

Quite Imposing Plus 5.0: Release Notes, Manual Updates PRE BETA 1

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Quite Imposing 5.0/Quite Hot Imposing 5.0 beta 1 Release Notes

This document contains notes for the beta version of

- Quite Imposing Plus 5 (QI+ 5), a plug-in for the Adobe® Acrobat® Pro product.
- Quite Hot Imposing 5, a standalone application.

Disclaimer

These are beta (unreleased) products, not fully finished, and with a time limit. **QUITE SOFTWARE MAKES NO WARRANTIES** that these will operate as expected, or that they will be released in this form or any other form.

Compatibility

This beta is compatible with

- Apple® macOS® 10.9 and above (including macOS 10.15 Catalina based on current information from Apple about its prerelease status)
- Microsoft® Windows® 7 and above
- QI+ only: Acrobat 9 and above including Acrobat DC

You can install and run both Quite Imposing Plus 5 and Quite Imposing Plus 4 for the same copy of Acrobat.

Preferences and sequences

The first time you run QI+5 it will read all your preferences and write copies for use in version 5. After that, changes made in version 4 or earlier will not affect version 5.

What's new in 5.0? Key points

A full list appears below, but some key features include

- Customize control panel: add new panels, add sequences.
- Variable data: using a CSV or TXT file, add text or pictures to many PDF pages.
- Automation sequences can do "partials" to split jobs, or process parts separately. Results can be merged or left separate.
- N-Up can flow backs from right to left, for easier layout, especially of ad hoc jobs
- Creep can use scaling instead of shift, so that no content is lost
- Page size monitor to show live size including bleed info for open document
- Manual Imposition – performance greatly improved for some large files
- Trim & Shift - add or crop all four edges by a fixed amount.
- Conditions in automation sequences allow more flexibility e.g. different jobs based on page count, page sizes or metadata (such as filename or keywords).
- Import sequences or steps from other sequences or XML files. Filter sequences by name.
- Conditions can issue an error or warning message, and stop a job if there is a problem such as wrong page size or count

- Enfocus Switch users remove the prefix from file name references

New features – full list

Detailed manual pages follow.

- **Customize control panel**
 - Change the QI+ control panel or create new panels which can be shown separately (different panels for different jobs)
 - Rearrange/remove the standard control panel buttons
 - Add buttons to run automation sequences
 - When a sequence is edited you can automatically add it
 - Add buttons to open other panels
 - Quick reset of control panel available
- **Variable data – new feature:** using a CSV or TXT file, add text or pictures to many PDF pages.
 - Work with master pages – making copies of a page and adding text or graphics to each copy; or
 - Work without master pages – add text or graphics to entire file.
 - Use a CSV or TXT (tab delimited) file from Excel or other sources. (Semi-colon delimited is also available).
 - Text is added with the features of Stick On Text and Numbers (choose fonts, position, angle, colour etc.) The CSV file contains only the text to add
 - Images are added from a master file; you put all the images you want to add on separate pages. Images are added with features of Stick on PDF Pages (choose position, scale, etc.) The CSV/TXT file contains page numbers only.
- **Split and merge (partials) – new feature.**
 - Apply different commands to different parts of the same file. For example, lay out some sheets as 4 x 2 and some sheets as 2 x 2
 - Split by page number, or into equal size pieces
 - If splitting by page number, this can do the job of a Shuffle Pages command to prepare the piece, including re-ordering and rotating pages
 - New Import sequence feature will help in setting up the different commands for each part
 - The results can be combined into one PDF, or left separate (limit of 9 documents in Acrobat, unlimited in Quite Hot Imposing).
- **N-Up flow** can flow backs from right to left, for easier layout, especially of ad hoc jobs
 - By flowing from right to left on the back, you can ensure that the back is a mirror image of the front.

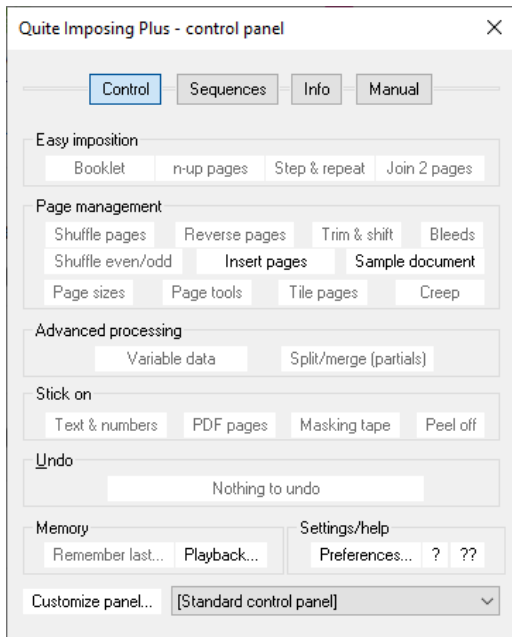
- **Creep scaling**
 - Traditionally Creep has shifted pages to allow for binding; with the scaling option, the contents are scaled onto a different area, so nothing is lost on trimming
 - Useful when working with a tightly fitting design
- **Quite Imposing Plus menu** reorganized
 - Shorter menus, because they were too long for some screens and too hard to find individual items
 - Match the arrangement of the control panel.
- **Page size monitor** – new feature
 - Shows the page sizes for the current document, including bleed, trim etc.
 - Can stay on screen and track whatever document is current
- **Trim & Shift** - add or crop all four edges by a fixed amount.
 - Previously could only add or crop one side at a time, or set to a fixed size
- **Manual imposition performance** hugely improved for large files (high page count)
 - As well as improved performance, in some cases files would grow much larger from manual imposition, and there are major improvements here too.
 - This improvement affects Manual Imposition Repeat in all cases
 - Other manual impositions of many pages will see improvement in Quite Hot Imposing, and in Quite Imposing Plus when run in “Advanced Batch Mode”.
- **Conditions** – new feature
 - Can be used in automation sequences
 - Choose a different automation sequence according to the status of the current document
 - Can check page count (e.g. page count less than 10), page size (e.g. no page sizes larger than ...), metadata (e.g. file name does not include SPECIAL)
 - Can be used to choose different layouts, especially partials, according to page count
- **Import sequences** – new feature
 - Sequence import can be used in Sequence editor, and in setting up new Split/merge (partials) and Conditionals commands.
 - Import from another sequence or from XML.
 - Can import a copy, and then edit the commands
 - Can import as uneditable, and see the sequence or XML used to setup, and use Refresh to update this copy.
 - Can convert uneditable to editable.
- **Message command** – new feature
 - Can be used in automation sequences.

