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RELEASE NOTES RELEASE 8.4

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Introduction

This document provides background information in terms of "Information and Tips" (page [5](#)), a "List of Known Issues" (page [37](#)), and "Upgrade-related Topics" (page [43](#)). All are important regarding the use of PharmaSuite 8.4.

In addition, section "Release-specific Enhancements and Changes" (page [3](#)) provides an overview of new key features since the previous release PharmaSuite 8.3.

Please see appendices for Technical Release Notes (page [53](#)) and Open Source License Agreements (page [59](#)).

For a list of definitions, please refer to the Glossary [A1] (page [49](#)).

Release-specific Enhancements and Changes

PharmaSuite 8.4 introduces functional improvements in the areas of:

- Equipment Management - Mass change operation
 - New FSM transition in Data Manager to allow a status transition of an **equipment class** from the **Approved** status back to the **Draft** status.
 - New **usage list for classes** that provides an overview of where a class is referenced as an equipment requirement in recipes, workflows, or building blocks.
 - Added **properties**, added or changed **equipment graphs**, and changed **property values** of an equipment class can be propagated automatically to the equipment entities assigned to the class.
- Exception management - External review
 - New support for the integration of an **external exception review** system (e.g. TrackWise) into the MES exception review process.
- Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS)
 - Support of **GHS information definition** on material level with Signal word, Pictograms, Hazard Statements, and Precautionary Statements.
 - New **Show GHS data** system building block.
- Container tare check
 - Enhanced **Tare** system building block for Dispense and Output Weighing to support a **container tare check**.
- Target weight enforcement
 - Definition of target weight and tolerances for an **output material parameter** and enhanced **Select scale** and **Weigh** system building blocks for Output Weighing to consider the target weight and its tolerances during execution.
- Quantity entry weighing method - Unit of measure
 - Simplified way to offer the **selection of all available units of measure** as a subset within weigh-specific system building blocks instead of the existing UoM toggle button.

- MFC - Selection branches (XOR) between unit procedures
 - New support of **XOR branching between unit procedures** as part of the modeling of the process flow (SFC) and support of related material flow control (MFC) modeling between unit procedures.
- Recovery capabilities to resolve issues during execution
 - New toolset for system administrators to **repair a control recipe** under certain circumstances.
For more information, please refer to "Recovery Capabilities to Resolve Issues during Execution" (page [29](#)).
- Packaging levels during execution
 - Support of **packaging level definition** on material, ERP BOM, and recipe level.
 - New **Produce material** system building block (will be released in the course of the PharmaSuite BB Echo release).
 - **Sublot creation** can be controlled by packaging level definition and by looping the new **Produce material** system building block.
- DCS integration with material management
 - Extended **DCS Adapter** interface to automatically retrieve material balances from a DCS or to provide batch information to a DCS.
 - New **Set order context** system building block to set an order context on a DCS (will be released in the course of the PharmaSuite BB Echo release).
 - New **Show consumed material** system building block to display DCS material consumption (will be released in the course of the PharmaSuite BB Echo release).
 - New **Show produced material** system building block to display DCS material production (will be released in the course of the PharmaSuite BB Echo release).

Information and Tips

This section provides information and tips on the behavior of PharmaSuite under specific conditions.

General Considerations

Maintenance of User Master Data

New for PharmaSuite 7.1.

User master data of PharmaSuite is maintained with Process Designer of FactoryTalk[®] ProductionCentre. Typically, on project level a third-party security provider like the LDAP Login Module is used.

However, FactoryTalk ProductionCentre still requires that user-specific properties and user group assignments are maintained in Process Designer, even if integrated with third-party applications. This is specifically required for a user's first name and last name. The information is mandatory, since it is used across all PharmaSuite clients whenever the name of a user has to be recorded (e.g. logged-in user, electronic signature).

For more information, please refer to chapter "Managing Users and Access Rights" in "Technical Manual Administration" [A5] (page [49](#)).

Precision of Calculation

Updated for PharmaSuite 8.3

If a measured value with its given scale (number of significant digits) is multiplied by a factor, the resulting scale depends on the scale of the original value and the magnitude of the factor (smaller than or greater than 1).

Examples:

- The expected result of a weight of 35.5 g multiplied by 10 is **355 g** (not: 355.0 g).
- The expected result of a weight of 7 kg multiplied by 0.5 is **3.5 kg** (not: 4 kg).

In order to achieve the expected result, PharmaSuite applies an algorithm to correct the result's scale as expected:

- $\text{scaleTarget} = \text{ceil}(\text{scaleSource} - \log_{10}(\text{multiplierFactor}))$

This algorithm also has to be considered when tolerances are defined in a recipe (e.g. with process parameters of the **Get process value** phase).

- The following tolerance definition **must not be used**, because it results in different and unexpected scales for upper/lower limits (example tolerance of +/- 1%):
Upper limit = Value * (1 + 0.01)
Lower limit = Value * (1 - 0.01)

- Example: Value = 58 ml
Upper limit = 59 ml, Lower limit = 57,4 ml

- The following tolerance definition results in a **correct and expected representation** of the limits (example tolerance of +/- 1%):
Upper limit = Value + (Value * 0.01)
Lower limit = Value - (Value * 0.01)

- Example: Value = 58 ml
Upper limit = 58.58 ml, Lower limit = 57,42 ml

Related to percentage calculations in general, the scale of a percentage calculation result will be at least 2 digits higher than the resulting scale of the multiplication itself due to the implicit division by 100. Example: $5 * 5\% = 0.25$, $100 * 1\% = 1.00$.

For more information, please refer to "Technical Description - Number Handling" [A10] (page 49) and "Technical Description - Quantity Calculations" [A11] (page 49).

The "Technical Description - Number Handling" describes the handling of numbers with respect to unit of measures (UoM), conversions, (quantity) calculations, etc. in PharmaSuite.

The "Technical Description - Quantity Calculations" describes the quantity calculations provided in PharmaSuite. Quantity calculations are used in the order explosion and in the Dispense and Weighing phase building blocks.

Global Unit of Measure Conversions

PharmaSuite and its underlying platform FactoryTalk ProductionCentre support the definition of global unit of measure conversion factors within the same physical quantities (e.g. length, time, mass, temperature). For conversions between different physical quantities, material-related conversion factors can be defined.

Global unit of measure conversion factors (e.g. $1 \text{ kg} = 1.000 \text{ g}$) must not be misused to define non-global conversion factors that might even contradict already defined global conversion factors. This leads to non-predictable unit of measure conversions during execution.

If additional standard conversions need to be loaded into the system, this has to be handled by a system integrator.

Material-specific Conversion Factors

Suppose there is a unit conversion from **kg** to **l** with a factor of **1.2** (and no offset). Converting **1 kg** to **liters** will result in **1 l**, whereas converting **1.0 kg** will yield **1.2 l**. The conversion function preserves the precision of the input.

Localized Signature Reason in the Production Execution Client

New for PharmaSuite 8.3

In the Production Execution Client (PEC), a reason is displayed for each electronic signature (e.g. Performed by, Reviewed by).

Since PharmaSuite 8.3, the reason for electronic signatures to be performed in the Production Execution Client can be localized. However, a localized reason must not exceed 80 characters.

The localized text is only used as a default during recipe authoring, i.e. the reasons used during execution are based on the configuration within the recipe.

Only if no reason is maintained in the recipe, the system defaults to the related message pack entry. If no message pack entry is maintained, the system defaults to the reason attribute of the related signature privilege.

Asian Locale and Exceeded Input Field Length

If an edit field has a length restriction (maximum N characters), the restriction does not work for Unicode fonts (e.g. Asian fonts), but arbitrary long strings can be entered into the field. In the end, the data cannot be stored to the database or be displayed correctly. This is an issue within Java and has not been solved yet (as of Java 6).

The system cannot assure the correct length of a given string automatically. However, in case the length restriction is exceeded, the string is no longer displayed correctly.

Therefore, when entering and saving of data, the user needs to double-check that the system still displays the data correctly.

Equipment and Work Center Management

Equipment Entity's Context Information within Data Manager

New for PharmaSuite 8.2

If an equipment entity is used in the context of a workflow, PharmaSuite does not record the current/previous context in the **Context** tab of the equipment entity in Data Manager - Equipment. The context is still available in the equipment logbook (if maintained).

Only the order-related context is recorded in the **Context** tab, i.e. the previous order context information remains unchanged during the execution of a workflow until the equipment entity is used again in an order context. Additionally, the context is not reset if the equipment entity is used in the context of any workflow.

The evaluation of cleaning rules (e.g. during a subsequent weighing step) is based on the current/previous context that is presented in the **Context** tab of an equipment entity in Data Manager - Equipment. The previous order context now remains unchanged during the execution of any workflow (e.g. a cleaning workflows), including the information of the previously involved material (in the context of an order). That means, after the execution of a cleaning workflow (e.g. a minor cleaning), the previous order context information is still available for evaluation of pre-configured cleaning rules (e.g. **Minor cleaning required** vs. **Major cleaning required**) in the context of a sub-sequent weighing step of an order.

If an equipment entity (e.g. room, container) is exposed to other material while it is used within a weighing campaign (e.g. usage of a PharmaSuite workflow for Weighing without order or even weighing without any usage of PharmaSuite), an operational procedure (SOP) needs to be in place to ensure that the cleaning status of the equipment entity is set to an appropriate cleaning status (e.g. **Major cleaning required**). Thus the equipment entity cannot be used again within the campaign without being cleaned appropriately.

Change Control within Data Manager

Last updated for PharmaSuite 8.4.

Data Manager allows to manage the following equipment-related master data: property types, equipment classes, equipment entities, and equipment graphs. In addition, work centers and stations are also maintained in Data Manager.

Change control is available for equipment classes, equipment entities, and equipment graphs. Best practice usage of the system only allows equipment classes and entities to be used during execution, if they are in an **Approved** status. However, in support of certain use cases (e.g. equipment qualification), the system allows to configure a recipe or workflow in a way, that equipment data can be used during execution, even if not in an **Approved** status, thus potentially being subject to change.

As a consequence, any change to data of objects that have already been used has to be applied very carefully in order not to break already approved recipes, workflows, or custom building blocks.

In addition, PharmaSuite also allows equipment classes to be moved back from the **Approved** to the **Draft** status. Any update of an equipment class that already has been approved earlier may have a severe impact on existing master recipes or master workflows. In order to support a related risk assessment, PharmaSuite provides a usage list for classes to give an overview of where a class is referenced as an equipment requirement in recipes, workflows, or building blocks.

For work centers and stations, no system change control is in place yet.

To separately manage the write or read access to Data Manager, the system provides two different access privileges for each of the two modes (Data Manager - Equipment, Data Manager - Work Center).

Expiry Date of a Current Equipment Status

New for PharmaSuite 8.1.

With PharmaSuite 8.1, status graph management was introduced in Data Manager to model specific status graphs for equipment entities (e.g. test status graph of a scale, cleaning status graph of a room).

For each status graph of an equipment entity, the system provides a **Current status** property and, if a status is configured to expire, an **Expiry date** property.

