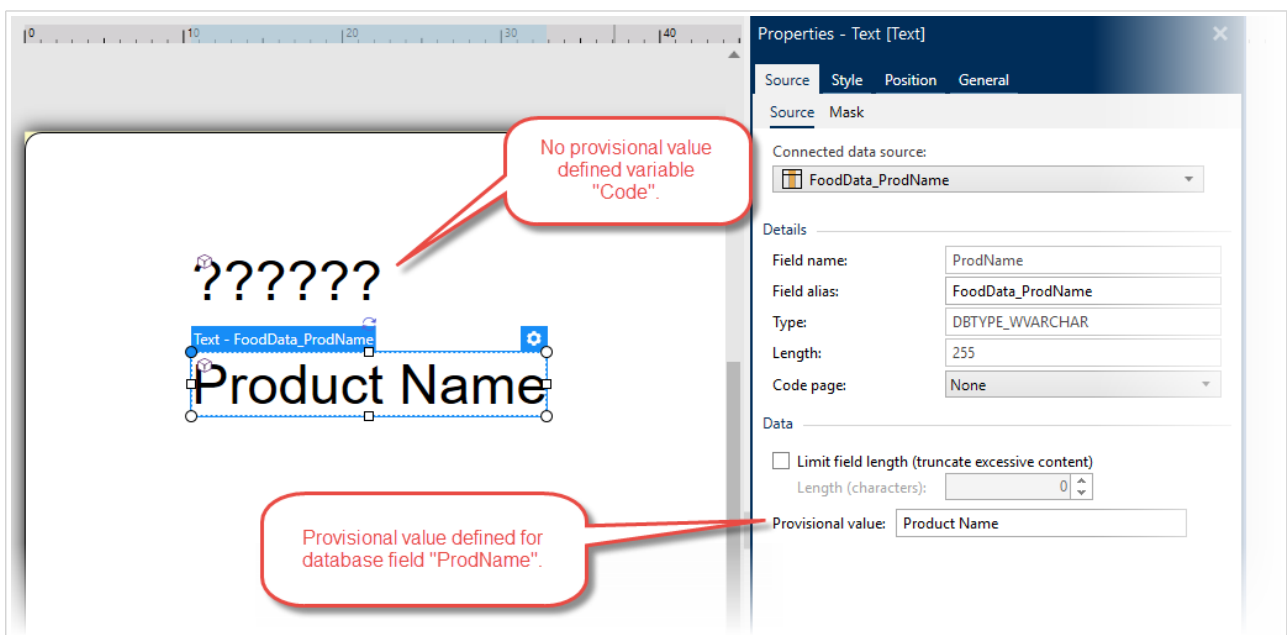


Figure 4: Using provisional temporary values during the label design

The same functionality is available also when a database field is used as an object data source. By default, the object connected with such data source shows the value from the first record of the database table. If necessary, you can enter a different provisional value and test how the label responds to it.

1.1.5. Script Editor



NOTE

Product level NiceLabel Designer Pro or above is required for this feature.

This release introduces a professional Script Editor for VBScript or Python code. Start it by clicking the **Script Editor** button anywhere scripts need to be edited.

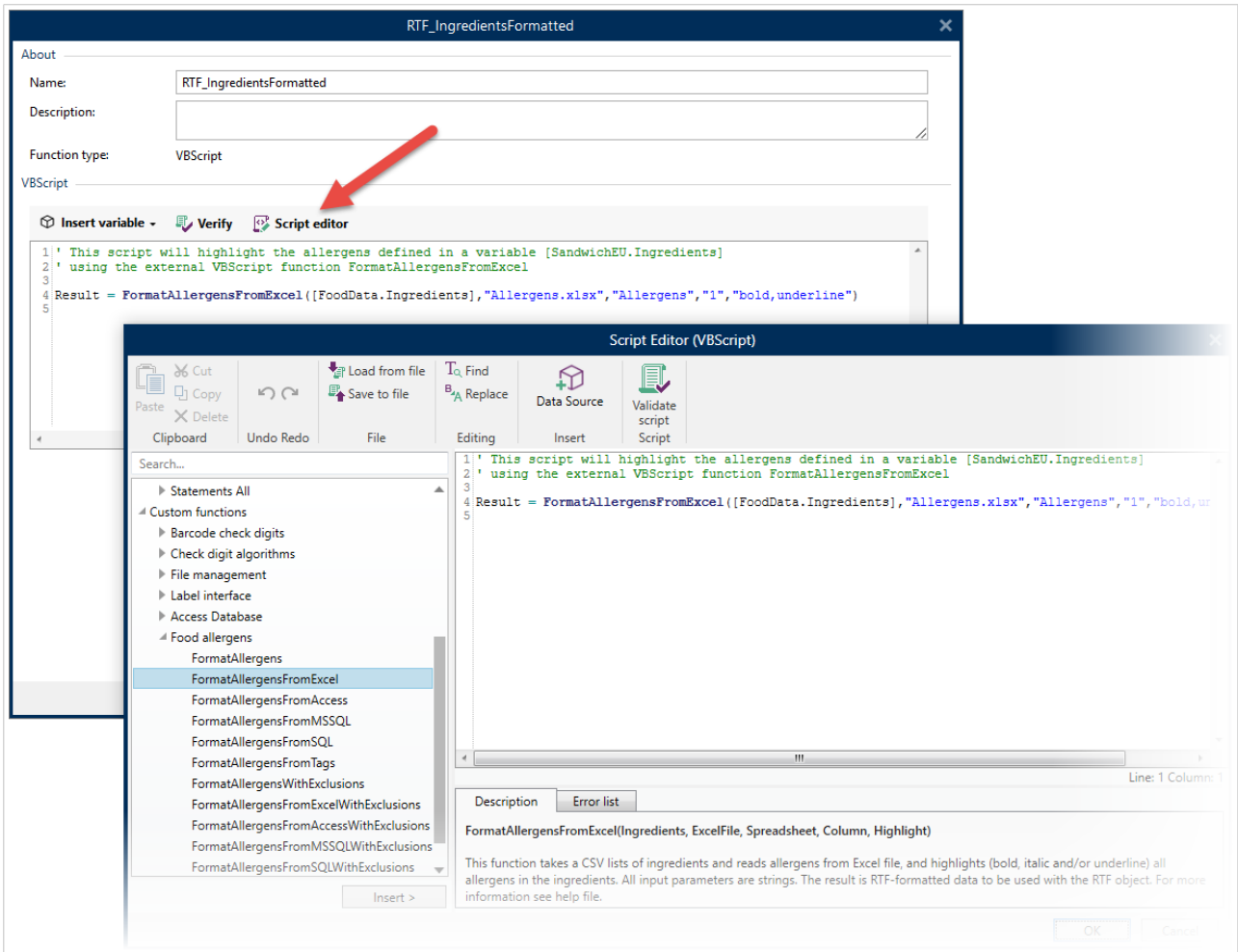


Figure 5: The Script Editor is an advanced user-friendly scripting tool with access to “Custom functions”

The Script Editor runs in a separate window so it is easy to resize it to the required dimension. It also provides you with the reference of the commands and functions you can use with the selected scripting language. This can be of great help if you are not that fluent in scripting. The editor also supports syntax highlighting and other useful features like undo/redo, loading and saving from a file, etc.

An additional important aspect of the Script Editor is the access to built-in NiceLabel functions focused on various label design requirements, such as custom calculation of barcode check digits, formatting food allergens, and others.

1.1.6. Improved Clipboard Support

You can copy images and text data from other applications and paste them directly into NiceLabel labels and forms.

- The pasted image is added as an embedded Picture object.
- The single-line plain text is included as a Text object.
- The multi-line plain text is included as a multi-line Text Box object.

- The formatted text is included as a Rich Text Box object.

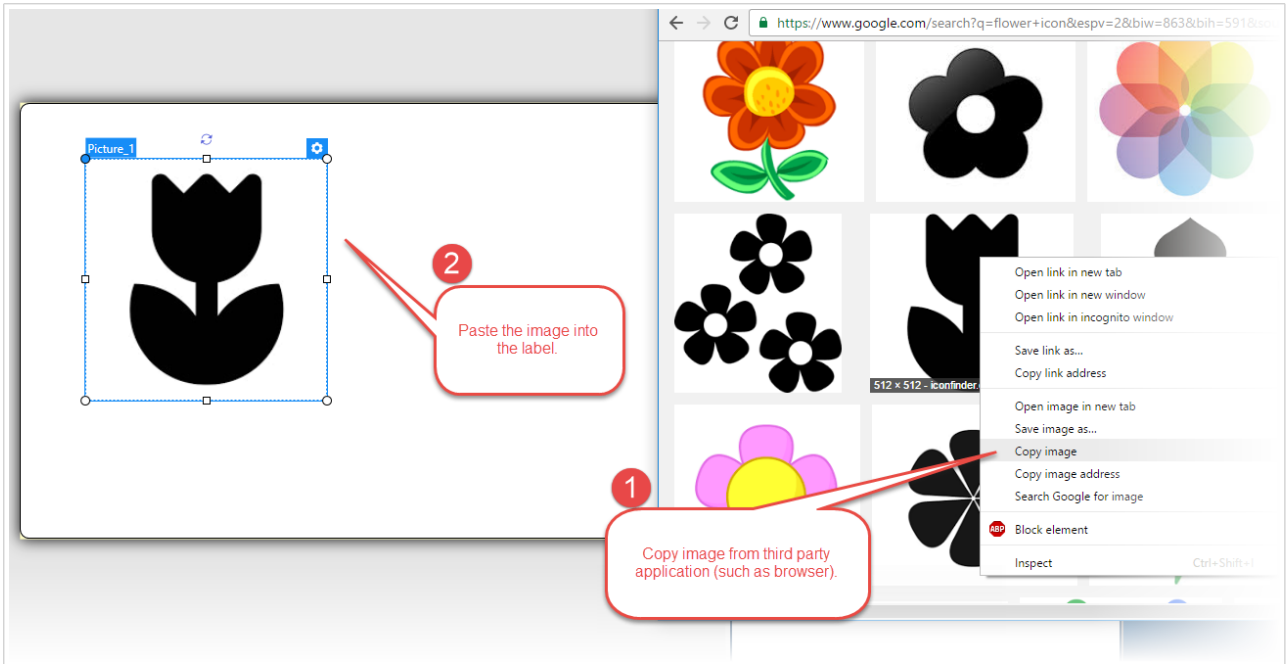


Figure 6: Pasting image from another application

1.1.7. Comments from NiceLabel v6 Label File Imported to the Description Field

When importing NiceLabel v6 label files into NiceLabel 2017, the “Comments” metadata from the legacy label is transferred and saved in the new label. The metadata is visible in the imported data inside the **Label Properties** Info panel as a **Description** field.

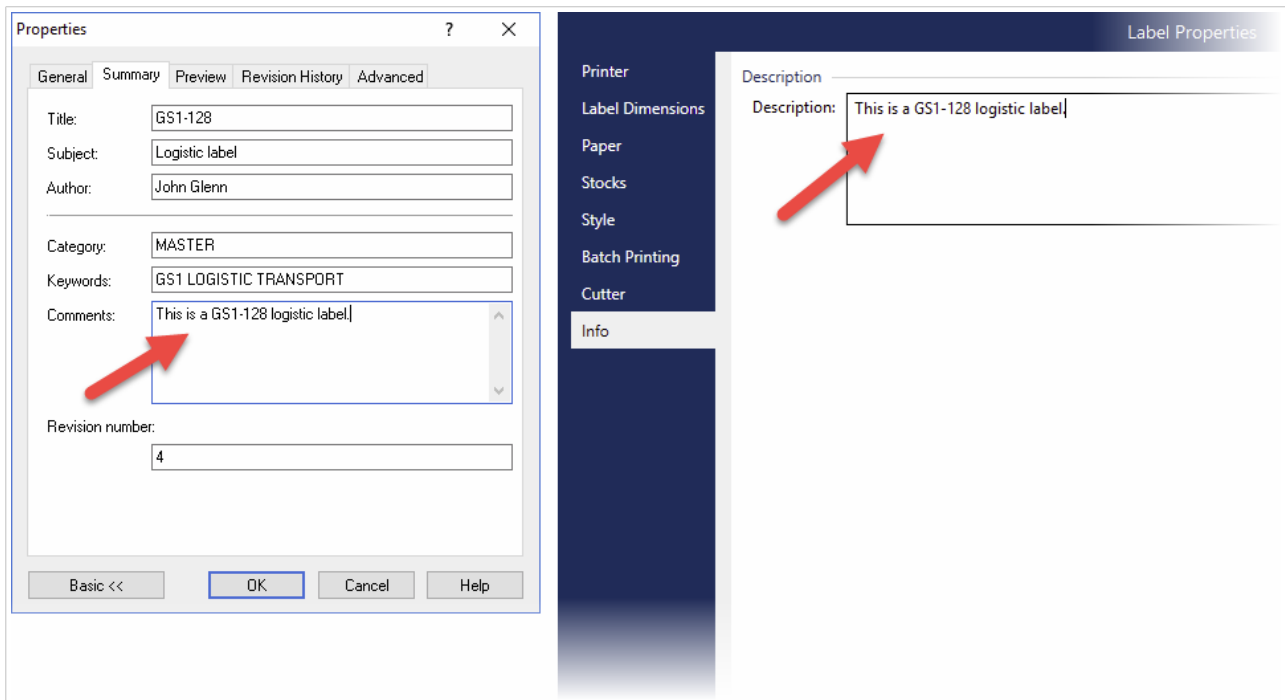


Figure 7: Comment from v6 label is imported into v2017 label and is searchable/indexed in NiceLabel LMS products

In NiceLabel LMS products, when you save the new label in the online centralized file repository (Document Storage), the metadata is included in the search. Now, you can search for existing labels not only by the filename and its content (object names, variable names, and values, etc.) but also by using this metadata.



NOTE

If you enter keywords into this field, it helps you locate the label inside the Document Storage.

1.1.8. Searching Within Built-in Stocks



NOTE

Product level NiceLabel Designer Pro or above is required for this feature.

NiceLabel 2017 ships with a selection of predefined empty label templates (stocks) to match the consumables of different manufacturers. When you select a stock, the dimensions of a label template are preconfigured for you. This release adds the ability to search for the name of the required stock. You can also search for the stock by partial name.