- Especially useful with conditions, for example can stop with an error if the page count or page size is not expected.
- **Filter sequences** by name
 - Designed to help users with large numbers of automation sequences
 - When a sequence is to be chosen, you can filter so you see only sequences and categories with a matching name.
- **Enfocus Switch related** feature
 - Can automatically strip the special prefix `_XXXXX_` from file names

Supplementary manual pages

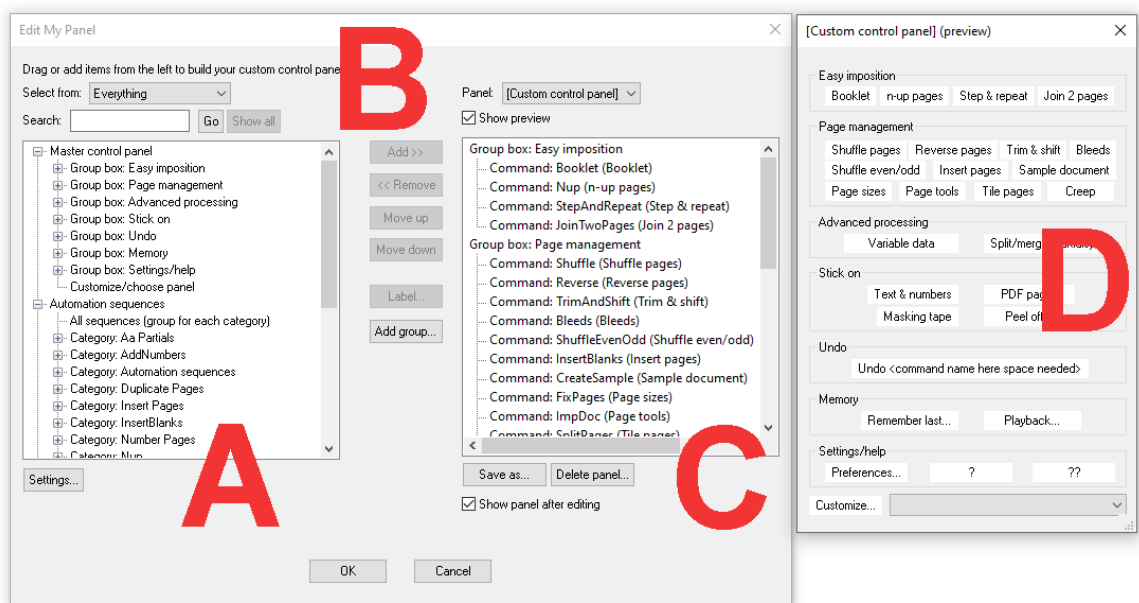
Customize Control Panel

The standard control panel looks like this:



Notice the new Customize panel button and the pull down for panel name.

When you click Customize panel you will see the panel editor:



A – area for choosing what elements to add to the panel. B – tools to add and remove elements. C – list of all the elements in the panel. D – preview of the panel.

In this screen shot, we are editing the main control panel, and this is always called **[Custom control panel]**. On the control panel you can quickly choose **[Standard control panel]** to switch back.

To add elements to the panel you can click **Add >>**, or drag from A to C. You can reorder elements on the panel by using **Move up** or **Move down**, or by dragging and dropping elements in C.

The elements you can add include:

- Any element from the standard control panel.
- Any automation sequence
- Any panel (the button will open another panel)
- Groups – you can drag elements into and out of groups, or use **Move up/down**.

Groups appear as the outlined boxes on the Control Panel.

To create a new panel, separate from the Control Panel, choose **New panel** in the pull down at the top of C. You can choose that your new panel is one of the following

- Blank, ready for elements to be added
- A copy of the standard control panel, ready for editing
- A copy of any other panel
- A panel with one button for each automation sequence in a particular category, or all the sequence categories

When you have finished editing or making the new panel, click OK, or click **Save as** if you want to give it a new name and keep editing. To start editing another panel, just select it in the list at the top of C.

To open a custom panel, do one of the following

- Select it from the pull down in the main Control Panel. So long as you choose something other than [Standard control panel] and [Custom control panel] it will open a new copy
- Choose it from the **My panels** menu which always lists all of your panels.
- Add a button to any panel to open another panel.

You can delete panels with the **Delete panel** button at the bottom of C.

Variable data merge

Variable Data Merge reads a text file containing information, then uses that information to add text and pictures to a PDF. Text is added as if by the Stick On Text And Numbers function, and pictures are entire PDF pages, as if added by Stick On PDF Pages. The text file is called a “data source”.

There are two ways to use Variable Data Merge.

1. With a master document. The master document is copied again and again, and each copy has different text or pictures added from the data source. This is similar to Data Merge/Mail Merge functions in many apps, such as Microsoft Word® and Adobe InDesign®.
2. With a normal document, which is not duplicated. Instead, the data source is used to add information to pages in the document. This is like using Stick On Text And

Numbers/Stick On PDF Pages, but sticking different text or images on each page of the document (or each group of pages).

The text file contains “columns” of information, with a heading. The columns are separated by commas, tabs, or semi-colons (;). Consider this file:

```
Name,Company Name,State,Logo number
Robert Smith,Printing Wins Inc, Printing Wins Inc,2
Lisa Roberts,,California
"Phillipa Thompson, Jr.",Images Matter,Mass,1
```

This uses commas to show these rows and columns

Name	Company Name	State	Logo number
Robert Smith	Printing Wins Inc	New York	2
Lisa Roberts		California	
Phillipa Thompson, Jr.	Images Matter	Mass	1

There are four lines in this file. The first line has the names of the columns. Column 1 is Name, Column 2 is Company Name, Column 3 is State and Column 4 is Logo number.

The other lines show three “records”. You can see a few points of interest: Lisa Roberts has no company name, so you see two commas together (,,), and no Logo number. Phillipa Thompson, Jr. has a name containing a comma, so the entire name is put in straight quotes as "Phillipa Thompson, Jr."

Files like this are commonly exported from spreadsheet apps. To use this file, we choose the Variable Data Merge command.

Variable data 1 - how to merge

This merges variable data into your document. The variable data is a list of fields to add, as a CSV or TXT file. Each line is one record.

You can use the current document as a short master document, with a copy of the pages for each record, or add all the records without copying any pages.

First choose how to merge fields on to the current PDF document.

Create a new document instead of modifying this one

Master document?

Master document (like a mail merge). Duplicate pages, adding one record to each copy

Single page master document Multiple page master document

Not a master document. Add records to existing pages.

Start a new record every pages

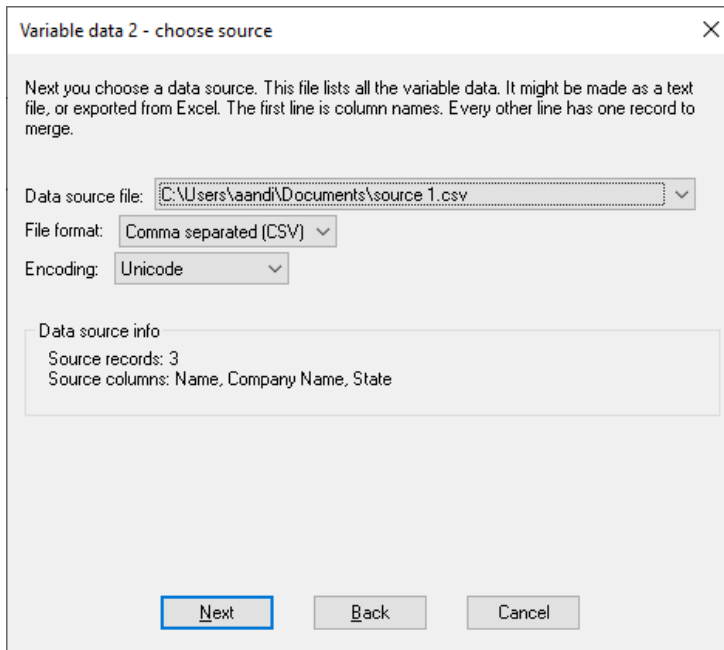
Check that the document has the right number of pages for all records

Next Back Cancel

We first have to choose whether we have a master document or not. If we have a master document, it is usually just one page, but it might be more than one, for example front and back of a sheet. The *entire document* is the master, and if you choose “Single page master” the current document must have only one page. This is a simpler case and used to check the input.

