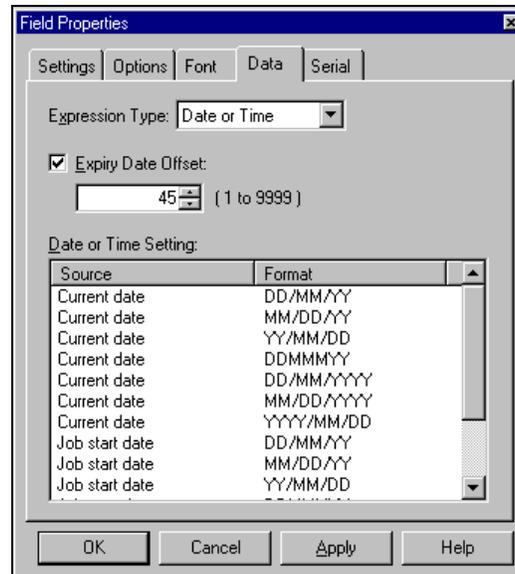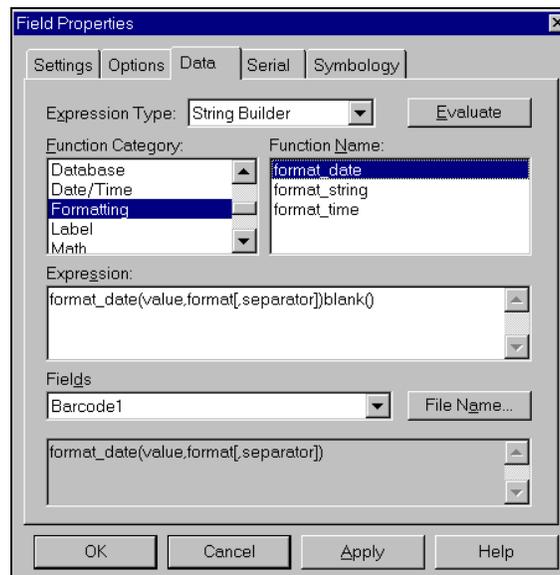# Date or Time

Date or Time fields allow you to select a date or time format to print on the labels, calculate expiry dates, and print four-digit year fields.

Specification	Description
Expiry Date Offset	When checked, the current date is offset by the number of days (1-9999) specified in the spin box below, and the resulting date prints on the label. For example, assume that Expiry Date Offset is checked and an offset of 30 days is specified. If the label is printed on January 1, the date printed on the label will be January 31.
Date or Time Setting	List of available date formats. Highlight the format you want to use on the label.

String Builder

String builder allows you to build data expressions. This is an extremely advanced feature of Legitronic, so it is not covered in this document. For detailed information about string builder data expression functions, refer to the Legitronic Labeling Software/ Legitronic Secure Series Labeling Software User Manual on the CD your software came on.
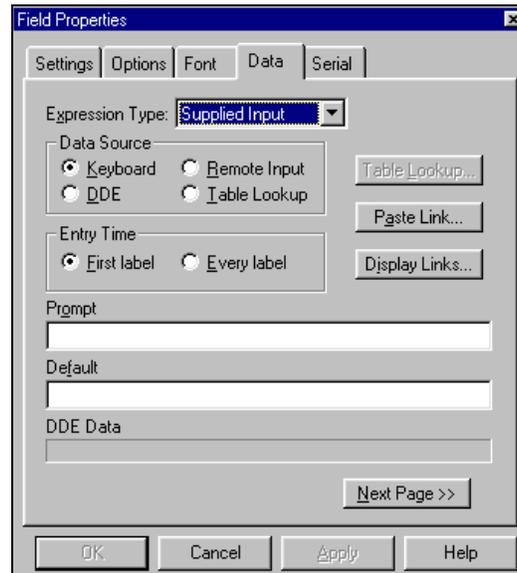

Specification	Description
Function Category	Available functions.
Function Name	The elements that can be included in the string for the Function selected. To paste a function in the Expression box, double-click the function.
Expression	The expression you are building. To evaluate the validity of the expression, click Evaluate. If the expression is valid, the results of the data expression is displayed below the Fields list box.
Fields	The fields that can be included in the string.

Supplied Input

Supplied input is provided at the time the labels are printed. The supplied input controls specify the source of the supplied input and its properties. There are two pages to this tab. Click <u>N</u>ext Page and Prev Page to navigate between them.

