

Label Studio Quick Start Guide

Overview

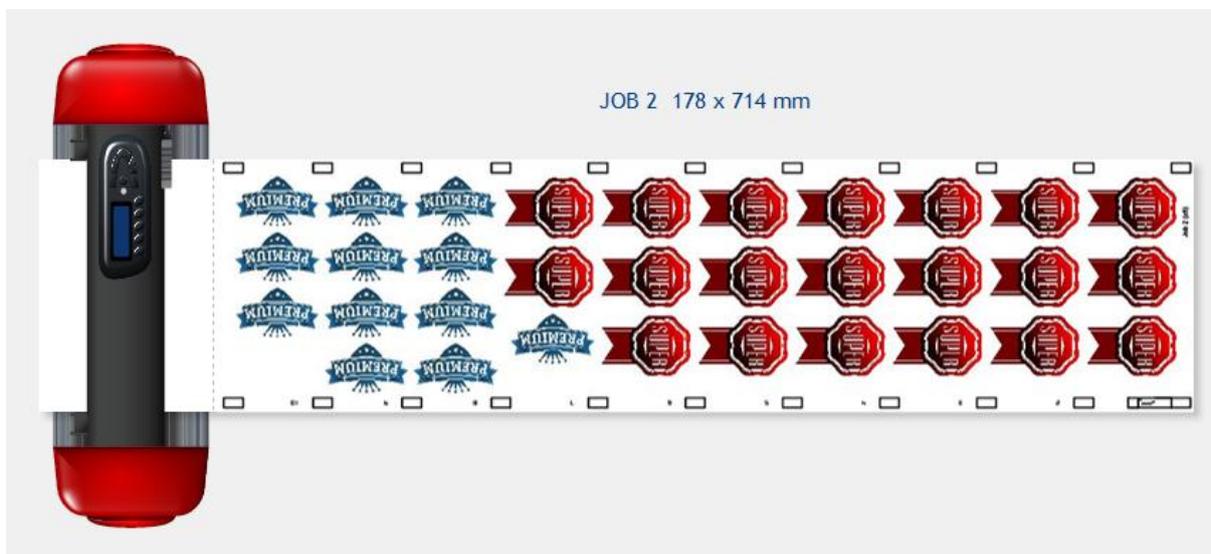
The goal of the LabelStudio program is to help you layout and manage bulk jobs containing a mix of different logos, that all require a specified quantity.

LabelStudio will automatically arrange the artwork (nest) and create a “Sheet” that can be easily printed. To avoid having to print very long artwork (up to 50 meters), the job is arranged into a “Sheet”. Each sheet needs to be printed a specified number of times to arrive at the desired quantity for all of the logos contained on the sheet.

This will be indicated at the very top of the job, it will show you the JobID and the repeat count (how many times to print this sheet).

Once you have created a layout, containing either one, or multiple logos, LabelStudio will create a PDF file for you to either print directly, or load into a RIP program to be printed.

(Sample of a printed Job Sheet loaded into the Label Cutter)

