# SOFTROL

### Software & Control for Automation

# DIRECTED SORTER USER MANUAL Understanding the SOFTSORT DIRECTED SORTER Barcode



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#### **Overview**

The Directed Sort is a semi automated garment sortation system. There are three major components:

- **Database** the Softrol database contains all the information required to sort garments for the Branch. There is an interface to the AmeriPride/Canadian Linen route accounting system (ABS), bi-directionally communicating full updates daily and periodic updates on regular intervals during the production day.
- **Operator Workstations** each workstation will provide sorting capability per operator at each sort break running the following Softrol software:
  - SoftSort Directed Sort Module
  - SoftSort Rail Manager
  - SoftSort Directed Sort Scan Engine.

One of the workstations will serve as the file server for the system and will have to run ABSi the interface to ABS. This workstation varies from Branch to Branch.

#### • Identification System

 Barcode identification system – See the Barcode Equipment Section of this document under Setup.

The Directed Sort utilizes three rail breaks/sorts along with a graduated hook conveyor to sort garments into day/customer/route/stop/wearer order from the Wash Lots received from production. They are 1<sup>st</sup> Break, 2<sup>nd</sup> Break and 3<sup>rd</sup> Break, which is the same as 1<sup>st</sup> Sort, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sort and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sort.

Sort operators scan the Barcode on a garment, and the Directed Sort quickly responds with an audible signal, indicating for the operators which hook on the conveyor the garment should be placed. This same process is the same for each sort break, with the Directed Sort performing all sorting decisions. Because of the availability of audible output directly to the operators, there is minimal interface and interaction between operators and the computer hardware comprising the system.

### **Setup/Maintenance**

This section goes over any setup and ongoing maintenance that will be performed by Branch personnel for the follow areas of the Directed Sort, Lots, Audio Equipment and Barcode Equipment. If during this process technical assistance is required contact TAC at (800) 810-1917.

The initial installation/setup of the software/hardware will be done by Softrol technician(s) and AmeriPride/Canadian Linen IS personnel.

#### **Create a New Lot**

The initial setup of the Sort Lots will be performed during the installation process. This must be done before any sorting can be processed; this will be an ongoing process as changes are made in the ABS system. These changes will be items like new wearer(s)/customer(s), reroutes, quit wearer(s)/customer(s), etc.

The main point to keep in mind when setting-up/Changing Sort Lots is how the garments are processed in wash lots. Basically what the flow of garments is going to be from the Tunnel. Any Routes processed together can be combined if they meet the criteria for the Sort Lot.

NOTE: If the wash lots are not properly managed they will cause issues with the Directed Sort.

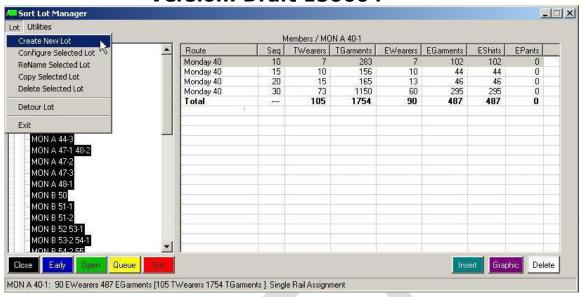
**STEP 1:** To create Sort Lot(s) go to the SLSM Rail Manager program and open the Sort Lot Manager under the Primary selection on the Main Menu (See Below).

SLSM Rail Manager Modu				_10
mary Final Utilities Datab	ase Reports Help			
Sort Lot Manager	Queued	Sorting	Open-Idle	# 0-Q-S
Wash Lot Maintenance 1		THU A 48-2	6:07-6:07	0-0-77
-6 -1- ()	A STATE OF THE PARTY AND A STATE OF THE PARTY		6:06-5:59	1-0-0
Define Early Day(s)	FRI A 48-1		n/a-6:12	0-124-0
Force Rail Offload			6:11-5:03	59-0-0
Refresh	li il		6:11-5:03	94-0-0
Exit	li il		6:11-5:03	172-0-0
	li il		6:11-5:04	134-0-0
8 FRI B 67	li il		6:10-5:04	41-0-0
9 FRI B 65	li il		6:10-5:03	248-0-0
10 FRI B 64	li il		6:10-5:04	24-0-0
FRI B 61,62,63	Ü Ü		6:10-5:04	100-0-0
12 FRI B 60	Ŭ Ü		6:10-5:04	71-0-0
13 FRI B 60	Ü		6:10-5:04	70-0-0
14 THU B 63-3 64			6:07-6:07	0-0-0
15 THU B 63-1	The second secon	THU A 48-2	6:06-5:04	239-0-736
16	FRI A 40 41-1		n/a-6:12	0-334-0
17	FRI A 40 41-1		n/a-6:13	0-333-0
18	FRI A 48-2		n/a-6:12	0-61-0
19	FRI A 48-1		n/a-6:38	0-468-0
20			n/a-10:55	0-0-0
21	ii ii		n/a-10:55	0-0-0
22	li ii		n/a-10:38	0-0-0
23	Ŭ Ü		n/a-10:55	0-0-0
24	Table Villaging App		n/a-7:34	0-0-0
25	FRI A 47-3		n/a-6:13	0-132-0
26 EMPLOYEE	X Testa X Linuting No.		>1Day-7:12	871-0-0
27	FRI A 47-2		n/a-6:13	0-88-0
28	FRI A 44-2,47-1		n/a-6:15	0-320-0
29	FRI A 44-1		n/a-6:13	0-181-0
30	FRI A 43		n/a-6:27	0-71-0
31		FRIA 42	n/a-6:13	0-0-203
Disabled Not Empty	Empty Onlo	oading Offloading	Flooded	Fault
		DSM		

After entering the Sort Lot Manager follow the steps below to create Sort Lots.

NOTE: The key is to create the Sort Lots to not exceed the maximum number of wears for the system. This is determined by multiplying the number of  $2^{nd}$  sort rails by the number of  $3^{rd}$  sort rails.

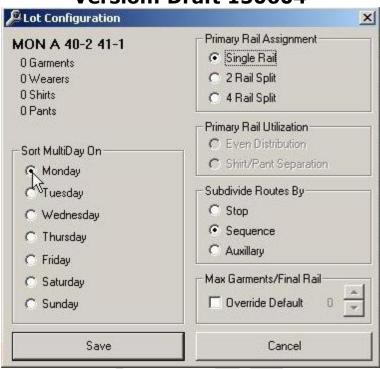
**Step 2:** From the Lot Menu, select "Create New Lot" (See Below).



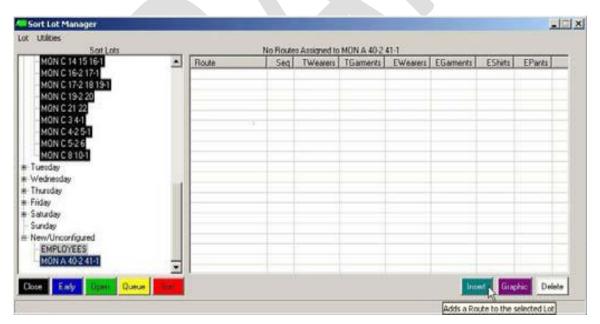
Step 3: The Prompt will appear to Name and configure the Sort Lot. Type the preferred name, which can be recognized by the sort operators (See Below). NOTE: The minimum naming convention will include the day of the week the route is delivered and identify the route(s) included in the lot. Remember the route can exist in more the 1 lot so identify with an alphabetic or numeric scheme; the example below is a numeric scheme with the -2 and -1. An alphabetic scheme can be used with an -A or -B, use whatever is best suited for your Branch.



Step 4: When the proper naming has been entered click OK and the "Lot Configuration" will be displayed (See Below). Select which day(s) of the week the Sort Lot will be sorted (i.e.; the "delivery" day). Also indicate if it will typically occupy a single rail, or two or four rails. This is determined by the number of garments and/or wearers. The numbers to use here are the normal turn-in, under wash. NOTE: To determine the maximum wears multiply the number of 2<sup>nd</sup> sort rails and number of 3<sup>rd</sup> sort rails. For example if the system has a total of 12 2<sup>nd</sup> sort rails and 10 3<sup>rd</sup> sort rails the maximum number of wearers in a Sort Lot would be 120. If this is an existing Sort Lot the EWearers and EPieces can be used to calculate the number of rails needed. In the "Primary Rail Utilization" select Even Distribution if it is not already selected. NOTE: The "Shirt/Pant Separation" does not work at this time do to a ABS transfer issue. Indicate that routes can be subdivided by "sequence." NOTE: The "override Default is not used with the Directed Sort so leave blank. When complete click on "Save" and you will go back to "Sort Lot Manager."



