

How can I add a static multi-page overlay file?

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Lasernet

When developing a form in Lasernet there may be a time when you wish to add static pages into the final document. For example, a multi-page Terms and Conditions document for a bank report or some promotional material for a bill. This article will show how to add a static Terms and Conditions document.

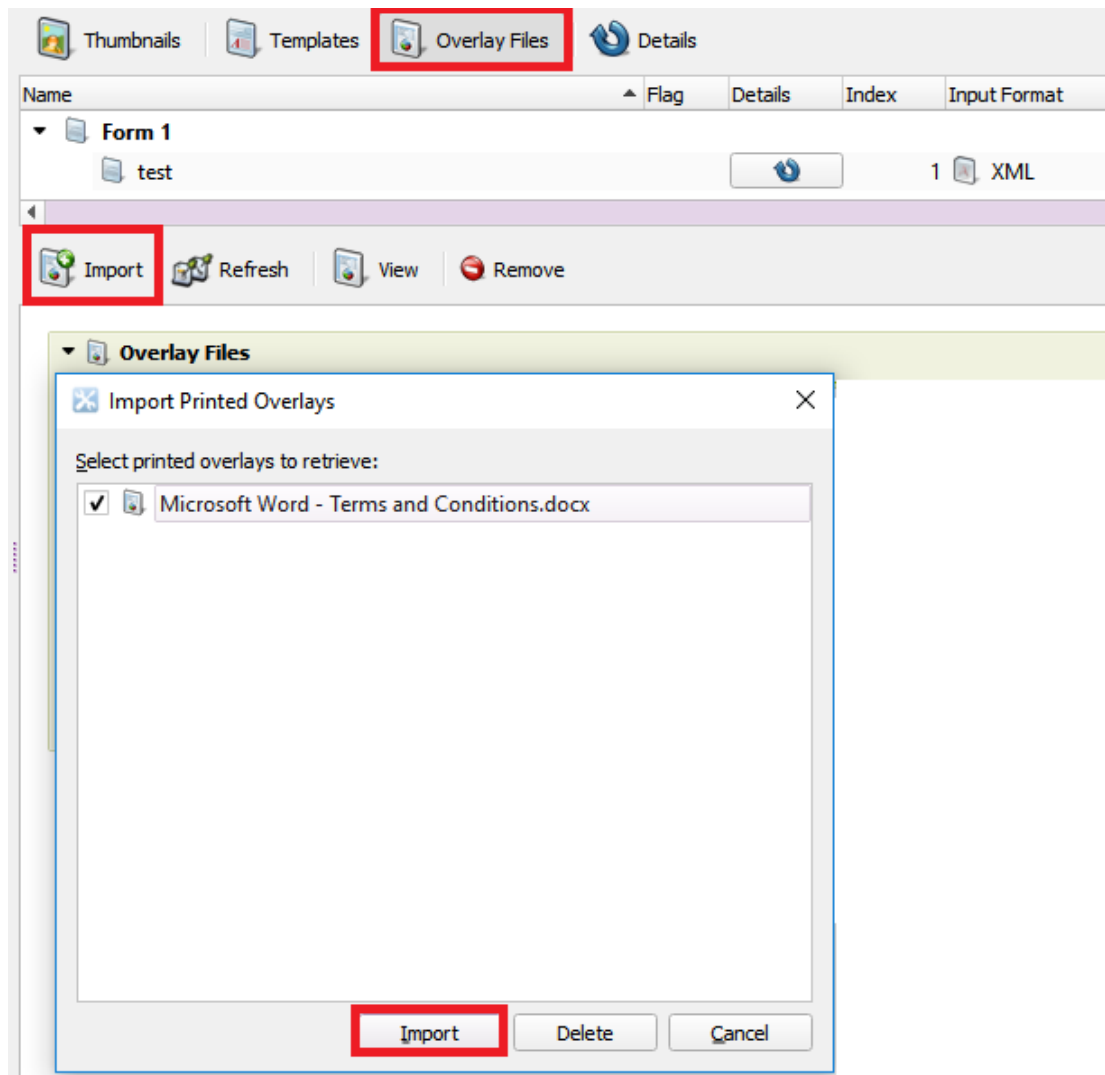
Generating the Overlay

The Terms and Conditions document needs to be implemented into Lasernet, for this the T&C document needs to be converted to an overlay. An overlay is traditionally used as the background of a form but we can use the same method to import the file. Either a single or multiple-page document can be used as the process is still the same. Follow these steps:

