

What's new in Opcenter RD&L version 9.0

Expedite time-to-market with improved laboratory, specification and formulation modules

Benefits

- Expedite time-to-market
- Rapidly exchange product data with partners
- Reduce administrative tasks and errors
- Maintain product quality and compliance
- Reduce costs in new product development and introduction
- Standardize intellectual property throughout the company

Summary

Opcenter™ Research, Development and Laboratory (RD&L) software is a new platform that embeds all key functionalities from the classic product portfolio, Simatic IT® suite. This includes Simatic IT Unilab, Simatic IT Interspec and Simatic IT R&D Libraries - Electronic Lab Notebook (ELN) and Formula Workbench (FWB). It represents a major technologic evolution, integrating light-weight client applications to the user by using web technology and HTML5. This release focuses on a long list of features enhancing laboratory, specification and formulation modules. Opcenter is a part of the Xcelerator™ portfolio, a comprehensive and integrated portfolio of software and services from Siemens Digital Industries Software.

Capabilities

Improvements in Opcenter RD&L version 9.0 include:

- General
 - Improved nested tables and configurable layout per tasks and request-class level
 - Restricted value lists for task keys
- Laboratory
 - Subsample visualization in request list
 - Method layout in parameter results window
 - Advanced planner improvements
- Specification management
 - Rapid approval selection and electronic signature
 - Reconstitute functionality for lower levels in the component list
 - Layout for bill-of-materials (BOM) header
 - Selection of BOM explosion date
- Formula workbench
 - Support for attributes with a dropdown format
 - Sorting functionality in material-grid layout
- Integration and prerequisites
 - Extension of generic integration layer
 - Enhancement of data migration toolkit and support for the structured query language (SQL) server, Interspec 6, deployment

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Learn more about the complete list of enhancements and features with the software release notes.

BOM header layout, improved approval selection and electronic signature

BOM header layout

A new layout type has been added to configure the BOM header. In the configuration module, you can move available columns to the selected columns group. The position of the fields are changed by moving the field inside the preview screen at the top. You can change captions, translations and the field size. The panned effective date and location description are always marked as protected. Plant, base quantity and unit are mandatory but can be hidden.

Approval selection

Previously in Opcenter RD&L, defining who needed to approve a specification could only be done as part of the configuration of a specification type. In version 9.0, the definition can be changed at each specification level.

The authorization is only defined by custom logic in the function: get specification approval authorization. In addition, there is an improved overview of who needs to approve and who has already approved.

Electronic signature

Electronic signature can now be used in combination with specification approval. The status transition of a specification to approval is based on the number of approval steps. This means that multiple users need to sign off.

The screenshot displays two panels from the Opcenter RD&L software. The left panel, titled 'Filter Results', shows a table with the following data:

Material ...	V.	Stat...	Description	Created On
4577844	1	Dev	Caramel Pie	3/23/2021

The right panel, titled 'Properties of 4577844[1]', shows the 'Approval Status' tab. It includes a dropdown menu for 'Select Status to Add', a section for 'Submit / User Profiles (0) Users (1)' with a search field 'Select UserProfile or User to Add', and a list of users: 'Sinnaeve, Paul-Henri' with email 'henri.sinnaeve@siemens.com' and location 'SWQA\henri.sinnaeve'. Below this, the 'Approved' section shows 'No approvals to display'.

Version 9.0 enables the option to require an electronic signature from each user that approves a specification. Configuration is done in the properties of the lifecycle transition.

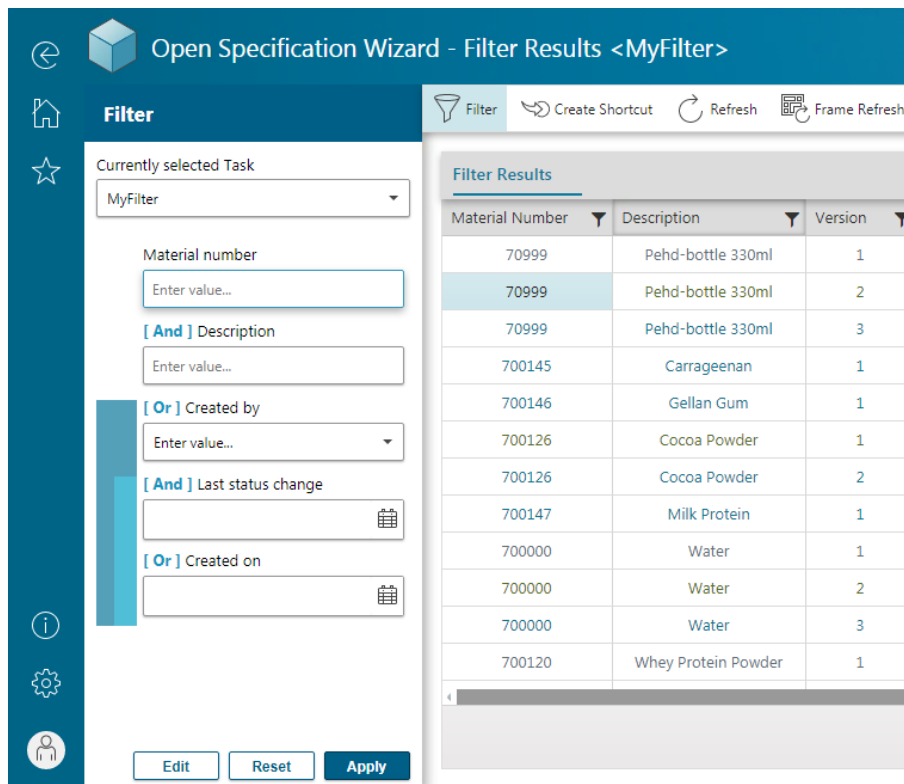
Restrict value list for task keys and request class layout

Restrict value list for task keys

Restrict value lists are added for task key configuration. This enables you to link value lists based on SQL statements using substitution syntax. For example, the configurator can restrict the value list of an attribute to relevant values for a plant or sample type. The configurator can use the copy button on the key they want the substitution syntax for.

Request class layout

It is now possible to configure the layout for every request class level in the request list. In the task definition, the default layout can already be defined. It is applicable for all levels, independent of the class. In Opcenter RD&L version 9.0, a layout can be selected for every child, request-class type.



Open Specification Wizard - Filter Results <MyFilter>

Filter

Currently selected Task: MyFilter

Material number: Enter value...

[And] Description: Enter value...

[Or] Created by: Enter value...

[And] Last status change: [Calendar icon]

[Or] Created on: [Calendar icon]

Buttons: Edit, Reset, Apply

Filter Results

Material Number	Description	Version
70999	Pehd-bottle 330ml	1
70999	Pehd-bottle 330ml	2
70999	Pehd-bottle 330ml	3
700145	Carrageenan	1
700146	Gellan Gum	1
700126	Cocoa Powder	1
700126	Cocoa Powder	2
700147	Milk Protein	1
700000	Water	1
700000	Water	2
700000	Water	3
700120	Whey Protein Powder	1

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