

Topic Sheet on
Configuration Controls in CPC/NT

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1. Introduction

This topic sheet discusses the many new features in CPC-NT that assist in Configuration Control. These features are designed to maintain and assure configuration and software integrity and stability.

The problem of software management

CPC-NT is a control software package that can be customized and modified to meet the needs of any process equipment and/or process control requirement. When properly configured, CPC-NT provides consistent and repeatable results for your process.

In practice, once this consistency and repeatability is achieved, customers often find it desirable to “lock” the software so changes are restricted to a few individuals. This “locking” can protect the software from being incorrectly modified. Unfortunately, even with most of the software “locked”, there are still areas of the software that can be and must be “open” for modification. Some of these areas include Recipe creation/modification, calibration, and maintenance areas.

What is an audit trail?

An audit trail is a step-by-step record by which transactions and changes can be traced back to their source. For a software package, an audit trail can be used to confirm whether, when, how, and by whom a change was made.

Audit tracking in CPC-NT

CPC-NT now includes a host of features designed to provide a comprehensive audit trail for all changes to the system. This audit information will indicate what is changed, when was it changed, how was it changed, and who changed it.

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