1. Ensure that the *Lasernet Print Capture 8 Windows* service is running. and then take the document to be turned into an overlay and print to the Lasernet Print Capture printer. This printer is automatically created when the Lasernet Developer is installed.
2. Open your build in *Lasernet Developer*, open your list of forms and click the **Overlay Files** button.
3. A new window will appear at the bottom and display the overlay files that are currently in use and then click the **Import** button.

In the new window, the original document filename should appear in the window if it has been printed correctly.

4. Highlight the file, click the **Import** button and give it a sensible name to make identification later easier.



Adding the File retriever modifier

In order to use the overlay, a modifier is needed to pick up the file. If using a single page overlay, there would be no need to do this as the overlay can be set as an additional sheet directly on the form.

For a multiple sheet overlay, follow these steps:

1. Add a *File Retriever* modifier to the build by selecting the **Modifier** button in the bottom left of Lasernet Developer and double-clicking the modifier name.
2. Set the Path to the location where the imported file is stored. In the build folder, this will be the Overlay folder or you can store them somewhere else. It is important that this location be accessible on the server where the Lasetnet service is running and the service user has access to this file.
3. Set the FileName JobInfo to a sensible name that is not used previously, for example 'PickupFile'. The name of the file to be picked up is stored in a jobinfo and it will be set on the form.
4. The Output JobInfo needs to be 'JobData'
5. Ensure that the **Replace JobInfo** checkbox is selected and then save the settings.

This modifier can now be added to the form.

Edit File Retriever Entry

Active:

Protocol: File FTP FTPS SFTP HTTP HTTPS

Setup

Path: C:\PickupFiles

Filename JobInfo: PickupFile

Output JobInfo: JobData Replace JobInfo

Ok Cancel

Setting up the form

With the modifier now configured and set up, this then needs to be added onto the form and the JobInfo set containing the filename. Follow these steps:

1. Create a new sheet specifically for the Terms and Conditions page.
2. Within this sheet, add the JobInfo used in the above section. In this example, 'PickupFile' is needed.

If the name of the file that you want to pick up is *static*, double-click the new sheet you have added to bring up its properties and add the JobInfo on the **Pre Jobinfos** tab

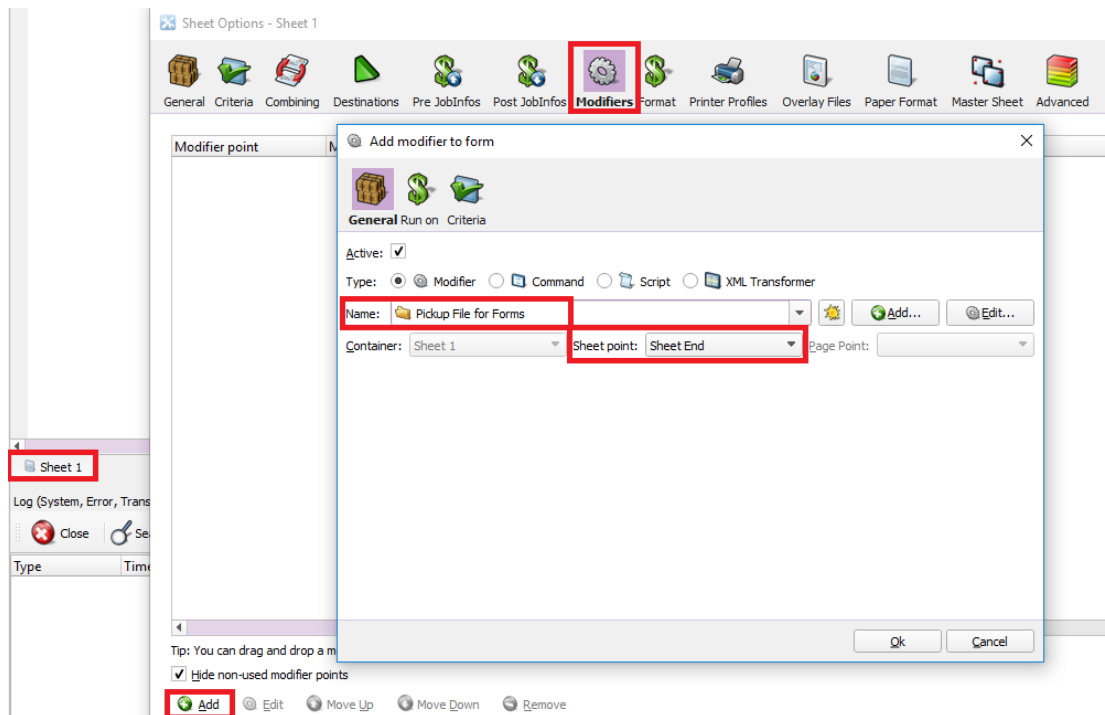
If the name of the file that you want to pick up is *dynamic*, then it is best to include it in your input data. Add the JobInfo by clicking the **JobInfo** button on the left-hand side and highlighting the data to set as the JobInfo value.