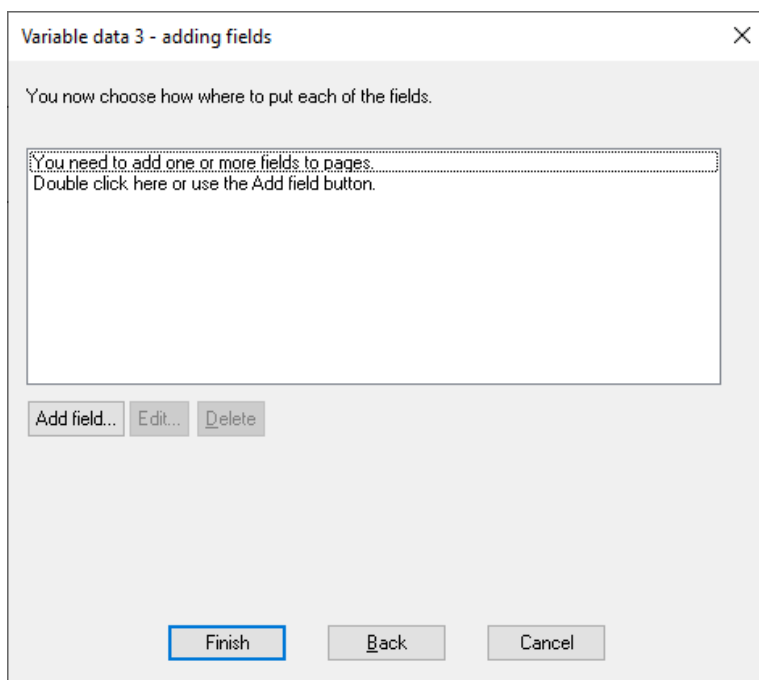
If you choose **Not a master document** you need to choose how many pages in the current document are used for each record. The usual value is 1. You can choose whether an incorrect number of pages is an error.

Next you choose the data source file



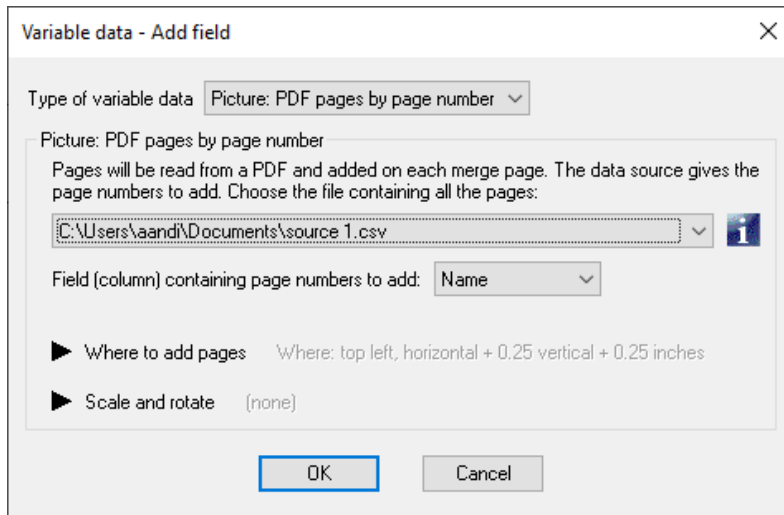
You say what separator and encoding to use. If not sure, you may have to experiment, but look closely at the Data source info, which should show the columns you wanted.

Now you need to choose where the information is to be added to your document. You must add one or more “fields”.



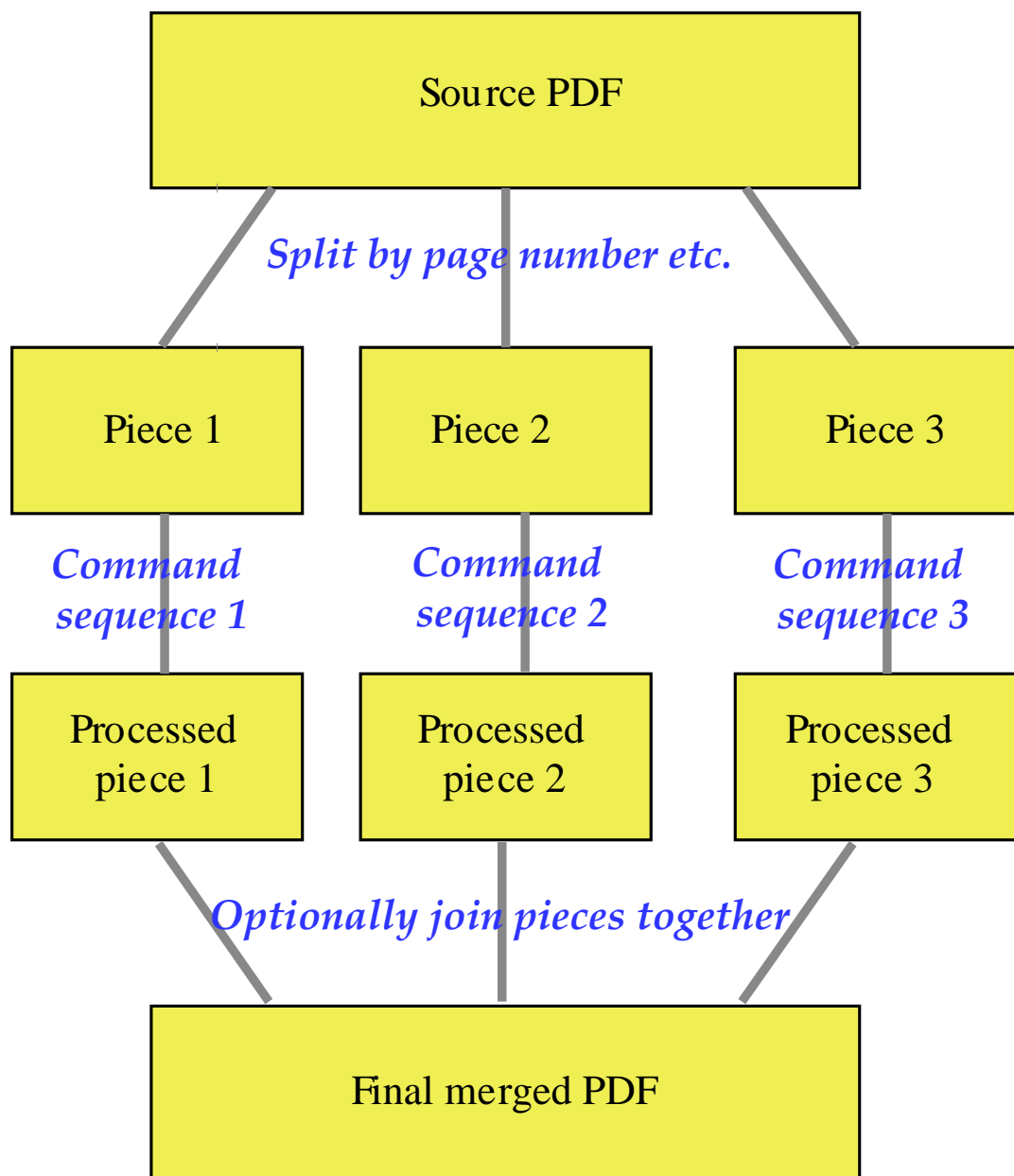
If the fields are text, you will choose the font, size, position, colour etc. for the text each time the information is added.

