

TRACE-it[®] API

Control marking devices from third-party applications

The TRACE-it API enables third-party applications to manage and control marking devices needed for production environments. The third-party application sends a request, whereupon TRACE-it controls the entire marking process. Third-party applications can be established business systems such as an ERP or MES solution, as well as (web-based) clients, customized developments, PLC through OPC protocol, or other existing systems. Requests are sent through a TRACE-it interface to, after execution, status feedback or a preview, which is returned to the third-party application. A comprehensive TRACE-it Software Development Kit (SDK) explains the business logic and features that TRACE-it can perform.

TRACE-it API: INTERFACES

TRACE-it AUTOPRINT

This interface allows a third party system to provide data via files containing (reference) data or to convert requests received by TRACE-it into actions. This allows for the management of marking processes that relate to a single marking device or even all devices on a production line. The simple and user-friendly interface also supports a variety of file structures. TRACE-it AutoPrint is a Windows service that is responsive and powerful.

TRACE-it AutoPrint can also communicate with a PLC through the OPC protocol. In this case, an OPC server can connect to the TRACE-it OPC client. TRACE-it then converts the request into actions that manage the marking process for a single printer or even all devices in a production line. Thanks to the standardized OPC protocol, every request is handled quickly and securely.

TRACE-it WEBAPI

TRACE-it WebAPI provides a modern and fast .NET Core-based WebAPI supporting REST (Representative State Transfer) API CRUD calls made by the third-party application requesting the TRACE-it WebAPI for TRACE-it to perform tasks related to the marking process. These can range from a single printer to all devices along a production line. A detailed software development kit makes it easy to link any third-party application to TRACE-it.

TRACE-IT SOLUTIONS CONSIST OF THE FOLLOWING COMPONENTS

TRACE-it DATABASE

TRACE-it provides its own SQL database for managing and processing relevant production data. The system provides secure real-time access to data from any station in the network.

TRACE-it BUSINESS LOGIC

TRACE-it uses several independent services that run in background. This modern set-up guarantees a fast and reliable system.

In their interaction, these services enable the execution of all the required functions, e.g. importing data from other systems (ERP, MES, etc.), sending print jobs, user authentication, etc.

TRACE-it ADMIN

TRACE-it Admin is the configuration tool for TRACE-it. TRACE-it Admin displays a simplified and easy-to-use view of the SQL database. The TRACE-it Administrator can manage data, configure different devices and production lines, and manage user roles.

LABEL DESIGN SOFTWARE

Label design software is used to design label layouts and to generate print jobs. TRACE-it is compatible with NiceLabel, Jetmark, Bartender, CoLOS, and Codesoft. Additionally, TRACE-it can also support direct print language.

TRACE- it API

FEATURE LISTE

SQL database	x	PostGre SQL database
Items & production order table	x	Ability to store product information & production orders
Printing history	x	Traceability of processed print jobs
Labeling software support	x	One label design included (additional one is optional)
Direct print language support	o	Printer native language support
Single printer support	x	Drive a single coding device
Production line support	x	Drive all coding devices on a production line
Data acquisition devices	x	Support for scanners and I/O devices
Layout selection intelligence	x	Possibility to defines rules for layout selection
Users & profiles	x	Ability to create TRACE-it users & profiles (AD support optionally)
Number of printers	x	Up to 5, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 50+
Data import	x	Import data into TRACE-it from other systems or files
WebAPI	x	REST WebAPI with Crud calls
AutoPrint	x	File trigger based printing
File copy	x	Ability to copy files (periodically)
TRACE-it Admin	x	TRACE-it control panel
Previews	x	Ability to show preview(s) before printing
OPC interface	o	Communication with a PLC
Scanner interface	o	Communication with a scanner
SSCC generation	x	Calculate and keep track of SSCC numbers
Server-based	x	Runs on a server
SKD available	x	Code examples and manual available
REST WebAPI	x	Used API technology
CRUD actions	x	CRUD calls compatible
3rd party development	x	Development for WebAPI can be done
Print requests	x	Print request to the API can be made
Preview requests	x	Preview request to the API can be made
File triggers a production line	x	The file can be dropped within a folder
Data interface support for trigger print	x	Text and XML files as well as ODBC
Archive possibility based upon the status	x	File stored in a different folder in case of error or success

x – included o – available as an option

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