The **Expiry date** always represents the expiry date of the **Current status** only and needs to be set upon the latest status transition. This means, only the current status can expire automatically.

In case a specific use case requires the management of an expiry date other than for the current status of a graph, this needs to be modeled by managing separate expiry date runtime properties in addition to the **Expiry date** property provided by the system.

Forcing an Equipment Status in Data Manager

New for PharmaSuite 8.4.

With PharmaSuite 8.1, status graph management was introduced in Data Manager to model specific status graphs for equipment entities (e.g. test status graph of a scale, cleaning status graph of a room).

Since PharmaSuite 8.2, Data Manager provides an operation that allows to change runtime data, such as runtime properties, graph-related data (e.g. status, expiry date), and grouping situations, of an equipment entity in a read-only status. Since the **Current status** property of an entity is always modeled as a runtime property, this operation allows to force a status of any given status graph of an entity.

Typically, any equipment-related status transition is triggered by a recipe or workflow on the shop floor. Per configuration in the status graph of an equipment object, additional actions can take place automatically once a specific status transition has been triggered (e.g. increase of a counter).

For those exceptional cases when an equipment-related status needs to be forced in Data Manager, it is important to understand the following implications:

- Forcing a new status in Data Manager by updating the **Current status** property value does not represent a status transition as defined within the related status graph. Only the related runtime property is updated.
- As a consequence, none of the actions are performed automatically that can be defined within a status transition of the related status graph and its associated target status.

- Any related action (e.g. increase of a counter or re-calculation of an expiry date) that needs to be executed from a use case perspective requires a manual update of the related runtime property.

The main reason for this solution concept is the fact that use cases that require to perform a forced status change in Data Manager can be very different. Depending on the exceptional situation on the shop floor, further runtime properties may need to be updated or not. This shall always be an explicit action based on a conscious user decision rather than an implicit action that is performed automatically by the system.

Export/Import of Entities and their Class Assignments

Assuming an entity A is assigned to a class B in the source system.

If entity A is exported and imported into a target system that has no class B available yet, the assignment is automatically deleted upon the import of entity A.

However, if later on, class B is exported and entity A is still assigned to class B in the source system, the assignment will also be re-established in the target system upon the import of class B.

Export/Import of Entities, Classes, and Graphs in View of Change Control

Updated for PharmaSuite 8.1.

Change control is available for equipment classes, equipment entities, and equipment graphs. However, the status and status history information of a class, entity, or graph from its source system is not part of the export/import process. As a consequence, classes, entities, and graphs always need to be approved in the target system, independent of their previous status in the source system.

During the import of classes, entities, and graphs, specific rules apply in case the objects already exist in the target system. In general, update of an object with the import function is only allowed if the object in the target system is in the **Draft** status.

- A class, entity, or graph can only be imported, if it is in the **Draft** status in the target system.
- If an object with dependent objects is imported (e.g. class with assigned entities, entity with assigned graphs), specific rules apply. For more information, please refer to "Functional Requirement Specification Data Management" [A15] (page 49).

Generally spoken, if the dependent object's content in the target system differs from the source system (which means it will be updated along with the import), the **Draft** status is required in the target system.

If the dependent object in the target system is already in the **Verification** or **Approved** statuses, but its content is identical in the source and target systems, it will simply be skipped during the import and the import of the parent object will be successful.

OPC-supported Data Type Mappings

PharmaSuite only supports the explicitly defined data type mappings listed in the table below:

FTLD ConstName= OPC standard data type	Description	Common OPC names	Mapped to Live Data data types	Mapped to PharmaSuite technical property
VT_EMPTY	Default/Empty (nothing)	---	N/A	N/A
VT_NULL	---	---	N/A	N/A
VT_I2	2-byte signed integer	SHORT	Integer	BigDecimal
VT_I4	4-byte signed integer	LONG	Integer	BigDecimal
VT_R4	4-byte (single precision) real	REAL4	Float	BigDecimal
VT_R8	8-byte (double-precision) real	REAL8	Double	BigDecimal
VT_CY	Currency	CURRENCY	not supported	N/A
VT_DATE	Date	DATE	not supported	N/A
VT_BSTR	Text (UNICODE)	STRING	String	String
VT_ERROR	Error code	---	N/A	N/A
VT_BOOL	Boolean (TRUE=-1, FALSE=0)	BOOLEAN	Boolean	Boolean
VT_I1	1-byte signed integer	CHAR	Integer	BigDecimal
VT_UI1	1-byte unsigned integer	BYTE	Integer	BigDecimal
VT_UI1	2-byte unsigned integer	USHORT	Integer	BigDecimal
VT_UI1	4-byte unsigned integer	ULONG	Integer	BigDecimal
VT_ARRAY	Arrays	ARRAY OF ...	not supported	N/A

When defining the tag name (tag path) of numeric equipment entity properties in Data Manager - Equipment, it is crucial to ensure that the OPC data type behind the defined tag name matches the pre-defined Live Data data type of the property, which was defined on property type level.

PharmaSuite supports the check with a manual **Verify** function. It double-checks the validity of the tag name and the correct data type mapping. In case the check fails (name or data type), PharmaSuite displays a warning message that the given tag name is not valid.

Note: If PharmaSuite runs in an environment without a connection to the OPC server, an equipment entity can be saved even if tag names are not defined properly or data types do not match.

Example of the consequences when a numeric property with a wrong data type mapping is used during execution:

A **Get OPC value** phase is configured to support the **Integer** Live Data type, but the related tag name is mapped to a **REAL4** OPC data type (Float). During execution, while reading from the tag, an arbitrary conversion may take place and provides just the **Integer** portion of the value (25.678 in the PLC is displayed and recorded as 25 in PharmaSuite). There is no indication to the operator that a conversion took place.

Locale-specific Logbook Entries

PharmaSuite writes equipment-related logbook entries as a string according to the actual Locale (e.g. English-US). This might have an impact on the way how expression conditions (e.g. related to a transition within the recipe graph) have to be defined.

If string-based information from the logbook is used to define expression conditions, this results in expressions that now also depend on the Locale of the running system. As a consequence, the recipe can only be executed on a client that is running based on the same Locale compared to the recipe definition.

Export/Import of Work Centers and Stations

Data Manager - Work Center, introduced with PharmaSuite 5.2, allows to manage the following master data: work centers and stations.

Currently there is no export/import function for work centers and stations available within Data Manager.

To transfer these objects from system A to system B, Process Designer's DSX export/import must be used. See also "Work Centers do not export their Production Line(s)" (page 38).

Registration of Devices at Stations

Updated for PharmaSuite 8.3

Since PharmaSuite 5.2, the system supports certain agility use cases that allow to run the Production Execution Client and the related recipe or workflow processing on multiple stations per work center and also on multiple devices per station. One specific new feature in this context is the **Register at Station** function, which supports the usage of mobile devices. It allows an operator to register his current device at another station, provided the operator is authorized to execute recipes on that specific station.

Before PharmaSuite 5.2, the setup of work centers, stations, and devices was always based on two facts:

- There is a 1:1:1 relation between those artifacts.
- The related setup cannot be changed by an operator in the Production Execution Client.

Given the new agility use cases that are now supported with PharmaSuite 5.2, there are certain aspects that need to be considered during the initial setup of work centers, stations, and devices, and also during the configuration of the Production Execution Client running on those devices and stations.

- In order to control which user is allowed to log in at which station, assign respective access privileges to each station in Data Manager.
- In order to not allow a registration of a stationary device at all, disable the manual and scanner-based execution of the **Register at Station** function for the given station.
- In order to enforce that a registration of a mobile device can only be done with the barcode right at the new station's location, disable the manual execution of the **Register at Station** function (or only allow it for a supervisor) and only allow a scanner-based registration for the related stations.
- In order to control the correct status of equipment required for order execution, consider to model explicit steps for equipment identification in a master recipe.

For work centers of the **Dispense** type, there still is a 1:1:1 relation required between work center, station, and device.

Automation Integration

Automation Infrastructure-related Data

For each equipment entity, the relevant Automation Integration (AI) server name and the Live Data Area path can be maintained within Data Manager - Equipment.

In case the AI server name or the Live Data Area path are changed for a specific equipment entity after it has already been used on the shop floor, the respective Production Execution Client (PEC) needs to be restarted in order to reflect the changes.

Limited Real-time Capability

PharmaSuite is not designed to replace a real-time SCADA system, but to ensure compliant manufacturing from an MES perspective.

Two of the key advantages of the MES automation integration are the ability

- to automatically read, write, and monitor values of equipment properties and document the result in the batch report, and
- to record exceptions if expected values or ranges are violated or communication failures occur.

Usually, the required technical infrastructure works fine and these capabilities can be considered to provide "semi-real-time" results. However, due to the nature of the

technical setup, there still is a risk that the communication between MES and the automation layer may be delayed or may fail completely.

During recipe or workflow execution, PharmaSuite provides an exception handling that allows to respond to this kind of communication failures (e.g. record the results manually) and to record the exception in the batch report.

Limitation of Monitoring Capability

The **Monitor numeric value** phase, introduced with PharmaSuite BB Delta, provides the capability to monitor a value-related tag, based on a pre-defined condition and monitoring duration (e.g. for the next 5 minutes monitor if the value exceeds 23 °C).

However, one specific tag can only be monitored against one condition at a time. That means, the system does not support to monitor one tag simultaneously against different conditions (e.g. phase 1 monitors $T1 > 23\text{ °C}$, phase 2 monitors $T1 > 50\text{ °C}$), not even if different **Monitor numeric value** phase instances are used or the phases are run on different clients.

To monitor different conditions simultaneously, the automation layer needs to provide different tags for the same data to be monitored.

Dispensing

Replacing Sublots in the Production Management Client

New for PharmaSuite 8.3

In general, as exceptional use cases can vary in a wide range, a key idea of PharmaSuite to handle exceptional cases is to provide as much flexibility as possible, in order to record the corrective actions properly in the system. However, a high level of flexibility always implies that there is less user guidance in terms of automated calculations or checks by the system.

An example of an exceptional use case that has to be reviewed carefully and typically signed by a supervisor as a witness (double signature) is the replacement of a subplot and related quantities in the Production Management Client.

The system provides flexible ways to resolve a wide range of replacement-related use cases. For example:

- The Production Management Client allows to replace a single active substance subplot even though the compensation material has already been dispensed completely.
(This is restricted in the Production Execution Client. There, all compensation material has to be replaced first, before active material can be replaced.)
- The Production Management Client allows to adjust the new default remaining planned quantity of a material by the user, related to each subplot to be replaced (planned quantity can be edited.).

- Even after all of the relevant sublots were marked as replaced and as long as processing of the reactivated order step has not been started yet, the new remaining quantity of the material item can still be adjusted in the Production Management Client with the **Increase quantity of order step input** action (1st OSI split position).

In other words, PharmaSuite automatically calculates a resulting remaining quantity for each individual subplot as a default planned quantity (for active materials, the remaining quantity is recalculated according to the actual/planned potency of the replaced subplot). However, the quantity has to be reviewed and adjusted manually by the user as needed.