**STEP 5:** After the Sort Lot is created the routes/sequences must be assigned to the newly created Sort Lot. Click the + next to the day that contains the Sort Lot to be configured. All Sort Lots for the selected day will be displayed. Highlight the Sort Lot to be configured and select Insert (See Below).

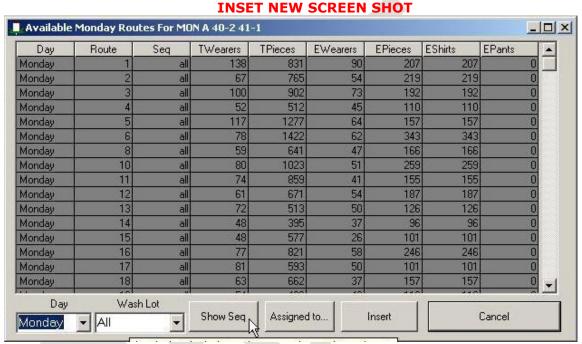


**STEP 6:** All routes that are in the day the Sort Lot is selected will be displayed. This is where the maximum number of Wearers is used. **NOTE: This is determined by multiplying the number of 2<sup>nd</sup> sort rails by the number of 3<sup>rd</sup> sort rails.** If the TWearers column does not exceed the calculation of Maximum wearers then select that route and click "Insert." For example let's say that there are 10 2<sup>nd</sup> sort rails and 10 3<sup>rd</sup> sort rails. Taking 10 X 10 you get 100. So looking at the above example Monday Route 3 will fit on a single 1<sup>st</sup> sort rail. Highlight Monday Route 3 and click

"Insert." Monday Route 3 will be assigned to the Sort Lot selected. Again using the example above if you were to select Monday Route 14 and 15 it would total 96 total wearers. So they could make up a single Sort Lot. NOTE: The key in creating Sort Lots is to keep in mind how your Wash Lots are processed. In the example with Monday Routes 14 and 15 if they are processed in different Wash Lots they will not work as a single Sort Lot.

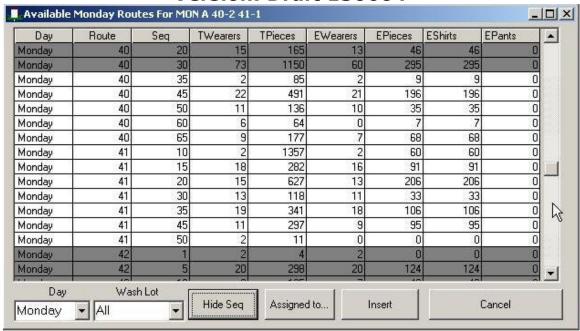
#### **INSERT NEW SCREEN SHOT**

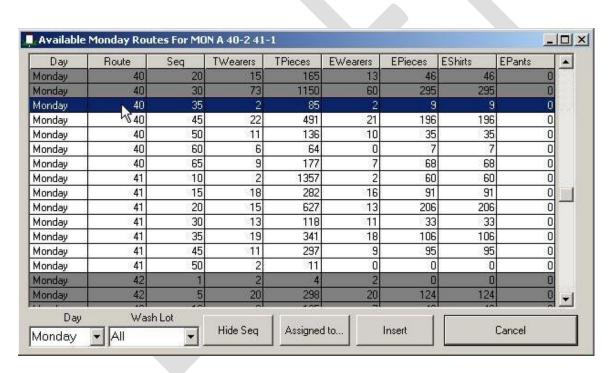
**STEP 7:** If there are no available Routes that fall within the maximum wearers. In the example above Route 40 exceeds the 100 wearer limit. Highlight Route 40 and click the "Show Seq" button.

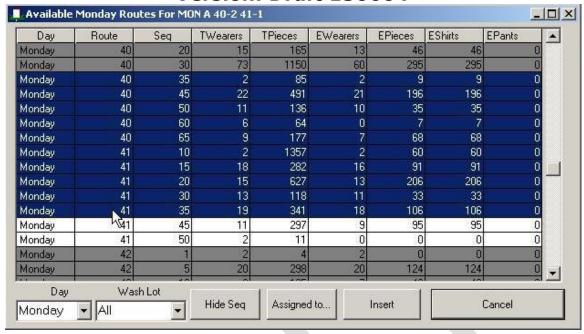


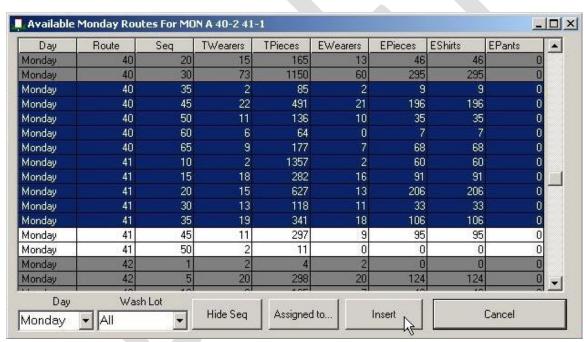
**STEP 8:** All sequences for Monday Route 40 will be displayed. The sequences that are currently assigned to a Sort Lot will be in grey. Sequences that can be assigned appear in white. Highlight the sequences to be included in the Sort Lot. To do Multiple sequences right clip and hold on the first sequence to be included. Drag down to the last sequence to be included and release the mouse, click on the insert

button. NOTE: remember not to exceed the maximum number of wearers.









The creation of the Sort Lot is complete. If there is another Sort Lot to create go to **STEP 1** and repeat the steps.

#### **Sort Lot Management**

#### **Configure Selected Lot**

It will be necessary to change the configuration of an existing Sort Lot from time to time. To reconfigure a Sort Lot start at the SLSM Rail Manager program and select Sort Lot Manager.

**STEP 1:** To change the configuration of a Sort Lot(s) go to the SLSM Rail Manager program and open the Sort Lot Manager under the Primary selection on the Main Menu (See Below).

ort Lot Manager	Queued	Sorting	Open-Idle	# 0-Q-S
Wash Lot Maintenance	gucuco	THU A 48-2	6:07-6:07	0-0-77
			6:06-5:59	1-0-0
Define Early Day(s)	FRI A 48-1		n/a-6:12	0-124-0
orce Rail Offload			6:11-5:03	59-0-0
Refresh	Ť Ť		6:11-5:03	94-0-0
			6:11-5:03	172-0-0
xit			6:11-5:04	134-0-0
FRI B 67			6:10-5:04	41-0-0
FRI B 65			6:10-5:03	248-0-0
FRI B 64			6:10-5:04	24-0-0
FRI B 61,62,63			6:10-5:04	100-0-0
FRI B 60			6:10-5:04	71-0-0
FRI B 60			6:10-5:04	70-0-0
THU B 63-3 64			6:07-6:07	0-0-0
THU B 63-1	A STATE OF THE STA	THU A 48-2	6:06-5:04	239-0-736
6	FRI A 40 41-1	1	n/a-6:12	0-334-0
7	FRI A 40 41-1		n/a-6:13	0-333-0
3	FRI A 48-2		n/a-6:12	0-61-0
Đ.	FRI A 48-1		n/a-6:38	0-468-0
)	************		n/a-10:55	0-0-0
	ĵ.		n/a-10:55	0-0-0
2	i i		n/a-10:38	0-0-0
3	Ŭ Ü		n/a-10:55	0-0-0
1	2-10-X 120-0XX 200		n/a-7:34	0-0-0
	FRI A 47-3		n/a-6:13	0-132-0
EMPLOYEE	Center X London Com		>1Day-7:12	871-0-0
7	FRI A 47-2		n/a-6:13	0-88-0
3	FRLA 44-2,47-1		n/a-6:15	0-320-0
9	FRI A 44-1		n/a-6:13	0-181-0
	FRI A 43	and the same of th	n/a-6:27	0-71-0
		FFI A 42	n/a-6:13	0-0-203

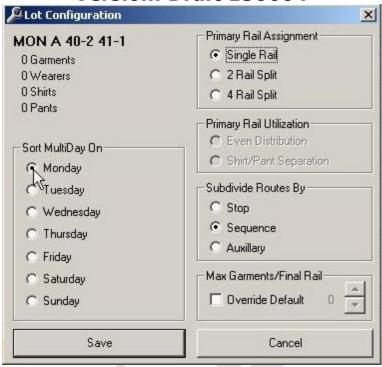
**STEP 2:** Highlight the Sort Lot to be reconfigured.

