

Automation Engine

What's New in 24.03

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Product Manager and Product Owner

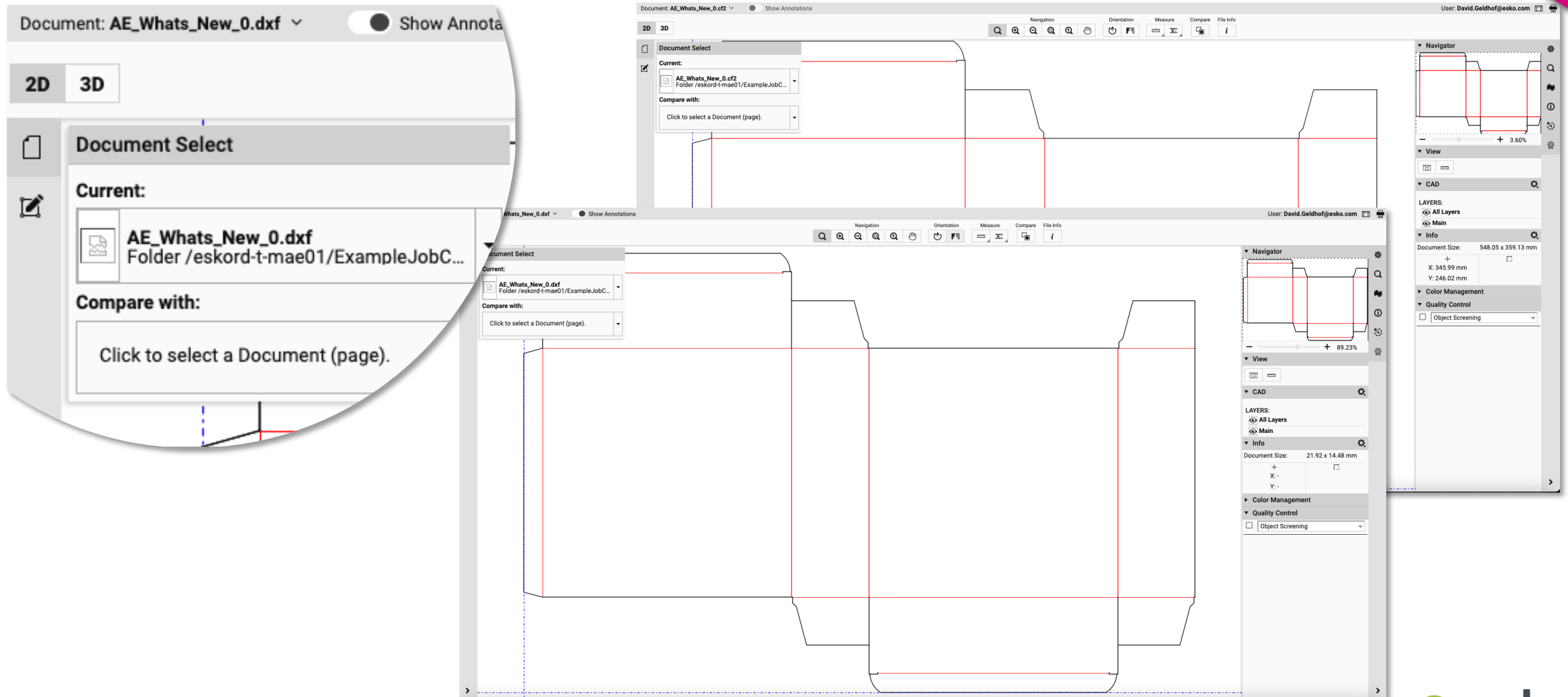
Contents

- New Viewer improvements
- My Workspace improvements
- PDF harmonization
- Pack Proof for Automation Engine SaaS
- Improvements for Administrators
- No longer supported in 24.03

New Viewer improvements

Support for viewing DXF and CF2 in Viewer

Available in the latest viewer technology

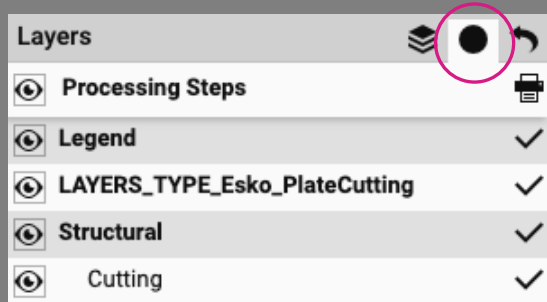


Confidential - Company Proprietary



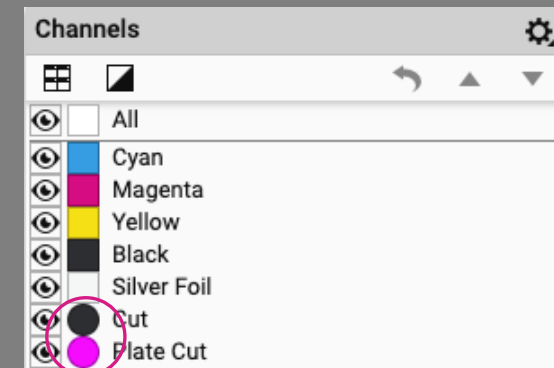
Processing steps in Viewer

Available in the latest viewer technology



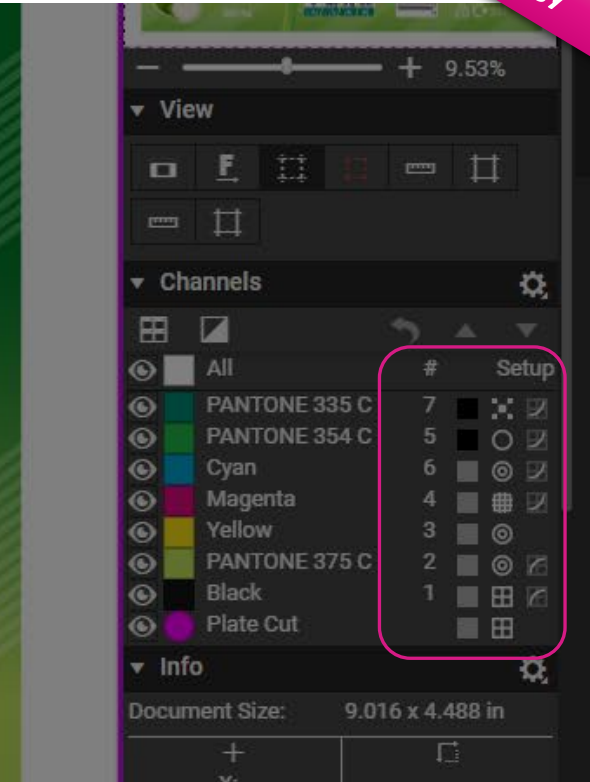
- There is a processing steps view in the Layers widget
 - This will show all processing steps of the file, even when inside linked art (nested processing steps)

- The color patches in the channel widget will now be round for inks that are used in a processing step.



Detailed channel info

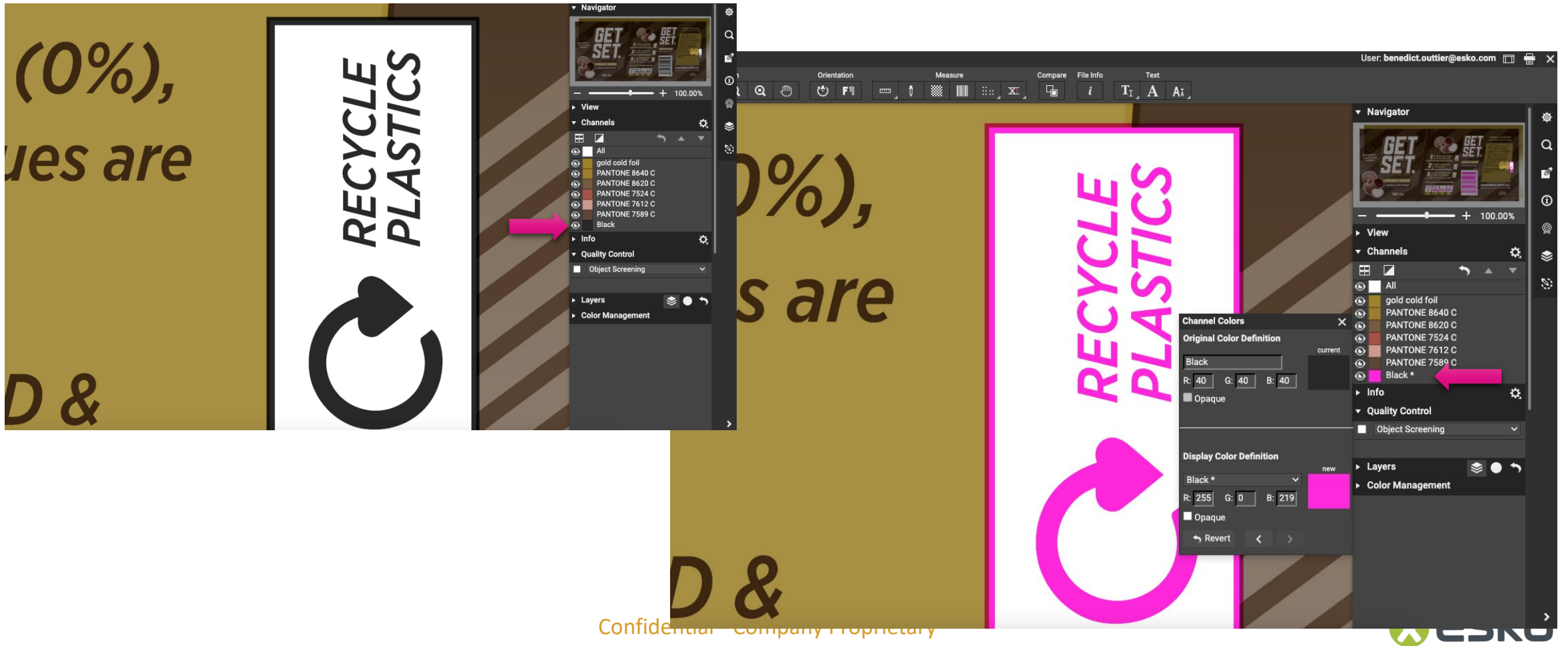
Available in the latest viewer technology



