

SENTINEL™ S/5 with CODESOFT® Version 8

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PRODUCT RELEASE NOTES



SENTINEL™ S/5 with CODESOFT® version 8

SENTINEL S/5 with CODESOFT is a data capture and distributive printing middleware solution used to automate the printing of labels created with CODESOFT label design software.

Version 5, a single solution now includes two software packages :
SENTINEL Print Pack S/5 and SENTINEL Data
Exchange S/5.

Pre Requisite

- The Microsoft Data Access Component version 2.8 is required on your system in order for SENTINEL S/5 to work. In order to install version 2.8 you need to have MDAC version 2.5 installed on your system.
- The English version of those two components is provided on the SENTINEL CD. If you prefer to install the MDAC component in your local language you need to install these components first through 'Windows Update'.
- You also need to install Microsoft Dot Net Framework version 1.1. Again, the English version of this component can be found on your install CD. If you prefer to install the .Net Framework in your local language you can do so through 'Windows Update'.
- As of this version, to simplify product upgrades, the CODESOFT print engine is no longer installed with the product. As a consequence, if you wish to use the label printing feature of the product, you will have to install CODESOFT separately.

This SENTINEL version is compatible with CODESOFT 8.0 and CODESOFT 7.10.01 patch 7.

To upgrade the last version

To upgrade your older SENTINEL Print Pack installation, please follow the procedure below:

if you have a SENTINEL Print Pack S/4 version 4.1 installed, first do a backup of the sentinel.xml file that is located in the Sentinel directory. An issue has been resolved in this version so that this configuration file is removed when the application has been uninstalled.

1. Uninstall your old version of SENTINEL Print Pack.
2. Install the SENTINEL S/5 version
3. Install CODESOFT 8
4. Copy either the sentinel.ini or sentinel.xml file of the previous installation into the new Sentinel directory.
5. Copy all the xml files located in the **<plug-ins>** subdirectory of the previous installation (only concerns S/4 versions) into the **<plug-ins>** subdirectory of Sentinel S/5.
6. Copy the old user.ini file of the CODESOFT print engine (located in a subdirectory of the old Sentinel install) into the the **<.!SystemUsers>** subdirectory of CODESOFT 8.

New Features

The SENTINEL product range now includes two software package:
SENTINEL Print Pack S/5 and SENTINEL Data Exchange S/5.

SENTINEL Print Pack S/5

SENTINEL Print Pack S/5 is an evolution of our automatic label printing solution, SENTINEL Print Pack. It provides the following new features:

Web Manager:

This new tool allows to administrate and control the activity of your SENTINEL servers from a simple Web Browser. This tool must be installed on a Window PC that runs Microsoft Internet Information Server and that can be separated from your SENTINEL server. The Web Manager Application can then administrate a pool of SENTINEL servers. Once installed, after having provided the address of the Web Manager application in your browser, you shall be able to :

- Create/Delete sentinels
- Configure sentinels.
- Start/Stop sentinels.
- Control the sentinels status.

And this from any workstation in the network, independent from the Operating System on the workstation.

IDEAM plug-in:

This new input plug-in allows to connect our IDEAM Data Collection Server with the SENTINEL Server. Working as a real bridge between the data collection network and the label printing network, it makes it possible to process the data collected from portable devices with the SENTINEL Server. This could be used for example to print barcode labels based on the collected data, to perform transactions with a database system (update, delete, call to a stored procedure) or to call up a web service function.

Mapper:

The Mapper now includes the ability to work easily with XML data file. XML being one of the most common data formatting to be used for exchanging information between applications, this new feature widely extends the integration capabilities of the SENTINEL server in an existing environment. By selecting this type of structure in the Mapper, the display mode of the working file is turned into a tree view. This mode being more accurate with the hierarchical structure of XML files, helps analyzing the file, simplifying the work to be done in the Mapper.

Email Plug-in:

The E-mail plug-in has been extended allowing the sender to define an E-mail address as well as its user account and password on the e-mail server. This allows the e-mail plug-in to send messages to e-mail servers requiring authentication. It also gives you the ability to detect communication issues between the email server and the receiver by posting a status in the sender's email box. Three different identification methods could be used internally by the plug-in :

- PLAIN: user and password are send as plain text
- LOGIN: use a Base 64 encryption mechanism
- CRAM – MD5: standard encryption mechanism

Check your e-mail server to see which protocol is supported.

SENTINEL Data Exchange S/5

SENTINEL Data Exchange S/5 extends the Sentinel Print Pack feature and turns it into a real integration platform between the barcode identification network and the ERP/WMS world. This integration capability is ensured on one hand by two new input plug-ins, IDEAM and Web Server, and on the other hand by the addition of two new process plug-ins, Database and WebService Client, which can be combined together with the CODESOFT label printing plug-in.

Web Server:

This new input plug-in collects data from a web form provided by a Web Application in order to process the data by any of the SENTINEL process plug-in. The data received can be used to update a database system, to call a web service available on the intranet or to print labels. This plug-in can also receive information from any Dot Net or J2EE application as it is accessible as a web service.

Database:

This process plug-in allows to process data received by an input plug-in in order to update, insert or delete records of one or more database and/or to call up stored procedures defined on the database system.

Web Service Client :

This process plug-in allows a SENTINEL to call up one or more web service functions providing filtered data received by an input plug-in as a parameter, in order to perform any operation being made available this way on an ERP/WMS system.

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