

Software release 24.07

Esko introduces “S2”

Esko and cloud computing

Esko is investing resources to integrate cloud technology in its solution portfolio for a number of years already. A key design principle of this effort is that the adoption for existing customers is seamless and transparent whilst providing plenty of new and additional value. Esko cloud technology must deliver tangible added value whilst strictly protecting previous investments made in Esko solutions.

In the past 3 years, most of the cloud-related R&D efforts were concerning “under-the-hood” components of a cloud-native platform, like data security, scalability, user access, etc. In the same timeframe, Esko customers have experienced how existing products started to take advantage of these cloud developments. Cape Pack transitioned from an on-premises software tool to a cloud-native app. New tools like Share & Approve were released as cloud-native applications, and existing on-premises software like Automation Engine and ArtPro+ gradually started to connect to the Esko Cloud.

Introducing Esko S2

After years of developing the underlying platform, it is now time to give our cloud initiative more visibility and give the Esko cloud platform a name: Esko is proud to introduce Esko S2.

From Esko software release 24.7 onwards, customers will see references to Esko S2 throughout their applications. More specifically, references to Esko Cloud in older software releases have been updated to S2.

Looking ahead

Loyal to the design principle of protecting customer investments, all strategic Esko software applications will get connected to the Esko cloud platform, and many new tools will be exclusively designed as cloud-native, leveraging the best of cloud technologies and incorporating artificial intelligence. A major benefit of this approach is that all new applications will automatically share a common look & feel and best in class user experience, shortening the learning curve of the operators.

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We connect our existing desktop products to Esko S2 to extend and enrich them. An example hereof is ArtPro+ and DeskPack integrating with Share & Approve to share content and directly request approval. Automation Engine can start an approval process in Share & Approve. Studio is leveraging Esko S2 to offload the calculations required to compute packshots.

Esko S2 in itself is not a product, it is the technology enabler. Customers will continue to use their existing products or buy new products which either connect to Esko S2, or are being deployed as Esko S2-native applications.

Built for openness

Esko S2 is platform open to integration with third party tools. Esko provides APIs for seamless integration, enabling customers to retain the flexibility to work with their existing 3rd party software solutions. And as we've done in the past, Esko continues to pursue partnerships to expand our capabilities.

IoT on board

Our hardware products connect to Esko S2 through IoT. All CDIs sold since medio 2023 are automatically connected. Moving forward, the plan is to connect all our products to Esko S2 so all the tools Esko customers use will contribute to central data collection, driving process improvements based on workflow automation, cloud computing and artificial intelligence.

Where does the name Esko S2 come from?

Centered around current megatrends in our industries, the name "S2" explores the 2 meanings of the word "sustainability". Two meanings of sustainability: S2.

One megatrend refers to the ongoing drive of our customers to grow their business in an economically sustainable way, increasing efficiency, achieving more with the resources they have and as such drive profitability. In other words, "sustainable growth".

Automate. Connect. Accelerate.

Introducing Esko S2

Connected Products

Integrated Products

Native Products

My Devices



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S2 Drive

Centralized data and resources storage, management and unified Search – use the latest AI features to reuse your assets.

Administration Tools

Administration features including user management, access rights, license allocation.

Existing & new technologies

New and existing functionality on Esko S2 ensure flexibility and GTM acceleration for our customers.

Existing & new applications

Existing applications connect to Esko S2 and will be enhanced with cloud features and will be complemented with brand new modern cloud applications

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The other megatrend – across any industrial sector for that matter – is related to environmental sustainability and the need for the packaging industry to reduce its environmental footprint on society. Esko S2 is the software platform enabling our packaging converters to reduce waste in many different ways, and as such help them achieve their own and their brand owner customers' environmental sustainability goals.

Esko S2 as a value driver

For Packaging Converters and tradeshops, S2 relies on cloud computing and artificial intelligence to support single-site SME as well as global multisite businesses with collaboration, workflow automation and business software integration, enabling the highest possible service level for their brand customers.

For CPG and Life Science brands, S2 means asset and content management, label and artwork management solutions in the cloud with maximal peace of mind, adherence to government regulation, and reduced speed to market.

Esko S2 takes away IT overhead concerns from customers: scalability of the platform in line with growth of our customers' business, no more on-premises upgrades, an always up-to-date environment, security through backup, disaster recovery, certifications, and a dedicated security team.

Esko aims at delivering on its promise to bring value to customers through a combination of technology innovation and deep domain expertise in print and packaging workflows, ensuring the finest user experience and seamless transition. With Esko S2, customers gain access to a reliable and secure data repository, a single source-of-truth for all packaging data, accessible from everywhere.

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