#### **INSERT SCREEN SHOT**

STEP 3: Click on Lot and in the dropdown click on Configure Selected Lot.

#### **INSERT SCREEN SHOT**

**STEP 4:** The changes that will be made here are adding or reducing the number of  $1^{st}$  sort rails, changing the day for the Sort Lot due to reroute, etc. Make the required changes and hit the Save button.



#### **ReName Selected Lot**

If it becomes necessary to change the name of an existing Sort Lot follow the steps below.

**STEP 1:** To change the configuration of a Sort Lot(s) go to the SLSM Rail Manager program and open the Sort Lot Manager under the Primary selection on the Main Menu (See Below).

mary Final Utili	ties Databas	se Reports Help			
Sort Lot Manager		Queued	Sorting	Open-Idle	# 0-Q-S
Wash Lot Mainter	iance 1/2		THU A 48-2	6:07-6:07	0-0-77
		5-00-X100-000-0000		6:06-5:59	1-0-0
Define Early Day(	2503	FRI A 48-1		n/a-6:12	0-124-0
Force Rail Offload				6:11-5:03	59-0-0
Refresh				6:11-5:03	94-0-0
Exit				6:11-5:03	172-0-0
LAIC				6:11-5:04	134-0-0
8 FRI E	3 67			6:10-5:04	41-0-0
9 FRI E	3 65			6:10-5:03	248-0-0
10 FRI E	3 64			6:10-5:04	24-0-0
FRI B 6	1,62,63			6:10-5:04	100-0-0
12 FRI E	3 60			6:10-5:04	71-0-0
13 FRI E	3 60			6:10-5:04	70-0-0
14 THU B	63-3 64			6:07-6:07	0-0-0
15 THUE	3 63-1		THU A 48-2	6:06-5:04	239-0-736
16		FRI A 40 41-1		n/a-6:12	0-334-0
17	- 11	FRI A 40 41-1		n/a-6:13	0-333-0
18	- 1	FRI A 48-2		n/a-6:12	0-61-0
19		FRI A 48-1		n/a-6:38	0-468-0
20				n/a-10:55	0-0-0
21	1			n/a-10:55	0-0-0
22	1			n/a-10:38	0-0-0
23	1			n/a-10:55	0-0-0
24				n/a-7:34	0-0-0
25		FRI A 47-3		n/a-6:13	0-132-0
26 EMPL	DYEE	Central Village Central Centra		>1Day-7:12	871-0-0
27		FRI A 47-2		n/a-6:13	0-88-0
28		FRI A 44-2,47-1		n/a-6:15	0-320-0
29		FRI A 44-1		n/a-6:13	0-181-0
30		FRI A 43		n/a-6:27	0-71-0
31			FB A.42	n/a-6:13	0-0-203
Disabled	Not Empty	Empty Onio	ading Offloading	Flooded	Fault
		TE 0.0048	DSM		

STEP 2: Click on Lot and in the dropdown click on ReName Selected Lot.

#### **INSERT SCREEN SHOT**

STEP 3: Enter the new name and hit the Save buttom.

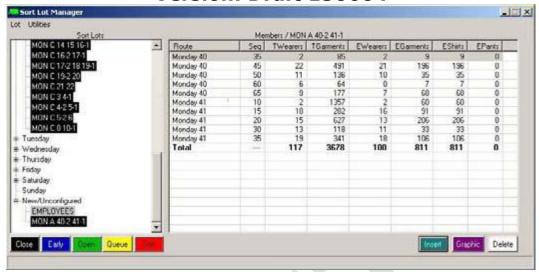
#### **INSERT SCREEN SHOT**

#### **Delete Sort Lot**

To delete a sequence from a Sort Lot go to Sort Lot Manager.

Highlight the Sort Lot to be deleted.

Click on Lot and in the dropdown click on Delete Selected Lot.



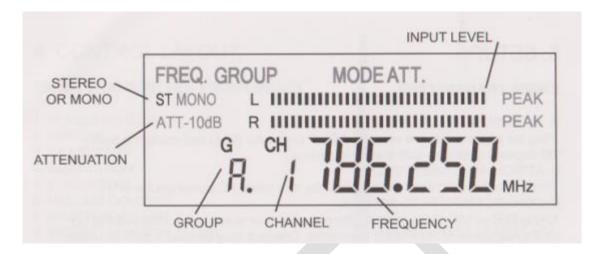
#### **Audio Equipment**



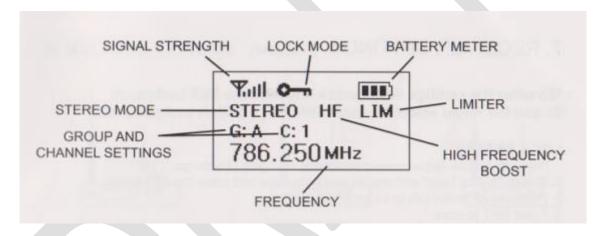
Transmitter Receiver

To Setup a Transmitters and/or Receivers follow this process. There are 4 settings that will have to be setup/verify on the Transmitter and/or; Frequency, Group, Channel and Stereo/Mono. The Frequency will be set by the Group and Channel that is selected, no action is required other than to verify the Frequency on the Transmitter matches the Frequency on the Receiver. These setting will have to match the settings from the Transmitter and/or Receiver that is being replaced. Below is a definition of the settings as they appear on the Transmitter and Receiver Screen.

#### **Transmitter**



#### Receiver



#### **Transmitter Configuration**

- **Step 1:** Power up the Transmitter.
- **Step 2:** Hold in the Set Button until the FREQ, in upper left corner, flashes.
- **Step 3:** Hit the Set Button once and the Group G will flash.
- **Step 4:** Hit the + or Button until you get to the desired Group.
- **Step 5:** Hit the Set Button once and the Channel CH will flash.
- **Step 6:** Hit the + or Button until you get to the desired Channel.
- **Step 7:** Hit the Set Button 4 times and Store will flash on the screen.
- **Step 8:** Hold in the Set Button until the FREQ, in upper left corner, flashes.
- **Step 9:** Hit the Set Button 3 times and the Stereo setting will be displayed.
- **Step 10:** The factory default is Stereo, hit the Button and Mono will be displayed.
- **Step 11:** Hit the Set Button and the setting will be displayed and saved.
- **Step 12:** Verify the Frequency and the other setting against the Receiver to be paired with the Transmitter.

#### **Receiver Configuration**

- **Step 1:** Power up the Transmitter.
- **Step 2:** Hold in the Set Button until the Menu is displayed.
- **Step 3:** Hit the Button once to go to 2 Group/Channel.
- **Step 4:** Hit the Set Button and the Channel C will flash.
- **Step 5:** Hit the + or Button until you get to the desired Group.
- **Step 6:** Hit the Set Button once and the Channel CH will flash.
- **Step 7:** Hit the Set Button and the Save option will appear, hit the + button to save or the to disregard the change.
- **Step 8:** Hit the Button once to go to 3 Stereo/Mono.
- **Step 9:** The factory default is Stereo, hit the Button and Mono will be checked. Hit the Set Button and the Menu will be displayed.
- Step 10: Hit the Button 6 times to go to 9 Exit.
- **Step 11:** Hit the Set Button and the settings will be displayed.
- **Step 12:** Verify the Frequency and the other setting against the Transmitter to be paired with the Receiver.

#### **Audio Cable**



1. The 'Black' 3.5mm connects to the 'Green' speaker output on the back of the direct sort computer, see **RED ARROW** below.



- 2. The 'Black' ¼ plug connects into the CH. 1 IN on the Carvin Unit setup as Ch. 1 is LEFT in the computer setup.
- 3. The 'Red' ¼ plug connects into the RIGHT/CH. 2 IN on the Carvin Unit setup as Ch. 2.