Change colors of process channels

Available in the latest viewer technology

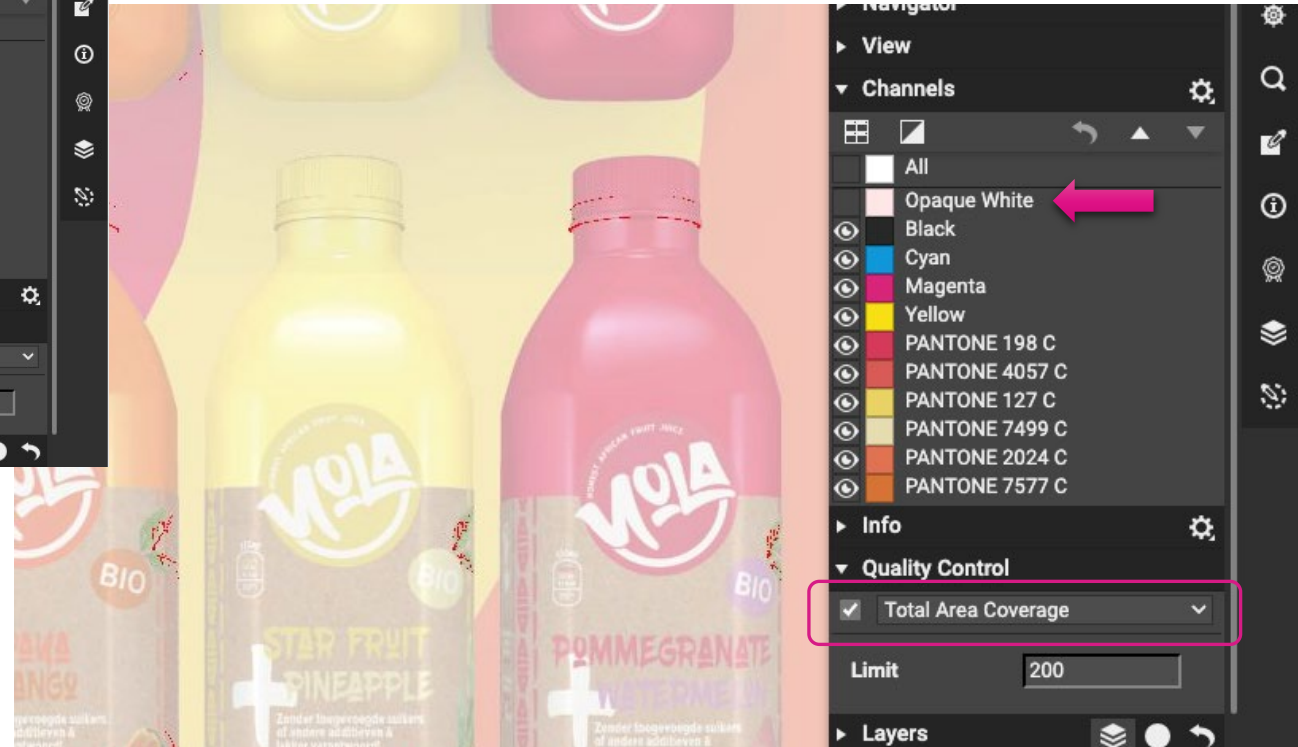
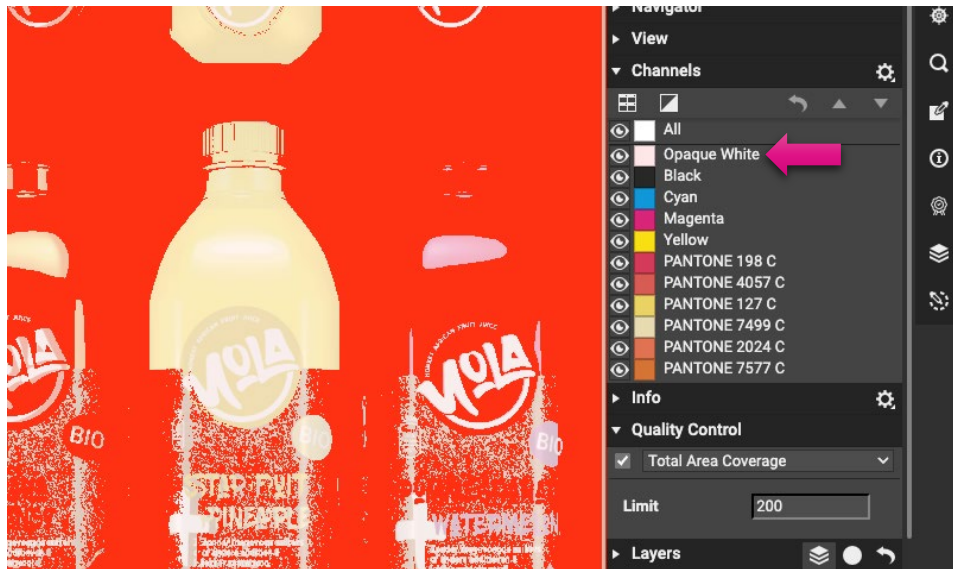
- Example: inspect traps with black and dark colors



TAC tool respects ink and layer selection

Available in the latest viewer technology

- Example: ignore varnish or white underprints



My Workspace improvements

Improved Products view in My Workspace

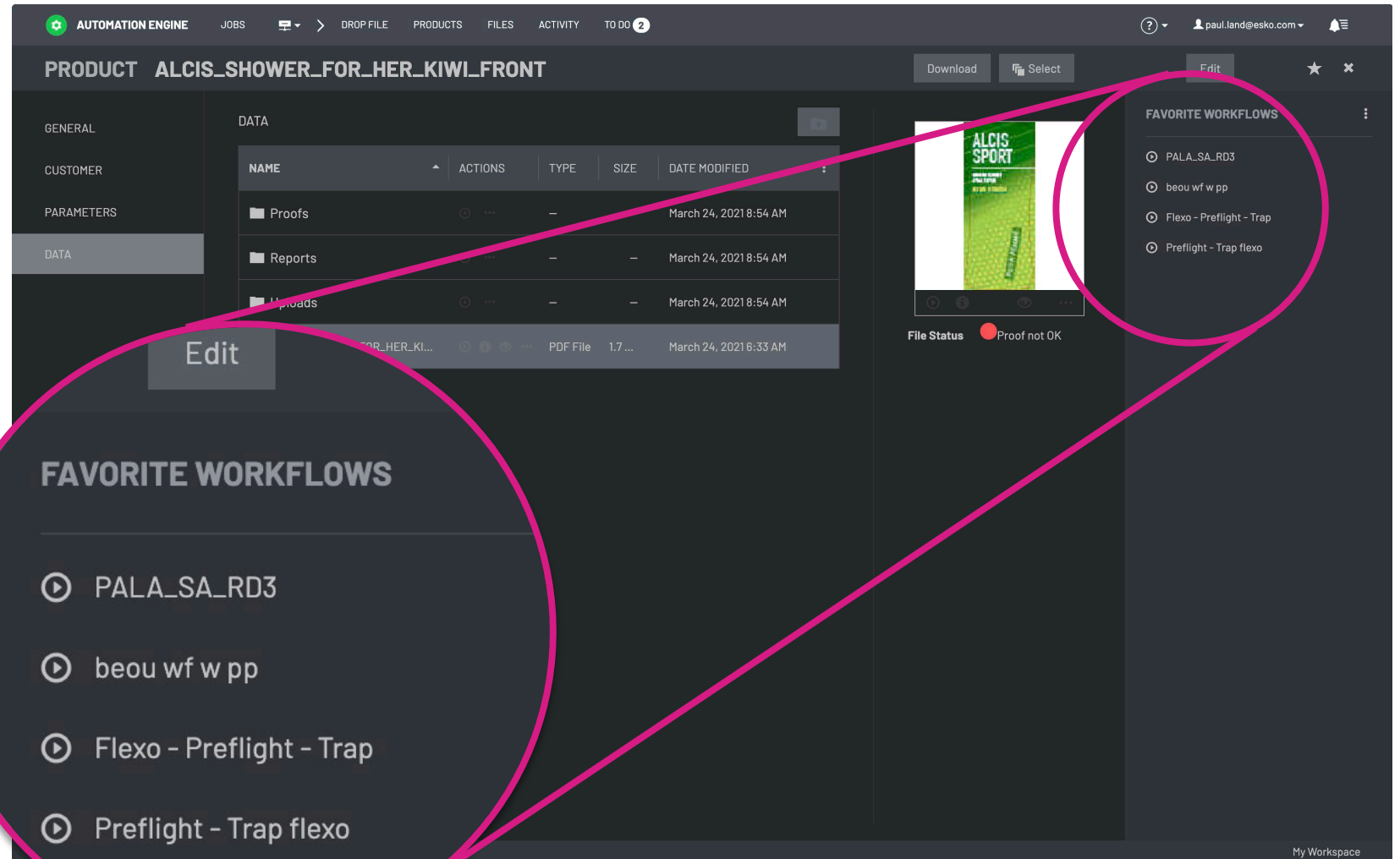
- The 'Data' tab will now be selected first (instead of the 'General' tab) when opening a product in My Workspace