This is especially true in case the entire set of sublots of an active or compensation material position is replaced. Due to potential rounding errors (active material) or previous compensator calculations (compensation material), this typically requires a manual quantity adjustment in order to reset the remaining quantity to the original planned quantity of this material position.

Tracking of Exceptional Events for Order Step Inputs and Outputs in the Production Management Client

New for PharmaSuite 8.4

As part of the **Manage Orders** use case in the Production Management Client, PharmaSuite provides capabilities to perform the following material-related operations on order step input or output level (not for Inline Weighing, except for defining alternative material):

- Replace a target subplot (order step output)
- Define an alternative material (order step input)
- Increase the quantity of a material (order step input)
- Add a supplementary item (new additional item as order step input)
- Reactivate an aborted material (order step input)

All of these operations can be controlled by respective privileges. Since PharmaSuite 3.1, an explicit **Change History of Order Definitions** table is used to track those operations in the database.

PharmaSuite does not yet offer a user interface or standard report that allows to view the content of this change history. However, a workaround solution can be to add a respective section to the project-specific batch report.

Cleaning Rules and the Room's Context Information within Data Manager

New for PharmaSuite 8.2

If an equipment entity is used in the context of a workflow, PharmaSuite does not record the current/previous context in the **Context** tab of the equipment entity in Data Manager - Equipment. The context is still available in the equipment logbook (if maintained).

For more information, please refer to "Equipment Entity's Context Information within Data Manager" (page 7).

Tolerance Calculation

Updated for PharmaSuite 8.0.

In versions of PharmaSuite prior to 3.1, during dispensing, the system reduced the tolerance range of a weighing item by the scale resolution **d** (e.g. 0.1 g) per split position.

Since PharmaSuite 3.1, the tolerance range is no longer reduced by the system. This functionality has been removed in order to:

- support a lower or upper limit of 0% and
- avoid issues related to restricted tolerance ranges where a weighing position cannot be completed anymore after multiple split positions have been created and no tolerance range is left.

This behavior has to be taken into consideration when tolerances are defined within the master recipe.

Since PharmaSuite 8.0, the tolerance calculation has been changed slightly, based on the following assumptions:

- The **tolerance** definition within a recipe rather has the meaning of an **accuracy** or **precision** definition of a quantity, which is reflected by the question "What is the maximum/minimum value of the real weight that I will accept, not knowing yet which scale resolution will apply during execution?"
For this reason, we do not allow lower AND upper tolerances to be 0 at the same time, because there is no physical scale available with a precision of +/- 0.
- An update is applied with PharmaSuite 8.0 that recalculates the nominal tolerance range during execution based on the resolution of the used scale:
[(lower tolerance + resolution) .. (upper tolerance – resolution)]
In this way, it is assured that weighing **In tolerance** during execution results in a physical weight that really is within the original tolerance definition of the recipe.
- The algorithm within the **Select scale** phase that identifies suitable scales follows the same approach. Only scales are allowed with a resolution value smaller than or equal to twice the tolerance range.

Only Identification

Updated for PharmaSuite 8.4

If **Only identification** is the default weighing method and no other weighing methods are allowed according to the master recipe, an operator on the shop floor will not be able to handle overweight situations other than through another **Only identification** action.

In case a final dispensing step will be required on the shop floor (e.g. **Net** weighing), a reasonable weighing method must be allowed within the master recipe and the required

weighing phase building blocks (for scale selection, taring, and weighing) must be part of the recipe definition.

Scale Timeout

After a communication timeout, the tare value presented in the Dispense application may temporarily show a different tare value than the display of the scale itself.

If the scale is unstable when it receives the tare command, it will not respond until eventually the scale gets stable and the tare can be determined. There is no timeout at the scale itself and the tare command is not discarded. The Dispense application terminates waiting for the tare response from the scale after a timeout (10 sec.), displaying an error message and remaining in the **Tare** phase.

The scale will tare itself (switch from gross to net display) immediately after the stabilizing (even minutes later). However this is not fully reflected in the representation of the tare value in the Dispense application: the net value is shown instead of the tare value.

In order to correct this, the operator has to repeat zeroing and taring until the scale display (of the scale) and the representation within the Dispense application are synchronized again.

Labeling and Reporting

Size of Value Fields

If the numeric value of the net quantity has too many digits, the Unit of Measure may be truncated.



Figure 1: Example subplot label

Solution: As part of the project-related fit-gap-analysis, the required number of digits needs to be analyzed. If required, subplot labels and the dispensing report need to be adapted.

Number of Printouts

Updated for PharmaSuite 7.1.

In the pre-defined **Material receipt** and **Sublot split** workflows of the Production Execution Client, when printing subplot labels, the operator can define the number of labels to be printed per subplot and whether the printed labels will be collated or will not be collated.

However, currently the **Number of labels per subplot** option is **read-only**. Thus, the operator cannot change the default value. This is due to the fact that the system currently does not track the number of labels that were printed as part of one print job. (Separate reprint print jobs are tracked.)

Nevertheless, in case the customer wants to use this functionality despite the fact that the number of labels is not tracked, the **Number of labels per subplot** option can easily be enabled by a system integrator.

Barcode Support

Updated for PharmaSuite 8.4.

The default barcode type in PharmaSuite for subplot labels is Code 128. However, during execution (e.g. material receipt, batch creation), there is no automated check of an operator's data input against conformity with the barcode type.

As a consequence, an operator could type non-barcode-conforming letters as part of an identifier (e.g. "Ä", "Ö", "Ü" within a batch identifier), which afterwards would lead to a system error during barcode identification (the barcode represents a combined identifier from subplot and batch).

An operational procedure (SOP) needs to be in place to ensure that in case of barcode-relevant identifiers, only those identifiers are defined and used, which conform to the used barcode type.

Localization of Reports

When localizing a report, be aware of differences in text length in the target language. If a string does not fit into a report field, JasperReports leaves the field empty instead of displaying an ellipsis or even a truncated string. This means that text expansion or only a different time/date format can become an issue and requires the report layout to be changed.

Recipe Management

Material Master Data

Updated for PharmaSuite 8.2

Material master data is not under version control. As a consequence, data might be changed by an authorized user at any time, which also includes the **Material identifier**.

Material master data is under audit trail. However, based on the relational data structure, an update of a **Material identifier** would also result in an updated representation of the material in a material parameter of a **Valid** recipe or at any given place in the system where this specific material is referenced.

Appropriate access privileges and an operational procedure (SOP) need to be in place to ensure that critical data such as a **Material identifier** is not updated manually in the system.

Positions of BOM Items

In general, the system supports alphanumeric BOM item positions.

However, if one of the BOM items is of the **Filler substance** weighing material type, each BOM item position must be numeric (leading zeros might be included).

Scalability of Master Recipes - Expected Number of Produced Sublots

New for PharmaSuite 7.1.

In general, recipes are scalable in PharmaSuite. In case the planned quantities of an order and its underlying master recipe are different, during order explosion the system automatically applies a related scaling factor to the planned quantities of all material parameters of this order (if not marked as **fixed quantity**).

However, for Output Weighing, the automated scaling of quantities does not apply to the **Number of sublots** process parameter, which is used to configure the expected minimum and maximum number of produced sublots.

In order to support scalable recipes, the respective calculations need to be modeled explicitly for the process parameter with an information flow function (e.g. base value multiplied by the **Order Scaling Factor** function).

Recipe and Workflow Management

Room Status and Room ID Functions

New for PharmaSuite 8.1.

Prior to PharmaSuite 8.1, a room was always bound implicitly to a running unit procedure, based on the work center assignment in its master data and the current work center of the running Production Execution Client. An example that is still valid in

PharmaSuite 8.1 is the implicit binding of a room along with the identification of material in Dispense or Inline Weighing with the **D Identify material** phase.

The Expression editor of Recipe and Workflow Designer provides the Room Status and Room ID functions. Both are evaluated in the same way during execution, based on the work center assignment of the room and the current work center of the running Production Execution Client.

With PharmaSuite 8.1, rooms can also be bound explicitly with the **Identify equipment** phase, independent of the work center assignment of the room equipment entity in Data Manager - Equipment.

An operational procedure (SOP) needs to be in place to ensure that if in such cases the Room Status and the Room ID functions are used within a recipe, only rooms can be identified explicitly whose assigned work center is also the current work center of the running Production Execution Client.

Alternatively, the current room status can be retrieved with the Equipment graph status (runtime-related) function (`equipmentGraphStatus(arg1, arg2 [, arg3])`). With an equipment object as first argument (retrieved with an output variable of the **Identify equipment** phase), a purpose as second argument, and an attribute identifier (KEY or DISPLAY) as optional third argument. In this way, the current status is always retrieved from the object that has been explicitly bound to the current unit procedure.

Definition of Signature Privileges for Exceptions

New for PharmaSuite 8.1.

For each signature privilege that is assigned to a specific phase during recipe/workflow authoring, a related risk level has to be defined. According to the risk assessment for each individual exception, the signature privilege with the same risk level will be required in order to sign an exception during execution.

With PharmaSuite 8.1, the following new risk levels were introduced: **Low (mandatory comment)**, **Medium (mandatory comment)**, and **High (mandatory comment)**. If one of the new risk levels is defined during recipe/workflow authoring, a mandatory comment has to be provided when an exception is signed during execution.

Please note that the risk levels without and with a mandatory comment (e.g. **High** and **High (mandatory comment)**) represent different risk levels to which different signature privileges must be assigned. This means, a signature privilege with risk level **High** does not apply to an exception with a risk level **High (mandatory comment)**.

Loops Built into EBR Recipes

Last updated for PharmaSuite 8.4.

Recipe and Workflow Designer of PharmaSuite is a graphical workbench for building and maintaining master recipes, master workflows, and their component building blocks. With its functions for status and version control, it covers the entire life cycle of a master

recipe, master workflow, or building block. The workbench provides material flow control on the basis of material parameters, information flows for values from process parameters, privilege parameters for access rights, capability parameters, and equipment parameters.

For each structure level of a master recipe, master workflow, or building block, the system presents an SFC graph (sequential function chart).

PharmaSuite Recipe and Workflow Designer is available in several modes: as Recipe Designer - Batch, Recipe Designer - Device, and Workflow Designer.

However, SFC is limited as follows:

- Loops are not allowed for process steps that are directly located after or before a branching.
- Loops are only supported for phases and operations, whereas parallel and XOR branching is supported for phases, operations, and unit procedures.

These rules need to be considered during recipe and workflow building.

Transition Conditions within SFC Modeling

Updated for PharmaSuite 8.4.

When defining transition conditions within an SFC model, ensure that the conditions are consistent and unique.

- Unless all of the potentially required values are covered (logical gap), the system may run into a dead end during recipe or workflow execution.
- If definitions are not unique (logical overlapping), the system may respond in a non-determined way during recipe or workflow execution.

If the system is not able to evaluate transition conditions and the recipe appears to hang, a specific recovery capability is available in the Production Management Client since PharmaSuite 8.4 (see section "Recovery Capabilities to Resolve Issues during Execution" (page 29)).