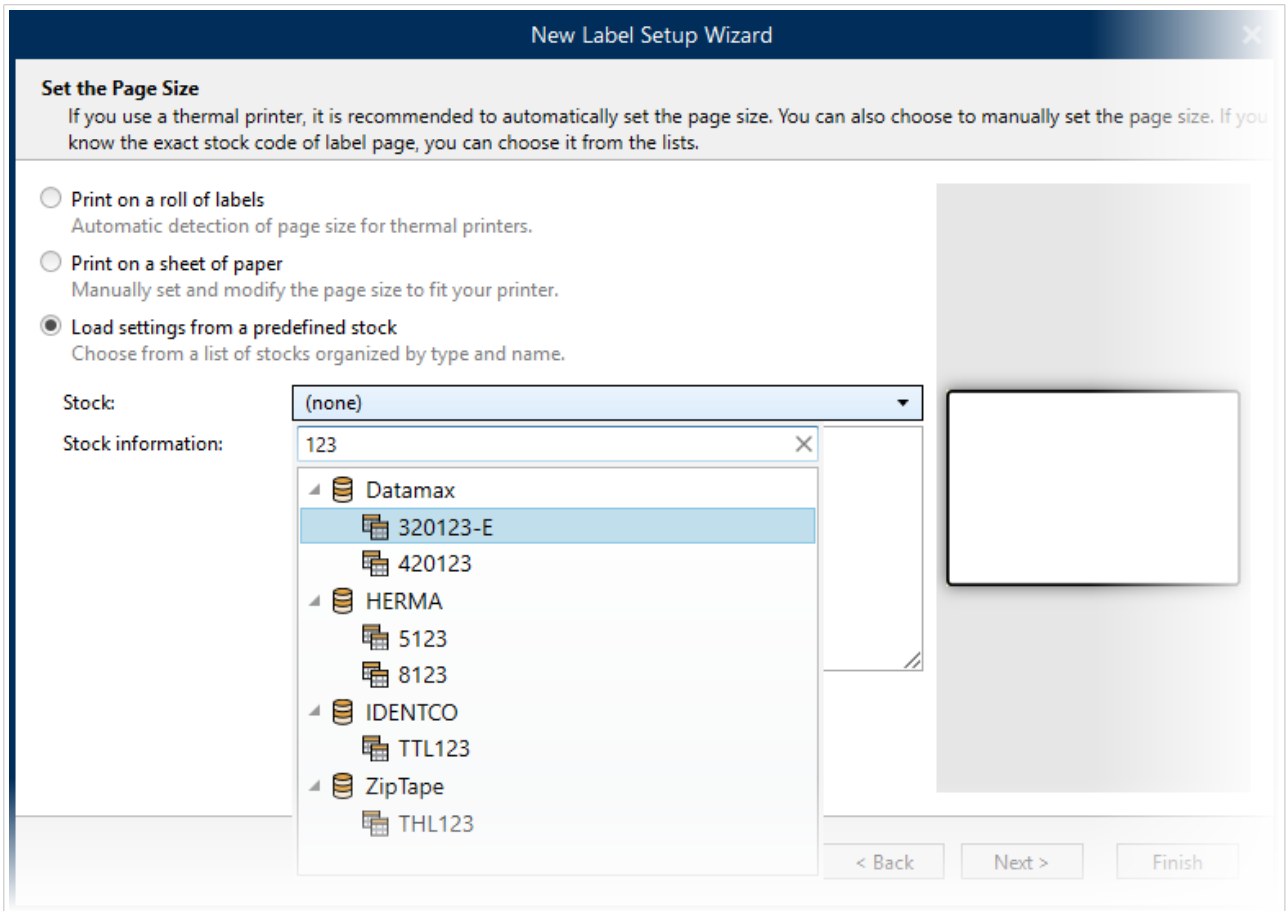


Figure 8: Partial search lets you find the required stock type quickly. In this case, stocks with the string “123” in their names are displayed.

1.1.9. Single Record Selection Available in Database Wizard

The Database Wizard has a new option that simplifies the database definition when a user wants to select and print a single record from the database.

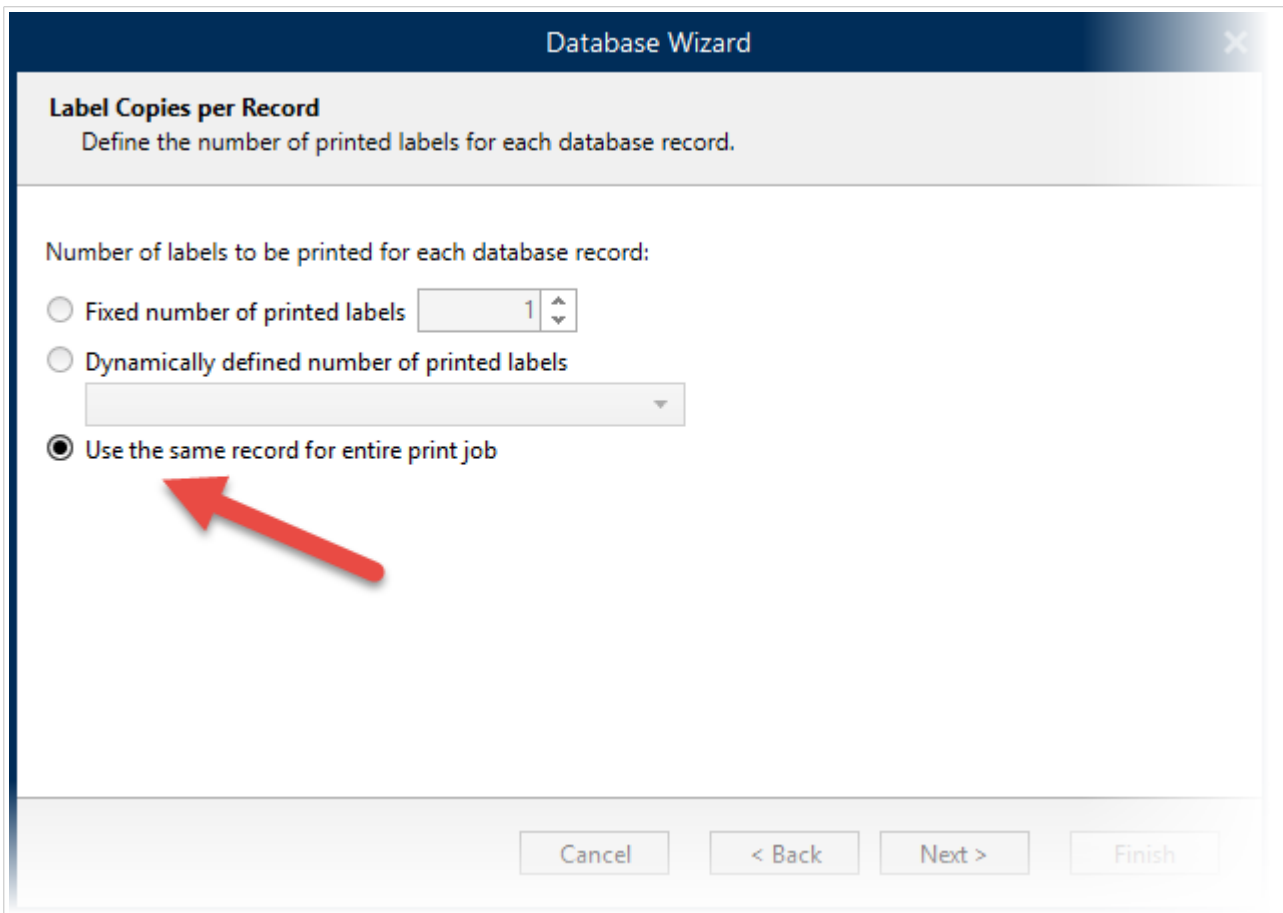


Figure 9: Configuring database connection to use a single record only

1.1.10. Improved Error Message When Office Database Driver is Not Installed

Before you can connect to a certain database and use its data in NiceLabel applications, you must have the appropriate database driver installed. To connect to Office-type data sources, such as a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet or Microsoft Access database, you must either install the Microsoft Office product (the one which provides the necessary drivers), or install database drivers with a standalone installer. These are referred to by Microsoft as “Runtime” or “Database Engine Redistributable”.

A more user-friendly error message is shown in NiceLabel 2017 if an Office database driver is not installed. The error message tells the user that the database driver is missing, and redirects them to a web page where the driver can be downloaded.

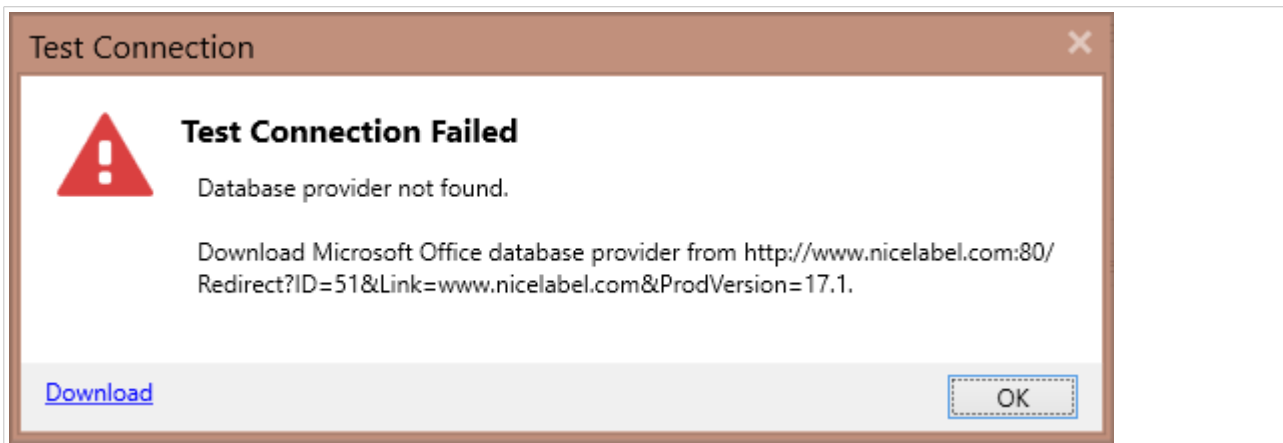


Figure 10: Download link provided for the missing database driver

1.1.11. Defining an ODBC Connection Allows Setting Username and Password



NOTE

Product level NiceLabel Designer Pro or above is required for this feature.

NiceLabel allows you to define the username and password values when configuring an ODBC connection to the data source. This is important in cases when a solution runs under a different user account on the shop floor. That user account might not have access to the specific data source, so by using this feature you can enable access to the database via a particular user account.

For example, a username and password need to be provided when connecting to a Microsoft SQL server if the SQL authentication is used.

1.2. New Functionality

1.2.1. USPS Intelligent Mail Barcode

The Intelligent Mail barcode (formerly known as the 4-State Customer Barcode) represents the next generation of USPS® barcode technology. It is used to sort and track letters. Intelligent Mail barcode technology, among other things, combines the capabilities of POSTNET™ and PLANET Code® barcodes into a single unique barcode.

With this release, you can create and print the USPS Intelligent Mail barcode with NiceLabel 2017.

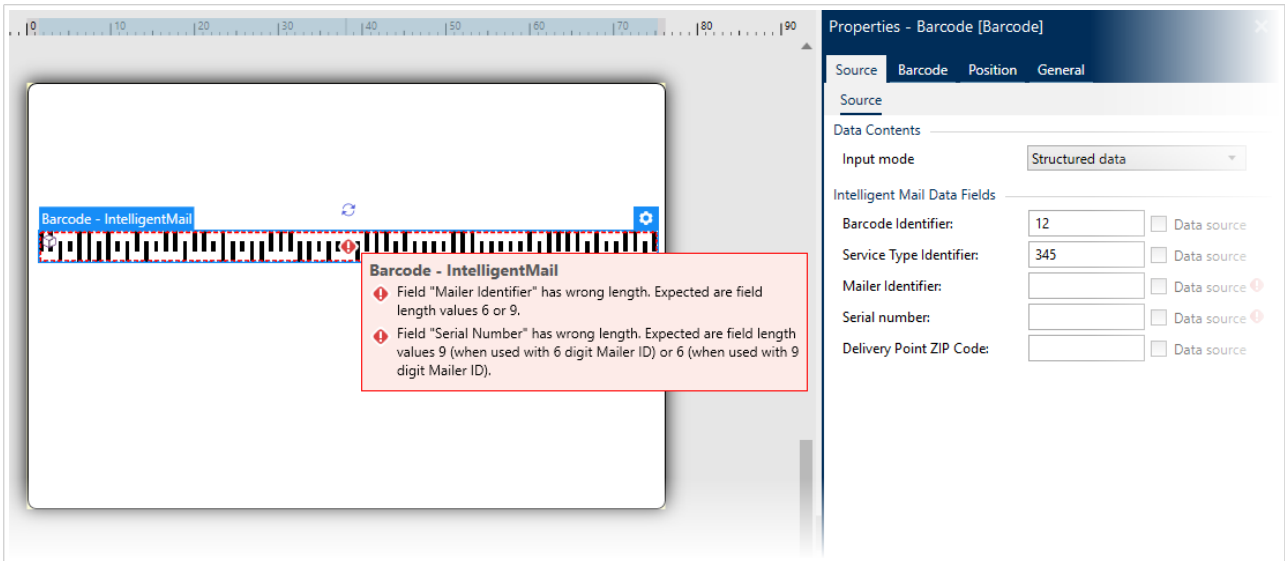


Figure 11: On-screen error notifications help you create error-free USPS Intelligent Mail barcodes quickly.

1.2.2. Plessey, MSI, and Anker Barcodes

Plessey Code is a 1D linear barcode symbology that was developed in 1971 by The Plessey Company plc, a British-based company. It is one of the first barcode symbologies and is still used in rare libraries, and for marking the shelf tags in retail stores as part of internal stock control solutions. The chief advantage is its somewhat higher density compared to more common Interleaved 2 of 5 and Code 39 codes.

Plessey barcode evolved later on into several variations: Anker Code by ADS Company, Telxon, and MSI (also known as Plessey modified).

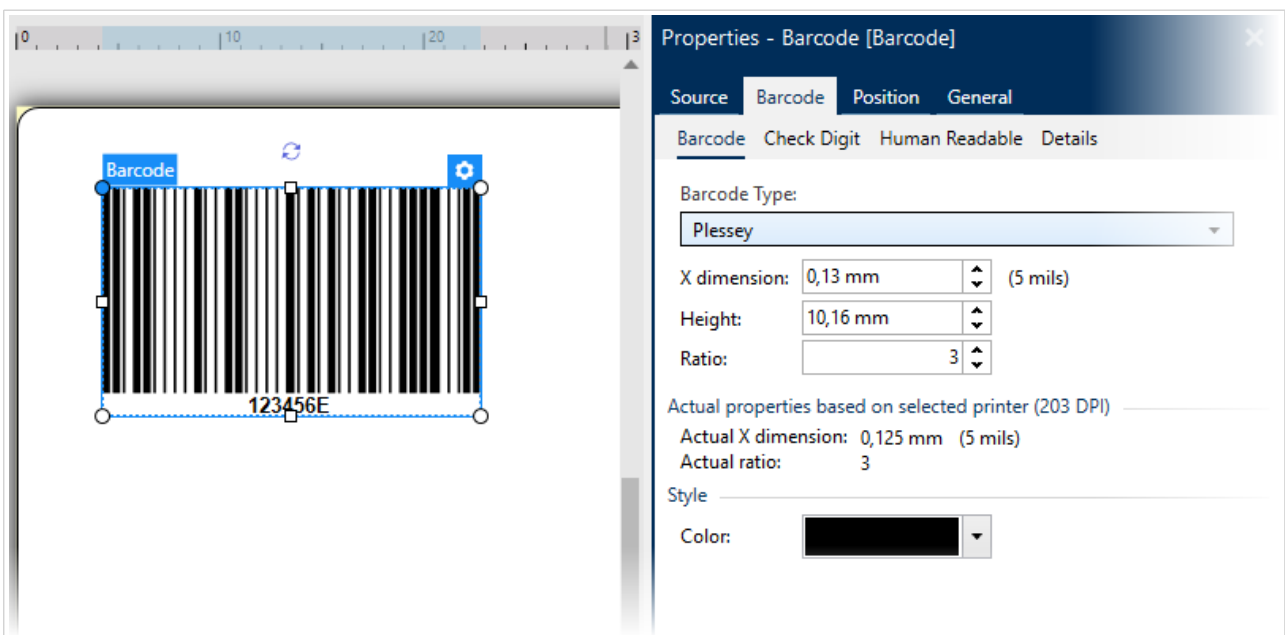


Figure 12: Plessey barcode available in label designer

To help closing the gap between label design possibilities in NiceLabel v6 and NiceLabel 2017, Plessey, MSI, and Anker barcodes have been added to the new platform.

