



Welcome

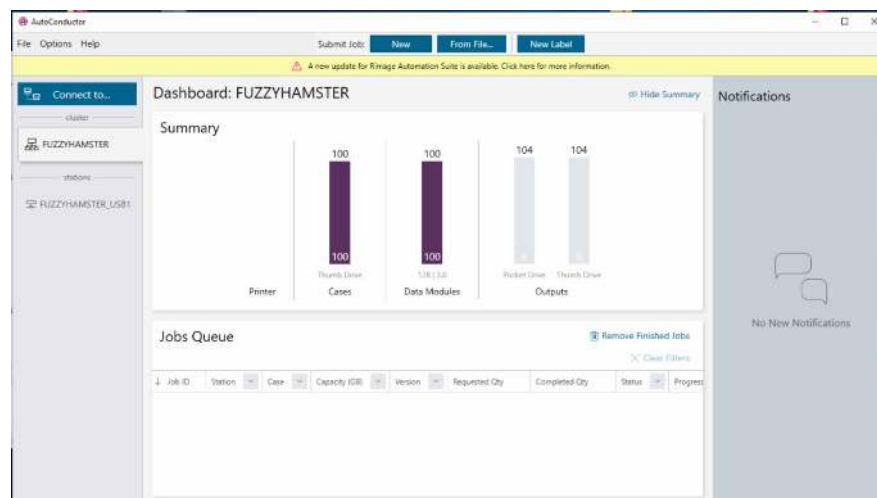
Thank you again for your interest in the upcoming Rimage Maestro system. For this second Maestro update we will be talking at a high level about the new software suite that will ship with the new system. If you missed the first update, we will be posting all of them onto the Rimage website in the future, but feel free to reach out to us at TeamRimage@rimage.com and we will be happy to provide a copy in the meantime.

Next time, we will discuss WORM (write once, read many), encryption and security for USB devices. Please feel free to forward this content to others you think might be interested and invite them to sign up for future updates as well.

The software that powers the Rimage Maestro system is the Rimage Automation Suite. RAS, as it is abbreviated, utilizes over 20 years of workflow expertise and software architecture experience to provide world class reliability and usability for the Maestro system. While RAS itself is new, the core is very similar to the Rimage Software Suite (RSS) that powers Rimage optical systems, with a fully modern user interface.

AutoConductor

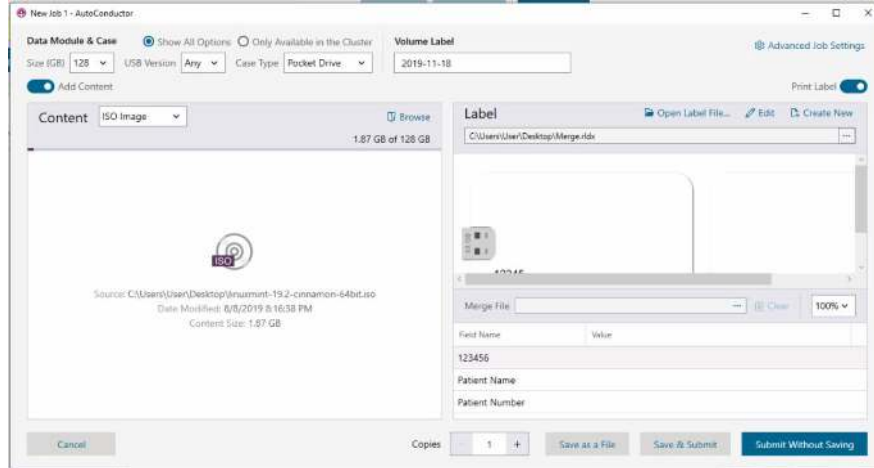
The software component that will be most visible to users is AutoConductor. AutoConductor combines administration features with an out-of-the-box job submission tool.