NOT Operator Used in Expressions

PharmaSuite interprets the expression **NOT A OR B** as **(NOT A) OR B**, but not as **NOT (A OR B)**.

This interpretation is in line with most programming languages (e.g. Java, SQL).

The same interpretation applies to the combination of the NOT and AND operators.

Instance Count Output Variable

Updated for PharmaSuite 8.4.

Per default, each phase provides the **Instance count** output variable, which can be used in the context of the information flow capabilities.

The count variable of a phase that is not completed yet or that is aborted provides 0 as default output value.

Limited Support of Dynamic Expressions in the Context of Get Values and Show Values Phases

In general, the configuration of process parameters as part of recipe authoring is supported by the information flow mechanism, which includes the ability to define dynamic expressions.

This also applies to the process parameters of the PharmaSuite **Get values** and **Show values** phases introduced with PharmaSuite 6.0 in support of IPC-related data collection and data representation use cases.

However, some limitations apply if the **Show values** phase is used to present data that previously has been collected by the **Get values** phase.

In this case, the system only supports dynamic expressions as long as the result of each expression during execution (at runtime) is constant within a given process order/control recipe. This applies to the following phases, process parameters, and attributes:

- Get values / <Master (bundle identifier)> / Short description
(used for table headers in the **Show values** phase),
- Get values / <Bundle identifier> Boolean options / Display text (for TRUE or FALSE)
(used for value representation within the table of the **Show values** phase),
- Get values / <Bundle identifier> List of options / Options (Key, Display text)
(used for value representation within the table of the **Show values** phase).

Export and Import of Master Recipes and Master Workflows

Updated for PharmaSuite 7.1.

The **PharmaSuite Export/Import Utility** tool exports and imports S88 master recipes, master workflows, and custom building blocks maintained with Recipe and Workflow Designer.

In order to successfully run the import into the target system, the source and the target PharmaSuite systems need to be identical in their (maintenance) release and the following objects need to be available also in the target system:

- System phases as far as they are used.
- Resources master data, including materials, signature privileges, work centers, stations, equipment classes, equipment property types, work instructions, and units of measure as far as they are referenced.
- Equipment entities as far as they belong to referenced equipment classes, and therefore are to be used during execution.

- Equipment property types as far as they are referenced by the relevant equipment classes or entities.

It is the responsibility of the operator using the **PharmaSuite Export/Import Utility** tool to make sure that source and target system have been synchronized in terms of the above mentioned aspects.

For more information, please refer to chapter "Exporting and Importing Master Recipes, Master Workflows, and Building Blocks" in "Technical Manual Administration" [A5] (page 49).

Significance of Change Requests

Updated for PharmaSuite 7.1.

The purpose of a change request is to enable the user to replace specific custom building blocks automatically and, depending on the defined target status (of the recipe or workflow), to directly create new versions of recipes or workflows in a **Valid** status. In this context, failures in defining the scope of a change request might result in corrupt recipes or workflows that are available for production, which means there is a direct impact on product quality.

Therefore each change requests must undergo its own approval cycle and conscious risk assessment has to be applied during review and approval.

Interruption of a Change Request

PharmaSuite allows to interrupt the execution of a change request in a controlled way by using the Cancel function. If the user confirms the interruption, the execution of the change request is canceled. If not, the execution can be continued.

Any other situation that leads to an interruption of the execution of a change request must be avoided, as this most likely will lead to inconsistent data. This applies, e.g. to situations when the execution of a change request is running for several hours and the PharmaSuite client is automatically moved into a stand-by or hibernate status while the execution is still running.

Order Management

Cancel Order or Abort Order Step

Last updated for PharmaSuite 8.4.

Changing the status of an order or workflow to **Canceled** or aborting an order or workflow step (only available for non-Dispense order steps) is a highly sensitive task that needs to be considered carefully. It is assumed that situations on the shop floor are cleaned up first, before an order/workflow is canceled or an order/workflow step is aborted in the Production Management Client.

However, in case an order/workflow step on the shop floor is still **In process** while **cancel order/workflow** or **abort order/workflow step** is performed in the Production Management Client, the system displays a message at the related Production Execution Client to inform the operator about the canceled order/workflow or aborted order/workflow step, respectively. Finally, the system automatically changes the status of all related order/workflow steps from **In process** to **Canceled** and the related recipe or workflow elements (unit procedure, operations, phases) are aborted.

Depending on the situation on the shop floor when the order/workflow is canceled or the order/workflow step is aborted, sublots, work centers/rooms, and equipment objects may still be bound to the then aborted order/workflow step.

In order to clean up the related data in the system, sublots can be released by a system administrator in the Production Management Client.

Runtime property values and graph statuses of equipment objects (e.g. scales, rooms, containers) can be cleaned up in Data Manager, if required. In case an equipment object is still bound to a canceled or aborted order, the **Force unbind** function can be applied to the equipment object.

Finish Order with Aborted Order Step

New for PharmaSuite 8.4.

Since PharmaSuite 8.3, the system allows to finish an order with order steps that are in an **Aborted** status, as long as these order steps were successfully completed at least once.

This feature supports the exceptional use case of an already completed order step (unit procedure) that has been reactivated accidentally, i.e. the reactivated instance shall not be executed.

In such a case, the reactivated instance of the unit procedure first needs to be started in the Production Execution Client, but does not need to be executed. The then running unit procedure instance can be aborted right away.

In case all order steps of the order have been completed at least once, this order with order steps in the **Aborted** status now can manually be set to **Finished** in the Production Management Client and reviewed in the Exception Dashboard of the Production Response Client.

Recipe Processing

Prorated Quantities of Material Parameters during Execution

New for PharmaSuite 7.1.

With PharmaSuite 7.1, prorate factors were introduced. They can be applied during execution in order to automatically reduce the planned quantity of input and output materials of a current unit procedure, based on the yield calculation of produced output materials from one or more preceding unit procedures.

The definition of prorate factors during recipe authoring and the handling of override exceptions during execution need to be exercised with reasonable care. For example, certain aspects need to be considered if multiple material inputs of one unit procedure are split across multiple Inline Weighing operations and phases:

- The recipe author has to define the same prorate factor for all of the relevant phases, in order to ensure that during execution all of the unit procedure-related materials are prorated by the same factor.
- During execution, the prorate factor can be overridden with the **Override prorate factor** user-triggered exception, which only applies to the materials that are assigned to the specific phase. Again, if material inputs are split across multiple Inline Weighing operations and phases, the **Override prorate factor** exception needs to be performed again for each of the relevant phases.

For more information, please refer to "Functional Requirement Specification Dispense and Inline Weighing" [A12] (page 49).

Handling of Runtime Properties during Exceptional Weighing Situations

New for PharmaSuite 8.1.

The Dispense and Inline Weighing phases and the Output Weighing phases provide specific exceptions that have an impact on the involved equipment objects. In general, the current status and/or context information is reset when such an exception is recorded, e.g. a **Return to material identification** user-triggered exception.

However, the value of a runtime property is never reset automatically by the system when an exception is recorded, because most likely this also requires further process steps on the shop floor. Runtime properties, in case they have to be reset manually as a consequence of such an exceptional situation, always need to be updated by a data administrator in Data Manager (or alternatively along with the execution of a respective clean-up workflow on the shop floor, if enabled by project-specific phases).

For more information, please refer to "Functional Requirement Specification Dispense and Inline Weighing" [A12] (page 49) and "Functional Requirement Specification Output Weighing" [A16] (page 49).

Handling of Loaded Scales during Inline Weighing

New for PharmaSuite 8.1.

During preparation of a target container in Output Weighing, the **Weigh** phase can be used to mark the used scale as currently loaded (scale's runtime property of the **Current Load (RS)** purpose). This results in skipping the zeroing of the scale (with the **Select scale** and **Get weight** phases) and skipping its release check (in the **Release scale** phase) during subsequent process steps.

Especially during Inline Weighing, the scale's runtime property of the **Current Load (RS)** purpose also needs to be evaluated as part of certain transition conditions.

For more information, please refer to section "Transitions within an Inline Weighing Operation" in "Functional Requirement Specification Dispense and Inline Weighing" [A12] (page 49).

Termination of Order Steps

If the **Abort-and-reactivate-enabled** capability for a unit procedure has been configured in Recipe Designer, the related running order step can be aborted by the operator and a new reactivated instance will be available to be processed at the same or a different work center.

If the **Abort-and-reactivate-enabled** capability for a unit procedure has not been configured in Recipe Designer and thus is not available in the Production Execution Client for this running unit procedure, an abort and reactivate can still be achieved for this specific order step by an authorized user with the **Manage Batch/Device Orders** use case in the Production Management Client. This will result in an exception that is automatically added to the related unit procedures.

Recipe and Workflow Processing

NULL Handling of Quantity-related Information Flow Functions

New for PharmaSuite 7.1.

With PharmaSuite 7.1, the following information flow functions that allow to access MFC position-related quantity data were introduced:

- Planned Quantity - Original function: `originalPlannedQuantity`
- Planned Quantity - Execution function: `plannedQuantity`
- Actual Split Quantity function: `actualSplitQuantity`
Returns the actual recorded quantity of the last closed target (not available for output materials).
- Total Actual Quantity function: `totalActualQuantity`
Returns the total recorded quantity of a material position minus replaced quantity or quantity that was declared as waste.

Usually, an accurate proper recipe design ensures that the quantity-related functions do not return NULL during execution, i.e. quantities already have to be recorded in the database before they are referenced within an information flow function.

However, in case the functions retrieve NULL from the database, this is handled differently by the system with respect to the values that the functions actually return during execution.

- Planned quantities:
If no planned quantity is maintained (e.g. **Planned quantity mode** is set to **None**), the related functions also return NULL during execution.

If a planned quantity-related function is used in a context without a defined planned quantity, this is considered to be a flaw in the recipe design.

- Actual split quantity (for input material) and Total actual quantity (for input and output materials):
If no actual quantity is available in the database (e.g. no material has been weighed or produced yet), the related functions do not return NULL during execution, but the "0 <UoM>" value.
- Actual split quantity (for output material):
As this function is not supported for output materials, it always returns NULL during execution if it refers to an output material position.

Update of Specific Context Data

Updated for PharmaSuite 7.1.

As part of the information flow capabilities, specific context data can be made available for phases during execution. This includes order context details, MFC position context details, and location context details.

For a subset of the available data, an update of that master data is not populated automatically to the still running Production Execution Client and the EBR server. This limitation only applies to the following data, which usually is not subject to change:

- Order context: Produced material short description and material type.
- MFC position context: Material short description and material type.
- Location context: Room-related storage area and work center information.

In order to have any update of the listed data being reflected on the shop floor, both the Production Execution Client and the EBR server need to be restarted.

PEC, EBR Server, and OES Do Not Refresh Cached Data Automatically

Issue: As an example, equipment master data is cached on the Operation Execution server starting with its first usage. The cache is only refreshed when the OES is restarted or if the business logic of a phase explicitly refreshes the cache. This means that updates to already cached master data may not be available for business logic that runs on the OES unless the server is restarted.