6+

### **Barcode Equipment**

The Barcode equipment consists of the finger scanners and the Bluetooth USB adapter for the computer. This setup process will be followed in the event one of these components fails during operation and needs to be reconfigured or a new unit is acquired.

#### Scanner

The finger scanner has two components the scanner and the battery.



To set up the finger scanner follow these steps:

- 1. Set scanner to factory default.
  - a. Hold down the reset button (Do not release until instructed)



- b. Insert battery (Red lights and beeps, green lights will flash and beeps.)
- c. Hold the reset button for at least 5 seconds after the second set of beeps
- d. Remove the battery and reinsert (Wait for the beeps)
- e. Remove the battery one more time and reinsert (Wait for the beeps)
  The scanner is now set to the factory defaults

f.

Note: Do not touch the yellow scan button during steps d and e. If the scan button is hit during this process the scanner factory default will have to be preformed starting at step a.

- 2. Program the scanner
  - a. Scan the barcodes below starting with the upper left barcode going down the left column one be one. Once the left column is complete go to the upper right barcode and scan down each barcode in the right column.
  - b. Perform the same process for all 3 pages.

NOTE: If a barcode is missed or scanned twice the process must be started over from the first page.

NOTE: Below is a link to a video on the setup process.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dBTVoCNhd-E



Set Factory Defaults



Scan Prefix (07h)









Scan Suffix 1 (06h)











<PREFIX> <DATA> <SUFFIX 1> (05h)

Symbologies



Disable UPC-A (00h)



Disable EAN-8/JAN-8 (00h)



Disable UPC-E (00h)



Disable EAN-13/JAN-13 (00h)



Disable Code 128 (00h)



Disable GS1-128 (00h)



Disable ISBT 128 (00h)



Disable Code 39 (00h)



Enable Interleaved 2 of 5 (01h)



12 of 5 - One Discrete Length







Disable PDF417 (00h)



Disable QR Code (00h)



Disable MicroQR (00h)



(00h)

Set SPP (Serial Port Protocol) mode

The interface used in the system requires the scanner to operate in SPP mode, which is enabled by scanning the following barcode:

SPP bar code



#### Bluetooth

The initial setup of the Bluetooth is done during the initial configuration of the computers and software. If it becomes necessary to reset up the Bluetooth follow the steps below:

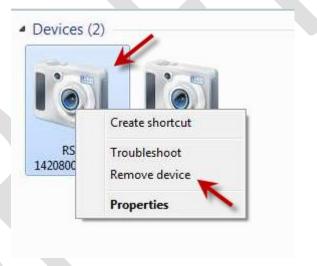
1. Right click the Bluetooth icon in bottom right hand corner of the screen.



2. Right click on "Show Bluetooth Devices."



3. Right click on the first device and then right click "Remove device."



- 4. Repeat Step 3 for the second device.
- 5. Remove the Bluetooth dongle from the USB Port on the computer.



- 6. Reboot the computer
- 7. Once the computer has rebooted plug the Bluetooth dongle back into the computer USB port.
- 8. Right click the Bluetooth icon in bottom right hand corner of the screen.



- 9. Right click on "Add a Device."
- 10. Find the device you want to add,
- 11. Make note of the COM Ports and set accordingly in each client window. Usually the first one is COM 4 and the second is COM 6
- 12. Make sure the scan engine ip is set to the box with the scan engine. In your case, 10.5.5.64

### **Daily Operation**

This section will cover the day to day operations of the Directed Sort. It contains the steps that will need to be followed and information that will be needed to successfully operate the Directed Sort on a daily basis.

#### **Data Transfer**

The Directed Sort transfers data to the ABS Route Accounting System continually during operation. The data is the garment out scan used by ABS. This function is fully automated and requires no Operator intervention. The 1<sup>st</sup> Break Operator should periodically monitor the ABSi to insure data is indeed transferring. You should see data scrolling in the ABSi window.

NOTE: It is critical that ABSi is running at all time. Also the 1<sup>st</sup> Sort Computer needs to run 7 X 24.

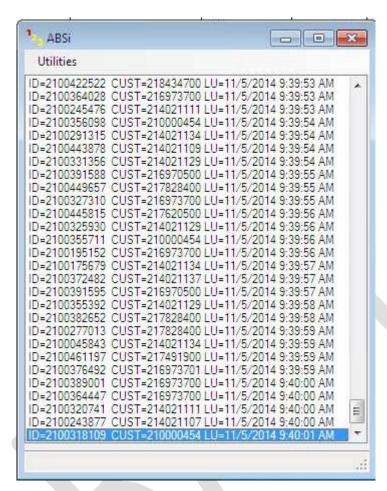
The data the Directed Sort uses to perform the sorting process all comes from ABS. ABS periodically throughout the day will transfer any garment information that changes in ABS during normal operational hours. Also one time a day, during non-operational hours the entire database is updated. This function is also fully automated so there is no need for Operator intervention.

NOTE: If there is an issue with the Data Transfer call TAC.

#### Manual Transfer - ABS to Directed Sort

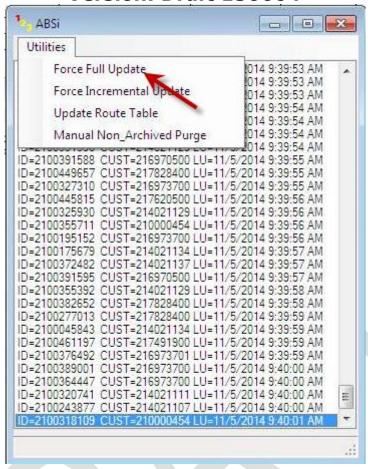
Should it be necessary to do a manual transfer from ABS to the Directed Sort follow the steps below:

STEP 1: Go to the ABSi window.



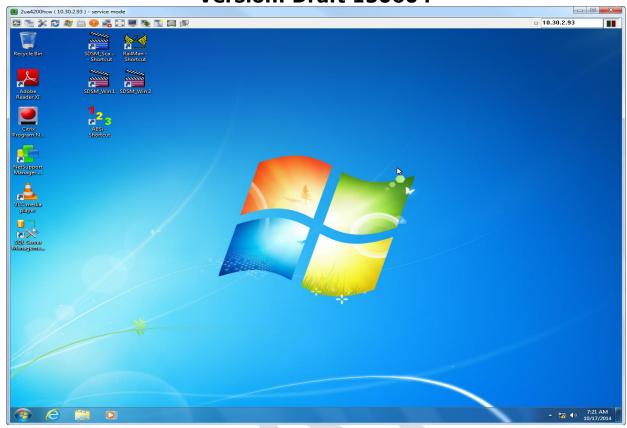
STEP 2: Click on "Force Full Update."

NOTE: There can be no process on the Directed Sort while this process is running.



### **System Start-up Procedure**

If the workstation is shutdown in the beginning of operation do a normal startup, turn on the computer and use the appropriate AD login. The system will display the screen below:



From the main screen open the following Directed Sort modules, depending on the Sort operation to be preformed:

#### **ALL WORKSTATIONS:**

SLSM Rail Manager



SDSM Scan Engine



SDSM \_Win for the Scanner to be used

#### 1<sup>st</sup> SORT WORKSTATION (CRITICAL)



ABSi

Operators at each sort station must also indicate their position in the system. The SDSM window indicates on which Break an operator is working. To change Break on the SDSM window put the cursor on the Break bar and click the Break options will change with each click. Click until the appropriate Break is displayed.



The workstation is ready to begin daily processing.

#### 1st Sort Operator Start-up Checklist

- Check the batteries in the Finger Scanner and the Blue Tooth receiver are charged.
- Verify the ABSi is up and running.

- Verify the appropriate Scan Engine is open for the Finger Scanner being used.
- Verify the correct Break/Sort is open on the Scan Engine (SDSM).
- The 1<sup>st</sup> Sort Operator needs to insure the appropriate Sort Lots are
  'Open' (Green status) in Rail Manager for any Routes that are expected
  from the tunnel. NOTE: It is very important the 1<sup>st</sup> Sort Operator
  communicates with the tunnel to insure a Wash Lot does not
  start entering the Directed Sort without open Rail(s).