If the fields are pictures you must prepare a single PDF with pages containing the pictures to be added. The data contains a simple number giving the page number to add.



Split/merge (partials)

The idea of Split/merge is that you can split one document up into several parts, and then do different commands on each part. Finally, you can join the parts back together, or leave them separate. A key use of this feature is to support a kind of advanced imposition layout called “partials” which uses different sized sheets or different layouts to make the best use of press or paper.



So, the choices you can make include:

1. *How do you want to split the document?* You can split in several ways by page count.
 - a. Odd/even. This splits into two pieces (only one piece if the input has only one page).
 - b. List of pages. This lets you list the exact pages to go into each piece. Because you list the pages, you also have to say exactly how many pages the document will have, and the command only works with that page count. Lists of pages can take page ranges, and cause pages to be rotated: this is exactly like the rules in Shuffle Pages.
 - c. Equal size pieces. You choose a page count, and each piece has that number of pages, except the last. For example if you choose a page count of 10, and start with a 38 page document, you will have pieces with 10, 10, 10 and 8 pages.
2. *What do you do to process each piece?* You choose a command sequence for each part. It is recommended to set up these sequences in advance and use Import

Sequence to set them up, because it is easier to maintain the split/merge setup that way. The command sequence is optional. If you do not give a command sequence, the piece is unchanged.

3. *Do you want to merge the pieces?* You should be aware of the limits of Acrobat, which does not allow many open documents, and will fail if you try to open too many. (The exact limit varies with the release of Acrobat). Quite Imposing Plus limits you to nine separate pieces, but Quite Hot Imposing has no limit. Quite Imposing Plus will not save the pieces. Quite Hot Imposing will save each piece in a folder named after the input PDF.

If you merge the documents, there will be only one file at the end. In Quite Imposing Plus you can choose whether this creates a new document (recommended) or replaces the input.

... Examples here ...

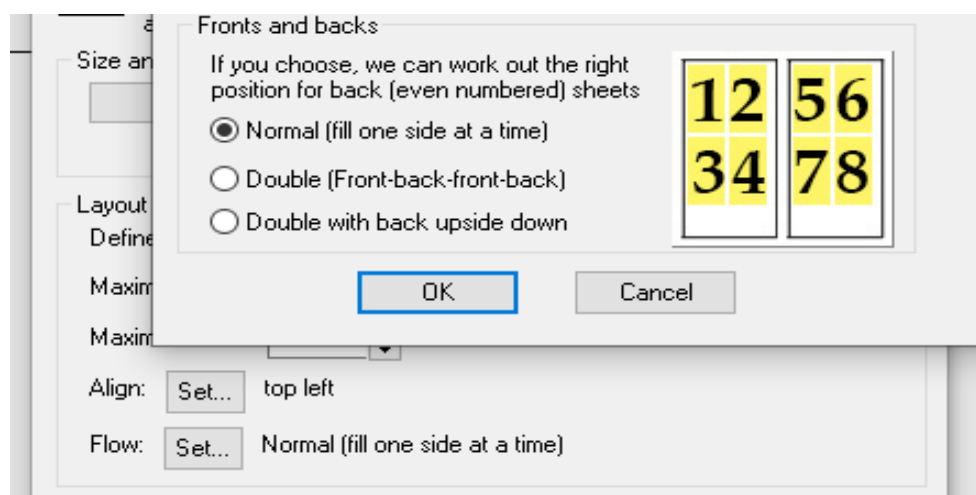
N-Up enhancements

Note that these enhancements are not relevant to Step & Repeat.

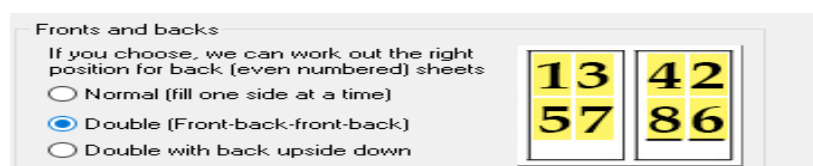
N-up and Step & Repeat: Mirrored flow

Note: this function is not designed for use after the Shuffle Pages feature, as the layouts will not be correct in this case. It may be possible for you to create different Shuffle rules for this case.

The N-up function takes a document and lays it out on a larger sheet in rows and columns. Before 5.0 it always laid out in order of sheets, filling each row, then the sheet, before moving to the next sheet. This means the front of a printed sheet is always finished before the back of the sheet is started. In 5.0 there is a new **Flow** control on the third N-Up dialog.



If this value is set to **Normal** it will work the same as previous releases, filling each sheet (or side of the sheet) in turn.



If you choose the option **Double (Front-back-front-back)** then the pages will be placed alternately on the front (odd numbered sheet) and back (even numbered sheet). In addition, the page placed on the back will be in the left-right mirror position – so pages are laid out right to left, rather than left to right. This means that when the sheets are printed double sided, the back will be in the correct position. (Note that only the page positions are numbered; the page contents are unchanged).

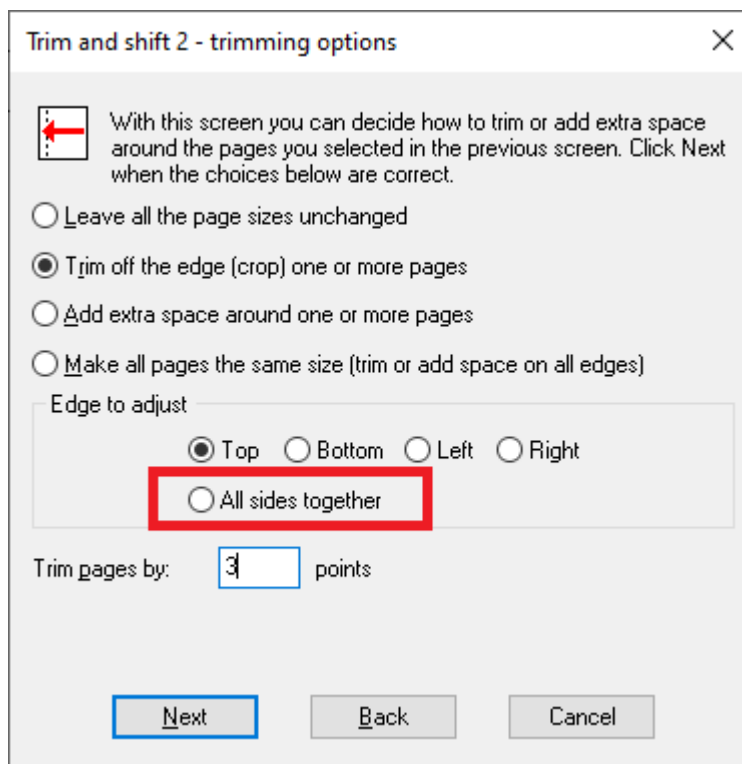


If you choose the option **Double with back upside down** the pages are positioned so that, if the back of each sheet is turned upside down, it will be the correct position so the front and back of each page are aligned.