1.2.3. Text on Ellipse

NOTE: Product level NiceLabel Designer Pro or above is required for this feature.

With the newly added support for text on the ellipse, you can design labels in which text follows the shape of the defined ellipse. A text object may contain fixed content or obtain data from a data source.

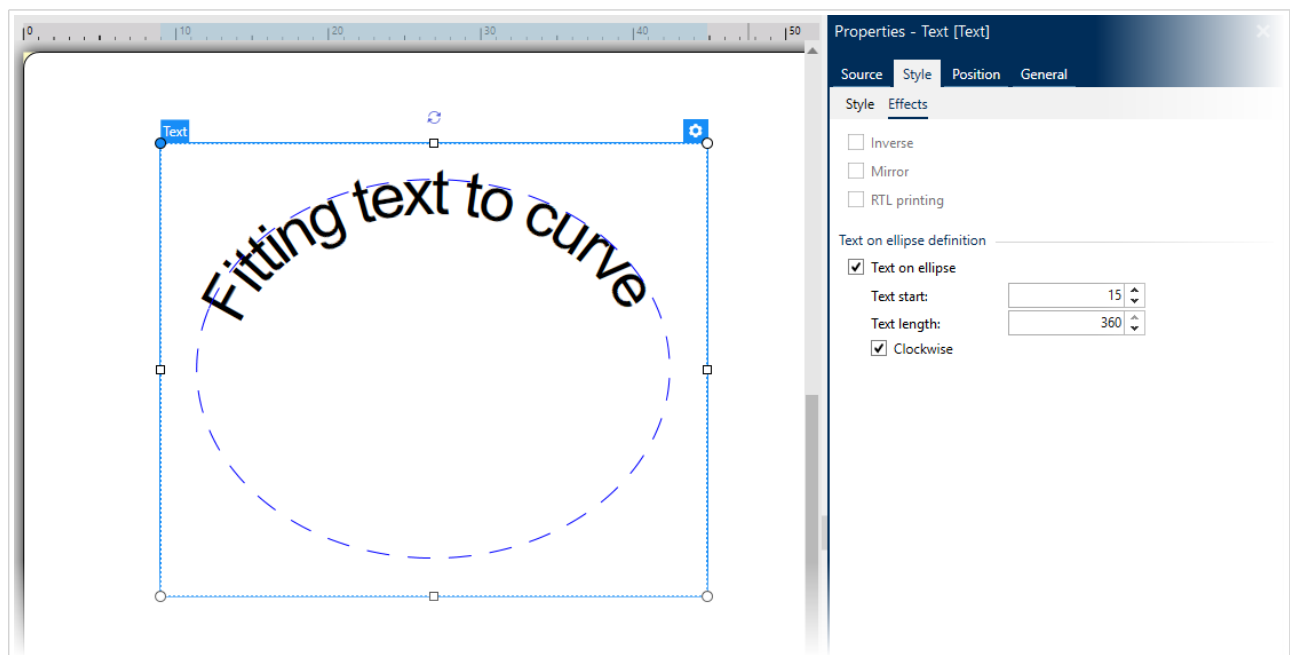


Figure 13: Text following the curvature of the ellipse

You are free to design the contour of the ellipse object. You can freely move it on the label, stretch it, resize it, and easily redesign it with a mouse. Furthermore, there are options to define how the text fits the curve and how it aligns relatively with the curve.

The text on the ellipse feature is available as a property of the Text object.

1.2.4. Pick List Support for Text Variables

NOTE: Product level NiceLabel Designer Pro or above is required for this feature.

With this newly added option, the default printing form can display a drop-down list of allowed preselected values for a particular variable.

If this variable is connected to an Edit field object in the form, it will act as a Combo box.

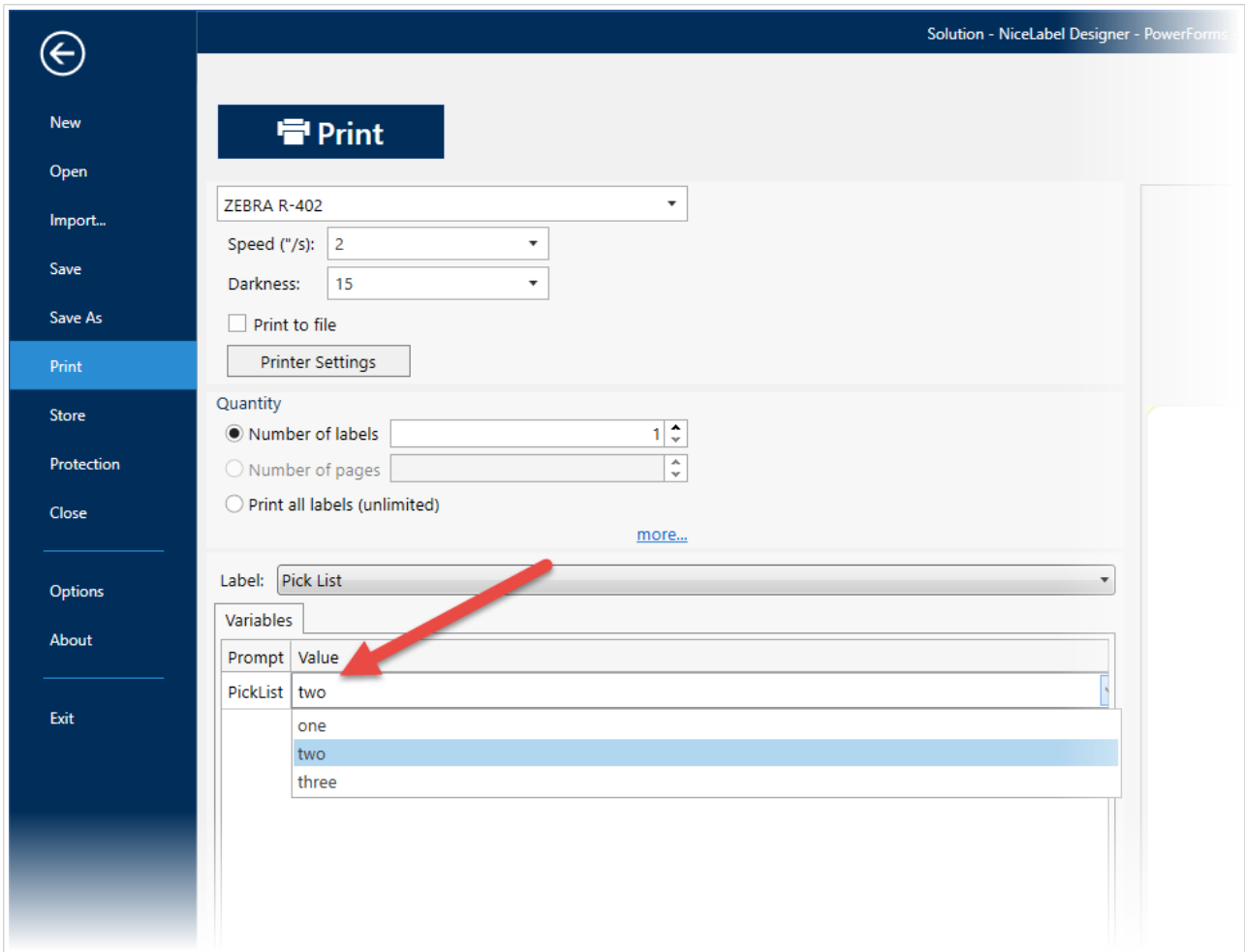


Figure 14: The drop-down preselected values available inside the label design

When configuring a text type variable, you can define a list of values that this variable can be populated with. These values are displayed as a pick list in the default printing form – the user is allowed to choose a value from it.

1.2.5. Dithering Configurable per Individual Picture Object

Dithering is the process of converting a color or grayscale image into a black and white image. In the thermal printing world, you usually work with one-color printers that cannot print multiple colors, and where shades of grey are represented using differently distributed dots that are printed closer or farther apart from each other. This is the essence of what the dithering process does. It converts colors and shades of grey into patterns of dots.

The default setting in the software is to let the printer driver manage the dithering. When you use NiceLabel printer drivers, you can select the dithering type using the driver interface.

With this release of NiceLabel 2017, a new option is available for configuring the dithering type. You can select the type separately for each Picture object. Once dithering is enabled, you see the result immediately in the label template inside the design area and also in the print preview.

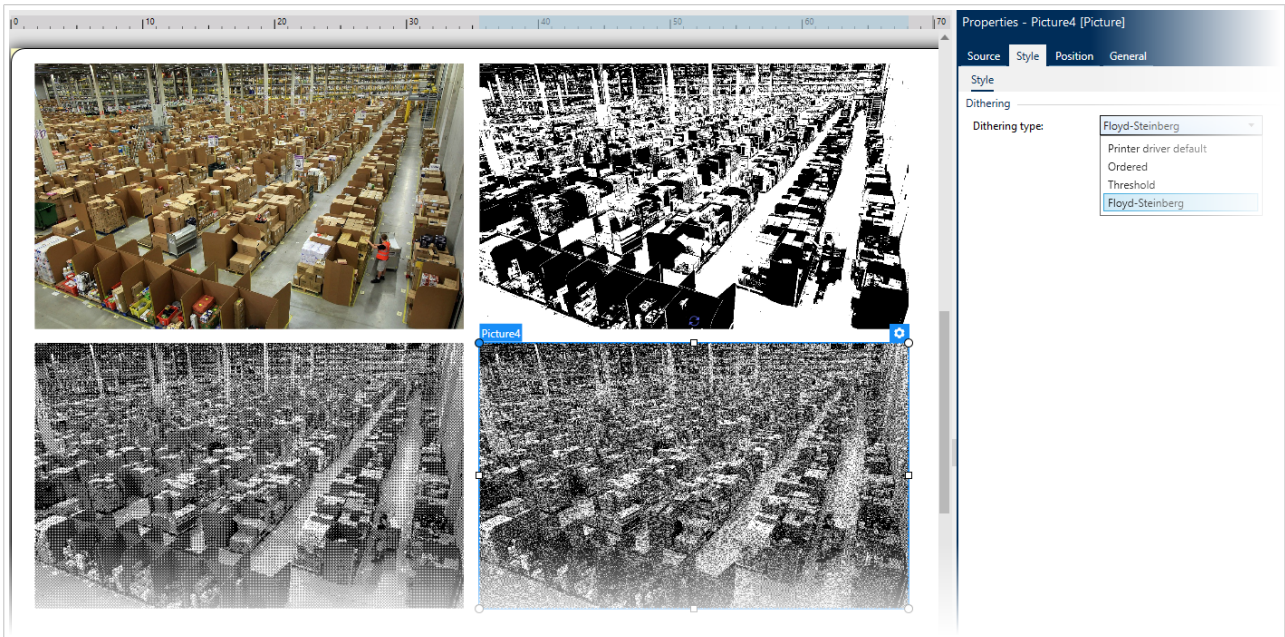


Figure 15: Different dithering types available in the designer

1.2.6. New Graphics Merging Options



NOTE

Product level NiceLabel Designer Pro or above is required for this feature.

This release provides more control over how the graphic objects are sent to printers. When high-throughput label printing is required, the commonly used optimization technique is to design the label to use the internal printer functionality as much as possible. This includes internal counters, real-time clock, internal fonts, and barcodes. However, sometimes you cannot avoid using graphic objects on the label, such as text formatted in TrueType fonts or using Picture objects.

The previous version of NiceLabel 2017 combined all of the graphic objects on a label and sent it to a printer as a single large image item. Some printers had a hard time processing such a large image. On the other hand, each graphic object could be sent to a printer individually. Some printers had a hard time processing such a vast amount of small images. In some cases, none of these options helped.

With the current release, you can fine-tune how the graphic objects are sent to a printer. For example, you can combine all graphic objects but leave the counters out.

The options are available in the Label Properties dialog box.

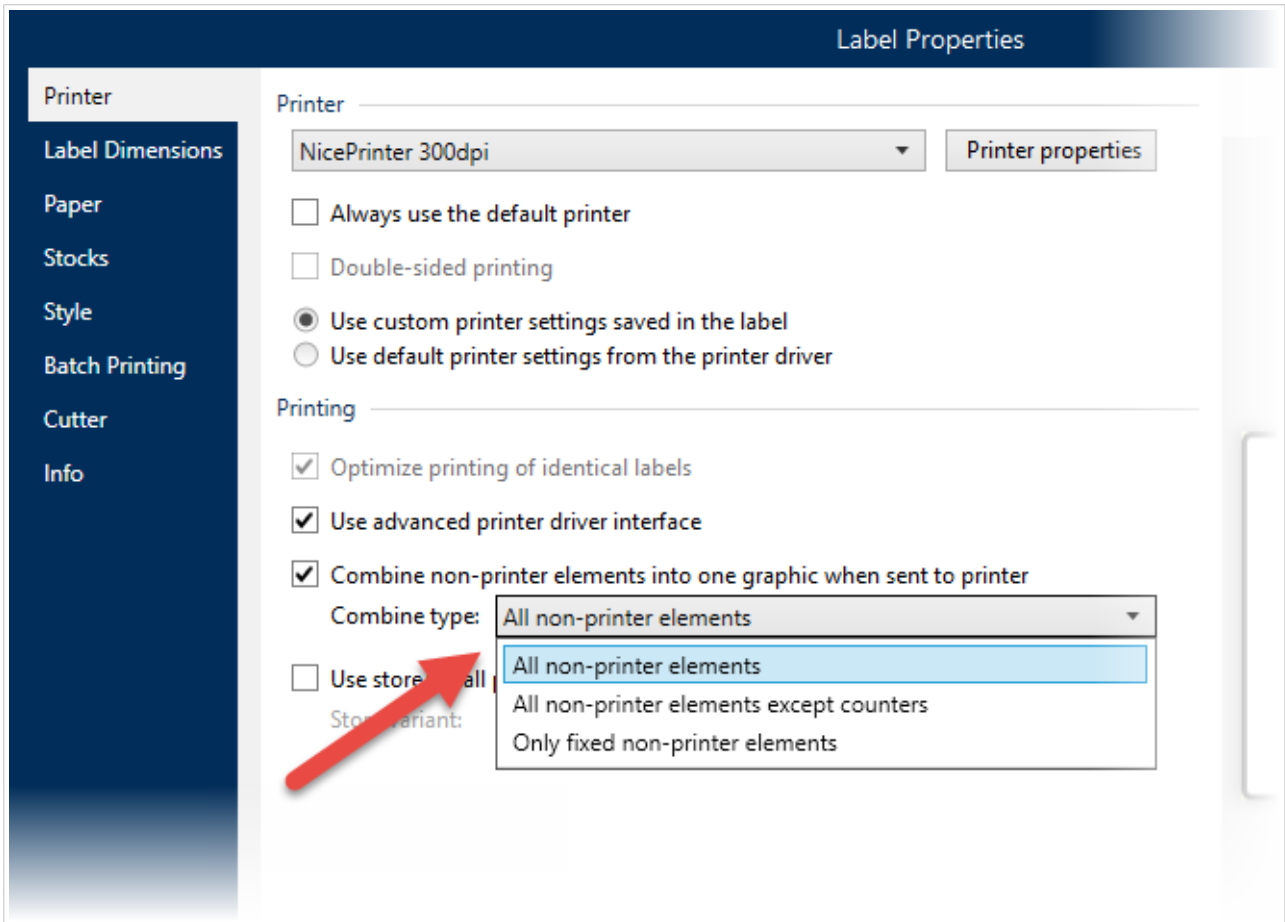


Figure 16: Detailed control over graphic objects merging

1.2.7. Improved support for Epson TM-C3400/C3500 Color Printers

Label dimensions can now be set in NiceLabel designer when using the original Epson driver for TM C3400 and C3500 printers.

