

## Case study — invisible NiceLabel prints labels automatically

Watch NiceWatch take care of collecting label data, taking full control of label printing process. In addition, NiceForm provides a simple user interface for database maintenance.

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Company: Neža d.o.o.

Industry: Food processing

NiceLabel product: NiceLabel Suite

### Summary

The labeling solution that the company had been using before introducing NiceLabel was time consuming and vulnerable to human errors. In this case NiceLabel didn't need to adapt to an information system. Instead, it provides a simple user interface to maintain a small database.

By connecting NiceWatch and hardware equipment in the production, the employees don't need to take care of printing, it is done automatically immediately when needed. NiceWatch also collects the weights of all products that are on the palette. This palette is equipped with a label where the accumulated weight of all products is printed using NiceForm.

### Customer profile

Neža d.o.o is a small biscuit factory, founded in 1990. With few employees, all fully occupied with biscuits production, nobody wants to deal with IT. However, the need for automation is apparent, since competition is fierce. Therefore all processes must be optimized in terms of time and cost.

## Challenges

### Objectives

At the end of the production process each box of biscuits needs to be weighted and equipped with a label with product description, exact weight...

**Previous solution was time consuming, requiring manual data entry.**

The customer was using some less powerful software than NiceLabel, that required to manually enter data, which made labeling process time consuming.

**System was prone to human errors.**

After the production batch is finished, products are put on a palette, which also needs to be equipped with a label with information on the products contained with total net weight. Before use of NiceLabel this was very problematic process as the total weight was calculated manually. It was very prone to human errors (e.g. the operator forgot to add weight of one or more boxes).

The customer requested a quick solution that avoids human factor as much as possible.

### Solution

**NiceWatch receives data directly from the scale.**

The scale that the company is using can send the information also through RS232 protocol. After connecting the scale to the computer, the connection between the scale and NiceWatch was established.

**Aside from selecting the product, user does not deal with printing.**

When the scale sends data, NiceWatch takes care of printing the label and adds the current product weight to the sum which is printed when the palette is finished. Aside from selecting the product at the beginning of the process, there is no need for the user to deal with printing, largely reducing errors.

NiceForm is used to print the palette label. Furthermore, since the company doesn't produce many products, they don't need a large sophisticated information system. NiceForm is used also to add or edit the database containing products data needed for labels. Instead of designing a new label for a new product, only data is added to the simple database.

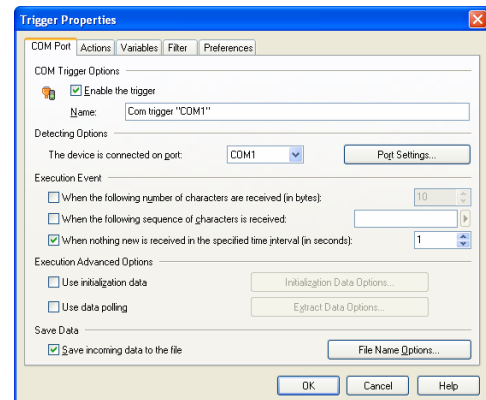
**NiceWatch takes care of data transmission and label printing.**

## Technical details

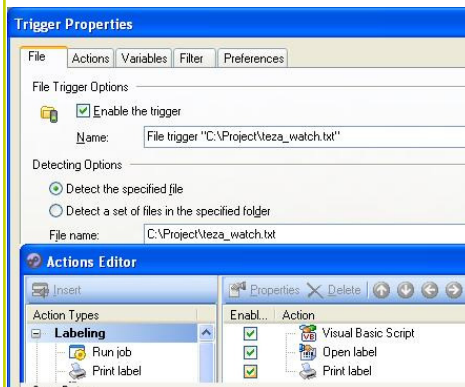
Customization of the solution is fairly simple with minimized amount of programming.

Two triggers in NiceWatch take care of all the data.

The RS232 type trigger saves the data received from the scale to the file.



**Very simple VB script is used to customize and fully automate the solution.**



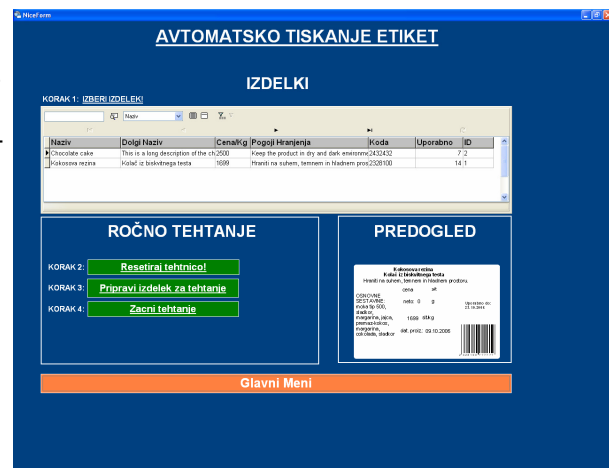
This same file is used as the next trigger:

Visual basic script reads weight data from the file. It also reads the current sum of all products, adds new weight to it and saves the new total weight to the file.

The VB script also saves the new weight to the variable, which is used for printing the label.

NiceForm provides interface for choosing the product and label preview.

In another form new product data can be added.



## Keys to success, conclusion

**NiceLabel offers much more than just designing labels.**

NiceLabel offered a simple tool to design the label and enabled completely automated label printing process. Moreover, it provides a user friendly tool for database maintenance.