Page 1

Specification	Description
Data Source	The source of the supplied input:
	Keyboard – Data will be entered at the keyboard.
	DDE – a Dynamic Data Exchange (DDE) server application is the data source. The actual server name and link information are set up in Print Labels by clicking Paste Link.
	Remote input – a COM port is the data source.
	Table Lookup – a Paradox table is the input source. Click Table Lookup to select the table and field to be used.
Entry Time	When the input will be supplied – for the first label only or for every label.
Prompt	The prompt to be displayed for keyboard data.
Default	Default data for the field.
DDE Data	Data to supplied by the other application.

Page 2

| Specification	Description
Padding	Type of padding desired when the field content is shorter than the length specified in the Fill Length field – none, pad left, or pad right.
Fill Character	Character to be used to pad the field.
Fill Length	The maximum allowable length of the field.
Remote Source	For supplied input, the remote source (device) number.
Input Length	The minimum and maximum number of characters that will be accepted.
Custom Filter	Series of special characters (tokens) that control the types of characters that can be entered.

Custom Filter Characters

A custom filter can consist of the following characters.

Filter Character	Description
#	Digit placeholder.
.	Decimal placeholder. The actual character used is the one specified as the decimal placeholder in your international settings. This character is treated as a literal for masking purposes.
,	Thousands separator. The actual character used is the one specified as the thousands separator in your international settings. This character is treated as a literal for masking purposes.
:	Time separator. The actual character used is the one specified as the time separator in your international settings. This character is treated as a literal for masking purposes.
/	Date separator. The actual character used is the one specified as the date separator in your international settings. This character is treated as a literal for masking purposes.
\	Treats the next character in the mask string as a literal. This allows you to include the '#', '&', 'A', and '?' characters in the mask. This character is treated as a literal for masking purposes.
&	Character placeholder. Valid values for this placeholder are ANSI characters in the following ranges: 32-126 and 128-255.
>	Converts all the characters that follow to uppercase.
<	Converts all the characters that follow to lowercase.
A	Alphanumeric character placeholder (entry required) – for example: **a E z, A E Z, or 0 E9**.
a	Alphanumeric character placeholder (entry optional).
9	Digit placeholder (entry optional) – for example: **0 E9**.
C	Character or space placeholder (entry optional). This operates exactly like the & placeholder and ensures compatibility with Microsoft Access.
?	Letter placeholder – for example: **a E z or A E**Z.
Literal	Displays all other symbols as literals (that is, as themselves).

Real Time Clock Data Type

In the Field Properties screen, click the "Evaluate" button to display an example of the resulting string, based on current computer time and date, in the text box below the offset value field.
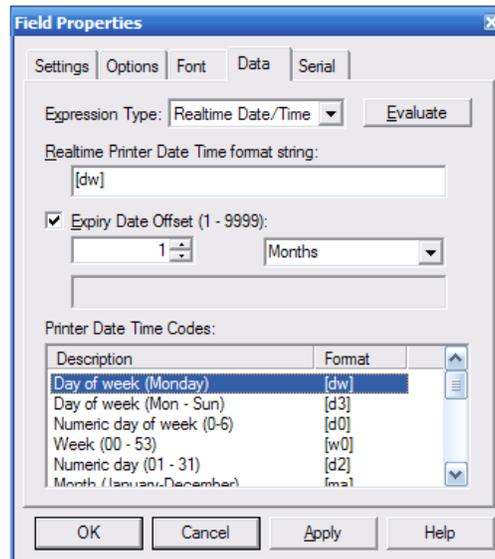
The time unit options in the dropdown list are: Years, Months, Weeks, Days, Hours, Minutes and Seconds. The master list for Printer Date Time Codes is:

| Code	Printer Date Time	Code	Printer Date Time
[dw]	"Day of week (Monday)"	[y4]	"Year (2000 - 2099)"
[d3]	"Day of week (Mon - Sun)"	[jd]	"Julian date (1 - 366)"
[D3]	"Day of week (MON - SUN)"	[jb]	"Julian date (leading blanks)"
[d0]	"Numeric day of week (0-6)"	[jz]	"Julian date (leading zeros)"
[dn]	"Numeric day of week (1-7)"	[TM]	"12 hour time (1 - 12)"
[w0]	"Week (00 - 53)"	[TZ]	"12 hour time (01 - 12)"
[wn]	"Week (01 - 54)"	[tm]	"24 hour time (0 - 23)"
[dd]	"Numeric day (1 - 31)"	[tz]	"24 hour time (00 - 23)"
[d2]	"Numeric day (01 - 31)"	[mt]	"Minutes (0 - 59)"
[ma]	"Month (January-December)"	[mz]	"Minutes (00 - 59)"
[m3]	"Month (Jan - Dec)"	[sc]	"Seconds (0 - 59)"
[M3]	"Month (JAN - DEC)"	[s2]	"Seconds (00 - 59)"
[mn	"Numeric month (1 - 12)"	[ap]	"am/pm"
[m2]	"Numeric month (01 - 12)"	[AP]	"AM/PM"
[y2]	"Year (00 - 99)"	[si]	"Shift Information"