The screenshot displays the 'Automation Engine' interface for a product named 'ALCIS_SHOWER_FOR_HER_KIWI_FRONT'. The interface is divided into several sections:

- Navigation Bar:** Includes 'AUTOMATION ENGINE', 'JOBS', 'DROP FILE', 'PRODUCTS', 'FILES', 'ACTIVITY', and 'TO DO' (with a notification icon).
- Product Header:** Shows the product name 'ALCIS_SHOWER_FOR_HER_KIWI_FRONT' and buttons for 'Download', 'Select', and 'Edit'.
- Left Panel (Tabs):** Contains 'GENERAL', 'CUSTOMER', 'PARAMETERS', and 'DATA'. The 'DATA' tab is highlighted with a pink circle and a pink arrow pointing to it from the text 'Automatically selected when opening a Product'.
- DATA Table:** A table with columns: NAME, ACTIONS, TYPE, SIZE, DATE MODIFIED. It lists items like 'Proofs', 'Reports', 'Uploads', and 'ALCIS...'. A pink circle highlights the 'DATA' tab and the table.
- Customer Information:** Below the table, it shows 'CUSTOMER' and 'PARAMETERS' sections.
- Product Preview:** A preview of the 'ALCIS SPORT' product is shown on the right.
- File Status:** Below the preview, it indicates 'File Status' and 'Proof not OK'.
- Favorite Workflows:** A list of workflows including 'PALA_SA_RD3', 'beou wf w pp', 'Flexo - Preflight - Trap', and 'Preflight - Trap flexo'.

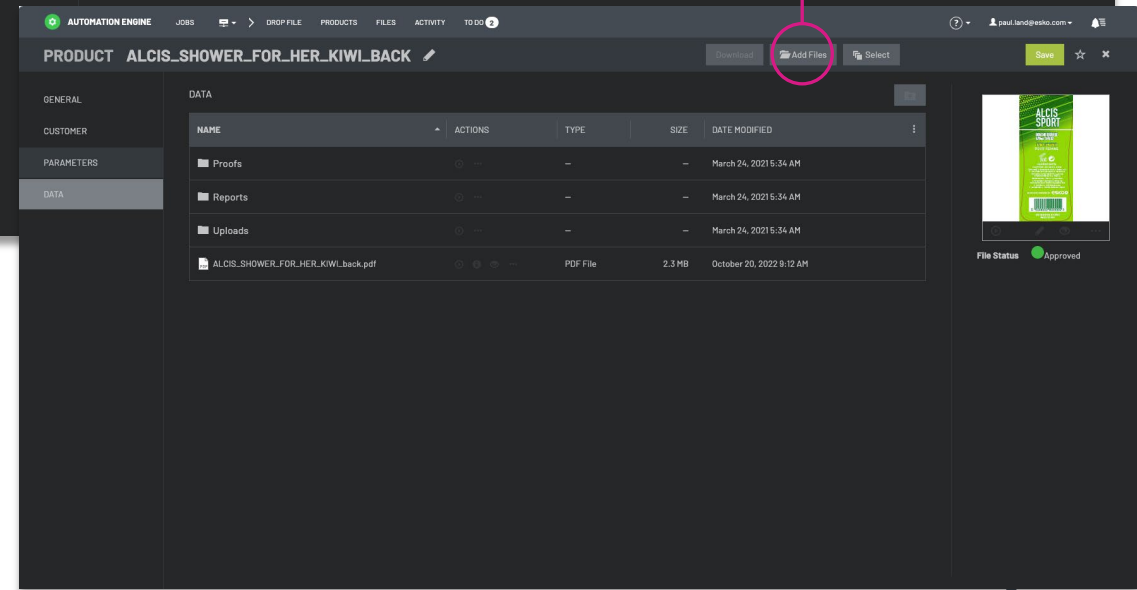
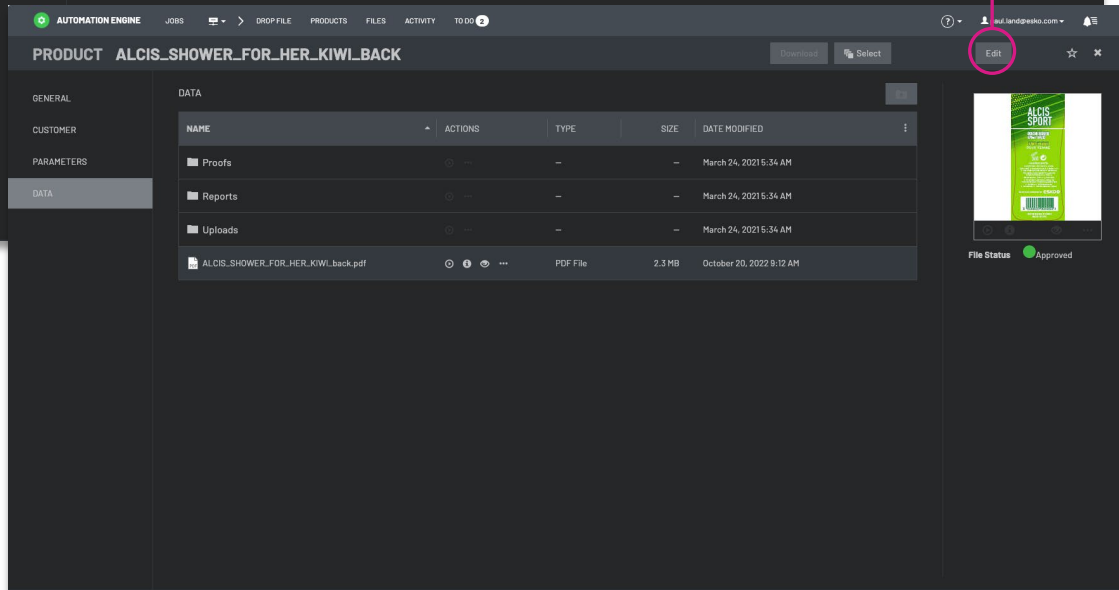
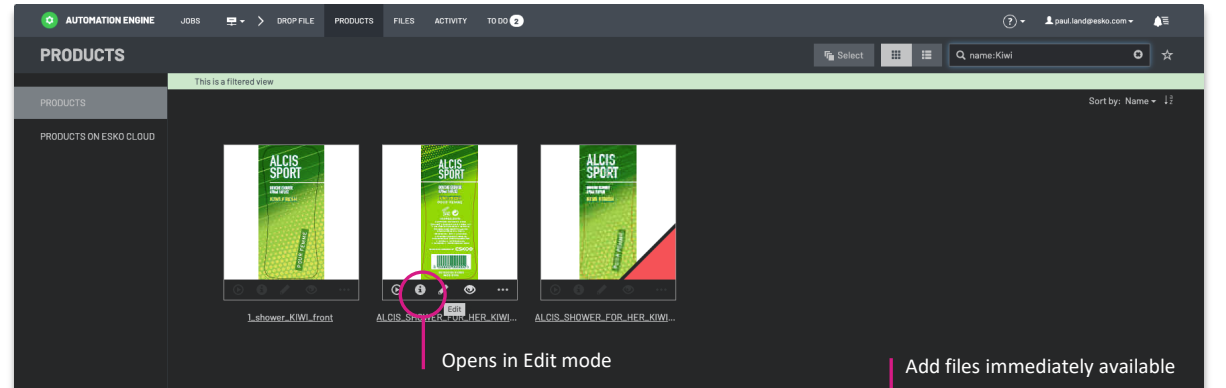
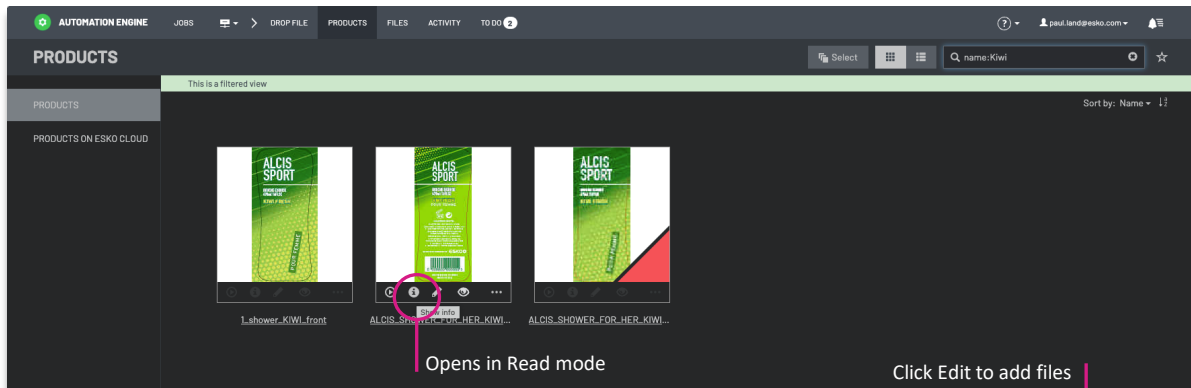
Improved Products view in My Workspace

- The 'Favorite Workflows' pane can now also be open in a Products 'Data' tab
- This reduces clicks and reduces the need to navigate elsewhere when working with Products



Improved Products view in My Workspace

- A user can now also upload files in the Products data tab.