2. New in Design & Controlled Print

2.1. Usability Improvements

2.1.1. Improved Transition from Labels to Solutions

NiceLabel Designer generates the default printing form for you. This can save a lot of time that would be spent on tedious tasks while configuring commonly used functions on each form, such as the **Print** button, Preview object, or input data objects. With all of these options configured for you automatically, you can provide printing solutions faster since you do not need to spend time on the customization of each form.

While form auto-generation was already introduced with the first release of NiceLabel 2017, this release streamlines the process within the PowerForms edition of NiceLabel 2017. You can now auto-generate new forms from the printing form template, explicitly set the default printing form, and make easy transitions between Label and Solution documents by simply adding a new form.

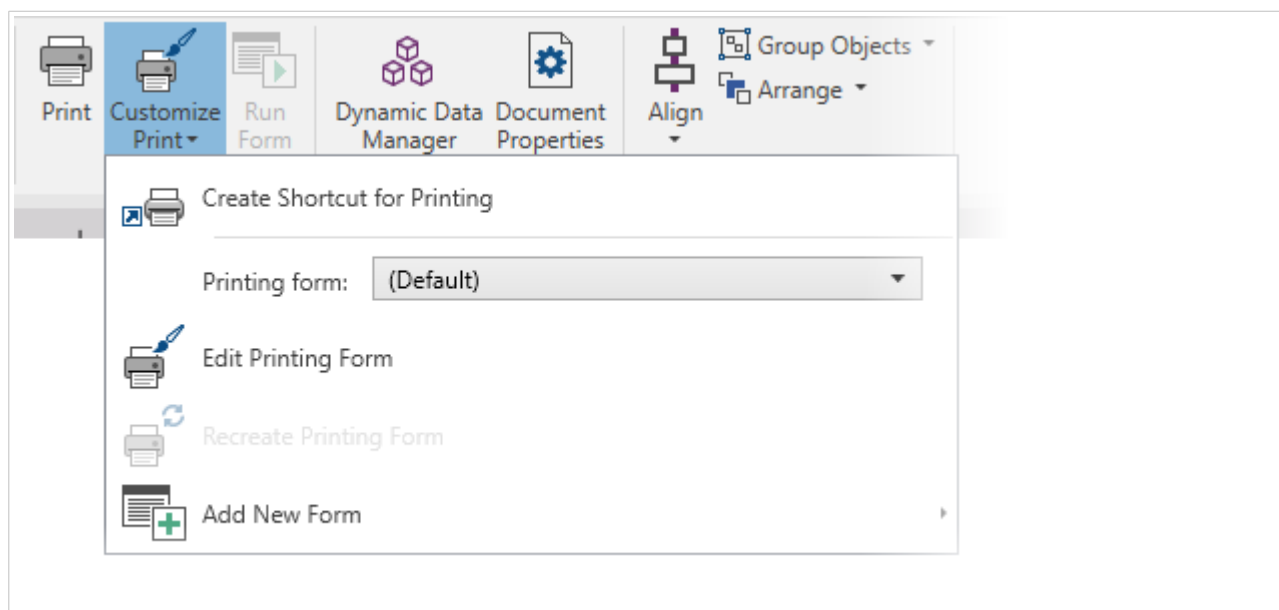


Figure 17: New print customization options

2.1.2. Extended Configuration Possibilities for Actions

The properties of all of the actions have been expanded to allow for greater customization and user control over actions.

Beginning with this release, you can rename the actions. You can use any name to describe what the actions do. In some solutions, you have to use many actions of the same type (such as Set variable or

Execute SQL statement) one after another. If they all share the same name, you really have to look up the properties of each action to see what it does exactly. If the action name already provides the description, the action list becomes much more self-explanatory and manageable.

The original action name is still displayed in each action's properties.

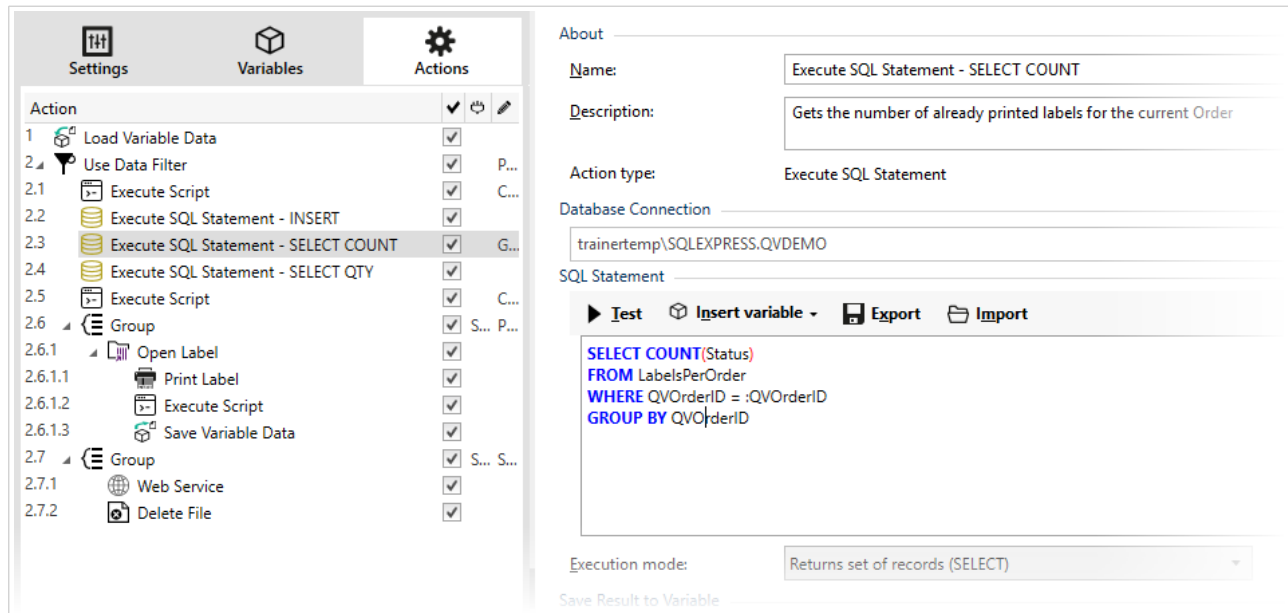


Figure 18: Additional configuration options in the action's properties

The action should use a short name to identify its functionality. For more description, this release also provides the actual Description field. Use it to document the action in greater depth. Such a description becomes important when multiple people work on the same solution, or when you have to modify the solution at a later time and need some quick reminder about what the action actually does.

The custom action name is also used in error messages and logs.

2.1.3. Updated Actions Editor UI

The Actions Editor remembers the user preferences for the next run of the NiceLabel 2017, not just within the current session. Each time you run Designer or Automation, the user interface retains the layout from the last time you used it. The settings are remembered for each user.

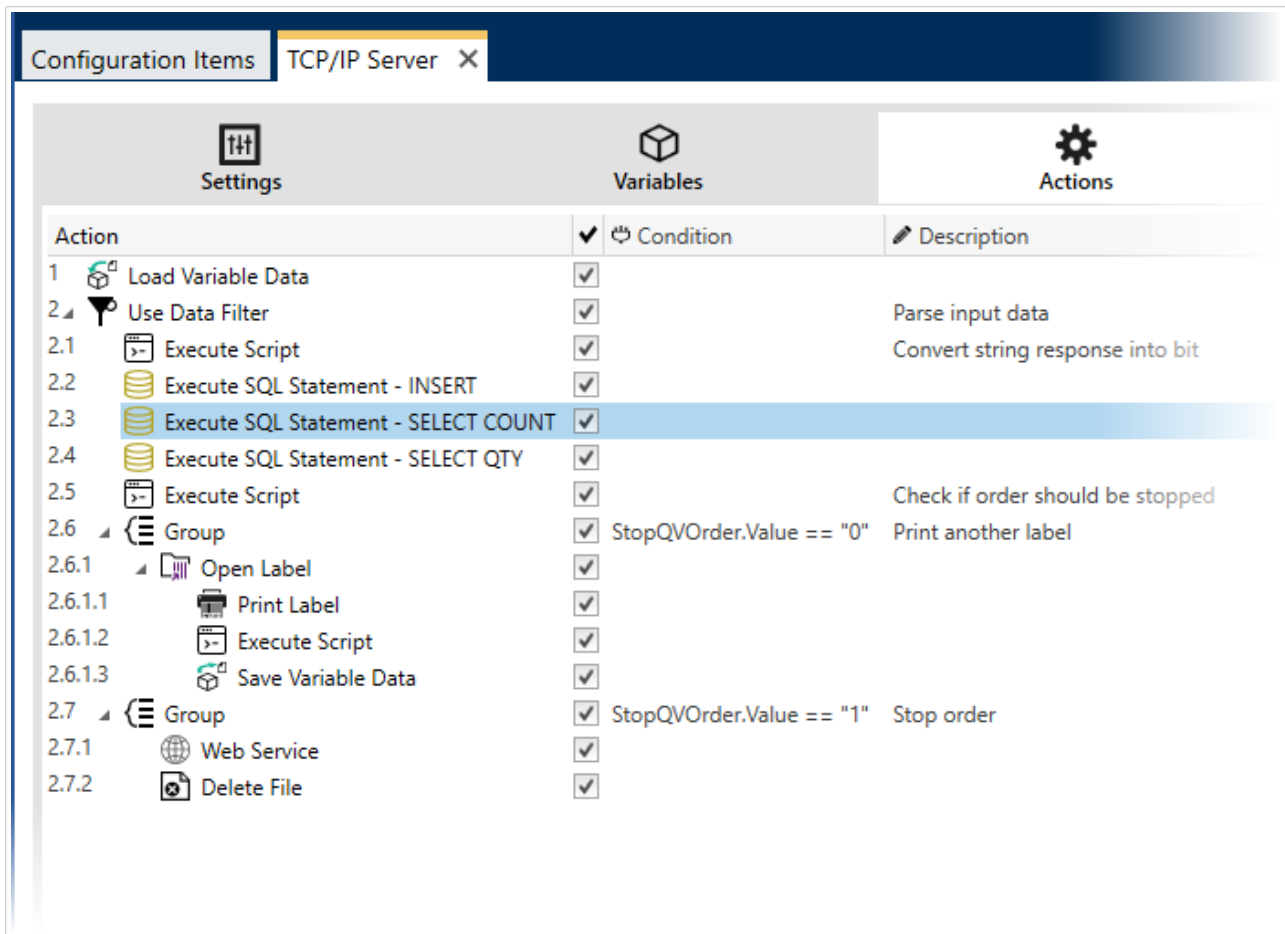


Figure 19: The important information displayed in the action list reduces the need to open the action properties dialog.

New features:

- **Action list shows Condition and Description fields.** Now, it's much easier to understand the complex action list as you see the description next to each action. Also, the visibility of the action condition immediately shows you when the action is configured to run.
- **Expanded/collapsed state of the action properties is remembered.** For example, if you expand the section "Show execution and error handling options", and open the action properties at a later time, the section remains expanded.
- **Width of columns is remembered.** Once you set a preferred width for the columns in the tree-list of actions, and for action properties, the setting is remembered until you change it. If you are low on space on your desktop, you can just temporarily expand the list.
- **Height of script and SQL editors is remembered.** When working with the built-in editor for VBScript/Python/SQL commands, you often enlarge the default height in order to accommodate its size to include more commands. The customized size of the editor is remembered the next time you open the actions editor.