Object Linking and Embedding (OLE)

Object linking and embedding (OLE) allows you to create an object – such as a graphic or Microsoft Word document – in any Windows® application that supports OLE and use that object as the content of a label field. To use the OLE function, make sure the application you want to create the object in is active. You can insert an existing object or create a new object by following the steps below

Inserting an Existing Object

1. Select the field that will contain the object.

2. Select *Edit*→*Insert New Object*.

    The Insert Object dialog box opens
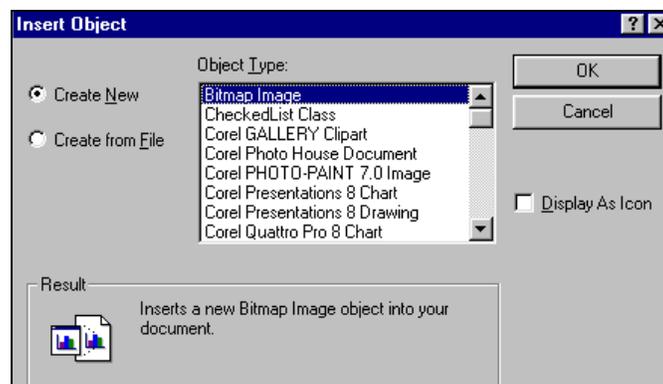
3. Click Create from File.

4. Type the name of the file that contains the object. If you don't know the file name, click Browse. When you locate the file name, select it and click Insert.

5. If you want the object to display as an application icon, check Display As Icon.

6. If you want to link to the file so that the contents of the field always reflects the contents of the file, check **Link**.

7. Click OK.

    The contents of the file will be inserted into the field.

Creating a New Object

1. Select the field that will contain the object

2. Select *Edit→Insert New Object*.

   The Insert Object dialog box opens.
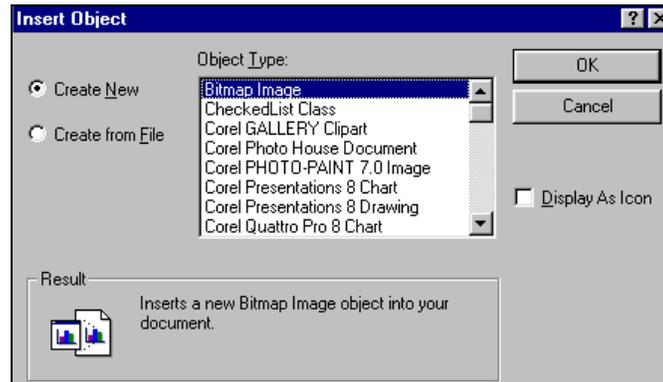
3. Click Create New.

4. If you want the object to display as an application icon, check Display As Icon.

5. Select the type of object you want to create and click OK.

   The application you selected is activated so that you can create the object.

6. When you have created the object, click inside the field to insert the object.

Editing an Object

To edit an object embedded in a field, just double-click the object. The application it was created in activates so that you can edit it

Dragging File Names From Explorer or Your Desktop

You can also insert a file as an object in a label field by dragging the file name to the field from Explorer or from your desktop. The file contents is inserted into the field and linked.
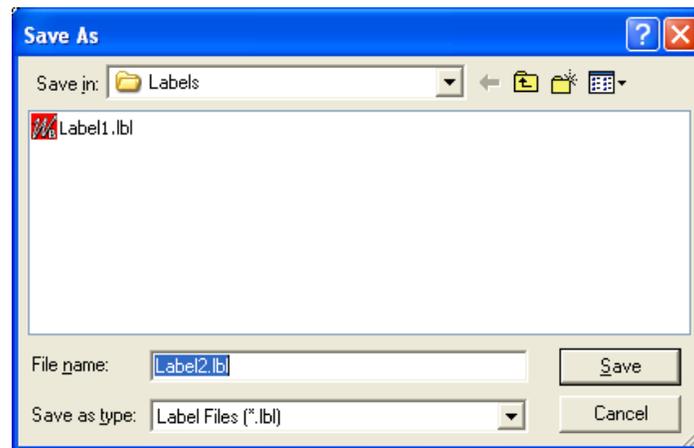
Saving the Label

When saving the label under the same name, simply click 🖫 in the tool bar or select from *File* → *Save* from the menu bar.