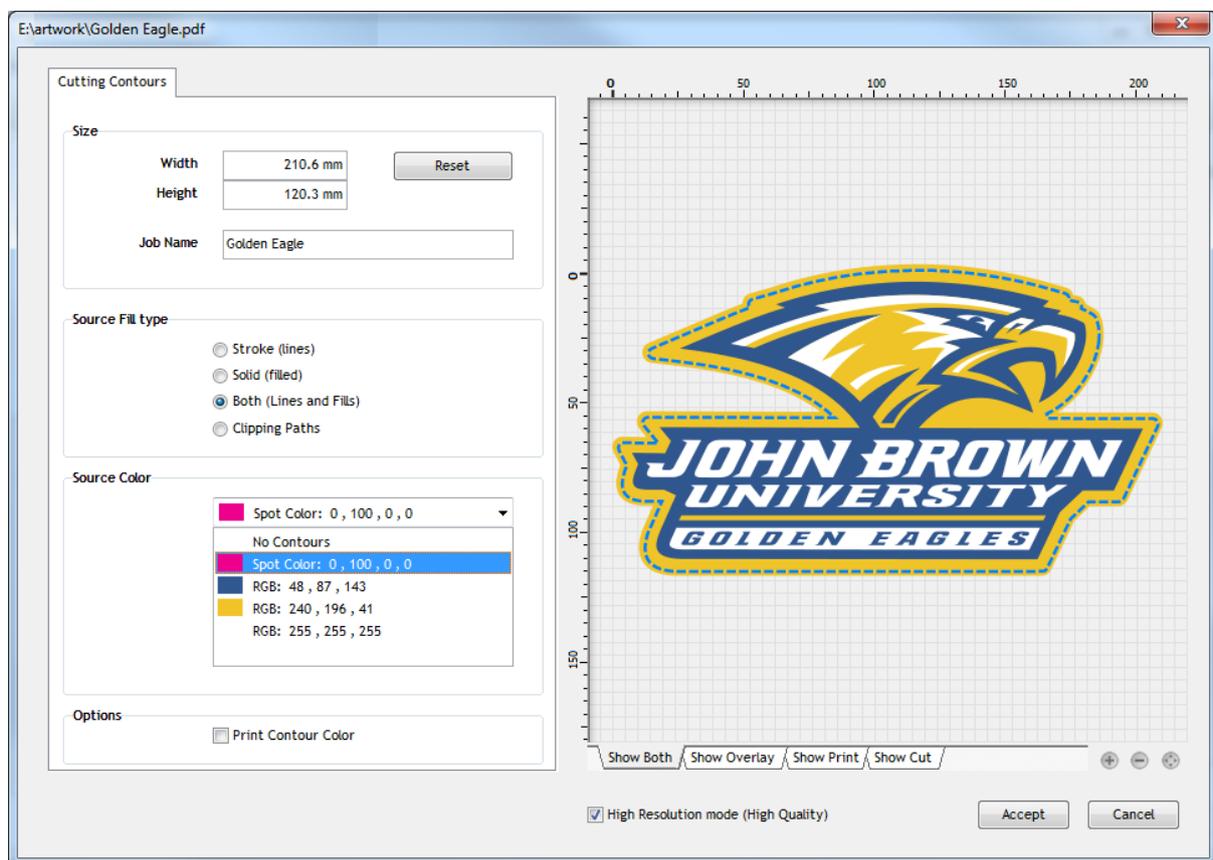


Loading Artwork into LabelStudio

Logos to be cut in LabelStudio can be designed in any of your favourite graphics programs. While you are creating the artwork, you will need to select all of the contours you wish to be used for cutting, and make them a different color to the rest of the artwork. It does not matter what color you make these cutting contours, as long as it can be easily recognized when you load in the artwork.

To obtain maximum quality when loading the artwork into LabelStudio, you should save the logo as an adobe PDF file.

To load the artwork, you go to the “File” menu and select “**Load Artwork**”. If you receive a message asking you to Activate the product first, go to the Help Menu and select “**Licence Manager (Activate)**” and activate the product.



Once you have selected the logo, you are presented with the Cutting Contours screen. This allows you to nominate the color you wish to be used for the cutting line.

On this screen you can make adjustments to the size of the logo, change the name, and also view either the printed or cut component of the artwork.

Important Settings

Before you start arranging your artwork into sheets, ready to cut, you will first need to set a few settings that are used to position the logos onto the sheet.

Go to the “**Settings**” tab, and you will see the following section:

The screenshot shows a software interface with two tabs: "Current Batch List" and "Settings". The "Settings" tab is active and contains two main sections: "Packing Options" and "Advanced Options".

Packing Options:

- Media Width: 200.0 mm (spinners)
- Block Height: 80.0 mm (spinners)
- Job Spacing: 2.0 mm (spinners)
- Top Margin: 1.0 mm (spinners)
- Double Marks

Advanced Options:

- Left Padding: 2.0 mm (spinners)
- Top Padding: 2.0 mm (spinners)
- Left Margin: 1.0 mm (spinners)
- Bottom Margin: 1.0 mm (spinners)
- Default Sheet Height: 600.0 mm (text input)

Additional controls on the right side of the "Packing Options" section include a "Reset Defaults" button and a checked checkbox for "Show Advanced".