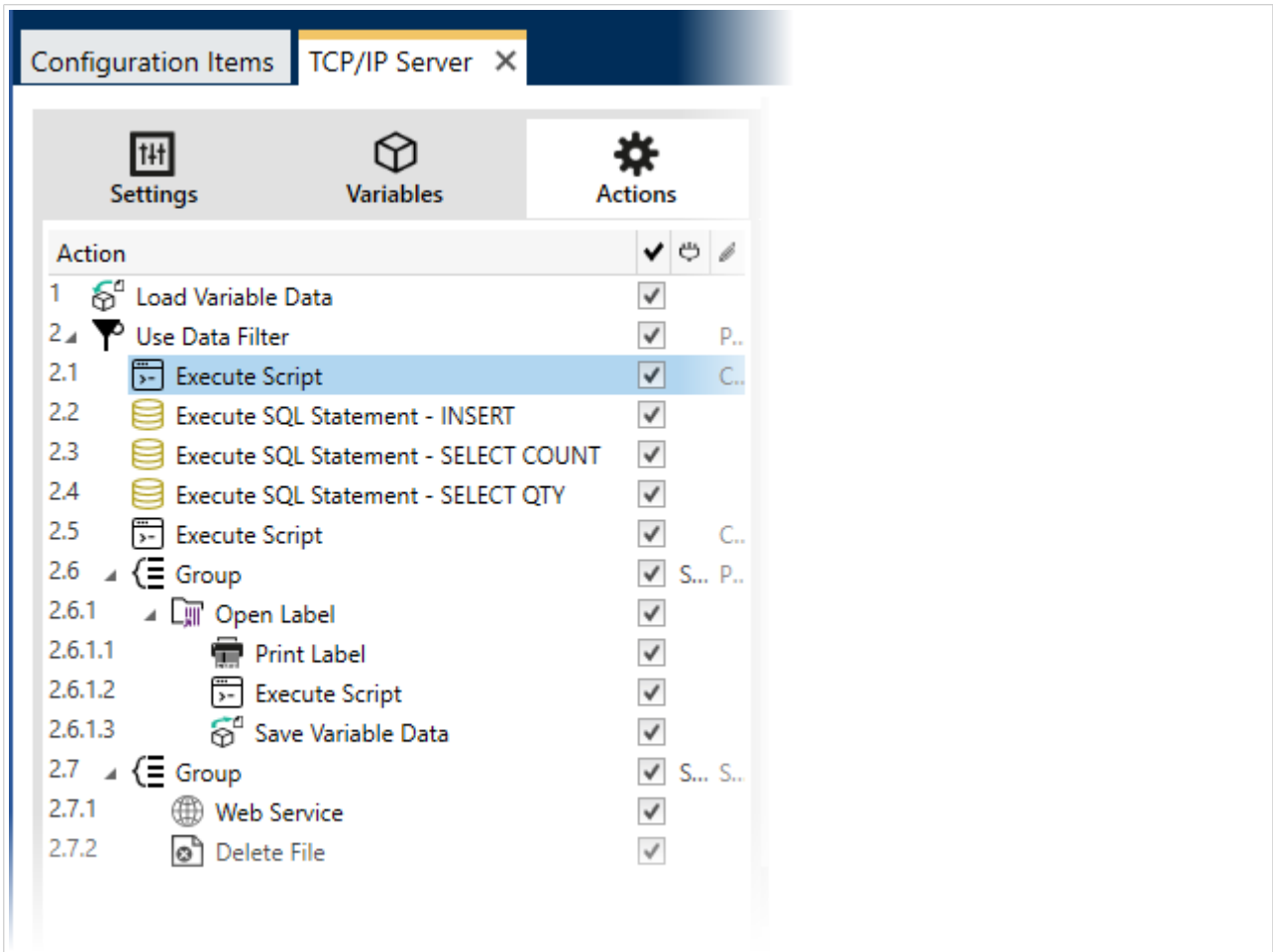


Figure 20: Collapsed view when Condition or Description details are not needed.

2.1.4. Unified Action Editor for Forms and Automation

Automation Builder provides the same Action Editor experience as previously available in NiceLabel Designer. Both applications share the same components with release 2017.1.

This includes:

- **Searchable list of actions.** NiceLabel software's number of available actions has grown quite high. Therefore, the search feature lets you quickly find the action by its name. You do not need to locate the action in the gallery.

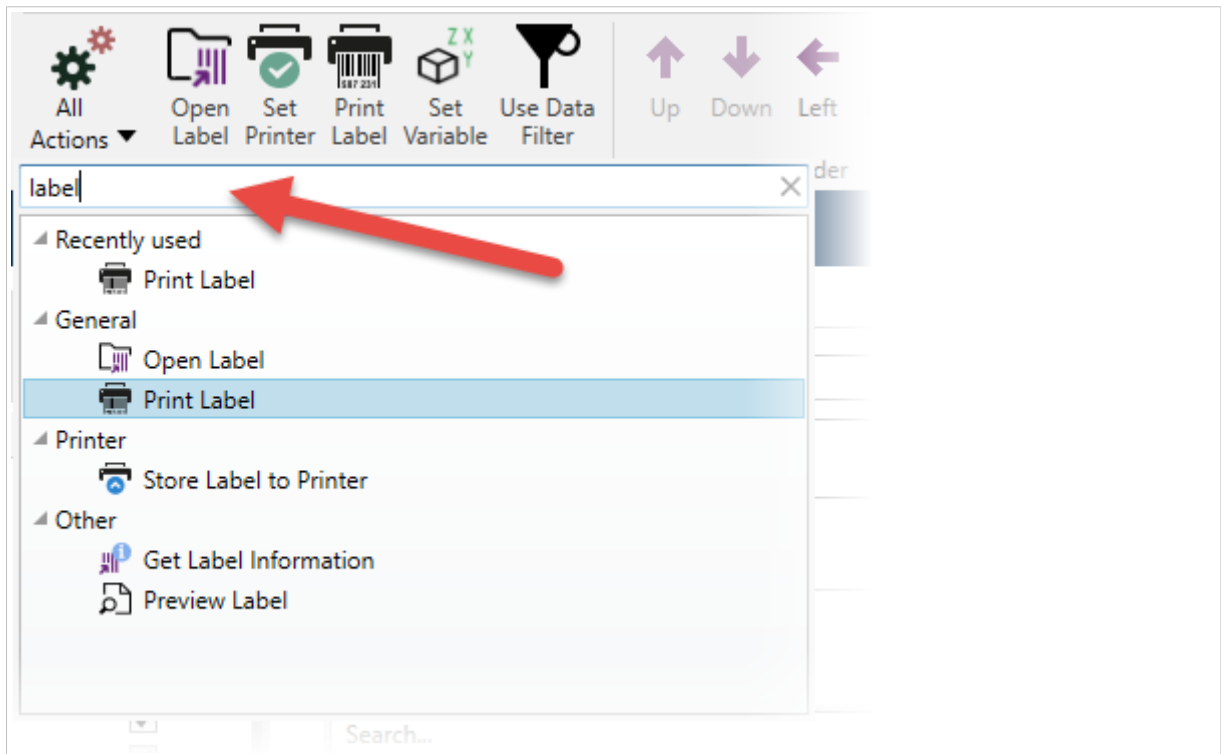


Figure 21: Searchable list of actions. In this case, displaying actions with the word “label” in their names.

- **List of recently used actions.** The Actions Editor remembers the recently used actions and displays them on top of the action list. You will likely use the same action again soon and when you do, it will be easy to select it.
- **Browsing for data source.** When connecting a data source to a specific action property, the similar data source browse experience as known from NiceLabel Designer is also available in Automation Builder. For long lists of data sources, you will appreciate the search functionality.

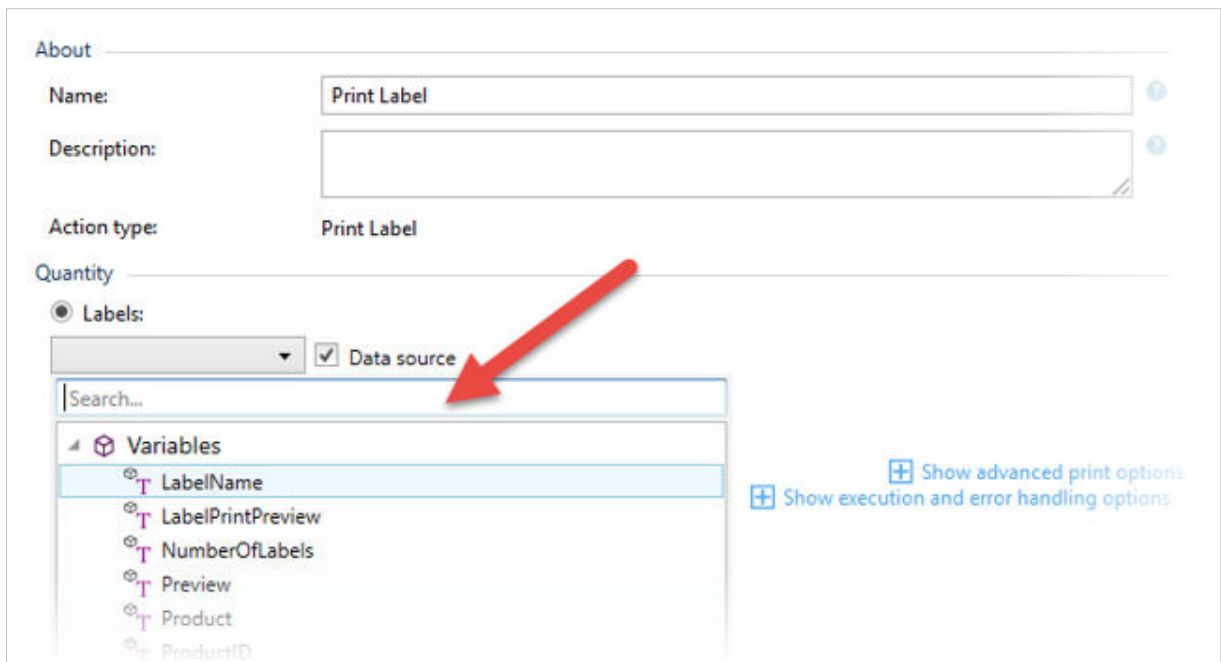


Figure 22: Selecting the data source in action properties.

- All additional Actions Editor enhancements are available in the 2017.1 release.

2.2. New Functionality

2.2.1. PDF Rendering improvements

The embedded PDF support within NiceLabel has been improved. The documents are now generated using editable objects and vector representations of linear barcodes. The benefits are higher quality output for text and barcodes, the ability to copy and paste contents out of the PDF, and a substantially smaller file size of the generated PDF. This becomes an important feature if your company operates a quality management system that archives PDF files of all the printed labels.

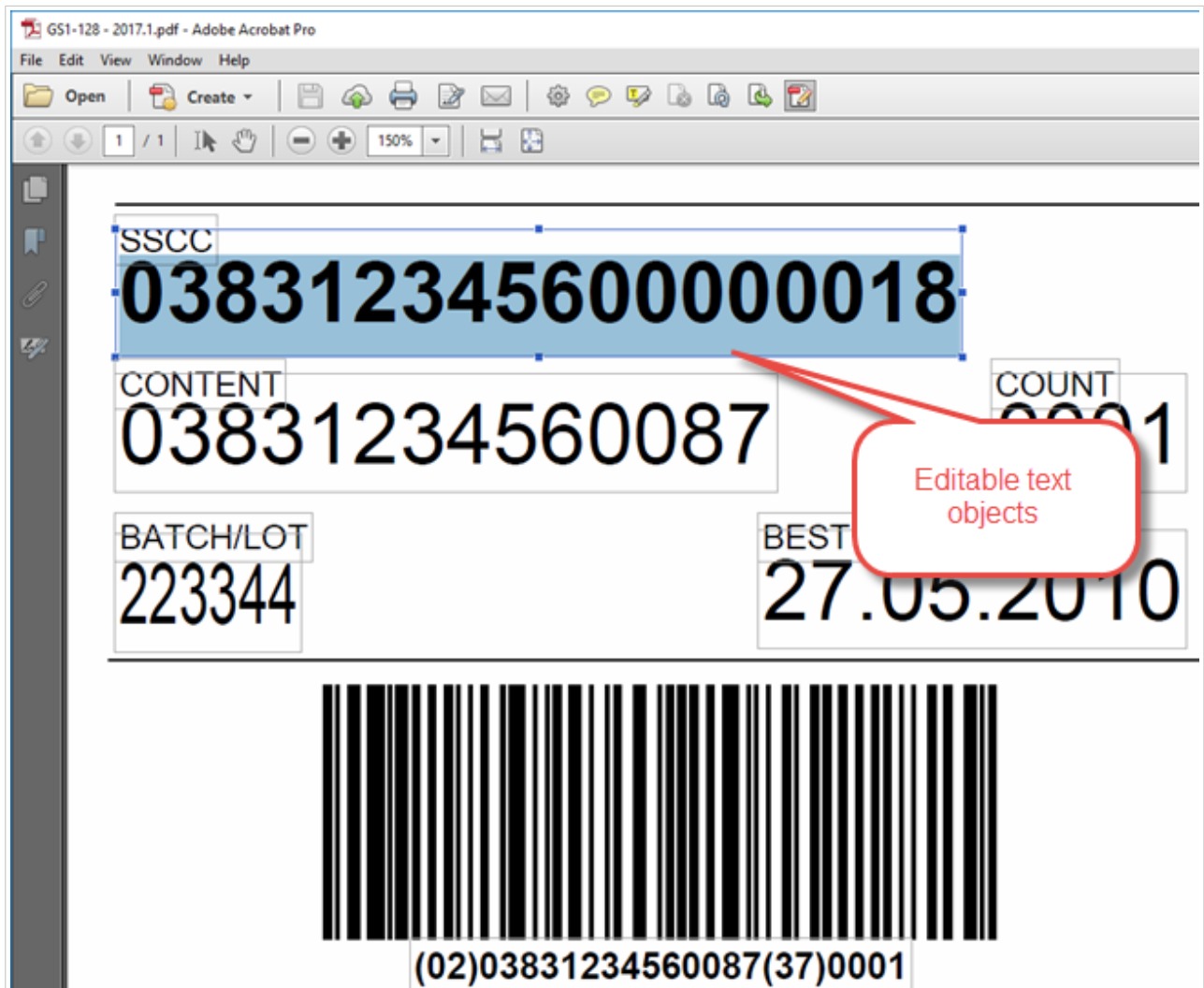


Figure 23: The text content is encoded as a string, not embedded as an image.



NOTE

Some elements, such as Text and Text Box objects that are using printer built-in fonts, Rich Text Box, Picture and Inverse objects, are still added to PDFs as graphics. This is done in order to match the outlook of the resulting PDF with the on-screen preview and to keep the proper object width and height. Users can still opt to use a single image in PDFs for each printed label for compatibility purposes.

2.2.2. New Action: Select Table Row

The new action **Select Table Row** allows the application designer to set the focus on a particular record inside a **Table** object. There are obvious possibilities to set the focus to, such as first record, last record, record #, but also a query option. In this case, you can move the focus to a record that matches a simple condition “field name = field value”.

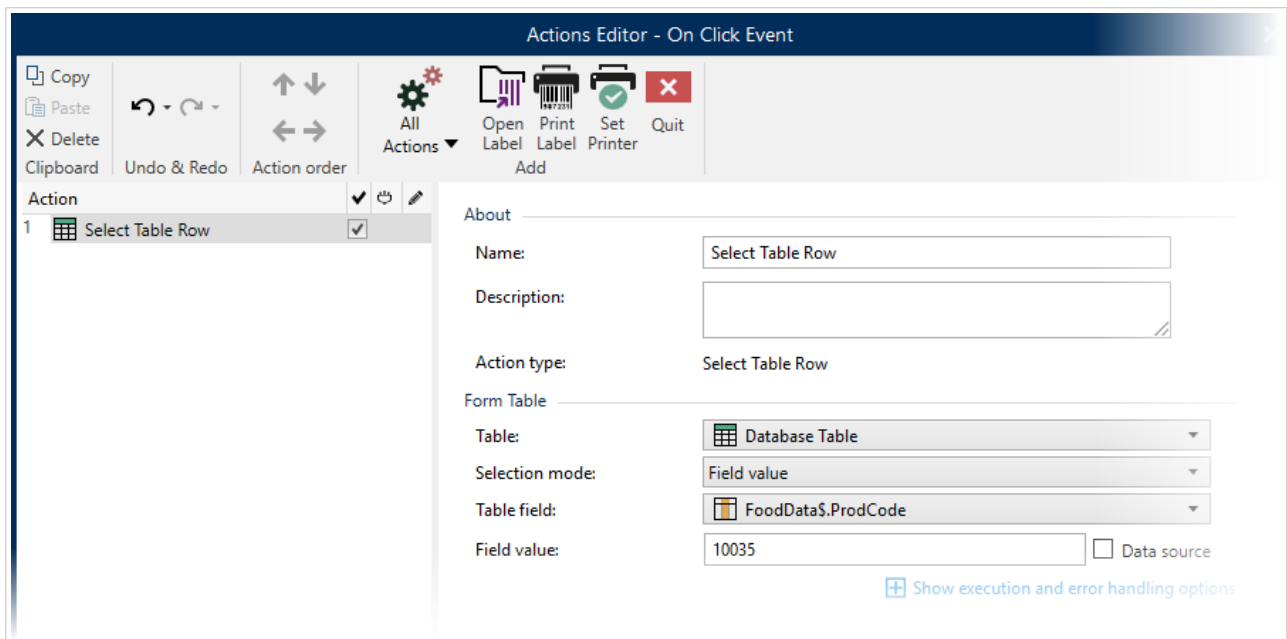


Figure 24: Setting focus to a table record matched by a value in the selected field.