Using AutoConductor, you can quickly see the status of any Maestro system you're connected to on your network, their consumables counts, job progress and any warnings or error messages requiring attention. RAS incorporates a number of "smart" features that reduce the complexity of such a powerful automation software, such as automatic detection of what types of consumables are installed, which can be viewed through AutoConductor. All jobs submitted to a system, whether from one client or multiple, can be viewed and administered through a simple UI. Additionally, AutoConductor is the Rimage client for submitting USB jobs. By saving jobs, it is possible to build a library of easily submitted jobs, or create new ones on the fly.

Quick Design

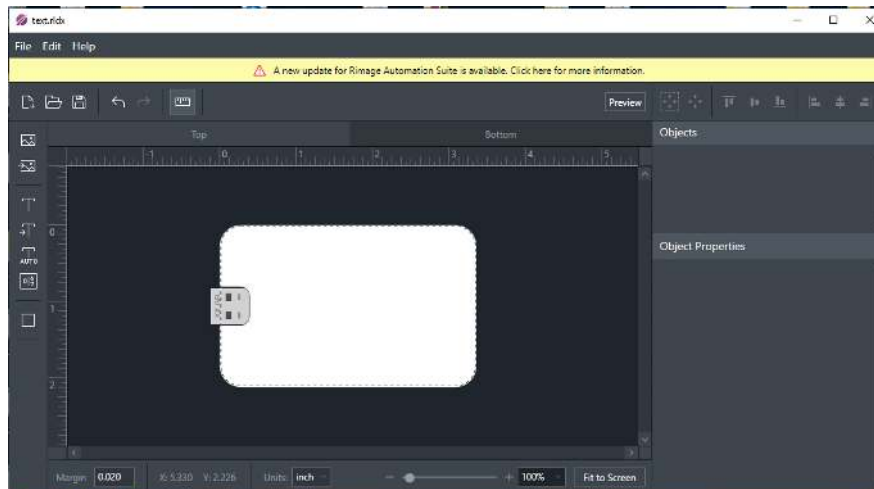
The one thing AutoConductor doesn't do is design labels. While AutoConductor can accept labels in formats like PDF or JPG, RAS also includes Quick Design.



A new label editor created expressly for the Rimage Automation Suite is called Quick Design. It allows users to quickly create beautiful, functional labels for printing on the Rimage EncoreCP printer that is part of the Maestro system. Being designed specifically for RAS, Quick Design makes it easy for even a brand new user to unlock powerful tools like merge fields, serial number generators and graphics layout. Quick Design is not just for basic users however, and we've incorporated many features that graphic designers would expect from a powerful editing suite.

Core Architecture

Behind the scenes, there are two other important pieces of software that users typically won't interact with. The first is the Rimage Production Server, which operates all aspects of the hardware and jobs, such as printing, recording and robotic movement.



This is largely the same Production Server as the Rimage optical systems use, however in RAS, Production Server can run either as a Windows Service or as a standard software program. Users will only interact with Production Server through the AutoConductor, but it is useful to know it's there driving the hardware.

The second piece is also familiar from the Rimage optical suite, which is the Rimage Messaging Server. The Messaging Server runs as a Windows service, and listens to TCP/IP communication on port 4664 by default. All communication, whether from clients like AutoConductor or 3rd party integrated clients, or from the Production Server running on different Maestro systems, runs through Messaging Server. This service allows AutoConductor to monitor multiple Maestro systems from one client.

SDK

While AutoConductor is an out-of-the-box tool for submitting jobs, Rimage understands that many customers already have existing workflows and software tools they use for their data. For these customers, Rimage also offers a Software Development Kit, frequently abbreviated to SDK. The SDK provides documentation and sample code for integrating the Rimage Maestro into other applications. For example, consider a web shop that offers a variety of software packages delivered to customers via a USB drive. Rather than an operator having to manually send jobs, the Rimage SDK allows the customer to tie their web shop directly to the Rimage. When a customer buys something on the web, the shop can send an XML job directly to a Maestro system to produce it. This is just one simple example of the endless capabilities of the SDK.

Final Thoughts

If you have any further questions about the Rimage Automation Suite, or anything else about the Maestro system, please let us know. We'd love to hear from you as we get closer to launch. Stay tuned for more information about that soon!

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