eXtra4 Software + Service GmbH

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Pressemitteilung / Press Release

Upgrade for label printing software from eXtra4

Preview of the upcoming major release win4

Birkenfeld, 01.02.2024. The name says it all: "eXtra4-win4" - this will be the official title of the new software version for the Windows operating system. With the upcoming major release, eXtra4-win3, the label printing application that has been in use in the jewellery and watch industry since 2015, will undergo an extensive update. The modular application from eXtra4 Software + Service GmbH, based in Birkenfeld near Pforzheim, will offer a high degree of customisability for item data in its higher editions. The subsidiary of label manufacturer Ferdinand Eisele will be providing initial insights into the planned innovations during the Inhorgenta trade fair from 16 to 19 February in Munich. Due to the technology transfer to Hall C2,

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interested show visitors can now find eXtra4 there at Stand 214 in Aisle B.

More than just a new design

The first glance at the user interface of eXtra4-win4 makes it clear: it has been extensively modernised. The new main version is fresh and contemporary in terms of colour and design. But the innovations are by no means just cosmetic and ergonomic. The functions of the higher editions will open up new perspectives, especially for users who previously maintained their items in Excel lists. They can print labels directly with eXtra4-win4, without data transfer. Export to CSV format is not necessary. The upgrade provides users with features that allow them to map the complexities of their individual item stock in more detail than is possible in a spreadsheet, and also to document it in lists using a professional report generator.

Label printing remains software core

The central function of eXtra4-win4 continues to be label printing. All editions of the software - currently seven - offer this, albeit to varying degrees. In accordance with the modular software structure consisting of elements that build on each other, the range of functions increases from one edition to the next. The spectrum reaches from the single-user solution for printing a single label in a defined design to the multi-user solution with an unlimited number of

controllable printers and usable designs for printed labels in any number of copies.

A more powerful database as solid foundation

The PostgreSQL database forms the basis of the new software architecture for eXtra4-win4. It stores label data for individual items, as was previously the case in eXtra4-win3. Its scalability allows it to be used on even the smallest computers and is still able to provide secure data access for several users simultaneously. The modular architecture of eXtra4-win4 prevents users from being confronted with options that do not meet their needs. Users are guided step by step in the software on how to structure their data: starting with the creation of their own item groups through to the data required for a proper inventory. There is now an independent tool for setting, maintaining and backing up the database, the eXtra4-win4-Manager.

High level of customisation

Script technology provides the key innovation in eXtra4-win4 compared to the previous version win3: It opens up unimagined possibilities for users to customise the software to their requirements and processes. Entry screens for entering item data, for example, can be customised to segments. In practice, this means that the software queries different parameters for watches than for jewellery when an item is created, and jeweller A in turn can specify different parameters for his watch range than jeweller B.

A professional report generator opens up completely new options for analysis of data that can now be recorded in eXtra4-win4. Far more differentiated lists can be created than were already possible with version win3 as part of an inventory. The eXtra4 developer team generates individual reports, for example for statistical purposes in sales, and implements this customisation in the respective user's application.

Guiding principle of the restructuring

The developers of eXtra4 Software + Service have also focussed on their motto "KISS - Keep It Small and Simple" for the major release of eXtra4-win4. "With our label printing software, we want to provide an easy-to-use application. It should not overwhelm users, but its adaptability should be able to cope with their growing requirements," says Managing Director and Chief Developer Alex Schickel, explaining his intention. "We don't see ourselves as a provider of a kind of stock management system, but rather as a trainer for skills to get there."

With the new software version, users can grow from entering label data into managing item data and learn how to use the additional data to their advantage. If you want to go further, for example to integrate a cash register, write invoices or monitor payment transactions, you need a full-range stock management system. "We will not be including accounting functions in our software, not even in

the future," states Schickel. "Our focus is on the efficient

management of items using modern identification technologies."

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Images with captions

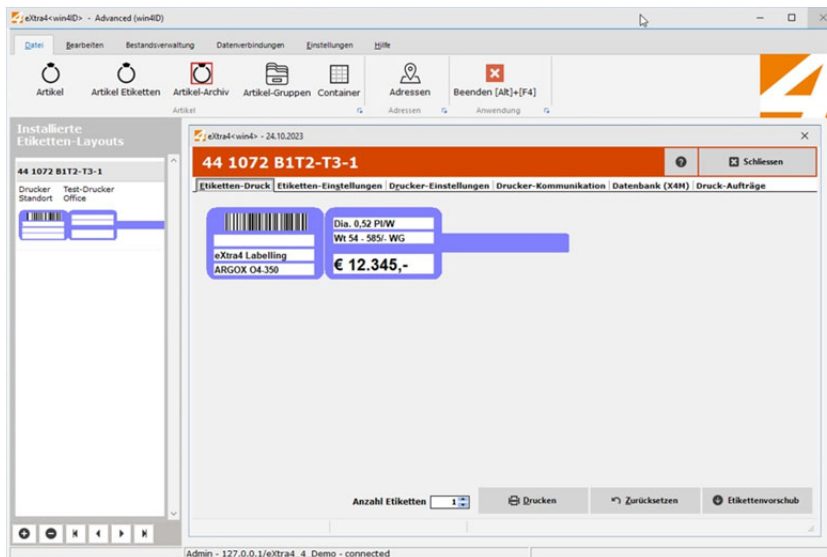**Fig.1: The new brand identity for the main release eXtra4-win4.**

Fig.2: The user interface of the label printing software in the upcoming main release eXtra4-win4.

Fig.3: Alex Schickel, Managing Director of eXtra4 Software + Service GmbH and Ferdinand Eisele GmbH with its brand eXtra4 Labelling Systems

Fig.4: Logo eXtra4 Software + Service GmbH