#### **2nd Sort Operator Start-up Checklist**

- Check the batteries in the Finger Scanner and the Blue Tooth receiver are charged.
- Verify the appropriate Scan Engine is open for the Finger Scanner being used.
- Verify the correct Break/Sort is open on the Scan Engine (SDSM).

#### **3rd Sort Operator Start-up Checklist**

- Check the batteries in the Finger Scanner and the Blue Tooth receiver are charged.
- Verify the appropriate Scan Engine is open for the Finger Scanner being used.
- Verify the correct Break/Sort is open on the Scan Engine (SDSM).

### **Garment Scanning/Sorting Process**

Once Sort Lots have been created, they can be processed by the Directed Sort. Sort Lots have 3 stages they must go through to be properly processed by the Directed Sort, Open, Queued and Sort.

- The Operator(s) at the 1<sup>st</sup> Break/Sort station will handle all Sort Lot(s) in the white Open status.
- The Operator(s) at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Break/Sort will handle all Sort Lot(s) yellow Oueued status.
- The Operator(s) at the 3rd sort will handle the Sort Lot(s) in the red Sorting mode.

The Directed Sort Scan Engine will audibly indication to the Operator the proper hook for the garment scanned to be placed. Also the Directed Sort Scan Engine screen displays a visual indication of the proper hook for the garment scanned. It also provides the operator additional information that could assist the sorting operation. The workstation screen indicates Break (Sort), on the screen below it is performing 1st Break or 1st Sort and the operator is Isabelle.

The window also provides data for the last garment scanned, so that an item may be scanned to determine its status. In the example below in the white window on the left of the screen shows:

- Tag The Barcode ID for the last garment scanned
- Dav Route dav
  - NOTE: The days in the Directed Sort are M=Monday, T=Tuesday, W=Wednesday, R=Thursday and F=Friday.

- Route The route number for the garment
- Seg The sequence number in Directed Sort
- Account The customer account number
- Wearer The wearer number
- Garment Type The garment style
- Last Primary Last date/time of a 1<sup>st</sup> sort in the Directed Sort
- Last Final Last date/time of a 1st sort in the Directed Sort
- Last Mend Last date/time the Directed Sort detected a Mend Flag.
- Dirty ?
- Return ?
- Mend ?
- Archive ?
- 1<sup>st</sup> ?
- Bundle -?

### NOTE: As mentioned this information is for the last garment scanned at this workstation.



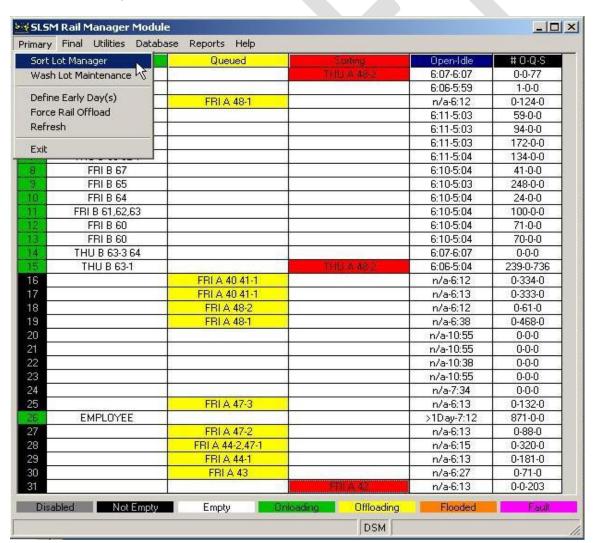
Operators at each station will receive audible feedback from the Directed Sort System via the Directed Sort Scan Engine which provides the number of the rail on which each garment should be placed after it is scanned. The Directed Sort systems that are being used within AmeriPride Services/Canadian Linen use a graduated hook conveyor to move the garments to the appropriate rail. Once the Directed Sort displays the rail number, in the yellow area, the operator places the garment on the corresponding number on the graduated hook conveyor.

#### 1st Sort - Open a Sort Lot

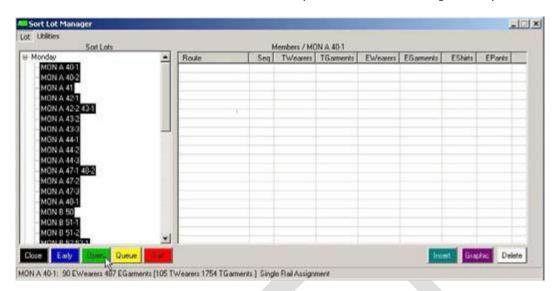
Once Sort Lots have been created, they can be processed by the Directed Sort. The first step is to Open the Sort Lot. This process is generally handled by the  $1^{st}$  Break/Sort Operator(s).

NOTE: The Sort Lot(s) will appear in the Sort Lot Manager in their current sort state, Green - Open, Yellow - Queued and Red - Sort.

**STEP 1:** To Open a Sort Lot, go to the SLSM Rail Manager program under the Primary selection. From the dropdown menu select Sort Lot Manager (See Below).



STEP 2: Select the Sort Lot to be opened and click the green Open button.



The Sort Lot will appear on an available rail, on the SLSM Rail Manager, in the Open column. **NOTE: the Directed Sort will assign the rail automatically, no operator intervention is required.** 

mary	Final Utilities Database	e Reports Help			
lail	Open	Queued	Sorting	Open-Idle	# O-Q-S
1	THU B 63-2	69	THU A 48-2	6:23-6:23	0-0-77
2	OUT OF SEQUENCE			6:22-6:16	1-0-0
3		FRI A 48-1		n/a-6:29	0-124-0
4	THU B 57-2 61-1			6:27-5:20	59-0-0
5	THU B 56 57-1			6:27-5:20	94-0-0
6	THU B 52-2 53			6:27-5:20	172-0-0
7	THU B 50 52-1			6:27-5:20	134-0-0
8	FRI B 67			6:27-5:20	41-0-0
9	FRI B 65			6:27-5:20	248-0-0
10	FRI B 64			6:27-5:20	24-0-0
11	FRI B 61,62,63			6:27-5:20	100-0-0
12	FRI B 60			6:26-5:20	71-0-0
13	FRI B 60			6:26-5:20	70-0-0
14	THU B 63-3 64			6:23-6:23	0-0-0
15	THU B 63-1		THU A 46-2	6:22-5:20	239-0-736
16	***************************************	FRI A 40 41-1	a (ac collecte)	n/a-6:28	0-334-0
17	1	FRI A 40 41-1		n/a-6:29	0-333-0
18	1	FRI A 48-2		n/a-6:29	0-61-0
19		FRI A 48-1		n/a-6:54	0-468-0
20	MON A 40-1	- NO TOTAL PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF THE PART		0:03-0:03	0-0-0
21	4			n/a-11:11	0-0-0
22	73373			n/a-10:54	0-0-0
23				n/a-11:11	0-0-0
24				n/a-7:50	0-0-0
25		FRI A 47-3		n/a-6:29	0-132-0
26	EMPLOYEE	10078578788362		>1Day-7:28	871-0-0
27		FRI A 47-2		n/a-6:29	0-88-0
28		FRI A 44-2,47-1		n/a-6:31	0-320-0
29		FRI A 44-1		n/a-6:29	0-181-0
30		FRI A 43		n/a-6:43	0-71-0
31			FRLA.42	n/a-6:29	0-0-203
Disa	ibled Not Empty	Empty Onk	oading Offloading	Flooded	Fault
		1000	DSM		

### STEP 3: DETERMINE IS MULTIPLE LOTS CAN BE DONE AT ONCE OR ONE LOT AT A TIME.

Garments can now be scanned into  $1^{st}$  sort for the Sort Lot(s) that are shown in the Open column of the SLSM Rail Manager since there is a destination rail in  $1^{st}$  sort storage.

#### 1st Sort - Queuing a Sort Lot

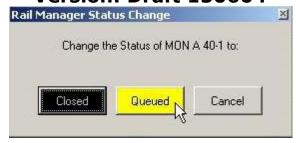
Once the 1<sup>st</sup> Sort Operator determines that the Sort Lot(s) are complete, there will be no more garments coming from the Tunnel for the Sort Lot(s). The operator must "Queue" the Sort Lot, indicating to the 2<sup>nd</sup> sort operator(s) the Sort(s) Lot is ready to be sorted in 2<sup>nd</sup> sort. **NOTE: A best practices** would be to have some type of indication from the Tunnel that a Wash Lot is complete. This could be a simple as the Tunnel Lead telling to 1<sup>st</sup> Sort Operator the Wash Lot is complete. Another indicator could be hanging a flag at the back of the Wash Lot.