High Quality Product Thumbnails

The screenshot displays the ESKO Automation Engine interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'AUTOMATION ENGINE' and several menu items: 'JOBS', 'DROP FILE', 'PRODUCTS', 'FILES', 'ACTIVITY', and 'TO DO' with a notification badge. Below this is a 'PRODUCTS' section with a sub-header 'This is a filtered view'. The main content area shows two product thumbnails for 'YOLA Can_screened'. The left thumbnail is highlighted with a pink box and labeled 'Generated AFTER 24.03'. The right thumbnail is labeled 'Generated BEFORE 24.03'. A pink arrow points from the text 'Generated AFTER 24.03' to the left thumbnail, and another pink arrow points from 'Generated BEFORE 24.03' to the right thumbnail. Below the thumbnails, a pink line connects the text 'Higher quality thumbnails for PDF native files' and 'Removed grey tinted panel' to the left thumbnail.

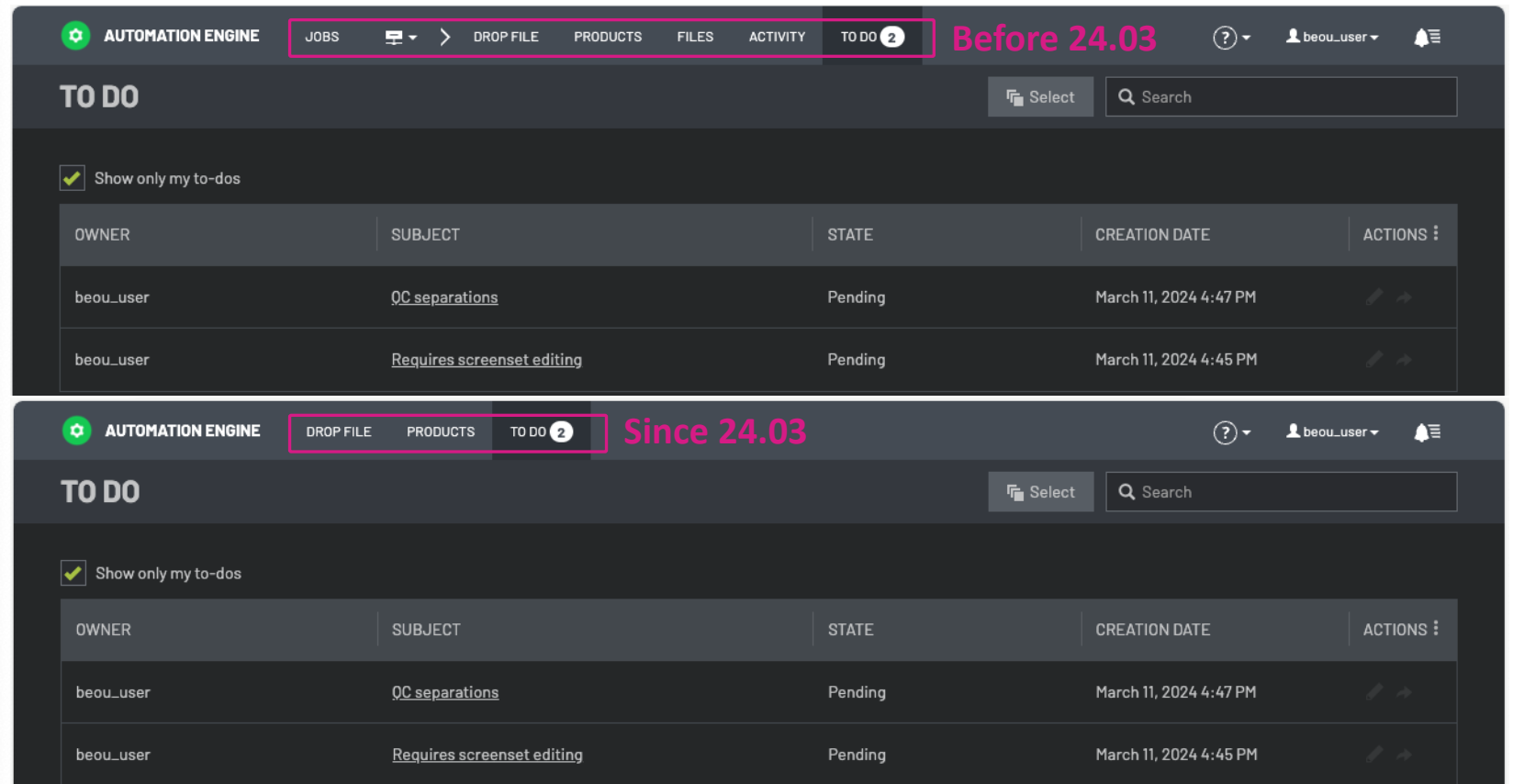
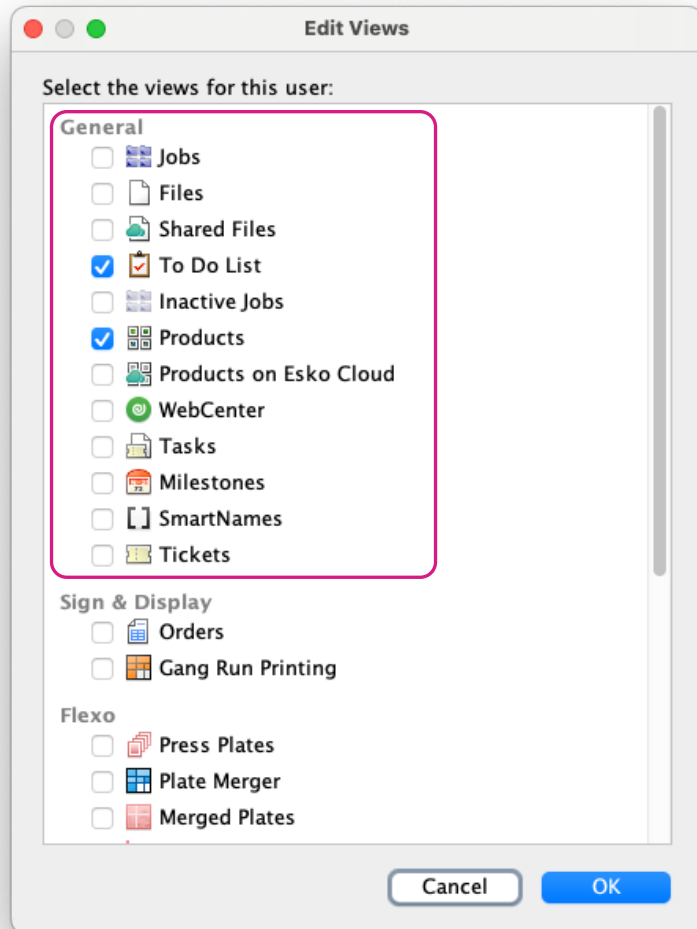
Generated AFTER 24.03

Generated BEFORE 24.03

Higher quality thumbnails for PDF native files
Removed grey tinted panel

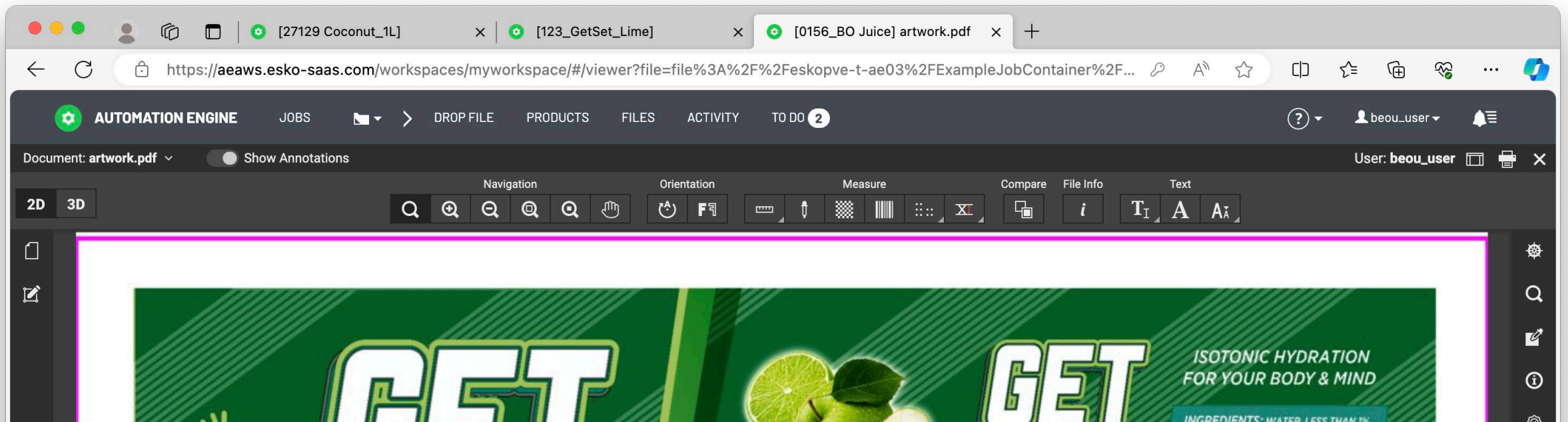
Views configuration for browser clients

- Views configuration now also for My Workspace and Roll Fed Labels



Improved tab names for My Workspace

- When in my Workspace, the browser tabs names are now in context of where the user is. For example:
 - The Job
 - The File being viewed
- This enables quick and easy navigation between multiple jobs



Distortion in File Info

- File Info dialog is extended with the distortion factor stored in the file

The screenshot shows the ESKO Automation Engine interface with the 'INFO 23468_GS_LIME.PDF' dialog open. The left sidebar contains navigation options: GENERAL, ARTWORK, FONTS, LAYERS, PROCESSING STEPS, SCREEN SETS, and SEPARATIONS. The main content area displays the following information:

Document Color Profile	ISO Coated v2 300% (ECI)	
Number of Pages	1	
Trim Box Width	9.016 inch	Media Box Width 9.016 inch
Trim Box Height	4.488 inch	Media Box Height 4.488 inch
Top Margin	0 inch	Left Margin 0 inch
Bottom Margin	0 inch	Right Margin 0 inch
Horizontal Distortion	99.12%	Vertical Distortion No distortion

A pink rectangular box highlights the last two rows of the table, indicating the distortion factors.