Refers to FTPS-3973.

Solution: An operational procedure (SOP) needs to be in place to ensure that master data is not updated while these objects are used during execution.

In case master data needs to be updated, an explicit refresh of the cache can be triggered as follows:

- Restart the OES.
- Restart the EBR server.

- Restart the Production Execution Client, perform the **Change User** action, or the **Change Station** action.

Interruption of Order or Workflow Steps - Resume at the Same Work Center

Updated for PharmaSuite 7.1.

If a running order or workflow step needs to be **interrupted** for being **resumed at the same work center**, the operator first needs to finish or detach the still running operations before he can exit the system. The operation will be available to be resumed the next time the operator logs in at the same work center again.

For non-Dispense operations, in case the **Detachable** capability has not been configured in Recipe Designer for an operation and thus is not available in the Production Execution Client for this running operation, a detach can still be forced for this specific operation by an authorized user within the Production Management Client (**Unlock objects** function). This will result in an exception that is automatically added to the still running phase or phases of this operation.

This also applies to Inline Weighing and Output Weighing operations.

In case of a Dispense operation, the operator needs to execute a **Return to material identification** exception first and then to stop processing the order step by confirming the phase before exiting the system. For more information, please refer to the **BB complete (SR0200.2.3)** function in "Functional Requirement Specification Dispense and Inline Weighing" [A12] (page 49).

Interruption of Order or Workflow Steps - Resume at a Different Work Center

Updated for PharmaSuite 7.1.

If the **Detachable** capability for a unit procedure has been configured in Recipe and Workflow Designer, the related running order or workflow step can be interrupted by the operator to be **resumed at a different work center**. Before the unit procedure can be detached, the still running operations need to be finished or detached first.

If the **Detachable** capability for a unit procedure has not been configured in Recipe and Workflow Designer and thus is not available in the Production Execution Client for this running unit procedure, the current release of PharmaSuite does not offer any option to force a detach of a unit procedure/order step/workflow step in the Production Management Client. The only workaround is:

- For order steps: to complete or abort the unit procedure/order step, which then allows to reactivate the order step and to process it at a different work center.
- For workflow steps: to complete or cancel the unit procedure/workflow step and to start a new workflow at a different work center.

Room Status Check

Updated for PharmaSuite 8.1.

When a recipe or workflow is started in the Production Execution Client, the system supports an implicit room status check only within the **Identify material** phase for Dispense or Inline Weighing.

No other implicit room status checks are implemented. If required, explicit room status checks can be defined and configured by a recipe or workflow author with the **Identify Equipment** phase. Appropriate room-related requirements must be assigned to the phase.

Recovery Capabilities to Resolve Issues during Execution

New for PharmaSuite 8.4.

Since PharmaSuite 8.4, a toolset for administrators is available that provides certain recovery capabilities to resolve issues during execution that are caused by a faulty or undefined recipe parameter setup (e.g. information flow expressions of a process parameter or transition conditions that cannot be calculated by the system).

Any recovery action is a highly sensitive task that needs to be considered carefully. It requires an electronic signature and will be tracked as an exception in the batch record, according to the related risk and signature privilege definitions on configuration key level.

Abort Phase

New for PharmaSuite 8.4.

Aborting an active phase can be triggered in the Navigator view of the Production Execution Client, which results in a specific "Phase execution aborted" exception.

The following implications have to be considered for any aborted phase and a respective risk assessment has to be performed on a case-by-case basis:

- Aborting a phase bypasses all UI extensions (e.g. phase completion signature) and other phase-specific checks that may veto the completion.
- Execution of the phase-specific business logic will be incomplete. This may result in incomplete data having been recorded in the database.
- The information flow will be broken if any output variable of an aborted phase is used later on in the control recipe. An aborted phase already represents its own instance of the phase, however, any output variable of an aborted phase is undefined except for the output variables provided by the framework.
- After the phase has been aborted, processing of the operation continues normally, according to the SFC modeling in the underlying recipe.

Repair Phase

New for PharmaSuite 8.4.

Repairing an active phase can be triggered in the Navigator view of the Production Execution Client, which results in a specific "Phase repair mode started" exception and a "Phase parameters repaired" exception.

- Repairing is only available as long as no exceptions have been recorded for a phase. This restriction does not include "phase repair mode"-specific exceptions. Customer-specific implementations can further exclude specific exceptions from this rule.
- Repairing is not available for phases that are explicitly excluded from being repaired, according to the **PhaseRepairModeBlackList** configuration key. Currently, this applies to the **IPC Get values** phase.
- Note: For customer-specific implementations of phases, a risk assessment shall be performed in order to identify any phase that needs to be excluded from the repairing capability.

The following steps and implications have to be considered for any repaired phase and a respective risk assessment has to be performed on a case-by-case basis:

- The current phase instance is aborted automatically and the system records the "Phase repair mode started" exception that is assigned to the aborted instance of the phase.
- For the aborted phase instance, execution of phase-specific business logic will be incomplete. This may result in incomplete data having been recorded in the database.
- The system automatically creates a new instance of the phase. It is first displayed in the repair mode that allows to override its process parameters.
- Only the current numeric or string value of any process parameter, which might result from the calculation of an information flow expression, can be overridden. Expressions themselves cannot be defined or changed during the repair mode, which also includes object-related parameters (e.g. equipment object).
- Upon completion of the repair mode, the system records the "Phase parameters repaired" exception that is assigned to the new instance of the phase. As part of the exception, all changes to process parameter values are recorded.
- Finally, the new instance of the phase is displayed again with its regular user interface and can be processed as usual.
- After this phase instance has been completed, processing of the operation continues normally, according to the SFC modeling in the underlying recipe, and the output variables of this latest instance are available as part of information flow.

Force Execution Transition

New for PharmaSuite 8.4.

Forcing a stalled transition can be triggered in the **Manage Orders** use case of the Production Management Client, which results in a "force execution transition"-specific exception.

The following implications have to be considered for any transition to be forced and a respective risk assessment has to be performed on a case-by-case basis:

- For a given order/workflow, the system displays a list of stalled transitions that are related to XOR branches. It is in the responsibility of the administrator to identify the correct transition that needs to be forced.
- Forcing a transition will simply ignore any transition condition that might be defined for this transition in the master recipe/workflow.
- After a transition has been forced, processing continues normally, according to the SFC modeling in the underlying recipe.
- The corresponding exception is assigned to the related operation or unit procedure that contains the forced transition.
- In case a transition between unit procedures is forced, the exception is added to the preceding unit procedure that was performed prior to the forced transition. If there is no such unit procedure, the transition cannot be forced.
- The following behavior applies in case of stalled transitions between unit procedures and if the preceding unit procedure is reactivated at the same time:
 - If the transitions are still stalled when the reactivated unit procedure is completed, the system re-evaluates the transitions based on the output variables of the latest unit procedure instance, which may result in transitions that are no longer stalled.
 - If one of the stalled transitions already was forced manually when the reactivated unit procedure is completed, processing has already continued according to the SFC model and the transitions are not re-evaluated any more.

Archive and Purge

New for PharmaSuite 8.0.

Since PharmaSuite 8.0, the system provides the **Export for archive** function for orders and workflows.

The exported data is stored in a pre-configured target folder that cannot be changed by users. It is very important to understand that this target folder must be protected by

special access rights in a similar way as the database of PharmaSuite is protected, in order to prevent unauthorized data manipulation.

Once an order or workflow has been exported for archive, it is marked as **Exported for archive** in PharmaSuite and therefore can be purged at any time.

All archive and purge-related events are tracked in a separate event log within PharmaSuite.

Restrictions for Export for Archive

Updated for PharmaSuite 8.1.

Orders can only be exported for archive if they are in the **Reviewed** or **Canceled** statuses. In case a workflow is appended to multiple orders, its status is changed to **Reviewed** along with the review of the first order to which it is assigned. Along with the export of an order, the system exports all currently appended workflows as well.

Workflows on their own can be exported for archive if they are at least in the **Finished** or **Canceled** statuses.

Exclusions from Export for Archive

New for PharmaSuite 8.0.

The following objects are not exported along with their order:

- Dispense reports, because all batch-relevant information of the Dispense report is also included in the batch report, which is part of the exported data.
- Re-print history of Dispense reports when re-printed from the Production Management Client, because it is not considered to be archive-relevant data.
- Re-print history of subplot labels when re-printed from the Production Management Client, because each re-printed label is part of the exported data. Subplot labels that were re-printed from the Production Execution Client during execution, are tracked as exceptions within the batch report.

Restrictions for Purge

Updated for PharmaSuite 8.2

Orders can be purged if they are in the **Annulled**, **Reviewed**, or **Canceled** statuses and they do no longer contain a reference to an equipment object. Orders in the **Canceled** and **Reviewed** statuses must have been successfully exported for archive first.

Workflows can be purged if they are at least in the **Finished**, **Annulled**, or **Canceled** statuses and they do no longer contain a reference to an equipment object. In case they are **Production-relevant** (per master workflow definition, since they are appended to an order, or referenced by an equipment logbook), they need to be exported for archive first (except for workflows in the **Annulled** status).

Reference to an equipment object means that there is still a binding reference to an equipment object (e.g. scale, room) and its "current order context".

Deployment and Configuration Constraints

Setup of the Version Management for Master Recipes and Master Workflows

Updated for PharmaSuite 8.4.

The configuration of the version management for master recipes and master workflows allows to define a numbering scheme for version numbers.

In order to ensure a proper system behavior, especially related to the recipe and workflow comparison function that is available since PharmaSuite 7.1, it is important that the following basic rules always apply for the numbering scheme:

- Major revision numbers (e.g. 1.0, 2.0) must never be increased if the new master recipe or master workflow version still represents the same object within the database (e.g. for status transitions from **Verification** back to **Edit** or from **Valid** to **Valid** due to an updated period of validity).
- Major revision numbers are always increased (e.g. 1.0 to 2.0) if the new master recipe or master workflow version represents a new object within the database (e.g. created with the **Save as** function).

For more information, please refer to chapter "Adapting Versioning Graphs" in Volume 2 of the "Technical Manual Configuration and Extension" [A20] (page 49).

Client Inactivity Timeout (FTPC)

Updated for PharmaSuite 8.2.

FactoryTalk ProductionCentre provides a Client Inactivity Timeout feature (defined in FTPC Administrator, see "FactoryTalk ProductionCentre Administrator Release 10.4 User's Guide" [A3] (page 49)). However, this feature is not supported by PharmaSuite. Enabling this feature may cause unforeseen timeouts.

For the PharmaSuite Production Execution Client, an automatic locking mechanism is available. In case no user activity is detected for a certain amount of time, the system locks the client with the display of the **Change User** dialog in order to prevent unauthorized activity at the Production Execution Client.

In case inactivity timeouts are desired for other PharmaSuite clients, this needs to be managed through the timeout feature of the client operating system.

Length of Configuration Key Names

The name of configuration keys must not be longer than 64 characters.

For example, your configuration key name is

LibraryHolder/services-inventory-impl.jar/AtooLongConfigurationItemName.