**STEP 1:** To Queue the completed Sort Lot, on the SLSM Rail Manager the Operator clicks on the name of the Sort Lot to be Queued.

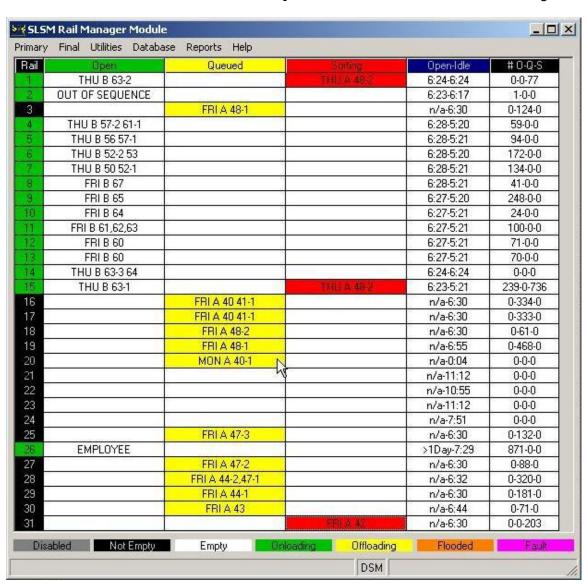
imary	Final Utilities Database	e Reports Help			
Rail	Open	Queued	Sorting	Open-Idle	# 0-Q-S
1	THU B 63-2	2300 11,000	THU A 48-2	6:23-6:23	0-0-77
2	OUT OF SEQUENCE			6:22-6:16	1-0-0
3		FRI A 48-1		n/a-6:29	0-124-0
4	THU B 57-2 61-1			6:27-5:20	59-0-0
5	THU B 56 57-1			6:27-5:20	94-0-0
6	THU B 52-2 53			6:27-5:20	172-0-0
7	THU B 50 52-1			6:27-5:20	134-0-0
8	FRI B 67			6:27-5:20	41-0-0
9	FRI B 65			6:27-5:20	248-0-0
10	FRIB 64			6:27-5:20	24-0-0
11	FRI B 61,62,63			6:27-5:20	100-0-0
12	FRI B 60			6:26-5:20	71-0-0
13	FRI B 60			6:26-5:20	70-0-0
14	THU B 63-3 64			6:23-6:23	0-0-0
15	THU B 63-1		THU A 48-2	6:22-5:20	239-0-736
16		FRI A 40 41-1		n/a-6:28	0-334-0
17	3 2	FRI A 40 41-1		n/a-6:29	0-333-0
18	1	FRI A 48-2		n/a-6:29	0-61-0
19	17	FRI A 48-1		n/a-6:54	0-468-0
20	MON A 40-1			0:03-0:03	0-0-0
21	4			n/a-11:11	0-0-0
22	2000			n/a-10:54	0-0-0
23				n/a-11:11	0-0-0
24				n/a-7:50	0-0-0
25	1.1	FRI A 47-3		n/a-6:29	0-132-0
26	EMPLOYEE	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100		>1Day-7:28	871-0-0
27		FRI A 47-2		n/a-6:29	0-88-0
28		FRI A 44-2,47-1		n/a-6:31	0-320-0
29		FRI A 44-1		n/a-6:29	0-181-0
30		FRI A 43		n/a-6:43	0-71-0
31			FBLA 42	n/a-6:29	0-0-203
Disa	bled Not Empty	Empty Onk	oading Offloading	Flooded	Fault
			DSM		

STEP 2: The Rail Manager Status Change below will be displayed. Click on the Queued button. WARNING: Do not close a Sort Lot prior to completion of 3<sup>rd</sup> sort. If a Sort Lot is closed prior to completion of 3<sup>rd</sup> sort it cannot be recovered. It will have to be either hand sorted or reinserted into 1<sup>st</sup> sort and go through all 3 sorts of the Directed Sort.

If an Operator accidentally selects to "Close" the Sort Lot, a warning screen is provided to double-check that they wish to do so, **be 100% sure the Sort Lot is to be closed**.



The Sort Lot will move to the Queued column on the SLSM Rail Manager.



The "Open-Idle" and "O-Q-S" columns provide key data for making a decision to change the status of the Sort Lot.

Open-Idle provides two pieces of information: how long the Sort Lot has been in the Open status, in "hours:minutes" format; and how long the Sort Lot has been Idle (i.e.; hasn't received an item from the 1<sup>st</sup> sort station), again in "hours:minutes" format.

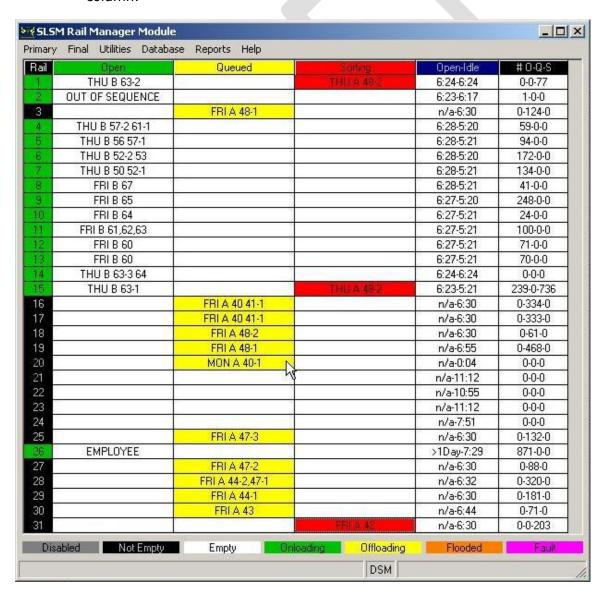
O-Q-S indicates how many items are on a rail in the Open, Queued or Sorting status. Thus, an operator could determine that a Sort Lot is complete or nearly complete through the 1<sup>st</sup> sort station if it has been "Idle" for a significant period of time or if the "O" column entry indicates that it has received the typical maximum number of goods.

that they can begin handling the items. The Sort Lot "Queued" will move to the "Queued" column the background will turn yellow and the rail number background will turn black, indicating it is available for another 1<sup>st</sup> Sort Lot.

#### **2nd Sort Scanning Process**

When the operator(s) at the 2<sup>nd</sup> sort station are ready to process a Sort Lot, the status is changed from "Queued" to "Sorting". **NOTE: There can only be one Sort Lot in 2<sup>nd</sup> Sort at a time. Multiple Sort Lost open in 2<sup>nd</sup> Sort will cause sorting issues.** 

**STEP 1:** To change a Sort Lot from the Queued status to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sort sorting status the operator(s) will click on the Sort Lot to be sorted from the Queued column.



**STEP: 2** The "Rail Manager Status Change" will be displayed see below, click on Sort.



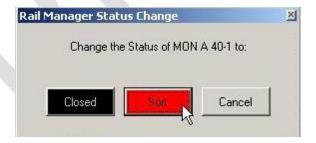
The selected Sort Lot will be move to the the Sorting column and the background will turn orange.