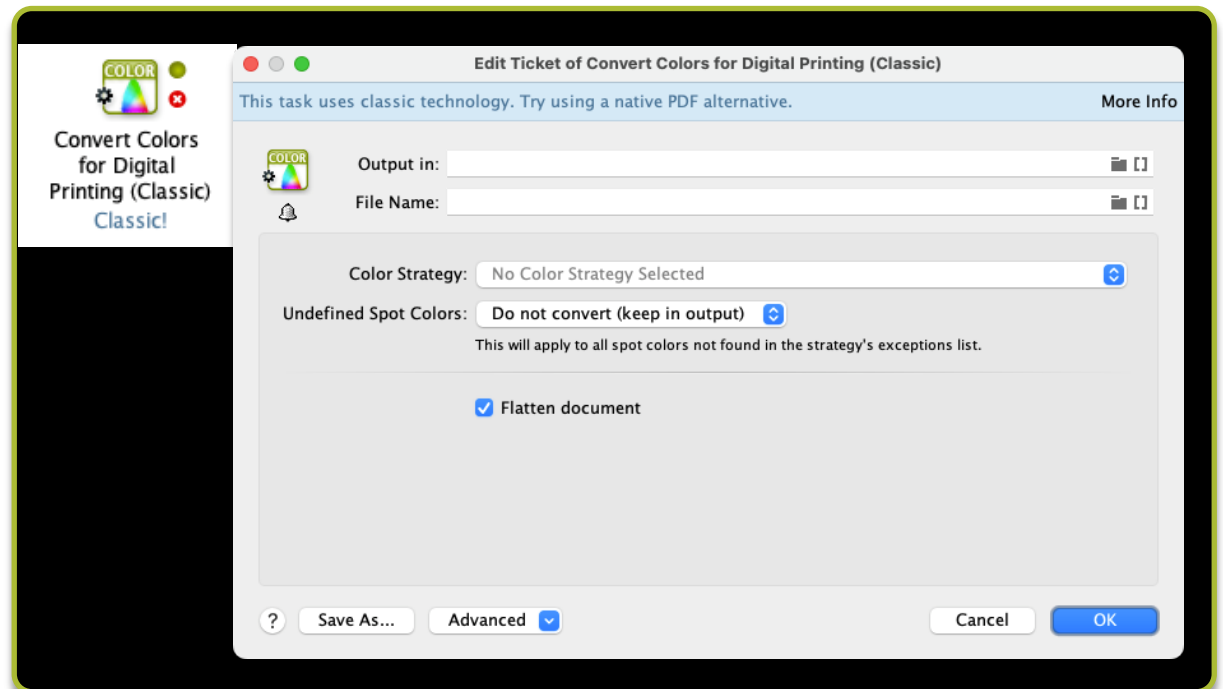
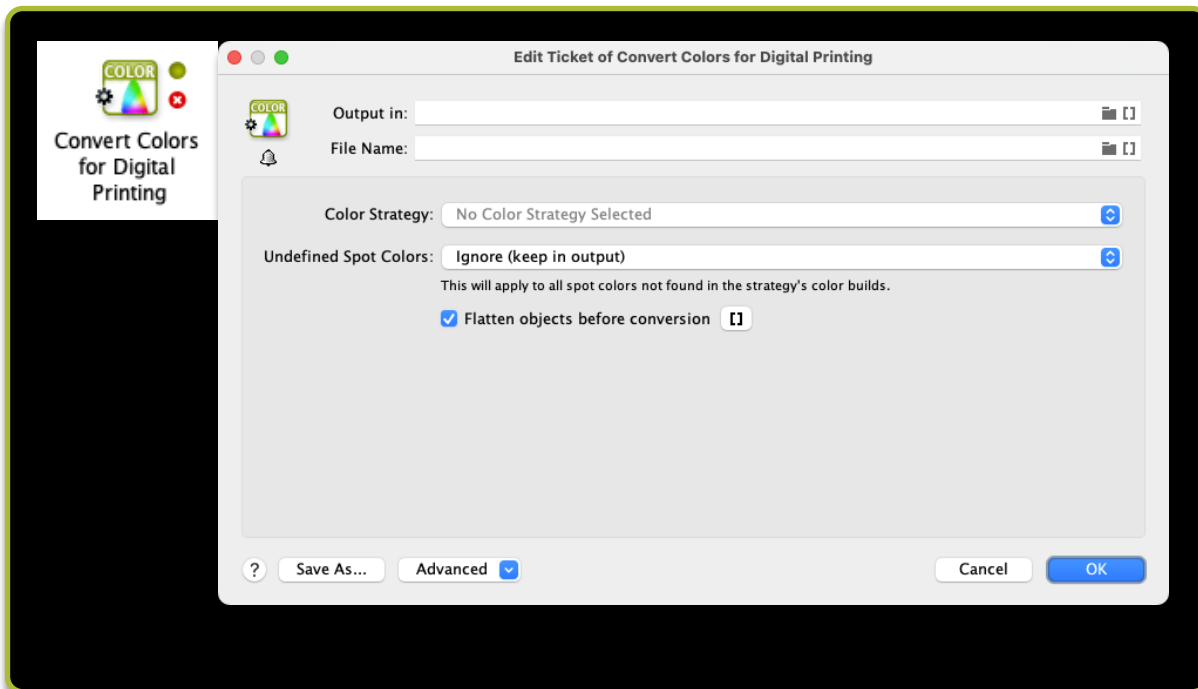
At the bottom left, a small thumbnail of a document page is visible, featuring the text 'GET SET' and a green recycling symbol.

PDF harmonization

Updates to improve working with native PDF
file format

New Task type 'Convert Colors for Digital Print'

- A new task that allows you to convert files using a digital color strategy
 - a PDF native version of the task 'Convert Colors for digital print (classic)'
- The task is PDF+ and VDP compatible



New and updated PDF Actions

- **'Select Artwork Separation'** selects all separations used in objects in artwork layers (layers that are not processing step layers).
- **'Select object by attribute'** can select objects according to screening (screening is/not applied, screening set with given name is used).
- **'Select separation used in processing step'** selects only separations used in specified processing step (e.g. select separation used in processing step White regardless of name of this separation).
- **'Remove separation from object'** removes selected separation from object (both stroke and fill).
- **'Select separation by printing method'** can use wildcards to define the printing method. Makes sense mainly for custom printing methods but it also works with the pre-defined ones. The real string used inside PDF file is used for comparison (without translation). These wildcards can be used also in the AE task 'Optimize PDF'.
- **'Remove color profile tags'** action can discard or apply color tags applied directly on objects. This avoids the confusing situation when a color profile is assigned to a document and different color tags assigned to some objects.

New and updated PDF Actions (ctd.)

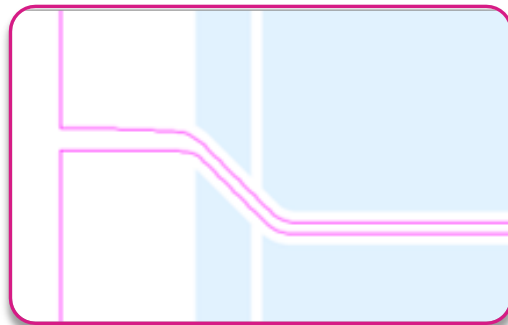
- Exporting and importing AE tickets will now not only include the used PDF action list but also the used (called) sub-action lists.
- New option '**Specify mark type**' was added to the 'Select object by attribute' action.
- New action '**Fit to Page box**'.
- The 'White underprint' action was extended to allow '**selection of custom inks for white color**'. It is now also possible to generate white underprint for marks.
- A new action '**Replace Embedded Placed Art (Legacy)**' allows processing of legacy ArtPro step and repeat files.

