

EFI Metrix Release Notes

Version 2020.2.0.647

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EFI Metrix 2020.2 | *EFI Metrix Release Notes*

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Welcome to Metrix 2020.2

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 12 years of continuous, aggressive development, Metrix is recognized as the de facto industry standard for dynamic, intelligent production planning, and automated imposition. Metrix 2020.1 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 2020.2 system requirements:

- Metrix 2020.2 requires 64-bit systems. It will **not** run on 32-bit systems.
- Metrix now supports Mac OS X 10.15 (Catalina)

Notes Microsoft has ended support for Windows 7 and Windows Server 2008 effective January 14, 2020, so Metrix 2020.2 does not support these platforms. We recommend you upgrade your system to Metrix current minimum system requirements.

EFI has been testing Metrix 2020.2 with a beta version of Mac OS 11 (Big Sur). Currently, there are no known issues with this beta version and Metrix. Apple has not announced a release date for Mac OS 11 as of 10/21/2020. However, at this time we do not foresee any issues with Metrix 2020.2 and Mac OS 11.

For more information on the installation process, please see the *EFI Metrix 2020.2 Installation Guide*.

Windows Minimum System Requirements for Metrix 2020.2

<i>Processor</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intel compatible
<i>Processor Speed</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 GHz minimum
<i>Windows Operating System</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microsoft Windows 10.x (64-bit) • Microsoft Windows 8.x (64-bit) • Microsoft Windows Server 2019 (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 <p>Note Metrix no longer supports Microsoft Windows 7.x or Windows Server 2008.</p>
<i>Memory</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metrix Client – 2 GB RAM • Metrix Data Server – 2 GB RAM • Automation Server with Non-Rectangular Module – 8GB (Minimum) and 1 Dual-Core Processor (Minimum) • 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) • eFlow License Manager – 256 MB RAM
<i>Monitor Resolution</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1024 x 768 or higher
<i>Network (multi-user)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.

	<p>Notes If you use the Content Previews module, the minimum RAM requirement for Metrix is 6 GB with 8 GB or more recommended.</p> <p>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.</p>
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Mac OS X Minimum System Requirements for Metrix 2020.2

<i>Processor</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intel Core 2 Duo
<i>Processor Speed</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 GHz minimum
<i>Macintosh Operating System</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OS X 10.15 (Catalina) (see Note below) • 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) <p>Notes eFlow LIM v. 8.1.81043.12 and later is supported on Mac OS X 10.15 (Catalina). Earlier versions of eFlow LIM will run only on Mac OS X 10.12 (Sierra) through OS X 10.14 (Mojave).</p> <p>Metrix requires Java 11. Metrix installs and uses this version internally, regardless of the Java version that is installed on the computer.</p>
<i>Memory</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metrix Client – 2 GB RAM • Metrix Data Server – 2 GB RAM • eFlow License Manager – 256 MB RAM
<i>Monitor Resolution</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1024 x 768 or higher
<i>Network (multi-user)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Static IP address for the Data Server and eFlow License Manager. <p>Notes If you use the Content Previews module, the minimum RAM requirement for Metrix is 6 GB with 8 GB or more recommended.</p> <p>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.</p>

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. 8.1.81043.12 and later is now supported on Mac OSX 10.15 (Catalina).

If you are installing eFlow LIM on any version of Mac OS X, see the *EFI Metrix 2020.2 Installation Guide* for instructions and important information.

New Features

For detailed information and usage instructions on the new features and enhancements introduced in Metrix 2020.2, see *EFI Metrix 2020.2 What's New* and the *EFI Metrix 2020.2 User Guide*.

New in 2020.2.0.647 hot fix

- **Support for UV Inks and Coatings**

Metrix now supports coatings and UV inks. We added a new Ink Type called Coating and improved support for presses that have coaters. This results in some changes in our ink-handling.

In Metrix 2020.2.0.608 and earlier, if an ink was defined as a Varnish and no coater was defined for the press, the Varnish would be treated as a regular ink, requiring a plate and using one of the ink units defined for the press (if any). If a Coater was defined for the press and the ink was defined as a Varnish, then Metrix would assume the Varnish was being applied by the Coater.

In Metrix 2020.2.0.647, varnishes that are applied by the Coater rather than by a plate, such as flood varnishes, must now be defined as a Coating. Varnishes that applied with a plate and use an ink unit on the press continue to be defined as the Ink Type "Varnish". For more information, see "*EFI Metrix Tech Note: UV Inks and Coatings – Ink-handling Changes.*" (Issue Reference: 15327)

- **Exporting Plant Equipment in MXML**

There is a new field in the Export dialog on the Metrix XML screen when exporting MXML 2.0 or higher: **Include Plant Equipment**. When this is True, all the Equipment in the database will be included in the exported MXML file.

Key Fixes

- **Die-cut products now respect press guide allowances and no-page areas**

When planning die-cut products that use a die-cutting tool, the press guide allowances and no-page and no-image areas are now respected. This may result in issues with some die-cutting tool and press combinations that worked in previous versions of Metrix.

If a die-cutting tool that previously worked can no longer be planned ("No workable layouts found"), either change the offset anchors for the tool or edit the press to Allow Finished Products Inside Press Guide Allowance. (Issue Reference: 15282, 15091)

- **Updated to latest Callas PDF renderer**

Metrix now uses a new Callas PDF renderer, which caused occasional problems such as a required directory not being created. (Issue Reference: 15303, 15087)

- **Auto Production in an automated workflow sometimes created less-optimal layouts than in Metrix GUI**

Auto Production run via MXML in an automated workflow now finds the same efficient layouts as in the Metrix GUI. (Issue Reference: 15254)

- **One-sided Printing Method and two-sided products**

When running Auto Plan or Auto Production in an automated workflow, if products have inks on both sides, the One-Sided Printing Method will not be used if the AutoPlan command contains the flag "SeparateOneSided=true". Auto Plan will then run two separate passes; the first pass plans all the two-sided products using the selected settings, and the second pass plans all the one-sided products, forcing the One-sided Printing Method. No layouts will contain a mix of one-sided and two-sided products even if combining them would result in a less-expensive solution.

For Auto Production, if a layout contains one or more two-sided components, the One-sided Printing Method is ignored. (Issue Reference: 15036)

- **Some multi-up die files are not parsed correctly**

Certain multi-up die files were parsed incorrectly, causing Metrix to create extra die stations that overlapped other die stations. This issue has been corrected. (Issue Reference: 11766)

- **MXML Auto Production Time Out**

Auto Production in MXML now uses the specified time out value for each combination of parameters instead of using it as the total time out value. (Issue Reference: 15421)

Known Issues for the Metrix 2020.2 Release

- **Page To Bleed Gap** does not work with **Irregular Shape** and **Die-cut** products. This will be addressed in an upcoming hot fix. (Issue Reference: 13482)
- 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 2020.1 and upgrade the database again. (Issue Reference: 14185)
- 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 **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 2020.2 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 2020.2 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)