Note: When you have not made any changes to a label, the Save function is inactive.

Follow these steps to save the label under a different name:

1. Select *File* → *Save As* from the menu bar.

    The Save As dialog box opens.

2. Enter a file name for the label.
3. Click the <u>S</u>ave button.

Printing a Test Label

You can print a test label in one of three ways:

1. Select *File* → *Test Print…* from the menu bar.
2. Right-click the label and select *Test Print* from the menu that displays.
3. Click 🖨 in the tool bar.

Printing a Draft of the Label

The draft print feature allows the user to print a copy of the label to any installed printer. Generally, the feature is used to print copies of the label to an office-type laser or ink-jet printer for review. A Draft Print is initiated by clicking File→ Draft Print. See below.
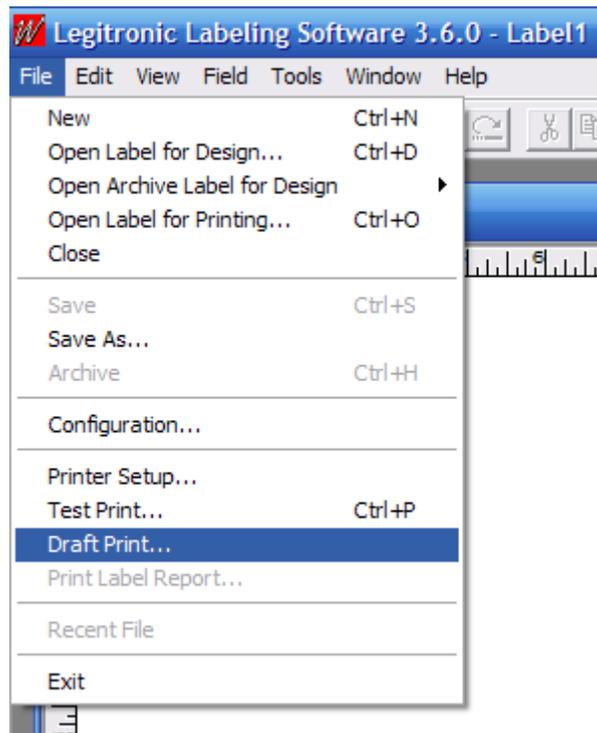
4. Printing Labels

This chapter provides the detailed information you need to perform each of the printing steps:

1. Opening a label for printing
2. Specifying the print properties
3. Printing the labels

Opening a Label for Printing

Follow these steps to open a label for printing:

1. Click ▣ in the tool bar or select *File* → *Open Label for Printing…* from the menu bar.

   The Open Label for Printing dialog box opens.

2. Locate and select the file name for the label you want to print.
3. Click Open.
4. The print properties dialog box opens, with the label name displayed in the title bar.

Specifying the Print Properties

The print properties dialog box includes three tab displays:

❑ **Job Settings** – general information about the label print job.

❑ **Query** – information about where to obtain queried input.

❑ **Ports** – information about supplied input sources.

On each relevant tab of the print properties dialog box, specify the appropriate print properties. (The specifications on each tab are described in the following sections.)

Job Settings

Specification	Description
Print Job Description	Name of label print job. This is the job name that will appear in Windows® Print Manager.
Label Stock	Stock to be used for printing the label.
Submit Job Suspended	When checked, the print job goes to the Windows® print queue as a paused document, to be released later.
Clear Printer Buffer	When checked, the currently printing job is cleared from the printer memory.
Auto Repeat	When checked, the print job automatically starts printing again upon completion.
Disable Auto Print	When checked, the label does *not* automatically print after the last supplied input field is entered. You must click Print to continue printing.
Submit job ASAP	When checked, the print job is submitted immediately. When *not* checked, the Windows® Print Manager must be empty before the print job is submitted. **Note:** When a label format includes time fields, leaving this box unchecked will result in more accurate time information on the labels.
Send Template	When checked, the open label template is downloaded to the printer.
Send Variable Data	When checked, variable fields on the open label template are sent to the printer where they are merged with a previously downloaded label template to initiate printing of labels.
Preview	Type of preview desired: *none*, preview of *first* label only, or preview of *every* label.
Print Count	Number of labels to print: **Number of Identical** – number of identical (duplicate) labels to print. **Number of Serial** – number of serial labels (identical except for serial number) to print. **Cut / Pause** – number of labels to print before cutting or pausing.
Multiple Across	**Horizontal serialization** – across the web specification at print time. **Vertical serialization** down the web specification at print time.