For example, you have a printing form and a database management form. When you are done editing the product data and return to the printing form, the record you have just edited can be automatically selected in the Table object.

2.2.3. Form Debugger (BETA)

Form debugger is a great enhancement for anybody building advanced form applications. While you run and test the form application from the design environment, you can open a debugger in a new window. It allows you to:

- Track the current status of the application (e.g. current values of data sources).
- Execute all the actions step-by-step and evaluate the result of each action.
- Execute what-if analysis by changing the values of the data source on the fly.
- See the log of action execution and track their execution time for timing purposes.

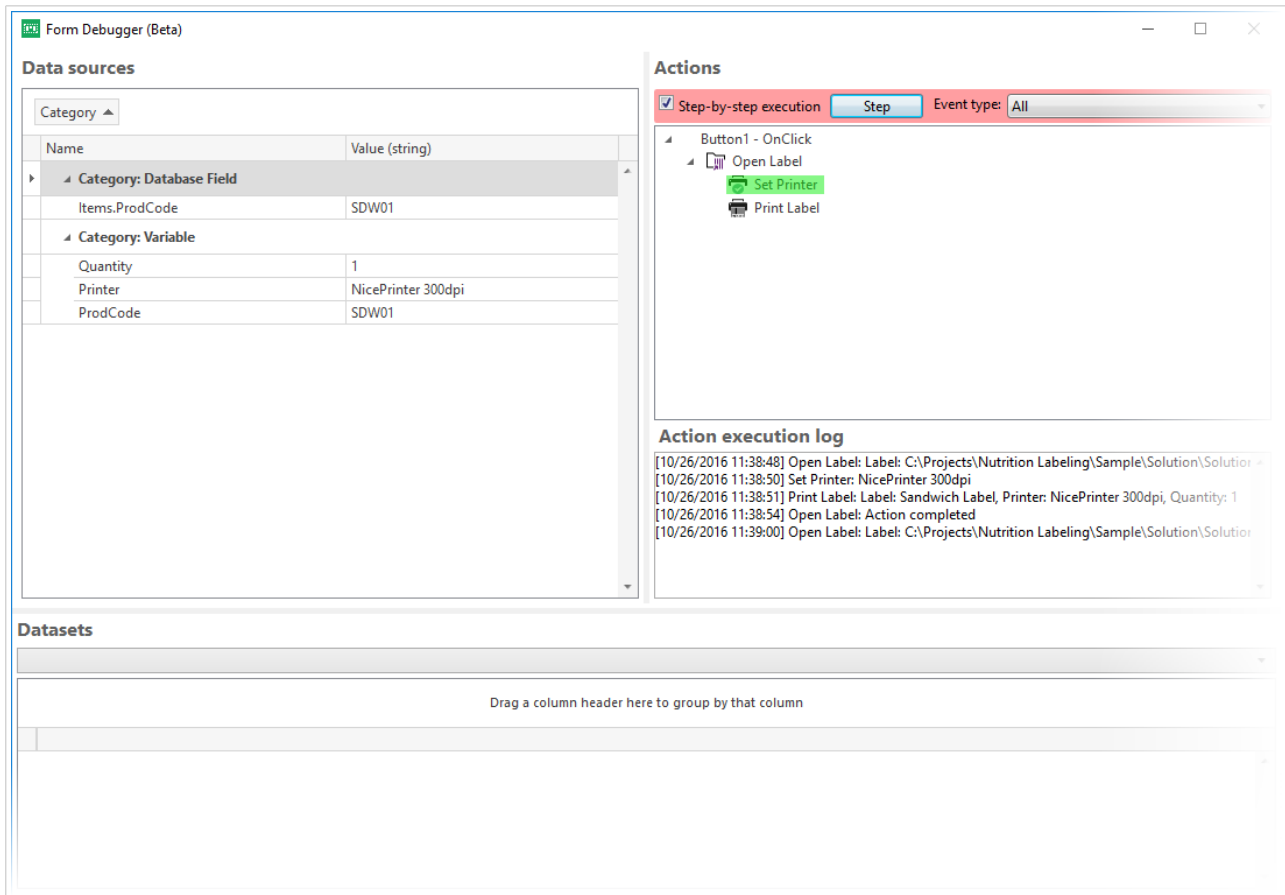


Figure 25: Track and update values of data sources and step-into list of actions.

You can open the Form Debugger by pressing a Ctrl + Shift + F12 key combination while you are running the form from the design environment. Form Debugger is not available in production environments. You can only run it during the solution development when you have read/write access to the solution file.

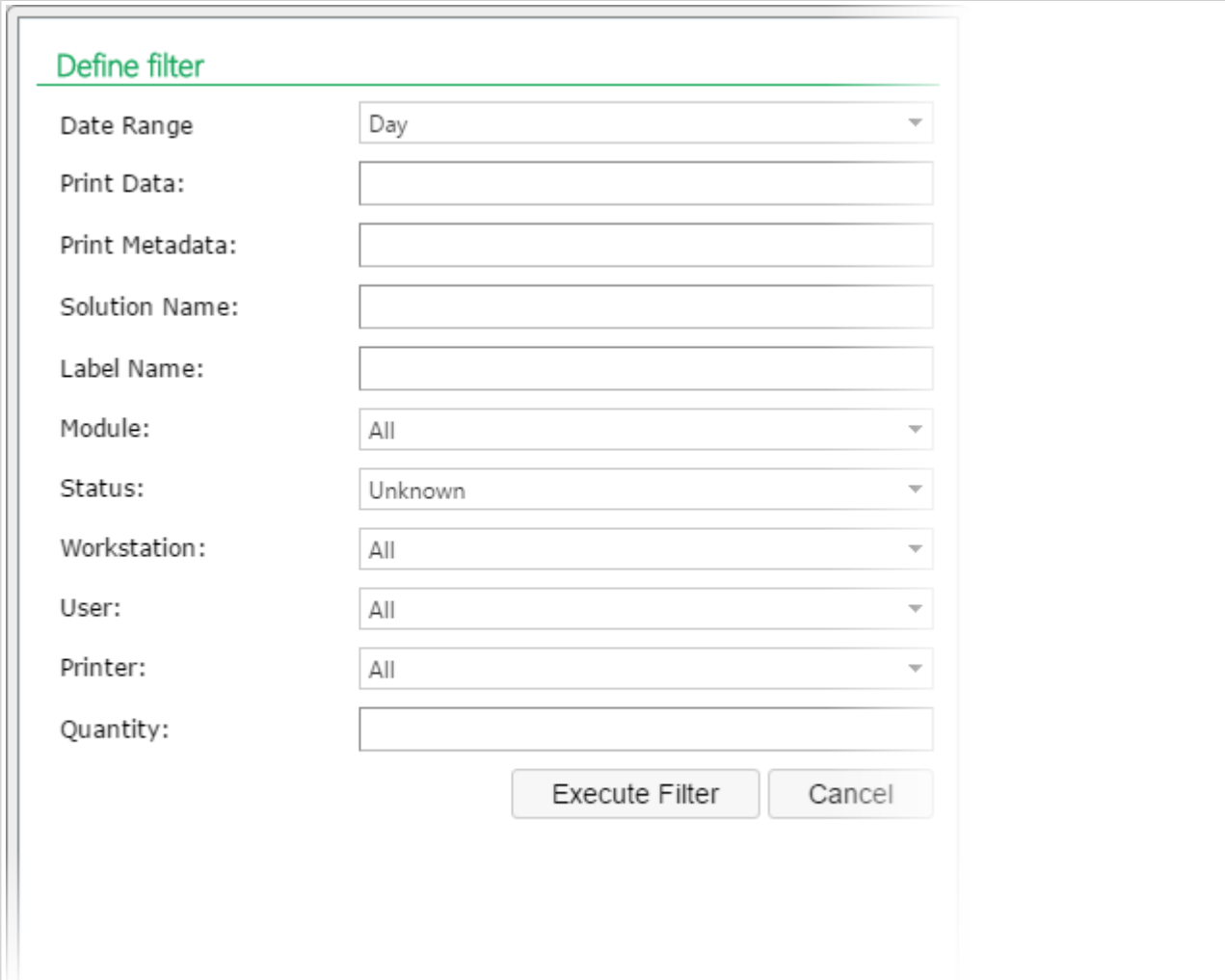
3. New in Managed Design & Controlled Print

3.1. Audit Trails

3.1.1. Updated Printing History

One of the most important aspects of LMS is that customers can clearly see what was printed, when and by whom. This allows them to monitor their complete printing operations. **Printing history provides a centralized, secure, and searchable repository for all relevant printing operations.** It is now positioned as the first information item you see when opening the History tab.

Printing history now includes a comprehensive **full-text search** for every parameter, including all of the data printed on the labels.



The image shows a 'Define filter' dialog box with the following fields and controls:

- Date Range:** A dropdown menu currently set to 'Day'.
- Print Data:** A text input field.
- Print Metadata:** A text input field.
- Solution Name:** A text input field.
- Label Name:** A text input field.
- Module:** A dropdown menu currently set to 'All'.
- Status:** A dropdown menu currently set to 'Unknown'.
- Workstation:** A dropdown menu currently set to 'All'.
- User:** A dropdown menu currently set to 'All'.
- Printer:** A dropdown menu currently set to 'All'.
- Quantity:** A text input field.

At the bottom of the dialog, there are two buttons: 'Execute Filter' and 'Cancel'.

Figure 26: Full-text search options in the filter dialog box.

Label preview for each printed label is now available for every print job. For serialized print jobs, users can use navigation control in order to visualize every printed label variation. This allows for the easy visualization of what was printed and provides a comprehensive electronic audit trail of printing history.

Details section additionally contains information about the time of printing, label revision, custom metadata, etc.

The screenshot shows the NiceLabel Control Center interface. The top navigation bar includes 'Overview', 'Print Management', 'Document Storage', 'History' (selected), 'Reports', 'Automation', and 'Administration'. A left sidebar contains 'History' (with sub-items: Printing, Errors, System, Alerts, All Activities) and 'Commands' (with sub-items: Additional Details, Reprint). The main content area is titled 'Activity details' and includes a navigation control (left arrow, right arrow, double left arrow, double right arrow) and a 'Label Print' button. Below this is a 'Details' section with the following information:

Status:	Error
Label Name:	http://trainertemp:8080/Samples/GS1-A4.nlbl
Label Revision:	2
Requested Quantity:	6
Begin Print Time:	10/21/2016 9:24:40 AM
End Print Time:	10/21/2016 9:24:41 AM
Printer:	Production01
Metadata:	
Workstation:	SASO10
User:	SASO

Below the details is a 'Label Jobs' section with a navigation control and the following information:

ID: 1
 Quantity: 6
 Status: Start spooling

Below this is a 'Variables' section with a table:

Type	Name	Value
Prompt	Batch or Lot number	223344
Prompt	Best Before Date (YYMMDD)	100527
Prompt	Count of Trade Items	0001
System clock	Date MM.DD.YYYY	27.05.2010
Prompt	Email	
Prompt	GTIN of Contained Trade Items	03831234560087
Prompt	Product_name	Crate X 1234/A
Prompt	SSCC (Serial Shipping Container Code)	0383123456000001

On the right side of the interface is a 'Label Preview' section showing a sample label for 'Crate X 1234/A'. The label contains the following information:

SSCC
03831234560000018

CONTENT
03831234560087 COUNT
 0001

BATCH/LOT
223344 BEST BEFORE
 27.05.2010

Below the text is a barcode with the following information below it: (02)03831234560087(37)0001

Figure 27: New updated navigation and label preview in printing events History.

Starting with release 2017.1, the history data for each label print can contain an additional **customer configurable metadata** field. This field is saved into the history event along with other data provided by the system and is also fully indexed and searchable.

Metadata content can be a custom string of any structure. The main purpose of the metadata is to link non-printing data with the print event and to provide the ability to search for logged events for that specific piece of data. For example, SAP users might choose to log the sap user who initiated the printing through the Automation integration platform. Metadata is logged in a separate field in the database and is shown as a column on the Printing activities page.

The metadata is configurable as a new parameter of the "Print Label" action in the PowerForms application or Automation configuration. It can be configured to include various combinations of fixed and variable data.

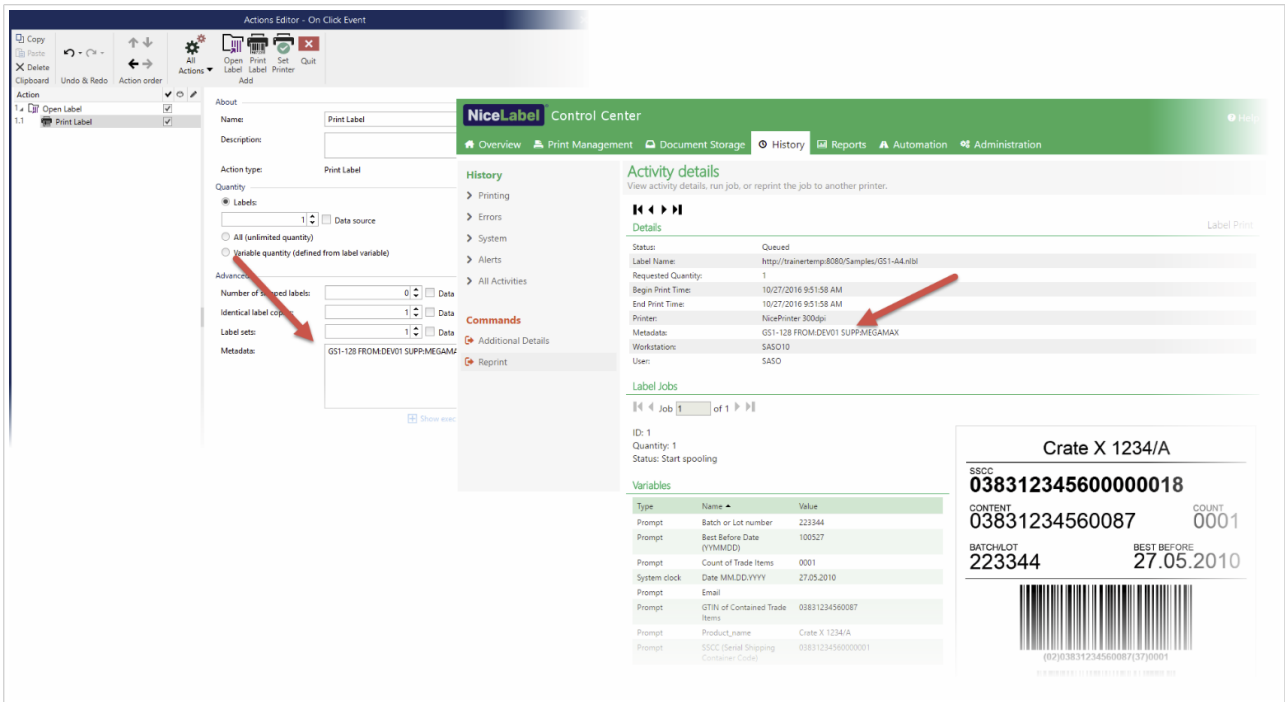


Figure 28: Metadata provided at a print time is stored with the printed event data in the Control Center.