Trim & Shift and Creep enhancements

Trim & Shift: all four sides

Up to version 4.0, in trim and shift you could choose to add space to the top, bottom, left or right of a page; or remove space from the top, bottom, left or right of a page.




A new option is available in 5.0, **All sides together**. This either trims space from all four sides, or adds space to all four sides. It is identical to running Trim & Shift four times, once for each edge.

Creep: scaling

Creep is available as part of Trim & Shift and also as a separate function. Its aim is to adjust pages before printing a folded booklet or signature, to allow for the thickness of the paper, and avoid margins being shifted on the printed sheet.

Creep assistant

 When sheets are folded, the thickness of the paper means that pages no longer line up exactly. Creep shifts the pages before imposing them, to compensate for this. It is mainly needed for thicker booklets.

Create a new document instead of modifying this one

Signatures

Entire document will be folded and bound (any page count)

Document will be bound in groups (signatures)

Signature size pages

How much to shift

Paper thickness is points

Total shift needed is points

What to shift

Inside (centre) pages shift the most

Outside (cover) pages shift the most

Creep method

Shift pages (default in versions before 5.0)

Scale pages horizontally

Advanced options...

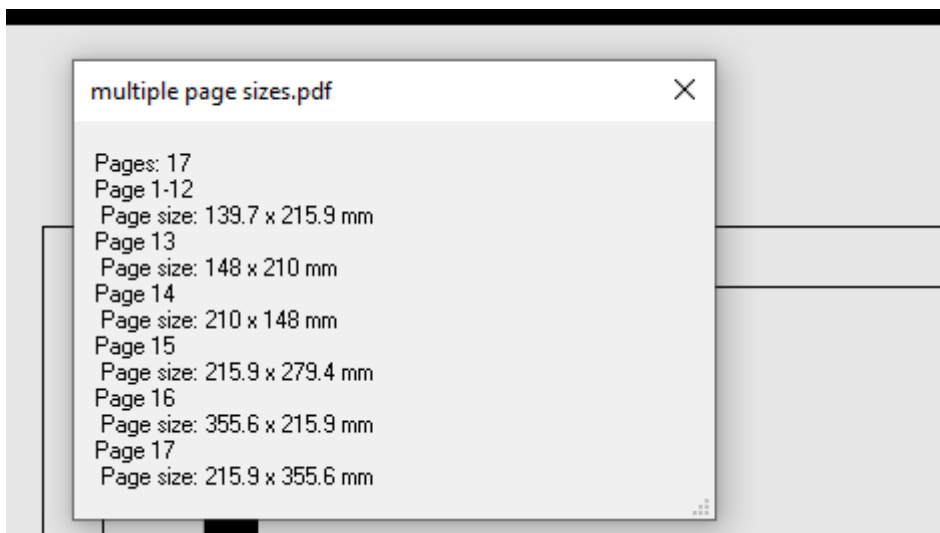
OK Cancel

A new option has been added **Scale pages horizontally**. The older behaviour, which is still often what is needed, is **Shift pages**. We do not recommend one or another, you need to consider your specific needs.

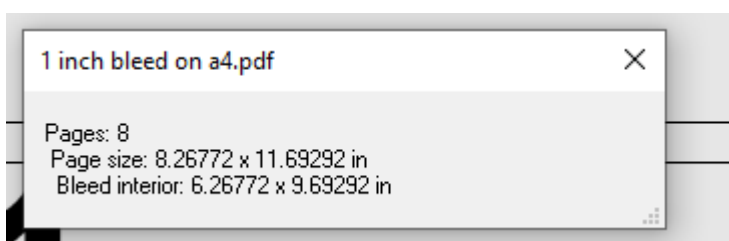
When pages are scaled, the scaling is only horizontal, so the shapes change (squares and circle are now slight rectangles and ovals, though this may be undetectable in most real world cases). Scaling may be particularly useful where the page design runs very close to both edges, and shifting would affect the design.

Page size monitor

The menu item **Page Management > Page Size Monitor** will open a window that can be left open and which shows info about the current (front) document or tab. Sizes are given with high precision (so they may be different from the less precise size shown by Acrobat).



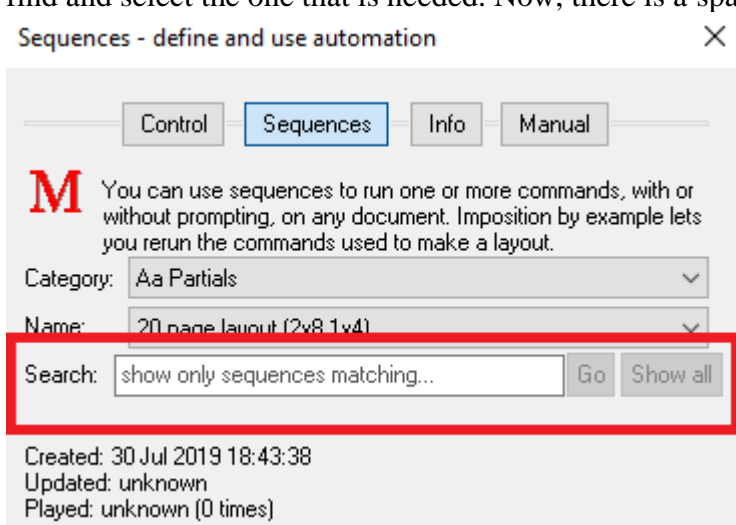
The window will automatically resize and includes information on bleed if it is present



Other Sequences enhancements

Sequences: filter sequence names

When a user has many sequences or sequence categories, it can be time consuming to find and select the one that is needed. Now, there is a space for searching for a string.



Fill in a string and click **Go**. You will see only:

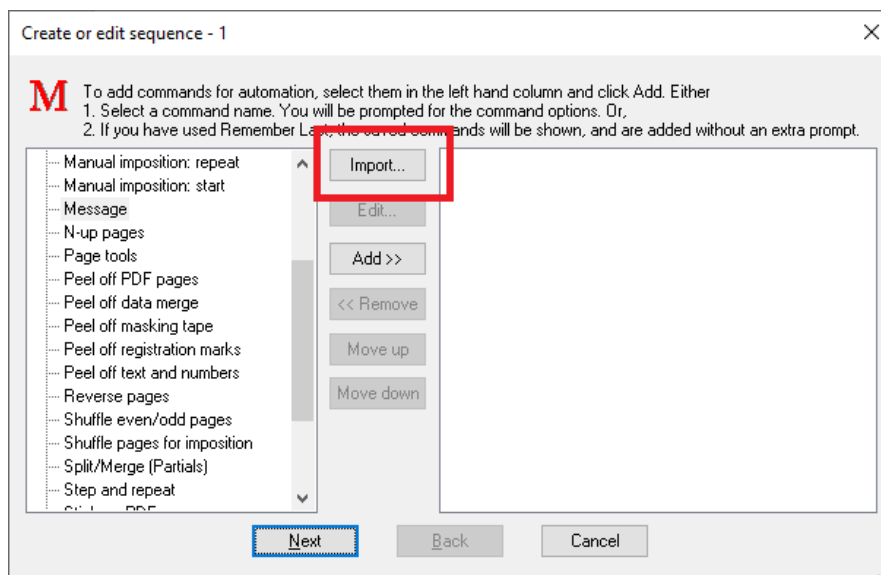
- Sequences with a matching name, whatever category they are in.
- Categories with a matching name – you will see all sequences in a matching category, whatever their name.

