

Barcode Magician 1.7 Basic/Plus

Add More Productivity to your Met/Track® Database

Barcode Magician® provides the busy lab manager the ability to organize how different departments access the metrology database. The metrology database is extremely important, because it contains data allowing a company to certify their product/services are traceable to national standards. Some of these database configurations are quite complex with screens full of fields. And, there are rules to be concerned with when updating these screens. Some metrology databases are accessed by many users because there may be business reasons why different groups require access. The screen below is a typical Inventory Edit screen. This screen is quite simple compared to many other systems.

Editing Instrument Data

Metrology Xplorer 1, from On Time Support, allows customers to access and view data/reports from a web browser. However, there may be times when users need to update a section of the database, such as creating a new location record or changing a status. This is considered repetitive tasks. Multiply this access by many users and you have the potential to corrupt the database or incur mistakes that later may be discovered by an auditor. Then, there are the systems that have users in different cities, in different departments, accessing a centralized metrology database.

Barcode Magician utilizes an Action Code based system which is similar to executing macros. Action Codes are very powerful, because they can easily be designed to reflect the company's business rules and processes. Action Codes can be used for a variety of processes; eg., change status codes with dates, add location records with several fields, send instruments to vendor, add batch calibration records, add batch maintenance records, and many other processes.

Instead of presenting complex screens and business rules to users (especially new users), why not provide a

set of simple actions that users can utilize to update the database fast and accurately with a minimum amount of training. The screen below is the Barcode Magician Run Time screen which is very easy to learn and update.

Barcode Magician Run Time Screen

Besides using Barcode Magician to maintain the integrity of the database, it also allows the user to process several instruments at a time. For example, if a tool crib is checking out tools in a process plant, it will be necessary to determine if the tool is calibrated, is within calibration, is active, and create a new location history record identifying the technician checking out the instrument. Business rules are enforced to not allow overdue calibrated instruments to be checked out.

How Much Time Can you Save?

Barcode Magician can process many instruments (hundreds) at a time by using a barcode scanner or keyboard entry. So how fast is it? We decided to run a test using keyboard entry only. Using a stopwatch we timed MET/TRACK to change inventory status and add a new location record. The time was 50 seconds. The same entry time with Barcode Magician was 12 seconds. With a barcode scanner, the time could be cut in half to 6 seconds. Each additional asset processed will only take about 1 second in a batch. It takes very little time to learn how to use the Run Time program because it is a single screen. You can also print a variety of Crystal Reports from the Run Time program; eg., receipts.



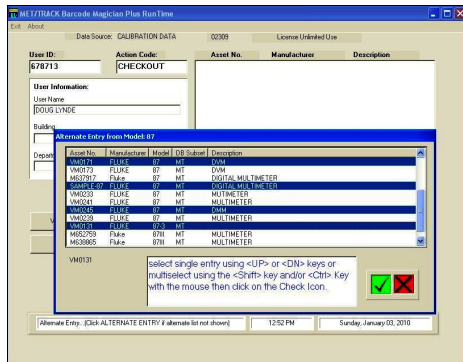
Barcode Magician 1.7 (BCM17) New Features

Below is a list of some of the new features.

Barcode Magician 1.7 has many powerful features. BCM17 supports Fluke® MET/TRACK 7.1 and 7.2x utilizing Crystal Reports version 10. Operating Systems supported are Windows 2000 (SP4), XP, Vista 32 bit, and Windows 7 32 bit. Customers that currently have Version 1.6 and earlier can upgrade their systems to the Plus and/or Basic Version. The table listed below is a small sample of new/updated features.

NEW or CHANGED FEATURES	1.6.1	1.6.1	1.7.0	1.7.0
	Basic	Plus	Basic	Plus
BCM License Manager in BCM System Configuration	No	No	No	Yes
User ID Entry Timeout in Minutes – Set in BCM Users Editor Per User	No	No	No	Yes
Display Instrument Images Per Workstation	No	No	No	Yes
Number of Crystal Reports Per Action Code	0	0	4	7
Number of Critical Expressions Per Action Code	4	4	4	25
Number of Warning Expressions Per Action Code	2	2	2	10
Number of Dialog Boxes Per Action Code	5	15	5	25
Dialog Box Validation Required Per Dialog Box	No	No	Yes	Yes
Dialog Box Entry per Asset Per Dialog Box	No	No	Yes	Yes
Dialog Box Local Validation Per Dialog Box	No	No	Yes	Yes
Select Desktop Per Workstation	No	No	No	Yes
Lower Level BCM System Password for BCM Users Editor	No	No	No	Yes
Abeysance Cal Due Date Calculation when entering a cal record	No	No	No	Yes
Number of User Fields / Selective User Field Suppression in BCM	6/ No	6/ No	12/ Yes	12/ Yes
SQL Command Text Editor Form in BCM Action Code Editor	No	No	Yes	Yes
Alternate Field for Asset Selection besides Asset Number field I4201	No	No	No	Yes
Group Field for Asset Selection like field I4217 to populate asset list	No	No	No	Yes
Populate Asset list from a CSV file – Set with a Parameter in BCM Runtime	No	No	No	Yes
Linked validation when updating or inserting the root field	No	No	Yes	Yes

Alternative Look-up (One of the New Features)



The picture at left shows the new Alternative Look-up function in BCM17 Plus. In this example, the CHECKOUT Action Code is configured to include an Alternative Look-up per instrument model. For example, someone wants to check out a Fluke 87 but does not have the Instrument number. When the Run Time Program prompts for the Instrument Number, type in “87” and a list is populated with Fluke 87’s. The Alternative Look-up function is configurable per Action Code to select an alternative field number; eg., Serial Number or Status. In the example at left, the CTRL key and mouse is used to highlight the instruments that we want selected. When the “Green Check-Mark” is selected, this list will populate in the asset list. This is only one of the new features in BCM17.

There are two license types, Basic and Plus. The Basic License has less functionality than the Plus license, but is a lower cost. On Time Support can assist you with your system configuration with scanners and printers.

Ordering Information

Product	Part Number
Barcode Magician 1.7 Plus License	5037-PLUS
Barcode Magician 1.7 Basic License	5037-BASIC
Barcode Magician 1.7 Plus Upgrade License	5037-UPG-PLUS
Barcode Magician 1.7 Basic Upgrade License	5037-UPG-BASIC

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