Multiple-Across Labels with Serial Fields

This feature enables serialization to be specified as Horizontal (across the web) or Vertical (down the web) at print time.

The selection is made from the Job Settings dialog, shown below, which appears after opening a label for print.

Given a label two-across label design that contains a serial field, the following label printing scenarios are available.

A. Horizontal Serialization

Serial number start value of one (1).

❑   Identical Count set to one (1).

❑   Serial Count set to four (4).

The labels print serialized as shown below.

1	2
3	4

B. Horizontal Serialization

Serial number start value of one (1).

❑ Identical Count set to two (2).

❑ Serial Count set to four (4).

The labels print serialized as shown below.

1	2
1	2
3	4
3	4

C. Vertical Serialization

Serial number start value of one (1).

❑ Identical Count set to two (2).

❑ Serial Count set to two (2).

The labels print serialized as shown below.

1	1
2	2

D. Vertical Serialization

Serial number start value of one (1).

❑ Identical Count set to four (4).

❑ Serial Count set to three (3).

The labels print serialized as shown below.

1	1
1	1
2	2
2	2
3	3
3	3

Notes:

With Horizontal Serialization, the Serial-Count value must be an even multiple of the Horizontal Label Count set in Label Design.

With Vertical Serialization, the Identical-Count value must be an even multiple of the Horizontal Label Count set in Label Design.

Queried Printing

Specification	Description
Database Providers	Launches the Data Link tool for establishing a connection to the Print Log database.
Provider	Shows the Provider selected using the Data Link tool.
Data Source	Shows the data source selected using the Data Link tool.
Table Name	Name of the table that contains the data you want to use.
Search Field	The field in the table to search for particular values.
Start Value	The first value for which a label should be printed.
End Value	The last value for which a label should be printed.
Use SQL Expression	When checked, the SQL expression entered in the SQL Expression box is used to select labels for printing. If this field is checked when start and end values have been specified, those values are converted to an SQL expression.
Reevaluate Auto Counts	When checked, the field value is re-evaluated for every database record. Otherwise, the value for the first database record is used for all labels printed.
Test Button	Tests the query and returns the number of records found.
SQL Expression	The SQL expression that will be used to select labels for printing.

Ports
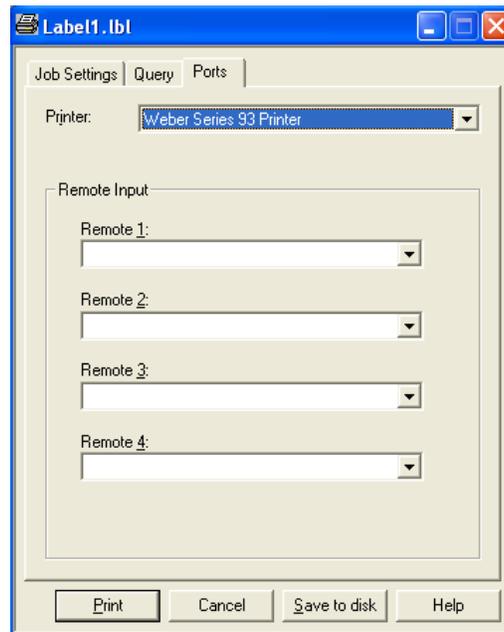
Specification	Description
Printer	Printer that will be used to print the labels. The printer specified in Label Design is the default printer, but you can change the printer selection.
Remote Input	For remote supplied fields, the port number for the remote device. **Note:** The port number must correspond to the remote sources specified in Label Design, on page 2 of the Data tab for Supplied Input field properties.

Printing the Labels

When you have completed your print property specifications, follow these steps to print the labels:

1. Click Print. If no Preview option was selected, the print job is added to the print queue.

2. If a Preview option *was* selected, the label is previewed. You can click Print to add the print job to the print queue, or click Abort to cancel the print job.

3. Monitor the print job via the Windows® Print Manager.