'Create Flexo Plate Cutting Paths' improvement

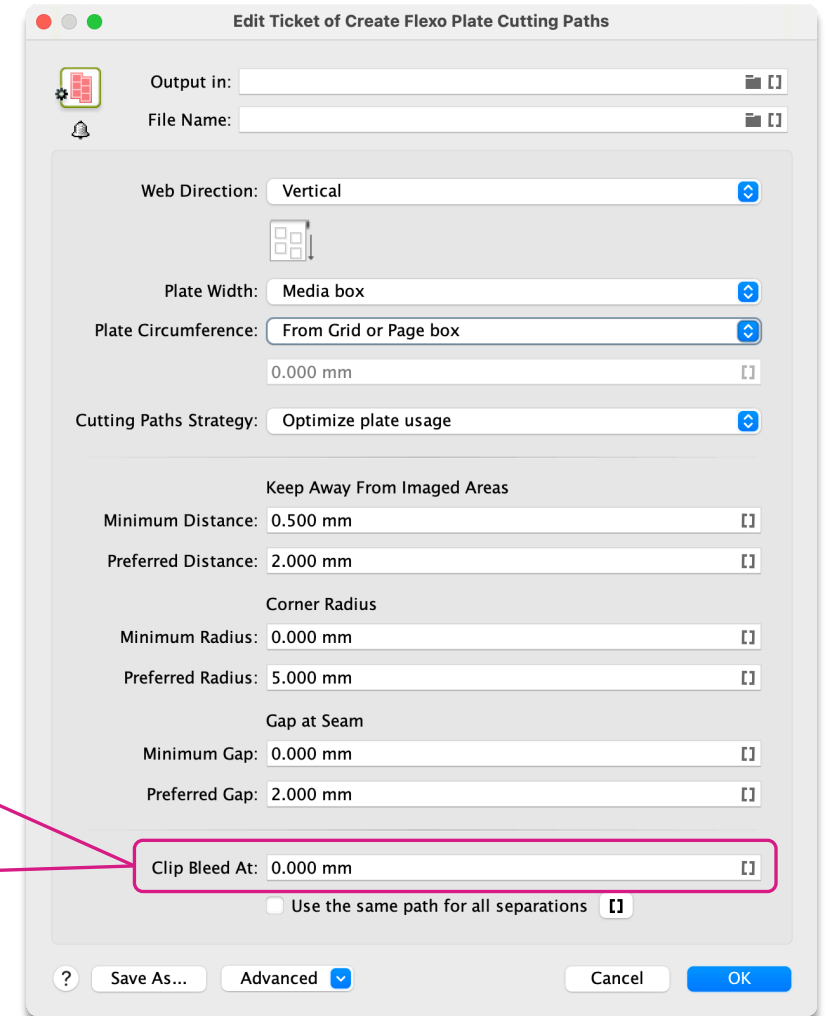
- The 'Create Flexo Plate Cutting Paths' task was extended with new bleed option
 - can be positive or negative



2.0 mm

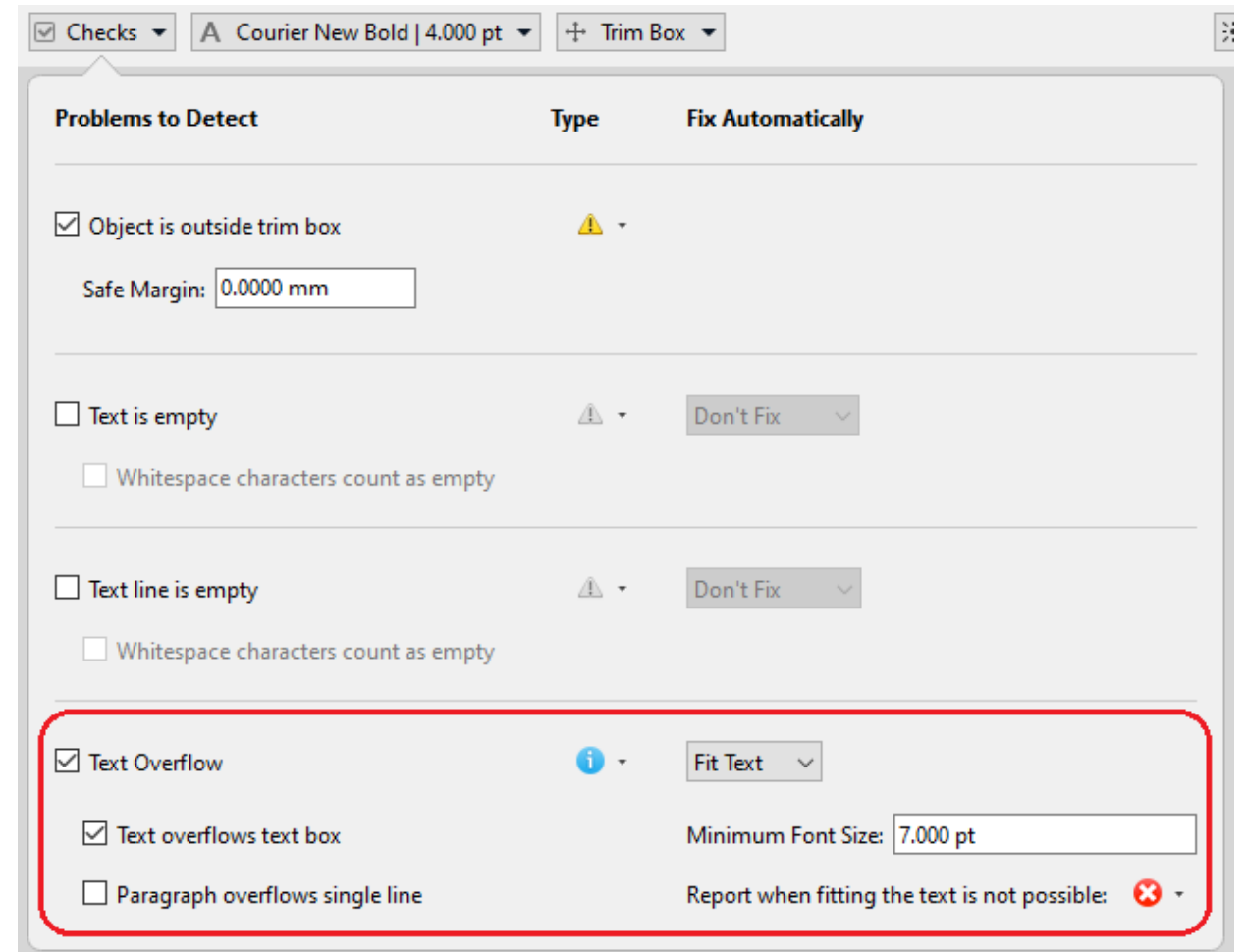


-1.0 mm



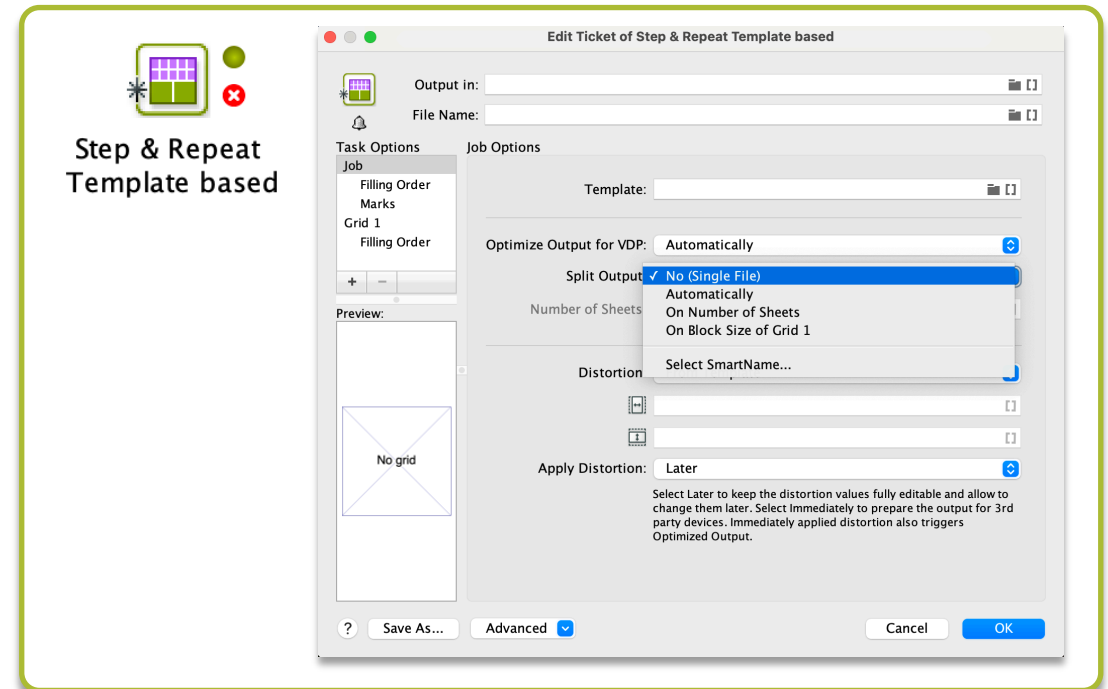
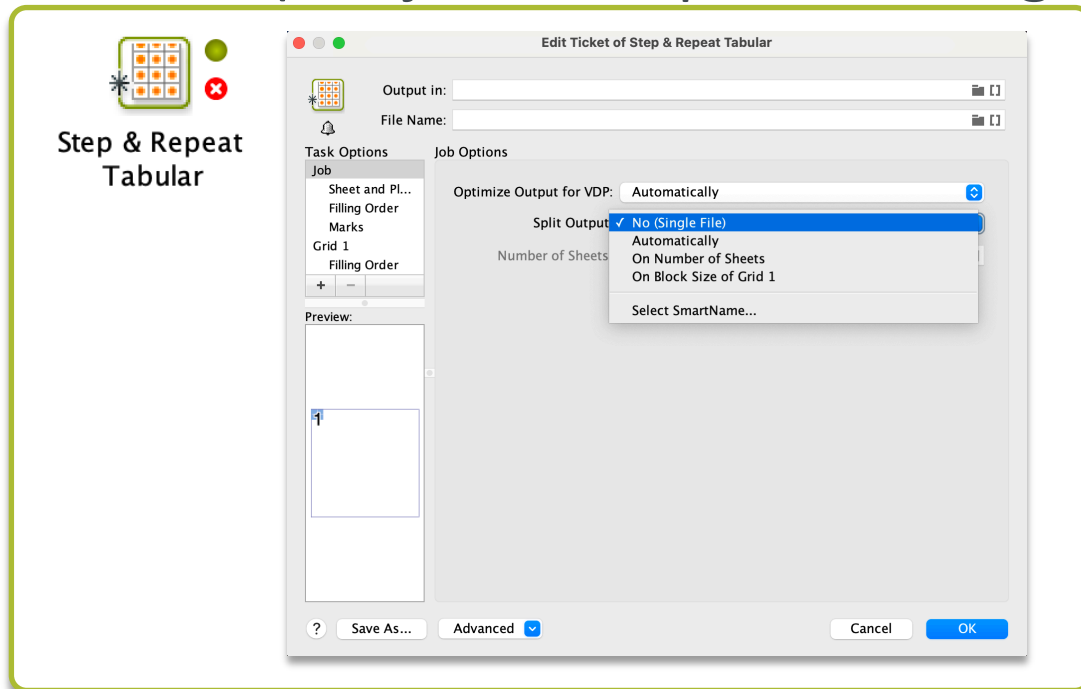
VDP Expansion

