EFI Metrix Release Notes

Version 21.2.0.469

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EFI Metrix 21.2 | *EFI Metrix Release Notes*

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Welcome to Metrix 21.2

EFI Metrix is an industry-leading job planning engine that transforms big data into actionable data in the most proven end-to-end integrated solution with a holistic view into manufacturing. With over 1,200 Metrix users in 25 countries and 14 years of continuous, aggressive development, Metrix is recognized as the de facto industry standard for dynamic, intelligent production planning, and automated imposition. Metrix 21.2 introduces new features and enhancements and addresses issues found in previous releases.

Contact Information

EFI Support

Web Site:	communities.efi.com
US Phone:	1.855.EFI.4HLP (1.855.334.4457)
UK Phone:	+44 (0) 800.783.2737
EU Phone:	+49.2102.745.4500
E-Mail:	metrix.support@efi.com

Metrix Support hours are 8AM CET to 5pm ET Monday – Friday. You may contact support at the above numbers or via our customer portal at communities.efi.com.

Note	For problems involving infrastructure (e.g., computers, networks, operating systems, backup software, printers, third-party software, etc.), contact the appropriate vendor. EFI cannot support these types of issues.

EFI Professional Services

US Phone:	(651) 365-5321
US Fax:	(651) 365-5334
E-Mail:	ProfessionalServicesOperations@efi.com
Notes	EFI Professional Services can help you perform EFI software installations, upgrades, and updates. This group can also help you implement, customize, and optimize your EFI software plus offer a range of training options.

System Requirements

Please ensure your system is running one of the supported operating systems listed below before beginning the installation process.

Metrix 21.2 system requirements:

- Metrix 21.2 requires 64-bit systems. It will **not** run on 32-bit systems.

- Metrix now supports Mac OS 11* and OS X 10.15 (Catalina)

Notes	*Metrix now uses a different PDF renderer for creating previews. On Mac OS 11, there were performance issues with the old renderer. The new one does not have a negative impact on performance, but the quality of the previews is not as good, especially for text. Contact Metrix Support if this is problematic for you; they can provide instructions on how to force Metrix to use the old PDF renderer.
	Metrix 21.2 does not support Mac Retina displays at this time. UI elements may appear at a lower resolution than expected, but this does not impact performance.
	Microsoft has ended support for Windows 7 and Windows Server 2008 effective January 14, 2020, so Metrix 21.2 does not support these platforms. We recommend you upgrade your system to Metrix current minimum system requirements.
	For more information on the installation process, please see the *EFI Metrix 21.2 Installation Guide.*

Windows Minimum System Requirements for Metrix 21.2

Processor	• Intel compatible • Minimum 2-core and 4-thread processor for rectangular products • Minimum 4-core and 8-thread processor for Irregular Shape products • Minimum 4-core and 8-thread processor for Super Wide Format • Recommended: 8-core and 16-thread
Processor Speed	• 2.8 GHz minimum
Windows Operating System	• Microsoft Windows 10.x (64-bit) • Microsoft Windows 8.x (64-bit) • Microsoft Windows Server 2019 (64-bit) • Microsoft Windows Server 2017 (64-bit) • Microsoft Windows Server 2016 (64-bit) • Microsoft Windows Server 2012 R2 (64-bit) • Microsoft SQL Server 2014 SP3 and SP4 (64-bit) • Microsoft SQL Server 2016, 2017, and 2019 **Note** Metrix no longer supports Microsoft Windows 7.x or Windows Server 2008.
Memory	• Metrix Client – 4 GB RAM • Metrix Data Server – 2 GB RAM • Automation Server Pro – 16 GB RAM (Minimum) to 4 GB RAM per CPU Core (64 GB RAM Maximum) • Automation Server Enterprise – 64 GB RAM (Minimum) to 4 GB RAM per CPU Core (256 GB RAM Maximum)

	• Automation Server with Non-Rectangular module – 8 GB RAM (Minimum) and 1 Dual-core Processor (Minimum)
	• Automation Server with Display Graphics/Media Optimization/Super Wide Format – 16 GB RAM (Minimum) (32 GB RAM and 16-core, 32-thread processor or better recommended)
	• eFlow License Manager – 256 MB RAM
	Notes
	• If you use the Content Previews module, the minimum RAM requirement for Metrix is 6 GB with 8 GB or more recommended.
	• The Content Previews module is processor intensive, so a fast multi-core processor is recommended. If PDF content is being accessed across a LAN, gigabit network speeds are recommended when accessing large content files.
	• If you use Display Graphics/Media Optimization, the minimum RAM requirement for Metrix is 16 GB.
	• If you use Display Graphics/Media Optimization with a Super Wide Format, a 16-core processor is recommended.
Monitor Resolution	• 1280 x 1024 or higher
Network (multi-user)	• Static IP address for the Data Server, eFlow License Manager, and Automation Server. Automation Server runs as a service and needs a local administration account.

