ePS Metrix 22.2 | **Release Notes for Metrix 22.2.0.227**

Metrix®

eProductivity Software
Empowering Packaging and Print

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Introduction

ePS 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 18 years of continuous, aggressive development, Metrix is recognized as the de facto industry standard for dynamic, intelligent production planning, and automated imposition. Metrix 22.2 introduces new features and enhancements and addresses issues found in previous releases.

Additional Sources

For additional information, see the *ePS Metrix 22.2 User Guide.*

Contact Information

ePS Support

Web Site:	https://communities.efi.com
US Phone:	1.855.334.4HLP (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 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Eastern Standard Time (Eastern Daylight Time during summer), Monday – Friday. You may contact support at the above numbers or via our customer portal at communities.efi.com.

Regular European Service Desk hours are 9:00 am to 5:15 pm Greenwich Mean Time (British Summer Time during summer), Monday – Friday.

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

System Requirements

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

Metrix 22.2 system requirements:

- Metrix 22.2 requires 64-bit systems. It will **not** run on 32-bit systems.

- Metrix now supports Mac OS 12 (Monterey)* and Windows 11**

    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.

    **There may be some display resolution issues with Metrix on Windows 11 but they do not affect functionality.

    Microsoft ended support for Windows 7, Windows 8, and Windows Server 2008 effective January 14, 2020, so Metrix 22.2 does not support these platforms. We recommend you upgrade your system to Metrix current minimum system requirements.

    ***Microsoft is ending support for Windows 8.1 in January 2023. Metrix 22.2 is the last version that will support that platform.

    †Microsoft is ending support for Windows Server 2012R in October 2023.

    For more information on the installation process, please see the *ePS Metrix 22.2 Installation Guide*.

Mac OS X Minimum System Requirements for Metrix 22.2

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 11 (64-bit)** (see Notes above)
	• Microsoft Windows 10.x (64-bit)
	• Microsoft Windows 8.x (64-bit)*** (see Notes above)
	• 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)† (see Notes above)
	• Microsoft SQL Server 2014 SP3 and SP4 (64-bit)
	• Microsoft SQL Server 2016, 2017, and 2019
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 22.2

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 12 (Monterey)
	• OS 11 (Big Sur)
	• 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. 10.0.100052.35 and later is supported on Mac OS 12 (Monterey). • Metrix requires Java 11. Metrix installs and uses this version internally, regardless of the Java version that is installed on the computer. • If you see 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. 10.0.100054.37 and later is supported on Mac OS 12 (Monterey) and Windows 11.

At the time of this release, the latest version of eFlow LIM is 10.1.101059.23.

If you are installing eFlow LIM on any version of Mac OS, see the *ePS Metrix 22.2 Installation Guide* for instructions and important information.

> **Important**   Earlier versions of Metrix installed in C:\ProgramData**EFI**\Metrix and C:\Program Files**EFI**\Metrix on Windows and /Applications/**EFI**/Metrix on MacOS; Metrix 22.2 installs in C:\ProgramData**ePS**\Metrix and C:\Program Files**ePS**\Metrix on Windows and /Applications/**ePS**/Metrix on MacOS. If you are upgrading Metrix from an earlier version, make a backup of your **Data** and **Marks** folders and, after installing Metrix 22.2, place those copied folders in C:\ProgramData**ePS**\Metrix (Windows) or /Applications/**ePS**/Metrix (Mac). See the Metrix 22.2 Installation Guide for more information.

New Features

- **Stock information in CSV reports**

  CSV reports now include information regarding the Stocks used in the project. (Issue Reference: 16866)

- **Maximum products per layout with Same Size algorithm**

  You now have an option to restrict the number of products to be planned on each layout. The Auto Plan dialog now includes the **Maximum Products per Layout** field. The MXML command is SameSizeLimit=n. Zero (0) is the default setting and sets no limit. This feature is available only when using the Same Size algorithm. (Issue Reference: 16865)

- **Allowed Overs as a percentage threshold**

  You can now specify **Allowed Overs** as a percentage of the Required Quantity by adding a percent symbol (**%**) after the number entered in the Allowed Overs product property field. (Issue Reference: 16862).

- **User Preference for handling excess Allowed Overs**

  You now have a new setting, **How to Handle Excess Allowed Overs,** in User Preference > Auto Layout that can be set to **Warning, Error,** or **Ignore.** This setting determines how Metrix handles situations where more overs will be produced than the total specified for the Required Quantity plus Allowed Overs. (Issue Reference: 16863).

- **User Preference for Use Legacy Blocks Algorithm**

  You now have a new setting, **Use Legacy Blocks Algorithm,** in User Preference > Auto Layout. The Blocks algorithm has been updated to create more efficient layouts when planning projects on variable-length roll-fed presses. The default setting for this new preference is **False**. When set to **True**, Metrix uses the earlier version of the Blocks algorithm. (Issue Reference: 16699)

- **"Select All" option for Products**

  When you right-click on the parent Products node in the Project Explorer, there is now a **Select All** option. Selecting this allows you to simultaneously edit some settings for all products. (Issue Reference: 16937)

- **New Auto Plan layout sort orders: "Minimize Ink Changes" and "Sheet Quantity"**

  You now have two additional options to sort the Auto Plan results. One is to minimize the required number of ink changes and the other is to sort the layouts by the number of sheets required. (Issue Reference: 15663)

- **New Layouts Sort Order property**

  You can right-click on the parent **Layouts** node in Project Explorer and select **Sort Layout**. A contextual menu appears that now allows you to select the sort order of layouts, including the two new options - Minimize Ink Changes and Sheet Quantity. (Issue Reference: 15465)