The “**Media width**” should be set to a value that can be fully printed by your printer. If you set this value too high, the edges of the artwork may not print fully.

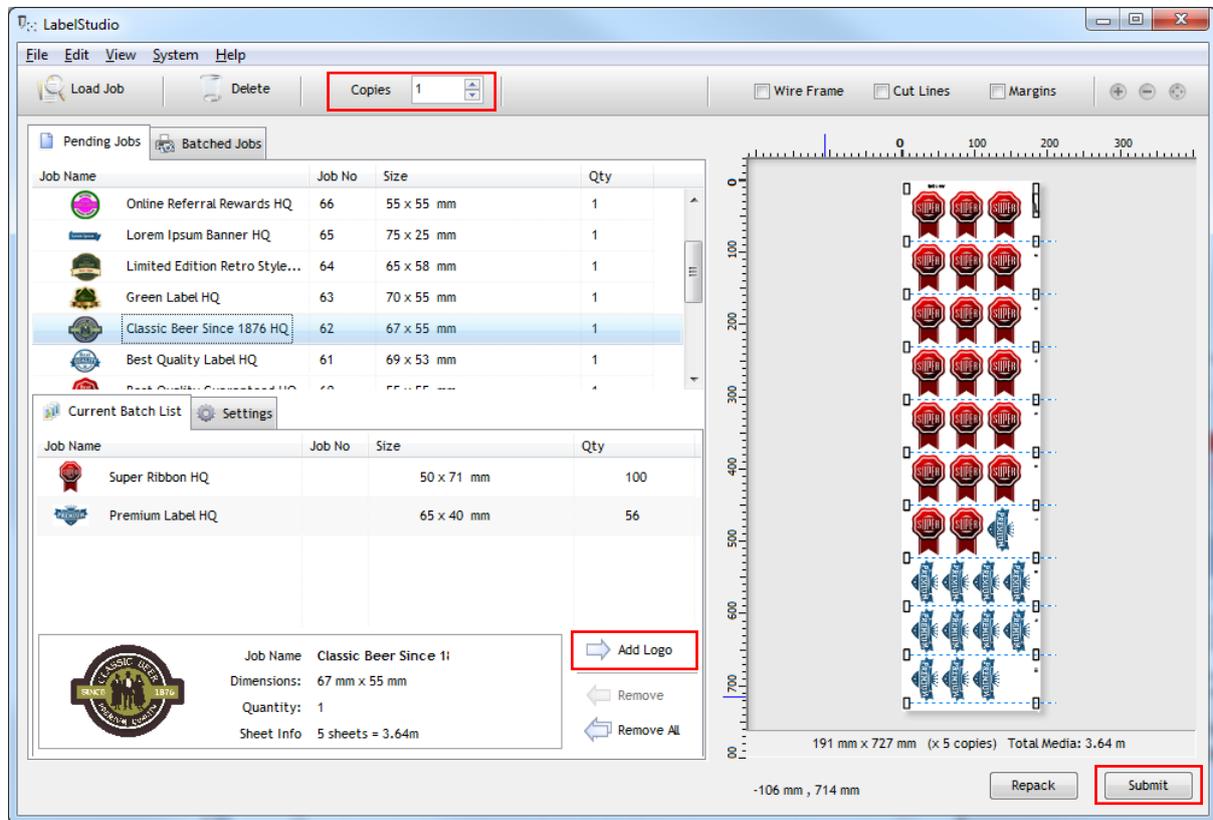
The “**Block Height**” setting should be set to a value of 80mm for optimum results.

Note: if you set this value larger than 100mm the cutting accuracy may suffer as a result.

The “**Default Sheet Height**” is used to determine how large the resulting artwork sheets should be. For best results, a value between 500mm and 1500mm should be selected, depending upon the method used to print the artwork.