3.1.2. Logging of All Relevant System Events

The new System group in the History tab provides a consolidated overview of all the relevant system security events.

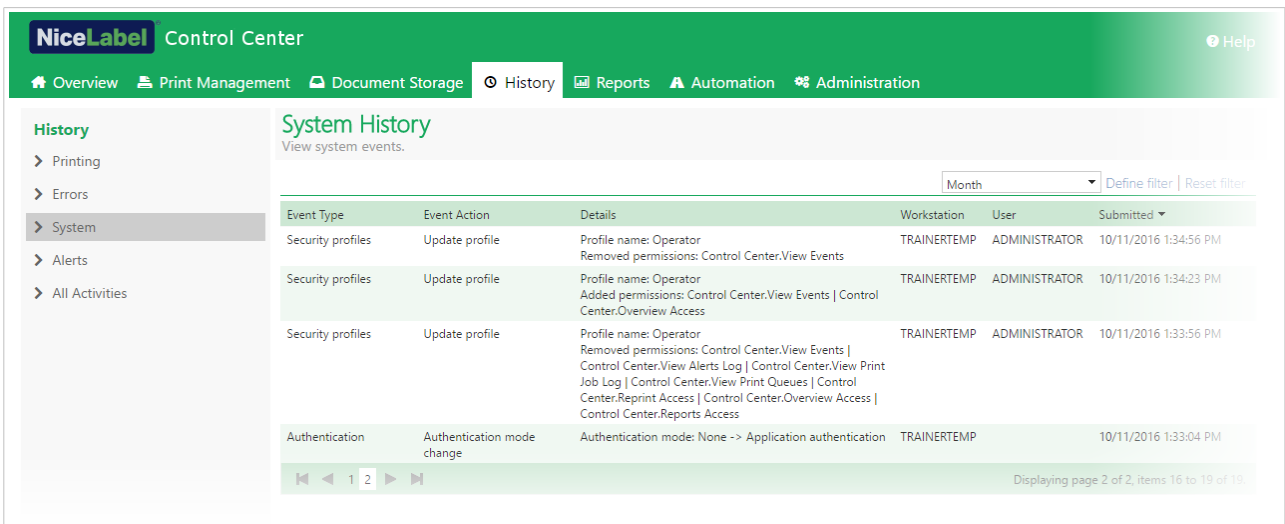


Figure 29: Log of system events in the Control Center

The following activities are logged:

- Login of clients (NiceLabel Designer, NiceLabel Print, NiceLabel Web Printing client):
Login is also logged if an incorrect password is entered.

Login is also logged if the user does not have the permission to start the program.
Login is also logged if a non-existing user tries to log in.

- Printer group:
Is added, deleted, or edited.
Printer is added or removed from a group.
- Authentication mode change.
- Security profile:
Security profile is added, deleted, or edited.
Member is added or removed from a profile.
- Users and Groups:
Users and Groups are added, deleted, or edited.
User is added or removed from a group.
- Web client:
Client is added, deleted, or edited.
- Versioning and workflow:
Versioning and workflow are enabled or have a changed setting.

3.1.3. Logging of Custom Events

The new action Log Event that is available for Forms and Automation is used for logging the custom events into the Control Center history. The **History** tab shows such custom events inside the **All Activities** view.

The screenshot shows the configuration for a 'Log event' action. On the left, an 'Action' list contains one item: 'Log event'. The main configuration area is titled 'About' and contains the following fields:

- Name:** Log event
- Description:** Logs data in the custom event in Control Center
- Action type:** Log event

Below the 'About' section is the 'Event Data' section, which includes:

- Information:** This is information. A warning below the field states: 'Warning: the length of this field is limited to 255 characters. Text will be truncated if it exceeds maximum allowed length.'
- Details:** This is details. A warning below the field states: 'Warning: the length of this field is limited to 2000 characters. Text will be truncated if it exceeds maximum allowed length.'

At the bottom right of the configuration area, there is a link: [Show execution and error handling options](#).

Figure 30: Custom log event defined with **Log event** action

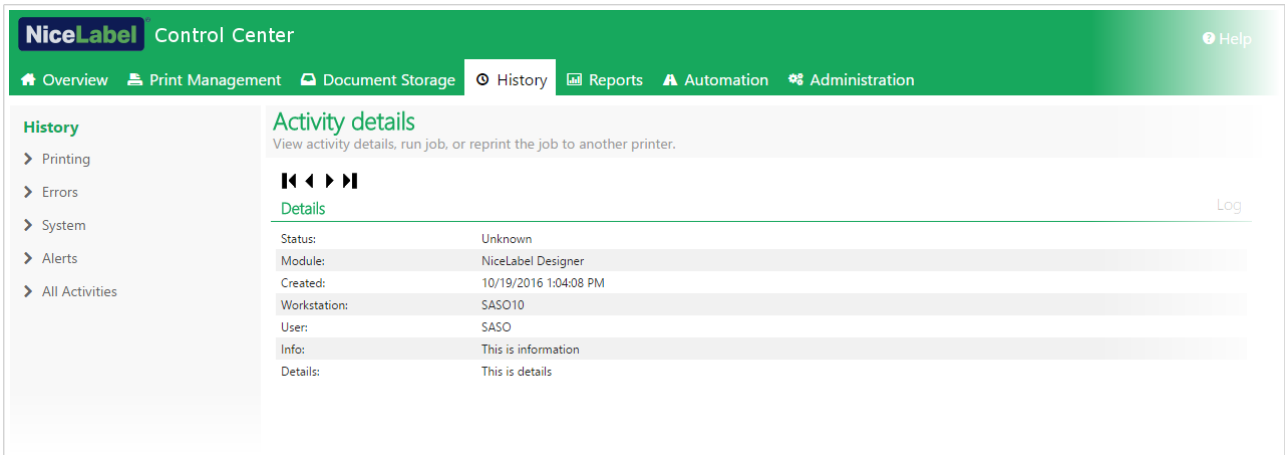


Figure 31: Custom log event sent from PowerForms application or Automation trigger.

The event logs the origin (workstation name, user name) and custom **Info** and **Details** fields.

3.2. Document Management System (DMS)

3.2.1. Streamlined integration of DMS with Designer environment



NOTE

LMS Enterprise product level is required for this feature.

The revision control system in the Control Center is designed for multi-user environments and supports concurrent operations on the files inside the Document Storage. While a certain file revision is in use in the production environment, the changes can already be applied to the next revision.

To prevent changes on a file that is done by more than one designer at the same time, the file locking system is in place. When a designer needs to update the design of the existing label or update the print application, they have to reserve the file for themselves. The file is checked out. During this time, the currently approved file revision can still be used uninterruptedly on the shop floor. When the designer is finished with the updates, they must submit the new file version back to Document Storage. The file is checked-in.

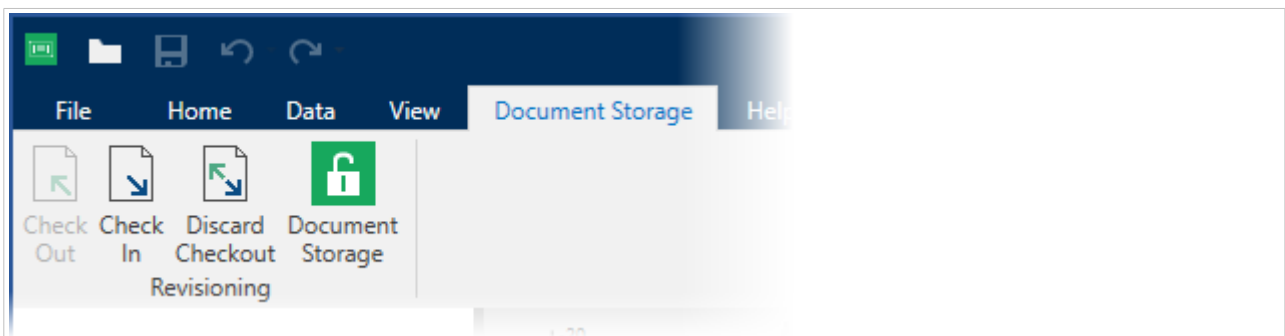


Figure 32: Document management controls in NiceLabel Designer.

With release 2017.1, the check-in and check-out operations can be accomplished directly from Designer. Designer introduces a new ribbon named “Document Storage”. It allows you to quickly manage check-in and check-out operations and to access this particular document in the Document Storage.

A new shortcut to the Document Storage is also available when selecting the **File > Open** command.

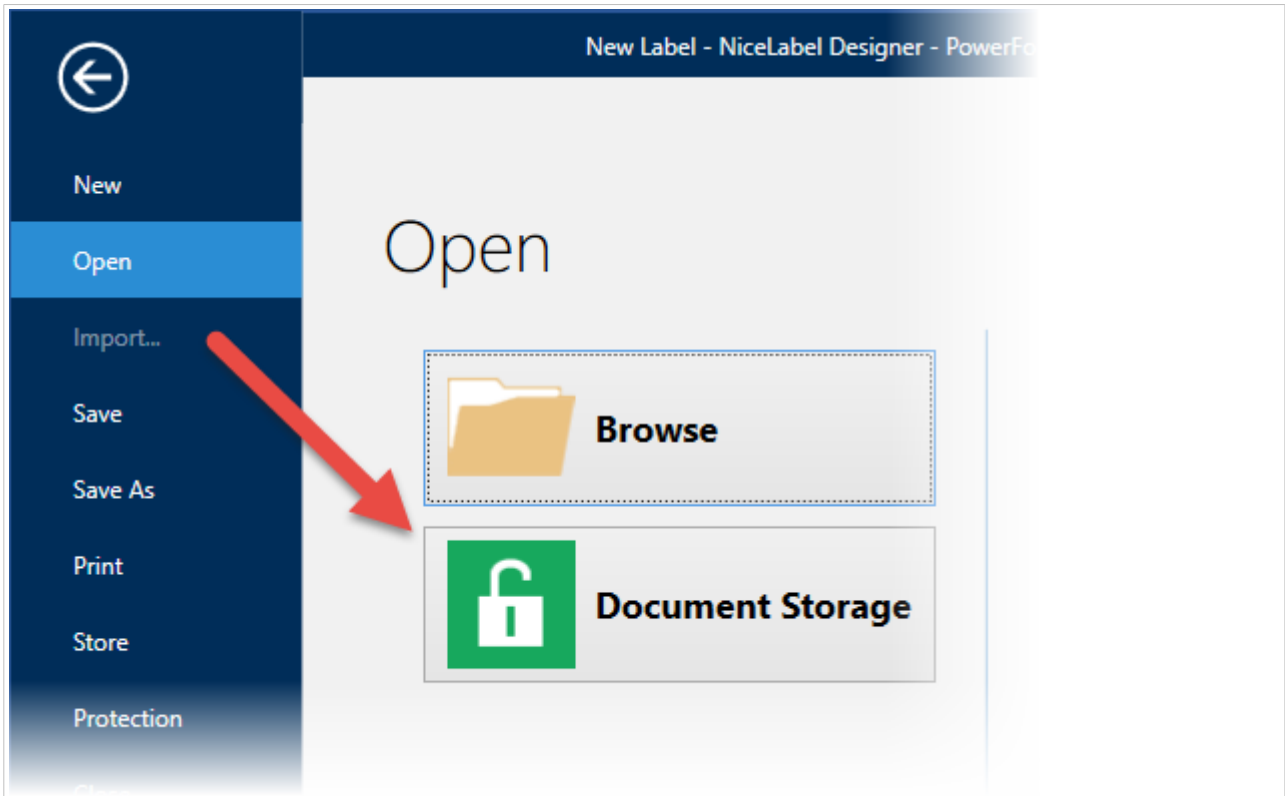


Figure 33: Quick Document Storage access from Designer.

When opening a document from Document Storage without checking it out, the document remains in the locked read-only state and modification is not possible. For each check-in, a mandatory comment must be provided.

3.2.2. Improved Email Notifications for Document Approvals



NOTE

You need the product LMS Enterprise.

When the workflow step for a particular file is changed, the Control Center can be configured to send out email alerts notifying the relevant users regarding the next action needed.

In this release, the notification email contains the comment of the user that changed the last workflow step. For example, if the approver has rejected the label change, the designer will receive the notification

email and will learn about the necessary changes while reading the email. Of course, the same information is logged into the system, but the designer does not have to look for it and that saves time.

The email also contains a link directly to the file in Document Storage for easier access.

