

# ASSIST TRACKING®



Assist Tracking  
Newsletter

March 2015

## WHY GAMBLE WITH PATIENT SAFETY?

### Featured New Item: Print Center – Label Queue

The Assist Print Center module has been in existence from the early days of the Assist application. It is used as a solution for printing all kinds of bar coded documents. Many people ask why the print capability for badges, bottle labels, etc. is not embedded inside the Assist Administrative web site like the printing of reports. The main reason is due to the data matrix bar code font (the small square bar code). It can be difficult to install and utilize this font via a web site. For that reason, the Print Center exists as a single source for all documents.



In March, the Print Center was extended to include a new feature. The concept of a “Label Queue” was created. The cassette and slide queues have existed for quite a while inside Assist. They provide the ability for a single cassette or slide printer to be shared amongst an entire department of technicians, which is critical since most of these object printers are not truly networked devices. The Label Queue was created for the same concept.

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### Completed Updates

Print Center: Label Queue

### Future Updates

Badge-less Assist

Chemical Storage Tracking

Preventative Maintenance

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Now, a single bar code printer can be shared amongst multiple people. Scan transactions can write to a queue in the database, and the Label Queue monitors this logical queue and then directs the print activity to a single locally attached printer. Using this methodology, multiple people can share a single printer to keep down costs and reduce the footprint demands of bar code printers.

For example, if a facility is making use of on demand label printing for slide labels or molecular tube labels, this module can allow for printing to a printer that is shared amongst a group of technicians. Printing can also be sent to an existing bar code printer in the facility even when the user needing the bar code label is not close to the printer. Even if in a different building. This allows for the cutting back of costs in extra equipment.

The Label Queue screen can be delivered as a single “listening” queue or can be dual. The dual queue scenario would be useful if multiple bar code printers are installed and operational on a single computer. Two printers can be addressed by a single instance of the queue to cut down on foreground clutter on the desktop.

## Completed Updates: Check out the latest features added to Assist Tracking

- **Distribution Module** – Modified the “Options” pop up window to include the ability to toggle on/off the tracking mode and the inbound/outbound in case the end user has lost the toggle bar codes and to eliminate the need for them if they are not found to be of value.
- **Admin Web Site** – Modified the Employee Productivity Report to include a date option to group the data by date/employee instead of just employee over the date range specified for the criteria. Also modified to include the verification flag logic to eliminate verification scans from the report.
- **Print Center** – Added logic for a label queue printing routine. A new feature was added to the main scanning engine to allow for the generation of labels from a scan transaction. The label queue listens to these transactions and prints labels in response to them.
- **Admin Web Site** – Modified the Accession Prefix report to include a check box to allow for employee level data to be displayed instead of simply data by prefix.
- **Main Scanner Engine** – Corrected an odd issue where after scanning reset twice, a cassette could be scanned without a parent object (i.e. bottle). This scenario now errors.
- **Scoreboard** – Modified the scoreboard to read the title font size and forecolor from the database for generic graphs to allow for further end user customization. Also to allow for the customization of the data point (i.e. column) width rather than adjusting automatically which can make graph inconsistent in look and feel.
- **Admin Web Site – Scoreboard Generic Details Maintenance** – Modified to include the graph title font size, graph point width, and text color (fore color).

## Future Updates: Check out the new features coming soon

There are many significant changes and enhancements to the various Assist modules currently underway. Some of the featured modifications currently in progress include the following:

- **Badge-less Assist** – A new enhanced “main” scanner screen is under development. While a large change, this feature will provide more functionality and remove the need for a badge. Buttons are to be placed in a ribbon at the bottom of the screen to provide all of the functionality previously performed by badges.

- **Chemical Storage Tracking** – Additional functionality is being added to allow for the tracking and specification of detailed information regarding the chemicals that are stored in the laboratory. To begin with, this will show what chemicals are resident in the facility, but will be expanded over the coming months to include the tracking of inventory levels, MSDS paperwork, etc.
- **Preventative Maintenance** – The preventative maintenance module will be extended in the future to handle additional needs of laboratories.



If you have any questions or would like to schedule upgrades, please contact your Assist Tracking support team at [Support@AssistTracking.com](mailto:Support@AssistTracking.com).

As always, please submit any questions or comments to the above mailbox and we will address your items as quickly as possible.