- New text-fitting rules can be used in VDP text in templates created in ArtPro+.
- Text is horizontally downscaled or font size is decreased when the text does not fit into single line and/or available box.
- Such templates are fully compatible with expansion in Automation Engine.



Step and Repeat tasks

- The 'Split output' option (create multiple blocks) for Step and Repeat tasks (both 'tabular' and 'template' based) was significantly improved to allow processing huge VDP jobs (millions of one-ups).
- Now support for custom one-up rotation angle
 - (not just multiple of 90 degrees).



PitStop 24.03 synchronized

- As of now, PitStop will release together with the Esko products. So Automation Engine 24.03 comes with PitStop 24.03.



Pack Proof for Automation Engine SaaS

Pack Proof Support – Automation Engine SaaS

- Configure Color Pilot to an Automation Engine SaaS server to Sync profiles and strategies
- Install the Automation Engine Agent to create a seamless connection
- Configure the Proof Server in Automation Engine and send jobs using the AE task
- Existing SaaS users: Profiles and Strategies are already synced



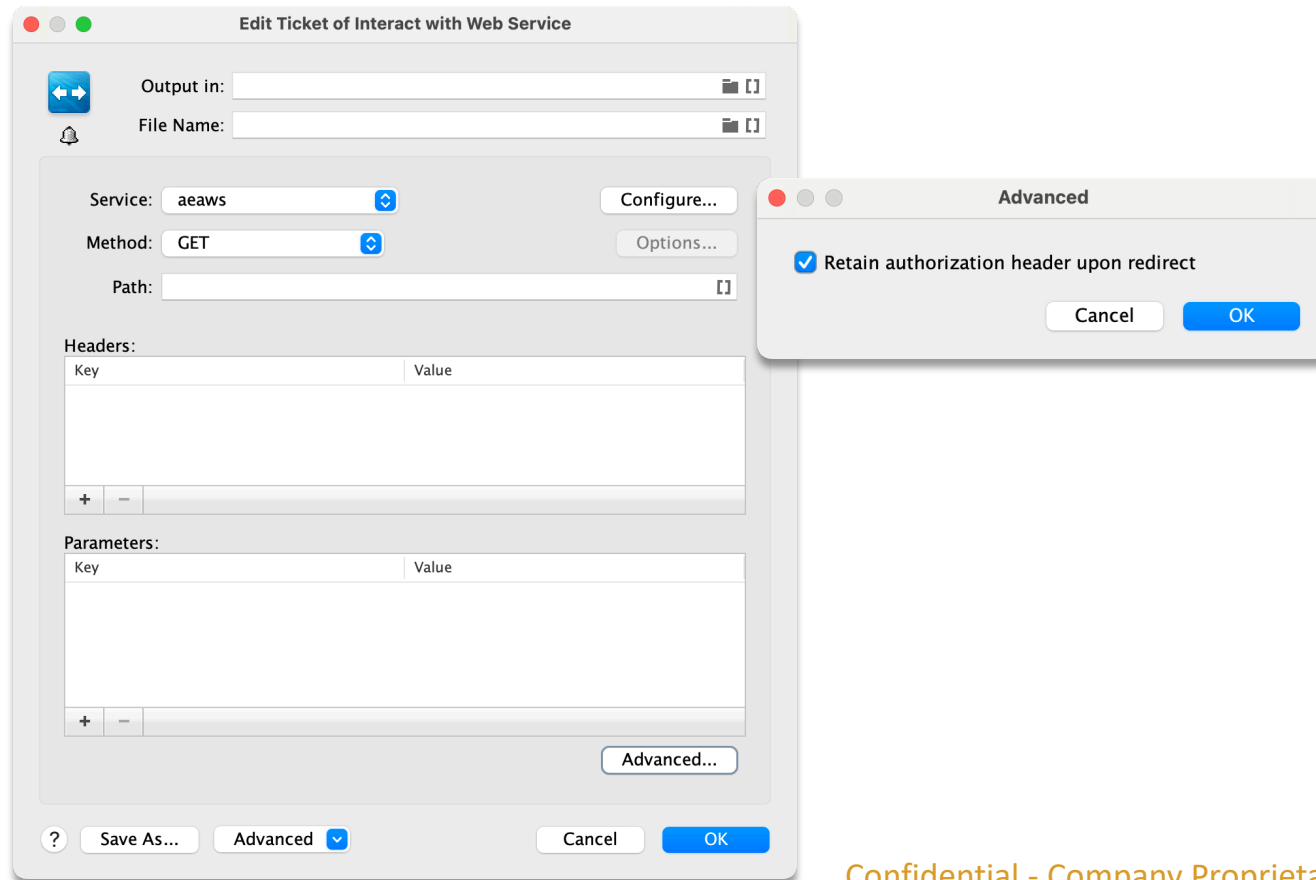
Improvements for workflow administrators

Retain authorization header upon redirect



Interact with Web Service

- The 'Interact with Web Service' task offers a new (advanced) option to retain the authorization header upon redirect



Upload Structural Design to Share & Approve



- The 'Upload Files to Share & Approve' task now has an option to upload the linked ARD/ZAE along with the PDF+ or Normalized PDF file.
- This allows the approver user in Share & Approve to view a file in 3D (without having to browse for the structural file).
- The structural file cannot be downloaded by the approver.

Site: No Site Selected Configure...

Upload to: JSONPath Folder Icon

An URL-encoded path to the upload folder.

Insert Esko Cloud link into local file

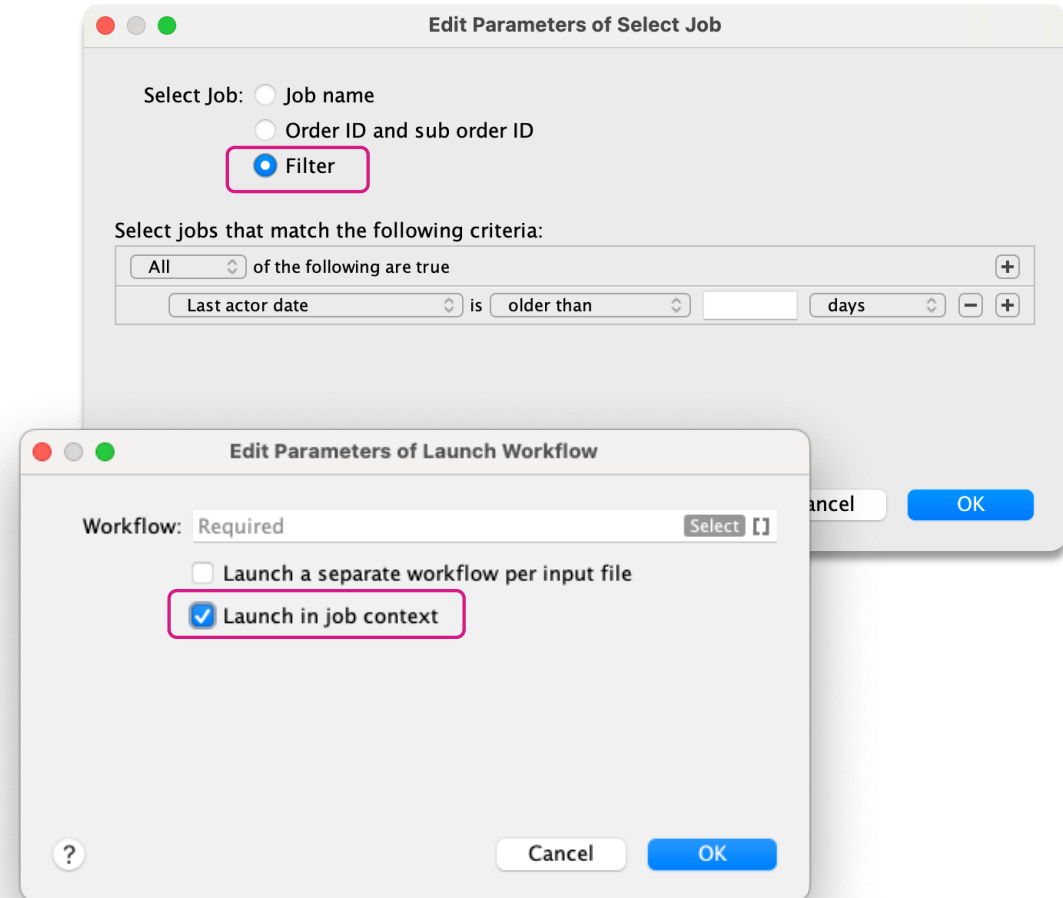
Upload Structural Design

? Save As... Advanced Dropdown Arrow Cancel OK

Improved workflow controls



- 'Select Job' now has an option to select one or multiple Jobs by means of a filter.
- The 'Launch Workflow' workflow control now has an option to launch a workflow in the Job context of the input.



