

EFI Metrix Tech Note:
Cutting Machine Selection in Auto Plan

Version 2020.2

Cutting Machine Selection in Auto Plan

What it Is

2020.2.0.XXX introduces the ability to select a cutting machine in the Auto Plan dialog. Metrix uses the selecting cutting machine to calculate cutting costs for the project.

How it Works

Selecting a Digital Cutting Machine

1. In the Auto Plan dialog, open the pull-down menu for Cutting Machine 1. All cutting machines in the database are listed.
 - **“(None)”**: no cutting costs will be calculated.
 - **“(Default) [CuttingMachineName]”**: Metrix uses the cutting machine that has been defined as the default for the selected press.
 - **Specific “[CuttingMachineName]”**: Metrix calculates the cutting costs using the specific digital or guillotine cutting machine. Only the name of the cutting machine is shown; “Specific” does not appear as part of the name.
2. If you are using a second press, select Cutting Machine 2.

Because Digital Cutting Machines have minimum and maximum stock thickness parameters, Metrix will not include in the Cutting Machine lists any Digital Cutting Machines that cannot accommodate the selected Stock. If the selected stock is not supported by the digital cutting machine, the default cutting machine will be selected; if the default cutting machine is not compatible, then “(None)” will be selected.

If you change the press selection, the Cutting Machine list is updated to show the default cutting machine for the new press.

If the previously selected cutting machine is incompatible with the new press, the Cutting Machine selection changes to “(None)”.

MXML Tags for Auto Plan

Parent: Root/CommandPool/Run/

Attribute / Sub Element	Use	Description
<i>Name</i>	Optional	A user-definable name for the Command Event. If not supplied, defaults to “AutoPlan”. Up to 255 characters.
<i>UseLargestDatabasePressSheet</i>	Required	If this attribute is set to <i>True</i> Metrix will find the largest sheet sizes in the database for each of the project component stocks, that will fit on the press or presses. The press or presses will either be determined from either the <i>AutoPlanProductionMethod</i> sub-element/s or from the <i>Layout</i> element/s in the MXML project file being read.
<i>True</i>		
<i>False</i>		

<i>ComponentSelection</i>	Optional	This specifies which components to plan. Default is All.
<i>All</i>		Plan all components in the project.
<i>Tagged</i>		Plan only components in the project that are tagged (see Component/@Tagged or ComponentHints/@Tagged about tagging).
<i>AreaToStartTests</i>	Optional	A setting for the Auto Plan engine. If not provided defaults to 80%. Has the same functionality as for the GUI.
<i>AutoLayoutTimeOutSeconds</i>	Optional	The time out for each Auto Layout test used by Auto Plan. If not supplied defaults to 3 seconds. Has the same functionality as for the GUI.
<i>TotalTimeOutPerStockSeconds</i>	Optional	The total Auto Plan time out for each type of stock in the project. If not supplied defaults to 1,800 seconds (30 minutes). Valid values, 60 – 86,400.
<i>GapBetweenPlacementGroups</i>	Optional	The amount of space to insert between Placement Groups originating from one or more Product Groups. Defaults to "0".
<i>AutoPlanProductionMethod</i>	Conditional Required	Depending on how it's intended to work, AutoPlan may require one or two AutoPlanProductionMethod elements. Can now include Cutting Machine as shown below.

Example Defining a Digital Cutting Machine:

```
<DigitalCuttingMachine Description="digicut description" DeviceID="digicut" HourlyRate="100"
ID="Ref_0" MakeReadyPerPosition="0.01" MakeReadyPerSheet="0.1" Manufacturer="digi
manufacturer" MaxHeight="100" MaxThickness="6" MaxWidth="100" MinHeight="3"
MinThickness="0.001" MinWidth="3" Name="digicut" Speed="1000">
  <DigitalCuttingTool CutterOperation="Cutting" Description="00 blade" Name="Knife"/>
  <DigitalCuttingTool CutterOperation="Perfing" Description="perforator" Name="Perfer"/>
  <DigitalCuttingTool CutterOperation="Creasing" Description="creases" Name="Creaser"/>
</DigitalCuttingMachine>
```

Example Specifying No Cutting Machine for Auto Plan:

```
<AutoPlanProductionMethod Number="1" PrintingMethod="Sheetwise"
PageToBleedGap="0.125" Cutter="None">
  <PressRef rRef="Ref_28"/>
</AutoPlanProductionMethod>
```

Example Specifying a Digital Cutting Machine for Auto Plan:

```
<AutoPlanProductionMethod Number="2" PrintingMethod="WorkAndTurn"
PageToBleedGap="0.125">
  <PressRef rRef="Ref_28"/>
  <DigitalCuttingMachineRef="Ref_29"/>
</AutoPlanProductionMethod>
```

Example Specifying a Guillotine Cutting Machine for Auto Plan:

```
<AutoPlanProductionMethod Number="2" PrintingMethod="WorkAndTurn"
```

```
PageToBleedGap="0.125">  
  <PressRef rRef="Ref_28"/>  
  <CuttingMachineRef="Ref_29"/>  
</AutoPlanProductionMethod>
```

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