Creating a Job Sheet

To arrange a group of logos to be printed and then cut, simply select each of the logo's you wish to include, and click on the "Add Logo" button. Then you can set the number of copies you wish to include for each logo by changing the value in the "Copies" edit box and then pressing "Enter"

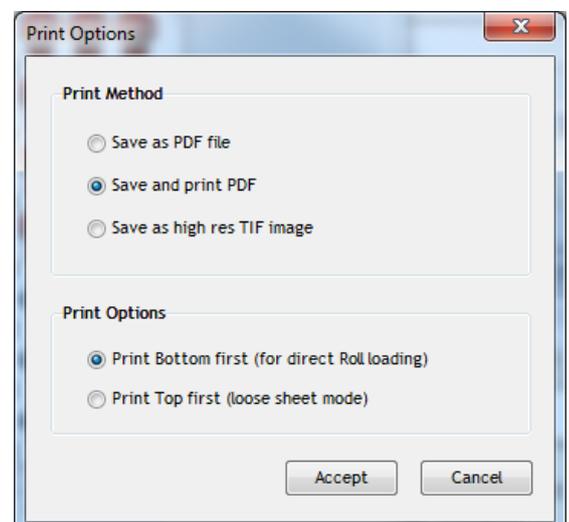


Once you are happy with the layout, press "Submit" to create this job sheet. The job will then appear in the "Batched Jobs" section. From here, you have the option to build the artwork for the sheet to be printed. Click "Build Print" and you will be presented with several print options.

Print Method:

If you have a desktop printer, and wish to print directly to it, select "Save and print PDF", otherwise select "Save as PDF file".

To save having to respool the roll after it is printed, You can use the default method "Print Bottom first" So that the way that the print comes out of the printer will be ready to print without having to reverse the way the roll is loaded.



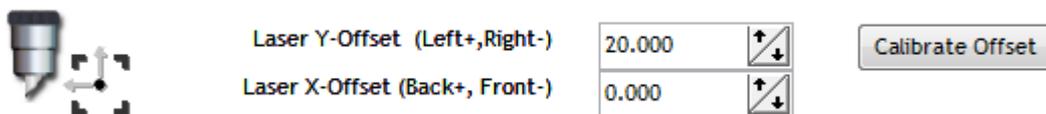
Calibration Steps

Before you attempt to perform any real life jobs, you will need to perform an initial calibration to achieve the best results from the LabelCutter.

To access the calibration options, in the cutting controller, go to the Settings tab.

Calibrating the Laser Offset

The distance between the scanning laser and the cutting blade needs to be set exactly, so the software can correctly adjust the position of the cutting data to match the print.

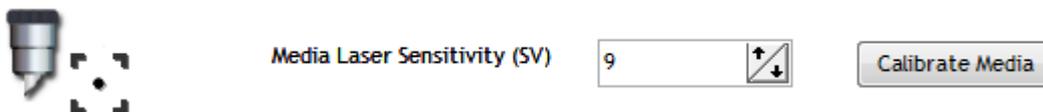


To perform an initial calibration, you should insert a piece of black (or dark colored) vinyl, and have the blade loaded in the cutter.

Click on "Calibrate Offset" and a 20x20mm box will be cut and then the media feed out so that you can peel out the box. The software will then measure the location of the box to automatically calculate the offset values.

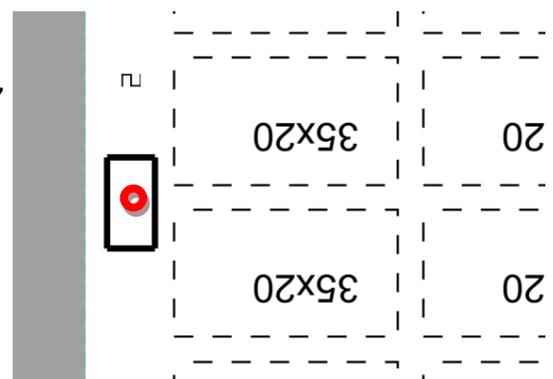
Calibrating the Media Laser Sensitivity (SV)

As each type of media has different optical properties, you should run a media calibration when ever you are about to use a new media. Once you have run this calibration, you can record the optimal value for that type of media, and just change the software to use this value when you are cutting on that particular media.