The value of the JobInfo needs to be the full filename including the extension, eg 'EFS T&C.Inemf'.

Add the File Retriever

You can add the File Retriever module onto the form and sheet by following these steps:

1. Double-click the sheet we previously added and go to the **Modifiers** tab.
2. Click **Add** at the bottom left and find the name of the module within the drop-down list.
3. Set the Sheet point as **Sheet End**.



4. Using **Shift + F5** to run all the scripts on the form, in the log you should see the following occurrences in progress:

- The JobInfo being set that is storing the name of the file to pickup, 'PickupFile'.
- The modifier being run at Sheet End.
- The JobData JobInfo being set to a binary data value not equal to 0; this indicates that the file has been picked up and stored in the JobInfo.

Log (System, Error, Transaction, Job, JobInfo, Custom)

Close Search: Filter Save

Type	Time	Message
JobInfo	18/10/2017 09:54	Set JobInfo PickupFile[0] = EFS T&C.lnemf
JobInfo	18/10/2017 09:54	Set JobInfo Link[0] = 0
JobInfo	18/10/2017 09:54	Set JobInfo NumberOfPages[0] = 1
JobInfo	18/10/2017 09:54	Set JobInfo CurrentPage[0] = 1
Job	18/10/2017 09:54	Sheet end: Running modifier 'Pickup File for Forms'
JobInfo	18/10/2017 09:54	Set JobInfo JobData[0] = [binary data (108677)]
Job	18/10/2017 09:54	108677 bytes retrieved from file:C:\Program Files\EFS\EFS T&C.lnemf

If required, the process can be repeated to allow for multiple sheets and for multiple different overlays to be used at the same time.

Combining the Terms and Conditions

After following these steps, you should now have at least one sheet that is picking up an overlay file and storing this in the JobData JobInfo. We now need to combine this sheet together with your existing sheets to generate the desired output PDF.

Depending on how many other sheets you have, there are a few options available, but combining with other sheets must be done in a PDF Engine. For best practice, it is best to have a separate PDF Engine for any combining that must be done.