Then, this key cannot be stored in the database if none of the two hierarchy levels (**LibraryHolder**, **services-inventory-impl.jar**) is present in the corresponding application object, which holds the configuration key. The reason is that the complete name is longer than 64 characters.

But if at least the first hierarchy level (**LibraryHolder**) is present (which is currently the case in our **DefaultApplication** application), the key could be stored in the database. The key name would be **services-inventory-impl.jar/AtoolongConfigurationItemName**, which is less than 64 characters long.

IT Environment - SOAP not supported

Updated for PharmaSuite 7.1.

FactoryTalk ProductionCentre supports two different ways of the communication between the Application Server and the client applications:

- RMI/IIOP (default)
- SOAP/HTTP.

IMPORTANT

PharmaSuite utilizes User Transactions for consistent data management. User Transactions do not work with SOAP. Thus, RMI/IIOP is required for PharmaSuite. Quoted from the "Process Designer Online Help": "This feature is **not** supported when using .NET proxy factory or any client using the SOAP protocol." The system always tries to use RMI first, but will fall back to SOAP if no communication is possible based on RMI/IIOP. However, PharmaSuite does not fully support SOAP (this especially applies to User Transactions).

Running PharmaSuite with SOAP might result in a strange application behavior and potential serious data loss.

Since PharmaSuite 2.1, checks have been implemented, which apply during client and server startup, e.g. for Production Execution Client, Production Management Client, Production Response Client or Shop Operations Server startup for EBR and OE server. However, problems might occur if the communication switches to SOAP later on.

Error analysis might be difficult, because Process Designer works without any problem. The same applies to the Production Execution Client until you start processing.

Therefore, the IT environment has to ensure that communication based on RMI/IIOP is continuously possible and is reliable between the Application Server and the client applications, e.g. the use of WLAN-based communication is not recommended.

IT Environment - System Time Must Be Synchronized

Make sure that the system date and time settings are synchronized between the machines that are running PharmaSuite clients and servers, including application servers, database servers, ActiveMQ JMS message brokers, and the Shop Operations Servers.

Especially in an automation or Historian integration scenario it is essential to have the system time synchronized to the second for all machines hosting the Production Execution Client application, the ActiveMQ JMS message broker, and the Automation Integration server.

Otherwise messages sent with the expiration time of client's "now" time might be disregarded by the message broker or the Automation Integration server if they are running on a more advanced time. The message expiration time is configured at the PharmaSuite client and is set to 3 seconds for automation and Historian integration communication (see **MessageTimeToLive4AI** configuration key in Volume 4 of the "Technical Manual Configuration and Extension" [A6] (page 49)). The setting prevents that outdated messages are received by an Automation Integration server which has temporarily been unavailable, e.g. in case of a network outage between message broker and Automation Integration server or an outage of the Automation Integration server itself. Particularly when writing tags via messaging it is important that outdated messages expire. We highly recommend not to increase the setting of the **MessageTimeToLive4AI** configuration key.

Please consider to configure NTP synchronization on each machine.

Since PharmaSuite 5.2, the Production Execution Client, and since PharmaSuite 6.0, all clients provide information about the system time synchronization status of the required systems in an **About** dialog.

Transaction Timeout Needs to Be Configured Manually in JBoss Configuration

New for PharmaSuite 8.3.

Due to a changed JBoss behavior since JBoss 6.0, the transaction timeout can no longer be configured automatically per API call. It now needs to be configured manually.

For more information, please refer to section "Performing the Installation", chapter "Installing PharmaSuite Enterprise Edition on FactoryTalk ProductionCentre with JBoss" in "Technical Manual Installation - Enterprise Edition" [A2] (page 49).

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List of Known Issues

The following list of issues contains known defects that might have a business impact. It is planned to fix these issues in a future release.

General

Disable triggers for OBJECT_COUNT in the ACTIVITY_SET table

- **ID:** FTPS-2126
- **Issue:** The OBJECT_COUNT triggers in the ACTIVITY_SET table lead to performance issues during master recipe preparation.
Refers to PC-17094.
This issue has been solved for PharmaSuite 5.1. However, the counter for the total number of Activity Sets is no longer correctly displayed in Process Designer.
- **Solution:** Do not rely on the Activity Set filter *get count* method without any additional filter criteria.

JBoss server no longer responsive (JBoss thread deadlock)

New for PharmaSuite 8.1

- **ID:** FTPS-5834
- **Issue:** From time to time (details unknown), when a JBoss server was under heavy load by a large number of automated tests, it was no longer responsive. When it happens, it is not a simple performance degradation, but clients can no longer authenticate.
The JBoss server may become unusable, requiring a shutdown and restart.
This issue cannot be resolved in PharmaSuite; it has been waived.
- **Solution:** With additional logging switched on, the issue could no longer be observed. This may actually be a suitable workaround, as additional logging seems to positively influence the server's timing.
- **Knowledge base entry:** For details, see article #5747
(http://rockwellsoftware.custhelp.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/5747).

Recipe and Workflow Designer

Units of Measure containing a division slash are not supported by the Expression editor

- **ID:** FTPS-1904
- **Issue:** The Expression editor does not provide means to mask or support measured value constants where the measured value is used as a constant and the unit of measure contains a division slash (e.g. 100 mg/ml).
- **Solution:** Units of measure must be defined without using a "/" at all, e.g. replace "mg/ml" by "mgPml".

Stack overflow error logged for recipes/workflows with a large number of phases

- **ID:** FTPS-1507
- **Issue:** When a recipe, workflow, or custom building block is built that holds more than 500 phases in one single operation, the system may respond with a stack overflow error.
- **Solution:** In general, PharmaSuite's design space is meant to support recipes, workflows, or custom building blocks with up to 1,000 phases. However, more than 500 phases within one single operation is not considered to be a realistic scenario and therefore is not supported by the system.

Data Manager - Work Center

Work Centers do not export their Production Line(s)

- **ID:** FTPS-2665
- **Issue:** Process Designer's DSX export does not export production lines attached to work centers when exporting work centers.
Missing production lines result in orders not being available for execution in the Production Execution Client.
Hence, on systems with imported work centers, no orders can be processed on these work centers.
Refers to PC-17325.
- **Solution:** Export the production line containing the required work centers with Process Designer's DSX export. Then the DSX file contains the child work centers.

Execution

Parallel operations execution: Scale communication errors

New for PharmaSuite 7.1.

- **ID:** BB-809
- **Issue:** A scale communication error occurs when parallel weighing operations are executed with two different scales, but using the same station and device. This is due to the fact that the scale drivers only support single scales and only one scale driver can be loaded to a device at a time.
- **Solution:** In case a recipe definition allows to run parallel weighing operations at the same station and device, it needs to be ensured procedurally that only one weighing operation is processed at a time and that the actual weighing step is completed (scale is released), before the operator continues processing the parallel weighing operation.

Environment

PharmaSuite services are not started properly after reboot of the application server

- **ID:** FTPS-61
- **Issue:** After a reboot of the Application Server, the **PharmaSuite Transition server**, **PharmaSuite EBR server**, **PharmaSuite TOM server**, and **PharmaSuite OE server** services are not restarted automatically. The reason for this is that the JBoss Service has not completed its starting procedure at that time. The JBoss server is still in the **Starting** status.
Refers to PC-13743.
- **Solution:** Wait until the JBoss Service is in the **Started** status, then start the **PharmaSuite Transition server**, **PharmaSuite EBR server**, **PharmaSuite TOM server**, and **PharmaSuite OE server** services manually.
For the status of the service, see
`..\Rockwell\FT_ProductionCentre\jboss\server\datasweepConfig\log\server.log`.
 The line

```
<timestamp> 2017-06-09 13:50:17,271 INFO [org.jboss.as] (Controller
Boot Thread) WFLYSRV0025: JBoss EAP 7.0.2.GA (WildFly Core
2.1.8.Final-redhat-1) started in 14837ms - Started 1782 of 2126
services (518 services are lazy, passive or on-demand)
```

 indicates that the service is started. This is the last line in the log file after the service was started.

FactoryTalk ProductionCentre Process Designer

To create a new user a workaround needs to be applied

Updated for PharmaSuite 8.1.

- **ID:** FTPS-1175
- **Issue:** Due to a platform defect (PC-19625), a new user cannot be created directly in Process Designer. The required password cannot be entered because the input fields of the password dialog initially appear to be output only. Thus the user data cannot be saved.
- **Solution:** Proceed as follows:
 1. Save the new user without a password. This results in an error message.
 2. Confirm the error message and re-type the password.
 3. Save the user data.

Error logging into PMC when the form is attached to User Profile

- **ID:** FTPS-3101
- **Issue:** Due to a platform defect (PC-17576), PharmaSuite clients cannot be started automatically by configuration of specific user or station profiles.
- **Solution:** As a workaround, a set of new start forms has been introduced with PharmaSuite 6.0. The new forms must be used whenever a client is to be started automatically, depending on the related configuration for specific users or stations. The set of new start forms includes:
 - ApplicationStart_DataManager_autostart
 - ApplicationStart_ExceptionDashboard_autostart
 - ApplicationStart_ProductionExecutionClient_autostart
 - ApplicationStart_ProductionManagementClient_autostart
 - ApplicationStart_RecipeDesigner_autostart

FactoryTalk ProductionCentre Internal Error

Errors in log file / console upon order explosion

New for PharmaSuite 8.4.

- **ID:** FTPS-7086
- **Issue:** Due to a platform defect (PC-20819), in certain cases severe errors will be visible in the console / log file similar to

```
Nov 10, 2017 3:57:51 PM OrderStepOutput getPlannedQuantity()  
SEVERE: Null value is not allowed  
java.lang.IllegalArgumentException: Null value is not allowed
```
- **Root cause:** The severe errors are related to missing null value handling while the system internally tries to return a quantity of the MeasuredValue type.
- **Solution:** The errors can be ignored, although they are marked as severe. This is no functional issue in PharmaSuite, the system still works as intended.

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Upgrade-related Topics

The following list of topics refers to issues that are directly related to system updates or data migration of PharmaSuite.

Upgrade Engine-related Issues

Migration Execution Can Only Be Canceled Between Stages

Within a running stage of the migration execution (e.g. stage 3 with multiple update tasks), the execution cannot be canceled. The system first completes all pending tasks of this stage, in order to keep data and log files consistent. The migration execution can only be canceled upon completion of the actual stage.

Migration of Audit Trail Configuration Settings Is a Manual Step

New for PharmaSuite 8.0.

While upgrading to a new PharmaSuite release, a manual configuration is required in order to disable audit trail of specific database tables.

For more information, please refer to section "Updating the Audit Trail Configuration", chapter "Upgrading an Installation" in "Technical Manual Installation - Upgrade" [A8] (page [49](#)).

Transaction Timeout Needs to Be Configured Manually in JBoss Configuration

New for PharmaSuite 8.3.

Due to a changed JBoss behavior since JBoss 6.0, the transaction timeout can no longer be configured automatically per API call. It now needs to be configured manually.