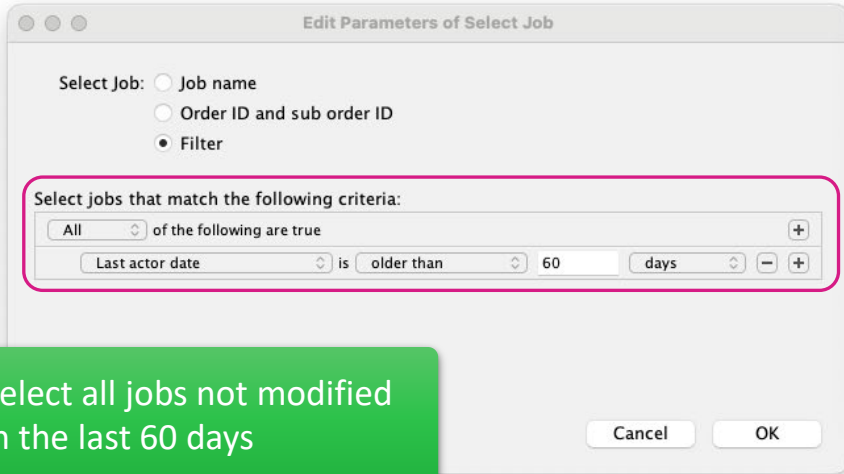
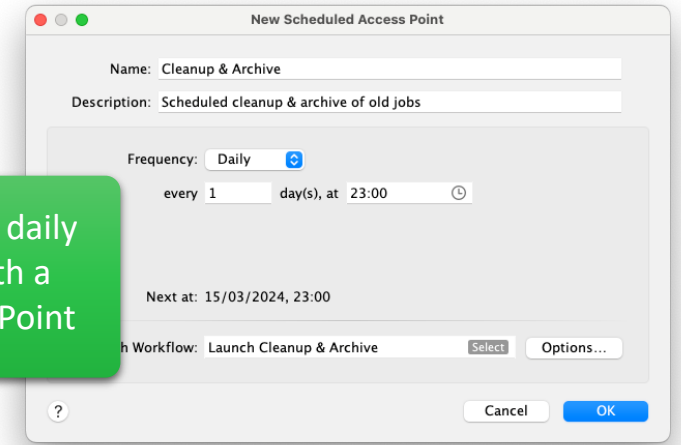
Note:

See a real example on the following page to gain a better understanding of how you could use this function

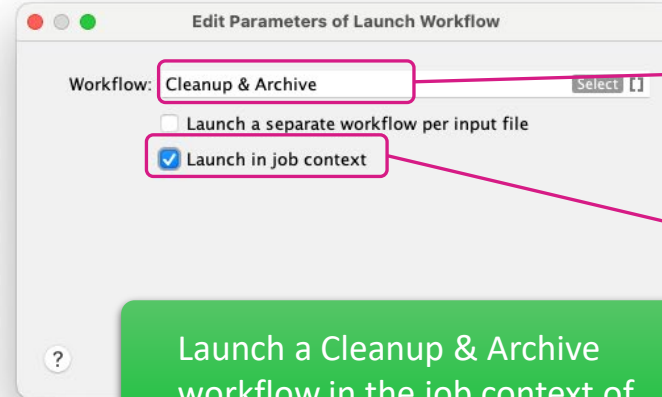
Improved workflow controls

- Example: a daily run of a Cleanup & Archive workflow on old Jobs
 - Select old Jobs with a filter
 - Launch the cleanup workflow in the context of each selected Job

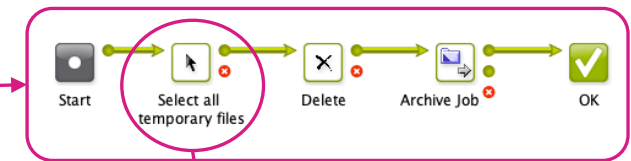
Schedule this on a daily or weekly base with a Scheduled Access Point



Select all jobs not modified in the last 60 days



Launch a Cleanup & Archive workflow in the job context of all the selected jobs.

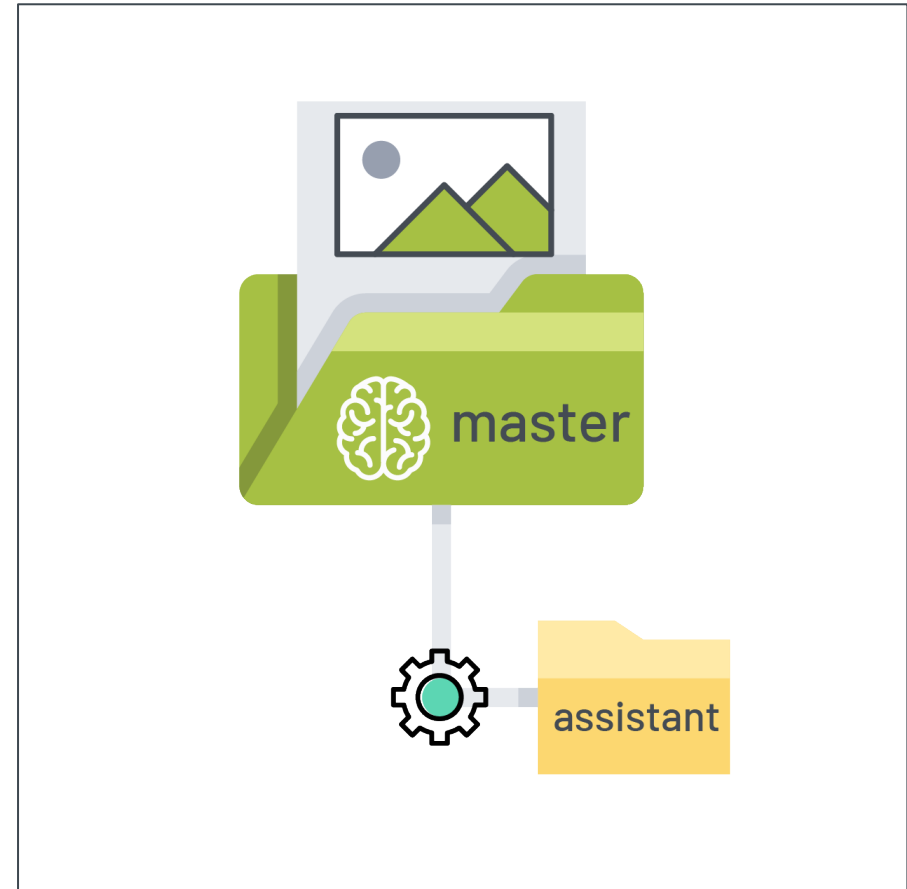


Launching in the job context allows to simply select files using [Job URL]\temp

Run task configuration on host

- Configuration of Processing capabilities in the Server Admin pages
- Administrator can configure whether the server can run
 - graphical tasks
 - inspection tasks
 - other tasks
- This configuration can be done per host (master or assistant). On a master server however, 'other tasks' will always be executed.

Smart processing delivery



No longer supported
in 24.03

Outdated 32-bit ODBC database connections

- Following has become outdated in 24.03
 - 32-bit ODBC Query SmartNames
 - external databases pointing to ODBC data sources
- While these are still expected to work, they are no longer supported and must be replaced with (SmartNames pointing to) external databases of DBMS type other than ODBC – see [supported database connections](#)

The screenshot displays the SmartNames application interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the text 'demo'. Below it is a table with columns: Name, Type, Category, Description, Private, Modification Date, and Modified By. The table contains two entries:

Name	Type	Category	Description	Private	Modification Date	Modified By
tooling_steps h	32-bit ODBC Query (Outdated)					
tooling_steps v	Database Query				17/03/2024, 16:42	benedict.outtier@esko.c...

Below the table, two configuration windows are shown. The left window, titled 'tooling_steps h', has a 'Type' dropdown set to '32-bit ODBC Query (Outdated)' (highlighted with a red box) and a 'Scope' dropdown set to 'Global'. A red thumbs-down icon is overlaid on this window. The right window, titled 'tooling_steps v', has a 'Type' dropdown set to 'Database Query' (highlighted with a green box) and a 'Scope' dropdown set to 'Global'. A green thumbs-up icon is overlaid on this window. The 'External Database' dropdown is set to 'Tooling' and the 'SQL Command' field contains: 'Select vsteps From ToolingTable Where number=[wfp.toolingnr]'.

Outdated operating systems

- Support for new installations and upgrades has been dropped for
 - Windows Server 2012 (all editions)
 - Windows Server 2012 R2 (all editions)