ail	Open	Queued	Sorting	Open-Idle	# O-Q-S
	THU B 63-2	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	THU A 48-2	6:25-6:25	0-0-77
	OUT OF SEQUENCE	3		6:24-6:17	1-0-0
7		FRI A 48-1		n/a-6:30	0-124-0
	THU B 57-2 61-1			6:29-5:21	59-0-0
	THU B 56 57-1	ä		6:29-5:21	94-0-0
	THU B 52-2 53	*		6:28-5:21	172-0-0
	THU B 50 52-1	*		6:28-5:21	134-0-0
	FRI B 67			6:28-5:22	41-0-0
	FRI B 65	9		6:28-5:21	248-0-0
	FRI B 64			6:28-5:22	24-0-0
	FRI B 61,62,63	9		6:28-5:21	100-0-0
	FRIB 60	9		6:28-5:22	71-0-0
3	FRIB 60	9		6:28-5:22	70-0-0
4	THU B 63-3 64			6:24-6:24	0-0-0
5	THU B 63-1		THU A 48-2	6:24-5:22	239-0-736
3		FRI A 40 41-1		n/a-6:30	0-334-0
7		FRI A 40 41-1		n/a-6:31	0-333-0
		FRI A 48-2		n/a-6:30	0-61-0
3		FRI A 48-1		n/a-6:56	0-468-0
)		10	MON A 40-1	n/a-0:05	0-0-0
			79	n/a-11:12	0-0-0
2		9		n/a-10:55	0-0-0
3		9		n/a-11:12	0-0-0
1				n/a-7:52	0-0-0
5		FRI A 47-3		n/a-6:31	0-132-0
	EMPLOYEE			>1Day-7:30	871-0-0
7	1	FBI A 47-2		n/a-6:31	0-88-0
3		FRI A 44-2,47-1	// // // // // // // // // // // // //	n/a-6:33	0-320-0
9		FBI A 44-1	0	n/a-6:31	0-181-0
)		FRLA 43		n/a-6:45	0-71-0
			551 A 42	n/a-6:31	0-0-203

**STEP 3:** Upon completion of sorting the Sort Lot the Operator(s) will select the Sort Lot from the Sorting column.

nary	The second secon	A CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY O			
ail	Open	Queued	Sorting	Open-Idle	# 0-Q-S
	THU B 63-2		THU A 48:2	6:25-6:25	0-0-77
	OUT OF SEQUENCE			6:24-6:17	1-0-0
	200000000000000000000000000000000000000	FRI A 48-1		n/a-6:30	0-124-0
	THU B 57-2 61-1			6:29-5:21	59-0-0
	THU B 56 57-1	· ·		6:29-5:21	94-0-0
	THU B 52-2 53	- X		6:28-5:21	172-0-0
	THU B 50 52-1			6:28-5:21	134-0-0
	FRI B 67			6:28-5:22	41-0-0
	FRI B 65			6:28-5:21	248-0-0
9	FRI B 64	9		6:28-5:22	24-0-0
1	FRI B 61,62,63			6:28-5:21	100-0-0
2	FRI B 60			6:28-5:22	71-0-0
3	FRI B 60	- 3		6:28-5:22	70-0-0
4	THU B 63-3 64	9		6:24-6:24	0-0-0
5	THU B 63-1		THU A 48-2	6:24-5:22	239-0-736
6		FRI A 40 41-1		n/a-6:30	0-334-0
7		FRI A 40 41-1		n/a-6:31	0-333-0
8		FRI A 48-2		n/a-6:30	0-61-0
9		FRI A 48-1		n/a-6:56	0-468-0
0			MON A 40-1	n/a-0:05	0-0-0
			4	n/a-11:12	0-0-0
2				n/a-10:55	0-0-0
3		- 3		n/a-11:12	0-0-0
4				n/a-7:52	0-0-0
5		FRI A 47-3		n/a-6:31	0-132-0
6	EMPLOYEE	the same of		>1Day-7:30	871-0-0
7		FRI A 47-2		n/a-6:31	0-88-0
8		FRI A 44-2,47-1		n/a-6:33	0-320-0
9		FRI A 44-1		n/a-6:31	0-181-0
0		FRI A 43		n/a-6:45	0-71-0
			88) A 42	n/a-6:31	0-0-203
Disa	abled Not Empty	Empty Onk	pading Offloading	Flooded	Fault

STEP 3: Click "Sort" in the "Rail Manager Status Change."



mary	Final Utilities Databas	e Reports Help			
Rail 📗	Open	Queued	Signting	Open-Idle	# 0-Q-S
1	THU B 63-2		THU A 48:2	6:25-6:25	0-0-77
2	OUT OF SEQUENCE	0.0000000000000000000000000000000000000		6:24-6:18	1-0-0
3	200000000000000000000000000000000000000	FRI A 48-1	7.5	n/a-6:31	0-124-0
4	THU B 57-2 61-1			6:29-5:22	59-0-0
5	THU B 56 57-1	3		6:29-5:22	94-0-0
6	THU B 52-2 53	3	12	6:29-5:22	172-0-0
7	THU B 50 52-1	33	12	6:29-5:22	134-0-0
8	FRI B 67	33	12	6:29-5:22	41-0-0
9	FRI B 65	83	72	6:29-5:22	248-0-0
10	FRI B 64	61	72	6:28-5:22	24-0-0
11	FRI B 61,62,63	\$1 04	72	6:28-5:22	100-0-0
12	FRI B 60	***	73	6:28-5:22	71-0-0
13	FRI B 60	80	72	6:28-5:22	70-0-0
14	THU B 63-3 64		72	6:25-6:25	0-0-0
15	THU B 63-1		THU A 48-2	6:24-5:22	239-0-736
16		FRI A 40 41-1		n/a-6:31	0-334-0
17		FRI A 40 41-1	2	n/a-6:31	0-333-0
18		FRI A 48-2	73	n/a-6:31	0-61-0
19		FRI A 48-1	22	n/a-6:57	0-468-0
20			MON A 40 T	n/a-0:05	0-0-0
21			W	n/a-11:13	0-0-0
22			21	n/a-10:56	0-0-0
23			23	n/a-11:13	0-0-0
24			24	n/a-7:52	0-0-0
25		FRI A 47-3	72,	n/a-6:31	0-132-0
26	EMPLOYEE		72	>1Day-7:30	871-0-0
27		FRI A 47-2	21,	n/a-6:32	0-88-0
28		FRI A 44-2,47-1	72	n/a-6:33	0-320-0
29		FRI A 44-1	12	n/a-6:31	0-181-0
30		FRI A 43	22	n/a-6:45	0-71-0
31			田山本和	n/a-6:31	0-0-203
Disa	bled Not Empty	Empty Brik	oading Offloading	Flooded	Fault
		- WIN	DSM		200 aug

#### **3rd Sort Scanning Process**

When the operator(s) at the 3<sup>rd</sup> sort station are ready to process a Sort Lot, the status is changed from "Sorting" orange to "Sorting" red. Following is how operators change a Sort Lot to the3rd sort sorting status.

#### **INSERT SCREEN SHOT**

#### **Closing a Sort Lot**

After all garments for a Sort Lot have been processed the 3<sup>rd</sup> sort operator(s) will Close the Sort Lot.

**STEP 1:** To Close the completed Sort Lot, on the SLSM Rail Manager the Operator clicks on the name of the Sort Lot to be closed.

imary	Final Utilities Databas	e Reports Help			عات.
Rail	Open	Queued	Signifing	Open-Idle	# 0-Q-S
1	THU B 63-2	- "	THU A 48-2	6:25-6:25	0-0-77
2	OUT OF SEQUENCE	A CONTRACTOR OF THE CONTRACTOR		6:24-6:18	1-0-0
3		FRI A 48-1		n/a-6:31	0-124-0
4	THU B 57-2 61-1			6:29-5:22	59-0-0
5	THU B 56 57-1	8		6:29-5:22	94-0-0
6	THU B 52-2 53	3		6:29-5:22	172-0-0
7	THU B 50 52-1			6:29-5:22	134-0-0
8	FRI B 67	3		6:29-5:22	41-0-0
9	FRI B 65	8		6:29-5:22	248-0-0
10	FRI B 64	3		6:28-5:22	24-0-0
11	FRI B 61,62,63	80		6:28-5:22	100-0-0
12	FRI B 60	8)		6:28-5:22	71-0-0
13	FRI B 60	8		6:28-5:22	70-0-0
14	THU B 63-3 64			6:25-6:25	0-0-0
15	THU B 63-1		THU A 49-2	6:24-5:22	239-0-736
16		FRI A 40 41-1		n/a-6:31	0-334-0
17		FRI A 40 41-1		n/a-6:31	0-333-0
18		FRI A 48-2		n/a-6:31	0-61-0
19		FRI A 48-1		n/a-6:57	0-468-0
20			MON A 49.1 N	n/a-0:05	0.0-0
21			45	n/a-11:13	0-0-0
22		8		n/a-10:56	0.0.0
23				n/a-11:13	0-0-0
24		3		n/a-7:52	0-0-0
25	200.000.000.000.000.000	FRI A 47-3		n/a-6:31	0-132-0
26	EMPLOYEE	200000000000000000000000000000000000000		>1Day-7:30	871-0-0
27		FRI A 47-2		n/a-6:32	0-88-0
28		FRI A 44-2,47-1		n/a-6:33	0-320-0
29		FRI A 44-1		n/a-6:31	0-181-0
30		FRI A 43	7	n/a-6:45	0-71-0
31			(用)(A)(2)	n/a-6:31	0-0-203
Disa	bled Not Empty	Empty Only	oading Offloading	Flooded	Fault
			DSM		

**STEP: 2** The "Rail Manager Status Change" will be displayed see below, click on Closed.



As mentioned above, the warning window appears, and closing the Sort Lot is confirmed. **NOTE: Do not close the Sort Lot if it is not 100% complete.** 



The Sort Lot is now complete. After processing at the 3<sup>rd</sup> sort station, garments will be in wearer, account, route, and day order. They can now be bundled, tied, or bagged, as necessary, for delivery to route storage.