- **New Auto Plan setting: "Advanced Calculations for Irregular Shapes"**

  You now have a new setting, **Advanced Calculations for Irregular Shapes**, in the Auto Plan dialog. This setting allows Metrix to try additional options to create more efficient layouts for some irregular shape products and die-cut products that do not use a die-cutting tool. Using this setting requires additional time and does not guarantee better results. While this option can be used with rectangular products, there is no benefit to doing so. Improvements are most often seen with larger irregular shape products. (Issue Reference: 16891)

- **Cumulative number of sheets and material costs in the Auto Plan Selector window**

  The number of required sheets and costs, and their totals are now displayed in the Auto Plan Selector window. (Issue Reference: 15413)

- **Contour Perimeter Length product property**

  Product Properties now displays the Contour Perimeter Length for die-cut and irregular shape products. (Issue Reference: 16933)

- **New press definition settings to always center layouts**

  There are now three new press definition settings: **Auto Center Horizontally, Auto Center Vertically on Sheet,** and **Auto Center Vertically in Imageable Area**. When Auto Center Horizontally is selected, all layouts are centered horizontally on the sheet; Auto Center Vertically allows you to select whether you want to center on the sheet or within the imageable area. You can override these settings in the Auto Plan dialog. (Issue Reference: 15936)

- **No limitation on bleeds**

  Metrix 22.2 now has no limit on the amount of bleed you can specify for a product. Previously, the valid bleed amount was restricted to -6" to 2" (-152.4mm to 50.8mm). (Issue Reference: 17048)

- **Adding Marks Sets in Memory-only mode**

  Metrix 22.2 now adds support for Marks Sets when working with MXML in memory-only mode. There is an example of this in the file "Sample Embedded Commands Job.mxml" located in the Metrix Commands > Inches folder. (Issue Reference: 17042)

- **Support for Auto Plan Each Time Out (seconds) in tenths of seconds**

  The **Each Time Out (seconds)** setting in the Auto Plan dialog now supports increments of tenths of seconds when you add a line to the Metrix 2022.2.Properties file. (Issue Reference: 16844)

- **Shingling Overrides in Export dialog**

  You now have a new **Shingling Overrides** button on the Export dialog. Clicking this button opens the Shingling Parameters dialog, where you can change the Shingling settings for the project. (Issue Reference: 16493)

Key Fixes

- **Multi-up die not showing the correct number of die stations**

  Some multi-up die files showed an incorrect number of die stations that overlapped. This has been fixed. (Issue Reference: 16941)

- **Uncuttable layouts**

  In rare cases, Metrix created layouts that could not be cut with a guillotine cutter. This has been fixed. If it is not possible to create a layout that can be cut, no layouts are created and Metrix displays an error message. (Issue Reference: 16162)

- **OK button in Report Data dialog**

  The **OK** button in the Report Data dialog now responds to pressing the Enter key. (Issue Reference: 15896)

- **Automatic recentering in Layout View**

  When you move items off the sheet in Layout View, Metrix now automatically recenters the view so you can see all the elements. (Issue Reference: 16922)

- **Work and Turn/Tumble with digital presses and Display Graphics or Media Optimization**

  The Work and Turn and Work and Tumble printing methods cannot be used with digital presses when either the Display Graphics or Media Optimization algorithm is selected. See Tech Note: Auto Production and Printing Methods." (Issue Reference: 16871, 16918)

- **Two-sided Irregular Shape products**

Fixed the issue with some two-sided irregular shape products did not back up correctly. This problem occurred when the artwork for Side 2 was incorrectly rotated. Metrix now detects the shape of the cut line and rotates Side 2 so it correctly aligns with Side 1. This rotation does not occur with symmetrical artwork. (Issue Reference: 17046, 17128)

- **Auto Layout and Auto Production placed page trim too close to the gutter**

  Fixed the issue where Auto Layout and Auto Production placed component instances too close to the gutter when **User Preferences > Auto Layout > Auto Align Outside Cuts** was set to **True** and the Blocks algorithm was used. (Issue Reference: 17038)

- **Corrupted previews when dragging instances**

  Previews are no longer corrupted when dragging component instances on a layout. (Issue Reference: 17014)

- **Layouts not selected after Save As**

  The selected layout remains selected when you do a Save As on a project. (Issue Reference: 17001)

- **Cutting Line in .ZCC (Zund) output**

  Metrix now correctly handles the cutting line information in exported .ZCC files. Other types of lines are not yet automatically handled, but there is a workaround. (Issue Reference: 16968)

  Workaround: Open the .ZCC file in a text editor, such as Notepad, and find the two lines that look like:

      <Method Name="Cutting" Type="Cutting Tool"/>

  One of these lines is near the beginning of the file and the other is near the end. Change the lines to:

      <Method Name="Cutting" Type="Thru-cut"/>

- **"Scale to Fit" as default view on Mac**

  The default view on Mac is now **Scale to Fit**. (Issue Reference: 16923)

- **Multi-page PDF files for die-cutting tools**

  When creating a die-cutting tool and selecting a multi-page PDF for the One-up file, Metrix now uses page 1 and ignores the remaining pages so you can finish creating the tool. (Issue Reference: 16549)

Known Issues for the Metrix 22.2 Release

- Irregular Shape products created with PDF content files that contain rotated pages may not preview with the correct rotation, but when you export, the results may be correct. We do not recommend using PDF content files with rotated pages, but you may proceed at your own risk. (Issue Reference: 15895)

- 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 22.1 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 22.1 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 22.1 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)