



Replace multiple standalone print stations with single LAN-based system

Objective/Requirements:

A manufacturer, with six production lines, sought to replace individual workstations running separate work order databases for label printing on each line. Each production line had a scanner and two printers. The “A” printer always printed the same size label, while the “B” printer printed a variable size label depending on the work order. The company wanted to replace the workstations with a new label generation system with a single database on a single workstation that would connect with the printers through the Local Area Network (LAN). When an operator scans a work order number with a particular scanner, the system will retrieve the information about the labels from the database and download the label format to the printer associated with that line.

Solution:

TEKLYNX Professional Services developed a label printing solution using LABELVIEW™ as the design tool and print engine. The label generation system for all six production lines runs on a single workstation. Each line has one scanner and two printers, A and B. The control system triggers label printing when a production unit load passes a detector such as a photo eye. The workstation and all printers and scanners are on the LAN.

Operators at the production lines scan a bar coded work order number to initiate the label download. The system retrieves that work order from the database and loads the first label format to the printer A cache, and the second label to the printer B cache. When the control system sends the command, the label currently in memory is printed. The system then waits for the next scanner input.

Application Solution using LABELVIEW:

- Eliminates six redundant, unconnected workstations, databases and printing operations
- Uses network scanners and printers
- Administrators have central control over label template distribution
- Reduces complexity, increases reliability
- Operators have easy-to-use, print-only scanner interface