To perform this test, you will need to load one of the printed job sheets, and position the laser in the middle of one of the side box marks.

Position the laser as indicated on the image to the right, and then click "Calibrate Media" to run the media calibration wizard. Once complete, take note of the value for that media type.

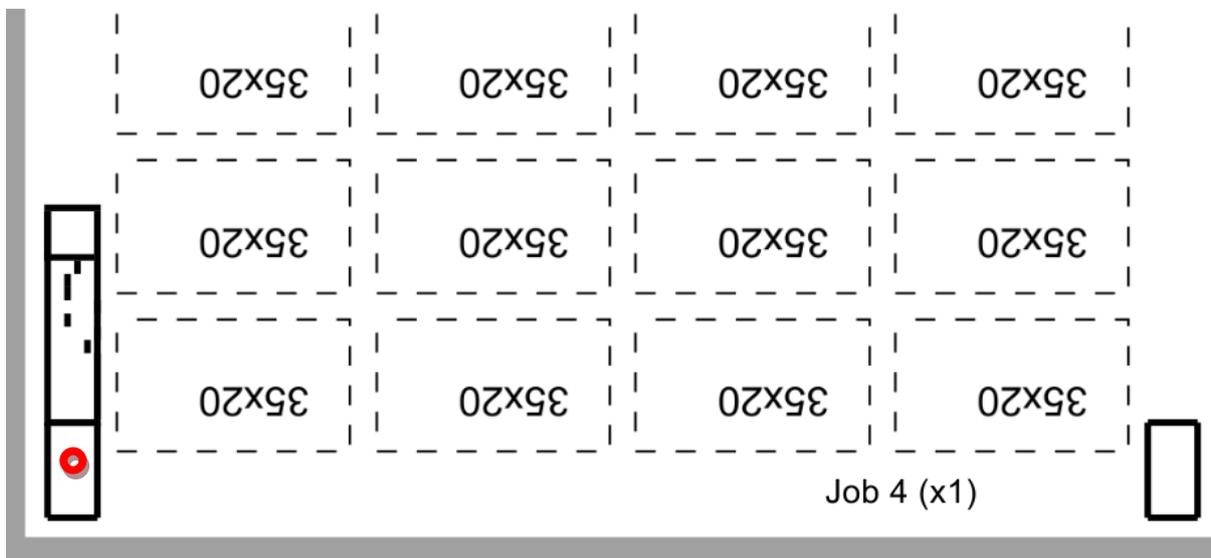


Automated cutting

One of the great features of LabelStudio is the ability to scan a small barcode for each job sheet, and automatically identify the job in question. You can print out your job sheets in any order, and as long as there is not too large a gap between each job, they should be able to be processed automatically, one after the other.

To enable this feature, ensure that “**Auto Detect Each Job (Barcode)**” option is enabled in the controller. If you are only cutting multiples of the same job, it may be slightly quicker to disable this option, resulting in the same job being cut each time.

To begin cutting, place the laser in the starting position as indicated below.



Then click “**Start**” to scan the job and begin cutting.



If you only wish to cut the current sheet, you should disable “**Batch Mode**”.

If you turn “**Fast Scan Mode**” on, less scanner readings will be taken, speeding up the process, but at a slight expense of accuracy in some circumstances.

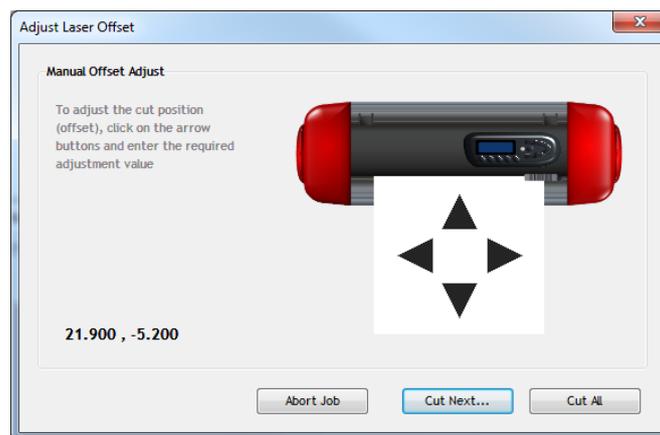
How to check and fine tune the laser offset value

The first time you use Label Studio, you should perform a test to ensure that the Laser offset value is set correctly.