A sequence or category matches if the string appears anywhere in the name. For instance **WED** matches sequences called **WED**, **WED.ITEM**, **WEDNESDAY**, **STEWED**. Click **Show all** to go back and see everything.

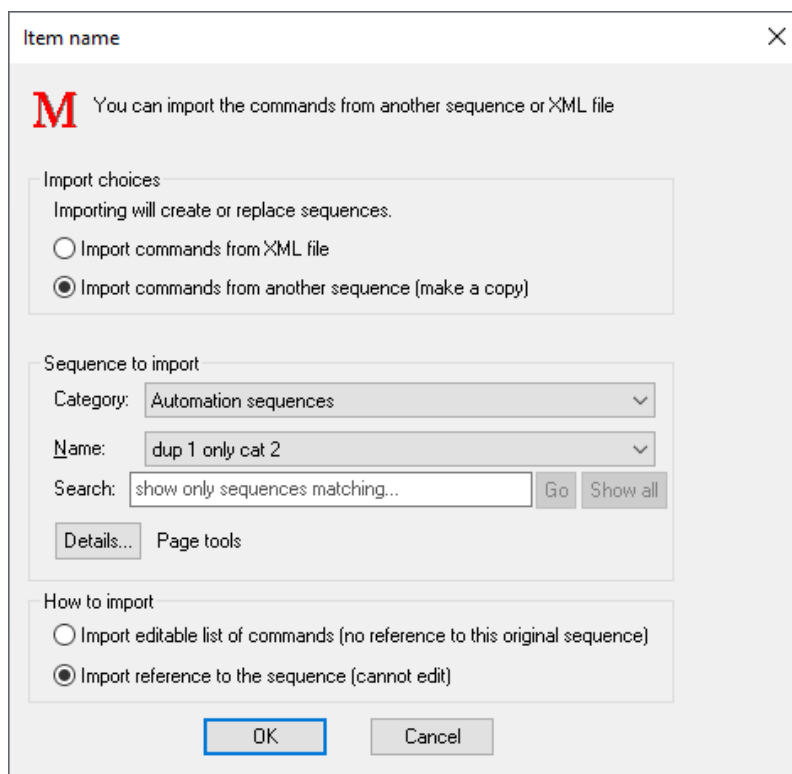
Sequences: Import sequences

Importing sequences (including importing from XML files) can save a lot of time in maintaining sequences. Previously, users had to redo work in similar sequences. You can import sequences in several places:

- The main sequence editor
- The new Conditions and Split/Merge commands



In all cases the import sequences dialog appears.



You can import from an XML file or another sequence. There are important differences between editable and non-editable imports.

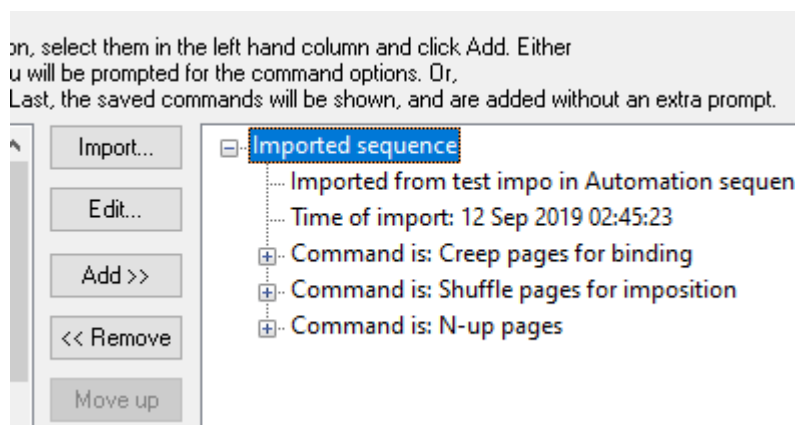
Editable import

When you import as “editable” the steps of the original sequence are copied. There is no connection to the original sequence, just the copies. If the original sequence changes, there is no way to know this.

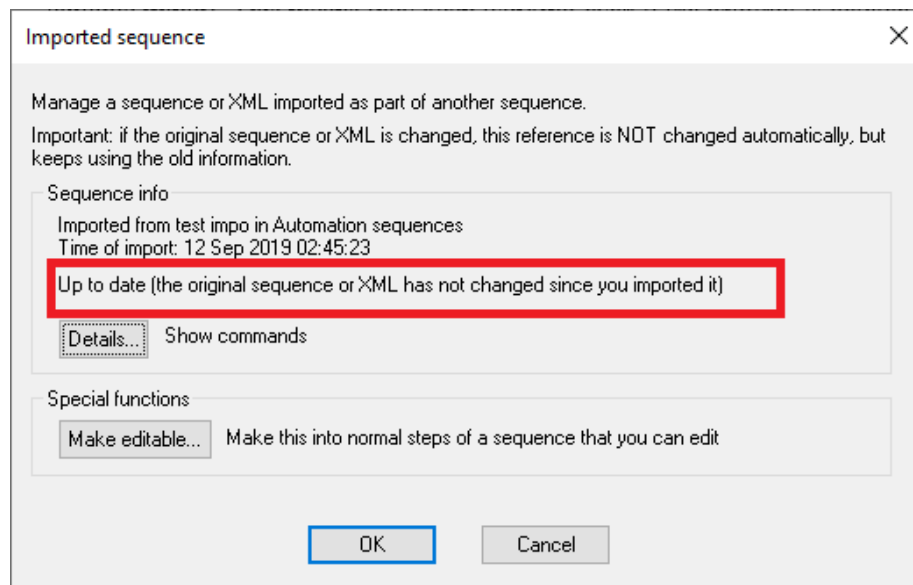
Non-editable import (import reference)

When you import as a reference, a copy is made of the original sequence steps, just as with editable import. This means they keep working *even if the original is deleted*. They will not change automatically *even if the original is changed*.

In a sequence, the imported steps appear as if there is a command “Imported sequence”. If you expand the list you will see where it was imported from, and the commands included.



If you double click or Click **Edit**, you can see further details and options.



If you click **Make editable**, the steps of the imported commands are used instead of the reference. You cannot undo this.

Notice that the sequence is shown as “Up to date”. The original sequence has been compared. If it has changed, you will have an **Update** button allowing you to read the commands again so the reference is up to date.

Conditions in automation sequences

Essentially, a Condition command lets you run some tests and choose just one sequence to run. Here are few of the tests you can make

- Are there exactly 32 pages?
- Is the page count 1, 3 or 5 to 12?
- Are there more than 24 pages?
- Are any pages larger than US letter?
- Are all the pages exactly a4 size?
- Do any pages have bleed?
- Are any pages wide?
- Does the file name start FRIDAY?
- Is the document title (metadata) exactly BUSINESS CARDS?
- Does the document keywords (metadata) include RUSH?

We're going to set up an example of the first test (are there exactly 32 pages). If there are 32 pages we're going to run a sequence called "Test Impo". If there is not exactly 32 pages we're going to stop with an error.