#### **ABS Flags**

There are a number of flags that are passed from ABS to the Directed Sort. Here is how there are processed:

	ABS FLAGS
FLAG	ACTION
07	Add Emblem
10	Repair Needed
14	Transfer/New Labels Needed
28	Contract Expired/Renewal Needed
29	Seasonal/Take out of Circulation
30	Size Change/Take out of Circulation
32	Style Change/Take out of Circulation
37	Replacement
46	Substitute Garment/Take out of Circulation
51	Quit Customer Take Out of Circulation
52	Quit/Take Out of Circulation
54	Manual Inventory Decrease
66	Circulating to Max Correction

#### **SDSM Codes**

On the 1<sup>st</sup> Break screen shot below in the yellow area the SDSM code is displayed, see **RED** arrow. This works the same for all 3 sorts. Generally the hook the garment is to be hung on is displayed. There are a number of SDSM codes that require specific actions, see table below.



	SDSM CODES
CODE	ACTION
25	Send to Bundling
26	Set aside until Sort Lot is open
28	Not in Database
29	Send to Stockroom
30	Send to Mending
50	Fold Garment
61	During start up Indicates the Break
62	During start up Indicates the Break
63	During start up Indicates the Break
64	Out of sequence
65	Used for processing overflow garments in 2 <sup>nd</sup> sort
66	Used for processing overflow garments in 3 <sup>rd</sup> sort
67	Over max wearers

#### **Audio**

There is a audio output will instruct the operator to perform a task. Most of the output will be the number of the hook on the conveyor to hand the garment. For example "Seven" which means the garment just scanned will be placed on hook 7 of the conveyor. In some cases there could be 2 sets of conveyors. So the audio output could be "Green Ten." The operator will place the garment on hook 10 of the Green Conveyor. There other audio output that will require the garment to be processed differently. Below is a list of these audio outputs the action to be followed. Also the SDSM Code is displayed if there is an issue with the audio.

AUDIO STANDARD		
AUDIO OUTPUT	ACTION	SDSM CODE
"Emblem"	ADD EMBLEM	
"Mend"	REPAIR NEEDED	30
"Label"	TRANSFER/ NEW LABELS NEEDED	
"Return"	SEASONAL/ TAKE OUT OF CIRCULATION	29
"Return"	SIZE CHANGE/ TAKE OUT OF CIRCULATION	29
"Return"	STYLE CHANGE/ TAKE OUT OF CIRCULATION	29
"Return"	REPLACEMENT	29
"Return"	SUBSTITUTE GARMENT/ TAKE OUT OF CIRCULATION	29
"Return"	QUIT CUSTOMER/ TAKE OUT OF CIRCULATION	29
"Return"	QUIT / TAKE OUT OF CIRCULATION	29
"Return"	MANUAL INVENTORY DECREASE	29
"Return"	CIRCULATING TO MAX CORRECTION	29
"Pull"	Fold Garment	50
"Unknown"	Not in Database	28
"Error"	Out of Sequence	64
"Overflow"	Over Max Wearers	67

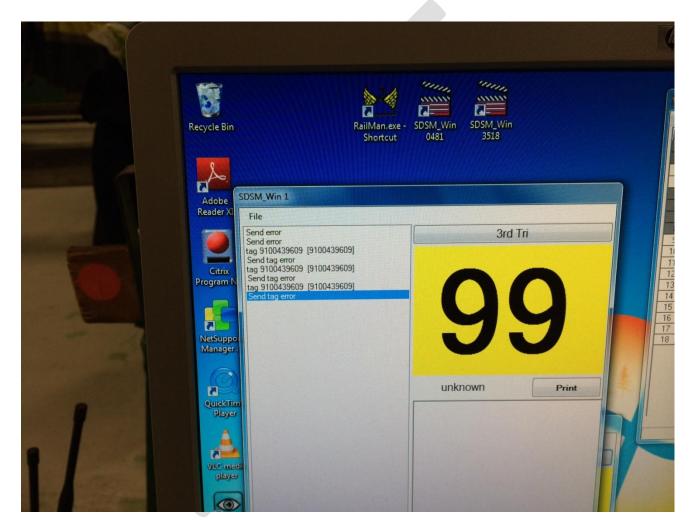
#### **Shutdown**

Exit all of the Directed Sort programs on perform a normal Windows shutdown. If an issue occurs during shutdown see the Troubleshooting section of this document.

The exception will be the workstation that is the Directed Sort server. This system will need to run 24 X 7 to insure the nightly update is preformed. See the Data Transfer section of this document for an explanation of this process.

### **Troubleshooting**

#### Code 99



If a 99 appears in the SDSM it means the Scan Engine is not connected. Close the SDSM and open the Scan Engine then reopen the SDAM.

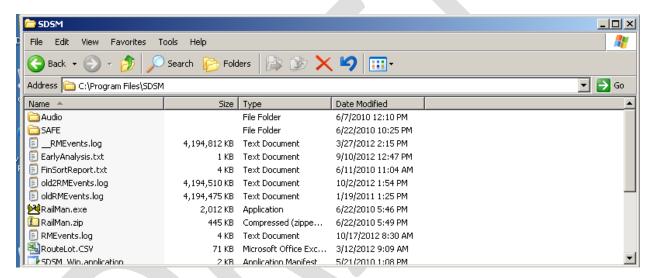
#### RAIL MANAGER ERROR: Run-time error '52'

This error will occur when attempting to start the Rail Manager program, see blow:



This usually means the RMEvent.log is full and a new log file needs to be generated. Here are the steps to follow:

- Double click on the "My Computer" icon.
- Double click on "Default (C:)"
- Double click on "Program Files"
- Double click on "SDSM"
- It will look like below.



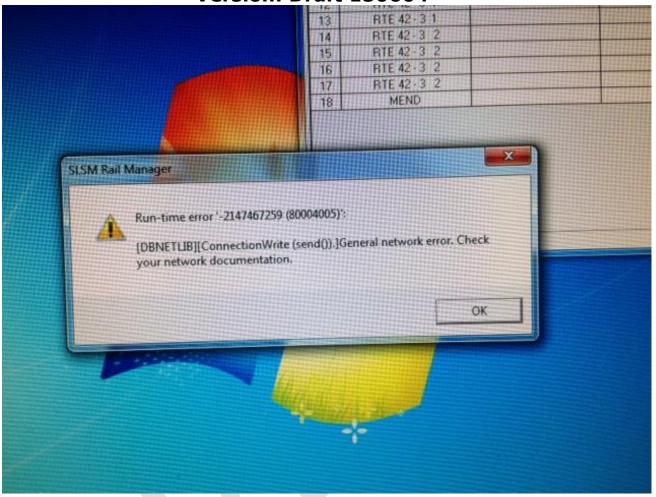
- Rename the RMEvent.log to oldRMEvent.log.
- If oldRMEvent.log already exists, like the example above, rename the RMEvent.log to old2RMEvent.log.

**NOTE:** If this occurs a 3<sup>rd</sup> time call Softrol support.

Restart the Rail Manager program using the "Rail Manager Icon"



Run-time error'-2147467259



This is a database connection error.

It occurs when the software has lost connection to the database. This can happen when the Scan Engine is restarted but not the clients. When the Scan Engine is restarted anything connected to is now has a bad connection and needs to be reconnected. Stop and restart the Scan Engine.