Mac OS X Minimum System Requirements for Metrix 21.2

Processor	• Intel Core 2 Duo
	• Minimum 2-core and 4-thread processor for rectangular products
	• Minimum 4-core and 8-thread processor for Irregular Shape products
	• Minimum 4-core and 8-thread processor for Super Wide Format
	• Recommended: 8-core and 16-thread processor
Processor Speed	• 2.8 GHz minimum
Macintosh Operating System	• OS 11 (Big Sur) (*see **Note** above)
	• OS X 10.15 (Catalina)
	• OS X 10.14 (Mojave)
	• OS X 10.13 (High Sierra)
	• OS X 10.12 (Sierra)
	• OS X 10.11.x (El Capitan)
	• OS X 10.10.x (Yosemite)
	• OS X 10.9.x (Mavericks)
	• Microsoft SQL Server 2014 SP3 and SP4 (64-bit)
	• Microsoft SQL Server 2016, 2017, and 2019
	Notes
	• eFlow LIM v. 8.1.81051.20 and later is supported on Mac OS X 10.15 (Catalina) and OS 11 (Big Sur). Earlier versions of eFlow LIM

	will run only on Mac OS X 10.12 (Sierra) through OS X 10.14 (Mojave).
	• Metrix requires Java 11. Metrix installs and uses this version internally, regardless of the Java version that is installed on the computer.
	• If you use the Content Previews module, the minimum RAM requirement for Metrix is 6 GB with 8 GB or more recommended.
	• The Content Previews module is processor intensive, so a fast multi-core processor is recommended. If PDF content is being accessed across a LAN, gigabit network speeds are recommended when accessing large content files.
	• If you use Display Graphics/Media Optimization, the minimum RAM requirement for Metrix is 16 GB.
	• If you use Display Graphics/Media Optimization with a Super Wide Format, a 16-core processor is recommended.
Memory	• Metrix Client – 4 GB RAM • Metrix Data Server – 2 GB RAM • eFlow License Manager – 256 MB RAM
Monitor Resolution	• 1280 x 1024 or higher
Network (multi-user)	• Static IP address for the Data Server and eFlow License Manager.

Licensing

Upgrade your eFlow License Manager to the latest version to ensure optimum performance and security. The installers can be found on https://www.efi.com/marketing/productivity-software/downloads/metrix-installers/.

Notes eFlow LIM v. 8.1.81051.20 and later is now supported on Mac OSX 10.15 (Catalina) and Mac OS 11 (Big Sur).

If you are installing eFlow LIM on any version of Mac OS X, see the *EFI Metrix 21.2 Installation Guide* for instructions and important information.

New Features

For detailed information and usage instructions on the new features and enhancements introduced in Metrix 21.2, see *EFI Metrix 21.2 What's New* and the *EFI Metrix 21.2 User Guide.*

New in 21.2

- **Redesigned User Preferences dialog**

  The User Preferences dialog has been redesigned to improve usability. Some preferences have been moved to different sections, and some now store the settings in the database rather than in a preferences file. A Search field has been added to help you find the preference you want to edit. Also new are Tooltips and a **Help** button for each preference that provides a description of its functionality, and a **Reset Panel To Defaults** button to restore each panel to its default settings.

- **New User Role**

  There is a new User Role in the database: Can Edit Global Preferences. When this is set to **True**, a user with that User Role can edit the preferences that apply globally to all Metrix clients.

- **Layout Tooltips**

  Metrix 21.2 now displays tooltips for products on layouts so you can easily view the component instance number, product size, and Planned Color.

- **Manual rotation of Irregular Shape products**

  In Metrix 21.2, you can select a component instance on a layout and specify a specific rotation in one-degree increments. This works only with Irregular Shape and Die-cut products that are planned without using Die-cutting Tool Geometry.