For more information, please refer to section "Performing the Installation", chapter "Installing PharmaSuite Enterprise Edition on FactoryTalk ProductionCentre with JBoss" in "Technical Manual Installation - Enterprise Edition" [A2] (page [49](#)).

Specifics Related to PharmaSuite 8.4

Status Change of Source Recipe Versions during Change Request Execution

The following issue was reported (FTPS-6647):

Correct system behavior:

Whenever a change request is executed and the **Target status** attribute of the change request is set to **Valid** or **Scheduled**, this results in an automatic status change of any currently valid source recipe version (e.g. **Valid** to **Valid with new validity period**), so that the original source recipe version will no longer be valid once the new version becomes valid.

Unexpected system behavior:

But even if the **Target status** attribute of the change request is set to **Edit** or **Verification** only (none of the valid statuses), an automatic status change of the source recipe version takes place, which is not expected at this time because there is no conflict of overlapping validity periods yet.

This issue has been resolved with PharmaSuite 8.4:

The current **Valid** status and validity period of a source recipe version is no longer changed by a change request, unless a change is required because the **Target status** attribute reflects one of the valid statuses (**Valid** or **Scheduled**).

Although the resolution represents the correct and expected system behavior, recipe and workflow authors should be aware of change of the system behavior.

Display of Names in Audit Trail (Production Management Client)

The following issue was reported (FTPS-6904):

In case a user group name contains a dot (e.g. John.Miller), the user group name will appear truncated in the user group's audit trail view in the Production Management Client (e.g. John).

The analysis of this issue exposed that this is true for any object's audit trail in the Production Management Client for which versioning is disabled in Process Designer. For all objects with versioning enabled in Process Designer, e.g. the **Part** (Material) object, the truncation after the dot is a desired system behavior in order to remove the version suffix **.<ref#>** of material objects in PharmaSuite.

This issue has been resolved with PharmaSuite 8.4 and implies a slightly different system behavior:

- Per default, the version suffix **.<rev#>** is no longer removed within the PharmaSuite audit trail tables. This also makes sure that names (e.g. a user group name) that contain a dot are no longer truncated.
- Per new configuration list (in Process Designer), objects for which versioning is enabled in Process Designer and the version suffix **.<rev#>** has to be removed in PharmaSuite need to be explicitly added to this configuration list.

- The **Part** (Material) object is one example that is affected and that is already added to the configuration list per default. Thus the way how material is presented in its audit trail view in the Production Management Client has not changed.
- Projects can add more objects to the list, if they fall under this category.

For more information, please refer to section "Displaying Custom Columns in PharmaSuite's Audit Trail", chapter "Managing Audit Trail" in Volume 2 of the "Technical Manual Configuration and Extension" [A20] (page 49).

Transaction History Data for the "Change of Quantity Data" Subtype

The following issue was reported (FTPS-6900):

When a subplot quantity higher than the logically available subplot quantity is dispensed, the system performs an implicit **Change of quantity data** action to increase the quantity by the delta, before the final quantity is recorded as consumed.

However, the entry in the transaction history that is related to the **Change of Quantity Data** action does not set its *ProcessOrderItem* and *OrderStep* contexts.

On the other hand, the *ProcessOrderItem* and *OrderStep* contexts are set correctly in case of the **Implicit inventory check** subtype (e.g. when a container is set to empty because it was consumed completely).

This issue has been resolved with PharmaSuite 8.4:

The *ProcessOrderItem* and *OrderStep* contexts now are also set in case of the **Change of quantity data** subtype.

It needs to be double-checked that this change of standard functionality does not interfere with customer-specific system extension, e.g. ERP integration.

New GHS Versus Old Risk and Safety Implementation

PharmaSuite 8.4 supports the Global Harmonized System (GHS) Codes and Pictograms per default configuration.

In order to support customer-specific implementations that are based on the implementation of Standard Risk and Safety phrases in earlier PharmaSuite releases, PharmaSuite 8.4 can still be configured to keep the previous setting.

However, this is not solely covered by setting the related configuration keys, but also requires configuration changes of the user interface use case, data dictionary classes, and a migration of customer-specific subplot labels.

For more information, please refer to section "Configuration Keys for Recipe, Order, and Workflow Management", chapter "Configuration Keys of PharmaSuite" in Volume 4 of the "Technical Manual Configuration and Extension" [A6] (page 49).

Discontinuation of PharmaSuite for Manufacturing of Discrete Devices

Since PharmaSuite 8.3, any functionality in PharmaSuite that is related to the manufacturing of discrete devices is considered to be deprecated. This includes, e.g. device-specific master recipes in Recipe and Workflow Designer, device-specific orders in the Production Management Client and the Production Response Client, and inventory management of devices in the Production Management Client.

In the first release that follows PharmaSuite 8.4, all of the related functionality will no longer be available.

Discontinuation of Specific Equipment Automation Phases

With PharmaSuite 8.3, the following phase building blocks were considered to be deprecated. With PharmaSuite 8.4, they are now no longer supported:

- Get numeric property
Set numeric property
- Get string property
Set string property
- Get boolean property
Set boolean property
- Get properties

The capability of the phase building blocks is replaced by the **Get OPC values** and **Set OPC values** phase building blocks that already were released along with PharmaSuite 8.1.

Building Block Compatibility

Due to the nature of some code changes in PharmaSuite 8.4, not all PharmaSuite 8.3-related product building block versions are compatible with PharmaSuite 8.4, but need to be updated to their newest maintenance release version first (or latest version has to be used).

For more details about the specific building block versions that are compatible with PharmaSuite 8.4, please refer to "PharmaSuite Building Blocks - Compatibility Matrix" [A13] (page [49](#)).

Qualification Status of the Phases of the Dispense Package

The phases of the Dispense package are released in the following versions:

- D phases 5.2
- O phases 5.2
- Get weight 5.2

The **5.2** versions of the phases are fully qualified for **new** and **migrated** PharmaSuite 8.4 systems.

The **5.1** and **5.0 MR1** (Get weight, D, and O phases), **3.0 MR2** (D phases), and **1.0 MR2** (O phases) versions of the phases are still supported for **migrated** PharmaSuite 8.4 systems.

MR+ Revisions of Building Blocks

MR+ revisions may require an update of phase-specific DSX files (e.g. report designs, message packs).

The following phase building blocks are affected:

DCS Package - Phase building block	DSX object
Create DCS batch (BB-1706)	Report
Get DCS alarms (BB-1571)	Message

Dispense Package - Phase building block	DSX object
D Edit BOM (BB-1592)	Message

EBR Package - Phase building block (ID)	DSX object
Upload image (BB-1388, BB-1626, BB-1691)	Report
Upload PDF (BB-1388, BB-1626)	Report

Equipment Automation Package - Phase building block (ID)	DSX object
Show historical data chart (BB-1626)	Report

For details, please refer to "Installing MR+ Versions of Building Blocks" in "Technical Manual Installation - Building Block" [A4] (page [49](#)).

Specifics Related to Older PharmaSuite Releases

Please refer to the Release Notes of the specific PharmaSuite release.

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Reference Documents

The following documents are available from the Rockwell Automation Download Site.

No.	Document Title	Part Number
A1	PharmaSuite Glossary	PSGY-QR007E-EN-E
A2	PharmaSuite Technical Manual Installation - Enterprise Edition	PSEN-IN008E-EN-E
A3	FactoryTalk ProductionCentre Administrator Release 10.4 User's Guide Set Client Inactivity Timeout	PCADM-IN104A-EN-E
A4	PharmaSuite Technical Manual Installation - Building Block	PSBB-IN007E-EN-E
A5	PharmaSuite Technical Manual Administration	PSAD-RM008E-EN-E
A6	PharmaSuite Technical Manual Configuration & Extension - Volume 4	PSCEV4-GR008E-EN-E
A7	PharmaSuite Technical Manual Configuration & Extension - Volume 3	PSCEV3-GR008E-EN-E
A8	PharmaSuite Technical Manual Installation - Upgrade	PSUP-IN005E-EN-E
A9	PharmaSuite Technical Manual Developing System Building Blocks	PSBB-PM007E-EN-E
A12	PharmaSuite Functional Requirement Specification Dispense and Inline Weighing	PSFRSDI-RM006E-EN-E
A13	PharmaSuite Building Blocks - Compatibility Matrix	PSBBCM-PA084A-EN-E
A14	PharmaSuite Technical Manual Installation - Express Edition	PSEX-IN008E-EN-E
A15	PharmaSuite Functional Requirement Specification Data Management	PSFRSDM-RM004E-EN-E
A16	PharmaSuite Functional Requirement Specification Output Weighing	PSFRSOW-RM002E-EN-E
A17	PharmaSuite Functional Requirement Specification Recipe and Workflow Management	PSFRSRD-RM008E-EN-E
A18	FactoryTalk ProductionCentre Plant Operations Release 10.4 Server Installation Guide - JBoss Advanced	PCJBAD IN104A EN E
A19	FactoryTalk ProductionCentre Plant Operations Release 10.4 Server Installation Guide - JBoss Stand-Alone	PCJB SA IN104A EN E
A20	PharmaSuite Technical Manual Configuration & Extension - Volume 2	PSCEV2-GR008E-EN-E
A21	FactoryTalk ProductionCentre 10.4 Supported Platforms Guide	PRDCTR-RM104A-EN-E

TIP

To access the Rockwell Automation Download Site, you need to acquire a user account from Rockwell Automation Sales or Support.

The following documents are available upon request.

No.	Document Title	Part Number
A10	Technical Description - Number Handling	106721
A11	Technical Description - Quantity Calculations	106806

Appendix A - Document Information

The document information covers various data related to the document.

Approval

This document has been approved electronically via the Rockwell Automation Document Management System (DMS). The required approvers of this document include the following:

Name	Role
Martin Dittmer	Product Manager
Steffen Landes	Development Manager
Martin Irmisch	Test Manager

Revision History

The following table describes the history of this document.