This is the initial dialog before we start. We need to make sure **Number of pages** is selected.

Conditional sequence

You can choose to do different actions based on a condition. Such as, insert pages only if there is an odd number of pages.

What to check: **Number of pages** ▼

▼ Condition 1

Number of pages: Choose a test ▼

No commands yet. Click Create or Import to set up the actions to do if test is passed.

Create... Import... Message...

Add another condition

Otherwise

Commands to run if no tests are matched.

No commands. Optionally, click Create or Import to set up the actions to do if none of the tests are passed

Create... Import... Message...

Now we need to set up a test (number of pages is exactly 32).

What to check: Number of pages ▼

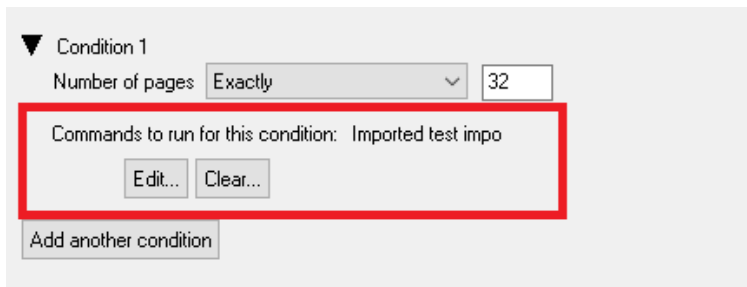
▼ Condition 1

Number of pages: Exactly ▼ 32

No commands yet. Click Create or Import to set up the actions to do if test is passed.

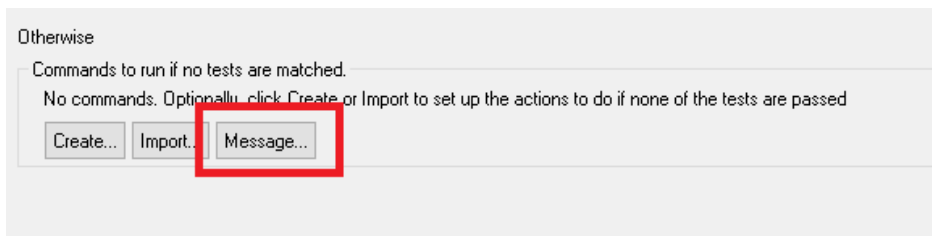
Create... Import... Message...

And we need to click **Import**. (We might also click **Create** to start from scratch). We select the "Test impo" sequence.



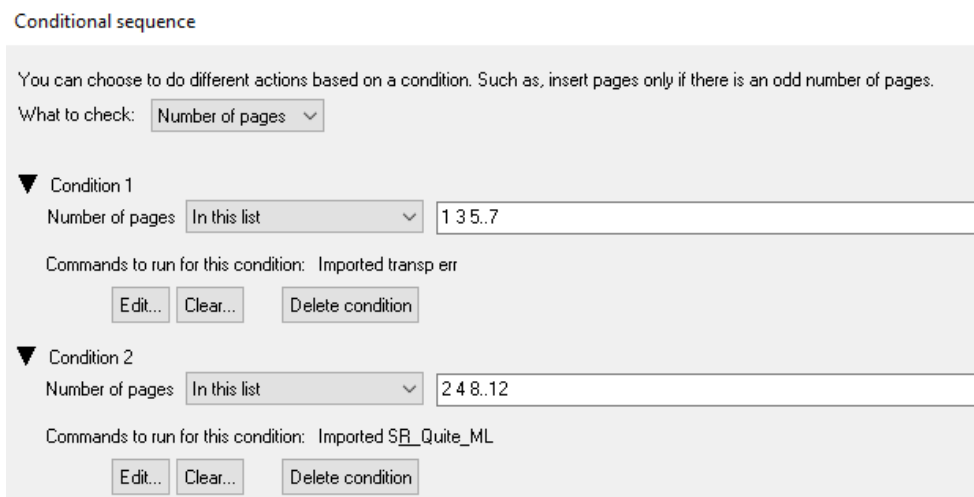
We could click **Add another condition** if we wanted more tests. In this case we do not.

We do want an error message for the case where there is any other number of pages, so we move down the dialog to the **Otherwise** section and click **Message**.



Now we choose a message and select that it is an error. See the Message command, described later. This Conditional command is now complete.

Some sequences allow lists, to save duplication. Particularly useful is **Number of pages ... in this list** choice. This might set up different impositions according to the number of pages, perhaps using Split and Merge (Partials) commands as needed.

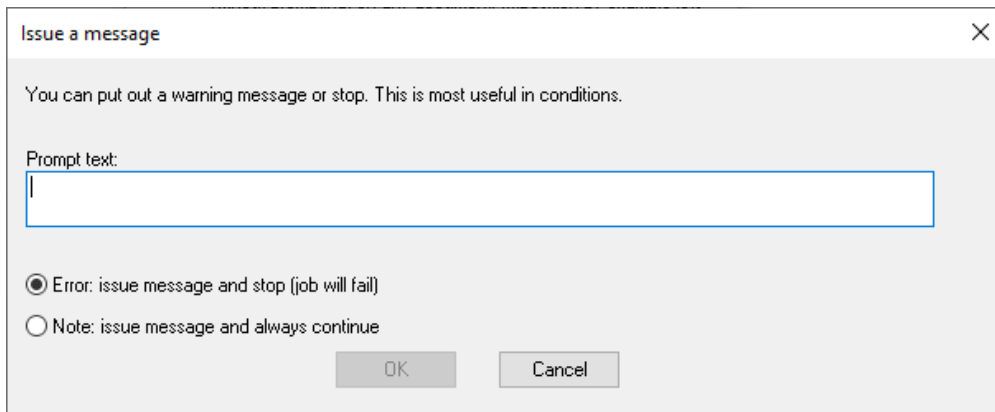


You can list a range of pages, so you can see 5..7, which means 5 to 7, same as 5 6 7. You can also see 8..12 for 8 to 12. So the first condition applies if the number of pages is 1, 3, 5, 6 or 7. (Note: you cannot use commas, only spaces).

Note that only one condition will be matched. Even if a later condition might also be matched, this has no effect.

Sequences: Message command

The Message command can be used in any automation sequence, though it is most useful with the new Conditions command, as described above. Simply, it puts out a message. This may be for information, or it may be an error message, stopping the sequence. (Your choice).



In Quite Hot Imposing, stopping the sequence causes the file to go to the ERROR folder.

The Message button in Conditions is a shortcut for “create an automation sequence containing one Message command”. The sequence created can be further edited to change the message or add other commands.

Enfocus Switch related enhancements

Enfocus Switch is a product made by Enfocus to manage workflows. Quite Software do not sell it or support it, but there is integration between Quite Hot Imposing and Enfocus Switch.

Removing prefix from file names

Switch files in flows typically have a special prefix on the name, so it is recognised by Switch. For example, a file originally called MONDAY.PDF might actually be called ABCDE_MONDAY.PDF. The prefix is always five alphanumeric characters within two underscores.

In Stick On Text And Numbers, you can now choose **File name (no prefix)** as a field. This will remove the prefix if it takes this form, and leave any other kind of name unchanged. This can be used to add the original file name as text on a printed sheet. The advanced name for this field is [Doc:FileNameNoPrefix].

This field can also be used with the new Condition commands.