- **UV Inks for Cutter Alignment Marks**

  There is now an option to specify UV inks for Cutter Alignment Marks.

- **Copy or move Components from one layout to another**

  You can now make a copy of a component that is on a layout and add it to another layout in the Project Explorer by holding down the Alt (Windows) or Option (Mac) key as you drag the component. (Issue Reference: 15332).

- **Auto Production changes**

  Auto Production is now supported for layouts that were planned using the Display Graphics algorithm.

  When a layout is planned using the Display Graphics algorithm, Auto Production only allows digital presses to be used, even if the original press is not digital.

  If all products in the project are one-sided, with the **Filename** set to "Blank," only the One-sided Printing Method can be used.

Key Fixes

- **Performance issues over VPN**

  The performance issues when working with large marks (over 1MB) in Metrix over VPN connections have been fixed. (Issue Reference: 15370)

- **Product Name overlapping Product ID for Ganging Style**

  When viewing flat and folded products with Ganging Style, if the Product Name is too long to fit in the available space, the font size will be reduced so the name does not overlap the Product ID. (Issue Reference: 15528)

- **Improved layouts with Blocks algorithm**

  For some projects, Auto Plan and Auto Layout were not finding the most optimal solutions with the Blocks algorithm. Improvements were made which will allow more time for better solutions to be calculated when using Blocks algorithm, but this is only a partial solution. We will continue to make improvements to address certain edge cases. (Issue Reference: 14892)

- **JDF and DXF cutting files**

  The JDF and DXF files that are exported when you select the Digital Cutting File type **iCutJDF** are now readable by Kongsberg systems. (Issue Reference 15279)

- **Metrix UI unresponsive when deleting a large number of projects from the database**

  The process for deleting projects from the database has been optimized so the Metrix UI is no longer blocked during the deletion process. (Issue Reference 16005)

Known Issues for the Metrix 21.2 Release

- JDF Color Mapping is not working in Metrix 21.1 and 21.2. This will be addressed in an upcoming release. (Issue Reference: 15951 and others)

- When upgrading from Metrix 2016.1 or earlier, you are required to back up your database, install 2019.2, and then upgrade the database for 2019.2 before you can install 21.2 and upgrade the database again. (Issue Reference: 14185)

- When dragging Irregular Shape products on Side 2 of a layout, the rules are not applied for snapping to other items and preventing the overlapping of instances. (Issue Reference: 15717, 15718)

- Auto Production does not reset bound product components to minimum trim values. (Issue Reference: 14168)

- **Page To Bleed Gap** does not work with **Irregular Shape** and **Die-cut** products. This will be addressed in an upcoming release. (Issue Reference: 13482)

- Metrix will not save the default printer in the Export window. (Issue Reference: 8441, 13310)

- Japanese fonts may print as indecipherable text when there are multiple PDFs in a project that contain fonts with the same name but different glyphs. (Issue Reference: 13452)

- The **Auto Expand Trims** option does not work with **Auto Layout**. (Issue Reference: 12858)

- Unable to scroll beyond the right or top edges of a sheet when a layout is magnified. (Issue Reference: 13782)

- The **Allowed Bleed Intrusions** setting for die-cutting tools works in most cases, but there are a few situations in which it does not work per expectations. (Issue Reference: 13208)

- **Help** menu on Mac OS sometimes disappears after selecting other menu items. You can still select the **Help** menu by clicking on the menu bar directly to the right of the Settings menu. (Issue Reference: 13411)

- Die-cutting tools and standards created in 2018.1 show errors when opened in 21.2 if the multi-up file used to create a die-cutting tool had horizontal and/or vertical offsets defined. Metrix ignored horizontal and/or vertical offsets in 2018.1, but in 21.2 the offsets are applied. This results in misalignment of the die-cutting tool on the sheet and/or errors in standards and projects that use the die-cutting tool (for example, "Sheet must be large enough for Die-cut Tool").

  Workaround: Edit the die-cutting tool and change the Anchor Horizontal Offset, Anchor Vertical Offset, Minimum Sheet Width, and Minimum Sheet Height values. (Issue Reference: 14296)

- If content is not found when importing a CSV product while running Metrix using millimeters, when you relink the content, the initial view may be zoomed out to 2%. Selecting Fit to Page may not cause Metrix to correctly redraw the product view.

  Workaround: Select a specific magnification value from the popup menu. (Issue Reference: 15742)