To make this very easy, there is an option called **“Perform Manual Alignment Check”**.



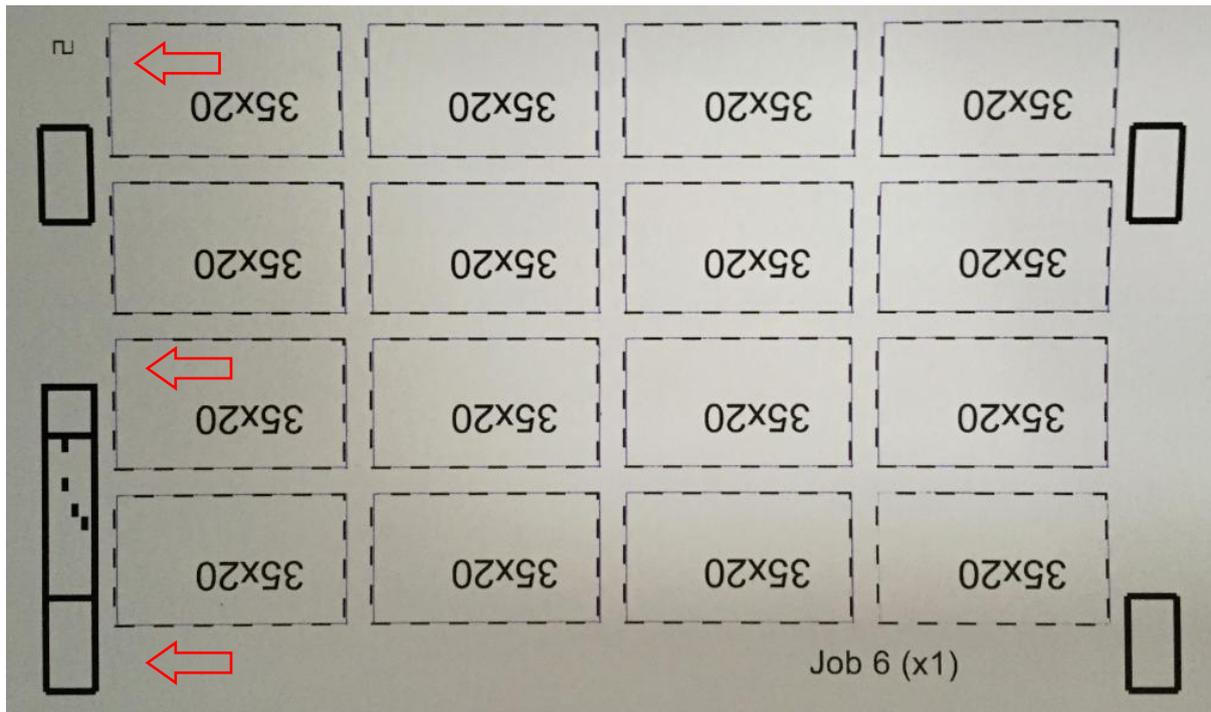
When this option is selected, after scanning each mark section, it will cut out only one shape at a time, then advance the cutter so you can visually inspect the result.



When you click on the black arrow buttons on this screen, you are able to specify the amount (in mm) to move the current cutting position, in the direction indicated by the arrow button you select.

If you feel the cutting line is not in the correct position, you can easily adjust this value, then continue with the next logo and check the result, until you get it just right.

Example of where the cutting position needs to move about 0.15mm to the left.



When you are satisfied, click "Cut All" and normal cutting operation will resume.

Note: you can enable this feature at any time, and the next mark block of logos about to be cut will use the manual adjustment wizard.