Installation note for Enfocus SWITCH users

Enfocus SWITCH will search for a copy of Quite Hot. We have found the following method works for Windows users:

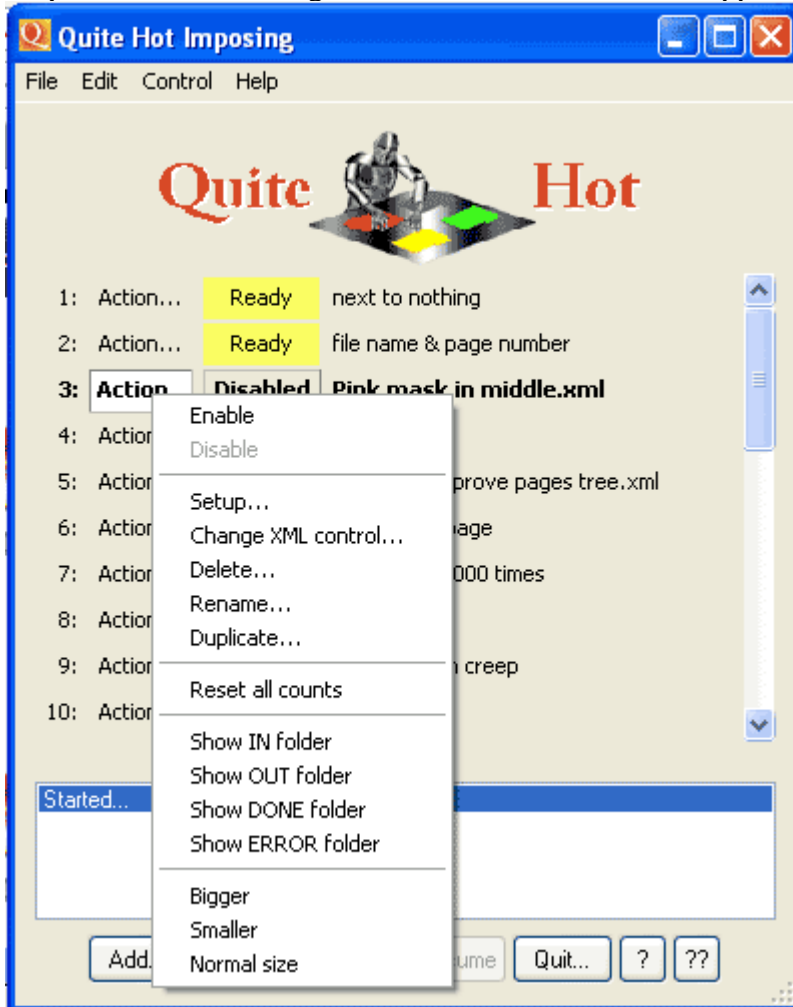
1. Run the version 5 product, then quit.
2. Uninstall version 1/3/4 (or rename its install folder). **Be sure you can reinstall later if needed.**
3. Quit and restart SWITCH.
4. If you want to go back to version 1/3/4, the procedure is the same: reinstall it, run the product once, and restart SWITCH.

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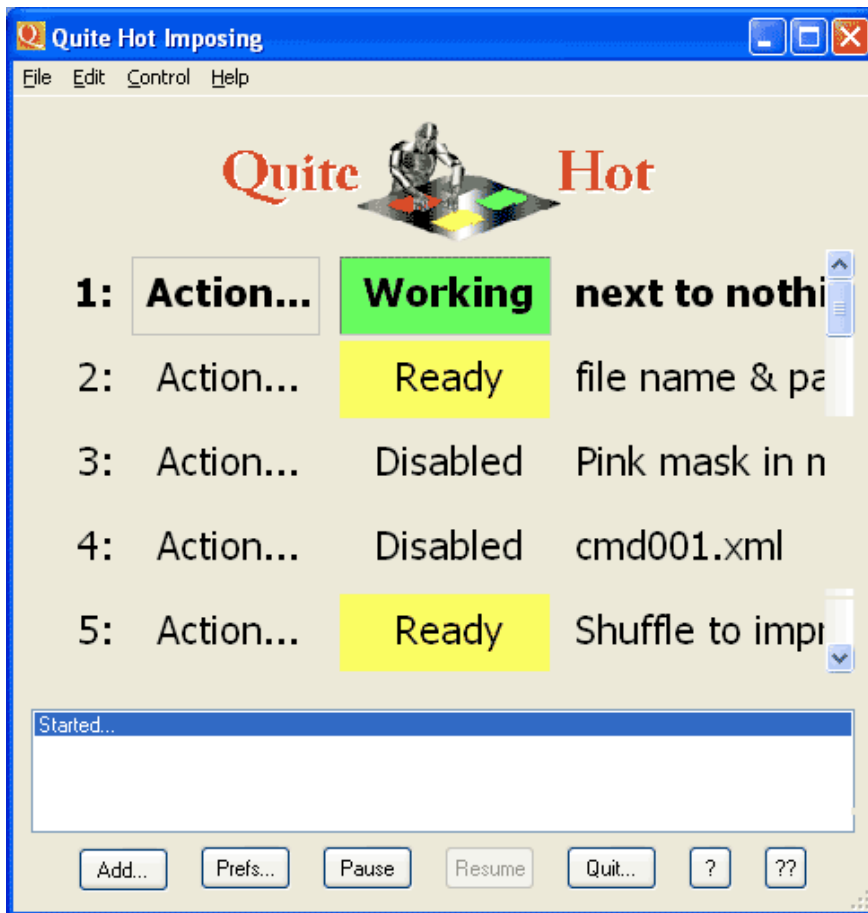
The most obvious change is in the main screen which has been redesigned to be clearer and allow you to manage more queues in a simple way.

Redesigned main screen

We heard you tell us that the main screen was awkward to use, especially for a larger number of queues. So we redesigned it. There is touch screen support on Windows 8 and later,

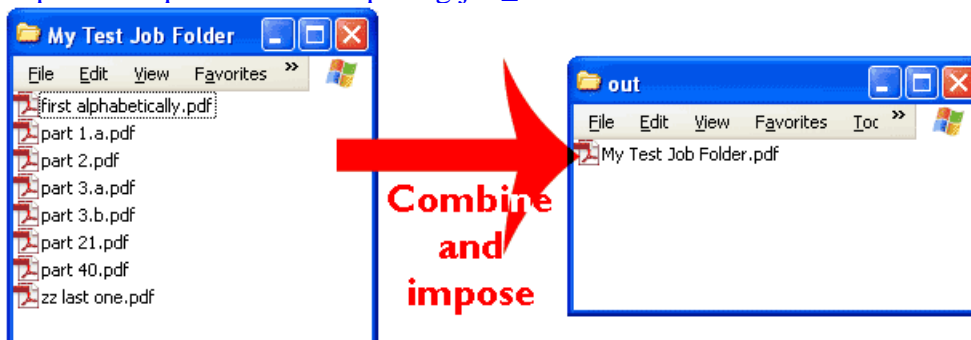


and you can make the display extra large to use as a control screen for viewing across the room.



Combine files using job folders

Easily combine files by putting them together, in what we call a job folder. More details on http://www.quite.com/hotimposing/job_folders.htm



- Allow a control.xml file to override the queue set up
- Option to add a prefix/suffix to output file names.