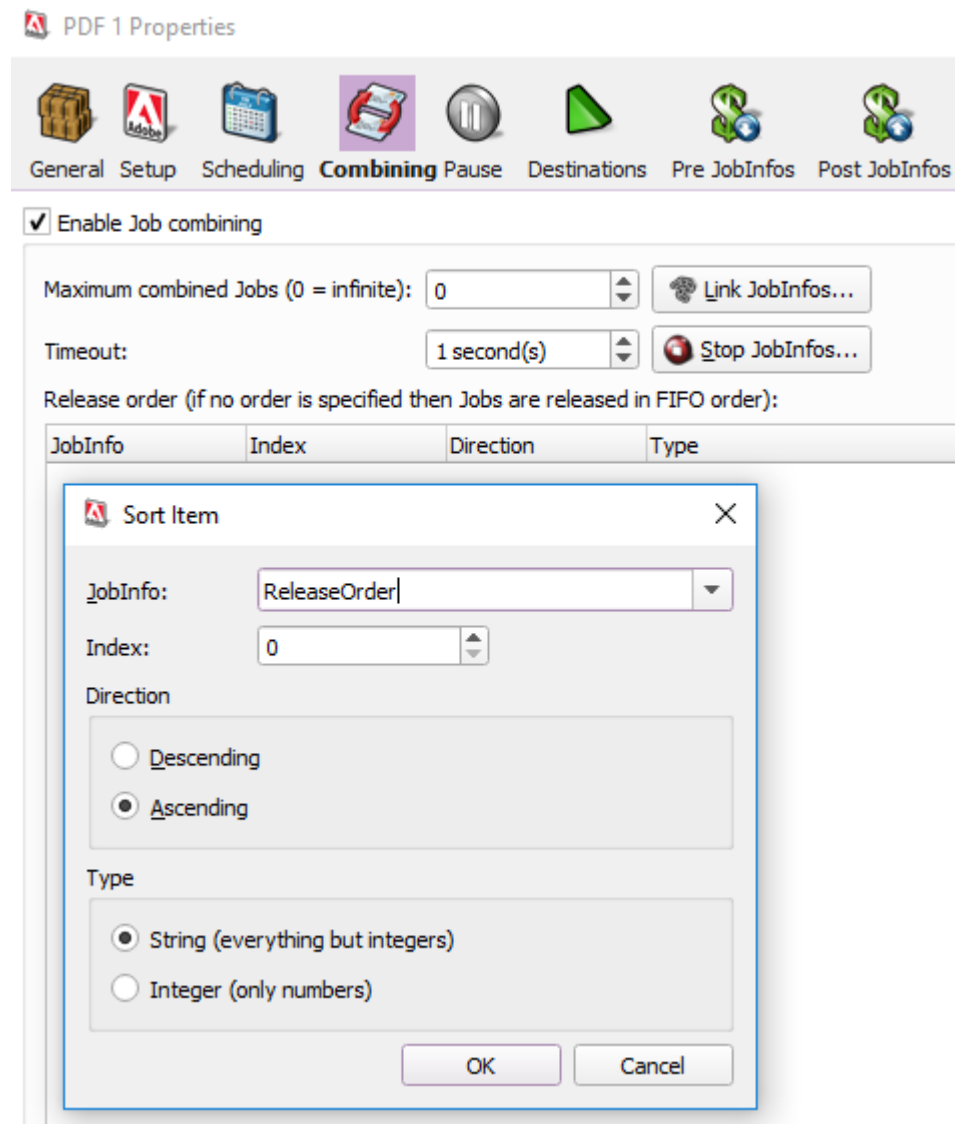
1. Find the PDF module in the Engine module list and double-click to add it to your build.

2. Give the module a sensible name and navigate to the **Combining** tab, click the **Enable job combining** checkbox to enable the job combining options.

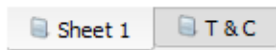
For best practice and to make sure that documents are only combined as expected, we first need to create a Link Jobinfo.

1. Click the **Link Jobinfos** button to open another window where further information can be added
2. Give the name of a JobInfo that links the Terms and Conditions sheet with other sheets in your form. For example, an order number and system JobInfo RecognizedForm would be a good combination.

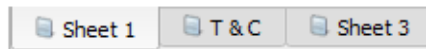
It is also recommended to add in a released order JobInfo. This will make sure that the sheets are combined in the order as expected. Creating a JobInfo 'ReleaseOrder' on all sheets and giving them a value dictating the order of combination is a good idea, i.e. Sheet 1 = #1, T&c = #2, Sheet 3 = #3, etc.



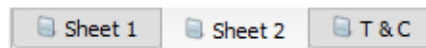
If you have more than two sheets, where possible, combine the non-terms and conditions within the form with sheet combining and then direct the sheets to the PDF for combining. See the below image for a further explanation:



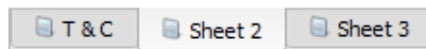
Combine in the PDF Engine



Combine in the PDF Engine



**Combine Sheet 1 & 2 in the form
Send Sheet 1 and T & C to the PDF
Engine for combining**



**Combine Sheet 2 & 3 in the form
Send Sheet 1 and T & C to the PDF
Engine for combining**

3. Update the Lasernet service and pass in an input file. The output should now produce a PDF that has picked up the Terms and Conditions and added it in with the input data.