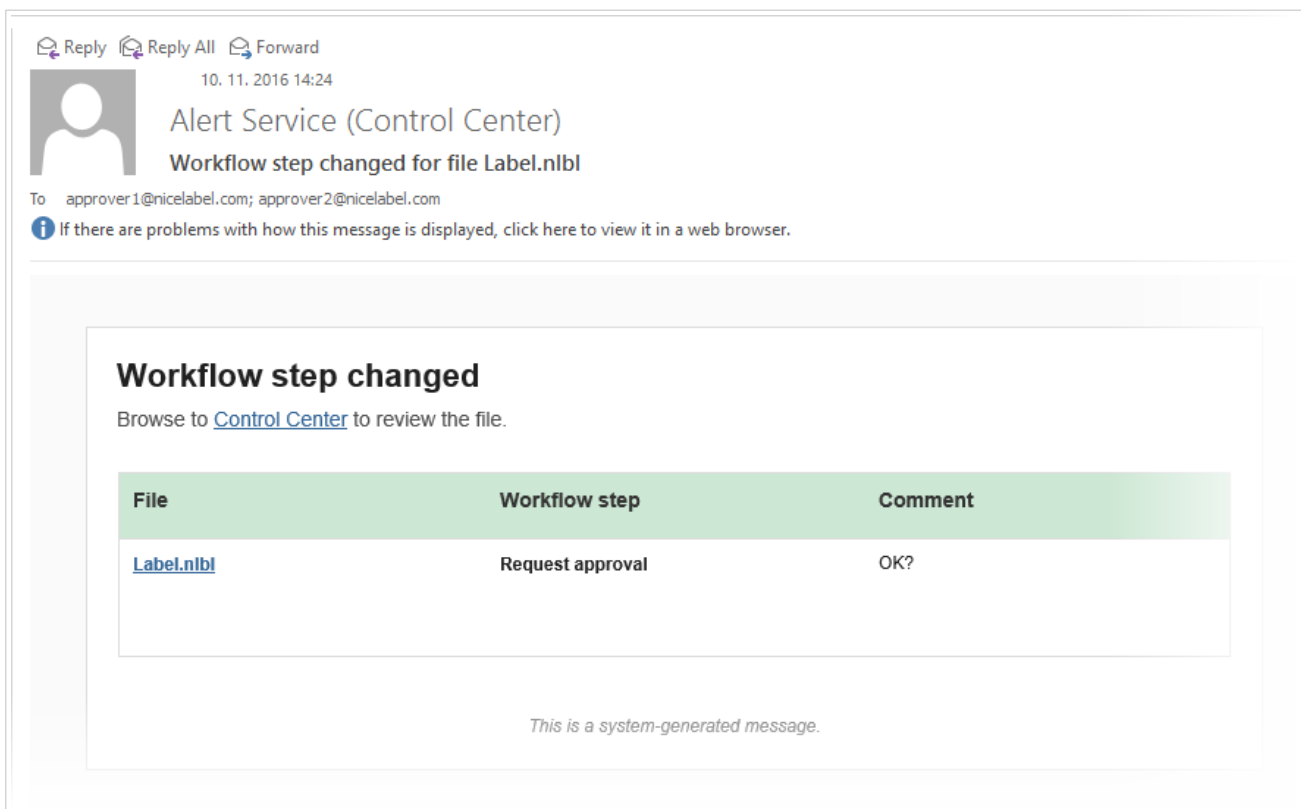


Figure 34: The email contains a link to the file in the Document Storage

3.2.3. Improved Label Report with Workflow Information




NOTE

LMS Enterprise product level is required for this feature.

When you generate a label report, it also contains the complete workflow log for the current file revision. The workflow step log information is added before the label content information.

This helps customers easily understand the state of the label and who was involved in the label design and approval process.

Label name: http://TRAINERTEMP:8080/Approval Workflow - Simple/Approved.nlbl
Author:
Title:
Description:
Revision number: 1
Committed by:
Commit comment: Initial version
Printer name: CAB XC4/300
Printer driver: CAB XC4/300
Label dimensions (width, height): 100 mm, 70 mm
Workflow step: Approved



Workflow step log

Date	User	Data	Comment
7/27/2016 6:52:56 PM	designer	Draft -> Request approval Workflow: Label production approval process	Labels created per specifications.
7/27/2016 6:54:13 PM	approver	Request approval -> Approved Workflow: Label production approval process	Approved!

Text fields

Name	Font	Size	Content
Text	Arial	36,9 pt	SAMPLE
Text_1	Arial	28 pt	

Bar codes

Name	Type	Content
Barcode	Code128	123456789012
Barcode_1	QR	NiceLabel

Figure 35: Label Report additionally contains information about the current workflow status.

3.2.4. Better Visibility of Configured Approval Workflows



NOTE

LMS Enterprise product level is required for this feature.

The Control Center ships with a few predefined approval workflows that are typically used in regulated environments. In this release, the configuration page shows the definition of available workflows.

Each workflow process shows the available steps as well as:

- A list of the possible next steps.
- Definition of the initial step.
- Is the digital signature enabled?
- Does the step require a unique user?
- Each available next step has a list of security profiles that can execute the step change.

Document Storage Versioning and Workflows

Manage settings for Versioning and Workflows on document storage

Available Workflows

Name	Description																																																
[-] Label production approval process	The documents will go through the classical approval process.																																																
<table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Step Name</th><th>State</th><th>Initial Step</th><th>Digital Signature</th><th>Notification Emails</th><th></th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>[+] Draft</td><td>Working</td><td>Yes</td><td>No</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>[-] Request approval</td><td>Locked</td><td>No</td><td>No</td><td>approver1@nicelabel.com; approver2@nicelabel.com</td><td></td></tr><tr><td colspan="3"><table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Next Step</th><th>Authorized Profiles</th><th>Automatic Transition</th><th>Unique User</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Approved</td><td>Approver</td><td>No</td><td>No</td></tr><tr><td>Rejected</td><td>Approver</td><td>No</td><td>No</td></tr></tbody></table></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>[+] Approved</td><td>Published</td><td>No</td><td>No</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>[+] Rejected</td><td>Working</td><td>No</td><td>No</td><td>designer@nicelabel.com</td><td></td></tr></tbody></table>			Step Name	State	Initial Step	Digital Signature	Notification Emails		[+] Draft	Working	Yes	No			[-] Request approval	Locked	No	No	approver1@nicelabel.com; approver2@nicelabel.com		<table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Next Step</th><th>Authorized Profiles</th><th>Automatic Transition</th><th>Unique User</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Approved</td><td>Approver</td><td>No</td><td>No</td></tr><tr><td>Rejected</td><td>Approver</td><td>No</td><td>No</td></tr></tbody></table>			Next Step	Authorized Profiles	Automatic Transition	Unique User	Approved	Approver	No	No	Rejected	Approver	No	No			[+] Approved	Published	No	No			[+] Rejected	Working	No	No	designer@nicelabel.com	
Step Name	State	Initial Step	Digital Signature	Notification Emails																																													
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[-] Request approval	Locked	No	No	approver1@nicelabel.com; approver2@nicelabel.com																																													
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Next Step	Authorized Profiles	Automatic Transition	Unique User																																														
Approved	Approver	No	No																																														
Rejected	Approver	No	No																																														
[+] Approved	Published	No	No																																														
[+] Rejected	Working	No	No	designer@nicelabel.com																																													
[+] Two step label production approval process	The documents will go through two step approval process. Two unique reviewers must approve the document.																																																
[+] Label production approval process with delayed publishing	The documents will go through the approval process. Documents can be scheduled for publishing at a later time.																																																

Figure 36: The structure of each workflow process is available.

3.2.5. Selective Synchronization of Documents



NOTE

LMS Enterprise product level is required for this feature.

The Control Center supports the CTS (Change and Transport System), which allows you to synchronize the changes from master Document Storage with subordinate Document Storage. The CTS is used to synchronize the approved centrally managed files from HQ to the remote offices/shop floors/packaging environments, or to promote files in multi-tier environments (development > quality assurance > production).

You might not want to synchronize the entire Document Storage. In this release, you can select the individual folders on the root level or deeper in the folder structure. The synchronization will only transfer changes from the selected folders.

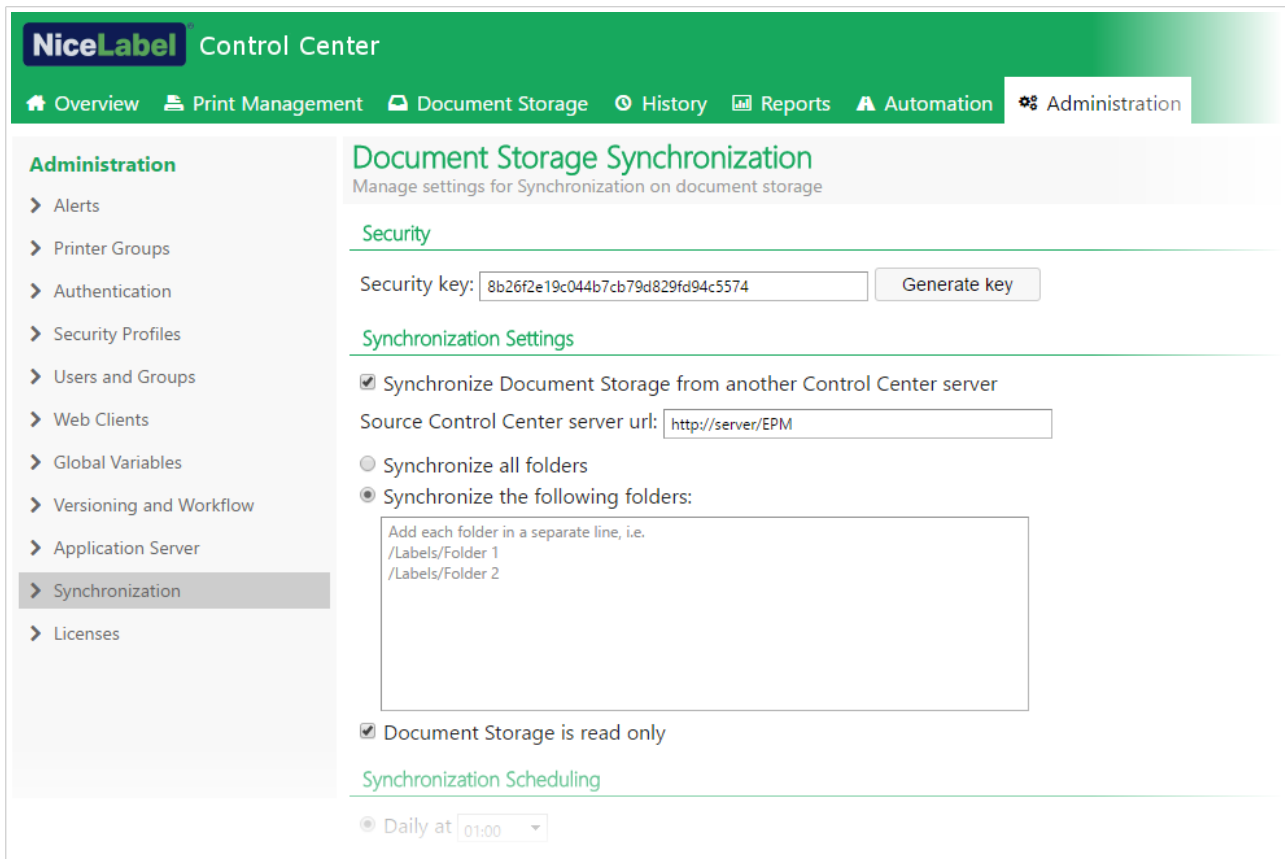


Figure 37: Synchronization can include only specified folders.

3.2.6. Support for Local and Global Content Management



NOTE

LMS Enterprise product level is required for this feature.

In the previous version of NiceLabel 2017, when Document Storage synchronization was enabled, the approved files were synchronized to the destination Document Storage. This in turn made them accessible in read-only mode. No design changes were permitted in the destination Document Storage.

This release adds the possibility to disable read-only access in the destination Document Storage in order to be able to manage the available content both Locally and Globally. The folders selected for synchronization are still subject to the synchronization rules, but you can use other folders to manage the additional local content. The access type to the Document Storage is configurable per user and per folder using the role based access control (RBAC).

For example, if a customer has multiple locations where they produce equal products, but each site also produces some site specific products, the new setup allows them to centrally control and use the same assets for labeling the shared product, and to use the same system to effectively manage assets for labeling the locally produced products.

3.2.7. Configurable Access to Non-Published Files for Web Printing



NOTE

LMS Enterprise product level is required for this feature.

The web printing platform now allows configuring users that are allowed to access and print the non-published files. This streamlines the label and solution design and deployment since a designer can test the solution with a test account before it is actually submitted for approval, or is approved for production.

Edit client

Username: Windows user

Password:

Confirm password:

E-Mail:

Solution: ...

Variables:

Limit number of printers

Number of printers:

IP filter:

Log printing activities

Allow access to non-published files

Active

OK Cancel

Figure 38: The web printing client used for development/testing may be granted access to non-published files.

3.2.8. Search and Indexing for Labels Stored in Solutions

The search functionality inside Document Storage has been expanded to include labels that are stored in solution files.

With the previous release, you could already search for labels stored as stand-alone .LBL or .NLBL files. In this release, the labels that are saved inside .NSLN solution files are also indexed by their metadata and structure and are included in the overall search.

3.2.9. Enhanced HTTP Support for Connecting to Document Storage

Document management system provided by the Document Storage in the Control Center is a web based repository. The files are accessible over standard WebDAV technology using two different syntaxes.

You can use:

- HTTP syntax. In this case, the files on the server named "SERVER" are accessible as:
<http://server:8080/Folder/label.nlbl>
- UNC syntax. In this case, the files on the server named "SERVER" are accessible as:
[\\server@8080\davwwwroot\folder\label.nlbl](http://server:8080/davwwwroot/folder/label.nlbl)

The majority of actions in NiceLabel 2017 have been reconfigured to support HTTP syntax. This is a default access type that is used in the software.

There are only a handful of actions that require UNC syntax. These are Open document/program, Redirect printing to file, and Redirect printing to PDF. Form objects that require UNC syntax are Combo Box, List Box, and Radio Button Group.

4. Programmable Integration

4.1. New in .NET API: SaveAs Method for ILabel Interface



NOTE

.NET API is available in PowerForms Suite and LMS editions.

NiceLabel Print Engine exposes a new method named SaveAs in the ILabel interface.

Use the new method to:

- Save the document after changing some of the properties programmatically, such as a database connection string or table name.
- Save a legacy NiceLabel 6 (.LBL) label template to the NiceLabel 2017 (.NLBL) file format.
- Convert the .LBL and .NLBL files into solution file format (.NLSN).

4.2. NiceLabel SDK

NiceLabel SDK on the 2017 platform is now available for Developer partners. SDK is a standalone version of .NET API with a streamlined distribution model for software vendors. Visit the NiceLabel web page or consult your NiceLabel sales representative to learn more.

5. Adopting NiceLabel 2017

5.1. Ready for Windows 10/Windows 10 Certification

NiceLabel 2017 has achieved Windows 10 certification. This ensures that NiceLabel applications are compatible with Windows 10 now and will remain so in the future.

5.2. Multi-user Licensing Enabled for Large-scale Networks

Multi-user licenses (such as those used for NiceLabel LMS Enterprise or NiceLabel PowerForms Suite products) are no longer locked to a single domain. If you set up security across multiple domains using the trust relationship in Active Directory, you can share the same multi-user license across these domains.

With LMS products, all users benefit from using the same Control Center. They all work with the same document management system and use the same history event consolidation system.

5.3. NiceLabel 2017 Label Converter

The free label converter utility is now available from the NiceLabel website. It allows for the automatic conversion of batches of labels created using NiceLabel V5 or V6 in .LBL to the new 2017 .NLBL format. This helps customers ensure their migration readiness and streamline the migration process.

5.4. Localized NiceLabel 2017 Documents

NiceLabel 2017 documentation (built-in help, user guides, and installation guides) is now available in multiple languages, including Chinese (Simplified)*, English, French, German, Italian, and Spanish.

* NiceLabel 2017 Designer help and user guide, and NiceLabel 2017 installation guide only.