Version	Description
1.0	Release-specific Enhancements and Changes: updated (page 3)
1.0	<p>Information and Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Added: Equipment and Work Center Management - Forcing an Equipment Status in Data Manager (page 9) ■ Added: Dispensing - Tracking of Exceptional Events for Order Step Inputs and Outputs in the Production Management Client (page 15) ■ Added: Order Management - Finish Order with Aborted Order Step (page 24) ■ Added: Recovery Capabilities to Resolve Issues during Execution (page 29) ■ Added: Deployment and Configuration Constraints - Transaction Timeout Needs to Be Configured Manually in JBoss Configuration (page 35) (moved from "List of Known Issues") ■ Updated: Equipment and Work Center Management - Change Control within Data Manager (page 8) ■ Updated: Dispensing - Only Identification (page 16) ■ Updated: Labeling and Reporting - Barcode Support (page 18)

Version	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Updated: Recipe and Workflow Management - Loops Built into EBR Recipes (page 20) ■ Updated: Recipe and Workflow Management - Transition Conditions within SFC Modeling (page 21) ■ Updated: Recipe and Workflow Management - Instance Count Output Variable (page 21) ■ Updated: Order Management - Cancel Order or Abort Order Step (page 23) ■ Updated: Deployment and Configuration Constraints - Setup of the Version Management for Master Recipes and Master Workflows (page 33) ■ Removed: Labeling and Reporting - Equipment Entity and Station Label Barcode ■ Removed: Recipe and Workflow Processing - Termination of Process Orders or Workflows (see "Order Management - Cancel Order or Abort Order Step" (page 23)) ■ Removed: Deployment and Configuration Constraints - Performance during Recipe Execution ■ Removed: Deployment and Configuration Constraints - Thread Pooling and Blocking Transitions
1.0	<p>List of Known Issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Added: FactoryTalk ProductionCentre Internal Error (page 41) ■ Removed: Transaction Timeout Needs to Be Configured Manually in JBoss Configuration (moved to "Information and Tips")
1.0	<p>Upgrade-related Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Added: Specifics Related to PharmaSuite 8.4 (page 44) ■ Removed: Specifics Related to PharmaSuite 8.3
1.0	<p>Technical Release Notes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Added: Technical Changes of the Underlying Platform (page 53) ■ Updated: Technical Release Notes - PharmaSuite 8.4 (page 54)
1.0	<p>Open Source License Agreements (page 59)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Updated: ZXing
1.1	<p>Upgrade-related Topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Updated: Specifics Related to PharmaSuite 8.4 - MR+ Revisions of Building Blocks (page 47)

Appendix B - Technical Release Notes

Technical Changes of the Underlying Platform

This section lists technical changes of the underlying platform which are of interest for system integrators who are going to use PharmaSuite based on FactoryTalk ProductionCentre 10.4.106677.

- Java
Version updated from 1.8.0_60 to 1.8.0_144.
- JBoss application server
Version updated from 7.0.2 to 7.0.6.
The *jbeap-11705.zip* file is required. For details, please refer to "FactoryTalk ProductionCentre Release 10.4 Supported Platforms Guide" [A21] (page [49](#)).
- ActiveMQ JMS message broker
Version updated from 5.14.1 to 5.15.
It runs with the 64-bit version of Java.
- Tomcat Java servlet container
Version updated from 8.5.6 to 8.5.20.
It runs with the 64-bit version of Java.
- The 32-bit version of Java was removed from the FTPC Stand-Alone Installer.
The PharmaSuite Express Edition Installer provides the 32-bit version of Java required for the Shop Operations Server.

Technical Release Notes - PharmaSuite 8.4

In PharmaSuite 8.4, existing components have been changed, which is of interest for system integrators who have already implemented features based on the components of the published API.

Modified component: System configuration (configuration key)

- **ID:** FTPS-6638, FTPS-6879
- **Before:** It was not possible to define a configuration key with an empty value of the **String** type. Instead either the default value was used (on top level) or the value of the super-ordinated application was used.
- **After:** To define a configuration key with an empty value of the **String** type, set its value to dedicated string `<RA_EMPTY_STRING>`.
- **Reason:** Before it was not possible to configure an empty value, for example for a barcode prefix.
- **Migration:** N/A

Modified component: Exception handling (CANCEL_OPTION)

- **ID:** FTPS-6799, FTPS-6777
- **Before:** *PhaseSystemTriggeredExceptionHandler.recordException(final IPhaseExecutor executor, final String dialogString, final String exceptionMessage, final IMESEExceptionRecord.RiskClass riskClass, final String checkKey)* returned amongst others the *ExceptionHandler.CANCEL_OPTION* option.
- **After:** *PhaseSystemTriggeredExceptionHandler.recordException(final IPhaseExecutor executor, final String dialogString, final String exceptionMessage, final IMESEExceptionRecord.RiskClass riskClass, final String checkKey)* returns the *ExceptionHandler.CANCEL_OPTION* option only in case the **Cancel** button of the exception dialog has been enabled with the **apps-ebr-ifc.jar/CancelButtonEnabledOfExceptionDialog** configuration key.
- **Reason:** The **Cancel** button has been removed from the exception dialog in the standard configuration of PharmaSuite in order to force an operator to sign at least an "Exception canceled" exception of a phase-triggered exception when he cancels the recording of the original exception. It is not possible to trigger a further exception before leaving the exception view.
- **Migration:** N/A

Modified component: ExceptionViewController

- **ID:** FTPS-6799, FTPS-6777
- **Before:** The *ICockpitController.releaseExceptionViewForRtPhase(IMESRtPhase rtPhase);* and *IExceptionViewController.releaseViewForRtPhase();* methods were used.
- **After:** Both methods are deprecated and obsolete.
- **Reason:** They are not needed anymore since the lock is released automatically.
- **Migration:** Do not use the methods anymore.

Modified component: changeQuantityOfSublotWithinOrderStepContext

- **ID:** FTPS-6723
- **Before:** The *IOrderStepExecutionService.changeQuantityOfSublotWithinOrderStepContext(Sublot, OrderStep, IMeasuredValue, String)* method was used.
- **After:** The method is deprecated.
- **Reason:** The method duplicated some existing functionality.
- **Migration:** To change the quantity of a subplot attached to an OSI, use *IOrderStepExecutionService.setConsumptionQuantities(OrderStepInput, Map<TransactionSubtype, IMeasuredValue>, boolean, String)*. To change the quantity of a subplot produced in an OSO, use *IMESOrderService.changeQuantityOfProducedSublot(OrderStepOutput, Sublot, MeasuredValue, TransactionHistoryContext)*.

Modified component: addQtyToProducedSublot and changeQuantityOfProducedSublot

- **ID:** FTPS-6723
- **Before:** The *IMESOrderService.addQtyToProducedSublot(OrderStepOutput, Sublot, MeasuredValue)* method was used.
- **After:** The method is deprecated. Internally, it calls *IMESOrderService.changeQuantityOfProducedSublot(OrderStepOutput, Sublot, MeasuredValue, TransactionHistoryContext)*. The functionality of this method is the same as the functionality of the old one.
- **Reason:** The method name was misleading. It changes the quantity of a subplot and does not add a quantity.
- **Migration:** Use *IMESOrderService.changeQuantityOfProducedSublot(OrderStepOutput, Sublot, MeasuredValue, TransactionHistoryContext)*.

Modified component: TransactionHistoryFilter

- **ID:** FTPS-6723
- **Before:** The *TransactionHistoryFilter* class was located in the *com.rockwell.mes.services.inventory.ifc* package and extended *ATRowFilter*.
- **After:** The class is located in the *com.rockwell.mes.services.inventory.impl* package. It now extends *MESATObjectFilter*. An interface is added for the class: *ITransactionHistoryFilter*.
- **Reason:** The class was aligned with the common architecture of PharmaSuite. This also allows to replace the class with custom implementations.
- **Migration:** Use the interface instead of the class. To initialize new filter objects use the following statement:

```
ITransactionHistoryFilter filter =
ObjectFactory.getInstance().createObject(ITransactionHistoryFilter.
class);
```

Modified component: Master-recipe document wrapper

- **ID:** FTPS-6518, FTPS-6864
- **Before:** The document wrapper retrieved data required for report printing from the database.
- **After:** The document wrapper reads all data from a BML document.
- **Reason:** According to the PharmaSuite policy, the data needed in the master recipe and master workflow reports must be included in the corresponding BML document. That is to ensure the completeness of the BML document and to prevent that data is read twice from the database, first during the BML document generation and secondly when the report is printed.
- **Migration:** In the course of PharmaSuite 8.4, a migration is not necessary. However, some document wrapper methods are deprecated now. Do not use the deprecated functions in custom reports. Affected are the following members:
 - *CREATION_REASON* constant
 - *getShortDescriptionOfSystemBB* method
 - *getPart* method
 - *getMaterialShortDescription* method
 - *getMaterialType* method
 - *getAccessPrivilege* method
 - *getReasonVerified* method
 - *getReasonPerformed* method
 - *getNonLocalizedReasonVerified* method

- *getNonLocalizedReasonPerformed* method
- *getDescriptionOfWorkCenter* method
- *getStorageAreaNameOfWorkCenter* method
- *getLocalizedCBBStatusFromStringValue* method
- *getLocalizedStatus* method

Modified component: Layout settings

- **ID:** FTPS-6695
- **Before:** User-specific layout settings were persisted in user UDAs.
- **After:** Layout settings are managed in a separate application table.
- **Reason:** Storing layout data in user UDAs created meaningless audit trail entries.
- **Migration:** Old user settings (window positions and dimensions) are lost, there is no migration. Users need to adapt their layout settings in the migrated system.

Modified component: Order explosion service

- **ID:** FTPS-6517, FTPS-7029
- **Before:** The explicit customization hooks were only documented in the Technical Manual, they were not part of the published API.
- **After:** The explicit customization hooks are part of the published API and documented in the *AbstractOrderExplosionServiceCustomizationHooks* class. All previously documented hooks are contained in this class and remain unchanged. Additionally, there are further hooks available to support the customization. However, some undocumented protected methods of the order explosion service have been changed or removed.
- **Reason:** The changes were required to support MFC between unit procedures on selection branches.
- **Migration:** If the *explCustomizeCalculatedMFCQuantities* method is used, consider to use the new variant that offers more parameters. The old variant is deprecated now.

In addition, we are aware of project-specific customizations that override undocumented protected methods of the order explosion service, which have been changed and now need to be adapted. The most important methods that were changed are *explCreateOSI* and *explCreateOSO*. They were overridden in order to populate project-specific attributes (named UDAs) of the order step input and output objects. Two new customization hooks were added (*explCustomizeCreatedOSI* and *explCustomizeCreatedOSO*), which should be used instead of overriding the undocumented methods.

The API of the following methods was changed as follows:

- *explCreateOSI*, *explCreateOSO*: not intended for customization anymore, hooks provided as replacement
- *explCreateOSO2OSI*, *explCreateOSO2OSI*, *determineOutAndInOrderStepsForMfc*: not intended for customization
- *createMFC2TypeListMap*, *createOs2StepMap*: removed

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Section 6 states terms for distribution of such executables.

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Whether this is true is especially significant if the work can be linked without the Library, or if the work is itself a library. The threshold for this to be true is not precisely defined by law.

If such an object file uses only numerical parameters, data structure layouts and accessors, and small macros and small inline functions (ten lines or less in length), then the use of the object file is unrestricted, regardless of whether it is legally a derivative work. (Executables containing this object code plus portions of the Library will still fall under Section 6.)

Otherwise, if the work is a derivative of the Library, you may distribute the object code for the work under the terms of Section 6.

Any executables containing that work also fall under Section 6, whether or not they are linked directly with the Library itself.

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b) Use a suitable shared library mechanism for linking with the Library. A suitable mechanism is one that (1) uses at run time a copy of the library already present on the user's computer system, rather than copying library functions into the executable, and (2) will operate properly with a modified version of the library, if the user installs one, as long as the modified version is interface-compatible with the version that the work

was made with.

- c) Accompany the work with a written offer, valid for at least three years, to give the same user the materials specified in Subsection 6a, above, for a charge no more than the cost of performing this distribution.
- d) If distribution of the work is made by offering access to copy from a designated place, offer equivalent access to copy the above specified materials from the same place.
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